



June 2023

Issue 22

Henlow Heart

Summer Sunshine Finally Arrived

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back from the sunny half term break. I hope you are looking forward to the second half of the summer term.

As the photographs show, last half term saw students engaging in a range of opportunities both in and out of our classrooms. Some of our traditions were upheld - the fun run (with fancy dress for some) and the ice cream van at the end of SATS week (the rain just about held off!).

Year 6 are to be commended on the way in which they embraced these exams - the first time of facing a formal exam situation.

The fun run was fun and the number of laps completed was impressive. The most laps ran by a student in the hour was 27 laps, well done Caelan F and Jacob B. Please remember to pay in any remaining sponsorship money as PTA funds have enabled us to buy a minibus, a kiln and football goals in recent years.

The ski trip is a biannual event and one that was cancelled due to Covid restrictions. It was uplifting to see it take place this year and students enjoying good snow conditions. Not even a huge delay at Dover could dampen spirits and the photographs are full of smiles.

The weather can have an impact on our planned events ~ rain didn't stop play for our Coronation Garden Party but it did make it move to the Sports Hall! Again, brilliant photographs recreate the wonderful atmosphere. Congratulations to Lani (Year 6) and runners up Tom (Year 10) & Sophie (Year 5) for the coronation bookmarks they designed.

'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.' John 10:10

There's a great deal to look forward to this half term and I'll end this newsletter with a summary:

Year 5: Anti-bullying Concert, End of Year 5 celebration - Harry Potter day and Pit trip

Year 6: Kingswood residential trip/Activities week

Year 7: End of Year 7 celebration - in school fun day (inflatables on the field)

Year 8: End of Year 8 celebration - bowling

Year 9: Theatre trip, Duke of Edinburgh Expedition, Macbeth Workshop, End of Year 9 celebration - in school fun day (team sports, water fight, scavenger hunt and pizza)

Year 10: Theatre Trip and planning committee are working on Year 11 prom plans. Post 16 Evening - begin thinking about what's next at the end of Year 11. Students will have the opportunity to explore curriculum possibilities and different opportunities with a range of providers for A-levels, T levels, Apprenticeships, college and vocational opportunities.

Other events coming up this half term include:

The Occasional Orchestra - Thursday 29th June - Students who play an instrument are invited to attend a unique opportunity to play alongside students from local schools. This will take place after school followed by a concert at 6:30pm. Please click here to sign your child up [The Occasional Orchestra Sign Up](#).

SEND Coffee Morning - Friday 30th June - Parents and carers of students with special educational needs are welcome to come and meet with the SEND department and outside agencies. Please sign up here if you would like to attend [SEND Coffee Morning Sign Up](#).

Henlow Academy PTA Summer Faye - Friday 30th June - More information about how you can support HAPTA's event will be coming out soon.

Henlow Academy Gym and Dance Festival – Wednesday 5th July - Tickets are £3 and available to purchase through ParentMail.

Henlow Academy Sports Award Evening - Thursday 20th July - A celebration of the sporting achievements of our students this year. More information about tickets will be sent out shortly.

The start of the Easter Holidays saw a group of 55 students and 7 staff embark on what turned out to be an epic 32 hour journey to Pila in Italy. Our students worked hard and made phenomenal progress with the skiing with students attempting some really tricky slopes by the end of the week. As well as the skiing, students enjoyed activities including bowling, arcades, a quiz and pizza evening. Our students were an absolute credit to Henlow Academy demonstrating our values throughout the whole trip (including the extra hours unexpectedly added to the outward journey)! #LetsGoHenlow

