



July 2026

Issue 33

HENLOW HEART

SUMMER SUNSHINE

What a summer term this has been! As we reach the close of the academic year, it is a perfect time to reflect on the immense growth we have witnessed at Henlow—growth of minds, opportunities, friendships, and wisdom. This success has been echoed in our Achievement Assemblies, Sports Awards, and the Final School Assembly. I hope you have shared in this pride through your own children's experiences at home and their end-of-year reports.

Celebrating Student Success

We are delighted to celebrate the dedication of our students. Congratulations to our Roll of Honour recipients and to all those who earned Termly Subject Awards.

A special mention must go to Sam A in Year 8, this year's winner of the Ray Payne Award. Sam achieved 100% attendance and displayed outstanding engagement across all subjects, making significant academic progress. He is a true role model for our school community. Furthermore, we are incredibly proud of our Year 6 Mepperlow students, whose hard work and dedication throughout their SATs preparation have been thoroughly rewarded.

A Summer of Enrichment

Our summer term has been packed with memorable experiences across every year group:

Year 5: Explored Whipsnade.

Year 6: Enjoyed a range of activities including Grafham Waters, Drayton Manor, Shuttleworth, and bowling, concluding with their valediction.

Year 7: Immersed themselves in an outward-bound programme in Norfolk.

Year 8: Experienced the Newquay residential and visits to Box End.

Year 9: Travelled to Paris for their residential trip.

Year 10: Successfully completed their work experience placements and attended the Post-16 Evening.

Farewell to Year 11

This summer also marked the end of secondary education for our Year 11s. They navigated their exam season with great determination, celebrating their hard work at their Prom. We were proud to come together as a community for their final day, forming a guard of honour to see them off in true Henlow style. It was a moving day, filled with memories and well wishes as our students move on to the next chapter of their education and training.

HONESTY

ENTHUSIASM

NURTURE

LOVE

ORIGINALITY

WISDOM

School Life and Activities

The school has been vibrant with activity this term alongside the exciting curriculum offer:

Sports & Arts: We celebrated outstanding performances at our Sports Day (accompanied by our Business Sale who raised over £100 for Macmillan Cancer Support), the Sports Awards, and the Henlow Gym & Dance Festival.

Activities Week: In-school projects were in full swing, including Dragons Den (English), pen stand creation (DT), fashion branding and mural mapping (Art), careers workshops (Year 10), and crime investigation projects (Science). We also hosted the 'Playground Pull Up' concert, focusing on the dangers of knife crime.

Literacy and Engagement

As we look ahead to the new academic year, our key strategic priorities will be Literacy and Engagement. We believe these are essential for unlocking every student's potential. To support this, we encourage all students to use the summer break as a wonderful opportunity to wind down, recuperate, and immerse themselves in the joy of reading. Mrs. McDermott has curated a dedicated reading list to help inspire your children which you will find in this edition.

Looking Ahead

As we look toward September 2026, we are thrilled to welcome our largest Year 7 cohort to date. With nearly 200 new students joining us, our school continues to grow in size and spirit. This coming year is particularly significant, as we look forward to celebrating our 50th year as a school. Having opened our doors in 1976, we have evolved significantly, transitioning from a middle to a secondary school and expanding our campus with a new block featuring state-of-the-art facilities. Please look out for further information on our celebratory events next year.

Thank you for your continued support this year. We wish you all a wonderful summer break.

Naomi Chalkley
Head of School

Farewells & Welcomes

As our school family evolves, we are delighted to welcome several new members of staff who will be joining us in the new academic year: Mrs. Alden (English), Mr. Butler (DT and PE), Mr. Gillies (PE), Mr. Grant (Physics and Science), and Miss Lowry (Geography). We look forward to the expertise and enthusiasm they will bring to our community.

At the same time, we bid a fond farewell to colleagues moving on to new chapters and the whole school recognised their contributions to Henlow in our assembly this morning. We extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Mrs Montague (English) and Mr Porter (Geography) as they continue their teaching careers in new schools. Mrs Williams has supported many of our young people throughout their educational journey as a Teaching Assistant and she is also continuing her career in another school.

Mr and Mrs Sherman both joined our school five years ago as part of Henlow Academy's move to secondary. We are grateful that their drive and passion for Design and Technology has enabled us to establish a thriving GCSE offer in this subject area. They leave to embark on exciting worldwide travelling adventures and we look forward to hearing all about those!

Wishing you a restful break

Caren Earp
Executive Headteacher

HONESTY

ENTHUSIASM

NURTURE

LOVE

ORIGINALITY

WISDOM

ROLL OF HONOUR

Aeryn R, 7HS

Commended for showing immense reliability and care through their daily commitment to looking after the fish in P2.

Aimee E, 7HS

Commended for showing immense reliability and care through their daily commitment to looking after the fish in P2.

