



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Building Brighter Futures

Thursday 2nd November 2023

SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Our school well and truly got into the Halloween spirit this week, with writing competitions and creative activities in the library. It has been lovely to see our students enjoying these seasonal celebrations together, including Year 8, as we welcomed them back from their PGL adventure and Year 11, who enjoyed a spot of light relief after their mock exams.

We now look ahead to our next seasonal events and as we enter November feel brave enough to mention, dare I say it, Christmas. This year we are supporting the Hinckley and Bosworth Toy Appeal, which our families can not only donate to, but also refer themselves to, should they wish to benefit from the support of a little Christmas magic. In addition, we are also running our own school gift

appeal to benefit residents at a local care home, to spread joy even wider.

Throughout October, our students took part in extensive activities as part of Black History Month, whether that be learning about trail blazers in their subjects, listening to a guest speaker who was part of the Windrush generation, or reading literature written by minority authors to widen the perspective of our students. Our Head of History shares more insights into Black History Month at The Hinckley School on the next page.

Next week we will be hosting our annual Sixth Form Open Evening and I encourage all of our Year 11 students to attend in order to learn more about the incredible opportunities available as part of our post-16 provision. In addition, a Careers Fair in the Main Hall will also provide useful destination information to help our local community to make informed choices about their future.

I would like to end my opening letter this week by thanking Year 11 for their conduct during mock exams. They have shown maturity and dedication and I would like to thank them for that. Teachers will now begin giving detailed feedback to each student, on each paper, so that students can really make the most of this opportunity and understand how we can support them to achieve their full potential during their exams next year. It has also been a pleasure to meet the parents and carers of our Year 13 students during our Results and Revision Evening, and I would like to thank our sixth form community for their support.

Best wishes, Lisa Hickman — Headteacher

#122

'DARE TO SCARE' WRITING COMPETITION



Our 'Dare to Scare' writing competition asked students to write a scary story using only 50 words, a task that is much trickier than it may seem!

To mark Halloween, this competition was open to students from all year groups and encouraged students to try their hand at writing a spooky piece of creative writing. We received an amazing 46 entries from across the school and were impressed by the quality of writing that had been produced.

During our Halloween celebrations in the Library on Tuesday we were delighted to announce that the winner of the Dare to Scare Competition was....Willow - Congratulations from everyone at The Hinckley School!

Ms Crisp and Miss Rayson are looking forward to announcing the next library event and competition soon!



Students First, It's About Learning, No Barriers



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



October is Black History Month in the UK, a time to recognise and celebrate the achievements of Black people in Britain. At The Hinckley School we have focused on the importance of recognising the contribution Black people have made to Britain over the last 10,000 years. Yes, that's right, scientists now believe that some of the earliest people in Britain had dark skin, we have been a diverse society for a lot longer than most people think. Whether it's the 10% + of the skeletons in Leicester's Roman cemeteries who have African heritage, to the trumpeter John Blanke who was part of Henry VIII's musical band, Black people have long been part of our nation's story.

All year groups have had assemblies and Personal Development sessions exploring Black achievements and challenging misconceptions. In The Bridge a Year 7 tutor group delivered a well-received assembly highlighting Black people who have made a real difference to UK, and world history. Abigail, in Year 11, supported the teaching in her year group by finding and sharing a super clip that encapsulated some of the key messages of BHM. Assemblies for Year 10 and 11 focussed on a doubly marginalised group – Black women – and the fantastic work some individuals have done to develop our knowledge and culture. BHM also links to the book Year 9s are reading, *A Change is going to Come*, short stories written by minority authors, which seeks to widen the perspective of our students. The Hinckley Sixth Form joined in with discussion of key questions in their Personal Development sessions.

The students of the Year 8 Gateway were able to receive a unique insight into the lives of the Windrush Generation and their arrival in Britain. They met a local woman, and great-grandma of one of our pupils, who arrived on the Empire Windrush in 1948. They heard about the struggles that not only the Windrush generation experienced, but also the generations that followed. It highlighted the racism, prejudice and persecution that these groups experienced, and their enormous contribution to our society.

