



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Building Brighter
Futures

#174

THURSDAY 13TH MARCH 2025



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Many of the careers our students will eventually pursue don't even exist yet, with the growing industries of STEM, computing and AI. It is our role to give our young people the knowledge to adapt to these new opportunities and the transferable skills of strong decision making, leadership, team work and communication which all employers look for. With the growth of AI, it was a privilege to give our Year 8 students a unique insight into this world and its endless possibilities this week, as we were joined by the RAF and Royal Navy AI Roadshow, sponsored by BAE. This session was truly something special for our students and I hope it inspires many of them to consider a career in these growth industries in the future. (I know a highlight for many was meeting Lexi the robot AI powered dog!)

We also hosted a Futures Education Institute MFL conference led by Gianfranco Conti, on Wednesday. This event inspired staff from 10 schools, including our own, and it was a joy to host such a prestigious CPD event to support leaders to develop their practice for the benefit of our young people. We look forward to hosting more conferences and CPD sessions in the future.

Finally, I would like to say congratulations to all students who have represented the school during sporting fixtures over the past two weeks, you all continue to do us proud!

- Mrs Rooke — Headteacher

BAE AI ROADSHOW



On Tuesday 11th March, Year 8 attended a Science, Technology, Engineer and Maths (STEM) roadshow organised by BAE Systems, the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy. The focus of the roadshow was Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The presenters showed the students how easy it was to generate a pop song on a subject of their choice - one student chose "Burgers". The lyrics to the song were generated in a matter of moments and within minutes an actual track had been voted as the audience's favourite and by the end of the roadshow a red-headed woman, in a green leather jacket, standing in a cave (again, the student's choice) was singing the track on a video.

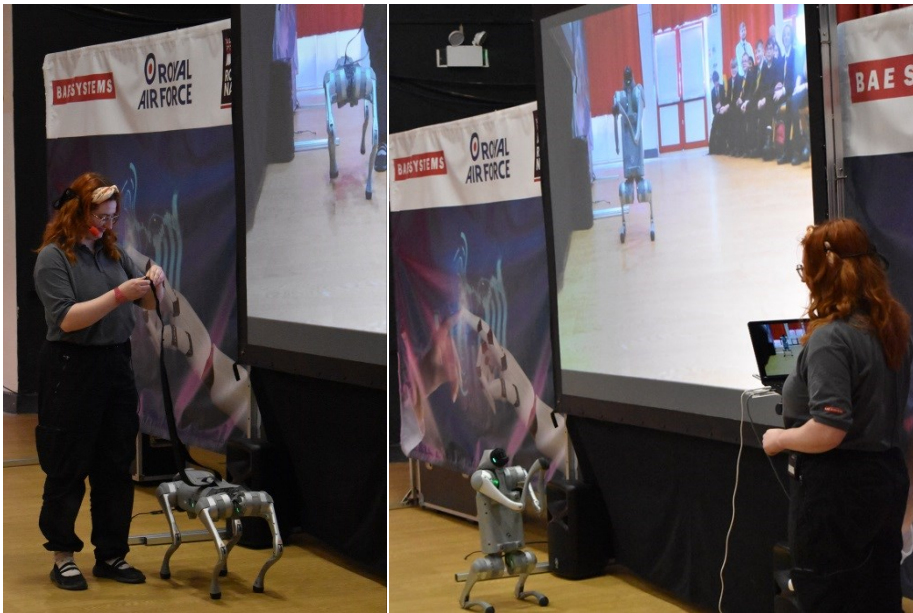
Students learnt about how to spot deep fakes on the internet and were able to get one of the presenter's AI-generated avatars to say anything. It looked just like a video of the presenter. Students were told how easy it is for the photos we post online to be used to generate AI avatars. *(Article continues on the next page.)*

The highlight of the show was Lexi, the AI dog. Students watched Lexi navigate through a maze of students using her sensors and her AI capabilities. She also waved goodbye at the end of the show and did some tricks through voice commands, much like you would give to your own dog. At the end of the show, she was packed up into her box and instead of being walked at night, she was going to be plugged in and recharged.

The Gateway

At The Hinckley School

The show was fun, interesting and informative and, hopefully, it might inspire some of our Year 8 students to look towards a career in engineering in the future. - Ms Stone, Head of Computer Science and Careers Lead



SAVE THE DATE

YEAR 11 Hub
At The Hinckley School

The Hinckley
SIXTH FORM

Year 11 and Year 13 Easter School

Tuesday 22nd April and Wednesday 23rd April, 9am-1pm

JUDO GOLD FOR KAYLEIGH



Kayleigh in Year 7 proudly represented the school at the British Schools Championship last Sunday, delivering an outstanding performance.

