



Life beyond lockdown



Hello and welcome to issue 4 of our newsletter. It has been an absolute joy to see the students flourishing this term and as the country starts to return to life beyond lockdown, it is important to acknowledge the spectacular resilience of our students. Whether it is their focus within lessons, joining in on the Fun Friday activities or the fantastic uptake to our Legacy co-curricular clubs, it has been a brilliant term.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome Nicole Hastie who has joined the Governing body as parent governor. I look forward to working closely with Nicole over the coming years to further develop and improve Henley Bank High School.

Over the last few weeks and months, Year 11 students have been working exceptionally hard in order to produce evidence for their GCSE exam results this academic year.

All of the staff would like to acknowledge the resilience, commitment and determination that our Year 11 students have shown in what is already a challenging year of their lives, despite COVID and all its implications. We wish all the students the best of luck, success and happiness in their futures.

You may have seen or heard some talk of the 'Henley Bank Marathon'. Later this year in October, I will be running the London Marathon to raise money for the NSPCC. The NSPCC is an amazing charity that works to support children, parents and

their families. Mrs Cuke, Mrs Benfield and I have come up with the idea of the Henley Bank Marathon which will allow all those students, staff and their families to run a marathon (this does not need to be run all at once, do not worry) and raise money for the NSPCC.

Over the coming weeks, an assembly and further information will be provided so that anyone who is interested can get involved in our next charity event. Charity events have always been a huge success here at Henley Bank and a physical challenge will not only support the students with their physical and mental health, but also allow them to achieve some of their Legacy colours as they will be showing qualities such as ambition and determination. Watch this space...

I wish you and your families a safe, happy and healthy half term and we look forward to seeing the students return to school on Monday 7th June.

Mr Derry, Headteacher

Gloucestershire Young Photographer 2021

We received our biggest number of entries this year for the annual Gloucestershire Young Photographer 2021 competition and they have now been sent off to the Cheltenham Camera Club for the final selection phase. We were delighted to see such a range of subjects and interests and students submitted a very high standard this year. Students who have taken part in this competition can also use this towards their Legacy colours. Well done to Gemma, Darcy, Verity, Natasha, Jack, Zoe, Rihanna, Sophie, Kennedy, Melody, Ohana, Katie, Drake, Amy, Gracie, Geraldine, Liam, Megan, Evelina, Izzy, Lucy, Sinon, Sonny and Ketleyn for taking part. We will post results as soon as we hear back. Good luck to all of you.





STAR STUDENTS

Year 7

This term, Miranda has gone from strength to strength, and absolutely thrived in all areas of the school. She has incredibly high standards academically, and works really hard to complete all classwork and homework to the absolute best of her ability. Her commitment to the Legacy clubs have really inspired us. She demonstrated determination and respect during the launch of the girls rugby programme. I am incredibly proud of the journey she has been on.

Year 8

Ruqayah and Samuel have worked incredibly hard on their academic studies in the classroom and homework. They have also created their own unique businesses. Samuel has created a clothing brand called Roisti, he is producing items that raise awareness of teens' mental health and is donating much of his profit to mental health charities.

Ruqayah has created a jewellery brand, called Majestic Jewellery22. Ruqayah has a keen eye for detail, and has made some incredible pieces of jewellery, and also shown her talent for marketing.

Year 9

Year 9 Star Student is Harvey M. Harvey has shown Legacy values of Respect, Determination and Ambition. Keep shining, Harvey.

Year 10

Year 10 Star Student is Philip who has had 100% attendance this term. He has been extremely focused in lessons and has been really determined. Well done

Year 11

Year 11 Star Students are Beth and Tabby. Both girls are incredibly hard working. I am sure they both will go on to do fantastic things.

An update from our Heads of Year

Our Head of Year team would like to say a few things about their specific year groups:

Mr Powell – Year 7



This term has been incredible for Year 7, they have impressed and inspired in equal measure; embracing the opportunities available to them and demonstrating all of the values we at Henley Bank are so proud of.

It has been absolutely fantastic to see students getting stuck in to the range of co-curricular activities and developing their character.

