



17th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The start of a new academic year is always filled with excitement and anticipation and we are very pleased to say that we could not be prouder of how our students and staff have started this year. It is challenging to summarise all of the incredible things that have been going on but we hope the letter below provides a snapshot into the start of this academic year and what is set to come this term.

A highlight of the Summer holidays was GCSE results day, all the staff at the school were filled with pride as we shared in the joy of our students who achieved an incredible set of results. Students achieved well across the board and early indications show that our results will put us in the top 20% nationally for student progress. Our students also did exceptionally well in the core subjects of English and Mathematics with 71% gaining at least grade 4 in both subjects and 56% gaining at least grade 5 in both subjects. Finally, our students achieved more grade 9s in their subjects than ever before. We could not be prouder of the students for all of their hard work throughout their time at Henley Bank. We wish them all the best in their next stages of their education.

September began with us welcoming our new cohort of Year 7 students to the Henley Bank family. Year 7 have hit the ground running, supported by their Head of Year Miss Lothian, their behaviour has been impeccable, they have engaged incredibly in their lessons and finally they have been kind to each other around the school. They have been modelling the Henley Bank values brilliantly and we are sure this will continue through the year.

September also saw the arrival of our first cohort of Year 12 students in the Henley Bank Sixth Form. It was wonderful to be able to welcome back some of our Year 11s from last year as well as welcome new students who have joined us from other schools in the area. The Sixth Formers have a dedicated common room, study room and classrooms that are currently based in temporary accommodation in the front car park. Our ambition is to see our students go to the best universities in the country and our students have already visited Cardiff University to hear about what life is like at one of the top institutions in the country. Our teachers spent a lot of time last year meticulously planning lessons to teach our A Level students and it has been brilliant to see these put into action. We have also recruited teachers with an expertise in teaching A Levels to add to our already highly skilled team of teachers. If you would like to find out more about Sixth Form, our open evening is on 28th November, alternatively you can email Mr Derbyshire our head of Sixth Form via admin@henleybankhighschool.co.uk who will be able to answer all of your questions.

Stephen Derry, Headteacher

Henley Bank High School, Mill Lane, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4QF
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We have welcomed many parents from across Years 8, 9 and 10 to our 'Launch Evenings' which present what the year will be like for our students academically, pastorally and with regards to the co-curricular offer that is available to our students. Our co-curricular offer is something that we are working incredibly hard to make as comprehensive as possible. There will be more information this week about the clubs that are on offer and our ambition is that all students try at least one club per term. Please look out for the communication from Mr Boyle regarding co-curricular clubs.

Following the success of our 'Legacy Ladder' trips and speakers that ran last year Mrs Benfield has been working on further strengthening the program to ensure that all students get a trip or external speaker every term. The program for this year looks more exciting than ever, please look out for a letter which fully details the events and how these can be paid for.

Finally, we would like to share the message that we gave to all students during the assemblies in the first week. We have asked students to be here every day on time, be present, take opportunities and give their all to everything that they do both inside and outside the classroom and finally be together, be kind to all and celebrate being part of a community. We can both say that the students have embraced this message and have excelled since returning from the holidays. We are incredibly excited for the year ahead.

Key dates:

Tuesday 24th September - Year 6 Open evening

Monday 30th September - Co-curricular clubs begin

Thursday 3rd October & Friday 4th October - Year 6 Open mornings

Friday 4th October - Year 12 visit to Ashton Gate, Bristol University & Apprenticeship search

Friday 11th October - Year 8 Walking History Tour

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November - Half term holiday

Wednesday 6th November - Year 11 Parent Information Evening

Thursday 7th November - Year 12 Academic Review Evening

Monday 11th November - Japanese school visit

Thursday 21st November - Christmas Fair (raising funds for students travelling to Sri Lanka in the summer 2025)

Thursday 28th November - Sixth Form Open evening

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Friday 6th December - Year 7 Pantomime trip

Monday 9th December - Inset day

Wednesday 18th December - Year 7 Academic Review evening

Thursday 19th December - Year 11 Academic Review evening

Friday 20th December - Year 7 and Year 11 Academic Review evening

All students finish at the end of the school day on Thursday 19th December.

Yours faithfully

Ms Bradbury and Mr Dakin

Co Heads of School

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