

# Henlow Heart Christmas Spirit

I can't believe I am writing this Christmas Spirit edition on 22nd December and we are still in school! At the end of the longest term we can remember we have successfully crammed in an impressive amount of learning and much much more, as you will read in the pages ahead. I will begin by explaining that Sport has continued to thrive such that we have devoted a whole separate Sports Round Up section in order to acknowledge the range of sports and the amazing student achievements.

Beginning with Sports, please do open this section and enjoy reading about our winter sport successes. The commitment from such an enormous number of our students to both practices and competitions has been outstanding and rewarding at all levels. Documented in the sports roundup you will read about successes in cross country, football, netball, futsal, table tennis, basketball and trampolining at all levels. We certainly punch above our small size in so many sporting arenas and this is credit to the energy and enthusiasm of our students but also the ways in which our staff encourage everyone to take part. Our first ever Sports Open Evening provided a window for all to see our Sports offer and we felt proud to show all that we have achieved and continue to strive for. We are all very grateful to our PE department, led by Rachel Lewis, for cultivating a can-do attitude, a focus on healthy lifestyle, a wide range of competitive opportunities alongside Year 7 and 8 electives, GCSE PE and BTEC PE in curriculum time.

Last night we hosted our Christmas concert which was a delightful opportunity to showcase aspects of our musical curriculum in addition to the traditional carols we love singing at this time of year. We were fortunate to see all year groups on stage and when Henlow Harmony sang, students in year groups 5 (Meppershall @ Henlow) to 11 were singing together.

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

Mrs Fordham ensured that the audience were treated to a wide range of voices, instruments, arrangements and styles, ranging from Metallica to 'Walking in the Air'. A special rendition of 'It's Beginning to Look Like Christmas' by GCSE Music students Dylan, Alexander and George was included in both the concert and today's assembly.

Today's assembly also included all of the elements we look forward to, especially the Roll of Honour in which we focus upon the wide range of achievements students across the whole school are commended for. Alongside musical and sporting achievements, out of school activities, charity events and acts of kindness are celebrated. The fact that the recognitions stretch to so many pages is testament to the ways in which our young people conduct themselves and strive for success.

The Champneys Kindness Award was awarded for the second time since its inception. £100 is given to an individual student who demonstrates generosity of spirit and caring for our community throughout the year. Amy F, Arthur G, Charlie H, Edward B, Erin C, Erin D, Flora CW, Freddie W, Harry H, Isaac H, Isla G, Jack J, Jenson R, Joseph R, Lyla H, Maria P, Mia R, Miley R, Robynne R, Tabitha A, Tommie B were all nominated by the staff. Adam in Year 7 was the worthy winner, nominated by many for going above and beyond in the kindness shown to a new student. One staff member noted, 'Adam shows how much a smile and warmth transcends any language barrier.'

Many visits have taken this term and the photos within include the panto, Science museum and Hitchin museum. The Henlow Year 8 sleepover was a tremendous success and the Christmas Fayre raised £2671. We are very grateful for the PTA events throughout the year and the money they raise is allocated to specific areas - for example, the new pitched xylophone played in the concert. All of the chocolate you donate as parents goes directly to a good cause!

We say goodbye to Clarke Lucas, one of our Teaching Assistants who joined us nearly two years ago and is now moving on to work for a charity. In November we welcomed Dr Kabera in Business Studies and in January we will welcome further new staff joining us with considerable secondary experience, Mrs Maher in Drama/English, Mrs Thomson in PE/Science, Mrs Harvey in French/English and Mrs Murray in Science/Maths.

Five of our Trustees/Governors joined us for today's assembly and Christmas lunch. Their reflections focussed on the lovely atmosphere and special traditions that we hold dear - even the staff performance of 12 Days of Christmas which they were encouraged to join in with! Although this event has previously been recorded, governors thought that actually being present brought the whole experience alive!

Wishing you a lovely festive season and please remember that whilst we are finishing late we have a long holiday and return on Monday 8th January 2024 for a full school day.

Mrs Earp - Head Teacher

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

# Roll of Honour

**Natalie M 9RT**

Achieving Grade 4 Saxophone

**Hayley VB 9BF**

Winning a Silver Award for Cake decorating at Cake International and being interviewed and featuring in a national baking magazine

**James S 7EK**

Achieving Grade 2 Cornet with Distinction

**Leticija G 11NC**

Achieving Grade 5 Violin

**Alexander H 8MW**

Achieving Grade 1 Violin

**Emily J 7HS, Erin D 7HS, Daisy D 8JM, Izzy H 8TA**

Regional Trampoline Champions

**Zed D 8MD**

Achieving Grade 1 Saxophone with Merit

**Alana A 11AJ**

Excellent commitment to English with great progress.

