



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN
SCHOOL
Achieving Excellence Together



Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

A relatively short but busy term at Henley-in-Arden School.

As I write this, some of our students have been experiencing the culture of France, whilst others prepare for mock examinations, performers are busy preparing for our school production, whilst some have just completed the Shakespeare Schools Festival. We have also enjoyed a wonderful week of activities for World Book Day. It has been inspiring to see the wide variety of books and interests our students have.

As the summer term approaches, we will be reviewing the uniform and pastoral aspects of our school and will be consulting with our parent body on this.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school.

Have a restful Easter Break.

Mr Roper
Associate Headteacher

character, something which I see in the year group on a daily basis. We have been so impressed with their commitment and willingness to heed advice.

Year 10 are ready to step up to Year 11 and have written some brilliant applications for the positions of Head Boy, Head Girl, and the Senior Student team, whilst also preparing for their mocks; I look forward to announcing the successful candidates in the next newsletter.

So, for those of you with children who are revising for mocks, GCSEs and A levels over Easter, thank you for all you are doing to support them, and our mission, so that they in 30 years' time will remember their own example of Daffodils.

Have a great holiday and here's hoping for some Spring sunshine along the way.

Miss Price
Deputy Headteacher



Teaching and Learning

For many of you reading this you will be able to finish this famous line of poetry,

I wandered lonely as a cloud...

Yes that's right, it's Daffodils by Wordsworth. As Easter approaches daffodils are indeed fluttering and dancing everywhere and this got me to thinking about how what we learn at school stays with us. Having learnt that poem over 30 years ago it is testament to my teachers that I can still recite it now.

As Year 11 approach the final parts of their courses we want them to know that we are here to help them every step of the way and it would be great to see as many of them as possible at our Easter Revision school.

In this final part of the journey, it's important to remember that anything worth achieving takes hard work, dedication and strength of

HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL **NEWSLETTER**

Friday 22nd March 2024

Forthcoming dates
www.henleyschool.com

Friday 22nd March
Term ends at 3.15pm

Monday 8th April
Term Begins

Tuesday 9th April
Year 9 Options Evening 5.30pm-7pm

Thursday 25th April
Year 9 Parents' Evening 4pm-7pm

Monday 6th May
School closed—May Day Bank Holiday

Thursday 9th May
GCSE Summer Exams begin

Friday 24th May
Term ends at 3.15pm

Hello from the Library

My name is Mrs Daneshyar and I have the privilege of taking over as the school librarian from Mrs Marsh. Firstly, I must thank her for the excellent work she has done at Henley and for making the handover so smooth.

A little about me; I have been a primary teacher for many years and have always had a love of reading. In recent years, I have also become a published author. I write young adult fantasy novels and adventure books for 8-12 year-olds. All of these titles are, of course, available in the library.

I am extremely pleased to announce that *The Boy and the Jaguar* is among the finalists for The Wishing Shelf Book Awards 2023.



I would like to say a special thank you to the student librarians, who have all been such a help and support to me in my new role. Can I say a special thank you to Year 10 student Ewan Sparrow, who has done incredible work reorganising the shelves. We have a new library layout, which has created more room for the students in library lessons. The library continues to be open at break and lunch for students to relax, chat, play games and read. We recently purchased some new games, including the ever popular, Uno, Dobble and Blokus.

Booksale

On the 8th and 9th February we held a booksale in the canteen which raised more funds for use in the library. The student librarians proved themselves to be great salespeople, guiding customers to books they would enjoy.

We held a third sale during the week of World Book Day so there was further opportunity to grab a bargain.

Author Workshop

On Friday 2nd February I took a small group of Year 7 & 8 students to Arden Academy for an AIM High Poetry Day with the former Poet Laureate of Coventry, Emilie Lauren Jones.

We had a great day learning about different types of poems from Haikus, acrostics and Renga as well as free verse.

This is Beatrix's poem inspired by a sunset postcard:

I love sunsets. I could watch them for
hours.

All the colours.

Blue like the nice summer day,
Yellow like the bright sun or buttercups.
Orange like the Autumn leaves.
Pink like strawberry milkshake or pink
flowers.

Purple like lavender and calmness.
All the colours magical in their own way.



Mrs Daneshyar
School Librarian

We would like to wish all our pupils and
parents a Happy Easter



World Book Day

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we held a Booknic in the hall. Students brought along their favourite or current book and sat together reading, eating cakes and chatting all things books.

