



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this newsletter finds you well.

First and foremost, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the students for their continuous dedication and wonderful behaviour. Your omnipresent support and encouragement make our school community vibrant and thriving.

We want to congratulate all the students who recently participated in assessments, especially our remarkable Year 10 students who showcased exceptional behaviour and performance during the first week of their 2 week exam period. Additionally, the culinary talents displayed by students in their GCSE food assessments have been truly incredible!

This week marks the celebration of the annual British Science Week, with this year's theme revolving around the concept of 'time'. We are thrilled to announce a national poster competition open to students in Years 7, 8, and 9. Science staff will assess all entries, and five winners will be selected to receive prizes. These winning entries will then represent our school in the national competition. Poster submissions are due by Wednesday, March 20th. Wishing all participants the best of luck!

A special thanks to Lauren Gregory for her inspiring talk to our students as part of our Aspire programme. Lauren, an ultra-marathon runner, shared her experiences, including conquering the gruelling Marathon des Sables. Her talk left a lasting impact on our students, showcasing the power of perseverance and determination.

We also want to express our appreciation for the enthusiastic participation in Red Nose Day activities, held on March 13th in the Sixth Form Centre. Your generosity in raising funds for those less fortunate is truly commendable.

Our "Treat Trolley" continues to recognise and reward hardworking students across the school. It's heart-warming to see our students' dedication being acknowledged and celebrated.

A gentle reminder regarding parking: please drive and park considerately on the school premises and nearby roads, adhering to the highway code guidelines.

We work very closely with Warwickshire police and they have alerted all school to the concerning trend of students bringing vapes and nicotine pouches (snus) onto school premises in school across the UK. These items not only pose health risks but may also contain illegal substances. We urge you to have open discussions with your children and thoroughly check their belongings if you suspect any involvement with such items. We must be clear that if a student is believed to be in possession of a prohibited item, then school will search the student. Please note that schools can search with or without consent for prohibited items and if the school was to find a student in possession of a prohibited item, then a very severe sanction would be issued and their school place could be in jeopardy. We thank you for your support in this matter and it is crucial that home and school work together to ensure that students are not bringing such items onto our school site.

Next Monday, March 18th, marks the exciting Mini Marathon over Ambleside—a fantastic event that promises memorable experiences for all participants.

As we approach the Easter holidays, we want to remind you that Monday, April 8th, 2024, is a training day, and students will not be required to attend school. Looking ahead to the summer term, we will be introducing a new praise and behaviour policy. We will keep you informed of all updates and changes to ensure a smooth transition.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in making our school community a nurturing and thriving environment for all students.

Best wishes



Michael Gannon
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Thursday 21st March - Year 11 Student Progress Evening 2 - online

Monday 25th March - EASTER HOLIDAY BEGINS

Friday 5th April - EASTER HOLIDAY ENDS

Click for Term Dates



40,520



41,838



39,805

Able & Ambitious

All Years:

- **Aspire Talk:** Lauren Gregory, an ultra-marathon runner, came in and gave a fantastic Aspire Talk on Thursday. Lauren has ran over 100 ultra-marathons, including the notorious Marathon des Sables – over 150 miles over 7 days in the Sahara Desert with average temperatures of 40 degrees. Students were blown away by her achievements and clearly inspired by her resilience, determination and toughness.
- **HLS Mini Marathon 2.0:** once again, we are raising money for the incredible charity Young Lives v Cancer. Students are being sponsored to run between 1 and 5 miles at Ambleside on Monday 18th March after school from 4–5pm. There will also be lots of brilliant stalls to participate in and boost donations. Any students wishing to run should get changed after school (Y7& 8 in the Gym; everyone else in the Sports Hall) then make their way to Ambleside. All stall holders should go to the Gym at the start of period 5 to get set up.
- **Biggest Ever Girls' Football Session:** last Friday (March 8th), 30 HLS girls took part in a fun football session as part of the #letgirlsplay campaign, aimed at increasing female participation in football. The girls had a lot of fun, despite the horrible conditions!
- **World Book Day Competition:** there is a competition being run for students to design a new book token for World Book Day. Cash prizes for the individual and school can be won. Closing date is 22nd March.

Years 7&8:

- **Easter Sports Camp:** lots of sports for kids to do over Easter, all run by fully qualified coaches.
- **Free Bikeability Course:** these courses are being run to teach young people how to ride their bikes safely on the roads.

Years 7, 8 & 9:

- **British Science Week Poster Competition:** the theme is 'time' and the 5 best entries will win a prize and be put forward to the national competition.
- **Small World Photography Competition:** students have been set the challenge of taking some humorous photos using small toys and objects to create amusing scenes. Closing date is Friday 12th April.

Year 11:

- **Aspiring Rugby & Netball Players:** any student who is serious about wanting to play either netball or rugby professionally can find out more information during an information evening on Tuesday March 19th at either Coventry Butts Park Arena (rugby) or Barr's Hill School (netball). This includes details of how students can continue their education whilst simultaneously training for their chosen sport.