Each week we celebrate one of our values, Ambition, Confidence, Creativity, Determination and Respect. We have shared stories and experiences from our students and staff demonstrating each key value. I am incredibly proud of our Year 7 students and the great things they have achieved.

Mr Powell – Year 8

This has been the 'Coming of age' term for our Year 8s. They have been incredible in so many aspects of the school day, from Roll Call to DEAR time. It has been a real privilege to work with them, and see them grow into young adults with such great attitudes.

The commitment to the co-curricular programme has been phenomenal, with Year 8 students being the largest attending group across all activities. Keep setting the bar high and never stop raising it even further. You inspire me every single day, and I thank you for that.

Mrs Middleton – Year 9



It has been wonderful to see the Year 9 students embrace the school ethos and values; creating a community spirit. Observing how students support and care for one another during social times in school. Playing games of catch and football. Students cheering one another on and being kind and caring.

The Year 9 library, which is being run by Harry and Tyler, has been a great success. Students working their way through the twenty best reads such as; *London Belongs To Us* by Sarra Manning, *Monsters of Men* by Patrick Ness and *Toffee* by Sarah Crossan.

Mr Barker – Year 10



The Year 10s have been working extremely hard this term, and have been preparing to move into Year 11, which has led to great discussions about their futures.

We have focused on our school values of Respect and Teamwork which brought out great discussions. Teamwork has been demonstrated by students throughout the last year inside and outside of school. Respect has many meanings but for us as a school, the main focus of respect is to understand and not judge people who are slightly different or hold slightly different beliefs to you. Students were wanting to learn about different cultures and beliefs.

I am really excited to watch them grow and thrive as they transition into their final year.

An update from our Heads of Year

Mr Foran – Year 11



Year 11s have worked incredibly hard this half term, they have sat two sets of assessments and worked hard in lessons to prepare for these. We can't wait to celebrate with them during the end of year BBQ and leavers' assembly (thank you for the lovely messages and photos) on Friday 28th May.

Finally, thank you from all at Henley Bank for the support you have shown us and your children over the last five years, we will miss them.

Are you passionate about the environment?

Green Influencers Eco Club is starting next term. This project uses the assistance of experts from outside school to create deep, lasting and meaningful connections with the natural environment.

You will be supported to engage with your peers to motivate them to take part in volunteering or social action. The project involves promoting, designing and delivering a plan to make the school more environmentally friendly. You can develop transferable skills such as teamwork, communication, environmental knowledge and project management. There will also be a chance to volunteer in the wider community.

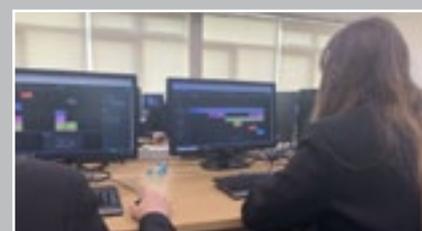
Please email Dr Glover if you are interested: cgllover@henleybankhighschool.co.uk.

Educake

All Year 7 and Year 8 students have been given a booklet to help with completing Educake. There is also an information video for parents on the homework section of the school website. Please contact educake@henleybankhighschool.co.uk for Educake enquiries.

Legacy Clubs – Term 6

Monday	Pride Girls Rugby Golf Drama
Tuesday	Wellbeing Garden Football Running
Wednesday	Life Skills 101 Athletics Environmental Influencers
Thursday	Wellbeing Garden Maths Challenge Music Netball Power of words



Year 8 writing competition

Year 8 have been learning all about health and disease and took part in a competition to write a poem or story about disease. Congratulations to our winner Sapphire with her poem about Edward Jenner, who was born in Gloucestershire and developed the very first vaccination.

Edward Jenner

Edward Jenner who is very clever,	His observation would do him proud,
Came across a pretty maid,	Six weeks later he gave the boy,
Who was milking a cow every day,	The smallpox disease,
	Jenner found that the boy,
One day he made an observation,	Showed no signs,
Which would make a useful creation,	Of developing the disease,
The pretty maid caught cowpox,	So he would be fine,
And she gained lots of spots,	
	He called this procedure vaccination,
Edward Jenner got a boy,	Which would soon save the nation,
Who very much liked playing with toys,	This disease could now be cured,
He got the maid and popped a spot,	And this was going to save more than a
And gave the boy some cowpox,	third.
	Jenner's theory came true,
Through a cut which made some blood,	And really improved,
He put the puss from the spot,	How diseases were prevented,
Into the little boy's cut,	And how more would be too.
Sometime later Jenner found,	<i>By Sapphire</i>

Year 11 – their next chapter

Year 11 have constantly surpassed my expectations this year their, attendance, resilience and attitude to learning has been excellent throughout the year and there has been no better example of this than how they have responded to the assessments that they have had since returning from lockdown.

