HWA Newsletter





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General information



Term 3 comes to an end and what amazing term it has been! We have seen numerous events in the academy including Holocaust Memorial Day, Children's Mental Health Week and Safer Internet Day alongside numerous other enriching opportunities for students. When we talk about success, we don't shy away from wanting all students to secure great academic outcomes, however character development is just as important. As a community we should feel proud of the opportunity colleagues provide at Hanham Woods (through lots of additional discretionary effort!) to give students the best chance of success.

I hope you enjoy reading through our Academy newsletters to learn more about what students have experienced this term...

Dream BIG // Work Hard // Be Kind

Mr O'Callaghan
Principal



English Department





We are proud to have been able to offer the whole of Year 10 the opportunity to watch a performance of 'A Christmas Carol' in the school Hall last week. The Year 10s engagement in the activity was outstanding and we are sure that watching it has helped consolidate their understanding of the play.

Performance by The Quantum Theatre Company from London

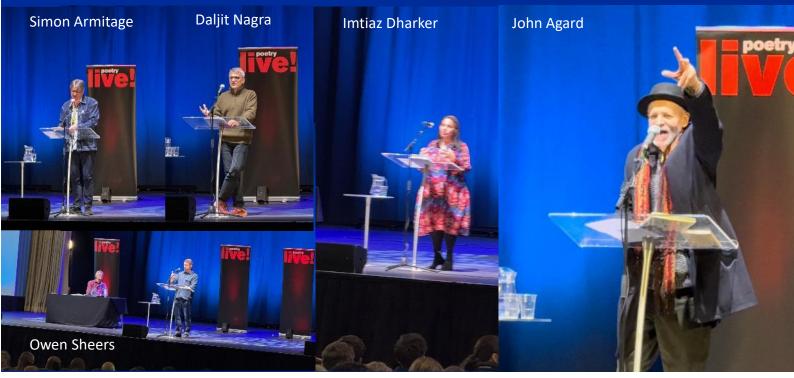


Poetry Live





Year 11s had a wonderful day out watching Poetry Live in Bath. They were able to listen to the poets they have been studying for GCSE read their poems and answer questions. They got advice on how to answer unseen poetry with examples. The highlight of the day was when John Agard entered the stage, and the audience was immediately enraptured by his presence and poetry.



Poetry





Mia G Y7 The convict from Great Expectations

A poem based on 'Great Expectations' from Amaya Wo and Naomi D:

Within the Graveyard

As I knelt before my late parents
I heard the wind winding through the trees
And on my back a cold, icy breeze.
I thought about the many hopeless years
that had past,

Like an opened wound without a cast Bong, bong, bong went the old metallic bells

And I thought of the horrors of hell...

A poem based on 'The Witch' by Florence S

The lady's face is cracked like stone
Wrinkles dance on her skin
She's been here before outside the door
Her power damages my kin
I slam the door shut
Throwing the lady out of my hut

My body froze to ice outside
My blood an icy blue
I sat here waiting for years
To die from the flu
The door was to be locked
I couldn't have knocked

World Book Day Celebrations



Year 7 Author Visit – Thursday 6th March

We are delighted to welcome back **Lis Jardine** - former HWA Librarian and now published children's author - as part of our World Book Day Celebrations. Lis is the author of the incredibly successful *The Detention Detectives* book series:

https://lisjardine.com/reviews/

Friendship, trust, courage and determination are at the heart of this extremely funny murder- mystery tale. Featuring a hugely entertaining cast of characters, the intriguing plot is full of twists and turns, and will keep readers guessing to the very end. BookTrust Review.

As well as an interactive audience activity, Lis will be delivering a talk to Y7 students, sharing her journey to publication and why she chose to write murder mysteries.

After the talk, Lis will be available for a book signing session in the library over breaktime. If your Y7 child would like to pre-order copies of The Detention Detective books, please make payment via SCOPAY (HWA Online Payments) by Tuesday 25th February. If you do not currently have access please contact Kathryn Davis, Finance Assistant on 0117 440 8900 extension 1412 or email Kathryn.Davis@clf.uk.