**Flora CW 9BF, Tyler C 9KB, Parum S 9BF & Myleen W 9RT**

Attending the Remembrance service on a Sunday to represent the school, and being an outstanding member of our school community

**Hari C 8JM**

Competed at British Nationals for Judo

**Matthew B 8JM**

Participating in Royston Remembrance Sunday parade with Cadets

**Daisy D 8JM**

Competing in Irish Nationals Age Group Diving Competition

**Caleb F 7EK**

Going out of his way to ensure new joiners to his class were fully supported and acted as an excellent buddy

# Roll of Honour

## **Ronnie K 11NC**

Won Gold in Patterns and Silver in Special Technique for LBTKD (Letchworth & Biggleswade TaeKwonDo) club at Highfield School 18th November

## **Josh S 8MW**

Always working hard and always very polite

## **Chloe W 9KB**

Represented the East Of England in a water polo tournament and played against other national players

## **Joshua S 8MD**

Unwavering support of School Action Group

## **Tommie K 8MW**

Tommy achieved 4th Place for Henlow Academy in a trampolining competition in the Year 8 Novice earning him a place at the national competition in January

## **Jack J 11DW**

Being a positive influence on his peers.

## **Charlie W 7HS, Marley T 7HS, Ollie M 7HS, Riley F 7HS & Joshua H 7HS**

Being an excellent member of the Year 7 Football Team

## **Bethany F 7AB, Iris G 8JM, Isobel H 8TA, Lyla H 8JM,**

## **Chiara P 7EK, Emilia W 8TA & Cece W 8JM**

Being selected for the U13 Bedfordshire County Netball Player Development Pathway

## **Eliza B 8JM, Lily C 8TA, Iris G 8JM, Izzy H 8TA, Lyla H 8JM, Sophie S 8JM,**

## **Caitlin W 8TA, Emilia W 8TA & Cece W 8JM**

Undefeated 'A league' Champions

## **Sophie B 7HS, Bethany F 7AB, Isla G 7AB, Emily J 7HS, Faith Li 7AB,**

## **Elsa S 7EK, Milena S 7AB, Katelyn S 7BG**

Undefeated 'A league' Champions

## **Lois FC 9RT**

Representing Henlow in the ESSA East Region Diving Trials

# Roll of Honour

## **Sophie S 8JM**

Selected for Bedfordshire ETC Football U14 Squad & Beds County Football Squad

## **Ben G 9KB**

Achieved Gold Award in Scouts

## **William H 9KB**

Achieved 700m swimming award

## **Charlie H 9KB**

Amazing progress in Krav Maga for the last 2 1/2 years

## **Isabelle W 8RB**

Achieved Grade 6 Drums with Merit

## **Demi A 8JM**

Achieved Grade 4 Piano with Merit

## **Ruth M 7NR**

Ruth and her brother had a cake sale to raise money for Children in Need raising £33

## **Jude J & Jai S 8JM**

Represented their football team at a National competition at Aston Villa FC and Southampton FC stadiums

## **Sam H 8JM**

Achieved Grade 5 in Piano

## **Demi A 8JM**

Achieved Grade 4 in Piano

## **Sophie B 6SG**

Achieved Grade 2 routine and figure grades in Synchronised Swimming. Part of a Gold, Silver and Bronze regional medal winning squad in various team events.

## **Sydney R 9KB, Robynne R 7BG and Kennedy R 5JC**

Walked with the Santa float to raise money for All Saints Church and the Hospice

## **Harry S and Tyler C 9KB**

Achieved purple belt in Karate



# The Kindness Award

We were thrilled to announce our 2023 Kindness Award winner is Adam C in 7NR. This award is given to a student who has demonstrated generosity of spirit, caring for our community and embodied our values consistently throughout the year. The winner receives £100 kindly donated by Champney's.

Many staff nominated Adam for the award with comments including; - ***'Adam has gone over and above supporting a new student in our form who has EAL. He has demonstrated all of our Henlow values over and over again but in particular the kindness he has shown whilst supporting him has been outstanding.'***

***'Adam has spent the first term ensuring that new joiners to the form class (including an EAL student) have been incredibly well looked after. He has often put the needs of these students above his own to make sure their settling in period has run smoothly. His patience, kindness and compassion has been demonstrated on a daily basis!' 'Adam has been a beacon of kindness, willing to help anyone at all including teachers.'*** ***'Adam is constantly a kind and supportive student in helping a foreign language student to understand their way around the school, and even translating lesson material via Chromebook.'*** ***'He has shown selfless care and support of a pupil new to the school who has EAL. Adam has shown how much a smile and warmth transcends any language barrier.'*** ***'Adam has shown unwavering support of his peer who is EAL and had very limited English. He shows enormous patience, kindness and empathy.'***

We are all incredibly proud of you Adam!



