# HWA Newsletter





Headteachers comment

Histor

Δrt

**Physical Education** 

DoE

**PSHE** 

Life at HWA

Upcoming

Library

Careers

wellbeing

Safeguarding
Parent carer support

Family support

Attendance

CLF Governance Team

General information

Free school meals

Credits

# GOOD LUCK YEAR 11

for your PPE's





Welcome to the end of Term 1 and thank you for taking the time to explore our first newsletter of the academic year! Our newsletters have gone from strength to strength over the last 18 months and I hope that they provide you with an insight into day-to-day life at the Academy, during each term.

Term 1 has been another great term at the Academy with lots to celebrate! We have had a number of trips out of the academy to help enrich learning and provide further careers advice (particularly to Year 11) as well as several events at the Academy including Steps to Success and the Year 7 exhibition event, 'Me and My World'. I hope you enjoy reading through the newsletter and learning more about some of the incredible work students and staff who have achieved throughout Term1.

Dream BIG // Work Hard // Be Kind

Mr O'Callaghan

Principal

October 2024

# History









**Year 9s** were lucky enough to see items from World War One which links to their topic this term.

They got to try on a 'bobbie hat', see a 'potato masher' grenade, and hold items like a real trench scarf and shell casing. It was a privilege as a class to experience our own museum in the classroom thanks to Charlie!







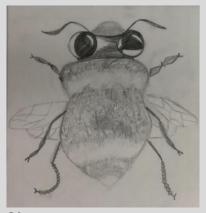
# Art



# Year 7



**Emmeline** 



Sienna

# Year 11



Emelia



Isabella





Antoni



#### Year 7 induction

Year 7 students have made a great start to their time in PE at Hanham Woods Academy. They began the year with an induction block, giving students the opportunity to try out a range of different activities and begin working on some of the key values in PE. This included problem solving, fundamental movement skills and invasion games with a focus on teamwork and communication. It has been great to see students making new friends, try new things and most of all work together to help each other be successful. Well done Year 7, keep up the good work!











#### **Switch Rugby**

This term Switch Rugby are in working with Year 7 girls. They are working with the girls on fun games with a rugby focus to encourage more girls to participate in rugby. It has been great fun. Watch this space for more opportunities.





# **PE Lessons**

In PE we have freedom to discover new sports and activities that students may not have had the opportunity to try before. This term, Mr Cash's Yr10 group have tried HIIT, Pilates, Yoga and Step Aerobics.

We have also been using different equipment in order to help our students develop their skills in new activities. This term year 10 have been using balloons to help them to learn a variety of different badminton shots before transferring these skills into a game.





Term 1









#### **Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs**

Extra-curricular clubs in PE have started well this academic year. Students are enjoying a range of activities including badminton, table tennis, football, netball, rugby and basketball. If you want to come along to try a new activity, have fun with friends or be part of the school teams please come along and give it a try!



Term 1



# **Year 8 Benchball results**

Wednesday & Friday combined results (All tutors 8A-F):

Reverse order:

4<sup>th</sup> place - Hencliff (17pts)

3<sup>rd</sup> place - Cleeve (19pts)

2<sup>nd</sup> place - Bickley (29pts)

1st place - Conham (31pts)

Congratulations
Conham!



# **Year 7 Benchball results**

Thursday P1 & p2combined results (All tutors 8A-F):

#### **Overall results:**

- 1. Cleeve 34pts
- 2.Hencliff 22pts
- 3.Conham & Bickley 20pts







**CLEEVE** 



**CONHAM** 







#### **Sports Council**

Well done to the Sports Council students that helped with our opening evening this term. You were really engaging with both parents and prospective students, made them feel welcome and demonstrated our school values of dream big, work hard and be kind.

An additional well done and thank you to Joel and Dylan for creating this wonderful postcard to send to some Year 5 & 6 students to celebrate their efforts in some of the activities they took part in on the evening.





#### Ski Trip

#### Ski Trip - Attention all Ski Trippers!

In continued preparation for the ski trip, we are looking forward to welcoming all students and parents of those attending the HWA Ski Trip 2025 to a meeting on Thursday 7th November. It is vital that you have completed the information Request Form prior to the evening as we must submit this information to the ski company. A ski hire company will also be joining us and it will be an opportunity to share information and answer any questions about the trip. I look forward to seeing you there.

Mr Swanton







#### **Netball Tour**

We are excited to be running the Netball Tour **PGL** to Liddington next year on the weekend of 25th-27th April 2025. This is for all students in years 7-10 who attend netball club. The weekend includes netball matches on Saturday and Sunday and PGL activities in between tournament games, such a the giant swing, climbing tower and zip wire! We have to pay a deposit to PGL by half term to secure the booking, so if you would like to go, make sure the reply slip and your deposit are paid bv 21st October. Letters are available from the Department or on the school website. Don't miss out!

