



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Building Brighter Futures

THURSDAY 18TH APRIL 2024

#140



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Last week, we welcomed families who will be joining us in The Bridge in August.

The 'Afternoon Tea' event was very well attended and it was a privilege to meet our future students and their families. The pupils showed great confidence and felt comfortable enough in The Bridge surrounded by their family and our team to ask questions in front of the group. I would like to thank everyone who attended and supported the event.

Some of our students began their exams and assessments this week, in subjects such as GCSE Drama. I would like to congratulate them on their efforts and positive conduct and wish all students approaching their examination period the very best of luck. I encourage all of our Year 11 and 13 students to engage with the multiple levels of support in place from our Tutors, Year Teams and Subject Teachers. We are all here to help

you every step of the day.

Whilst still in the middle of exam preparation, we are also starting to look ahead to our Year 11 and 13 Prom celebrations, where students can relax and celebrate the end of their GCSE or A Level journey. These events are important life moments for students and their families, and will give treasured memories to look back on, that is why we have worked hard as a team to ensure these events can be accessed by as many members of our community as possible. In this newsletter you will find details of our Prom Hardship Fund and Pre-Loved Prom Shop. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has felt able to donate so generously to these support programmes, it will make a real difference to our students and their families.

Our new enrichment calendar is now in full swing and it has been wonderful to see students taking on new challenges over the past two weeks. We hope that our enrichment in school also encourages students to explore new interests outside of school to contribute to the community and develop further skills. We love to hear about student success in these additional activities and shine a light on two examples in this newsletter, where students have showcased PRIDE values beyond our gates and shown themselves to be great role models.

Finally, I encourage everyone to 'Save the Date' for our Sports Festival next weekend! It is set to be a real celebration of our community, with rugby and football competitions taking place at the heart of the event. We look forward to welcoming you.

Best wishes, Lisa Hickman — Headteacher

EXPLORING THE SCIENCE BEHIND FOOD TECHNOLOGY



We are delighted to share that our new STEM Food enrichment club started this week. Led by Mrs Wilson, the group will explore the science behind food technology.

Following the success of the first session, Mrs Wilson shared, "We looked at the best raising agents that are used in food and what factors affected the amount of gas (CO₂) produced." In their next session students will have the chance to look at making ice cream in a bag!

The club is open to students in Year 7-10 and takes place every Week 2 Tuesday lunchtime in D20. We encourage students to come along and try something new!



At The Hinckley School

Students First, It's About Learning, No Barriers





LIVE THEATRE SPECIAL

An insight into some of the exceptional live theatre experiences we have offered our students in Dance, Drama and English recently.

'THE DUCHESS OF MALFI' AT THE GLOBE THEATRE



On Friday evening, Mr Wood, Mrs Cook and Mr Boast took Year 13 English Literature students to The Globe Theatre in London to see a candlelit production of John Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*.

As one of the examination texts students are studying for their A-Levels it was powerful to see the play brought to life by an incredible cast. After a leisurely walk along the South Bank, the students were particularly impressed by the production, especially the portrayal of the Duchess and of her evil twin brother, Ferdinand, who both struck the delicate balance of humour and tragedy in the way Webster would have intended. The students also commented on how effectively the stagecraft enhanced the storyline.

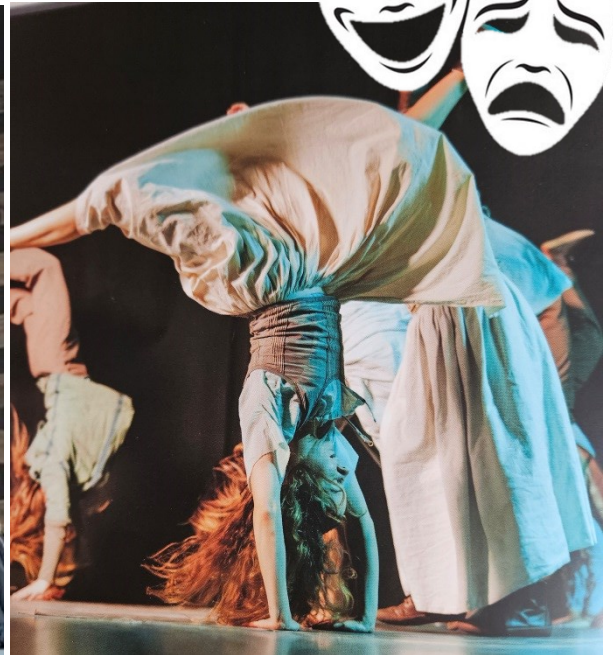
With several students studying both English Literature and Drama it was a pleasure to welcome Ms Cook on the trip – her second evening at the theatre in succession – and a huge thank you to Mr Boast for joining us and for being our driver.