Subject areas have gotten involved, showcasing Black high-achievers in their fields to raise our students' aspirations and show them that everyone can achieve. In History we have focussed on how our understanding of history is skewed because most of it has been written by rich white men, and how important it is to address that and find other voices to get a balanced picture.

The Hinckley School wants to be inclusive, we want all of our students to be aspirational and to feel supported. Our work on BHM is a small step towards this by opening all our students' eyes to the contributions and struggles of different groups, and making all of us more understanding of the world around us.—Ms Beale, Head of History

Black History Month

SPANISH SPEAKERS – WHAT IS THEIR BACKGROUND?



Actriz Avolar, Avengers
Parents are Dominican and Puerto Rican.
With regard to her racial identity, Saldana has said, "There's no one way to be Black. I'm Black the way I know how to be."



Cantante Grenade, Uptown Funk, Just the way you are
Parents are Puerto Rican and Filipino/Spanish.
With regard to his racial identity, he said "I hope people of color can look at me, and they know that everything they're going through, I went through, I promise you."

Why do we need Black History Month?

65 of 650 MPs are said to be from ethnic minority backgrounds.

However, if this figure reflected the UK population, there would be at least 90.



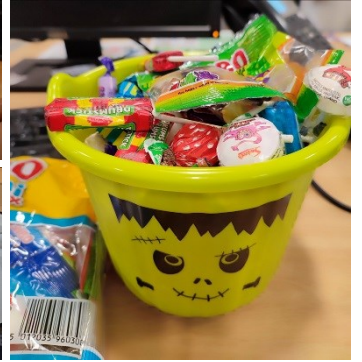
Lilian Bader (1918-2015)



HAPPY HALLOWEEN IN THE LIBRARY

In addition to our 'Dare to Scare' Writing Competition, this week students have enjoyed celebrating Halloween in the Library thanks to a number of spooky activities hosted by Ms Crisp and Miss Rayson.

From taking part in a Halloween Quiz and writing a spooky book review, to making origami pumpkins and colouring in, students enjoyed getting creative and even picked out new books to read at home from our Halloween themed recommendations. Thank you to everyone who got into the Halloween spirit and we have loved reading all of your spooky book recommendations hanging on Ms Crisp's 'Halloween Tree'!



AMAZING ARTEFACTS

At The Hinckley School we are always looking for new ways to bring history to life, for example...

- Did you know that our library regularly displays replicas of historical artefacts for students to interact with?

Currently on display in our Library are a replica of a Roman Helmet and a Stone Age Box filled with a faux skin, replica shoes, and tools, giving students from all year groups an insight into ancient civilisations. Students can even get hands-on with the items, by trying them on and examining them up close, in order to expand their understand. The artefacts are loaned from Creative Learning Services and new items are regularly added to share an insight into a new historical period.



T: 1629

PGL ADVENTURE

The Gateway
At The Hinckley School



Students in Year 8 enjoyed an incredible adventure during their recent PGL trip. Filled with action packed activities, students and staff thoroughly enjoyed themselves and made memories that will last a lifetime.

Mr Stocks, Year 8 Year Leader said, "Our adventure at PGL was an incredible journey filled with growth, learning, and unforgettable memories. From the moment we arrived at the PGL centre, the energy and enthusiasm of our students was brilliant. They embraced new challenges and experiences with open minds, and it was truly a pleasure to witness their personal growth throughout the trip. The activities at PGL provided our students with an opportunity to test their limits and discover hidden talents. Whether it was conquering a high ropes course,

working together as a team on the raft building, or demonstrating courage during the zip-lining adventure, our students exhibited remarkable perseverance and engagement.



I'm delighted to inform you that every student conducted themselves with the utmost responsibility and respect, not only for their fellow participants but also for our dedicated PGL instructors and the natural environment that surrounded us. They showed a deep appreciation for the beauty of the great outdoors, and I'm proud to say that our students were excellent ambassadors for our school.

The sense of community and friendships that developed during our PGL trip were heart-warming. Our students learned to support and encourage each other, fostering a strong sense of community that will undoubtedly extend beyond our time at PGL.



I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to you, our supportive parents. Your trust in us and your children's preparation for this journey contributed significantly to its success. The entire experience would not have been possible without your support."