We are very lucky to have Lis come to see and us. I hope your child is left inspired and enthused by the visit.



World Book Day: 'Readathon'





'The more that you read, the more things you'll know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.'
- Dr. Seuss

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are running a Read for Good Readathon and we'd love your child to join in.

It's been proven that children who read for pleasure are more likely to be successful and happy throughout their lives (OECD, 2002).

The charity **Read for Good** encourages children to read through its unique motivational approach that inspires reluctant readers to give reading a go and keen readers to read more widely. Pupils can choose whatever they want to read - from comics to classics and audiobooks to blogs - they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun! And, they are motivated to read because the money they raise in sponsorship helps to provide a regular supply of brand new books and a resident storyteller to every major children's hospital in the UK.

The evidence from other schools is clear: teachers, parents and pupils all say that the freedom to choose what to read, combined with the knowledge that they are directly helping children in hospital, makes participation easy and compelling.

All you have to do is:

- 1. Take a look at what they plan to read, or help them complete their list of books to read. Remember they can read whatever they want: books, e-books, poetry, comics anything goes! Sharing books is fine too (in fact recommended!) as well as listening to audio books.
- **2.** Help your child find sponsors among family and friends. The easiest way to sponsor a child is at https://readathon.my.salesforce-sites.com/sponsor (which family and friends can use too) or return the sponsor card with a cheque(s) or cash sent to school.

Please support your child's sponsored read as much as you can. They'll be helping kids in hospitals get books, as well as helping themselves, and our school receives free books worth 20% of our grand sponsorship total, so there really is something in it for everyone.



Sparx Reader



Why does Sparx Reader exist?

Sparx Reader is an online reading platform that helps students to practise reading regularly, to set them up for success at secondary school and in life beyond. Building confident readers through regular reading practice

https://sparxreader.com/parents/

We are excited to bring Sparx Reader to HWA

- Enhances literacy across the curriculum
- Helps to improve reading outcomes
- Builds confidence answering questions about unseen texts – essential skills at GCSE
- Develops students' comprehension skills
- Currently used as homework for KS3

This term, we launched Sparx Reader with students in Y7-10.

Year 7 and 8 have been set Sparx reader as homework. They are required to read around 45 minutes a week. This is achievable with careful reading. If students read too fast or click random answers they will not get the points they need. They can read for 10 minutes a day or complete the reading in one sitting.

Sparx Reader can be found on their student navigation page next to Sparx Maths. Student's login using the same Microsoft email login as they use for Sparx Maths.

Design Technology



YEAR 10

Ergonomic Pizza cutters made by Year 10 Product Design students. Students were asked to design and develop a pizza cutter that is comfortable and efficient for the user, whilst still remaining aesthetically pleasing and suitable for their chosen client. The 3 products shown were designed and made by Jordan E, Austin W, and Dylan C.











Design Technology



YEAR 9 FLEECE HATS



YEAR 8 TOTE BAGS



YEAR 9 CLOCK PROJECT



Term 3

Physical Education





An outstanding athlete from Hanham Woods Academy is celebrating after winning two medals at the Southwest Indoor Track & Field Athletics Championships held at the National Indoor Athletics Centre, Cardiff.

Year 11 student Kezia Tarzey delivered an incredible performance throughout the day, securing a silver medal in the 60 metres hurdles and a bronze medal in the 60 metres sprint, setting a personal best in the process.

Her dedication, talent, and hard work shone through in every race, making her a standout competitor at the event.

Kezia said: "I am proud of my performance, and I have gained important learning to continue to develop and improve for future success"

Steve O'Callaghan, Principal of Hanham Woods Academy, said: "We are absolutely delighted with Kezia's achievements at the South West Athletics Championships. "Her commitment to training and her drive to succeed are an inspiration to her peers and a credit to our academy."





Hanham Woods Academy is celebrating an incredible achievement after their outstanding athletes dominated the latest round of the South Gloucestershire Sports Hall Athletics competition.

Sports hall ahletics, a dynamic mix of track and field events, features competitions in running, walking, jumping, and throwing. The event, hosted at Hanham Woods Academy, saw fierce competition, but the academy's teams from Years 7 and 8 emerged victorious.

