



Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't quite believe that this is the penultimate newsletter of our very first year. I am sure that HSL has its own unique tempo – time seems to hurtle past at an alarming rate and there are never enough hours in the day! This is especially true for Mrs Nottingham, our Operations Manager, who is currently putting the final pieces in place, so that we can relocate the school safely over the summer holidays to Farm Lane. Whilst all the staff at HSL are very busy preparing for next year, we continue to make sure your children are enjoying plenty of opportunities at school each week. Since my last newsletter in May our pupils have, once again, thrown themselves into a wide variety of activities and, as usual, we have lots of information, news, and success stories to share with you.

One of the highlights was our Sports Day afternoon, involving many of our children in track events. There are some lovely photos in the newsletter, the sun even managed to come out! The children were fabulous, putting in so much effort and cheering on their peers. Thank you to all the parents who managed to attend, we were delighted to see so many of you. I suspect we need to introduce a parents race next year!

I hope you enjoyed reading your child's end of year report. I was incredibly impressed by the number of positive comments made by the pupils' teachers and was struck by how much my colleagues enjoy teaching them. As we approach the end of term, Balcarras colleagues are seeking me out daily to say how much they will miss our HSL pupils.

Please make a note of our information talk for Year 7 parents on **Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** in Balcarras School Hall. On the evening I will be joined by Miss O'Riordan and Mr Newman, both of whom will be Assistant Headteachers at HSL from September. We are looking forward to celebrating the school's achievements and sharing our plans for 2022-3 with you. The PTFA are organising a social event after the talk, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Please look at our key dates below and continue to check our website for all the latest news at HSL. As we near the end of term there will be lots of information going out. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen Wood'.

Headteacher



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Key Dates 2022	
01.07.2022	INSET Day – pupils not in school
04.07.2022 – 08.07.2022	Lost Property Collection Week
04.07.2022	Year 7 Maths Test - Calculator
06.07.2022	Year 6 Taster Day
08.07.2022	<b>Parent Information Evening &amp; PTFA social event 6:30 pm</b>
11.07.2022 – 12.07.2022	Curriculum Days
13.07.2022 – 15.07.2022	Extra-Curricular Activities
21.07.2022	Last day of summer term (school closes at 12.30pm)

### Reporting Absence

If your child is ill or unable to attend school please can you call or email the school by **8.30am each day of their absence**. This is important so we can keep pupils safe and monitor attendance. If it is before 8am, you can leave a message on the answerphone and these will be picked up. Any pupil arriving at school late, must come to Reception to sign in stating why they are late.

Email: [thsl@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:thsl@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk)

Phone: 01242 545136

### Wellbeing Hub

As we have recently communicated, as a parent of The High School Leckhampton, you are entitled to free access to the Well-being hub. We highly recommend you take the opportunity to register and start using these resources with your child. We want to support students to gain tools to manage their own mental health and wellbeing. There is a wealth of resources from experts in their field and superb webinars for parents / carers.

In the next month there is a webinar: Young People, Sex & Relationships with Amy Forbes-Robertson, Wednesday 6th July 6:30pm. We've invited Amy Forbes-Robertson, an experienced speaker on sex and relationships, and the director of It Happens Education, an organisation joining the dots between school, home, and young people, to talk about positive and protective RSHE at home, and the challenges of living in a digital world, specifically explicit online content, and image sharing.

Additional new content that has been added to the Well-being Hub includes:

A Podcast: Knife Crime & County Lines with Louise Court and Eloise Owen from The Metropolitan Police  
A Webinar Recording: Young People, Drugs and Decisions: What Every Parent Needs To Know with Fiona Spargo-Mabbs. A recording of this will be available until Thursday 30th June.

Please do [register](#) and take full advantage of this free resource that is available to you and your child



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## Star badge rewards

Some children have been given a star badge for their exceptional effort this academic year. Those who have achieved this have shown a sustained effort across the curriculum since starting in September.

Below are some photos of Windrush and LilleyBrook showing how proud they are to wear these badges. These were presented to each child during our Rewards Assembly, well done everyone!





## Eco-Committee

The HSL Eco-Committee have been busy! Before the half term break, some members of the committee were interviewed as part of a research project looking at leadership responses to Climate Change Education in secondary schools. A researcher from the University of Bristol, asked the students what was happening as HSL in relation to climate change education, and what they would like to see happen at HSL in the future. A follow-up interview will take place a year from now to ask what the committee have achieved after a year in our brand-new school building.



