



The Hinckley  
SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

Building Brighter  
Futures

#165

## A FOND FAREWELL - THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

As we come to the end of 2024, I hope you are looking forward to the festive season and some much deserved time with family and friends.

For me, it is my last few days at The Hinckley School and I feel very lucky to be spending my remaining time enjoying festive celebrations with our students; pantomimes, Christmas dinners and celebration assemblies. In my four years here, the school has been on a journey, from Hinckley Academy to The Hinckley School, special measures to good.

What that has meant for the children is an increased sense of belonging, celebration of their effort and talents, increased opportunities and success and the ability to celebrate events, such as Christmas as a community. I am very proud of who we are as a school.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all who have supported myself, the school and the staff along the way. It is often said it takes a village to raise a child and there is no doubt then when communities work together, it reaps the best dividends. We have been fortunate to have the support of various stakeholders in the community, but most importantly our families. Thank you all for your support over the years. Schools are fast paced organisations and staff have never worked harder with more being expected from society day in day out. Parental support and acknowledgment of this has always been so appreciated by the team.

Although sad to be bidding a fond farewell to The Hinckley School, I am looking forward to my new role within The Futures Trust and I feel secure for the school knowing the excellent team who will be here in January, still looking after all of our students, under the care of the new headteacher Sam Rooke who is an exceptional school leader. [Click here to read her recent letter to parents/carers.](#)

Again, thank you for all of your support. Have a lovely Christmas and best wishes for the new year.

Best wishes, Lisa Hickman — Headteacher

## LAST DAY OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS - FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER

- CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY-£1 SUGGESTED DONATION (CHRISTMAS JUMPER OR FESTIVE ADORNMENT)
  - EARLY FINISH AT 12:30PM FOR ALL STUDENTS. BEAVER BUS HAVE BEEN INFORMED.
  - ALL YEAR GROUPS RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 2025
- CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Y7,8,9 P2/3 - EXTRA STALL TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR £1 A STRIP. PLEASE BRING CASH.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE HINCKLEY SCHOOL!

This week, our students have enjoyed their year group Christmas dinners alongside festive entertainment.

Students sat together in the Main Hall as they enjoyed traditional Christmas dinners with their friends, complete with crackers and Christmas music.

We would like to say a big thank you to our kitchen staff for their hard work to make this event happen and to our teaching and support staff for helping to serve dinners to our wonderful student community. Each year group showed their appreciation, with students calling the meal 'absolutely incredible!' and even volunteering to help staff tidy up after dessert!

(Article continues on the next page)



# CHRISTMAS DINNER CELEBRATIONS



Ms Hickman, Headteacher said, "Our Year Group Christmas dinners were a real community celebration of festive spirit, friendship and belonging. Students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and sent their compliments to the kitchen! Thank you to everyone for such a treasured memory."

After their Christmas dinners, each year group took part in a different activity, from being the perfect engaged and excitable pantomime audiences, to enjoying festive games and celebrations. Year Teams would like to thank students for such a special end to the year and are looking forward to making many more memories as a community in 2025.



# DUOLINGO PARTY



On Friday 13th Decemer, our languages students in Year 8 and Year 9 celebrated their Duolingo streak of over 150 days.

This is an incredible achievement for their learning which speaks highly of their perseverance and their discipline. During the party, students continued to work on their languages' skills through Duolingo and Just Dance. They were rewarded with doughnuts, cookies, crisps, sweets and drinks which they got comfortable to enjoy using pillows and blankets. After the event Ms Garcia congratulated students on their achievement and said, "We had a fantastic time and I cannot wait to run the party again in the Spring Term!"



# CHRISTMAS HAMPER HAND OVER TO LAWRENCE HOUSE

Our annual Christmas collection for Lawrence house took place on Thursday when Sixth Form students once again took a moment to focus on others over the festive period.

Students worked in their tutor groups to create a bag full of gifts for one of the young men or women staying at Lawrence House, part of the Hinckley Homeless Group. These thoughtful gifts ranged from toiletries and hot chocolate, to sweets, chocolates and warm winter items, with students putting a lot of time and thought into their festive goodie bags.

Paula Tomkins, Sixth Form Pastoral Leader commented, "as the young people in Lawrence House are between 16 – 25 years of age it is a cause particularly close to our students' hearts.

