



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Building Brighter Futures

THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2023

#128



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

This week, we were extremely grateful to receive another fantastic cake from Marlow in Year 10 to say thank you to staff at the end of term. His snowman cake has not only brought a smile to our faces, but also found internet fame with over 3.8k reactions on social media! It is not just people within our local community who have praised and shown their support for his talents, but people from all over the UK and across the globe. Seeing such an outpouring of encouragement and kindness has been truly heart-warming and I encourage all our parents and carers to join our social media audience so that you can see the incredible work and student success stories we share on a daily basis, just like Marlow's wonderful cake.

Tomorrow, we are looking forward to hosting our first ever 'Offer Breakfast' for our Year 11 students who have received a conditional offer to study at The Hinckley Sixth Form in 2024. This event will be an opportunity for them to finalise their course choices, speak to our specialist KS5 team and get their first insight into the outstanding experience they can expect next year. Any students in Year 11 who have applied, but not received an offer response yet have nothing to worry about, we have received their applications and they will be reviewed in January 2024 when we look forward to holding another offer event.

Our festive celebrations will go into full swing from Monday 18th December, with an action packed week of trips, celebration assemblies, Christmas dinners, pantomimes, carol performances, games and more! We are all looking forward to celebrating and making memories with our students next week.

Best wishes, Lisa Hickman — Headteacher

STAR BAKER SHARES SNOWMAN SHOW STOPPER



Year 10 student Marlow has a record for impressive cake making, with a series of show stoppers throughout his time at The Hinckley School.

Presenting a cake to staff at the end of each year or term to thank them for their hard work and support, this heartfelt gesture is always greatly appreciated by staff and receives positive responses from our online community. However, this year his snowman creation, with tiers of lemon, gingerbread and red velvet has reached people all over the globe thanks to our recent Facebook post.

As of this evening his cake had received over 3.8k reactions, 177 comments and 44 shares from people locally, in the UK and even from across the globe! It is wonderful to see an example of how social media can be a platform to share such positivity and we would like to thank everyone who has liked, commented or shared the post to show how impressed they were with Marlow's talents.



In addition to the snowman who has received such impressive internet fame, Marlow also went one step further, baking a mini gluten and dairy free version for his Year Team! This was just as incredible and we cannot thank Marlow enough for thinking of us all.



Students First, It's About Learning, No Barriers



STUDENTS COOK UP A STORM

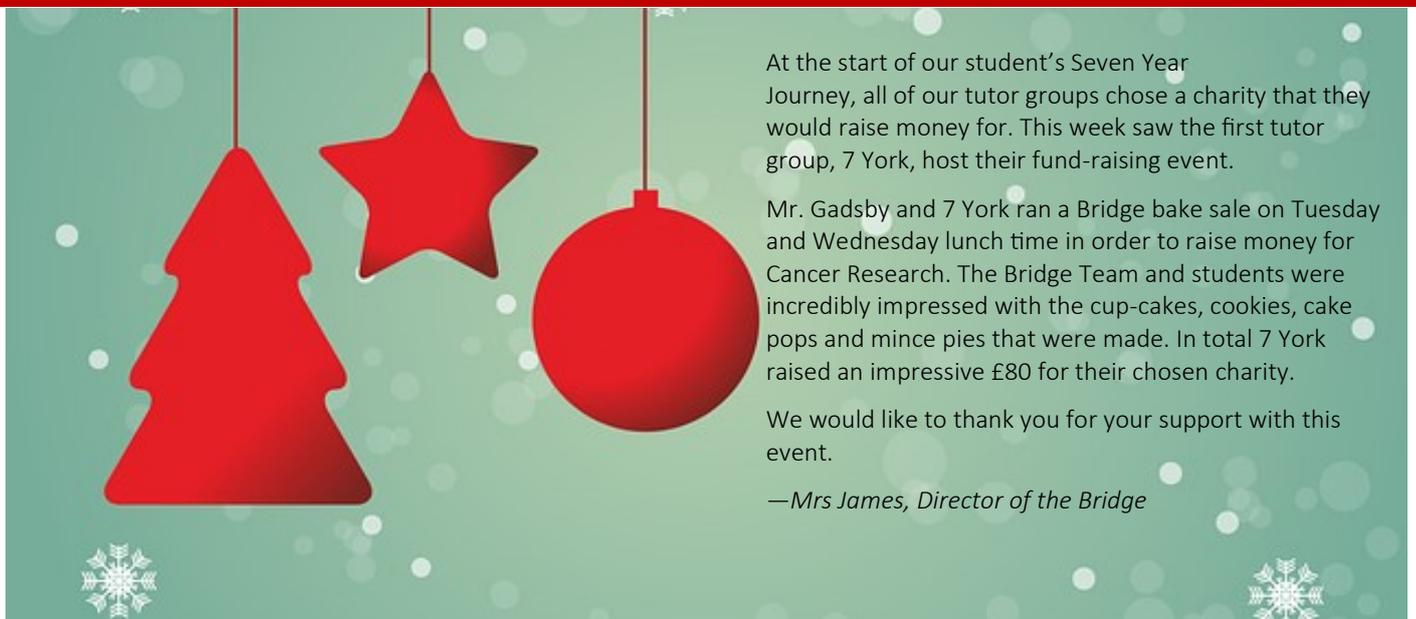
Students have been impressing staff with their efforts in cooking this week.