# Life at HWA



#### **Year 11 Health and Social Care**

We are extremely proud of our Year 11 Health and Social Care students this term. Prior to the process of PPEs they have completed their official controlled assessment, a full day of assessment looking at provision of care to people with a range of health and social care needs. They have spent this term preparing and approached their assessment days with resilience, maturity and a great work ethic. These will be submitted to the exam board next term and students will have 60% of their grade completed heading into the new year. They have made the social science team really proud; they should be proud of themselves and what they have achieved.

#### **Anti-Hate Crime Ambassadors**

At the end of the last academic year, we celebrated the completion of training our first group of student Anti-Hate crime ambassadors. Students are from years 8 -11 and have really hit the ground running in September in these newly appointed roles. As part of their work, they have designed for Black History Month a whole school assembly as well as a wide range of tutor time activities looking at inspirational people who are rewriting the narratives of black history. The student ambassadors led the month with an aim to raise awareness of intersectionality, their sessions were designed through the lense of a protected characteristic (disability, religion, sexuality, gender reassignment). Students will continue to champion these protected characteristics across the year with their next focus being a student survey.

#### Year 7 Meet the tutor evening

In term one we had the pleasure of hosting our Year 7 and their parents for an evening. As part of this event Year 7 students exhibited their PSHE work from term one, the focus was "Me and my world". The project encouraged students through their home learning to explore their local areas, photograph the places that were important to them, speak with people in their communities to understand their stories and reflect on how they belonged to their community. In their lessons they reflected on their personal values, how these values influenced their relationships, what it meant to feel a sense of belonging and how they could develop empathy and respect to ensure others experience belonging. There was a strong focus on celebrating our personal and collective identities, acknowledging the beauty in everyone being different and unique. Students produced beautiful pieces of work that shared stories and experiences through their own eyes and enabled them to showcase what is important to them. It has been a really successful project and enabled an evening of rich conversations between our new Year 7's, their adults and their tutors.

# Geography



On a recent field trip to Lyme Regis, West Dorset, Year 11 geographers from Hanham Woods Academy embarked on an exciting investigation into coastal management and the effects of longshore drift, applying classroom knowledge to real-world environments.

During their exploration of the iconic Jurassic Coast, the students had the unexpected thrill of discovering a large, unusual fossil partially buried in the sand. The find added a thrilling element to the day, sparking curiosity among the young geographers.

After their morning of fieldwork and fossil hunting, the students enjoyed a well-deserved break, where they tucked into a generous portion of chips.

A spokesperson said: "Well done to the Year 11 cohort for their hard work and enthusiasm – it was a fantastic and memorable day for all involved!"





# **Upcoming**







Coming soon....

# **Library**



Hoppy HALLOWEN

I work, the had give make him you and have the make the had been not fraction when his had been and read the make the make

Askle sun setz I see:

3 people walking on the beach

1 sun related on the water 4 secaphs on the sand

1 ice cream

stand s clouble I lay eyes

9 ships ande volicion 2 planes the the National Poetry day happened in the library during lunch where students and staff read either their favourite poems or ones they had written.











# Library





# Library Lesson Poetry

In library lessons year 7 and 8 have been celebrating National poetry day by creating blackout poetry out of old books.















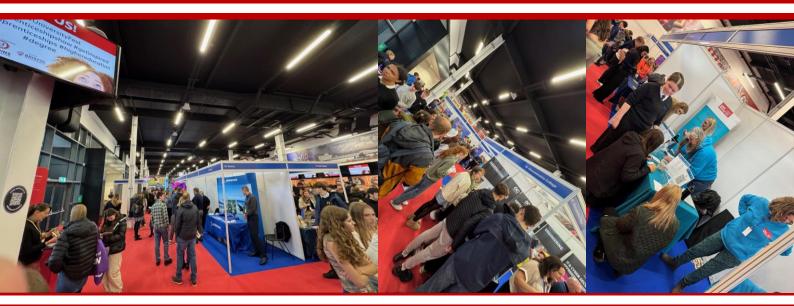


# **Careers**



#### Exploring Opportunities: A Day at the Apprenticeship Show

In a world where education and employment increasingly intersect, events like the Apprenticeship Show have emerged as pivotal platforms for young people seeking to kickstart their careers. We had the privilege of attending the Apprenticeship Show, an event dedicated to showcasing the vast array of apprenticeship opportunities available across various sectors from Level 2 apprenticeships to Degree apprenticeships. From engaging with employers to discovering the diverse pathways available, our experience at the show was both enlightening and inspiring.





# 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





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 1

# Safeguarding





# **CALL FOR TIES**

If you have any school ties you are no longer needing, IA and Pastoral team would grateful for them.



# 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** 

**Parent Voice** 

**Support Services** 

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



# 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



## Attendance





Excellent attendance & good punctuality so Important because it enables your child to achieve their personal best By:

- •Attending tutor time ensures students receive important messages
- •Ensures that your child does not get behind in the class work which ensures their best academic progress.
- •Improved personal performance in coursework and examinations
- Continuity of relationships and friendships.
- •Good references for further education or employment.
- •Good habits are formed for later life.