In a stunning clean sweep, all four teams secured their places in the upcoming county finals, showcasing their hard work, skill, and determination throughout the tightly-contested event.





Physical Education





Overall results (Reverse order):

4th = Conham (21pts)

3rd = Hencliff (23pts)

2nd = Bickley (24pts)

3rd = Cleeve (28pts)





Class of 1983 Student Returns





Paul Iles who attended Hanham High between 1978-83 (the second-year group to what was then a brand-new school) had a walk down memory lane with his sister-in-law (Miss Dickson) when he recently visited the school.

"So much has changed, so many new buildings have been added since I attended. I have so many happy memories of my 5 years at the school. It's great to see the school is in good hands and doing so well."

Paul really enjoyed chatting to Mr Evans, who he remembered from his time at Hanham High.

CALLING ALL PARENTS!

We are currently compiling a presentation folder for all of our parents. Inside the folder there will be space to include

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR LOCAL COMPANIES AND BUSINESSES



3,000 FOLDERS WILL BE PRODUCED

and distributed to the parents of all our pupils, teachers and any others who request information about the school. Advertising revenue will generate income to boost school funds.

Please register your interest with FSE on 01933 303520



Chess Club



There Are 13 People That Go To Chess Club And It Is In The Math Block
Some Of Us Often Host Mini Friendly Tournaments And There Are Plenty
Of People At Different Levels and there are people from every year

Chess Club Is On Every Monday From 3:00-4:00pm so come





Chess Club Is A Fun Way To Play
Chess With Lots Of Different
People From Each Year In School
And Anyone Can Come At Any Time
And You Don't Need To Sign Up Just
Come To The Math Block After
School On A Monday

Feeling Competitive Enough Join A Professional Tournament Held Across Many Different Schools (If Your Good Enough You Could Get An Award)

They should join chess club

- Made , presented, and thought of by Ruben F YR8



Wellbeing



Reminder of the 5 ways to wellbeing

Especially in winter it is important for us to take care of our health and wellbeing. This isn't just our physical health but also our mental, emotional and social health too!

The NHS recommend 5 strands that we can focus on to support our wellbeing, take some time to reflect on which ones you do well and where you could give yourself some more self-care.

Take notice – be aware of how you interact, your language and your actions

Learn – not only in school but also for yourself in your own areas of interest

Connect – speak with friends and family, share your day and ask about theirs

Be active – move your body regularly and even better if you can do this outside!



Give – your time, your effort and your attention to the people and things important to you



Safeguarding





Mrs Tushingham Strategic Safeguarding Lead



Miss Dickson Designated Safeguarding Lead

HWA Safeguarding team update: we are pleased to announce that Miss Dickson has been appointed to the role of DSL. Miss Dickson has oversight safeguarding and child protection across the Academy works tirelessly to support vulnerable students and we are hugely fortunate to have her in role. Congratulations Miss Dickson!



Mrs. Tushingham Assistant Principal Strategic Safeguarding Lead Mental Health Lead

Miss. Micky Snook

Attendance Lead

Attendance



Mr. O'Callaghan Principal Online Safety



Miss. Dickson Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss. Helen Barnes Associate Assistant Principal Antibullying Lead



Woods Academy

safeguarding@hwa.clf.uk



Mrs. Nic Hurrell Associate Assistant Principal EDI Lead



Ms. West Academy Councillor







Safeguarding





www.police.uk/streetsafe

For our latest HWA
Safeguarding Newsletter
go to:

https://hanhamwoodsacademy.clf.uk/ key-information/safeguardinginformation-2/



Kooth—Your online mental wellbeing community. Free, safe and anonymous support. https://www.kooth.com



Childline—a free, private and confidential service where you can talk about anything. https://www.childline.org.uk

YOUNGMINDS

fighting for young people's mental health

national charity offers confidential online and telephone information and support for anyone worried about the emotional, behaviour, or mental health of a child/young person up to 25 years of age, including ADHD, Autism and Aspergers.