2023 Ski Trip

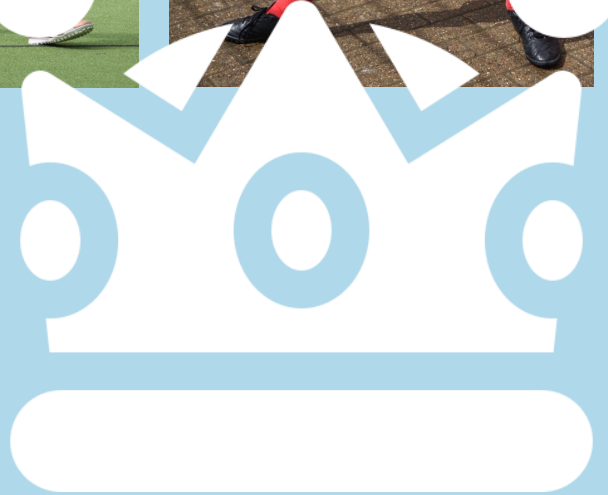




The Henlow Academy *Coronation* Garden Party



We celebrated the King's coronation in style at Henlow with a very British garden party! Of course in true British style rain stopped play and students retreated to the theatre and the sports hall for a royal indoor celebration!





This half term our Year 6's took their SATs tests. Students (and staff) have spent many hours working towards these tests and as always we are so proud of the way in which they conduct themselves when faced with the challenge of tests. Of course it wouldn't be SATs week without our tradition of the ice cream van coming to visit to celebrate the end of SATs!



SATs @ Henlow

The Henlow Fun Run

Friday 19th May saw Henlow PTA host our annual fun run. Over 500 students spent an hour clocking up as many laps as they could round our track with prizes for the most laps ran in each year group and best fancy dress outfits.

Congratulations to our winners:

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Best Fancy Dress	
Sophie B & Amelie D 14	Elsa S & Milena S 23	Evie W 24	Isla J & Paige W 18	Tabitha A 18	Phoebe W	Lexa K
Henry D & William J	Devon D 26	Jack K 26	Caelan F 27	Jacob B 27	Riley J	Charlie W (on behalf of all the bananas!)



Henlow Highlights

Year 9 Take Your Child To Work

Our Year 9 students had the opportunity to take part in the national 'Take Your Child to Work' day. Nearly the whole year group were able to attend a work place and experience the world of work, many for the first time. Thank you to everyone who took a Year 9 to work with them and offered them a fantastic learning opportunity.



Year 10 Work Experience

As part of our careers programme, Year 10 had the opportunity to spend a week gaining work experience with a range of companies. Over 60 of our pupils went on placement to schools, hairdressers, garages, physios, vets and even The English School of Falconry! Thank you to all those who arranged and hosted Henlow students to give them such an important life experience.



Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

Year 10 pupils who showed excellent navigational skills and teamwork as they embarked on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition. They navigated their way around rural Bedford in scorching temperatures. A huge thank you to all the staff who volunteer their time to enable our students to have this fantastic opportunity.



Henlow Academy's Extra Curricular Offer

Over the course of the school year we pride ourselves on offering quite possibly the greatest number of extra curricular clubs available in the area! This half term alone we have been able to offer Henlow students 36 different clubs every week! Incredibly over half the school are participating in at least 1 club every week! #LetsGoHenlow



The Library Round Up



Coronation Bookmark Competition

We recently ran a competition for students to design a 'Coronation' bookmark. We received some fantastic creative art work. Well done to all students who entered. The overall winner was Lani C 6JF
Runners up: Tom A 8RT & Sophie B 5SG

Book Fair

A huge thank you to parents/carers and students for supporting our recent book fair. The school has received commission from sales and we have gained over £200 worth of new books for our library

Overdue Books

We regularly send out overdue reminders to our students reminding them to return items as soon as possible. If students who receive a reminder think they have already returned their books, they are asked to speak with Mrs White. Parents/carers are sent reminders for the items that remain unreturned.

Unfortunately, the number of unreturned resources is putting a huge strain on the school budget. You will appreciate that we ask that lost/damaged resources are replaced or payment made to the school. Thank you

We welcome book donations and would be grateful for any good quality children and young adult books ages 9 to 16 years.

Follow us

After unfortunately having to postpone Science Week in March, we are thrilled to have it back on the calendar for the 10th to the 14th June.