With Year 11 grades being decided by their teachers, based on evidence, we made the decision as a school to run three mini 'assessment points' to collect the evidence required to form a student's grade. These assessment points have been run in a similar way to GCSE examinations to ensure that all evidence is the students own work and full access arrangements and other support has been provided.

After completing these assessments, teachers will be meeting as teams to decide of fair, consistent and accurate grades which will be checked by Mr Derry before being sent off to the examination boards. The students will then see their results for these on GCSE results day on the 12th August.

Throughout Year 11, the students have truly modelled our core value of determination, overcoming all of the hurdles this year has brought. I am confident that the students have done everything they can to leave with the best grades possible.

One of my favourite parts of my job is discussing future aspirations of our students and it is inspiring to hear the wide variety of different pathways our students are taking, ranging from sixth forms to colleges and worked-based apprenticeships.

I am incredibly excited to hear how they are getting on.

I would like to reiterate on behalf of all of their teachers how proud we are of the Year 11 students and congratulate them on how hard they have worked for their assessment, coursework and everything else that has been asked of them.

Mr Dakin, Assistant Headteacher

Duke of Edinburgh awards

This half term has seen lots of excitement for our students involved in the Duke of Edinburgh awards. Many students in Years 9 and 10 are finishing their volunteering, skill, and physical sections after putting in months of hard work. It has been inspiring to see the progress our students have been making through their weekly evidence uploads.

On Friday 14th and Saturday 15th May, our Silver Duke of Edinburgh team completed their Silver practice expedition, which also counted as their qualifying Bronze expedition. They showed a huge amount of enthusiasm, determination, and resilience in their navigation and managed to work well as a team to achieve their aim. Well done to Adam and Amy for their outstanding efforts over the two days practising for Silver in July and congratulations to Gemma, Evelina, and Joel in Year 10 who have now completed their Bronze awards.

We also need to recognise the commendable effort of all the students who attended the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh training day on Saturday 15th May. The students practised navigating in their groups using OS maps following a route around Coopers Hill, learned how to pitch and pack away a tent, and practised cooking a hot dinner on gas stoves.

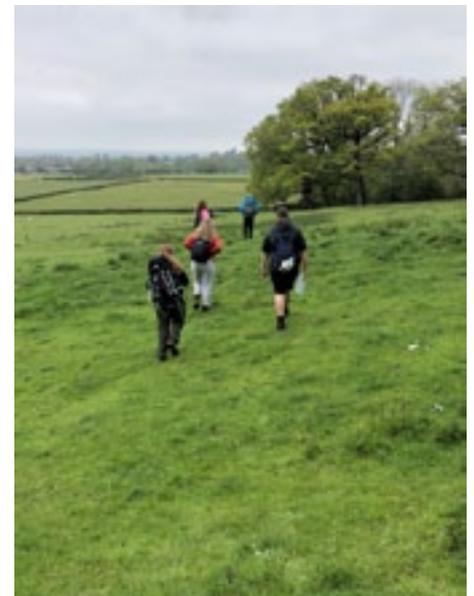
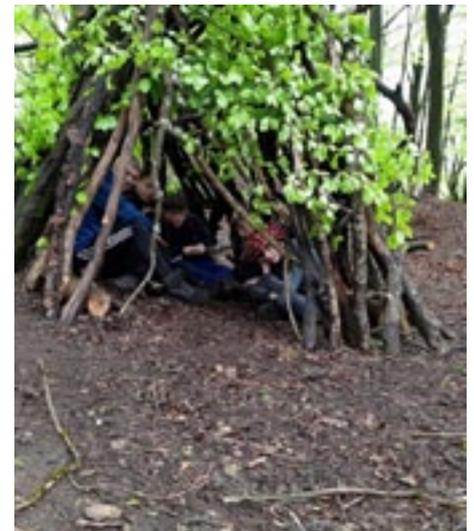
It was fantastic to see such teamwork and determination from all the students working towards their Bronze awards before they headed home, slightly damp but with smiles on their faces.