# Henlow Awards

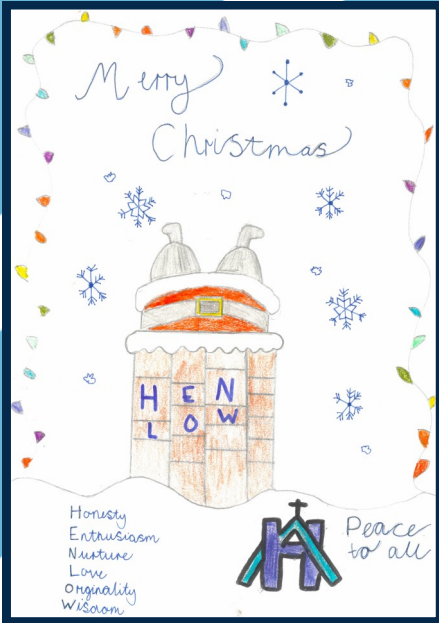
In September we launched our new rewards programme for students which gave us even more opportunities to acknowledge our amazing students and their continual dedication to their curriculum and our school family. This week we have been hosting year group award assemblies where we have gathered to acknowledge the accomplishments of the Autumn term. In these assemblies we have given out a mix of over 250 certificates, vouchers and prizes! Over the next 2 pages are all the winners of our termly subject awards, chosen by each department. Well done to everyone of our prize winners this term!

Subject	Year	Attainment	Progress	Honourable Student
English	Key Stage 2	Alfie E	Jacob M	Mia J
	Year 7	Zachary B	Amy F	Joseph R
	Year 8	Anthony WT	Jack N	Isabelle W
	Year 9	Flora CW	Lewis S	Raiyer H
	Year 10	Luke N	Alexandra R	Andrew S
	Year 11	Monty S	Zac T	Gracie D
Maths	Key Stage 2	Max J	Lottie L	Freya D
	Year 7	Eloise S	Shelbi C	Sean O
	Year 8	Max H	Emily S	Georgia G
	Year 9	Natalie M	Scarlet A	Jess C
	Year 10	Jacob B	Avelyn S	James H
	Year 11	Callum S	Mia S	Johnny P
Science	Key Stage 2	Oliver D	Brendan S	Freya D
	Year 7	Amy F	Jaelen M	Isaac H
	Year 8	Joshua S	Emilia D	Cain D
	Year 9	Adom A	Aayan R	George T
	Year 10	Alexandra R	Eduado C	James H
	Year 11	Robyn M	Kiane H	Jeanelle W
History	Key Stage 2	Adonai H	Jake S	Harry F
	Year 7	Amy F	Robynne R	Rufus P
	Year 8	Caitlin W	Ivey SB	Izzy C
	Year 9	Mia R	Mikayla R	Jessica C
	Year 10	Alfie R	Sophie H	Andrew S
	Year 11	Ellie H	Thomas W	Damian K
Geography	Key Stage 2	Alfie H	Noah B	Lois W
	Year 7	Seely H	Kai G	Robynne R
	Year 8	Eliza B	Ayla C	Seren W
	Year 9	Charlie H	Tyler C	Raiyer H
	Year 10	Niamh T	Luke N	Erin C
	Year 11	Maria P	Ava R	Jack J
MFL	Key Stage 2	Bethany C	Molly J	Emily C
	Year 7	Robynne R	Emily L	Isaac H
	Year 8	Georgia G	Ryan S	Felicity R
	Year 9	Chloe W	Myleen W	Jess C
	Year 10	Nathan L	Lucy M	Luke N
	Year 11	Anwen J	Fraser K	Monty S