Amarlia B, 5JC

Amarlia delivered a brilliant triple-threat performance—singing, acting, and dancing—in A Midsummer Tigh's Dream at the University of Bedfordshire Theatre. Her outstanding confidence and potential earned her a coveted place with the Keiki Talent Agency as she prepares for her next production. Amarlia also is commended for their active participation, curiosity, and innovative thinking at the Henlow STEM Fair.

Amber D, 6SG

Displayed superb horsemanship and skill at a recent horse riding show, walking away with two first-place finishes.

Amy F, 9CG

Amy is always so polite, consistently striving for her best and going above and beyond in everything she does. Amy also demonstrated exceptional musical artistry by achieving a Merit in Grade 5 Harp and Showcased incredible focus, discipline, and martial arts progression by achieving a brown belt with two white stripes in karate.

Antigone W, 6SG

Tig is a superb librarian and team player who is always willing to help in all areas, showing brilliant organizational skills in managing the student librarian rota.

Aria W, 7KB

Aria demonstrated fantastic entrepreneurial spirit and creativity at the Raynsford Summer Fayre, selling her original artwork and generously donating a portion of her proceeds back to the Henlow Art department.

Bonnie D, 6PN

Earned a coveted spot on the Hertfordshire County Basketball Team, showcasing exceptional dedication and athletic skill.

Brooke T, 6SG

Delivered a captivating dance performance during the Gym and Dance Display.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Charlie S, 5JC

Proved to be a sharpshooter of the highest caliber, winning the Cub District Rifle-Shooting Competition for the second consecutive year.

Ellie C, 5EK

Won a phenomenal place at the All Star World Championship in America in April 2027 for cheerleading with the elite Missiles Team.

Flick K, 6PN

Won a phenomenal place at the All Star World Championship in America in April 2027 for cheerleading with the elite Missiles Team.

George L, 7NK

Consistently recognised by staff and peers for maintaining a helpful, friendly, and positive attitude.

Hayden H, 7NK

Hayden has successfully evolved into the library's Development Officer, utilizing fantastic skills in organizing, fixing, and rearranging library spaces.

Hollie W, 7KW

Hollie is a superb student librarian who works brilliantly within the team, always keen to help and bring fresh ideas to the library.

Iris G, 10JM

Iris is hugely considerate and helpful to others, proving to be a fantastic support to peers both inside and outside her form group.

Isla R, 7KW

Demonstrated outstanding musical dedication by achieving Grade 4 in Piano.

Isla G, 9CG

Consistently recognised by staff and peers for maintaining a helpful, friendly, and positive attitude.

Joshua S, 10 CM

Achieved a prestigious Gold Certificate in the UK Chemistry Olympiad, run by the Royal Society of Chemistry—a testament to exceptional academic excellence and department pride.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Kennedy R, 7NK

Consistently recognised by staff and peers for maintaining a helpful, friendly, and positive attitude. Kennedy is dedicated to the library and always full of creative ideas, recently taking the initiative to organise a new writing and drawing club.

Liam H, 7EK

Always doing extra to help out in DT without being asked, showing fantastic initiative and department pride.

Logan T, 5JC

Performing as a Lost Boy in Peter Pan at the Gordon Craig Theatre, achieving a Merit in LAMDA Grade 2 Acting, and being signed by the Keiki Talent Agency.

Louis H, 6SG

Consistently helpful, friendly, grounded, and mature for their age, setting an excellent example for peers.

Luka P, 6SG

Earned a prestigious spot on a Junior Premier League team, demonstrating elite teamwork and athletic ability.

Luke F, 8RR

Demonstrated outstanding musical dedication by achieving Grade 3 in Euphonium.

Maddox W, 6SG

Celebrated a fantastic promotion up a football division, making an immediate impact by scoring an impressive 5 goals in just 4 matches.

Malachi G, 6SG

Selected for the elite Talent X Elites team, recognizing their high-level athletic skill and potential.

Mya C, 9SP

Mya is an outstanding asset to our Spanish lessons. Extremely polite and hardworking, she completes her work to the highest standard. It is an absolute pleasure to have her in the group, and she should be immensely proud of herself.

Noah A, 7NK

Noah works extremely well in the library, regularly using his own initiative and demonstrating a strong work ethic.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Rita E, 6SG

Showed fantastic stamina and philanthropy by completing a 2K marathon run, raising an incredible £1,000 for the Royal Society for the Blind.

Sophie C, 5JC

Commended for their active participation, curiosity, and innovative thinking at the Henlow STEM Fair.

Tom EK, 7EK

Always doing extra to help out in DT without being asked, showing fantastic initiative and department pride.

Yasir T, 10DW

Demonstrated incredible selflessness by cutting and donating their hair to the Little Princess Trust while raising £350 for the NSPCC.