We are delighted to share that she won every fight in her category, securing a well-deserved gold medal.

Her sister, Katrina, was unfortunately unable to compete due to her national champion status. Otherwise, both sisters would have been representing the school in the competition.

On behalf of everyone here at The Hinckley School we would like to say congratulations to Kayleigh on this incredible achievement. Thank you for representing our school in such a prestigious competition—you did us all proud!

ENGLISH LITERATURE LECTURER INSPIRES SIXTH FORMERS



This week, Sixth Form English Literature students enjoyed a virtual event with Iceland based lecturer, Dr Beth Cortese.

Dr. Beth Cortese is a Lecturer in Restoration and Eighteenth-century English Literature at the University of Iceland where she teaches and researches British Literature from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. She also teaches literary theory and creative writing at the university.

She spoke to students about her time studying English Literature and Creative Writing for her BA and English Literature for her MA at Lancaster University, U.K. and completing her PhD in English Literature at Lancaster University in 2018 on the topic of 'Women's Wit Onstage'

Beth gave students a first hand insight into careers based around English Literature and students shared how inspired they felt after the talk ended. One student said, "I now have so many ideas!" Thank you to Beth for helping to inspire our students.

GIANFRANCO CONTI - MFL CONFERENCE



On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome internationally renowned language acquisition and metacognition expert Gianfranco Conti as he lead a CPD workshop for staff from Futures Education Institute partner schools.

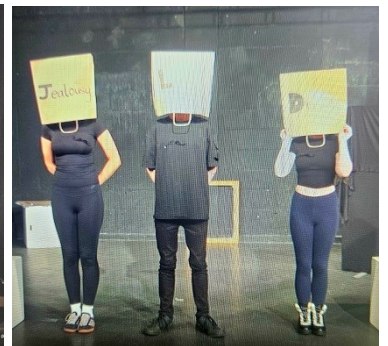
Gianfranco Conti Phd (Applied Linguistics, MA (TEFL), MA (English Lit), PGCE (Modern Languages and PE) is an international keynote speaker, professional development provider, writer, blogger and co-author of best-selling books 'The language teacher toolkit', 'Breaking the sound barrier: teaching learners how to listen' and 'Memory: what every language teacher should know'. A language teacher for around 30 years, Gianfranco is also the founder of the language learning website www.language-gym.com.

It was a honour to host such a prestigious conference and to be able to support our own MFL department in accessing this incredible opportunity. Feedback from the session was extremely complimentary, as staff shared how much they benefitted from Gianfranco Conti's expertise.

A LEVEL DRAMA EXAMINATION



Year 13 were examined in their final pieces this week by an external examiner, opening the doors to 'Friends and Family' on Monday evening for a dress and technical rehearsal and culminating in two great performances on Tuesday. A scene from the Crucible was performed using the multi-media and props- focused influence of the theatre practitioner Katie Mitchell, alongside Stanislavski's naturalism to form the text base piece and the original devised performance was a re-telling of Shakespeare's classic, 'A Winter's Tale', in the style of the comedic, fast paced, non- naturalistic Splendid Theatre Company. A student and staff audience supported the performers and the performances were assisted by Owen, our Year 12 Theatre Technician. 'All their hard work and commitment really paid off', said Mrs Cook, Head of Drama, "both pieces held challenge and complexity in their own way giving the audience a dichotomy of emotion, style and characterisation. They delivered with panache and confidence and I'm so proud of all their hard work and commitment."



Staff reviews came flooding in and Mr Wood, Deputy Head, really captured the atmosphere of both pieces when he said :

"Well done to all. Two fantastically juxtaposing pieces. The Crucible was dramatically moving, with an intensity to the performances that made the emotions feel real. As an audience member there were moments that made me feel uncomfortable, a testament to the collective chemistry and individual brilliance of all three performers. The energy of the second performance was particularly impressive. There were lots of causes to laugh, all underpinned by the disturbing reality of the perpetual power of the patriarchy. The fluency of performance made a black comedy of the harrowing reality of a trial in the court of public opinion. A particular highlight for me (aside from the moustaches...) was the twisting of the sequence & chronology. A special mention in both pieces as well for the technical team in the background - the fact that they were unnoticeable (the highest accolade for any technical team) means that they performed a thoroughly professional job." Well done Year 13 !