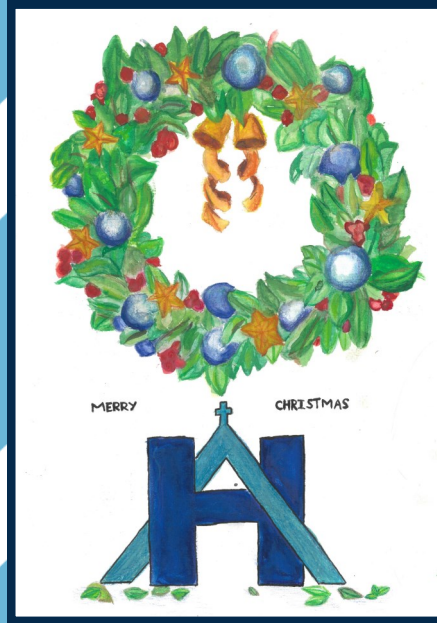
Subject	Year	Attainment	Progress	Honourable Student
Computing	Key Stage 2	Jasper A	Gracie N	Maia TW
	Year 7	Sean O	Arthur P	Erik MV
	Year 8	Ethan E	Josh C	Alfie A
	Year 9	Adom AA	Jakub F	William H
	Year 10	Jacob B	Daniel G	Fehintoluwa O
	Year 11	Ellie H	Jack D	Frankie J
DT/Food	Key Stage 2	Kennedy R	Maya A	Henry D
	Year 7	Freddie H	Raine L	Chloe B
	Year 8	Phoebe H	Elliott M	Archie P
	Year 9	Mia R	Phoebe K	Flora CW
	Year 10	Alexandra R	Jayne D	Henry J
	Year 11	Zac T	Jack J	Thomas W
Art	Key Stage 2	Otis C	Bethany C	Amber W
	Year 7	Robyn C	Zara B	Dom L
	Year 8	Lily D	Ethan E	Oscar M
	Year 9	Amelia M	Laci C	Jess C
	Year 10	Dominique S	Andrew S	James H
	Year 11	Carmen R	Ruby W	Finn H
Music	Key Stage 2	Henry D	Harrison B	Heather M
	Year 7	James S	Oscar F	Sean O
	Year 8	Isabelle W	Aidan M	Joshua S
	Year 9	Sydney R	Ben G	Natalie M
	Year 10	George L	Jamie V	Tabby A
PE	Key Stage 2	Phoebe W	Jake S	Amelie D
	Year 7	Faith L	Katelyn S	Seely H
	Year 8	Oliver L	Lily C	Alfie W
	Year 9	Jess C	Harvey B	Charlie H
	Year 10	Annabel M	Marley B	Toby J
	Year 11	Mackenzie K	Alex W	Ruth F
RE	Key Stage 2	Ruby-Mae W	William J	Alanah Y
	Year 7	Rafe S	Luke B	Vadi M
	Year 8	Jenson R	Lily D	Josh S
	Year 9	Parum S	William P	Vinnie R
	Year 10	Dawid K	Alfie C	Anopa C
	Year 11	Monty S	Oliver A	Thomas W
Business	Year 10	Alfie C	Danika H	Tabitha A
	Year 11	Jack J	Dani P	Lilly H
Social Sciences	Year 10	Jessica P	Dylan B	Sophia A
	Year 11	Maya S	Robyn M	Sophie H