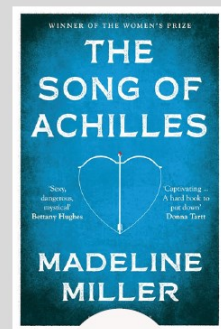
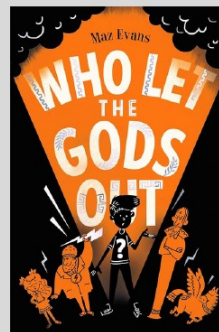
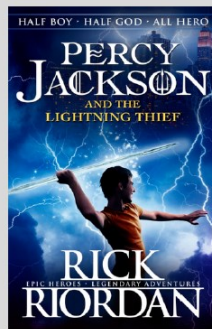
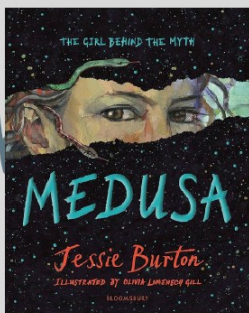
MYTHOLOGY READING CHALLENGE

We are encouraging students to take part in our new November Reading Challenge. All of the books in the challenge centre around the theme of mythology and link to our Classics curriculum.

By reading one of the books below and then completing a book review and/or an accelerated reader quiz, students earn 50 pride points, so if they read all the books this month that would be a total of 250 points! Challenge cards and book review templates are available for students to collect from the library.

November Challenge - books inspired by
mythology

Read a book - complete an AR quiz -
50 PRIDE points each!



Y10+

NETBALL NEWS



Our Year 9 and 10 netball teams took to the court in matches against Heath Lane this week. Both matches were really competitive, with some excellent netball on display.

Well done to Year 9 who won their game 9-4, with Rosie, who has recently returned to netball, being voted as a very well deserving Player of the Match. Well done to the team!

Our Year 10 team narrowly lost their game, with a final score of 7-5, however with a lot of players who are new to the team this year Mrs Cheney was particularly impressed with their performance and was really pleased to see new players enjoying themselves. Year 10 student Ellie received Player of the Match. Well done everyone!

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY THIS CHRISTMAS

To support our community this festive period we are encouraging our students and staff to participate in our Christmas Appeal.

This appeal will see our school community donate not only toys to local families, but also gifts to elderly people within our local community.

To support the appeal, students can bring in any of the following items to their tutor between now and Tuesday 5th December:

- Toys
- Toiletries
- Smellies
- Vouchers
- Gift Bags

(Please note that we cannot accept sweets and that all items need to be new and unopened)

Referrals to the Appeal

We understand that not all families may be able to participate in making a donation to this appeal and may be in need of additional support themselves. Therefore, we would also like to share the referral form for the appeal below, so that families within our own school community can benefit from a little Christmas magic.

If families would like to benefit from the appeal themselves and receive a toy/gift for a child aged between 0-16, then they can use the referral form below to refer themselves to the toy appeal.

[Referral Form Link](#)

The forms should be returned **by 4:30pm on Friday 1st December** to:

Children & Family Wellbeing Centre

Granville Road

Hinckley

LE10 OPP

Or email the form to: Laura.Foster@leics.gov.uk



POST 16 OPTIONS EVENING—9TH NOVEMBER

We are writing to invite you to our annual Post-16 Options Evening, where you and your child can find out more about the opportunities and choices open to them after KS4. On **Thursday 9th November**, The Hinckley School & The Hinckley Sixth Form Centre will be open from **5pm – 8pm**, where you can meet with representatives from a wide range of providers of education and employment in our local area. This event is open to all students in KS4.