In a world where digital media is so dominant, it is humbling to experience live theatre and to share it with students who appreciate The Arts.

- Mr Wood, Deputy Headteacher



PHYSICAL THEATRE AND CIRCUS CRAFT IN 'TESS'



Last Thursday's live theatre trip to see 'Tess' at the Belgrade theatre was a resounding success and a theatrical delight for our GCSE and A Level Drama and Dance students.

Adapted from Thomas Hardy's 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles', it was an incredible and eclectic mix of physical theatre, circus-craft and dance and imaginatively. The show vibrantly told the tale of the plight of the protagonist, Tess. The students and staff were wowed by the production with its incredible lighting, costume and sound. Mrs Cook, Head of Performing Arts said, 'it was one of the best theatrical productions she'd ever seen!' She also said, 'the students were an absolute credit to themselves and to the school and the public in the theatre were nodding and smiling in approval at their wonderful conduct and behaviour. It was a wonderful evening!'

PERFORMING LIVE THEATRE - GCSE DRAMA EXAM



YEAR 11 Hub At The Hinckley School

Year 11 Drama students showed their work for examination to an external examiner on Wednesday and it was exciting to see their monologues and duologues come to fruition. The students had studied the play 'DNA' by Dennis Kelly about gang culture and peer bullying. The exploration of the challenging themes in this play and the use of facial expression, vocals, movement and interaction to express them has been the main focus and showing the examiner the understanding of the play through performance and choice of set, lighting and costume to enhance the pieces. Mrs Cook, Drama teacher was immensely proud of their efforts and resilience in preparing for the exam and their focus on the day. Well done Year 11 !

EXPRESS YOURSELF



The Hinckley School
Butt Lane
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1LE

05 April 2024

Dear The Hinckley School,

Thank you so much for taking part in Children's Mental Health Week 2024!

On behalf of Place2Be, we would like to say a huge thank you for your incredible support during Children's Mental Health Week and for raising a phenomenal £150.00. Your fantastic contribution has helped us raise over **£70,450** so far!

You were a part of an amazing Children's Mental Health Week Community, made up of:

- **2686 schools** that joined the Express Yourself fun
- Little ones from **293 nurseries** that celebrated their voices
- **1051 individual legends** that took on their own personal challenge
- **738 businesses and community groups** that came together to make a vital difference

Your commitment to raising funds to equip, empower and give a voice to children and young people across the UK is truly inspiring.

The difference your support makes

With 1 in 5 children now having a probable mental health condition, our school-based mental health services have never been more needed. Your support means that we can be there for more children when they need it most. Children like 6-year-old Grace:

"When I go to Place2Be I let the stress out and it goes away".

The work we do is only possible because of remarkable fundraising efforts from people like yourself, so thank you again for your support.

We hope to see you again next year!

Kind regards,
Chloe, Daisy & Jade

Children's Mental Health Week Team
E: events@place2be.org.uk
T: 020 7923 5500

AFTERNOON TEA WELCOMES NEW FAMILIES TO THE BRIDGE



We held The Bridge Transition Afternoon Tea on Friday 12th April, for any family who after receiving their welcome pack, had any additional questions about transition, or life here at The Hinckley School.

Mrs James and Mrs Thomas thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone and sharing in sandwiches and cakes as they discussed our all important transition support. The event was a huge success with over sixty families in attendance and Year 6 pupils impressed our team with their confidence, oracy and inquisitive nature when asking questions.

We hope guests found the event helpful and we can't wait to welcome our new Bridge community back to The Hinckley School again soon as we support our next year groups journey to secondary education.



GRACIE GOES FOR GIRL GUIDING GOLD!

Our enrichment calendar encourages students to take part in a diverse array of activities outside of the classroom in order to try new things, make new friends and learn new skills. It is wonderful to hear about students who take this one step further by looking for additional enrichment opportunities outside of school and by contributing positively as an active member of the local community to showcase our PRIDE values. This week, we would like to congratulate Gracie in Year 8 for her commitment to enrichment within our wider community.