- Mrs Cook, Head of Drama

YEAR 11



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

You are cordially invited to attend the

2025 Leavers Prom

A Night to Remember

*Join us for a truly
Unforgettable Evening*

Venue:
Badgers Mount Hotel,
Elmesthorpe, LE9 7SG

Date:
Friday 4th July 2025

Time:
5:45pm - 11:00pm

Dress Code:
Prom Wear/Formal
Attire

Cost:
£25 deposit to be paid
via Parent Pay by 24th
March

YEAR 11 Hub
At The Hinckley School

5:45pm
Arrival with Red Carpet Photos

6:15pm
Welcome Drinks

7:00pm-8:00pm
Live Band

7:00pm-7:30pm
Dinner Served

9:00pm-9:30pm
Group photos and photobooth

9:30pm-11:00pm
Disco

11:00pm
Farewells

Celebrate as the Class of 2025



EASTER CLUB

Tuesday 22nd - Friday 25th April

9am-12pm

£2 Members and £4 Non-Members per session

Those entitled to free school meals can attend for free using their HAF code

Limited spaces available, booking is now open!!
Please contact us at office@greentowers.co.uk to register

Breakfast and
Lunch
provided for
all children

8-18yrs
Only

*Sports, Games, Crafts, Easter Egg Hunt,
Disco and more....Come along and join the fun.*

NEW

Enrichment Lunchtime

NEW

Spring Term 2025



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

Engage with Enrichment

Monday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 8 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Badminton (Wk1 Boys Wk2 Girls)	Lunchtime	Year 7	M. Pallett	PE
Tuesday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 8, 9 & 10	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Read and Relax	Lunchtime	Year 7-13	G. Mathieson	H2
LGBTQI+	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Byrne	MPR
Strategy Boardgames	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Wednesday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 9 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Music Club	Lunchtime	Year 7	D. Riley	MU1
Badminton (Wk1 Boys Wk2 Girls)	Lunchtime	Year 8	M. Pallett	PE
Bridge Drama Society	Lunchtime	Year 7	K. Cook	Drama
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Library Chess	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Thursday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 10 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Girls Football	Lunchtime	Years 7 & 8	I. Ratheram	Astro
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Scrapbooking	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	A. Garcia	L3
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Badminton (Wk1 Boys Wk2 Girls)	Lunchtime	Year 9	M. Pallett	PE
Geology & Palaeontology	Lunchtime	Year 7-13	A. Gadsby	L1
Scrabble	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Friday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 8, 9 & 10	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
THS Dance Company (Wk 1)	Lunchtime	Years 7 & 8	A. Bennett	Dance Studio
THS Dance Company (Wk 2)	Lunchtime	Years 9,10,11	A. Bennett	Dance Studio
X-Box Club	Lunchtime	Year 10	R. Byrne	H9

NEW

Enrichment After School

NEW

Spring Term 2025

Monday				
Mixed Dodgeball	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7	M. Pallett	PE
Music Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Robot Wars	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-9	P. Williams	D14
Tuesday				
Rock School	3:00-4:15pm	Invite only	D. Riley	MU1
Girls Rugby – Hinckley Rugby Club	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7-13	M. Tallis	PE
Table Top Role Play Games	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	J. Hunter	Library
DofE Bronze	5:30-7:00pm	Year 10	A. Fennell	Cube
DofE Silver	5:15-7:30pm	Year 11	A. Fennell	A9
Wednesday				
Girls Basket Ball	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7-9	F. Godfrey	PE
Boys Rugby (split age groups)	3:15-4:30pm	Years 7-13	M. Stocks	PE
Choir	3:00-4:15pm	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
War Hammer	3:00-4:00pm	Year 9-13 Invite	C. Hoffman	D11
Electronics Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	P. Harrison	D1
DofE Gold	5:15-7:30pm	Year 12 & 13	A. Fennell	A9
Thursday				
Boys Football	3:15-4:15pm	Year 9&10	C. Froome	PE
KS3 Girls Indoor Futsal	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7, 8 & 9	C. Gillett	PE
Music Tech	3:00-4:00pm	Year 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Sixth Form Biologists	3:00-4:00pm	Year 13	T. Pratt	S5
Maths Club	3:00-4:00pm	Year 10	E. Jones	Gateway
Friday				
Music Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1

Enrichment Awards

To celebrate your engagement with enrichment you will be presented with a Ruby, Sapphire and Diamond award in your termly celebration assemblies. Challenge yourself to try something new!

Ruby 30-49 sessions

Sapphire 50-69 sessions

Diamond 70+ sessions