Mr Hoffman has shared some great photos of students work from lessons this week where they have shown great engagement and perseverance while making tasty cinnamon swirls. Well done Year 9!

YEAR 9 Hub
At The Hinckley School



THE BRIDGE FESTIVE BAKE SALE



At the start of our student's Seven Year Journey, all of our tutor groups chose a charity that they would raise money for. This week saw the first tutor group, 7 York, host their fund-raising event.

Mr. Gadsby and 7 York ran a Bridge bake sale on Tuesday and Wednesday lunch time in order to raise money for Cancer Research. The Bridge Team and students were incredibly impressed with the cup-cakes, cookies, cake pops and mince pies that were made. In total 7 York raised an impressive £80 for their chosen charity.

We would like to thank you for your support with this event.

—Mrs James, Director of the Bridge



HENNA STALL AT CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

A message from Miss Owen's form:

Our stall for the Bazaar will be hand henna. Henna is a cosmetic hair dye used to create designs on the skin. It can last for up to 1 week.

If you do not wish for your child to have henna on their hands, or have any further questions, please get in touch with Mr Toor or Ms Whittingham before the Bazaar next Friday (22/12).

SHARING OUR FESTIVE PLANS

We have had the pleasure of sharing our plans for the end of term this week with parents, carers and students, including celebration assemblies, Christmas dinners, pantomime performances and a festive Bazaar.

To read our letter to parents and carers, which also details information about our return to school in January 2024, please click the link below.

[Click here to read our end of term arrangements letter on the school website](#)

12 Days of Christmas

Ho Ho Ho – The Hinckley School are launching our ‘12 Days of Christmas’ attendance challenge!

As of Thursday 7th December there are 12 days of school until the Christmas break.

If you attend school for each of the 12 days (until the 22nd December) you will be entered into a prize draw for a Chocolate Hamper which you can take home to enjoy over the Christmas break!



The Hinckley SCHOOL
EST. 1629

Christmas Bazaar 2023

Friday 22 December

There will be a variety of activities in the Hall for you to have a go at, as well as food and drink to purchase.

£1=5 raffle tickets to spend at the stalls. These can be purchased in form time during the last week of term.

Don't forget your Christmas jumpers!



The Hinckley SCHOOL
EST. 1629

A reminder that following the Christmas break, all students will start back at 8:20am on:

Monday 8th January 2024

YEAR 7 SCIENTISTS MAKE CELL MODELS

Last week Mr Toor's Year 7 scientists were tasked with making a model of an animal or plant cell at home as part of their learning preparation. Students were asked to be as creative as possible and they did not disappoint! Students used a variety of different medias to produce their models, from cake to Lego, each one was creative and detailed. Well done Year 7!