The BIG Henlow Science Fair is back!

THURSDAY 13TH JULY

Students are invited to present their home Science projects alongside our CREST award participants on the evening of our Science Fair. There will be certificates and prizes for Key Stages 2, 3 and 4.

To get involved:

- Decide what project you think you would like to do.
- The theme this year is 'Connections'
- Make sure you have let Mrs Chambers know the title of your project and what you need on the evening e.g. table space/display board etc.
- We will make sure there is a display area for your project on the day of the Science Fair. You might like to make posters with all the background information about your project.
- You will stand with your project talking about how you did it to everyone who visits your stall.

Exploring space...

We are really excited to have the planetarium visiting us over the week. Most students will be taken to experience the dome as part of their normal science lessons.

PE Kit Requirements

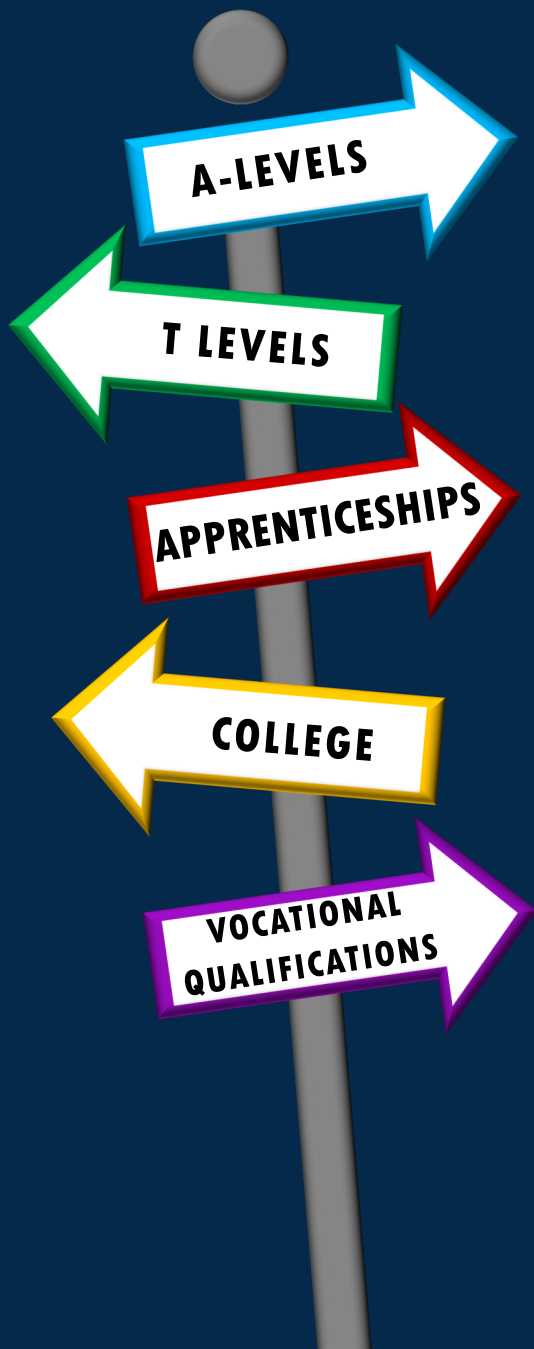
Here is the PE kit requirements for the next half term for Year 5 - 8. Please can you make sure that your child is coming to every PE lesson with the right equipment.

Group	Sports	Equipment
Year 5	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 6 Boys	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 6 Girls	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 6 Mixed	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 7 Boys	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 7 Girls	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 7 Mixed	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 8 Boys	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 8 Girls	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit
Year 8 Mixed	Rounders, Athletics Cricket & Tennis rotations	Full PE kit

Please make sure shorts/jogger/leggings are either Henlow branded style or plain navy. No brands are allowed on the leggings or any black items.

Hoodies are not allowed to be worn in PE. Students need to have socks to change into for PE. These should be white or blue sports socks.