"The best thing about the Duke of Edinburgh training day was being with my friends and having fun trying to find our way through a forest."

- Lilly, Year 9

"On the training day I learnt more about teamwork and how you can do things better and quicker when you all work together on it."

- Kaylum, Year 9



Learning new skills in CAsT

I can't believe how quickly this term is flying by. Students have had another super busy term, creating beautiful pieces of work and learning new skills in music, art, performing arts, food science and design technology.

Our students in Years 7 to 9 have been busy in the computer rooms in DT, further developing their computer aided design skills (CAD) ready to begin applying these skills in the workshop with the laser cutter soon. CAD is a vital skill in the design process and a good grasp of these will ensure that students are able to apply modern techniques within their outcomes as well as mastering the traditional workshop skills throughout their projects.

It's been a whirlwind of creations in the kitchen and all groups have been applying their practical culinary skills with fajitas, fruit tarts and lemon meringues. Year 11 chefs completed their assessments with some amazing creations. Ms Williams was full of praise for the very highly technical dishes that were produced – well done Year 11.

Students have continued to build up their performing, vocal and design skills in performing arts. We have some very exciting news about next year's big school production coming soon. We haven't been able to hold our annual school show due to restrictions this year, but next year we will be back with a bang and there are some very talented actors, stage crew and set designers ready to go. In music, students have been continuing to develop their skills on the keyboards and through our music peripatetic lessons programme. We are taking part in the G15 celebration event this year and can soon reveal a very special performance by a very talented musician.

And finally, it's been a very busy time in art, with Year 7 learning how to draw a self portrait using the grid method – these have been amazing. Year 8 have continued to build their knowledge of Aboriginal art and will be painting on sand to create a final piece this term. We have also taken part in the Gloucestershire Young Photographer competition and we received our highest ever number of entries. We wish them all good luck and hope to be able to publish results very soon.

I am so proud of all of our students – they have been absolutely brilliant, creative and showing true resilience in what has been a tricky year.

Mrs Lane, Head of CAsT



Hilary's family portrait

We wanted to share this piece of work in the newsletter this term. It is a beautiful acrylic painting made by Hilary, in Year 9, of her mum. She has been spending time in the art room at lunchtime working on this piece and we have been so impressed with her hard work and dedication to this additional piece that she has created. Well done, Hilary.



Wellbeing Garden developments

The Wellbeing Garden team have been very busy preparing some of the land for planting vegetables and weather proofing our shed.

We have successfully planted and observed the growth of our potatoes, which we now have a number of varieties showing through. We continue to work the land to better prepare it for new plantings as well as reusing timbers that have seen better days.

Our work is beginning to revolve around sustainability, which means we are often considering the six Rs (reuse, refuse, recycle, rethink, reduce and repair). With sustainability in mind, we have repaired a gate hinge so that we have access into the garden enabling us to receive donations or contributions to our work. As already mentioned, we have begun to reuse old timbers for other purposes.



Looking forward to next term, we need to ensure we continue to look after our potatoes, installing a composting bin, weeding and layering up the soil around the potatoes to optimise growth. It would be great to obtain some treated timber so that we can reinstall the vegetable beds within the garden.

We will be fitting new felt to the shed roof to protect our tools and equipment. In addition, we will be trying to solve our current issue of how we get water to our garden without carrying cans from the main buildings.

We will be running a six-week environmental course delivered by an external agency in school to qualify our students to be 'environmental influencers'.

We are really keen to build projects within school that can help us understand and positively impact our environment whilst developing our character outside the pressures of academic study. You can contact us at the following email address wellbeinggarden@henleybankhighschool.co.uk if you think you could help us out with equipment, materials, support or donations.