A HEART-WARMING SURPRISE FOR LOCAL RETIRED SOCIAL CLUB

On Wednesday afternoon, the local Hinckley retired social club, Hinckley u3a, were having their annual Christmas gathering, but a delightful surprise was in store for them. What they didn't know was that Mr Riley and six of our wonderful musicians were hiding in the back room to put on a surprise performance for the 150+ members. Our talented musicians performed a nostalgic range of old classics and festive favourites for the audience from piano and singing, and the surprise went down a treat. The most touching moment was the finale when we played *White Christmas* on a variety of instruments alongside the members singing along. Many of the audience members were moved to tears from the music – a heart-warming way to end the event!

Well done to everyone who took part! They should be incredibly proud of their musical skills, hard work, and selflessness in spreading Christmas positivity to the local community.



CELEBRATING ENRICHMENT

As we approach the end of term we wanted to celebrate our enrichment programme and the incredible levels of engagement across our year groups. It has been wonderful to see students trying new things, finding new hobbies and interests and supporting others by sharing their skills and knowledge. We can't wait to announce our next enrichment calendar in 2024!

Meditation and Mindfulness with Mr Jenkins -

The essence of mindfulness is to be fully present and aware during an experience to ground yourself in the present moment. A consequence of this is that it will calm your mind, relax you, and ultimately give you some time off from worrying about things that you likely cannot control. Students learned various techniques to become more mindful in their daily lives and we practiced a variety of meditations, such as silent, mantra and guided, during the enrichment sessions. Students commented how they felt they now had some additional tools to help manage worry, stress and anxiety, as well as techniques and strategies to bring about greater relaxation.

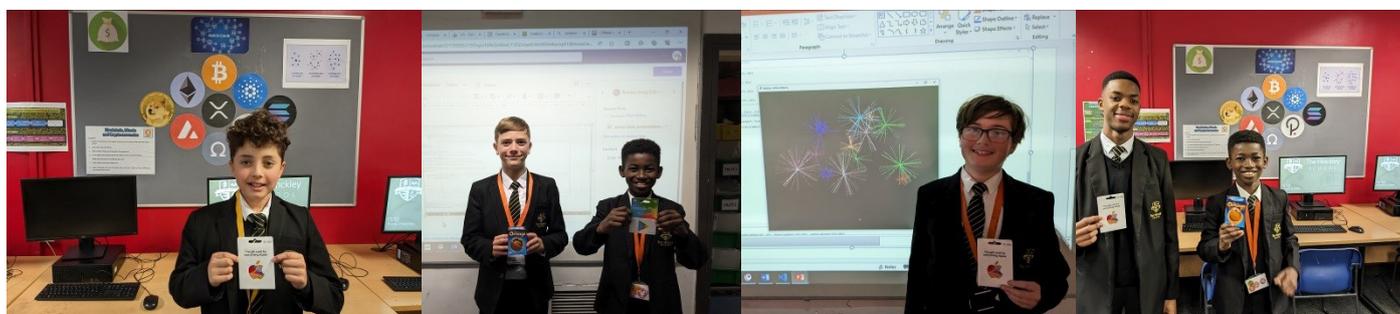


Programming Challenge with Mr Holmes -

In its initial year, the Programming Challenges have provided students with the opportunity to enhance their coding skills in line with the school's vision to become a Computer Science hub for the county. I have to say that the students involvement and desire to take part in the fortnightly challenges has been outstanding and I truly believe that we have some brilliant logical thinkers and programmers at our school!

Students have produced word games, typing speed tests and graphical displays to name a few, all using the Python programming language. Winners each fortnight have produced outstanding work and fully deserve their £10 Apple or Google store vouchers.

The challenges will return in the new year and any student wishing to begin or continue their programming journey are welcome to give it a go! Every Wednesday afterschool in D14 and online via The Hinckley School website and social media.



Geology & Palaeontology with Mr Gadbsy -

Students have watched all of Walking with Monsters - a documentary covering the Cambrian to the Triassic periods, learning about life before the dinosaurs. They have also been looking at the differences between sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous rocks, as well as fossils from the Devonian to the Jurassic. Well done everyone!