  Excellent attendance at school will allow your child to have the best possible experience at

child to have the best possible experience at Hanham Woods Academy and to achieve their personal best



#### **Feeling Unwell**

If your child is feeling unwell please encourage them to attend we will call you if they need to come home.

if you feel they are really not well enough to attend the academy please contact the

24 hr Absence Line 0117 4408900/Option 2

Email: attendance@hwa.clf.uk
Every day of your child's absence
Each day of their absence your child's
pastoral leader will make a wellbeing call

# Hanham Woods Academy's target for attendance is 100%.

Attendance procedures are shown below:
Attendance letters and attendance information is sent to parents via letters and school reports
Students with attendance lover than 90%or with several weeks with missed days will be monitored and Academy attendance procedures will begin.

#### Step 1

You will receive a telephone call from your child's Pastoral Leader to discuss your child's attendance.

#### Step 2

You will be asked to attend a School Attendance meeting (SAM) with your child's Pastoral Leader. Where necessary we will also make a referral to our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) and we may make a home visit if required.

- •If there is a significant improvement then this supportive stage will continue for a further review period
- If there is no significant improvement at this stage then it will proceed to legal attendance procedures

#### Step 3

There will be a review period and should your child have unauthorised absences during this time the Pastoral Leader will refer to the EWO and an Attendance Panel meeting or a parental contract meeting will be arranged for you to attend. This is the start of formal legal proceedings

At all times throughout these procedures our aim will be to support your child to improve their attendance at the academy Please let us know if you child is worried about anything in order for us to support them.

#### **Punctuality**

Students are welcomed on site from 8.am.
The canteen is open for breakfast snacks
and drinks from this time..

Academy gates close at 8.30am and any students arriving after this time will be a 30 minute afterschool detention.

If a student is late 10 or more times a penalty notice can be issued to the parents/carers.



# **Attendance**



#### **Following up Absences**

The Academy will always follow up absences with text messages and telephone calls when we have received no reason for a student's absence. If we are unaware of the reasons for any absence it will be noted as unauthorised and will affect your child's attendance figure. If we have concerns about the absence we may also undertake a home visit and gather more evidence about the absence which could lead to school attendance monitoring and ultimately lead to a penalty notice or prosecution for non attendance.

We do this to ensure the best possible chance for your child's success at the academy and as part of our safeguarding process

Please remember that at all times we want to support your child, and if you require any support please contact your pastoral leader or our attendance team.

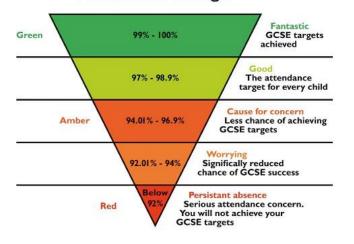


#### **Medical Appointments**

We understand that appointments are difficult to arrange but we ask where possible that appointments are made outside of academy hours. Please provide the Attendance team with a copy of the appointment letter/card and make a signed note in your child's planner if they are having to leave the academy during the school day.



#### **Attendance Triangle**





#### **Term Time Leave of Absence**

The Academy will only authorise leave of absence in exceptional circumstances

Term Time Leave request form can be found on the Academy website or provided from the Academy reception team. Requests will be considered by the Principal & Attendance Lead.

Should a leave request not be authorised but the absence is still taken the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

unauthorised absence may result in a penalty notice of £60 per child per adult. In cases of repeated or extended absence a penalty notice may be issued and a prosecution may be instigated instead.

## CLF Governance Team



#### We currently have two Clerk vacancies

The roles are based in Gloucester and Somerset. The Gloucester role would be covering TA and TBA and if, at some point in the future, any more schools join in that area, there is the possibility the role could grow.

The Somerset role is for CPS, RPS and PPS, and again, the role may grow again at some point in the future.

<u>Clerk to the Academy Council Gloucester</u> Clerk to the Academy Council Somerset

#### Volunteer with the CLF Governance Team

If you have ever considered volunteering within your community, working with and contributing to one of our CLF Academies could be one of the most rewarding things you ever do. If you have the desire to improve children's lives and outcomes, are passionate about the importance of education to change lives for the better then this could be the role for you.

I cherish the role I play in children's education; I live and work within my local community and feel everyone's contributions, no matter how small, can make a real difference to a child's life. As a Councillor I have the opportunity to shape the lives of children and therefore shape the community and society I live within. It is a really rewarding role.

Education is not just about the academic work that children undertake; it is a time when children develop their life skills creating the young adults that join our society; as Councillors we have a chance to help shape their lives and give them opportunities they may otherwise never have.

If you have an enquiring and challenging mind, put it to use and help shape the educational direction of the academy.

As a Councillor, I have had the opportunity to undertake professional roles outside of my own everyday remit and develop a diverse range of skills that are transferable to other areas of my professional life. I would highly recommend a role as an Academy Councillor within the Cabot Learning Federation; the training and opportunities are invaluable, joining really can make a difference.

Why wouldn't you want to?.....

E-mail:

governance@clf.uk



Website:

https://clf.uk/volunteer-with-us/



# **General Information**



# 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)



# 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 <a href="https://www.klsc.co.uk">www.klsc.co.uk</a>





# Free School Meals





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



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



Your child could be entitled to free school meals.

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.