Parents Helpline:802 5544
Website:.youngminds.org.uk
Young Minds Crisis Messenger
Servicefor free 24/7 support across
the UK of you are experiencing a
mental health crisis.

Text YM to 85258.

shout 85258

here for you 24/7

Shout—Shout 85258 is a free, confidential, anonymous text support service. You can text us from wherever you are in the UK. If you are struggling to cope and need to talk, our trained Shout Volunteers are here for you, day or night.

Text SHOUT to 85258



Off The Record — mental health social movement by and for young people aged 11—25. https://www.otrbristol.org.uk



Mind—If you're struggling to cope, you're not alone. https://www.mind.org.uk/



Place2Be— We provide mental health support in schools through one-to-one and group counselling using tried and tested methods backed by research. In addition, we also offer expert training and professional qualifications. https://www.place2be.org.uk/

Term 3

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Family/Parenting Support



NHS website: Advice for parents on a range of parenting issues, including talking to teenagers, fussy eating and teenage aggression.

Website: www.nhs.uk/family

Parent Buddies is a confidential, universal, one-to-one listening service offering short-term support depending on family need. Volunteers are trained to provide parents/carers with listening, and signposting to specialist services. https://www.parentbuddies.co.uk/

CCP – Caring for Communities and People – Offer outreach support for families at an early help level. Families can self-refer. www.ccp.org.uk

Support for families who have children with additional needs

SEND and You - SAY:

Local SEN and disability information service (SENDIAS) - Information and support around Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, for children, young people and families. (previously Supportive Parents)

Tel: 0117 9897725 Mon-Fri 9.30 - 4.30 (answerphone at other times),

Email:

support@sendandyou.org.uk

Website:

https://www.sendandyou.org.uk

South Glos Parents and Carers:

Information and groups for parents who have children with a disability and/or additional needs. Offers a weekly drop in for parents and carers, support groups, workshops, counselling and events. They also run the Parent Carer forum in South Gloucestershire to collect feedback and views from families with disabled children.

Website: www.sglospc.org.uk Email: team@sglospc.org.uk

JIGSAW Thornbury

Support families who have children who are 0-25 years and have any additional needs or disability. This can be anything from learning needs such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or medical problems. Many children who come have no diagnosis. Weekly support group for parents, carers and children + training courses on a range of topics. Telephone: 01454 416381

Website:

https://www.jigsawthornbury.or

g.uk/

Adult Mental Health

South Gloucestershire Talking Therapies - Vitaminds: Therapeutic interventions including counselling and group courses, in line with people's differing needs, age 16+. Self-referral via the website: https://www.wellaware.org.uk/projects/talking-therapies-south-gloucestershire/

Tel - 0333 200 1893

https://www.vitahealthgroup.co.uk/nhs-services/nhs-mental-health/bristol-north-somerset-south-gloucestershire/

Samaritans: Free, confidential emotional support for those experiencing despair, distress, self-harm or suicidal feelings. Tel: 116 123 (free, from any phone, 24/7).

Website: www.samaritans.org. Email: jo@samaritans.org



General Information



"Please can we ask parents to regularly check that their child's Cafeteria balance is not overdrawn and upload funds via **SCOPAY** as necessary to clear any debt.
Thank you."

Free School Meals

Do you think your child might be eligible for free school meals?

If you wish to apply for free school meals for your child attending Hanham Woods Academy you can apply either online, in writing to South Gloucestershire Council or by phone, **01454 868008**.

Free School Meals Online



Data Protection

Following the UK Data Protection legislation (including UK GDPR), we asked for permission to process and use some personal and sensitive data belonging to students, for example photographs and recordings. This consent can be changed at any point. To change the level of consent given, please email us: Karen.Cooper@clf.uk.

Please note: Student photos in our Newsletters appear in both print and online platforms, including the school website.

Change of Details

Please can you ensure that if you change address, Phone number or email address that you inform the school as soon as possible to ensure that we have the most up to date contact details for you and your child. Please email any changes to reception@hwa.clf.uk

Lost Property

Please ensure that all of your child's school uniform is **clearly labelled** with their name — named items are returned to students as soon as they are handed into the office.