In the **Main Hall** there will be stands from local businesses, training providers, the services, Further Education Colleges and Universities. They will provide information booklets, leaflets and staff will be on hand to answer your questions. Staff will also be available to offer guidance and make appointments for one to one careers interviews. Exhibitors include:

RAF, ARMY and NAVY	Loughborough College
Midlands Group Training Services	Brooksby Melton & Stephenson College
Warwickshire College Group	University of Leicester
De Montfort University	University of Hertfordshire
Cadent	Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Services
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council	G Seller
Keele University	Nuneaton Borough Football Club
NWSLC & MIRA	Coventry University
Integra Accounting	Bleckmann

In and around **The Hinckley Sixth Form Centre** teachers and students will also be showcasing the wide range of courses available in our Sixth Form. Our current students will also be available to share an insight into student life and their experience and successes so far. You will be able to hear a talk about opportunities at The Hinckley Sixth Form in A9, downstairs in the Sixth Form Study Centre. The talk will take place at 5:30pm, 6pm, 6:30pm, 7pm and 7:30pm.

If you would like any further information about Careers information and guidance at The Hinckley School do please contact the Careers Office 01455 632183 (ext. 131). If you have questions about The Hinckley Sixth Form, and applying for 2024, then please email: SixthForm@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you at the event



The Hinckley
SIXTH FORM

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 9th November 2023 5pm - 8pm



Learn more about our **wide range of A Level and BTEC Level 3 courses**, meet our **sixth form specialists** and explore our **bespoke post-16 centre**.

PROUD TO BE
GOOD
IN ALL AREAS

Ofsted
Good
Provider

"Strong pastoral guidance"

"There is a real sense of community"

"Students in the sixth form are well prepared for higher education and their future careers."

"Students in the sixth form value the personalised support they get to help them realise their ambitions."

REMEMBRANCE DAY

WE WILL BE CONDUCTING A ONE-MINUTE SILENCE AT 11AM ON FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER TO MARK REMEMBRANCE DAY.

In addition, poppies and other items are currently on sale in the Library and Main Reception. Sixth Form students will also be visiting Tutor Groups to give students another opportunity to purchase a poppy should they wish to.

Below is a list of the items available and the suggested donations:



PAPER POPPIES: 20P
ZIP PULL: 50P
POPPY REFLECTOR KEYSRING: 50P
SILICON WRISTBAND: £1
SNAP BAND: £1

(We ask that students ensure they have the correct money for the donations, as we are unfortunately unable to give any change.)



JOIN THE SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL

Launch of the Sustainability Council



On Wednesday 6th November our Sustainability Council will be launching!

Who can be involved?

Everyone! We would like students from all year groups to be involved so that the student body can be well-represented.

Why get involved?

- The council forms a part of your weekly enrichment
- You will have the opportunity to work with other students, school leaders and the community
- There is the opportunity to work with other schools within the Trust, but most importantly you can help The Hinckley School become one of the most environmentally- friendly schools in the Trust.

When and where can you get involved?

The council will meet every Wednesday after school in L2 3pm- 4pm.

It is not too late to get involved, join us on Wednesday to see what we are up to!



GREEN CAREERS WEEK

Get involved with Green Careers Week starting on Monday!

Green Careers Week helps to highlight some amazing career pathways linking to sustainability and improving the future climate. Mrs Malin will be organising a range of activities for all year groups in the library during lunchtime and careers talks for students, as well as the launch of the **Sustainability Council**. We would love to see as many students getting involved as possible!



Scan the QR code for the 'Green Careers Week magazine' for advice and information from big brands and key players.



Scan the QR code for the 'Parents Guide to Green Careers'

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>Activity: Green careers puzzles</p> <p>Green careers research</p> <p>Location: Library- lunchtime</p>	<p>Activity: Hays Talk</p> <p>Green careers posters</p> <p>Green careers research</p> <p>Location: Library- lunchtime</p>	<p>Activity: Green careers quick reads</p> <p>Location: Library- lunchtime</p> <p>Sustainability council- come and join us!</p> <p>L2- afterschool</p>	<p>Activity: Write your sustainable pledge!</p> <p>Location: Library- lunchtime</p>



6TH – 11TH NOVEMBER 2023

#GREENCAREERS



ENRICHMENT CALENDAR

Our next Enrichment calendar has now launched, giving students a new selection of activities and clubs to get involved in during lunchtime and after school. Please encourage students to take part in as many activities as possible to explore new interests, meet new friends and make life long memories.