Thanks to the generosity of our Governor, Mrs Westmacott, delicious cakes were on sale to add to the enjoyment.

We also held a book sale, combining the sales of books and cakes we raised another £60 for the library.



Other events in celebration of World Book Day included a variety of activities to engage the students with reading, and included a virtual author visit.

The library continues to thrive and I hope to welcome more book borrowers in the weeks to come.

Mrs Daneshyar
School Librarian

Year 9 Road Safety Assembly

On 2nd February, Warwickshire County Council kindly provided us a workshop by The Riot Act on Road Safety.

Year 9 had the opportunity to watch the performance and reflect on how they can keep themselves, and their friends, safe when travelling in cars and on public transport. They were also prompted to reflect on the influence that the behaviour of their peers can have when making certain choices.

We are grateful to Warwickshire County Council for affording us this learning opportunity, and I am proud of the participation of Year 9 during this session.

Miss Fish
Head of Year 9

The French Language and Cultural Immersion trip to Saint Omer in France, March 2024... in pictures..



Canadian Memorial at Vimy Ridge



Wellington Quarry visiting the tunnels of Arras



....at the Boulangerie



More about the French immersion visit in the next newsletter...

Mrs Wootton
Modern Foreign Languages

Head of Year Reports

Head of Year 7 Report

Is that the sound of the Easter Bunny hopping by already?! Just as the skies start to brighten and nights lighten, we are at the end of the second full term!

Well done to all of Year 7 for their excellent return to school. It was great to reward those with the most bonus points with the trip to 'Jump In' in January, and we have also been stirring up an urn of hot chocolate to reward those with 100% attendance. We really want to see the best of the young people in our school and these reward events are a great way to say well done on coming to school and trying hard. It really does make all the difference to your day, and ours, and to your life opportunities. We want to make school a place our pupils are happy to be (within reason!) so if you have any ideas for this, please let us know.

There will be an end of term assembly too (at the end of term – strangely!) so this will be another occasion where we can celebrate the young people and what they are achieving with tombola praise point events and, again, that all important attendance – being here wins prizes!

As the Summer Term approaches it can be a good time to refresh pencil cases and bits of uniform that may have been outgrown!

Thank you all for your support, I hope you have a lovely break, and I look forward to finishing off your child's first year at Henley in style!

Mr Eagles

Head of Year 7

Head of Year 8 Report

Year 8 have had a fantastic start to the new academic year. Every student has received over 10 praise points and the year group, as a cohort, have received in excess of 5000 praise points. I'm sure you will all join me in congratulating Year 8 on their positive start.

It has been a privilege to start this half term as Head of Year 8; there are so many amazing young people within our year group. On Tuesday 27th February, 72 students were praised and rewarded for their attendance last half term which was brilliant to see. I also had the

pleasure of praising 30 students as being Zero Heroes at this mid-year point!

We have already witnessed extreme dedication to the school from Charlotte Foss and Grace Lessard in their quest to raise money for rowing equipment for the school. We love to hear about the extra-curricular activities our students are involved in, so please do get in touch if there is anything you want us to celebrate in school.

I am truly looking forward to a positive and successful summer term.

Miss Betts

Head of Year 8

Head of Year 9 Report

We are halfway through the year, and I am very proud of how far you have all come this year.

It was wonderful to see the focus and learning energy in your recent options workshops ahead of choosing your GCSE options this year. All of you seemed ready to move onto the next stage in your school career. It has also been a pleasure to celebrate the top 30 students in the year group for behaviour and attendance, or improvements in these areas, through our bowling rewards trip in February. This is alongside celebrating over 60 pupils in the year group who achieved 100% attendance in the three weeks leading up to half term.

I look forward to further opportunities to celebrate your successes soon, in our Easter tombola and in the lead up to Pride in summer. Keep up the hard work, Year 9!

Miss Fish

Head of Year 9

Head of Year 10 Report

As we approach the Easter break, it is crucial for Year 10 to shift their focus towards the upcoming mock exams, a significant milestone in your child's academic journey. These exams provide valuable insights into their progress, highlight areas for improvement, and prepare

Head of Year Reports

Head of Year 10 Report

them for the challenges of future assessments.

Teachers have been guiding students on specific topics to revise, study techniques, and the key content that will be assessed during the mock exams. This information is crucial for effective preparation and ensures that your child can concentrate their efforts on the most relevant material.