This also includes coats, water bottles and pencil cases.

Students are able to come to the school office during beak time, lunchtime or after school to claim any lost property. Parents are also invited to ring the school office or to come into Reception if their child has lost any items.

At the end of each half term any unclaimed items are sorted and either donated to 'Friends of Hanham Woods' for resale or sent to local charity shops.

Student Absence

Student absence line: 0117 440 8900 (Option 2)

Student absence email:

attendance@hwa.clf.uk
('Absence' in subject line)



Attendance





REPORTING ABSENCES

Contact the Academy before 8:30am on each day of your child's absence with a clear explanation of symptoms or reason.

Failure to do this will result in an absent call or message.



0117 4408900 (option 2) HWAAttendance@clf.uk



Punctuality

All students are expected to arrive at school in good time for the start of the school day <u>before 8:30am</u>.

If a student arrives after 8:30am, they will be marked in the register as late and will be issued with an after-school detention.

Students with multiple late marks will receive a more serious sanction.

Y.

Being **5 minutes** late each day can result in over **3** days of missed school per year.

Bring **15 minutes** late each day can lead to over **10** days of missed school per year.

Bring **30 minutes** late each day can accumulate to over **20 days** of missed school per year.

ATTENDANCE EXPENCTATIONS:

Medical Appointments

We understand that appointments are difficult to arrange but we ask where possible that appointments are made outside of Academy hours. If this is not possible tell the Academy in advance, we may ask to see evidence of medical appointments, if your child's attendance is poor.

Term Time Leave Request

Absent request should be made in 4 weeks in advance, and only if necessary. Any request should be put in writing via the appropriate form. Term Time Leave request can be found on the Academy website or provided from the Academy reception team. Request will be considered by the Principal and Attendance Lead.

Parents and carers are reminded that taking leave during term time without authorisation may result in a penalty notice of £80 per child, per adult. Additionally, repeated or extended absence could result in prosecution.

Home Visits

Home visits help establish and strengthen the relationship between staff, students, and their families, fostering trust and respect, and making students feel more comfortable and supported. By visiting students' homes, staff can gain a better understanding of the child's living conditions and family dynamics, which helps tailor educational approaches to better meet the student's needs. Additionally, home visits can lead to improved behaviour and conduct in school, as students often exhibit better behaviour and a more positive attitude when they know their teachers care enough to visit their homes. These visits also encourage parents to be more involved in their child's education, leading to better communication between parents and staff and ensuring that parents are consistently informed about their child's progress. Finally, staff can discuss any concerns or issues directly with parents in a comfortable and familiar setting, leading to more effective problem-solving and support for the student.



Autism Support





Cygnet
Autism
Support
Courses
for 2025



- √ Free for parents or carers in South Gloucestershire
- √ whose children are aged 5-18
- \checkmark and have a formal autism diagnosis.
- Develop your understanding of autism.
- Look at practical solutions to support your child.
- Meet other parents in a similar position.
- In a supportive atmosphere.
- Visit <u>turtlecyp.co.uk</u> <u>home/cygnet/</u>



Funded by South Gloucestershire Council 7 week courses in person or via Zoom.

- Yate: Fri 10 Jan @10am <u>https://eequ.org/experience/12307</u>
- Thornbury: Tues 29 Apr Jan @ 10 am https://eequ.org/experience/12309

Available to book now on EEQU - see above links.



Changing childhood Changing lives.



Turtle CYP is a registered charity, number 1104549.

Parent Carer Support



Need Some Help **Navigating Parenthood?**

Is your parenting journey different to that of your friends? Maybe your child received an early diagnosis.
Or maybe you are seeing areas where your child is experiencing difficulties, or you are finding their behaviour a challenge to handle. This could be:

In school

With friendships and peers

At home

During or after activities that should be fun

Or all of the above.

Sometimes it comes as a shock to learn that you're providing much more support to your child than your friends need to; and we don't always realise we are Parent Carers to our child, until it's pointed out.

However you found out, we're here to guide you and welcome you into our supportive community.