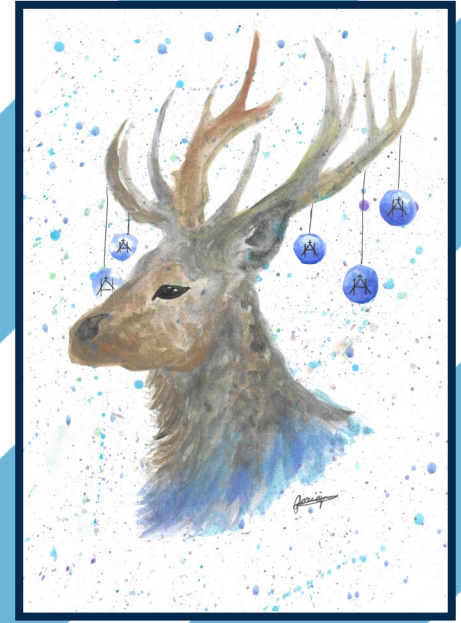
# Christmas Card Competition



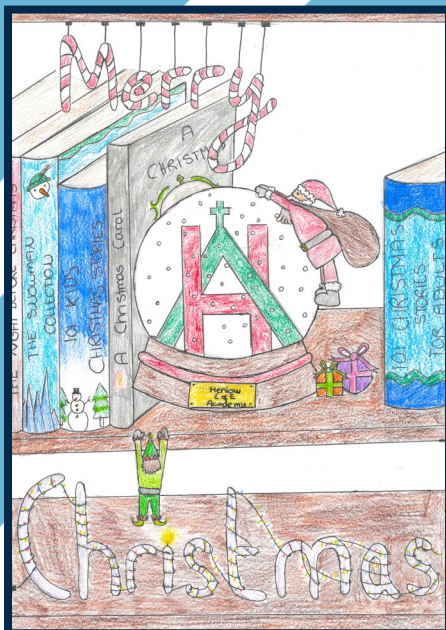
Key Stage 2  
Hollie W



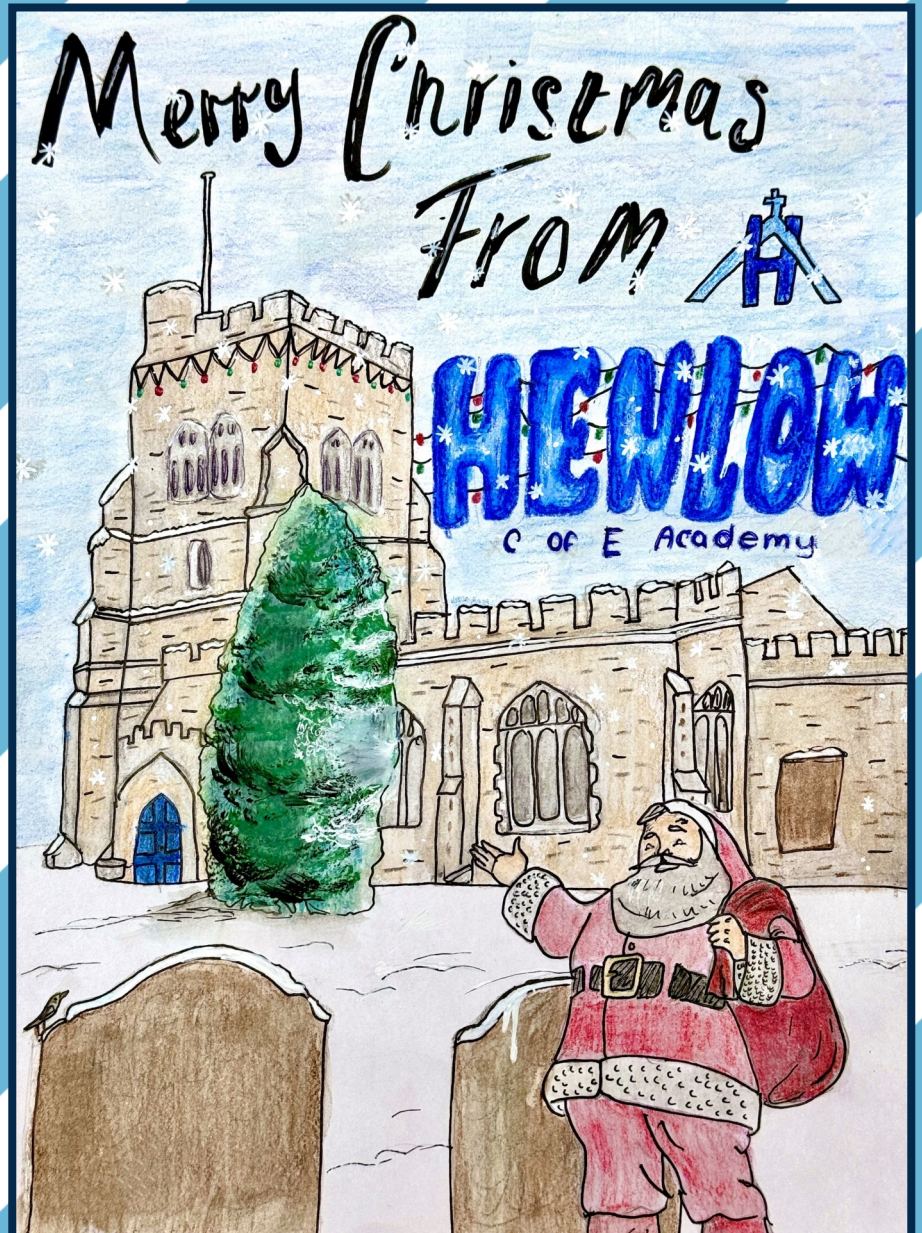
Key Stage 3 Joint Winner  
Amelia M



Key Stage 4 Winner  
Dominique S



Key Stage 3 Joint Winner  
Artie S



Overall Winner - Sarah S

Mrs Earp was thrilled with all the entries to her Christmas card competition this year. As always it was incredibly difficult to judge! Congratulations to our overall winner, key stage winners and our highly commended designs.

# Christmas Card Competition



Highly Commended  
Lily J



Highly Commended  
Linnet W



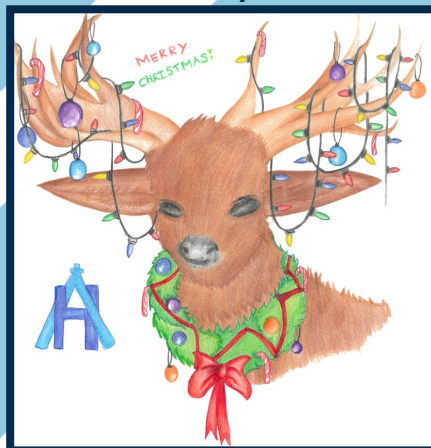
Highly Commended  
Lani C



Highly Commended  
Emily L



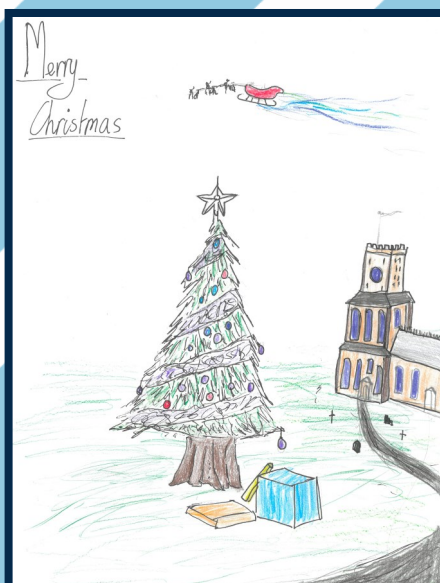
Highly Commended  
Molly J



Highly Commended  
Zoe S



Highly Commended  
Darcie W



Highly Commended  
Ryley G

Alongside our winners, Mrs Earp awarded commendations to all these fabulous Christmas card designs which all impressed her.