Additionally, I have been running a series of assemblies and workshops focussed on effective revision strategies. These sessions are designed to equip students with the skills they need to approach their exams with confidence and succeed. We encourage all students to take advantage of these opportunities to enhance their study skills and discover personalised approaches to revision.

As parents, your support plays a pivotal role in your child's success. We suggest encouraging open communication with your child about their study plans and the topics they need to focus on. Making sure they have a quiet and organised study space at home, free from distractions, is pivotal to their success. Students have been given revision timetables and study schedules to fill out, so we would encourage families to look at these and support students to use them.

Additionally, we want to emphasise the importance of a balanced lifestyle. Adequate sleep, a healthy diet, and regular exercise contribute to optimal brain function and concentration. I want to remind all Year 10s that self-care is a crucial aspect of exam preparation.

While exams can be stressful, it is essential for our Year 10s to remember that mock exams are a learning opportunity. Mistakes are part of the process, and they offer valuable insights for improvement. We want to reinforce a positive mindset, focussing on effort and progress rather than just the final outcome. As we approach this crucial period, we wish all students the best of luck in their mock exams. With the guidance of dedicated teachers, the support of parents, and their own hard work, we are confident they will face these challenges with resilience and determination.

Mr Lunn
Head of Year 10

Head of Year 11 Report

It is really starting to feel like crunch time for Year 11. At the time of writing, we have seven school weeks left until our Year 11 start their GCSE exams.

All pupils were given their formal exam statement of entry last week and the full GCSE exam timetable was shared with them. Over the coming weeks, pupils are continuing with their spring mock exam timetable in the core subjects and also finalising controlled assessment and completing practical exams in many subjects.

This is a significant time for our pupils as they prepare to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have acquired throughout their time with us, consequently attendance every day is even more crucial.

All pupils are welcome to attend subject intervention at lunchtimes and after school. The timetable was originally published in September and is still the same (sent separately to parents); it's great to see so many Year 11 pupils taking advantage of this, and the study room available, each afternoon after school.

The end of the year will soon be upon us, and this serves as a reminder to ensure your child has purchased their ticket for PROM; it's always a fantastic way to finish the year - the deadline for final ticket sales is 22nd March.

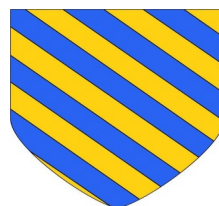
If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Let's work together to ensure our Year 11 pupils feel prepared, confident, and supported as they approach their exams.

Mrs Campton
Head of Year 11



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Performing Arts

As the curtains draw near for our production this year of "Guys and Dolls Jr.," rehearsals have ignited an atmosphere of excitement and dedication among the cast and crew.

Students have immersed themselves in perfecting their roles, embracing the vibrant characters of Damon Runyon's timeless tale, and are collaborating brilliantly to bring the story to life on the stage.

We are set to perform the show for three nights - Tuesday 25th June, Wednesday 26th June and Thursday 27th June. Tickets will be on sale at the start of May. We hope you can join us for another exciting production!



Miss Blyth
Director of Performing Arts

Drama and Acting

By the time you read this the cast of Hamlet will have performed at The Birmingham Old Rep for the Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival.

We enjoyed a workshop with one of the professional actors from the event on 22nd February, she was really impressed with our group. Well done to Kian, Isabella, Belle, Poppy, Lily, Esme, Oscar, Toby, Charlotte and Brwyn! I hope you had a fantastic experience and a great show!



Conspiracy of Ravens is also now in rehearsal with the actors, all Henley pupils, really impressing the Director, Kimberley Bradshaw who has been commissioned to bring the script (written by the Head of Acting, Mr. Eagles) to life with a dedicated cast. This is being performed at the Henley Guild Hall as part of the Henley Arts4All Festival 2024. More information and tickets for the event are available on the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/henley-arts4all-2024-showcases-henley-schools-fine-acting-talent-tickets-728772416917>

Of course, the school production this year has been revealed as *Guys and Dolls* and rehearsals are up and running – should be a great show – Good Luck (be a Lady) to all involved and well done on a great audition.

Year 11 BTEC Actors will be performing on 17th April and will be supported by Year 10 actors with a range of monologues from their Component 1 work. This event is free of charge, but please email Mr Eagles on seagles@henleyschool.com if you would like to attend so seating can be allocated.

See you at a show!