About Us

Parent Carers

Support Services

Parent Voice

Sometimes a little information and guidance goes a long way!

ur support and services. We welcome the ortunity to support you, and feedback your

About SGPC

SGPC was started in 2009 by two mums who had trouble gaining the support they knew their children deserved and wanted to help make the journey

Our team are Parent Carers themselves. We have felt the overwhelm, frustrations, heartbreak, determination, isolation, exhaustion, and unwavering love that many Parent Carers experience, and turned it into a passion to help make a difference for South Glos children with SEND, and their Parent Carers.

Volunteering Opportunities

We welcome Parent Carer volunteers to join us – you can help in as little as a few hours a month – and we



Join Us **SGPC TEAM**

team@sglospc.org.uk FB: @sgpc.community



Community Interest Company (not for profit) 8364673







www.sgpc.org.uk

WORKING TO SUPPORT ALL PARENT CARERS

NECESSA



We listen to your experiences and gather your views



We work with professionals to shape the services available to your family



We connect you with our community of parent carers and other support

Each Child Is Individual, And So Is Their Journey

Identifying additional needs and disability can occur at any point from pregnancy to secondary school (and beyond!). That's why we offer services that support Parent Carers of children from 0-25.

We work with Parent Carers at all stages and information can be found on our website to guide you through

- Early Years
- School Years
- Preparing for Adulthood

Our support takes many forms to ensure we can reach as many of you as possible.

SGPC Services

- SGPC Community Base
 - Online Support
- Community-based Support
 - Workshops & Information Sessions
 - Parent Voice
 - Little Treasures Stay-and-play group

Together We Can Make A Difference

Hearing about your experiences is crucial for professionals who are working with us to design, shape, and improve local services for our community.
We create lots of opportunities for you to share your stories and views

- Surveys & Focus Groups
- Speaking directly with a member of our team Facebook Community Group posts
- Feedback via our support groups, training, and information sessions

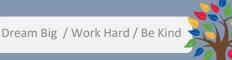
We Help Each Other

As the old saying goes, a problem shared is a problem halved, and sharing your views can also help you to process what you're living through, feel less isolated, and empower you. Sometimes, feeling heard can be beneficial to your overall wellbeing, and we can signpost you to additional sources of support or information we feel may be of benefit to you.









Life Saving



Keynsham Life Saving Club

Welcome to Keynsham Life Saving Club! During our training sessions you'll learn essential first aid and water safety skills, including how to spot hazards and stay safe. We'll teach you how to react if you see someone in difficulty in the water, and how to rescue them safely. You'll get to try lifesaving sample some competition events, learn communication skills, and use specialised rescue equipment such as torpedo buoys and throw-bags. If you think you'd enjoy lifesaving, do please come along for a taster session- we'd love to see you there! Check our Calendar for our next training session.

For full details please visit www.klsc.co.uk







Cabot Learning

Our Trust & Academy operate a zero-tolerance stance regarding sexual harassment

a policy which extends to all forms of bullying, harassment or discrimination in the workplace.

We would like to make all parents and carers aware that a new mandatory duty to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace became effective on the 26 October 2024.

Numerous high-profile cases and campaigns have highlighted the need for enhanced protection against sexual harassment at work – and has now been reformed resulting in a new Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010) Act 2023.



The Trust and our Academy have reflected on this important legislation and are now taking further positive, preventative action in this area to respond. This includes:



Staff training



Staff voice exercises



Reviewing our HR policy & procedures



Reflecting on any learning across the Trust

If we are made aware of any concern, we will always treat these concerns with great importance and act in accordance with our internal procedures. It is our ambition that all of our academies provide a safe, happy and enjoyable space for our colleagues, pupils and visitors.

If you do have a concern of this nature then we have a complaints policy and procedure which you can access via our website.

Free School Meals





Applying for free school meals could save you up to £414 per year, per child.







You may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)



You can check if you are eligible by using our online application form at: www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolmeals
For more information, speak to your child's school.



The quickest way to complete your free school meal application is online.



The Contact Centre is here to help and support those who are unable to access this service or require support in their online application. Contact **01454 868008** for more information.