Along with nearly 1500 other schools, The High School Leckhampton have now joined the Let's Go Zero campaign (<https://letsgozero.org>) and pledged to become zero carbon by 2030. This will be a huge challenge for the HSL community; however, it presents a great opportunity for the school to play its part in the fight against climate change. As well as planning to deliver an assembly to the rest of the year group next month, the HSL Eco-Committee have also produced a leaf display of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals which can now be found on the Eco Noticeboard (a picture of this is below).

More recently, some committee members attended the Balcarras Green Group Meeting with Mr Pearce and Miss Kennedy afterschool on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June. Amelie H, Katie W, Henry T and his dad discussed ideas and actions that could be taken next academic year to reduce waste and single-use plastics, recycle a greater variety of items, encourage our community to make more eco-friendly lifestyle choices, and maintain the link between the HSL Eco-Committee and the Balcarras Eco Club. The first Green Group Meeting in our new building will take place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022 and is open to the staff, students, and parents of HSL. If you have any suggestions for the HSL Eco-Committee, please email [thsl@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:thsl@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk).



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Also assisting with protecting the environment is Daisy from 7CH. Daisy has been helping the local neighbourhood keep clean by spending some of her day litter picking. Daisy had already spent lots of time revising for her Maths exam but wanted to finish the day with some fresh air whilst collecting up rubbish.

Well done, Daisy!





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## Maths Challenge

On the 27<sup>th</sup> April, 30 students took part in the UK Maths Challenge. It was an opportunity for students to participate in a national competition against other year 7 and 8 students. The children have now received their certificates and we are very proud of them.





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## PHSE Lessons

On 21<sup>st</sup> June, HSL teamed up with Balcarras in their PSHE lessons to raise as much money as possible for the charity 'Winston's Wish'. All children took part in a sponsored skip and each tutor group hosted three stalls where from HSL could spend 20p and complete the challenge. Games included:

- Play Your Cards Right
- Mini Golf
- Football Penalty Shoot Out
- Basket Ball Shoot Out
- Skittles Games
- Guess the name of the teddy
- How many sweets in the jar?
- Giant Jenga,
- Treasure Map
- A lolly lucky dip!
- Ice Lollies, Squash and cake was sold to quench thirst and keep the children filled up during 2 hours and 20 minutes worth of activities.

All in all - an excellent way of raising money for a fantastic charity. Well done HSL!

Please have a look at all the wonderful photos below.





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## Sports Day 2022

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June, HSL pupils took part in the third of three opportunities to compete to win the inaugural Sports Day trophy!

What a fantastic afternoon it was! Pupils participated in 100m, 200m, 300m, 800m and the 4x100m relay. The events were hotly contested and the pupils support of each other really was to be commended. We are really proud of them all. Miss Jones, our resident score keeper, combined the scores from the field events with the track events and the results were as follows:

In joint 3<sup>rd</sup> place were Lilley Brook and Chelt with a respectable 204 points.

In 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Isbourne with 210 points.

Leaving Windrush to be the clear winners on with 246 points!

A huge congratulations to them! Please see below a selection of pictures from the day.





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## Crystal Maze Challenge

HSL teachers organised a surprise 'House Crystal Maze Challenge' in early June. It was a brilliant event where the Houses competed against one another in 8 themed activities: physical, skill, mental and mystery. It was hotly contested (and rather warm in the sports hall) but the eventual winners of the challenge were Lilley Brook! A huge well done to them! We'd particularly like to thank Mrs Cox for organising such a fun event for the pupils to participate in.





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### District Swimming results

A selection of our Year 7 children competed in the Cheltenham District Swimming competition, the girls came 4<sup>th</sup> overall out of 8 teams which is a fantastic result. Below are the pupils who participated in the event, well done to each of them for getting involved.

Pupil	Swim
Sebastian M	50m Backstroke
Tillie Mei R	50m Breaststroke
Erin L	50m Breaststroke
Tilly Mei R	Front Crawl
Evie C	Front Crawl
Sebastian M	Front Crawl

### District Athletic Trials

HSL would like to celebrate all the children who took part in the District Athletic Trials at The Prince of Wales Stadium. Ben and Noah did extremely well and are now the District Champion in 1500m race and the District Champion in 70m hurdles respectively.

We are so proud of the boys and their fantastic accomplishment!

### Year 7 Sporting Achievements

To conclude our newsletter this month we have more sporting achievements from our talented students. Please do let us know of any sporting clubs or achievements your child is involved in, as we really like celebrating these successes.

I took part in the Bristol Karting Club Sports Championship race and came 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 22 people from ages 12 - 69

Hamish 7CH

I took part in a synchronised swimming contest. Me and my team didn't get the same time to practise as the other teams. But in the end we came 5<sup>th</sup> in the UK!

Macie 7CH



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