Gracie is part of the Hinckley Girls Guides and also helps the younger girls at Rainbows. She has collected an impressive amount of badges over the course of 4 years and says she is most proud of her 'Guides Well Done Badge' as she was awarded this for good leaderships skills after helping her guide leaders on a trip. Gracie has now applied for "Rangers International 2025" which will see her travel to Denmark and Northern Ireland, and is looking forward to attending INTOPS next week at Leicestershire Girl Guiding Headquarters where, along with other Guides, she will work on confidence ahead of the big trip!

Gracie is also currently on her final task, the 'Media Critic Badge', to gain her Gold award to 'Plan and Go on an Adventure'. This has shown great perseverance and dedication.

"Guides has helped me to learn how to build a community with other people and to know how to talk to others," Gracie shared when asked about what skills Guiding has given her. It is wonderful to see students showcasing PRIDE values within the community and being a role model to those younger than themselves—truly embodying the THS spirit, well done Gracie!



MAKING PROM ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

Attending your Year 11 or Year 13 prom is a once in a lifetime rite of passage for every secondary school student. An evening spent with friends and teachers where you can celebrate your achievements, friendships and memories whilst looking ahead to new adventures. We want as many students as possible to be able to access this important event, by removing some of the potential barriers in place due to the current economic challenges. With this in mind we have created a number of ways that students can access support to ensure the event is accessible for all.



The Prom Hardship Fund

This fund has been established to help support students to attend and enjoy this annual event and relieve potential financial pressures. With countless donations from staff, parents, carers, local businesses and governors, our community has once again come together to support our students and we are extremely grateful. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

How can families access the Prom Hardship Fund?

If you are struggling to pay for your child's Prom ticket, please contact your year team and we will do our best to support the buying of a Prom ticket for your child.

How can families donate to the Prom Hardship Fund?

If you would like to donate to the Prom Hardship Fund, again please contact your year team.

Pre-Loved Prom Shop

In addition, our new 'Pre-Loved Prom Shop' allows members of the local community to donate their old prom dresses, accessories and suits for our students to use, should they need additional support.

How can families access the 'Pre-Loved Prom Shop'?

We have had some very generous donations of Prom dresses and suits made to the school, some of which have never been worn before. If your child would like to borrow one for the evening, they need to speak to their year team and we will arrange for them to view the outfits one day after school. We also have staff volunteers who can offer support in alternations for loaned dress and suits, should they be required.

How can families donate to the Pre-Loved Prom Shop?

If you have a pre-loved prom dress, bag, shoes, suit, tuxedo etc that you would like to donate, please bring the item to our Main Reception during our normal office hours. We would like to thank everyone for their kind donations.

All of this information will be shared with our students in assembly, we would like to thank Mrs Priestnall for all of her efforts in ensuring the Prom can be accessed by all students in Year 11 and 13.



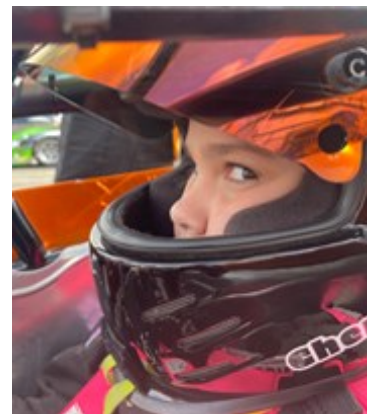
JUNIOR DRAGSTER EASTER NATIONALS



Year 7 student Ada enjoyed her first race meeting of the 2024 season in the Lucas Oil MSUK Junior Dragster Championship recently and we are delighted to share an insight into her experience and achievements from her racing team, this particularly highlights the perseverance and respect she demonstrates through racing.

Unfortunately, due to poor weather on the run up to the event, Santa Pod Raceway had to change the format of the event, meaning Ada lost out on pre season testing and additional qualification rounds. This was a shame as the team did not get the chance to fine tune the new engine build before the first round of qualifying. So the team decided to use the first round as a test to find the performance of the car while running in the new engine and the driver finding her feet back in the cockpit of Cherry Bomb with her new race number JM7. Ada went into round one up against a seasoned racer of 16 years old. Unfortunately, the car surprised the whole team and driver by running 2 tenths of a second too quickly which meant the other car got the win! Ada was still in good spirits having made some solid improvements with the car set up ready for the next round in April.