Mr Eagles
Head of Acting

Physical Education

Fundraising

Two of Henley's amazing Year 8 girls have been fundraising for PE so that we can purchase a school rowing machine. Gracie and Charlotte totally smashed their original target and totally smashed their rowing challenge!

For the past few weeks, they have been selling raffle tickets in School for the lovely Easter hampers donated by Morrisons.

We are very grateful for all the hard work Gracie and Charlotte have dedicated to making a difference in our school.

Thank you girls!



Please click on the link and read their story.

[Crowdfunding to help fund new PE equipment for Henley in Arden High School on JustGiving](#)

Sports Leaders

In January some of our Sports Leaders helped out at the 'Just Play' girls Football event for the Stratford Primary Schools. Our students refereed all the games and coached the girls with enthusiasm. It was freezing cold but our leaders didn't complain once and did us super proud!



Take a look at our Henley Champions!!!

Teams of Year 9 boys and girls took part in the 'Fits A Knockout' competition against other schools in Coventry, Solihull, and Warwickshire County and won BOTH the girls and the boys preliminary events!

Both teams went through to the Finals being more determined and focussed to win. We are delighted to be crowned the Champions of Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire County School Games. Well done everyone!

GOLD MEDAL WINNERS!



GOLD MEDAL WINNERS!



GOLD MEDAL WINNERS!

Music Lessons 2024

Tuition is available for
Vocal
Piano
Woodwind
Guitar
Violin
Drums

Please contact slewis@henleyschool.com for more information.



Everyone
welcome!

PE Extra Curricular Clubs

Lunchtime 1:40pm – 2:10pm

Monday	Tennis Table Tennis	Year 10 & 11 Open to all	Tennis Courts Main Hall
Tuesday	Tennis Table Tennis	Year 7, 8 & 9 Open to all	Tennis Courts Main Hall
Wednesday	Tennis Rounders Table Tennis	Year 10 & 11 Year 7 & 8 girls Open to all	Tennis Courts Gym/Field Main Hall
Thursday	Tennis Rounders Table Tennis	Year 7, 8 & 9 Year 9, 10 & 11 girls Open to all	Tennis Courts Gym/Field Main Hall
Friday	Tennis Cricket Table Tennis	Open to all Year 7 & 8 Open to all	Tennis Courts Field Main Hall



Everyone
welcome!

PE Extra Curricular Clubs

After School 3:15pm – 4:30pm

Monday			
Tuesday	Rounders Tennis	Year 7 & 8 girls Open to all	Field Tennis Courts
Wednesday	Rounders Cricket Tennis	Year 9-11 girls Year 7-11 Open to all	Field Field Tennis Courts
Thursday	Athletics Tennis	Open to all Open to all	Field Tennis Courts
Friday	GCSE PE Revision	Year 11	

Please can we remind parents and students of the Henley PE kit expectations.

Our PE kit is as follows:

Henley Polo

Henley Skort/Shorts

The new ¼ zip warm jumper is available at the Alcester Uniform Shop.

The new Henley leggings are available at the Alcester Uniform Shop.

Underlayers/base layers - students are welcome to wear black or navy layers underneath kit to keep warm.

No jewellery.

Hair must be tied back.

Nails must be kept short and smooth.

Please can we kindly ask that any new piercings happen at the beginning of the summer holidays. This allows enough time for the holes to heal and for the studs to be taken out.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Smith
Head of PE

Let's Celebrate!

Zach was selected to be part of the team to represent Warwickshire in the boys cross country event on the 3rd March following a successful race at Princethorpe a few weeks prior where he placed 4th. Congratulations Zach!



Comic Relief Fun Run Friday 15th March!



Mrs Smith
PE Department



Congratulations to Daisy and Caoimhi who recently took part in the U13 Prelim Championships for Irish Dancing at the Scanlon Feis. They took 1st and 2nd place and are heading to Glasgow for the World Championships – wishing you the very best of luck!



Kenilworth Wardens Girls U13s



Players wanted now as we prepare to move to 11 a side next season (current school year 7 or year 8)



We welcome experienced and new players to the game



Why not come training and see what you are missing?

- Training on Tuesday evenings 7pm - 8pm, in Kenilworth on a brand new 4G pitch
- Matches on Saturday mornings in the Central Warwickshire Girls Football League
- Supportive parents and coaches
- Friendly squad with enjoyment and development central to everything
- Learn valuable team skills
- Keep fit and most importantly have fun!

Contact us: claifish@hotmail.com