They have really thought about what it must be like to be in someone else's shoes and have all worked together to create a truly special gift bag to put a smile on someone's face. It is great to know that our students' acts of kindness will make a real difference to this small local charity and the community members it supports."

Everybody here at The Hinckley Sixth Form would like to wish all the residents of Lawrence House a very 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year' and hope they enjoy their goodie bags full of festive cheer!



# PANTOMIME IMPRESSES PUPILS AT ST MARY'S



This week has seen the finale of the panto on tour and we couldn't be more proud of the Year 10 Drama students. From the early stages of doing lesson workshops of the genre, scripting Shrek the panto, directing, reworking and rehearsing scenes, to the series of performances that catapulted audiences into a whimsical world filled with laughter, drama, and, of course, a sprinkle of fairy dust. The highlight this week was the visit to St Mary's C of E Primary School where the students wowed pupils from Foundation to Year 6 and staff alike. The enthusiasm created by the audience, from their roars of laughter to the delighted gasps during pivotal moments and the 'she's behind you' and 'oh no it isn't' created a marvellous festive spirit. Mrs Talbot, Deputy Head at St Mary's CofE Primary School said, 'it's always an incredible pleasure to witness any drama production from The Hinckley School and this was no exception - what a thoroughly good performance; we are so lucky they came to see us today.'

The students also entertained our own year groups, and the atmosphere was fun, festive and celebratory. Shrek the panto once more came alive and the students continued to inject the energy needed, which didn't falter all week. The set design redefined what a touring panto could look like, with colourful props, costumes and fantastic make-up courtesy of Isla, our first ever GCSE design candidate for make-up. Each scene sparked delight and amusement and each and every student shone on stage. The tour was a resounding success, leaving the audience with lasting memories and an eager anticipation for next year's performance. Well done Year 10 Drama students!

- Mrs Cook, Head of Drama



# CAPTIVATING MINI CONCERT

As a part of our Year 12's Music Assessment, staff, friends, and family were treated to a mini concert where three students showcased their musical skills and talents. Josh's voice captivated the audience with his beautiful musical theatre numbers and powerful Tina Turner ballad. Then Shaun's piano playing skills entertained the audience with some rhythmically exuberant renditions of The Entertainer and Queen classics. The evening concluded with Owen on the guitar paying homage to his classic rock passion, with an electric and soulful energy to his performance.

The event was a wonderful celebration of their hard work over the past months leading up to the day. The audience and I could not be prouder of their dedication and final performances. Very well done to Josh, Shaun and Owen.

- Mr Riley, Head of Music



# COMPLIMENTARY FIVE DAY LEISURE CENTRE PASSES

The Hinckley Leisure Centre are offered everyone over the age of 16 within our school community the opportunity to enjoy five days of free access to their gym, exercise classes, pool, sauna and steam room! Please review the email below for how to take advantage of this early Christmas present! Enjoy!



Dear Students and Parents,

We hope this message finds you well! At Hinckley Leisure Centre, we're committed to supporting active and healthy lifestyles in our community, and we're excited to share a special opportunity with you.

As we prepare to welcome the new year, we know how important it is to build habits that support a healthy mind and body—especially during busy and often stressful times like school. To encourage this, we're delighted to offer all students aged 16 and over a **complimentary 5-day pass** to Hinckley Leisure Centre.

This pass provides full access to our gym, pool, exercise classes, and relaxing sauna and steam facilities for five consecutive days, giving students a chance to explore all we have to offer in a fun and welcoming environment.

We haven't forgotten about parents either—if you'd like to join your child in staying active, we'd love for you to take advantage of a **complimentary 5-day pass** as well!

This is the perfect opportunity to kick off 2025 on a positive note, with physical activity supporting both mental resilience and overall wellbeing.

To claim your passes, simply visit the reception at Hinckley Leisure Centre with a copy of this email.