Ada then shown some fantastic sportsmanship by not only supporting the remaining races for the Juniors, but also going to the top end of the track to support any of the drivers needing help with their car or kit. Ada was on hand to help some of the younger and newer drivers as they got off the track, as well as going on to support the winner and runner up at the trophy presentation at the end of the day. The team are very much looking forward to the next event. Well done Ada a good start to the season!



YEAR 9 PRIDE CHALLENGE

Year 9 PRIDE CHALLENGE

“Mexican Madness”

No Mexican feast is complete without a piñata...

Why not make a piñata cake?!

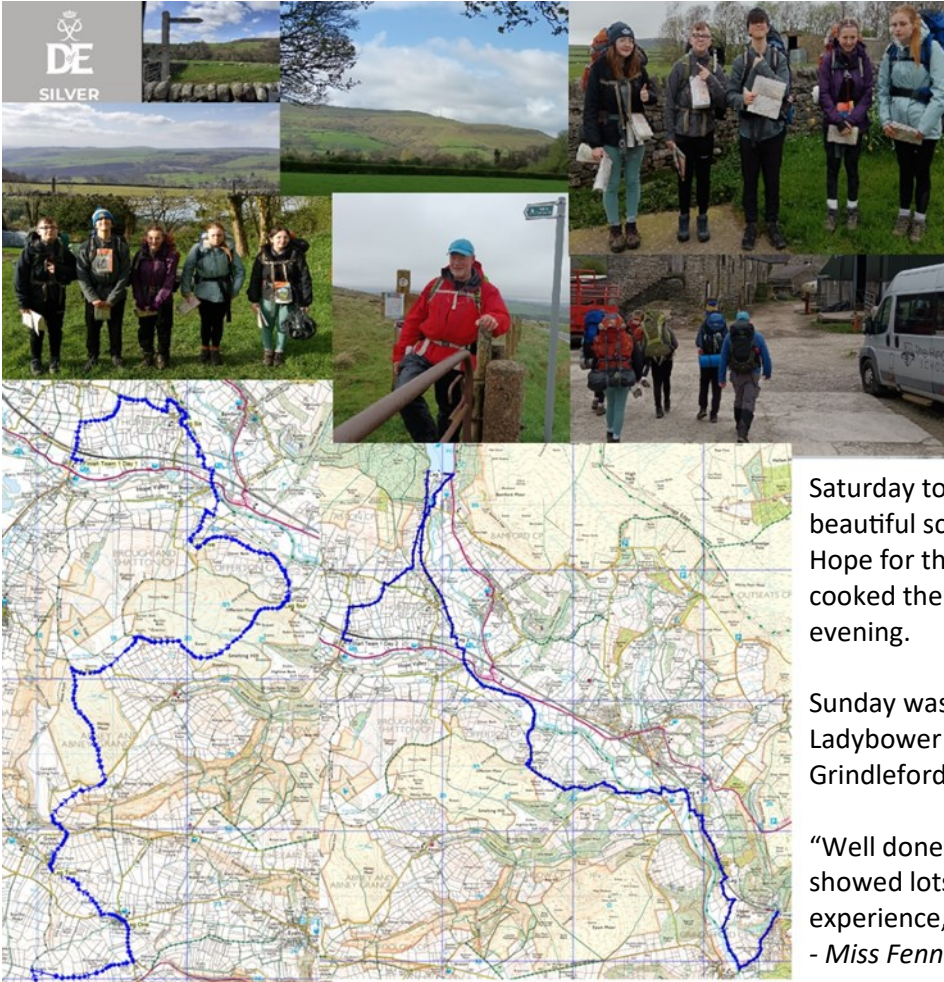
As part of their work in Food & Nutrition, Mrs Wilson’s group have started to explore the ingredients and cuisines from another country. As a PRIDE challenge, they have been tasked to create a piñata cake (either individually or in pairs). Each student that enters will be awarded 50 additional PRIDE points. Remember PRIDE points means prizes!!!

All entries to be brought to their next Food & Nutrition lesson week beginning 22nd April.



YEAR 9 Hub
At The Hinckley School

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD - LATEST NEWS



The Silver DofE group ventured to the Peak District at the weekend to complete their Silver Practice expedition.

Leaving Hinckley on Friday, they travelled up to Wardlow Myres in Derbyshire to setup camp for the night. The teams were woken up by the sheep and their lambs, they cooked their breakfast, packed up and were ready to set off at 8am.

Saturday took them across Abney Moor seeing some beautiful scenery and finishing at Hardhurst Farm in Hope for the evening, tents were pitched and they cooked their tea on the Trangia before relaxing for the evening.

Sunday was another early start, they walked over to Ladybower dam to Offerton Moor, finishing at Grindleford train station.

"Well done to all, they were all very positive and showed lots of enthusiasm throughout the two day experience, even though it was tough at times."

- Miss Fennell, D of E Co Ordinator



“ Adventure, fun with friends enjoy the outdoors, personal challenge, learn a new skill, enhance your CV, create memories and much more! ”



Gold (age 16+)	Volunteering 12 months	Physical 12 or 6 months	Skills 12 or 6 months	Expedition 4 days 3 nights	Residential 5 days 4 nights
	Physical and Skills sections: one section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months If you didn't do Silver, you must do a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.				



BRONZE

Volunteering 3 months	PLUS a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.
Physical 3 months	
Skills 3 months	
Expedition 2 days 1 night	

Current Year 9s can enrol onto the Bronze DofE award. (Completing their expedition in Year 10)

*Expedition training will start in September



Adventure, fun with friends, enjoy the outdoors, personal challenge, learn a new skill, enhance your CV, create memories and much more.

SILVER		Direct entrants must do a further 6 months in the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.
Volunteering 6 months	one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months	
Physical		
Skills		
Expedition 3 days 2 nights		

Current Year 10s can enrol onto the Silver DofE award. (Completing their expedition in Year 11)

*Expedition training will start in September

**IN YEAR 12 OR 13?
ENROL NOW TO TAKE PART IN YOUR
GOLD DOFE AWARD
PICK UP A FORM FROM MRS HALL
OR EMAIL
AFENNELL@THEHINCKLEYSCHOOL.CO.UK**



**The Hinckley
SCHOOL**

**Registration for Bronze, Silver and Gold:
Now Open**

For more information email afennell@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

COME ALONG AND SUPPORT OUR SPORTS FESTIVAL!

Dear Parents/Carers,

You and your family are cordially invited to our eagerly anticipated **Sports Festival on Saturday, April 27th, 2024!** It promises to be a day filled with excitement, camaraderie, and thrilling sportsmanship.

Gates will open promptly at 10:00 AM for all students taking part in these events. Parents will be welcome onto the site from 10:00am. We will have a food truck on site offering delicious food which will start service from 10:30 AM, so please bring cash and card.

The highlight of the day will be the eagerly anticipated sport matches both kicking off at 11:00am. The Gateway girls will go head-to-head with the Year 9 girls in their long anticipated football showdown. Following that, at the same time, an epic all-star rugby match will take place, featuring a mix of Year 8 and Year 9 students, with Mr. Stocks and Mr. Elvidge leading their respective teams.

As we all know, British weather can be unpredictable, so we kindly ask that if any parents have gazebos, they bring them along in case the weather takes a turn for the worse. Your assistance with this would be greatly appreciated.

We're looking forward to welcoming you and your family to this memorable event. Let's come together as a community to support our students and celebrate the spirit of sportsmanship.

Best regards, Mr Stocks, Year 8 Year Leader



GEOGRAPHY FIELD WORK AT THE RIVER DWYRYD



Our Year 12 Geography students embarked on their fieldwork residential on Thursday 11th April. The following day we were introduced to the River Dwyryd and got our hands dirty measuring the rivers profile, soil profile and general land use. The next day saw us compare the regeneration of Blaenau Ffestiniog and Porthmadog, asking locals their opinion of the changes and assessing the success of the land use changes. On the final day we measured beach profiles at Criccieth and assessed the protection strategies they had to offer. All students can hold their heads high, as everyone was involved in all the activities and should be proud of the way they represented the school and themselves. They walk away from Wales with positive memories and an improved understanding on how the world of Geography comes together. The next step is to transform the data collected and create a report that goes towards their A Level. We'll see you next year NW Wales!
- Mr Hillier, Head of Geography



NEW ENRICHMENT CALENDAR

We are delighted to share our new Enrichment Calendar for the first part of the Summer Term. Providing another opportunity for our students to enjoy participating in extra curricular activities, creating life long memories, making new friends and learning new skills. Please familiarise yourself with the new opportunities on the next two pages.

Enrichment Lunchtime – Summer 1

Monday				
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	Astro
Bridge Table Tennis	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Maths Challenge	Lunchtime	Years 7&8	M. Swann	G3
Bridge Wildlife Club	Lunchtime	Year 7	K. Mason	Cambridge
Crochet Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	L. Wills	D10
Girls Badminton	Lunchtime	Year 9	M. Pallett	PE
Tuesday				
Strategy Board Games	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Girls Football & Y8 Inter-form	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Table Tennis	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Origami	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	N. Vora	D12
LGBTQI+	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	G. Birks	MPR
Geology & Palaeontology	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	A. Gadsby	L1
Sustainability Council (week 1)	Lunchtime	Invite only	G. Malin	L2
STEM Food Club (week 2)	Lunchtime	Years 7-10	J. Wilson	D20
Boys Badminton	Lunchtime	Year 9	M. Pallett	PE
Wednesday				
Chess	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 9 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Table Tennis	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Creative Writing Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	A. Hale	H7
KS3 Film Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-9	M. Smith	H6
KS3 Electronics	Lunchtime	Years 7-9	P. Harrison	D1
Summer Science	1:30-1:55pm	Years 7&8	C. Smith	Cube
Girls Badminton	Lunchtime	Year 8	M. Pallett	PE
Thursday				
Strategy Card Games	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 10 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Table Tennis	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Boys Badminton	Lunchtime	Year 9	M. Pallett	PE
Friday				
Scrabble	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Football	Lunchtime	Years 8, 9 & 10	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Table Tennis	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
X-Box Club	Lunchtime	Year 9	R. Byrne	G2
Bridge Badminton (mixed)	Lunchtime	Year 7	M. Pallett	PE

Enrichment After School – Summer 1

Monday				
Senior Rugby	3:00-4:15pm	Years 10-13	J. Elvidge	PE
Robot Wars Construction	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11	P. Harrison	D1
Tuesday				
Rock School	3:00-4:15pm	Invite only	D. Riley	MU1
Robot Wars Tournaments	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11	C. Holmes	D1
DofE Bronze	5:30-7:00pm	Year 10	A. Fennell	A9
DofE Silver	5:15-7:30pm	Year 11	A. Fennell	Cube
Wednesday				
Programming Challenge	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	C. Holmes	D1
Badminton	3:00-4:00pm	Years 10-11	G. Nicastro	PE
DofE Gold	5:15-7:30pm	Year 12 & 13	A. Fennell	Cube
Y11 CNat Drop in	3:00-4:00pm	Year 11	M. Pallett	Library
Thursday				
Boys Football	3:00-4:15pm	Year 8	C. Froome	PE
Girls Football	3:00-4:15pm	Years 7-11	F. Nichols	PE
KS3 Rugby	3:15-4:30pm	Years 7-9	M. Stocks	PE
Music and Music Tech	3:00-4:00pm	Year 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Artist's Retreat	3:00-4:00pm	Year 11	K. Webster	Art
Maths Y10 Catch Up	3:00-4:00pm	Year 10 Higher	H. Bailey	G2
Reading Outside the Box	3:00-4:00pm	Year 7-13	E. Rayson	Library
Friday				
Touch Rugby (mixed gender)	3:15-4:30pm	Years 7-11	M. Stocks	PE
Gateway Beauty Room	3:00-4:00pm	Year 8	M. French	G5

Enrichment Awards

To celebrate your engagement with enrichment you will be presented with a Ruby, Sapphire and Diamond award in your termly celebration assemblies. As we enter 2024 why not try something new!

Ruby 30-49 sessions

Sapphire 50-69 sessions

Diamond 70+ sessions



MENTAL HEALTH & FAMILY SUPPORT DIRECTORY

Our Mental Health and Family Support Directory has been now been updated.

Please [click here to read](#) the latest version on our website. The document includes contact details for a wealth of support services, including counselling, food banks and household support funds. If you have any questions regarding the directory, please speak to our Safeguarding Team.