Dr Glover

Legacy news

It has been an absolute pleasure to see Legacy and our Character Education explode this term. Here are a few of my highlights:

Colleges

We began the term by congratulating Holst, who had won the lockdown competition. They will receive a Pizza Party to congratulate them at the end of the year. We still have a few weeks to go and it is looking very tight but Holst are still holding on to the lead!

This is also the term that Mr Phelps and I begin putting our new Year 7s into colleges ready for September. If you have a brother or sister joining the school, they will be placed in the same college so that your whole family are part of the same group. Watch this space next academic year to see how Legacy College competitions will include the whole family.

Mrs Benfield, Assistant Headteacher



Co-Curricular clubs return

We've seen many new clubs begin this term and welcomed back some old favourites. Most notably, we've had the return of sports clubs such as netball, football, athletics and girls' rugby. Music Tech Club, which began during the school closure, also continued with Mr Blackwell, whilst the Wellbeing Garden has gone from strength to strength. The team have cleared a space and planted potatoes which have already begun to break through the surface and I know that they are taking huge strides in our environmental impact by reusing the oil from the kitchen to seal the wood on the shed.



The Maths Challenge has been a popular fixture this term, with students from Year 7 to 10. I look forward to sharing the results of the challenge when Mr Partridge receives them. It has also been lovely to see our Year 7s getting to grips with coding.

We are still running our Legacy Homework Club on Mondays to Thursdays from 3.00pm until 4.00pm. This is a supportive club for all students to come and complete their homework with staff on hand to help. Anyone is welcome to join.

The sign up sheet for next half term is emailed to all students this week, so make sure you get signed up for your favourites.

There will also be a Production and Performing Arts Club. A full list of available clubs can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

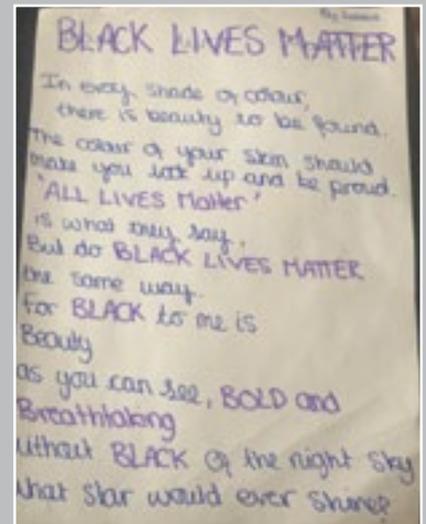
Legacy Colours

We have spent a lot of time thinking about Respect over the last few weeks, and am I very proud of Latasia in Year 8 who has created a wonderful poem and presentation about Black Lives Matter.

Year 8 are currently leading the way with the most number of Half Colours, so it will be wonderful to see who has achieved what in the Celebration Assembly at the end of the term.

Below is a photograph of Latasia's wonderful poem.

Mrs Benfield, Assistant Headteacher



An update on Key Stage 3 geography

Year 7 are currently studying development, looking at how countries developed over time and what factors lead to some countries and areas not developing as quickly, with the resultant long term impacts that has had. Students will also be looking at what life is like in places of varying wealth and levels of development, to empathise with others around the world. Students will then focus upon North America, and see why different countries and even areas within countries vary. Before turning their attention to future sustainability, to help our students become active global citizens of the future.

Year 8 have been learning about tectonic hazards, with a focus on volcanoes in

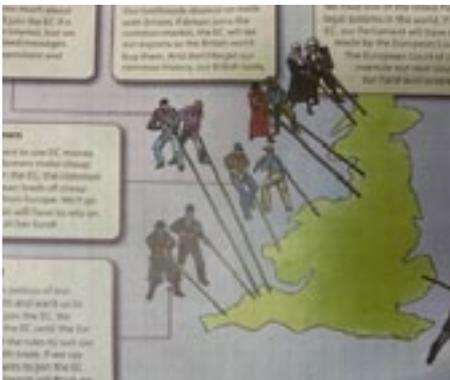
Guatemala and Hawaii. Students learned about the physical processes that happen within our Earth's different layers and how these make our tectonic plates move, with the resultant tectonic hazards that occur. Students will also look at what happens during a volcanic eruption and will compare the impacts by studying two areas of differing wealth and how they responded to the eruptions. Students will finish the topic by exploring the reasons why people still live in tectonically active areas and how the effects of tectonic hazards can be managed using differing strategies.

