



Henley Bank High School

# NEWSLETTER

**MAY 2026**



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the final term of what has been another highly successful and rewarding academic year at Henley Bank High School, there is a tremendous amount to celebrate and look forward to across our school community. The summer term is always one filled with memorable moments, exciting opportunities and important milestones for students across all year groups.

### **Farewell to our Leavers and Welcoming New Faces**

Over the coming weeks, we will be preparing to say farewell to our Year 11 and Year 13 students through their Leavers' Assemblies and Proms. These events are always incredibly special occasions and provide an opportunity to celebrate the hard work, resilience and achievements of our students throughout their time at Henley Bank High School. We know that many of our students are now preparing for exciting next steps, whether that be Sixth Form, university, apprenticeships or employment, and we are extremely proud of all they have accomplished during their journey with us.

At the same time, we are equally excited to welcome our new cohorts of Year 7 and Year 12 students during our transition events later this term. These opportunities allow students to become familiar with the school environment, meet staff, and begin building the confidence needed to make a successful start in September.

## Academic Focus and Assessments

This term will also be an important one academically. Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12 will complete their end-of-year assessments, while students in Years 10 and 12 will undertake their Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs). These assessments are valuable opportunities for students to demonstrate their progress and prepare for future examination success. We encourage all students to approach this period with positivity and determination.



## Legacy Week and Enrichment

Alongside the academic focus, we are thrilled to once again host our annual Legacy Week during the penultimate week of term. Legacy Week is a highlight of the school calendar, reflecting our commitment to providing a rich educational experience beyond the classroom. Every student will have the opportunity to participate in a trip, alongside a range of enrichment activities designed to develop teamwork, leadership, and creativity.

## The Importance of Attendance

With so many vital events taking place, excellent attendance remains absolutely essential. We are delighted with the significant improvements made to attendance this year and thank our families for their continued support. Strong attendance has a direct impact on both academic achievement and the wider school experience. We encourage families to contact us should there be any barriers to attendance so that we can work together to provide solutions early on.

## Supporting Exam Success

We would like to recognise how incredibly proud we are of our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who have shown exceptional dedication in preparing for their final examinations. To ensure they are fully supported, we are running our Success Timetable, which provides expert teaching right up until the final exams. Additionally, we will continue to provide our valued 'Boosters' on the evening before exams and 'Warm Ups' on the morning of exams.

**Contact Info: Year 11 queries can be directed to Mr. Watson, and Year 13 queries to Mr. Derbyshire.**



### Sixth Form Developments

Our new Sixth Form building is developing rapidly! This fantastic facility will provide dedicated study and social spaces, alongside six high-quality classrooms. Furthermore, the expansion of our vocational curriculum in Years 12 and 13 will offer students even greater pathways to suit their ambitions. There is still time to apply for a place in the Sixth Form for September; interested students should contact Mr. Derbyshire for further information.



### Higher Education and Leadership

Our Year 12 students recently visited the University of Oxford for a tour and Q&A session. This visit provided valuable insight into higher education and inspired many to aim high.

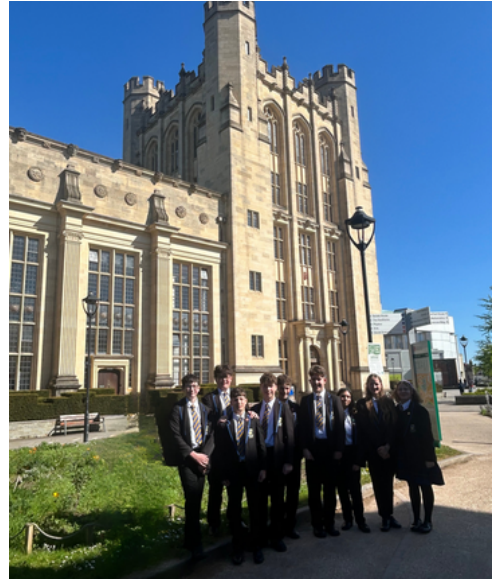
Additionally, we are proud of the Year 10 and Year 12 students who recently completed their Sports Leaders qualification. They demonstrated outstanding maturity while hosting 120 Year 4 pupils for a full day of activities. Visiting staff spoke extremely highly of their professionalism and enthusiasm.



---

### **Student Achievements: The Brilliant Club and Year 7 Enrichment**

Congratulations to our Year 9 students who successfully graduated from the prestigious The Brilliant Club programme. As part of the programme, students completed independent research projects and presented their work to university standard before attending a graduation ceremony at University of Bath. It was inspiring to see the pride students took in their achievements and the confidence they gained from participating in such a challenging and rewarding academic experience.



Meanwhile, our Year 7 students have made an excellent start to the new universal enrichment afternoons, which take place every Wednesday between 3pm and 4pm. These sessions ensure that every student has access to a wide range of co-curricular opportunities, including football, sports journalism, 3D printing and many more. It has been particularly pleasing to see students embracing new opportunities and demonstrating our school value of ambition by stepping outside of their comfort zones and trying something new.



### **Ten Tors Expedition 2026**

Our intrepid Ten Tors teams have now completed their 35- and 45-mile treks across Dartmoor, and we could not be prouder. Their commitment to training, positive attitudes regardless of the weather, and remarkable resilience in reaching the finish line were truly inspiring. Our students displayed fantastic camaraderie, successfully integrating with teammates from other schools; this included participants in the first-ever GLT team to cross the 45-mile finish line and those who worked brilliantly with the Yate team to finish the 35-mile route on Sunday. Completing such a demanding challenge is an extraordinary achievement and a testament to their incredible teamwork and determination.

---

As always, thank you for your continued support of our school community. We look forward to an exciting and successful final term together.

Best wishes,

Ms Bradbury and Mr Dakin  
**Co-Heads of School**