Thank you for being a part of our community! We look forward to welcoming you and your family to Hinckley Leisure Centre soon.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



We are creating active places and healthy people for communities to thrive  
**Because Community Matters**

# PLANNED HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT



Hinckley School  
Butt Lane  
HINCKLEY  
LE10 1LA

Date: 11th December 2024  
Contact: Environment & Transport  
Email: [hollierswalk@leics.gov.uk](mailto:hollierswalk@leics.gov.uk)

Dear Occupier,

**PLANNED HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT WORKS, HINCKLEY (Traffic Signal Junction Upgrade) – Hollier’s Walk, Derby Road, New Buildings & Leicester Road signalised junction.**

I am writing to advise that Leicestershire County Council will be undertaking works to upgrade the traffic signalised junction at the above location. The works include new LED traffic signal heads using extra-low voltage equipment and an improved junction design to allow safer traffic and pedestrian movements. We will also take the opportunity of resurfacing the junction as part of these works.

The new scheme layout is shown on the attached Plan A.

Scheme benefits include:

- Improved traffic flow,
- New efficient signalling,
- Reduced journey and waiting times,
- Improved junction capacity,
- Shortened pedestrian crossings,
- New safe and efficient diagonal crossing point with 'on-crossing' detection, extending the green time, where needed,
- Widened footway areas,
- Advance cycle stop-lines.

The works will start **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025** and will last for approximately **13 weeks**. To ensure safety and efficiency, we will be using a combination of temporary road closures (as required) and multi-way temporary traffic signals.

The extent of the road closures will include Derby Road (from its junctions with Hollier’s Walk to Alma Road) and New Buildings (from its junctions with Leicester Road southwards towards the entrance to Aldi). A Plan showing the closures and diversion routes required during the works as well as other supporting information is shown on the project website, listed below.

Access to premises will be maintained as much as possible, however there may be short periods of restrictions, which will be managed and minimised where possible.

Should you require any further information and progress updates about the scheme/works or require details in an alternative format or language, please contact us on any of the following;

Email at [Hollierswalk@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Hollierswalk@leics.gov.uk)  
Website <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/road-projects/holliers-walk-hinckley-traffic-signal-junction-upgrade>

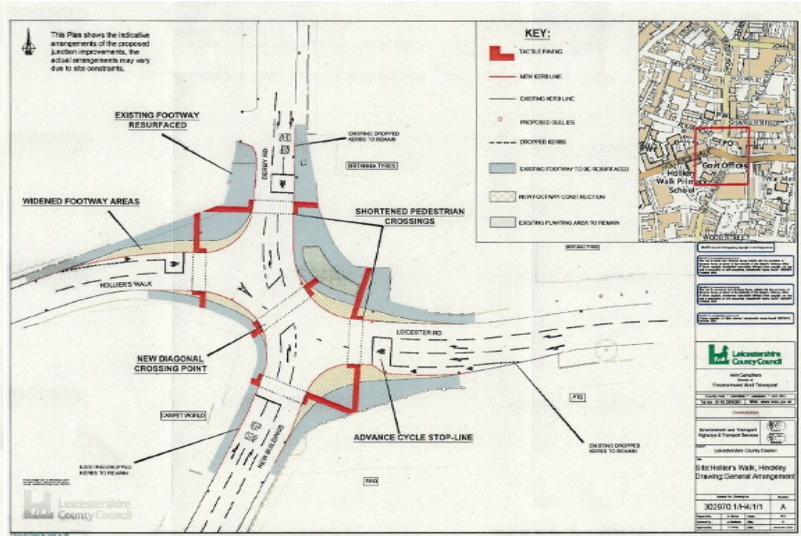
Yours faithfully,

Transport Projects and Programmes  
Environment and Transport

Please familiarise yourself with the letter on the left from Leicestershire County Council regarding planned highway improvement to the Hollier’s Walk, Derby Road, New Buildings & Leicester Road signalised junction.

To read and download the full letter and map, [please click here](#).

For additional information please contact the county council directly via email: [hollierswalk@leics.gov.uk](mailto:hollierswalk@leics.gov.uk)



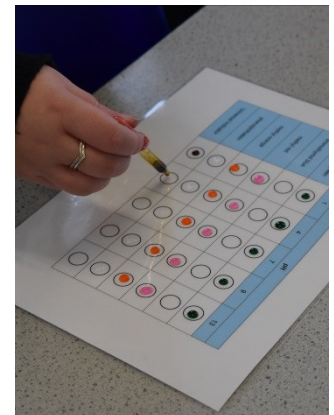
## SIXTH FORMERS CREATE A 'CHEMIS-TREE'

During their last Chemistry lesson before the Christmas break, our Year 13 students took the opportunity to wish the community a merry Christmas by creating their very own 'Chemis-tree'.

