

Dear Parents and Carers

Throughout the first half of this Summer term we have continued to ensure that the safety of all is paramount in everything we do. We have found creative ways of ensuring the learning opportunities are engaging, even though some of our activities have to be adjusted in light of Covid restrictions.

The photographs within this edition reflect the academic endeavours across a wide range of in English and Music addition subjects -Science, Art, History, to an extra curricular focus. The photography competition reflects the way in which we have all appreciated our local environment a little more during this time of restrictions. The quality of the photographs made this a very difficult competition to judge. Congratulations go to Mia R, Holly W and Alexandra R but also to all who invested time in this photographic challenge.

Photographs of the way in which our building programme is progressing are also impressive! We are looking forward to the day when you can all join us in seeing the fantastic new facilities we are beginning to appreciate. Year 8 ambassadors had first sight of the new theatre today and first steps onto the new MUGA.

We have also been busy appointing new staff to join us in September and I'm pleased to announce Heads of History, PE, English, DT and computing in addition to teachers of English and Art.

I am very proud of the way our young people have coped with the challenges we have all recently faced. I hope you are able to have an enjoyable half term with some sunshine.

Yours sincerely

Care Earp

Face coverings should be worn by Year 7 and Year 8 at all times when inside the school building and on school transport.

Please continue to use the lateral flow tests twice a week. We recommend testing Sunday and Wednesday evenings. <u>Click here</u> for information on how to get lateral flow tests for the rest of your family.

Please be aware that the younger population are displaying additional symptoms which include:

- An upset stomach
- . A headache
- . A sore throat
- . Unusual fatigue

Do not send your child to school if they are displaying these symptoms. Book a PCR test if symptoms of Covid appear.

School Action Group

School Action Group have been busy this half term despite the current restrictions. Pupils continue to log on every Tuesday after school to get involved in all aspects of school life.

It's been a busy half term for School Action Group with interviewing candidates for our new Head of Department vacancies. School Action Group interviewers have training on what makes a good interviewer as well as writing the questions that they want to ask. The candidates have been saying how their favourite part of the recruitment process has been their interview with School Action Group. As always we are incredibly proud of School Action Group and how well they represent our school during these interviews.



School Action Group are going to be promoting being Sepsis Savvy as part of a nationwide campaign to increase peoples knowledge of the signs of Sepsis and the importance of acting fast when someone is displaying symptoms. We recommend everyone watch this video to make sure they are Sepsis Savvy too! <u>Sepsis Savvy Video</u> Oscar H started the challenge of sleeping in his den for 100 nights on the 2nd February following the news of the passing of Captain Sir Tom. Despite being woken at dawn by the pigeons roosting in the chimney everyday, Oscar has completed his challenge! Well done Oscar!



Over the Easter holidays for Autism Awareness collectively we travelled 1700 miles, over 230 separate distances logged!

Music @ Henlow

This half term the music department has been very busy. We have been really lucky for some Year 8 pupils to take part in a brand new project run by Future DJ's. These sessions have taken place over a live YouTube stream and they have learnt all about DJing, creating dance music and music industry careers. This was provided by Inspiring Music, the Central Bedfordshire Music Hub.

In lessons Year 5 have been learning to play the Glockenspiels and are playing simple chords along to songs like Hound Dog by Elvis.





Year 7 We have been In looking at the music of the Rio Carnival and playing the Samba drums. Samba uses syncopated rhythms and they are very hard to stand still to. This picture was taken during the few days when face coverings were not compulsory.



Year 6 have been playing Diembe Drums. It has caused much hilarity as we have been using shower caps to cover the drums to keep them Covid safe!!





Year 8 have been working on their keyboard skills playing a simple 12 bar Blues chord pattern and improvising over the top.



Finally in Year 7&8 Options the Band Practice option are starting to break into small bands and work on piece of their choosing.



Build Update

We have seen some really exciting developments during the last half term as work progresses with our build. As you can see our MUGA is now complete and we are very eagerly awaiting the official handover so that the pupils can start using it. We are creating a path running from the back of the field to the playground. This will meant pupils will be able to access the school via Coach Road later in the year. Finally, the roof of our new building is now complete and work is now progressing on the inside at great pace.