Year 9 are coming towards the end of their journey at Key Stage 3 and are embarking upon a topic which covers roughly 70% of our Earth's

surface and is one of the most biodiverse places on our Earth; oceans. Students will be looking at the physical characteristics of our oceans, the processes that occur which dictate our climatic systems, before exploring food chains and webs in the marine environment.

Students will then learn about the tricky politics of 'who owns the oceans/seas', before studying the impact humans are having on this fragile, yet paramount, biome through plastic pollution, pollution in general and over fishing. Students will then commence their topic study by looking at the impact that global warming is having upon our oceans and the resultant impact that has on our land, weather systems and human life.

Students take a journey into the past in history



Year 7 are currently taking the treacherous, but exciting, journey through the Tudor Reformation, building on their knowledge from medieval kingship, power and religion in society. Students will be exploring this bloody Tudor period to find out why the well-known tyrant Henry VIII wanted to change the religion in England from Catholicism to Protestantism. Was it because he wanted power, a son or money? Did Henry VIII finally settle the age-long dispute between the power of the church over the King, avenging his ninth great-grandfather Henry II for the murder of Thomas Becket?

Year 7 will be uncovering what this religious change meant for England as a whole, and the legacy the Reformation left his son Edward VI, as well as Mary I and Elizabeth I, as they in turn struggled to keep the peace to determine how England should worship God. Did Mary I really deserve her name as a bloody monarch? Why were people of England burned alive and beheaded so mercilessly? Did Elizabeth finally settle the dispute between Catholics, Protestants and Puritans by the end of the 16th century? Strap yourselves in Year 7, it's going to be wild!

By contrast, Year 8s will be taking the banner to liberate France. All from the comfort of their classroom, of course, as they will be delving into concepts such as revolution, riot, rebellion, liberty, and freedom. Why did French peasants behead their absolute monarch, King Louis XVI, and what caused such a momentous revolution in Europe? What did the Americans have to do with it, and bread, and why was the Enlightenment such a powerful force in history? Year 8 will explore the grizzly consequences of the most powerful nation in Europe rebelling against the old ancient regime; how Robespierre gave birth to a monster which in turn, killed him, why the San Cullottes got rid of their socks, and how Marie Antoinette never did say 'Let them eat cake!' *Vive la France!*

Year 9s will be turning to much more recent history – post-war Britain – to explore what the consequences of Britain's second war meant for British society. How did Britain's national identity change as a result of migration? How did the Windrush generation build Britain up from ruin? Why and how did Britain turn away from their empire towards building a welfare state we treasure and benefit from in today's society? What did the end of empire (decolonisation) mean for the people of Britain and those around the world? Not only will Year 9 be learning about the British political system, but delving into the reality of why politics should matter to them and where they belong as a voter in this democratic country. Watch out British electorate – Year 9s are coming onto the scene.

Mr Brookland, Head of Humanities

GCSE history and geography

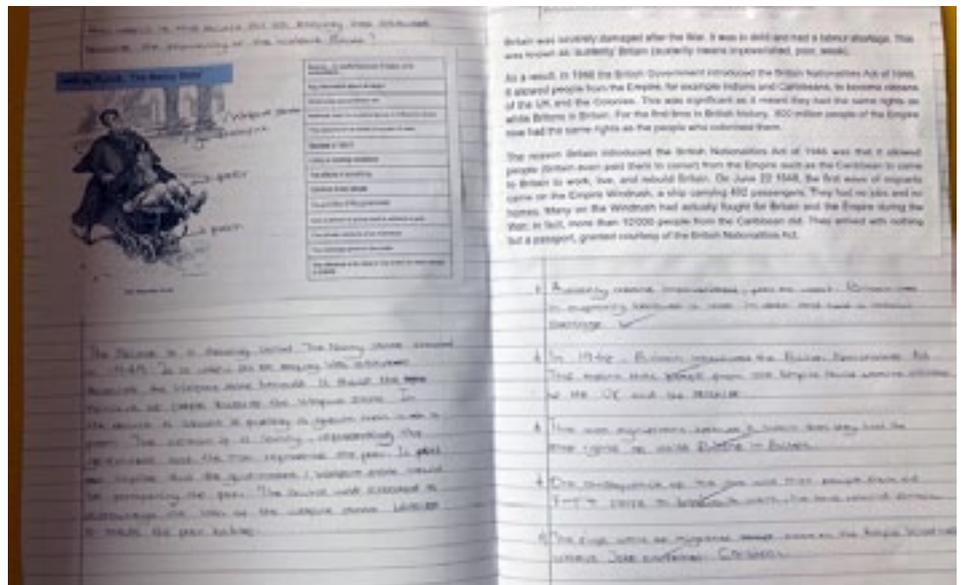
Key Stage 4 historians and geographers are working tirelessly through their subject content with passion, enthusiasm and purpose.