On Saturday, 4th July, our former English teacher, Emma Williams, was ordained as a priest during a service at St Albans Cathedral. The following day, she celebrated her first Eucharist service at her parish of St John's, Boxmoor. Emma will continue to serve as a curate at St John's for the next two years before being appointed to her own parish in the summer of 2028. We send Emma all our love and prayers as she continues her calling, and we know that the communication skills and wisdom she shared with us as a teacher will guide her every day in her ministry.





THE RAY PAYNE AWARD

We were thrilled to announce our 2026 Ray Payne Award winner is Sam A 8RB. This award is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in one or a number of aspects at Henlow Academy. This could be for academic achievements, dedication to the arts and sport or overcoming a personal difficulty.

Sam has achieved something truly historic this year – he is the only student from Y7-Y11 to have achieved 'Fully Engaged' in learning for every single subject. This exceptional achievement reflects not only his outstanding academic ability but also his exemplary character and dedication.

With perfect 100% attendance throughout the year, Sam has shown up every day ready to learn, putting himself in the best position to succeed. His approach to education has been absolutely outstanding, with his determined mindset and strong focus allowing him to consistently push himself to reach new heights and exceed his goals.

Sam's conscientious and hard-working nature has earned him one of the highest merit totals in Year 8. He is a model student who is acutely aware of his surroundings, always taking the initiative to help staff and peers alike. His manners are always impeccable, and he sets an exceptional standard for those around him.

Beyond the classroom, Sam excels in PE, representing the school in a wide range of sports including Handball, Rugby and Athletics, notably coming third in the indoor athletics competition. He also enjoys coding in Computing.

Sam is a friendly, kind and capable student – a true pleasure to teach and described by Mrs Lewis as an elite member of Year 8. His hard work proves that there are no limits to his potential, and he is thoroughly deserving of The Ray Payne Award.

Congratulations, Sam!



HENLOW TERMLY SUBJECT AWARDS

This week, we've loved bringing our year groups together for our special end-of-term award assemblies. It has been fantastic to look back and celebrate everything our students have achieved this summer. In total, we handed out 250 certificates, vouchers, and prizes! Over the next four pages, you'll find the winners of our termly subject awards, handpicked by each department. A huge well done to every single one of our prize winners—we are incredibly proud of you!

ENGLISH	ATTAINMENT	Emily G 5JC	Zoe S 6PN
	PROGRESS	Ellie C 5EK	Marcel S 6SG
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Hetty A 5JC	Amber D 6SG
MATHS	ATTAINMENT	Henry W 5EK	William D 6PN
	PROGRESS	Brielle D 5EK	Luka P 6SG
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Isaac O 5EK	Ellis G 6SG
SCIENCE	ATTAINMENT	Harper J 5EK	Malachi G 6SG
	PROGRESS	Phoenix C 5JC	Heidi M 6SG
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Sarah S 5EK	Amelia - Jayne L 6PN
HISTORY	ATTAINMENT	Quinn G 5EK	Scarlett W 6PN
	PROGRESS	Madison C 5JC	Aria J 6PN
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Max P 5JC	Jack M 6SG
GEOGRAPHY	ATTAINMENT	Rowan W 5JC	Phoebe J 6SG
	PROGRESS	Teddy M 5EK	Brooke T 6SG
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Leon H 5EK	Elsie H 6PN
MFL	ATTAINMENT	Brielle D 5EK	Laurel R 6PN
	PROGRESS	Amarlia B 5JC	Oscar K 6PN
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Amelie B 5EK	Ellis G 6SG
COMPUTING	ATTAINMENT	Martha C 5EK	Bonnie D 6PN
	PROGRESS	Daniel B 5EK	Maddox W 6SG
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Jenson N 5JC	George T 6PN
DT	ATTAINMENT		Keira A 6SG
	PROGRESS		Jack M 6SG
	HONOURABLE STUDENT		Aria J 6PN
FOOD	ATTAINMENT	Freddie F 5EK	
	PROGRESS	Harry C 5EK	
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Millen D 5JC	
ART	ATTAINMENT	Phoenix C 5JC	Rita E 6SG
	PROGRESS	Evie P 5JC	Antigone W 6SG
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Conrad L 5JC	Malachi G 6SG
MUSIC	ATTAINMENT	Charlie S 5JC	Antigone W 6SG
	PROGRESS	Harper J 5EK	Bonnie D 6PN
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Evie P 5JC	Zephan G 6PN
PE	ATTAINMENT	Isla P 5EK	Penny F 6SG
	PROGRESS	Harry C 5EK	Scarlett-Rose W 6PN
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Conrad L 5JC	Luka P 6SG
RE	ATTAINMENT	Jamie M 5EK	Scarlett-Rose W 6PN
	PROGRESS	Archie T 5EK	William D 6PN
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Freddie F 5EK	Malachi G 6SG

HENLOW TERMLY SUBJECT AWARDS

ENGLISH	ATTAINMENT	Amelie P 7EK	Connor J 8RR
	PROGRESS	Frankie G 7KB	Sienna E 8RR
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Erik T 7HS	Sam A 8RB
MATHS	ATTAINMENT	Kennedy R 7NK	William J 8DC
	PROGRESS	Salina G 7NK	Ezmee T 8SB
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	George L 7NK	Nathan Y 8SB
SCIENCE	ATTAINMENT	John B 7KW	Daria L 8SB
	PROGRESS	Elizabeth P 7KB	Theo M 8SB
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Freddie H 7EK	Harry B 8RR
HISTORY	ATTAINMENT	Sammy J 7KW	Hannah S 8TM
	PROGRESS	Nevaeh B 7EK	Denis B 8TM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Polly D 7KB	Cameron K 8RB
GEOGRAPHY	ATTAINMENT	Seth H 7KB	Lucas L 8RR
	PROGRESS	Jake S 7KB	Arabella M 8TM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Jenifer H 7HS	Ethan M 8DC
MFL	ATTAINMENT	Bethany C 7KB	Lillia-Jayne W 8TM
	PROGRESS	Isla A 7EK	Bethany W 8SB
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Kennedy R 7NK	Blake B 8TM
COMPUTING	ATTAINMENT	Elizabeth P 7KB	Isobel G 8RR
	PROGRESS	Alek D 7EK	Lara M 8RR
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Chloe P 7KW	Mia J 8DC
DT	ATTAINMENT	Seth H 7KB	Beau B 8DC
	PROGRESS	Libby L 7HS	Bailey B 8TM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Aeryn R 7HS	Noah R 8DC
FOOD	ATTAINMENT	Aimee E 7HS	Lily J 8RR
	PROGRESS	Mya C 7KW	Molly J 8RR
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Jake S 7KB	Lillia-Jayne W 8TM
ART	ATTAINMENT	Mae A 7HS	Harriet B 8SB
	PROGRESS	Jack C 7NK	Joe R 8RB
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Kennedy R 7NK	Izzy W 8DC
MUSIC	ATTAINMENT	Lucas S 7NK	Hannah S 8TM
	PROGRESS	Ffion B 7HS	Arisha C 8SB
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Jacob M 7EK	Connor J 8RR
PE	ATTAINMENT	Flo N 7KW	Sam A 8RB
	PROGRESS	Remi G 7KB	Hollie W 8RR
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Sammy J 7KW	Phoebe W 8DC
RE	ATTAINMENT	Reuben R 7HS	Phoebe W 8DC
	PROGRESS	Summer K 7EK	Amber J 8RR
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	George L 7NK	Sam A 8RB
DRAMA	ATTAINMENT	Amelie P 7EK	Sam A 8RB
	PROGRESS	Jake S 7KB	Lillia- Jayne W 8TM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Sammy J 7KW	Riley A 8RB

HENLOW TERMLY SUBJECT AWARDS

ENGLISH	ATTAINMENT	Amy F 9CG	Toby L 10MW
	PROGRESS	Blake C 9RL	Hayden S 10DW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Chloe B 9CG	Max H 10MW
MATHS	ATTAINMENT	Lewis H 9CG	Melody G 10CM
	PROGRESS	Lewis N 9SP	Evie B 10DW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Alexandra S 9SP	Max D 10CM
SCIENCE	ATTAINMENT	Robynne R 9CG	Beth M 10DW
	PROGRESS	Isobel M 9CG	Rye-Lee R 10JM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Oscar F 9SP	Grace R 10CM
HISTORY	ATTAINMENT	Lewis N 9SP	Lily D 10MW
	PROGRESS	George B 9BW	Kaden M 10CM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Heather R 9BW	Freya H 10DW
GEOGRAPHY	ATTAINMENT	Amy F 9CG	Ruby B 10CM
	PROGRESS	William B 9CG	Iris G 10JM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Isla G 9CG	Max H 10MW
MFL	ATTAINMENT	Alex M 9RL	Eliza B 10JM
	PROGRESS	Amy F 9CG	Isobel M 10MW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Chloe B 9CG	Lily D 10MW
COMPUTING	ATTAINMENT	Stanley M 9RL	Joshua S 10CM
	PROGRESS	Robynne R 9CG	Blake F 10DW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Mata P 9CG	Alexander H 10DW
DT	ATTAINMENT	Mya C 9SP	Eliza B 10JM
	PROGRESS	Alice T 9SP	Thomas R 10CM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Summer M 9SP	Melody G 10CM
FOOD	ATTAINMENT	Isla G 9CG	Tobias S 10JM
	PROGRESS	Amelia G 9SP	Thomas R 10CM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Alice T 9SP	Emily S 10CM
ART	ATTAINMENT	Lani C 9SP	Astrid W 10MW
	PROGRESS	Noah H 9CG	Ryley G 10MW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Emily S 9SP	Alfie F 10MW
MUSIC	ATTAINMENT	Amy F 9CG	Owen M 10CM
	PROGRESS	Matas P 9CG	Harrison B 10MW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Ruth M 9CG	Alexander H 10DW
PE	ATTAINMENT	Oliver M 9CG	Iris G 10JM
	PROGRESS	Harvey Y 9RL	Jessica T 10DW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Dawid F 9BW	Ava A 10CM
RE	ATTAINMENT	Amy F 9CG	Lily D 10MW
	PROGRESS	Oscar F 9SP	Jack D 10CM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Rory M 9SP	Rhia V 10MW
DRAMA	ATTAINMENT	Chloe B 9CG	Seren W 10CM
	PROGRESS	Kyren F 9RL	Rosie G 10MW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Amy F 9CG	Freya H 10DW

HENLOW TERMLY SUBJECT AWARDS

BUSINESS	ATTAINMENT	Melody G 10CM
	PROGRESS	Maiya W 10MW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Rye-Lee R 10JM
PSYCHOLOGY	ATTAINMENT	Freya H 10DW
	PROGRESS	Ava A 10JM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Ayla C 10CM
SOCIOLOGY	ATTAINMENT	Lily D 10MW
	PROGRESS	Cece W 10JM
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Lucy F 10MW
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	ATTAINMENT	Ruby B 10CM
	PROGRESS	Evie B 10DW
	HONOURABLE STUDENT	Ava W 10DW

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: GOLD SUCCESS IN THE NATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

We are absolutely delighted to share the fantastic achievement of one of our students, Joshua S, who has been awarded a Gold Certificate in the 58th annual UK Chemistry Olympiad.

Organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry, the UK Chemistry Olympiad is a highly prestigious national competition designed to challenge and inspire the most able chemistry students across the country. This isn't your average science test—the paper goes well beyond the GCSE curriculum, requiring students to apply their knowledge to unfamiliar contexts, think critically, and demonstrate exceptional problem-solving skills under pressure.

A Remarkable Accomplishment

To put this achievement into perspective, receiving a Gold award places a student among the very top performers in the UK. This success is a testament to more than just academic ability; it reflects Joshua's:

- Deep Understanding: Mastering concepts that bridge the gap between school and university-level chemistry.
- Resilience: Tackling complex, multi-stage problems that require persistence.
- Passion: A genuine enthusiasm for the subject that extends far beyond the standard syllabus.

Inspiring the Next Generation

We are incredibly proud of Joshua for representing our school so brilliantly on the national stage. Achievements like this serve as a powerful reminder of what can be accomplished with dedication and curiosity.

We hope this success inspires other students to step outside their comfort zones, challenge themselves, and explore their own interests in science—and beyond—outside the traditional classroom setting.

SPORTS AWARDS

Jaggard Athletics Trophy

Chloe W

Girls Sports Personality of the Year

Chloe W

Boys Sports Personality of the Year

Thomas B

Team of the Year

U16 Netball Team

Girls Unsung Hero Award

Erin SS

Boys Unsung Hero Award

Parum S

Sports Leadership Award

Ellie A

KS2 Girls Rising Star Award

Penny F

KS 2 Boys Rising Star Award

Maddox W

KS3 Girls Contribution to PE Award

Arabella M

KS3 Boys Contribution to PE Award

Charlie W

KS3 Girls Girls Rising Star Award

Isla G

KS3 Boys Girls Rising Star Award

Oliver M

Top CAPS

Girls

Key Stage 2 - Brooke T

Year 7 - Freya D

Year 8 - Arabella M

Year 9 - Isla G

Year 10 - Iris G

Year 11 - Chloe W & Paige W

Boys

Key Stage 2 - Harry C

Year 7 - Arthur G

Year 8 - Owen R

Year 9 - Charlie W

Year 10 - Alfie A

Year 11 - Thomas B



YEAR 11 LEAVERS

As this term draws to a close, we bid a fond farewell to our third-ever cohort of Year 11 students. For many of these students, their journey with us began all the way back in Year 5. Over the years, they have defined themselves through remarkable resilience and an inspiring eagerness to embrace every opportunity. As they step into their futures, we are excited to watch them grow, confident that they will continue to excel and make positive contributions to the world around them. Over the next few pages, we're thrilled to offer you a glimpse into the memorable moments of their leavers' journey – from the heartwarming last day shirt signing and a delightful visit from the ice cream man, to their poignant leavers' assembly and church service, all culminating in their spectacular prom!





PROM





YEAR 7 NORFOLK

Our Year 7 students headed off to Norfolk for our first-ever Year 7 residential trip. It was an absolute whirlwind of adventure, with students making unforgettable memories both on and off the water. From the thrills of sailing, raft building, and giant paddleboarding to the challenges of fencing, climbing, and conquering the high ropes, our students threw themselves into every activity with incredible energy. We even wrapped up our action-packed days by gathering around the campfire to toast marshmallows. Thank you to everyone who made this milestone trip such a massive success!





What a fantastic way to cap off the academic year and celebrate moving up to Year 9! Our Year 8 students had an absolute blast at Box End, diving headfirst into an action-packed day of adventure. From tackling the giant inflatable obstacle course out on the lake to mastering collaborative team-building activities back on land, our students showed incredible energy and spirit. It was a brilliant, memorable day out - and the perfect reward for a fantastic year of hard work. Bring on Year 9!



YEAR 8 BOX END



Our Year 8 students recently returned from an unforgettable week in Newquay, and it's safe to say they made memories to last a lifetime. Blessed with absolutely perfect weather, the days were packed with high-energy coastal adventures. Students threw themselves into learning to surf, catching waves like pros, and challenged themselves with some thrilling coasteering along the rugged coastline. The fun didn't stop when the sun started to set. Evenings were spent playing games on the beach and enjoying the ultimate seaside party: a spectacular silent disco where students and staff alike danced the night away. A huge thank you to all the staff and students who made the trip such a fantastic success.

YEAR 8 NEWQUAY

YEAR 9 PARIS

Last week, a group of excited Year 9 students and staff crossed the Channel for an action-packed, five day Parisian adventure. The itinerary was a perfect blend of rich culture, deep history, and pure fun. Our travelers soaked in the sights during a serene Seine river cruise, took in breathtaking panoramic views from the top of the Montparnasse Tower and explored the historic, awe-inspiring halls of Notre-Dame. Of course, no trip to Paris is complete without a bit of magic - the undisputed highlight of the week was a thrill-filled, unforgettable day at Disneyland Paris! It was a truly memorable experience for students and staff alike, leaving everyone with stories to tell for years to come.





During this year's Activities Week, our Henlow-based students jumped into an incredible variety of hands-on experiences. Creativity and critical thinking were on full display as students pitched brilliant ideas in our very own Dragons' Den, designed stylish retail concepts in fashion merchandising, and crafted custom wooden pencil stands. Meanwhile, amateur detectives were spotted uncovering clues during a thrilling crime scene investigation across the grounds. To top it all off, we wrapped up the fantastic week basking in the sunshine with a spectacular concert on the field!

IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES WEEK



THE HENLOW GYM & DANCE FESTIVAL

After a brief postponement due to the summer heat, the annual Henlow Gym & Dance Festival finally took the stage - and it was absolutely worth the wait! It was a spectacular night filled with breathtaking talent from our gymnasts, trampolinists, and dancers. Their phenomenal skill was on full display, and we couldn't be prouder of the dedication and creativity they poured into choreographing so many amazing routines. Congratulations to all of our incredible performers for making it a night to remember!

SPORTS DAY

This year's annual Sports Day was an absolute triumph! Held over two cooler mornings, the event was a brilliant showcase of energy, enthusiasm, and community spirit. Decked out in their team colours, students from all year groups gave it their all, racking up house points and cheering each other on with inspiring camaraderie. A massive thank you goes to our PE department for organizing such a seamless event, and congratulations to every single participant. Whether you won a medal or simply shared a great morning with friends, you made us incredibly proud!



MEPPERLOW

Year 5 wrapped up the term in the best way possible with a brilliant trip to Whipsnade Zoo! The children spent a fantastic day exploring the grounds and getting up close with all the incredible animals. Beyond learning about wildlife, the highlight of the day was definitely appeared to be posing for photos, with everyone showing off their best, most hilarious animal impressions. It was a wonderful, fun-filled adventure and the perfect way to celebrate a fantastic term!



The Road to Year 7



The past two weeks have been an absolute whirlwind of celebration for our Year 6 students as they mark the end of their journey at Meppershall. From thrilling theme park rides and bowling to testing their limits on the high ropes, climbing wall, and canoeing, they have thrown themselves into every single challenge with trademark enthusiasm. Combined with a fun-filled Valediction party, it has been the perfect send-off for a fantastic group of pupils. We want to wish Year 6 the absolute best of luck. We are incredibly proud of you all, and we are already looking forward to seeing you back with us this September as part of our brand-new Year 7 Henlow cohort!





HENLOW HUB

With temperatures extremely hot this summer, the library has been a sanctuary for those wishing to keep cool! (the library is fortunate to have air conditioning)

Throughout the last few months, we have held a variety of activities in the library to tie in with National Year of reading.

- Book scavenger hunts
- 'Book tasting' /reading café
- 'guess the book in the jar'
- Card and bookmark making

Book club and a writing and drawing club were also held in in the library at lunchtimes.

Fun activities continued in the library w/c 6th July when many of our students were out on trips. More book hunts, fun quizzes and chrome books were also available for games or even catching up with the World Cup!

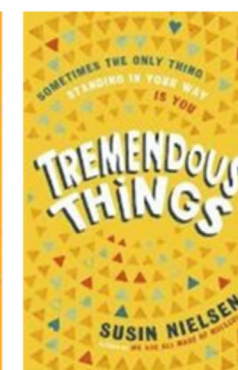
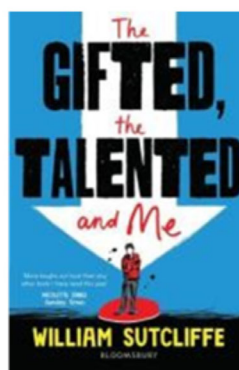
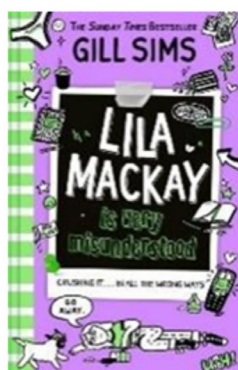
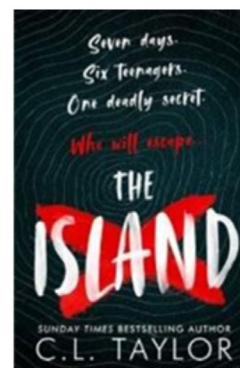
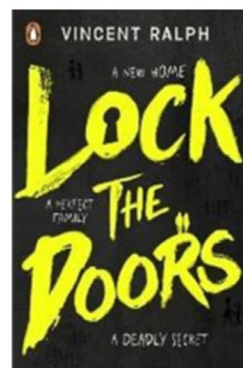
We would like to encourage our students to carry on reading over the holidays and for children aged 4 – 11, there is a free holiday activity 'Read to the beat'. Please see link below for more details.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>



Our Recommended Reads This Summer!

Great Reads for Year 9+



Challenge yourself to read 4 books this summer

HONESTY

ENTHUSIASM

NURTURE

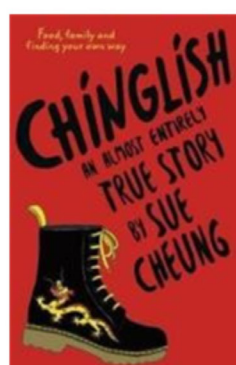
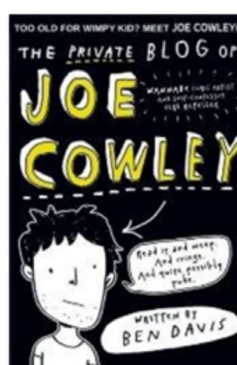
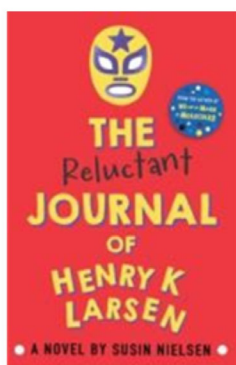
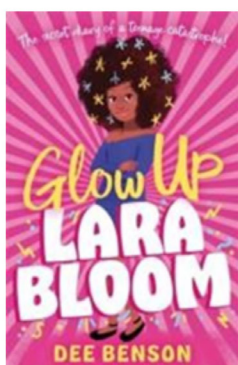
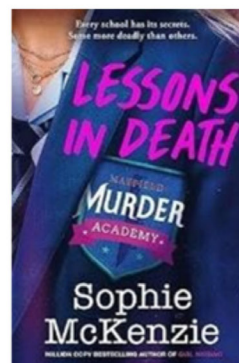
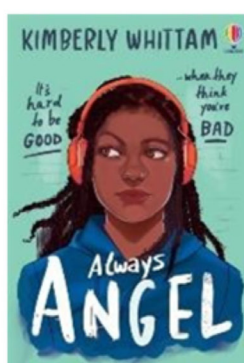
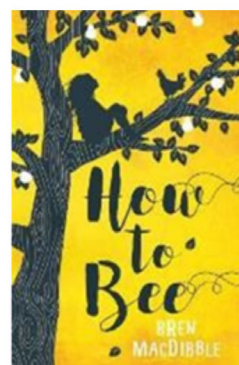
LOVE

ORIGINALITY

WISDOM

Our Recommended Reads This Summer!

Fab Reads for Year 7+



Challenge yourself to read 3 books this summer

HONESTY

ENTHUSIASM

NURTURE

LOVE

ORIGINALITY

WISDOM

Our Recommended Reads This Summer!

Great Books for Year 5+



Challenge yourself to read 2 books this summer

HONESTY

ENTHUSIASM

NURTURE

LOVE

ORIGINALITY

WISDOM

Home Grown @ Henlow

News and
Updates from
the Beds!

GROW YOUR OWN

News from the Garden

It's been a very hot start to the summer and with it has come extra challenges in trying to keep the vegetable and flower gardens going. Unfortunately the salad bed didn't take too well in the heat, but we've learnt lessons and that's all part of it. The good news is that else where in the beds things are going well. We harvested the onions and garlic at the beginning of summer, and now we are bringing in strawberries, raspberries, courgettes and peas. Later in the season we should start seeing our aubergines bear fruit, and come autumn our squashes should start to ripen, they are already fruiting and looking amazing. Our autumn veg is now planted, cauliflower, broccoli and cabbage for later in the season. The beds are filling up fast and the last of the seeds are going in this week. Its been an amazing time working on the gardens at Henlow this last academic year and we wish you a wonderfully productive summer holiday. We will still be here keeping the gardens going until your return in September.



Let's Talk Creatures!

One of the things I love to see while I'm gardening is the variety of creatures that live alongside us. Henlow garden has a whole host from the naughty crows all the way down to the tiniest ants. I'll be honest, there have been a few times that something has moved suddenly and made me jump and run, especially the large spiders that love to live in the corners of the raised beds, yikkeeeessss.

So far, we've been blessed with a lack of slugs so our leafy vegetables are being spared and an abundance of ladybirds fixed our aphid issue on the buddleia which is now flowering beautifully and attracting a whole host of pollinators including butterflies, hoverflies and of course the Henlow bees.

In the herb beds I've discovered a few new visitors including some very inquisitive grasshoppers. All of these creatures make up the diverse ecosystem

that we are working in, some helping to pollinate our food, some helping to eat it. Next time you're walking along the paths, have a look and see what creatures you can spot.



July Jobs



Harvesting Crops and
Sowing vegetables in
our outdoor beds.



Feeding plants
Weeding our beds

If you would like to know more, have a question or a suggestion please feel free to contact Mrs. Evans who will pass your messages on.
Thank you. - Mrs Swindle

PUPIL PREMIUM

Are you eligible for Free School Meals?

If you think you are eligible please contact Central Bedfordshire on the number below. As well as receiving the option to have Free School Meals you may also be entitled to a variety of initiatives at school. These may include free access to Breakfast Club, support with the cost of Food Tech, help towards uniform, subsidised music lessons, help towards the cost of school trips as well as other initiatives throughout the year.

The qualifying benefits to receive free school meals for children in Year 3 and over are:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income does not exceed £16,190 as assessed by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (during the initial roll-out of this benefit)

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8306. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- dates of birth for your children
- if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number

The school will then be informed and you will receive further information. If you would like to find out more about how the school uses the funding to support pupils in the school, you can find more information on the school's Pupil Premium Strategy on the school's website https://www.henlowacademy.co.uk/web/pupil_premium/643783 or contact Mrs Gregory (jgregory@henlowacademy.org.uk)

For more information on how to apply for Free School Meals, please contact Central Bedfordshire Council directly on 0300 300 8306.

STUDENT EQUIPMENT LIST

Please can you ensure that your child(ren) have a fully stocked pencil case when they return to school in September. All students must come equipped to all lessons with a fully stocked pencil case, as required by the Henlow Academy Home School Agreement. Regular equipment checks will be taking place from September. Students require the following stationery:



2 Black Pens
(cartridge, biro, Frixion or handwriting)



30cm Ruler



2 HB Pencils



Green Pen
(biro or Frixion)



2 Dry Wipe Markers



Rubber



Pencil Sharpener
(which collects the shavings)



Glue Stick



3 Highlighters
(different colours)



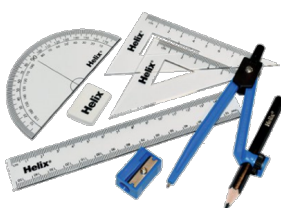
Colour Pencils



Scissors



Scientific Calculator



Geometry Set



Pencil Case
(a clear pencil case is needed when sitting exams)



Headphones
(suitable to be plugged into any tablet/keyboard)

REMINDERS



All students need a NAMED water bottle with them everyday



Please make sure all uniform and PE kit is clearly named and the name hasn't worn off



Please make sure your child has money on their ParentMail account if they have school dinners or snack



Students are not permitted to carry medication on them. Please complete a medication form and hand to the front office



Students must not be on school site before 8:30am unless they are in breakfast club



Homework Club is available to all students from 3:45pm -5:00pm daily



The front office is not able to call home if your child forgets something. Please make sure your child comes to school with everything they need for the day



Breakfast Club is available daily from 8:00am to 8:30am. The cost is £2.50 per day. Please email jmarshall@henlowacademy.org.uk to book a place



We are a nut free school due to some of our students having severe allergies. Please make sure snacks and packed lunches contain no nuts or nut products.



WISHING YOU ALL A
FANTASTIC SUMMER
BREAK!

WE ARE LOOKING
FORWARD TO SEEING
YOU ON MONDAY 7TH
SEPTEMBER



HONESTY

ENTHUSIASM

NURTURE

LOVE

ORIGINALITY

WISDOM