Having investigated the colour of different indicators over a range of pHs they then replicated their favourite colour in their 'test tube' tree bauble.

Merry Christmas everyone!

- *Dr Smith, Ms Pathan and our Year 13 Chemistry Students*

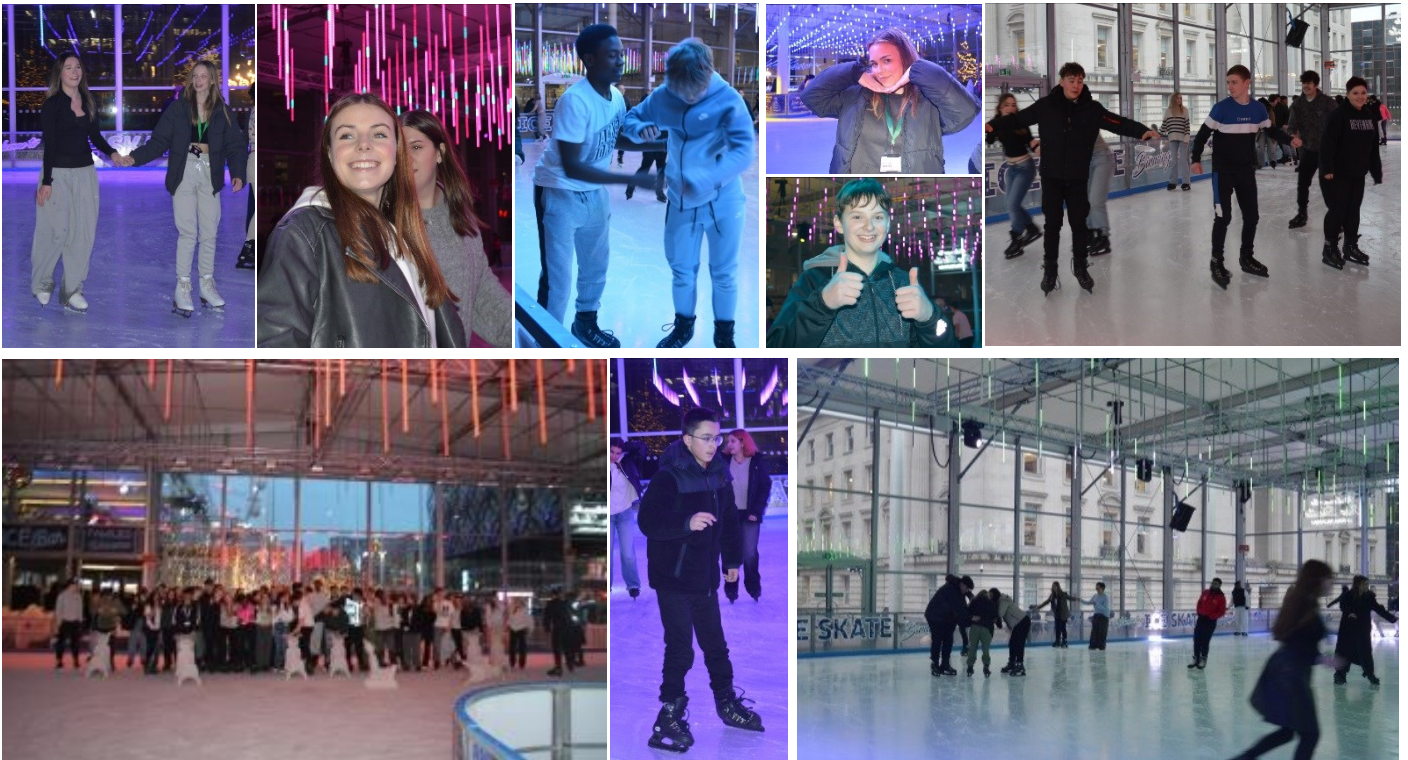


# BIRMINGHAM CHRISTMAS MARKET - KS4 REWARD TRIP

Last week, Year 10 and 11 students had the opportunity to visit Birmingham where they were able to enjoy the festive period by exploring the German Christmas Market, as well as showing off their skills ice skating. The year group had a wonderful time and represented the school wonderfully.