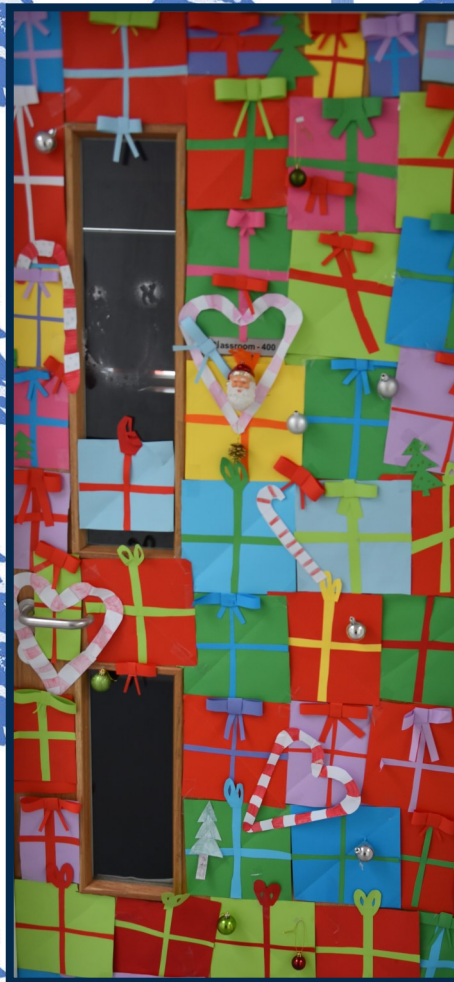
Highly Commended  
Anwen J

# Christmas

Christmas at Henlow is always a wonderful time. December is always a hub of activity around school with classrooms being decorated, festive preparations in full swing and a range of different activities going on. Over the next few pages you will see some highlights of all our festivities.



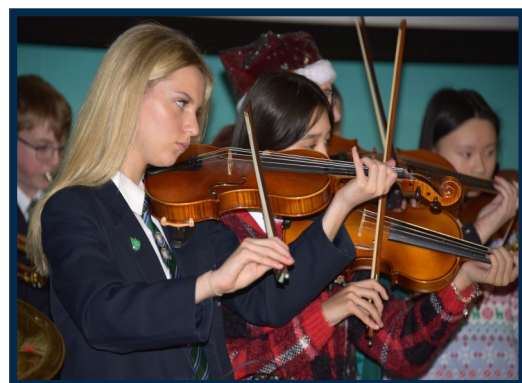




# Music @ Henlow



Last night we held our annual Christmas concert. A wonderful range of musical groups, duets and solos played out in our theatre. It definitely got us all feeling Christmassy! A big thank you to Mrs Fordham for organising the wonderful festive evening.



Year 11&10 Drama and Year 10 Music got the opportunity to attend the Mother Goose panto at the Cambridge Arts Theatre on the 20th December. The tickets were funded by a charity called Panto Wheels which funds pantomime tickets for schools and other vulnerable young people. The trip included a tour of the stage led by Julian Cree the Technical Director for the theatre. The students got on on the stage and see the set up close including the slop used for the slapstick scene. They also got to go up into the flying rig to see how the theatre changes the scenery and lighting. A huge thanks must go to Mrs Sharp and Miss Jackson for accompanying the trip.

# The Sports Round Up

## Term 1 #LetsGoHenlow

The Henlow PE Department has had it's busiest term yet! The hard work and commitment from both staff and students is being rewarded with some absolutely outstanding performances like our Year 7 and Year 8 netball teams being undefeated in the league!

Students from all year groups have competed in 114 Fixtures, events and competition and we've seen our students go out and compete in county, regional and national competitions.

There is now so much amazing sport going on that we've decided to give the PE Department their own separate publication! Take a look through 'The Sports Round Up' for the full break down of the Autumn Term's activities.

## Sports Open Evening

We were thrilled to host a Sports Open Evening at the beginning of December for the parents, carers and students to come along and discover all that Henlow's PE department has to offer. It was brilliant to see so many people attending, current and prospective students as well as seeing so many of our students volunteer to help out on the night. A huge thank you to the PE department for all their time and effort that went into putting on such a fantastic evening.



# Amazing Achievements

To represent younger members on the Viking Kayak Club committee, under 18 year old members were invited to vote and Anwen, age 15, was elected as the Youth Leader. Anwen actively participates in monthly online committee meetings, where she advocates for the interests of the younger generation of paddlers, offering a fresh perspective. Anwen's contributions go beyond committee work. Anwen recently achieved her British Canoeing Paddlesport Instructor qualification, enabling her to lead club members on the water.