Henlow Academy Post 16 Evening Monday 3rd July 5:00pm - 6:45pm



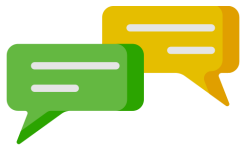
Year 10 are invited to come and meet local colleges, sixth forms and apprenticeship providers to explore a range of opportunities available after G.C.S.E's.

Sign up through this Google Form if you'd like to attend

[Post 16 Evening Sign Up](#)

SEND COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAY 30TH JUNE 2023



9:30AM – 12:00PM



AT HENLOW ACADEMY

PARENTS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN AT HENLOW, WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS, ARE INVITED TO DROP IN AND CHAT WITH OUR SEND DEPARTMENT AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES INCLUDING CAHMS AND A COMMUNITY PARTNER FROM IVEL VALLEY

PLEASE SIGN UP THROUGH THE LINK IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND

[COFFEE MORNING SIGN UP FORM](#)



Supporting Parents and Carers

There is a range of information, advice and guidance on our website for parents and carers. We encourage everyone to explore these as there are a variety of signposts, courses, events, organisations that may be able to help your child(ren) or yourself with any issues you may encounter or support that might be beneficial. Here are some links to some of the information on offer:

[Central Bedfordshire Family & SEND Support and Events](#)

[Signposting to External Agencies](#)

[CHUMS Services in Bedfordshire](#)

[Self Care Toolkit](#)

[CAMHS Information Resources](#)

[CAMHS Website Resources](#)

[NHS Mental Health Support Information](#)

[Winston's Wish Bereavement Support](#)

[Mental Health & Well-being Advice and Activities](#)

Stock Your Pencil Case!

Please ensure your child has the correct stationery with you everyday. Students are expected to come equipped for the business of learning and therefore we do not provide stationery for pupils.

You need a pencil case containing:

- Cartridge pen, handwriting pen, ballpoint or a friction pen (black)
- 30cm ruler
- HB pencil and a spare
- 2 Dry wipe board marker pen and a wiper/cloth
- Coloured pencils (not felt tips)
- Ink eraser pen (if using a cartridge pen)
- Green pen (friction pen preferred)
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener (which can collect shavings)
- Glue Stick
- Scissors
- Highlighters
- Scientific calculator (ESSENTIAL FOR KEY STAGE 3 MATHS)
- Protractor
- Headphones (suitable to be plugged into any tablet)

Stationery and revision equipment is available to purchase at the school shop on Monday, Wednesday and Friday break times in the hall.
[Click here for the price list](#)

Name ALL your belongings clearly

At Henlow Academy we are very aware of the increase in the cost of living and are actively looking for ways to support families through this period. In order to support parents/carers we have put together some potentially helpful resources below. If you are concerned about any cost aspects to do with your child's education please email jgregory@henlowacademy.org.uk (Mrs J Gregory).

Childcare Offers for Parents

The Childcare Choices campaign aims to raise awareness and understanding of the support available from the government with the costs of childcare.

You can help ensure your parents and carers aren't missing out by directing them to <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> where they can easily find the right offers of childcare support for them.

With the school Christmas holidays approaching and looking ahead to half term in February, it is more important than ever that your parents and carers are able to access the financial support they qualify for. They could be entitled to:

- up to £2,000 a year of Tax-Free Childcare per child (or £4,000 if disabled) for children up to 11, or 17 if they're disabled
- help with up to 85% of their childcare costs for children up to 16 with Universal Credit
- 30 hours of free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds if they're a working family in England.



Free School Meals Eligibility and Entitlement

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals please ensure they are using this entitlement. The canteen offers a wide range of choices at lunchtimes.

If you feel your child might be eligible for Free School Meals please follow the link below:

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/53/benefits/4/free-school-meals/3> The school is then contacted via Central Bedfordshire

Free School Meals Holiday Courses

Central Bedfordshire offers a variety of holiday courses free for students entitled to Free School Meals - please follow this link to find out more.