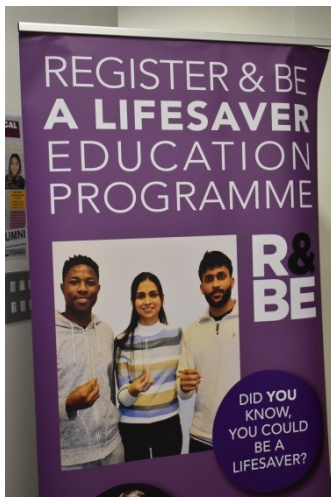
Many thanks to all of the students that made the trip an enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

—Mr Arnold, Year 10 Pastoral Leader and Ms Whittingham, Pastoral Leader for Year 11



## R&BE REGISTER LIFESAVERS

A big thank you to the team from R&BE who joined us once again to tell Sixth Form students about the impact joining the Anthony Nolan register can have. After an initial information session, the team then signed up students to the register by collecting a mouth swab. This annual event is always incredibly well received by our community and we are extremely proud that thanks to the empathy of our students, our community has gone on to save seven lives through stem cell donation. The Hinckley Sixth Form is also in the top five schools in the UK for stem cell donations. Thank you to all our lifesavers and to the R&BE team for their tireless work.





# ADT SPOTLIGHT

CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AND SHARING INSPIRING OPPORTUNITIES

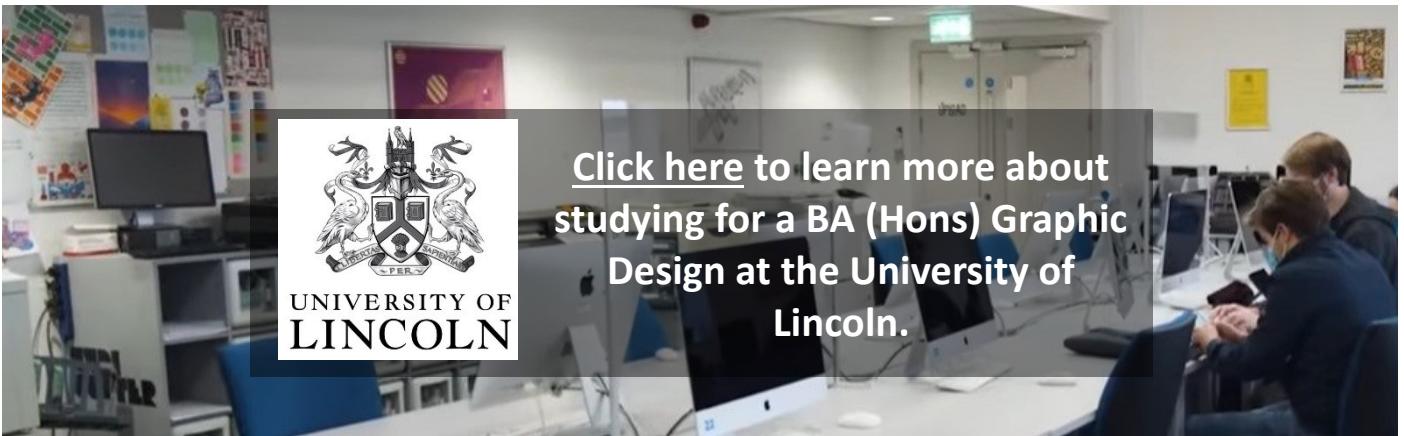
## HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A CAREER AS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER?



Have you ever considered a career as a Graphic Designer?

Graphic Designers work to produce visuals for clients. This could be creating graphics for advertising, websites, magazines, posters, computer games, packaging and many other formats!

[Click here to learn more about a career as a graphic designer.](#)



[Click here to learn more about studying for a BA \(Hons\) Graphic Design at the University of Lincoln.](#)

December Art, Craft and Design Challenge:

## 'Trashion'

The Hinckley SCHOOL



Launch: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Deadline: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

### Challenge:

Select, manipulate and construct found and recycled materials into a fashion garment or accessory

Entries can be printed and handed to Miss Webster in D7, or emailed to [kwebster@thehinckleyschool.co.uk](mailto:kwebster@thehinckleyschool.co.uk)

### Top Tips:

- The garment/ accessory can be for a male or female
- The garment can be made to size OR scaled down to a sample size
- The materials can be assembled together using stitch and/ or with other adhesive such as glue (but please get guidance from a parent/ carer when using these materials)
  - Could you photograph a model wearing your garment?
  - Could your design take inspiration from shapes and silhouettes popular in historical periods?