Photography Competition



1st place: **Mia R** - What could be a more wonderful image of spring than a lamb? The photographer has so cleverly captured the playful nature of lambs by the jaunty angle of the head and the way it is playing with the bucket. The photo is very sharp, but the background is blurred to set it off so well.



We have been so lucky to receive more beautiful photos for our photography competition this half term. This issue Mrs Goward who is a keen photographer kindly agreed to be the judge.



2nd place: **Holly W** - The composition of this photo is excellent. The tree frames the image very well, the horizon is well placed and the light around the clouds is wonderful. The main subject of the ewe and lambs is clearly enchanting and very spring like. The overall balance of colour and light in this photograph is superb.

3rd place: **Alexandra R** - The goldfinch nest is so very hard to photograph and this person has done a great job, getting as close as they dared.

Photography Competition

Staff competition



1st place: Mrs Cooper - The light in this is beautiful and I the love way the photographer has shown the petals in the foreground in crystal clear focus, whilst the background is blurred. The photographer has obviously got right down on the ground to take this, enabling each flower to be shown at its best. Bluebells and that vivid green background are the



Mrs Fordham



Arabella H, Year 7



A huge well done to all who entered! My family and I really enjoyed looking at all the images and making a final decision was by no means easy! Mrs Goward



Iris G, Year 5



Eloise H, Year 5



Sam B, Year 7

Year 5 Work





Congratulations to Year 5 who have been working on their Scientific measuring skills this half term. Here are the winning leaflets produced by students in 5NS designed to help Year 4 students learn about measuring.



GOOD JOB



Year 7 Art







S SWELL D





7SG have been studying shading in art. They have produced some amazing pieces of work which Mrs Upstone and Mrs Henshall are very proud of.



Year 7 3D Sculptures







WELL

In art 7SP have been making 3D word sculptures. We had to choose about 8 letters that spell your name or something significant to you. Then on paper we used different type faces to plan out our sculpture. Once that was finished and coloured in we copied on to card, either making exact replicas or changing the plan design of it to personalise it better. We used glue, paper tabs or sellotape to glue the card letters onto a card base in any way or style we wanted to, to create the finished sculpture. By Olivia P







Year 7 History

Year 7 have created their own Magna Carta's as a set of rules for their parents/carers/siblings/school! We have loved reading the rules they believe they and parents/carers need to live by. Our favourites include:

'Rooms will stay how the person who the room belongs to wants it to stay' and 'Do not eat MY food'!

Praecepta Scholae (Rules for school)

1. We should be allowed to wear what we would like as long as it is appropriate. This is because some people feel they can concentrate better in their own clothes.

2. We should be allowed to wear our hair in any style, whether it be up, down or in a bun.

or in a bun. 3. We should be allowed to have our chromebooks, phones and fidget tons on the playground at break or lunch as it is our time away from lessons.

4. We should be allowed to have 20 minutes after receiving our lunch to eat it, as when our school dinners come, we have 5 minutes to eat our lunchadding on to this, the dinner ladies should understand that not many people can eat a full school dinner in 5 minutes.

5. We should have official trading tables, where we can trade our tons, collectors cards etc. etc.

6.Break time should last half an hour- even if this means having a shorter lesson.

7 We should be able to swallow our school vegetables, without cb fing and/or breating our teeth.

MY MAGNA CARTA

On this 23rd Day of April 2021, I Ava hereby agree that i have to live according to Queen Mums Laws. I agree to Put my things way Take turns to wash up Hover upstairs and downstairs once a week Don't shout at my brother Walk the dog whilst mums at work Be nice to each other Put my shoes away Help make the dinner The consequences if these rules are not obeyed are getting my phone taken off of me.

Signed by Ava

A Magna Carta for miss A.White

1. A weefly tax of £15 shall be given to the eldest sibling .

2. Rooms will stay how the person who the room belongs to wants it to stay.

3. PlayStation plus should be provided to your children, to increase their happiness.

4. Ashley Morris (Auntie Ashley) will only come to this house every 4 weeks, rather than every week.

- 5. Your eldest child's room is off limits for there younger siblings and any all visitors.
- 6. Do not touch/move around my stuff with out permission.

7. Everyone gets at least 2 hours and 30 minutes of free time a day.

8. No shouting, nagging, complaining etc.

9. Follow all these rules to create a happier family/ household.

5

Magna carta

From me to my parents: When I say I know when i'm going to wake up....I know when im going to wake up you don't need to wake me up. Let me speak as loud as I want when i'm on my games. know when I'm going to come down to eat dinner so when you say 'it's ready' I will come down at some point. When i go somewhere i don't need a time to come back I will go back when they will. If my friends have something I should be allowed it. I am mainly older than all my friends so I should be allowed it. When I bring food upstairs I will bring the bowl/rubbish downstairs OK Bedtime so you can watch tv-10:00 actually sleep 11:00-12:00 Magana Carter: Ruby St leger To my brother max, when signing this you <u>MUST</u> follow and agree to the upcoming rules: Shut the door when I ask you to. (I DO ITFOR YOU!) When you want to borrow my things ask me, instead of stealing them! Dont tell me off when it wasn't my fault and you know it. Dont get me to do the dishes when its your job. Do not eat <u>MY</u> food. Actually help when I need you help with something. When its our movie night dont come up with such rubbish movies!(I mean rubbish!) Make sure to clean your mess up. Brothers signature here:

Year 7 English



In English, Year 7 have been writing letters to Lady Macbeth from Macbeth. They have been learning how to write in italic and making their papers look old.



Year 7 have also been producing their own versions of Macbeth's soliloquy about whether to kill the king.

They have even used Scratch to make a Macbeth game!



Year 8 English





S SWELL DI



Year 8 have been reading Holes and have been doing a variety of work including essays, new book covers, Madam Zeroni stories and advertising new inventions.



Year 7 Extra Curricular Activities

Miss Church has gifted a table to the Year 7 area for Year 7 pupils to have a break out space for specific lesson support. Year 7 pupils have been busy decorating it to make it truly theirs!





Pupils in 7BW have been creating rock people and a rock palace during their breaks and lunches. The rock palace even includes furniture and accessories!

Seaspiracy Review

SWELL D

Recently, I watched a documentary called Seaspiracy on Netflix. It is devastating to watch and tells secrets on the damage that is happening in our oceans mainly caused by overfishing.

It is also full of some cool facts, that are also shocking at the same time. Such as sharks kill on average 10 people per year, however humans kill up to 30,000 sharks PER HOUR. You may think that we don't want sharks in our oceans, however the documentary explains how we really need them. The tuna we all buy has a 'dolphin friendly' label, however it's not dolphin friendly at all as no one can monitor it, in reality there is more by catch caught up in nets than actual tuna.

I would really like to encourage you all to take the time to watch this documentary, as we can all make a difference however it is a little bit gruesome in parts and touches on subjects such as slavery and the death of animals.

It has really inspired me to change my diet and I will never eat fish again, and I even wrote to Boris Johnson and the Queen to express my thoughts on the situation. If we don't change our habits soon we will lose our oceans in a few decades - we will just be left with a swamp. We have to all act and do something soon, I would love to hear from others who have watched the documentary or have ideas to help. By Ella P

This Half Term @ Henlow



On Friday 30th April we had a non school uniform day to raise money, as part of the Sustrans Big Pedal and to introduce transport ambassadors in school to promote safe, environmentally friendly travel for pupils. We also raised money for Shefford Saints who had recently lost their equipment due to a fire at the club. We raised £543! Thank you to everyone who donated to the event.

Holly W and Amelia B from 6SM recently achieved the highest Brownie award before moving up to Guides. There are several parts to the award including creating something special for their Brownie unit. For this part the girls worked together brilliantly to produce a stop motion movie demonstration of a craft activity for their fellow Brownies. Fantastic work - we are very proud of you.





This Half Term @ Henlow



On Thursday 29th April we said farewell to Mrs Yarwo od who has retired from her role as Crossing Patrol Person on Henlow High Street. Mrs Yarwood has be assisting pupils to cross the road for the last 6 years and we are very grateful for her service.



Alison Allen has served on our Governing Body as a Parent Governor before becoming Founding Member in 2012 when Henlow became an academy. With the formation of Hill Poppy Multi Academy Trust, Alison is now leaving the Local Governing Body to be a Founding Member of the trust. Oscar H presented Alison with a bouquet of flowers as a thank for her YOU service to Henlow Academy.

Library News

We are delighted that this term, all pupils have been able to visit the library.

Classes are timetabled to have a fortnightly English lesson where they have the opportunity to borrow and return resources in addition to quiet reading times. KS3 pupils are also following a reading scheme and are working towards gaining certificates and house points!







The library has to remain closed during break and lunchtimes until further notice.

We still offer a click and deliver service to our school community. Resources can be reserved online and delivered to pupils.

The link to our Reading Cloud is

https://u015083.microlibrarian.net

READING LISTS

We are currently developing 'suggested' reading lists for all our year groups and these will be shared as soon as they become available. In the meantime, you may find these websites helpful for your children:

https://www.booktrust.org.uk/ https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/ http://virtual-library.culturalservices.net/cgi-bin/ vlib.sh https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/







If you need any assistance please email Mrs White cwhite@henlowacademy.org.uk

Library News

NEW BOOKS

New resources from the Schools library service will be delivered in the coming weeks which will include new titles, teen and YA books. We are always grateful for good quality children's books. We are happy to take in books suitable for ages 4 to 16. Primary school books will be passed onto Meppershall school. Books can be left in our reception area.

Thank you to all parents/carers who have already donated books.

OVERDUE BOOKS

Overdue reminders have recently been sent out but unfortunately we still have many resources missing. We would be very grateful if all pupils can have a good look at home for school library books and return them as soon as possible. (We do not charge fines). All school books have Henlow Academy stamped inside.

COMPETITION

Here are some current UK competitions that your children may wish to have a go at!

(please note that some may be commercial)

Writing Competition

Book Trust Competition

Love Reading Book Competition

National Geographic Kids Competition

Art Competition

TEEN & YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

We have a good selection of Teen reads in our library which are aimed at years 12+. In addition, we do have a small collection of *YA (Young adults) titles aimed at 13+. * (This will gradually be developed in the Autumn Term to offer a wider selection as we move towards becoming a secondary school)

Pupils in KS2 can borrow from this section with parents/carers consent. If you are happy for your child to borrow **any** title from the collection, please email: <u>cwhite@henlowacademy.org.uk</u>

Alternatively, pupils in KS2 can be given a letter to take home each time a 'teenage book' is asked to be borrowed. Details of book title and author are given so that parents/carers can decide if they would like their child to borrow that particular resource.









FREE FAMILY SEND HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

A RANGE OF FREE ACTIVITIES FOR HALF TERM ARE ON OFFER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SEND AND THEIR FAMILIES. TO LOOK AT ALL THE SEND EVENTS <u>CLICK HERE</u>.

BUG HUNTING IN FLITWICK WOOD

1ST JUNE 2021 FROM 2.00 PM TO 3.30 PM PROVIDED BY THE GREENSAND TRUST CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK

CURTAIN CALL DANCE AND ACTING WORKSHOP

3RD JUNE 2021 FROM 1.30 PM TO 4.30 PM AT THE WEATHERLEY CENTRE, BIGGLESWADE PROVIDED BY IMAGINATION DANCE EMAIL INFO.IMAGINATIONARTS®YAHOO.COM OR CALL 07394 934911 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK

CIRCUS FUN AND STORYTELLING ADVENTURES

4TH JUNE 2021 - VARIOUS WORKSHOP TIMES AT HOUGHTON HALL PARK PROVIDED BY FULL HOUSE ARTS <u>CLICK HERE</u> FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK

We look forward to welcoming pupils back on Monday 7th June!

If a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19 over the Easter holidays, please email the Covid team on <u>covid@henlowacademy.org.uk</u> with the details. We will then be able to take any and all necessary actions. Similarly, if your child tests positive term and is required to self isolate after Easter, please email the Covid team.