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

Enrichment

Activity	Time	Available for	Staff	Location
Monday				
Zines Crafting	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 8, 11	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
Bridge Wildlife Club (WK 2)	Lunchtime	Year 7	K. Mason	Cambridge
Working Lunch	Lunchtime	Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12
Maths Challenge	Lunchtime	Years 7&8	M. Swan	G3
Tuesday				
LGBTQI+	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	G. Lewis	MPR
Music	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Strategy Board Games	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Learn Chess	Lunchtime	Years 10, 11 and 12	Student Leader	H10
Football	Lunchtime	Years 8,9,10	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
Philosophy Discussion	Lunchtime	Years 12 and 13	T. Dutchman	A2
Geology & Palaeontology	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	A. Gadsby	L1
Origami	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	N. Vora	D10
Working Lunch	Lunchtime	Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12
Computing and HW Club	Lunchtime	Years 7 and 8	P. Harrison	C1
Wednesday				
Music	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Chess Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 9, 11	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
KS3 Film Club	Lunchtime	Years 7, 8 & 9	M. Smith	H6
Creative Writing	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	A. Hale	TBC
Working Lunch	Lunchtime	Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12
Thursday				
Music	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Strategy Card Games	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Script Writing	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	F. Carrigan	H6
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 10, 11	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
X-Box	Lunchtime	Year 8	R. Byrne	G2
Working Lunch	Lunchtime	Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12
Friday				
Music	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	D. Riley	MU1
Scrabble	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Football	Lunchtime	Years 8, 9, 10	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
X-Box	Lunchtime	Year 9	R. Byrne	G2
Meditation & Mindfulness	Lunchtime	Year 7-13	C. Jenkins	A3
KS4 Film Club	Lunchtime	Years 10 and 11	Z. Owen	H6
Working Lunch	Lunchtime	Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12

Engage with Enrichment – LUNCH TIME



Enrichment

Activity	Time	Available for	Staff	Location
Monday				
Matilda Rehearsals	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	PA Dept	Dance Studio
Bridge Football	3:00-4:15pm	Year 7	M. Pallett	PE
Boys Football	3:00-4:15pm	Year 9	C. Froome	PE
Netball	3:00-4:15pm	Years 7, 8 and 9	S. Cheney	PE
Gardening Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	T. Pratt	S5
KS4 Girls Football	3:00-4:15pm	Years 9, 10 and 11	F. Nichols	PE
Senior Rugby	3:00-4:15pm	Years 10-13	J. Elvidge D. Solly	PE
Robot Wars	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11	C. Holmes	D1
Tuesday				
Sixth Form Book Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 10-13	R. Crisp	Library
Rock School	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11 <u>invite only</u>	D. Riley	MU1
D of E Bronze	5.30-7.00pm	Year 10	A. Fennell	A9
D of E Silver	5.15-7.30pm	Year 11	A. Fennell	Cube
Wednesday				
Programming Challenge	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	C. Holmes	D14
Boys Football	3:00-4:15pm	Year 8	C. Froome	PE
Girls Netball	3:00-4:15pm	Years 10 -13	S. Cheney	PE
Sustainability Group	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11 <u>invite only</u>	G. Malin	L2
Strategy Games	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	M. Pallett	Library
Netball	3:00-4:15pm	10, 11 & 6th Form	S. Cheney	PE
D of E Gold	5.15-7.30pm	Year 12 and 13	A. Fennell	A9
Matilda Rehearsals	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	PA Dept	Dance Studio
Music Tech	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11	C. Hoffman	MU1
Thursday				
Boys Football	3:00-4:15pm	Year 10	A. Barnacle	PE
Boys Football	3:00-4:15pm	Year 11	M. Pallett	PE
KS3 Girls Football	3:00-4:15pm	Years 7, 8, 9	F. Nichols	PE
Rugby	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7 and 8	L. Taylor/H. Toor	PE
Orchestra	3:00-4:00pm	Invitation	D. Riley	MU1
Artist Retreat	3:00-4:00pm	Year 11	K. Webster	D7
Rugby	3:00-4:15pm	Year 7&8	L. Taylor	PE
Read outside the box	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	E. Rayson	Library
Friday				
Indoor Cricket	3:15-4:00pm	Years 7-11	M. Stocks	PE

Engage with Enrichment – AFTER SCHOOL