In history, Year 10 are currently learning about Weimar and Nazi Germany, and in geography, students are learning about tectonic and atmospheric hazards.

The Year 11s are busy revising for their final assessment point.

We are really proud of our Key Stage 4 students with how they are willing to do all they can to maximise their chance of success. Keep going historians and geographers, we are extremely impressed.

Mr Brookland, Head of Humanities



News from religious studies

This term, Year 7 students have been studying the topic of creation. Within this topic, they have studied Sikh, Christian and Hindu views about the creation using information from the religions' holy books to build their knowledge. They have then gone on to study the scientific views of the Big Bang and Darwin's view on evolution. They have been encouraged to discuss these diverse ideas and decide what their own personal views about creation are. Students have been encouraged to go away and read widely about the differing views of creation including those of the Aborigines in Australia. There have been many lively discussions surrounding the origins of the platypus as a way to explain both the religious and secular ideas on creation. In the coming weeks, students will be moving on to study Hinduism.

Students in Year 8 have been studying the topic of pilgrimage this term. Within this topic, they have studied the different views of Islam and Christianity about pilgrimage. Students have studied the various parts of Hajj and how this is important for Muslims to participate in. They have then gone on to study Christian views about pilgrimage, in particular looking at the diverse sites of Lourdes in France and Iona in Scotland. Students have been able to discuss the contrasting nature of these sites and the purpose they serve in Christianity. There have been many interesting debates about whether pilgrimage sites should be open to tourists or should they be purely for religious purposes. In the coming weeks students will be moving on to study Judaism.



An update on sports

Wow! What an amazing atmosphere we have had in PE this term. Some sun, amongst the wintry weather, and some fantastic students giving their all in athletics.

Students in Year 7 and 8 have had their first taste of running, jumping and throwing disciplines, and we can certainly see that we will have some amazing talent ready for next year's cross school events.

Year 9 have participated in athletics and are now enjoying more summer games of rounders and cricket. Year 10 continues to enjoy the sports on offer and have had quite a mix of rounders, football, netball and badminton.

Whilst we have really enjoyed having students back in our classroom, it has also been brilliant to see so many faces at co-curricular athletics and netball. The summer league is up and running and we look forward to seeing who are crowned the winners. The athletics club have seen superb determination to run 5km as well as sprinting and jumping events.

There is always room for more of you, so just pop by on a Wednesday or Thursday to sign up and take part. We also welcomed our first girls to their rugby taster sessions, which we look forward to being able to offer regularly through the summer and into the new school year.

Mrs Cuke, Head of PE

KEY DATES

Monday 7th June

- All students return to school

Wednesday 30th June and Thursday 1st July

-Year 6 transition days

Friday 2nd July - Sunday 4th July

- Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions

Monday 5th July

- Year 9 DTP/MenACWY vaccinations

Friday 9th July

- Year 11 prom

Monday 19th July

- Sports day

Tuesday 20th July

- Year 10 geography field trip

Tuesday 20th July

- End of term

**Don't forget that
you can find
the full school
calendar on our
website**



We hope you enjoyed reading our newsletter.

Please use the following links to get official information from the school:

W: www.henleybankhighschool.co.uk
Facebook – @henleybankhighschool
Twitter – @henleybankhigh

Henley Bank High School
Mill Lane,
Brockworth,
Gloucester, GL3 4QF

T: 01452 863372
E: admin@henleybankhighschool.co.uk

Proud to be part of the