She is also a founding member of the newly established # ShePaddles group within the club, where she collaborates on initiatives to promote female participation in paddling and club activities. She is a valuable asset to the club, and we eagerly anticipate her future accomplishments.



# Fundraising

HENLOW ACADEMY PTA  
CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2023

**RAISED £2671.62**  
**FOR OUR SCHOOL!**



# Meppershall @ Henlow



It has been the most amazing Autumn term! Our Year 6 pupils returned and welcomed new pupils into the year group, meaning our year 6 now comprises two classes. We also welcomed our new Year 5 pupils and spent the first three days really getting to know each other with some fun activities before we settled into two form groups. Then the hard work began! Year 5 started to explore the fantastic facilities that we have. They made chef's salads and pizza toast in our food tech room and windows and books in their textiles lessons. In geography, they studied water and rivers, which included a river walk organised by Mrs Farrington. The sun shone down on us all day and it was an enjoyable as well as educational excursion. In English they studied 'Letters from the Lighthouse' and they produced some wonderful pieces of writing; Miss Harris turned 5JC's writing into an eye-catching display. The fun wasn't only happening in lessons, our Year 5s have taken full advantage of the extra-curricular provision. Sporting clubs and fixtures have been happening for our KS2 cohort, with some even attending the before school gym club! Such commitment! Lots of pupils tried out their musical and singing skills in various clubs, many of whom performed at the end of term Christmas concert. 5JF won the Christmas reading challenge. Year 5 also took part in some Christmas activities organised by Trisha from Impact Bedford, which they found really enjoyable.

Year 6 has been busy too! Their SATs year has started positively and they have risen to the increase in challenge Year 6 presents. In science, they have been using the subject specific fully fitted labs and carried out investigations in mould and getting electricity from lemons. The history topic of Victorians culminated in a trip organised by Mrs Goward to a museum where they got to experience what life was like in Victorian times. They too have been enjoying clubs and taking part in matches and fixtures. This has been a very busy but very fun-packed term and we cannot wait to see what the new year will bring.



# The Library Round Up



## Book fair

A huge thank you to students/parents/carers and staff for supporting this event. As a result of your generosity, the library has gained over £267 worth of new books. A selection of teen and young adult titles were chosen and will be added to stock

## Christmas reading challenge: Not quite Elf on the shelf!

Classes in each year group have been competing against each other to borrow and read as many books over a 2 week period. There has been a lot of enthusiasm and competitiveness from students. We hope that this continues and that they have enjoyed this challenge and indeed reading for pleasure.

The winning classes at the end of the challenge will be given a non uniform day. The overall winning class will also receive a bonus prize!



## Teen and Young adult library books

As a reminder, these collections in our library are aimed at older children. As a general rule, teen books are written for ages 12+ and YA (young adult) are aimed at 14+.

We would be grateful if the attached form can be completed. If you have **already** filled this out, there is **no** need to complete it again **unless** you wish to change your previous permission.

[Young Adult Books Permission Form](#)



We would be very grateful for any donations of good quality and 'current' book (fiction and non-fiction) that are suitable for ages 9 to 16. Suitable adult books can also be considered. A huge thank you to parents/carers and students that have already donated.

THROW UP



# Henlow Academy Academic Calendar 2024 - 2025

School Holiday 

Bank Holiday 

Pupil Day 

Staff Training Day 

Home Learning 

September 2024		October 2024		November 2024		December 2024									
Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	2	9	16	23	30				
Tue	3	10	17	24		Tue	3	10	17	24	31				
Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	4	11	18	25					
Thu	5	12	19	26		Thu	5	12	19	26					
Fi	6	13	20	27		Fi	6	13	20	27					
Sat	7	14	21	28		Sat	7	14	21	28					
Sun	8	15	22	29		Sun	8	15	22	29					
January 2025		February 2025		March 2025		April 2025									
Mon	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	Mon	7	14	21	28	
Tue	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		Tue	8	15	22	29	
Wed	1	8	15	22	5	12	19	26		Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thu	2	9	16	23	6	13	20	27		Thu	3	10	17	24	
Fi	3	10	17	24	7	14	21	28		Fi	4	11	18	25	
Sat	4	11	18	25	8	15	22	29		Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	5	12	19	26	9	16	23	30		Sun	6	13	20	27	
May 2025		June 2025		July 2025		August 2025									
Mon	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	4	11	18	25	
Tue	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		Tue	5	12	19	26	
Wed	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		Wed	6	13	20	27	
Thu	1	8	15	22	5	12	19	26		Thu	7	14	21	28	
Fi	2	9	16	23	6	13	20	27		Fi	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	3	10	17	24	7	14	21	28		Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	4	11	18	25	8	15	22	29		Sun	3	10	17	24	31

Autumn Term - 75 days

Spring Term - 60 days

Summer Term 60 days = 195 days

Pupil contact will amount to 190 of the 195 days. Schools will be closed on five of the 195 days. These five days will enable teacher training to take place in accordance with Teachers' Conditions of Service. The law requires that a parent ensures that their child receives a full and efficient education. If you enrol your child at a school, then you must ensure that they attend regularly. Regular school attendance is defined as being 'in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school' and means that if the school is open for 190 days, then this is what your child is expected to attend.