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/11/children-and-young-people/1134/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf>

Emergency support

Emergency provision is available following an emergency or crisis to meet the immediate day-to-day expenses relating to food and utilities. Supermarket vouchers and top-ups for pre-paid energy meters are provided to meet these needs.

To be eligible for the emergency provision you must be:

- permanently residing within Central Bedfordshire
- 16 years or older
- in an emergency situation and not have enough money to meet the immediate needs of you and your family
- able to provide sufficient proof of identity

You do not need to be in receipt of any benefit or entitlement. Find out more [on our website](#).

The Need Project Referrals

We are able to refer families to The Need Project. If you would like a referral made please email Kelly Jando kjando@henlowacademy.org.uk with number of adults, number of children, what gender the children are, any food allergies in the household and giving permission for your details to be shared with The Need Project

Help for Households

You can find more information about the broader support available to help with the cost of living on the Help for Households website.

<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Cost of Living Support

Pupil Premium

Are you eligible for Free School Meals?

If you think you are eligible please contact Central Bedfordshire on the number below. As well as receiving the option to have Free School Meals you may also be entitled to a variety of initiatives at school. These may include free access to Breakfast Club, support with the cost of Food Tech, help towards uniform, subsidised music lessons, help towards the cost of school trips as well as other initiatives throughout the year.

The qualifying benefits to receive free school meals for children in Year 3 and over are:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income does not exceed £16,190 as assessed by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (during the initial roll-out of this benefit)

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8306. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- dates of birth for your children
- if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number

The school will then be informed and you will receive further information. If you would like to find out more about how the school uses the funding to support pupils in the school, you can find more information on the school's Pupil Premium Strategy on the school's website http://www.henlowacademy.co.uk/web/pupil_premium/396258 or contact Miss Julia Cave (jcave@henlowacademy.org.uk) For more information on how to apply for Free School Meals, please contact Central Bedfordshire Council directly on 0300 300 8306.

Could you be entitled to Pupil Premium Funding support?

Reminders

Please use ParentMail to make all payments.

All children need to have a NAMED water bottle with them everyday.

Please make sure that all your child's clothes and property is clearly named and that name labels haven't worn off.

The school office aren't able to call home if your child forgets something. Please ensure your child checks their timetable and brings all they need each day.

We offer Homework Club everyday from 3:45pm to 5:00pm. There is no charge for Homework Club but booking is essential. Please email

jmarshall@henlowacademy.org.uk

Please check your child's ParentMail accounts and ensure they are in credit for school dinners. Dinner money top ups can be found under the accounts section in ParentMail.

Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am until 8:30am and must be booked in advance. Do not drop children off before 8:00am as they are not supervised and not insured to be on site. Any pupil not attending Breakfast Club must not be on site before 8:35am.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Additional
Tuesday 20th June	Year 8 HPV Immunisation	Please make sure you have completed the permission form
Tuesday 20th June	Year 9 Macbeth Workshop	Held at Henlow
Monday 26th June	Year 10 GCSE Geography Fieldwork	
Wednesday 28th June	Year 9 & 10 Drama Theatre Trip	
Thursday 29th June	The Occasional Orchestra	Held at Henlow - details to follow
Friday 30th June	Henlow PTA Summer Fayre	
Monday 3rd July	Year 10 Post 16 Information Evening	5:00pm - 6:45pm in the Sports Hall
Wednesday 5th July	Henlow Gym & Dance Festival	More details to follow
Monday 10th - Friday 14th July	Year 6 Kingswood Trip	
Monday 10th - Friday 14th July	Science Week	
Wednesday 12th July	Anti-bullying Concert	Year 5 students - Parent concert at 1:45 (arrive at 1:30)
Monday 17th July	Sports Day	More information to follow
Thursday 20th July	Sports Awards Evening	More information to follow
Friday 21st July	Last day of term	

Please note some of these dates may be subject to change due to circumstances outside of our control. Any changes will be communicated via ParentMail.