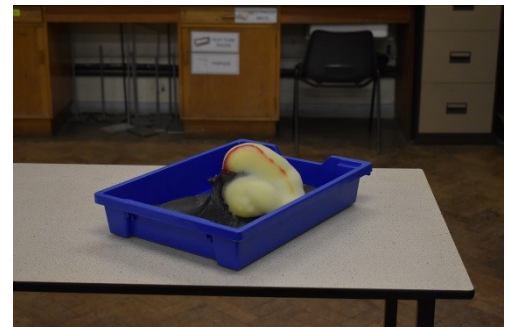
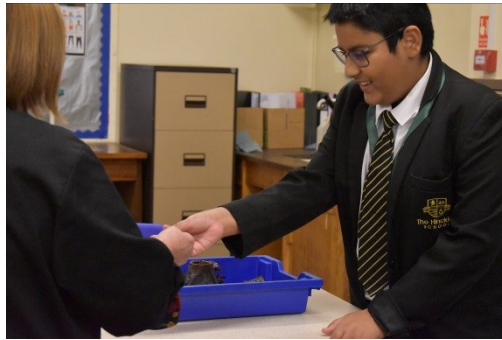


## MODELLING VOLCANOS

Well done to Muzammil in Year 9 who showcased impressive modelling skills this week by creating his very own volcano!

Developing his modelling skills and expanding his knowledge of chemical reactions whilst learning about volcanos in geography, Muzammil shared how much he enjoyed this activity with Ms O'Neill, calling it 'lots of fun'.

Very impressive—well done and keep up the great work!

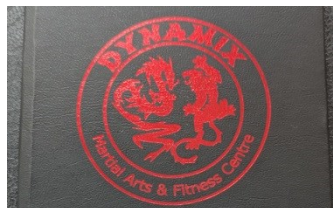


## JUNIOR LEADER OF THE YEAR

This week, we would like to recognise the hard work and achievements of Annie in 7Oxford.

Annie started at Dynamix Martial Arts in Hinckley just over 2 years ago, during that time she has achieved 8 gradings and was even picked to become a Junior Leader. In this role she runs the warm up in front of the class and assists the coach and the other students, helping them with moves. This week, Annie received additional recognition, as she was awarded 'Junior Leader of the Year' and was praised by her coach for her bubbly personality and hard work. Annie's family have expressed how immensely proud they are of her and we would like to join them by congratulating her on this wonderful achievement.

Annie has showcased not only skill, dedication and determination, but also strong leadership skills, by becoming a role model to other students. Well done Annie, keep up the great work!



GRADINGS			GRADINGS		
Grade	Date Passed	Examiner(s)	Grade	Date Passed	Examiner(s)
Yellow Straps	4-1-2-2-2	[Image]	Blue Belt	17 MAR 2024	[Image]
Yellow Belt	5-5-2-5	[Image]	Purple Belt	23 JUN 2024	[Image]
Orange Straps	11 JUN 2023	[Image]	Brown Belt	01 DEC 2024	[Image]
Orange Belt	24 SEP 2023	[Image]	Green Belt		
Green Belt	03 DEC 2023	[Image]	Brown/White		
			Brown/Black		





The Hinckley  
SCHOOL

Stalls include:

- Hair Glitter
- Hot Chocolate
- How Many Balloons are in the Tractor?
- Glitter Tattoos
- Face Painting
- Beanbag Toss
- Strawberry and Marshmallow Skewers
- Sweet Pong
- Pie a Sixth Former
- Photo Booth

Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 are invited to attend our Sixth Form Christmas Bazaar during P2/3 on Friday 20th December for some end of term festive fun!

Students will receive one ticket strip in exchange for their £1 Christmas jumper or adornment donation and can buy additional tickets with cash.



The Hinckley  
SCHOOL



**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR