



Newsletter

March 2023 - Issue 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic end to the Spring Term at the High School Leckhampton! It was great to welcome so many parents, family and friends of the school to enjoy our production of Disney's High School Musical on stage. It was a truly joyous occasion, enjoyed by everyone involved. There are some lovely photos in this newsletter, and we will be sharing more after the Easter break. Thanks to the collective efforts of our whole community and led by two fantastic teachers - Mr Bunting and Mrs Vaughan, we were able to give our pupils a wonderful opportunity and those of you who watched the show will know how superbly they rose to the challenge. These events really aren't possible without the support of the parental body, who have offered help in so many different ways, and we are very grateful! We hope occasions like this give our pupils new skills and lasting fond memories of their time in school, and it was wonderful to arrive at school each morning this week to receive so many kind emails from parents, saying how much the children had enjoyed the experience. Thank you.

Please enjoy the newsletter, we have tried to capture a few highlights of all the other activities that have been happening in school over the last few weeks, including our STEM week.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely Easter Break!

With warm wishes,

Helen Wood
Headteacher

Prorsum Semper



Key Dates

30th March	End of term for pupils
31st March	Inset Day (school closed for pupils)
17th April	Summer Term Starts
19th April	PTFA Meeting 7pm
20th April	Year 7 and Year 8 Science Trip
21st April	RRSA Steering Group (lunchtime)



Pursum Sempit



World Book Day

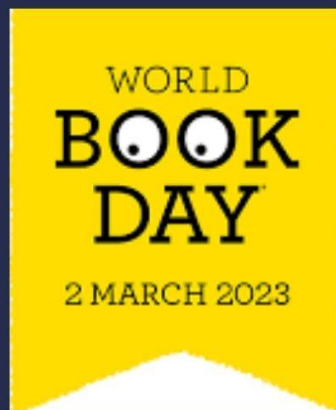
This year HSL celebrated World Book Day in a number of ways.

In the morning during tutor time, pupils had interesting and thoughtful discussions about why they enjoy reading, where they like to read and their favourite books. They also got to hear from authors and celebrities talking about their own favourite books and why they found them so inspiring.

At the beginning of every lesson, pupils heard a different story from 'A River of Stories' an anthology made up of stories and poems from across the Commonwealth all with the same theme running throughout – water. These stories and poems were insightful, thoughtful and at times humorous and the pupils loved hearing tales from Fiji, Malta and beyond!

At breaktime in the LRC, pupils were put through their paces with a range of book quizzes and games and at lunchtime it was the 'HSL Big Book Swap' whereby pupils swapped books and shared their favourites with their peers. The staff even partook in their own 'HSL Big Book Swap' and everyone was very excited to come and choose a new book to read over this term.

All the pupils received a book token to redeem in a local bookshop, I hope your child has used their token and chosen a new book.





Science Week

From 13th - 17th March, HSL celebrated British Science Week 2023. A massive thank you to all those named below who gave up their time to run a session for our students.

On Monday, Nick Harman from rappor took students through the process of designing and building the HSL site, including the alternative building shapes that were suggested, steps taken to protect the surrounding wildlife, and sustainable draining systems that work to prevent flooding.

On Tuesday, HSL's own Mr Chiu, Miss Hancock and Miss Kennedy carried out some intriguing and entertaining science demonstrations.

On Wednesday, Chris Leese from TG Escapes talked about designing biophilic buildings, and revealed the winners of the TG Escapes Design Competition that ran earlier this academic year. Congratulations to Tom Carron and Eric Shannon who won first prize, Josh Grice as runner up, and Jessica Sperring for most environmental design.

On Thursday, Dr Stephen Pates from the University of Cambridge explained, using fossils, how what we know about what used to live on Earth millions of years ago can help us care for our planet today.

On Friday, Edward Smith from Wall's Ice Cream fascinated students with the process of making ice cream and his interesting career as a Formula 1 mechanic.

In total, there were 128 attendees across the five lunchtime events, with six Year 8 students attending every single one!

Thank you to Archie Allen, Elijah Callaghan, Justin Collier, Ollie Freebury, Logan McMahon and Henry Taylor for supporting all five events.

British Science Week 2023
10-19 March

British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. This year's theme - connections

Monday 13th March - 1:30 pm in GW6
Nick Harman
Nick is Associate Director for rappor, a company of infrastructure and environmental consultants that worked on The High School Leckhampton project. Come along to find out more about how the area around our school was designed and constructed.

Tuesday 14th March - 1:30 pm in GW6
Miss Hancock and Miss Kennedy
Miss Hancock and Miss Kennedy both have Science degrees from university and teach Science at The High School Leckhampton. They are going to be doing some exciting demonstrations involving fire, colour, and a screaming jelly baby!

Wednesday 15th March - 1:30 pm in GW6
Chris Leese
Chris is a Design Manager and Structural Engineer for TG escapes and ran a STEM Workshop at HSL last term. He will be talking about his career and then revealing the winner and prize for the TG escapes Design Competition!

Thursday 16th March - 1:30 pm in the Hall
Dr Stephen Pates
Steve is a palaeobiologist working at the Zoology Museum in Cambridge. He will talk about getting into palaeo, how the origin of animals 500 million years ago is important for understanding the future impacts of climate change, and bring some fossils to puzzle over.

Friday 17th March - 1:30 pm in the Hall
Edward Smith
Ed is the Engineering Maintenance Manager at the Wall's Ice Cream Factory in Gloucester. Come and hear about his career, including his previous job as Chief Mechanic at Formula 1 Williams!

Attend every event this British Science Week to earn 5 ePraise points and a limited edition STEM sticker!



Science Week Photos





Beyond COP21 Symposium Eco Trip

On 3rd March, 10 members of the Eco-Committee from HSL and Balcarras Eco Club went to the 30th Beyond COP21 Symposium hosted at Rendcomb College. We learnt a range of things including the impact of whales and dolphins on the ecosystem, how hydrogen trains can change the world, and how lots of small companies and charities around Gloucestershire are doing their bit for the environment.

First of all, we listened to an inspiration talk from Peter Milne and he showed us a thought-provoking and powerful video about the impact of climate change on people and animals all over the world. Then, after a quick mind mapping activity about how to be more sustainable at school, we pledged actions we would take as individuals.

We then designed what we wanted our eco-friendly future world to look like. We cut out magazine clippings, wrote ideas, and added our own drawings onto an eco-friendly paper tablecloth.

After a quick break for lunch, we moved into the barn, where we built our own ecosystems and habitats for underwater ocean life. We learnt that there is a balance under the sea, and all of the animals need each other to live.

This was followed by Chris Butler-Stroud, the CEO of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation. Chris showed us images of dolphins, whales and how climate change is affecting them and all other creatures (including ourselves).

We then went to an exhibition where The High School Leckhampton's Eco-Committee talked to lots of eco-friendly businesses and charities. This included Food Loose, the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and many others.

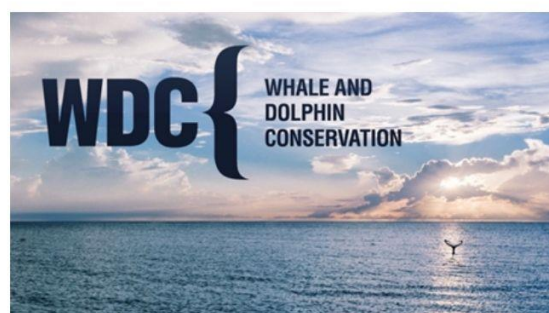
After this, we listened to Jeff, who was from Jeff Vehicles. He told us how they refurbished an old train that was going to be thrown away and turned it into the UK's first ever hydrogen powered train!

What did this event inspire us to do?

This event really inspired the Eco-Committee to take even more action on climate change. The talks made us feel emotional seeing the impact humans have had and the terrible things happening to the environment.

This made us want to take action, and we hope that after you have read this, you will take action too!

By Delphine Jones, Lauren Dege and Beatrice Barber in 7CH.



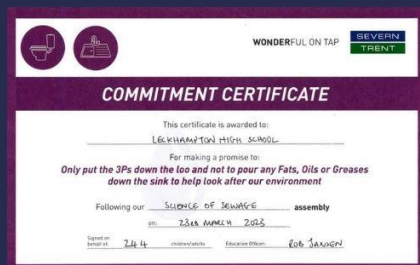


Photos from Beyond COP21 Symposium Eco Trip





Severn Trent Science of Sewage session



On Thursday 23rd March, Rob Jansen from Severn Trent Water visited The High School Leckhampton to deliver an informative and interactive session on the Science of Sewage to our students.

The session covered how the company treat the water coming out of our taps so that it is safe to drink, and how they treat the sewage they receive so the water is safe to go back into our rivers. Students learned about what should and shouldn't go in our sewers and the impact this can have on households, water treatment costs, and the environment.

Towards the end of the session, our students pledged to look after their environment by following the guidance given to protect our sewers and we have received a commitment certificate in recognition of this. Students now have a better appreciation of the time and effort that goes into providing us with clean water to drink and the link between this session, the work our Eco-Committee do, and our school's UNCRC Article of the Month: Health, Water, Food and Environment.

Thank you for Rob for running this session for our students. He has asked if parents could complete a very quick survey which is linked [here](#).



Prorsum Semper



Year 7 Science Exam

The Year 7 Science Exam will take place during lessons on Thursday 4th May and Friday 5th May 2023.

Students will need a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and calculator for this assessment. The exam will contain questions on every topic that the students have studied in Science in Year 7.

Please see the VLE task called SCIENCE ASSESSMENT: Year 7 Science Exam for more information on when the exam will take place, which topics will be assessed, and how the students can revise for it. If you have any questions, please let us know.





Science 3D Cell and Earth Models

Students at The High School Leckhampton have been getting creative in Science this term. Year 7 have been learning about plant and animal cells in Biology lessons and have created 3D models of different specialised cells using recycled materials.



Year 8 have been learning about the Earth in Chemistry lessons and have created some 3D models to show its structure.

Thank you to all students (and parents!) for their efforts in making these fantastic models. Miss Kennedy and Miss Hancock are displaying them proudly in their Science classrooms for all to see!





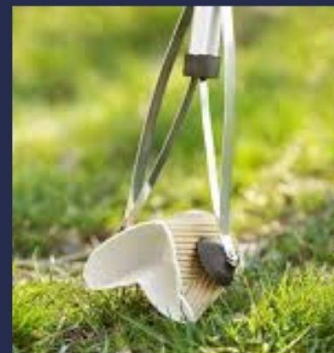
Great British Spring Clean



Back for its eighth year, the Great British Spring Clean is the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. As a school we have pledged to pick up 150 bags of litter in our local community between 17th March and 16th April.

To help us achieve this goal, all students have been set a task on the VLE encouraging them to take part and Mrs Wood and Miss Kennedy have been running lunchtime litter picks twice a week.

If you want to take action to protect the environment this spring and show more pride in where you live, join the Great British Spring Clean today. For more information please see the VLE Task called Pick up litter for The Great British Spring Clean 2023! or <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/>.





TerraCycle Recycling Programmes

As part of the Eco-Committee's Action Plan for our Eco-Schools Green Flag application, we have been looking at how to recycle hard-to-recycle items. Recently HSL has signed up to be a public drop-off point for two of TerraCycle's Recycling Programmes - Air, Home and Laundry Care products and Cheese Packaging. Please see the attached posters for what we are collecting. If you would like to drop off any empty products or packaging, please do so at Reception between 08:00 and 16:00 from Monday to Friday during term time.



The Cheese Packaging Recycling Programme





yes	no
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Any brand of flexible plastic cheese packaging, nets and pouches ✓ Any brand of sliced cheese protective plastic film ✓ Any brand of individual plastic cheese wrappers ✓ Labels from Cathedral City Mini packs of 6 ✓ Any brand of plastic nets for mini cheeses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Plastic cheese tubs and trays ✗ Non-flexible plastic cheese packaging (Eg. cardboard, aluminium or paper packaging) ✗ Cheese slice dividers ✗ Squeazy cheese tubes ✗ Labels from other Cathedral City nets products or from other brands of mini cheeses

When in doubt, leave it out.



Learn more at terraCycle.com/cheesepackaging-uk or scan QR code

WE ARE RECYCLING THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF AIR, HOME AND LAUNDRY CARE PRODUCTS

- ✓ Flexible wipe packaging (used for home cleaning products)
- ✓ Tinted fabric conditioner bottles and caps
- ✓ Flexible washing capsules and pods packaging
- ✓ Flexible dishwasher tablets packaging
- ✓ Plastic air freshener packaging (please remove any cardboard and recycle these with your household collections)
- ✓ Plastic air fresheners and air freshener cartridges
- ✓ Tinted rigid plastic tubs used for home cleaning















Sports update

At the recent District Netball Tournament our Year 7 team came 5th out of 12 schools. This is a great achievement, especially as they only lost one match! The girls played well as a team and worked hard during the tournament to achieve such a fantastic result.





Disney's High School Musical On Stage

After a wonderful week of shows, we thought you might enjoy seeing a few behind the scenes photographs of the school production! We are immensely proud of all the pupils, who have done a fabulous job over the last few weeks.





High School Musical





High School Musical



Prorsum Semper



High School Musical



Prorsum Semper