Wildlife Club with Mrs Mason-

Many students have enjoyed the Wildlife Club. We purchased a bird feeder which is filled up each session with seeds, fat balls and sometimes fruit. The students love to become involved with this and enjoy watch the birds and squirrels from some of the classrooms in The Bridge. Students have also made a small wildlife pond with stepping stones and sticks in to enable creatures such as frogs to access water. We are hoping for some tadpoles in the Spring. We have a bug hotel and a small hay filled box for small animals to use for shelter. No activity has been seen in here yet but we still hoping something will take up residence! We have talked about the different birds which are spotted on the bird feeder. There is an abundance of wildlife around the school being so close to the golf club and having woodland nearby too. In the Spring, we are hoping to install bird boxes on the school and also to purchase another bird feeder with anti-squirrel feeders!

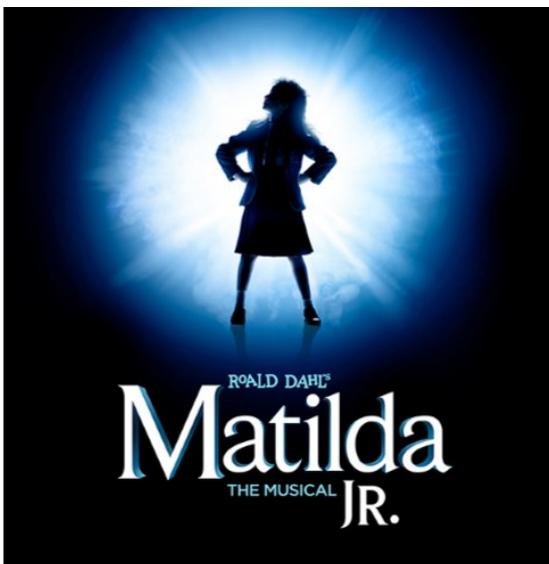
CELEBRATING ENRICHMENT - MATILDA

Matilda rehearsals are in full swing and the cast are working so hard to ensure that this show is the high quality that we've come to know and love here at The Hinckley School.

In the drama studio the principal cast are working hard on their acting skills with Director Mrs Cook and setting the scenes making sure we are entertained and laughing along with the Wormwoods as equally as we are quaking in our boots by the terrifying Trunchbull. In the Dance studio you can find the talented and enthusiastic chorus under the leadership of choreographer Miss Radcliffe; they have been working exceptionally hard on several big chorus numbers. The whole cast have been learning the songs and flexing their musical muscles with Musical Director Mr Riley.

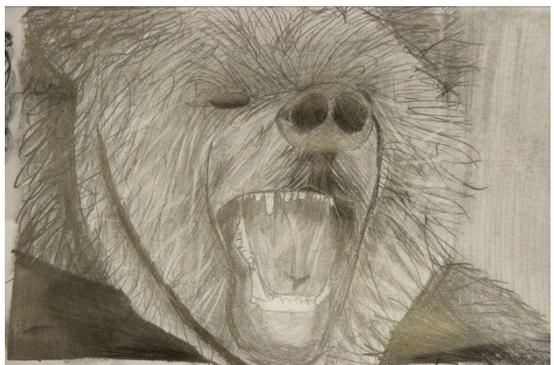
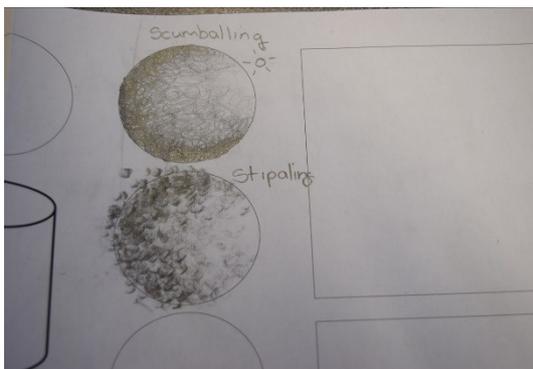
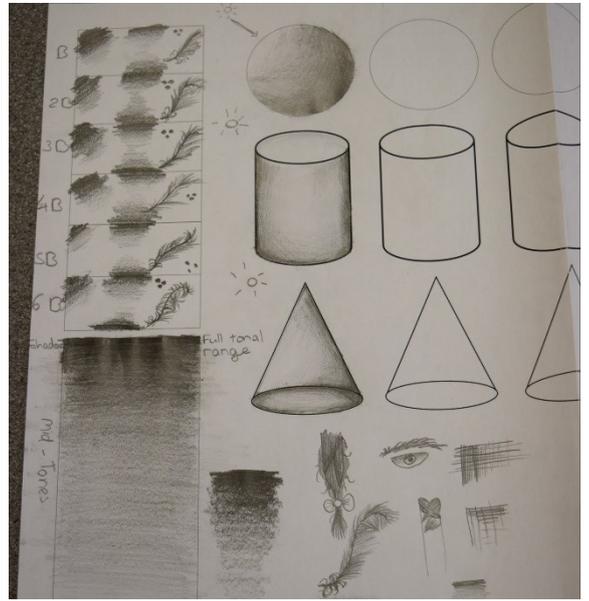
The P.A team are so incredibly proud of the students and their endless commitment in the several rehearsals every single week since September. 'We are so excited in the lead up to the big productions here at THS and this year is no exception ; the students are exceeding our expectations and we simply can't wait to share their hard work in March' said Mrs Cook Head of Performing Arts .

Tickets will go on sale after Christmas, so don't forget to pick yours up for what is bound to be a sell-out show!



DRAWING 3D FORMS IN THE BRIDGE

After being introduced to the core skills of drawing using basic shapes, grid drawing, adding tone to enhance 3D form and mark making to represent texture as well as tone, Year 7 students impressed Miss Webster by producing these concluding tonal drawings of animals to showcase their skills and progression so far. Next we move on to biro highland cows to further explore how quality of line better capture accuracy in detail, tone and form and Miss Webster cannot wait to see the results!



MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS 2023



The Hinckley SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form student Callum was awarded the young volunteer individual award at the Hinckley and Bosworth Making a Difference Awards last week. He was awarded it for his contributions to grassroots football as both a volunteer coach and his giving back to the game through refereeing.

We are incredibly proud of you Callum, very well deserved. — Well done!

THE GLITCH - CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

Young Writers Est. 1991

THE GLITCH

CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION
FOR 11-18 YEAR-OLDS

★ OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR!

100 WORD LIMIT!

★ OUR 5 FAVOURITE WRITERS WILL EACH WIN £50 & A TROPHY!

'Young Writers' have launched a creative competition called 'The Glitch'. Imagine an event that changes the world drastically!

There is an 100 word limit for your entries but many prizes are up for grabs, including £50 and the opportunity for your work to be published!

Miss Hale's creative writing club have been busy preparing their entries ready to send. Entries should be sent to competitions@youngwriters.co.uk before the deadline on Friday 22nd December.

If you would like someone to read your entry before you send it, please email to Miss Hale.

This academic year, The Hinckley School will be entering and competing in the Art Bytes competition; Raising aspirations for better futures by championing the creativity of the nation's next generation, using art and virtual technology. Art Bytes is a national EdTech programme that utilises a bespoke, immersive, virtual gallery incorporating augmented reality elements, to give young participants the opportunity to see their art exhibited online and engage with new technology from the safety and convenience of their own home or school. After a shortlisting panel and an online public vote, the winning artist from each school sees their work displayed in our virtual gallery. Art Bytes culminates every June with a celebration event at a high-profile cultural venue in each of the nine regions of England, which is also available to schools to stream in the classroom or assembly. Regional winners are announced, certificates and prizes are presented, and the virtual gallery goes live. Miss Webster is looking for submissions of artwork from 30 of our fantastically creative and innovative students to enter into the national competition. The deadline is February half-term 2024.

When submitting work, key things to note:

- **Artwork created by Year 9 students in this academic year, whether at home or in school, is eligible.**
- **One entry per student.**
- **No set theme, allowing students to express themselves as they wish through their artwork**
- **Artwork in any fine art medium or technique is acceptable, rather than textiles/design.**
- **2D or 3D artwork (please note all 3D work entries will be exhibited as a photograph).**
- **Artworks created at home should be made without parents or guardians help.**

We will of course keep you up to date with entries submitted (with photographs of artwork in our newsletter) and will provide information regarding the vote once the submission window is closed. For further information please speak to Miss Webster.



APPLY NOW

Applications to join The Hinckley Sixth Form in 2024 are now open. Apply via our website or PS16 today!

www.thehinckleysixthform.co.uk

Email: sixthform@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

Call: 01455 632183