# PE Kit Requirements

Here is the PE kit requirements for the next half term. Please can you make sure that your child is coming to every PE lesson with the right equipment. For students with long hair a hair bobble is required.

Group	Sports		Equipment
<b>KS2 Boys</b>	Rugby Gymnastics	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Gum Shield
<b>KS2 Girls</b>	Football Trampolining	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Shin Pads
<b>KS2 Mixed</b>	Rugby Trampolining	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Gum Shield
<b>Year 7 Boys</b>	Rugby Gymnastics	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Gum Shield
<b>Year 7 Girls</b>	Football Trampolining	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Shin Pads
<b>Year 7 Mixed</b>	Rugby Trampolining	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Gum Shield
<b>Year 8 Boys</b>	Rugby Gymnastics	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Gum Shield
<b>Year 8 Girls</b>	Rugby Trampolining	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Shin Pads
<b>Year 8 Mixed</b>	Rugby Trampolining	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Gum Shield
<b>Year 9 Boys</b>	Rugby Fitness Choice	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) Gum Shield *If you are choosing football you must bring
<b>Year 9 Girls</b>	Rugby Fitness Choice	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers (Football boots recommended) *If you are choosing football you must bring
<b>Year 9 Mixed</b>	Trampolining Fitness Choice	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers
<b>Year 10</b>	Trampolining Choice	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers *If you are choosing football you must bring shin pads, football socks and trainers*
<b>Year 11</b>	Trampolining Choice	<b>Full PE Kit</b>	Trainers *If you are choosing football you must bring shin pads, football socks and trainers*

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](mailto: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 Petra Crofts [pcrofts@henlowacademy.org.uk](mailto:pcrofts@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 Her 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](http://www.henlowacademy.co.uk/web/pupil_premium/396258) or contact Mrs Gregory ([jgregory@henlowacademy](mailto:jgregory@henlowacademy)) 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?**

As a school we understand that this time of year can be tricky for some of our students and their families. We wanted to signpost some support networks for over the festive period and beyond.

Family support for Domestic Violence  
[Support and Guidance](#)

Bereavement support at Christmas  
[Winston's Wish](#)

Mind  
This has a number of links to helplines to call, text or message for support [Mind Link](#)

Samaritans  
<https://www.samaritans.org/>

Call 116 123 (free to call)

Pastoral Support for students and their families  
[Pastoral](#)

# HAPTA QUIZ NIGHT



**Friday Evening 26th January**

Henlow Academy Dinning Hall, doors open at 7 (7.30pm start)

**WIN £100 Prize Money**  
**£10 per person includes a**  
**tasty cheese grazing platter!**  
**Cash Bar opens at 7pm**

Reserve your team's table now!

**Please book by Friday 19th Jan**

Full payment of £10 per person required (6 people per team)

Booking form to be emailed by your Team Captain to  
[michelle@allencreative.co.uk](mailto:michelle@allencreative.co.uk)

KINDLY SPONSORED BY



First Step





**Friday Evening 26th January**

Henlow Academy Dinning Hall, doors open at 7 (7.30pm start)

## **Booking Form**

**Book before Friday 19th Jan.**

Please complete below and make your teams payment of £60 per table

by bank transfer to:

Henlow C of E Academy PTA

Account: 41747690 Sort Code: 60-11-10

Reference: 'YOUR TEAM NAME'

Team Captains Name:

Team Captains Contact Number:

Your Team Name:

Yes I have transferred £60 to the PTA bank account

Please email this form to [michelle@allencreative.co.uk](mailto:michelle@allencreative.co.uk)

**See you there!**

**KINDLY SPONSORED BY**



**First Step**

# 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)

**Name ALL your  
belongings clearly**

# 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](mailto: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 Information
Monday 8th January	First Day Back	
Wednesday 10th January	Key Stage 4 Options Evening	6:00pm—7:00pm
Monday 15th - Friday 26th January	Year 11 Mock GCSE's	
Tuesday 16th January	Young Voices	More information available through ParentMail for students involved
Monday 22nd January	Year 6 SATs Information Evening	More information will be shared via ParentMail
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February	Half Term	
Friday 8th March	Careers Day	For Year 7,8 & 9
Monday 11th - Friday 15th March	Science Week	
Tuesday 12th March	SEND Coffee Afternoon	More information will be shared via ParentMail
Thursday 27th March	The Henlow Gym and Dance Festival	More information will be shared via ParentMail
Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April	Easter Holidays	