

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoy this final edition of the school newsletter for this academic year - it contains some great photos of some very enthusiastic pupils!

Thank you very much to those of you who supported the fete last week, it was brilliant to see how many families turned out despite the terrible weather and I would like to thank Richard Irvine and the PTFA Committee (and all the PTFA helpers) for their fantastic efforts. We will let you know how much has been raised for the school in the Autumn term!

When we think back to this time last year, when the staff were packing boxes at Balcarras ready to move to Farm Lane, it seems like a lifetime ago. The school has really come to life this year and I would like to thank you for the tremendous support you have shown us, it really makes a huge difference to staff and pupils. I would also like to publically acknowledge and thank the staff of HSL, they are a great team of very dedicated, enthusiastic teachers and support staff, who go above and beyond every day for the pupils of our school.

I hope you all enjoy a wonderful summer break!

With warm wishes,

Helen Wood
Headteacher





Key Dates - September 2023

4th September	INSET - school closed to pupils
5th September	Autumn Term Starts for all pupils
8th September	Early finish for pupils 12.20 - safeguarding INSET for staff
22nd September	Year 7 Icebreaker Disco
26th September	PTFA AGM 19.00-20.00
29th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning, non uniform and cake sale



HSL achieves the Eco-Schools Green Flag!

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved our Eco-Schools Green Flag!

Last week Miss Kennedy received the following communication from Eco-Schools:

'Congratulations!!!' We are very pleased to tell you that you and your Eco-Committee at The High School Leckhampton have been successful in meeting the requirements for the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. We reviewed your application and noted the following:

It's very impressive that you have formed such a large Eco-Committee. It shows that young people in your school are aware of environmental issues and committed to being active and creating positive change. This knowledge and attitude has provided your school with excellent foundations for the many successes that you've achieved this year.

It's also wonderful to hear that the student, in the quote provided, has maintained their involvement in the Eco-Committee since their primary school days, and has continued to do so throughout their secondary school experience. Their dedication to the cause is truly inspiring and surely a great addition to the team.

It's brilliant to read that the Environmental Review helped your pupils appreciate everything that your school is already doing to benefit our environment and identify areas to work on in the future. We love the addition of surveying students outside the Eco-Committee to establish which environmental issues needed more awareness so that the team are able to determine the next steps according to this.

We admire your commitment, demonstrated by tackling areas where you scored lowest in the Environmental Review. This shows you have an ambitious and assured Eco-Committee, which has no doubt inspired others with their work.

It's great to see you are able to acknowledge your limits and it's understandable to feel concerned about the current limitations, but it's important to remember that these can always be revisited at a later stage. Sometimes it is the smallest of efforts that ignite the biggest changes, such as ditching the plastic bottles or cling film and finding suitable alternatives. By focusing on contributing towards future goals, we can ensure that progress will no doubt be made and is just a matter of time!

Thank you so much for submitting such a terrific application. We have loved reading about your journey and are incredibly impressed by all you have achieved. We have no hesitation in awarding you an Eco-Schools Green Flag - congratulations!

Miss Kennedy would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our Eco-Schools work this year.





School Games Silver Mark Award

SCHOOL GAMES SILVER MARK AWARD FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL LECKHAMPTON



We are delighted to announce that we, The High School Leckhampton, have achieved the School Games Silver Mark Award for the 2022/23 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

All of our pupils have contributed to the House Sports Programme, competing in the intra-school event of house cross country, alongside many other sports intra-school house sports events throughout the year.

We have competed in the Cheltenham District netball, hockey, football, rounders, athletics, swimming and cross country events with a total of 160 young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year. We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

We look forward to building on the fantastic sporting programme next year and ensuring all of our pupils continue to take part in physical activity.





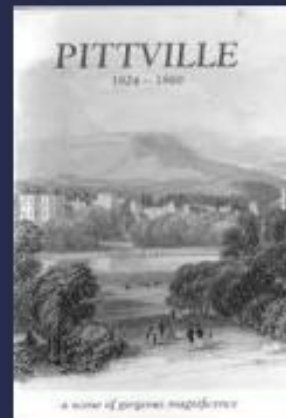
The Richard Slessor Memorial Prize

In June, pupils were given the opportunity to enter a competition organised by the local branch of the Historical Association. The Richard Slessor Memorial Prize is awarded each year to a young person between the ages of 11 and 18, for writing an essay about an aspect of local history.

This year was the first opportunity of its kind offered to HSL pupils, and Mrs Cox is delighted that three pupils have written essays after selecting their own topic and carrying out research. Their names and chosen topics are below. All of the essays were of excellent quality, and two students have entered their essays into the competition. We wish those pupils the very best of luck and Mrs Cox hopes others will gain the confidence to follow suit in future years!

Local History Essay Writers:

- Freddie Collis 8CH - The Secret at Bentham: How Bentham's aviation factory played a part in World War II
- Jacob Freer 7IS - The Battle of Tewkesbury, 1471
- Constance Grant 8WI - Pittville Park and class attitudes in 20th century Cheltenham





Enrichment Week

In the penultimate week of the summer term, we were delighted to host our first enrichment week at Farm Lane. The week was designed to be varied, enjoyable and supplementary to our curriculum. The first two days were spent learning about different areas of the world, with a focus on Asia and Oceania. Students participated in a range of activities for each day, to help them understand small elements of each continent from the perspective of different subjects.

In Art, students were able to investigate origami and successfully made paper cranes. In Geography, students planned a grand tour of Asia, choosing a specific site to recommend to a tourist and then exploring the practicalities of arranging travel. In History, students investigated how Australia was used as a penal colony, whilst in Maths, students were guided in alternative methods of calculation used in China.

The third day of the week was an opportunity to have a little fun and we were delighted to take 180 of our students to the Lido in Cheltenham, where the weather was (mostly) perfect for some summer swimming! Other students went to the Cinema, or completed Collagraph Printing in an Art session and some fantastic examples are shown below.

Our fourth day of the week was a day of Sport, where students rotated through a number of activities that promoted health and fitness. Finally our Friday was an opportunity for raising money for charity through a sponsored event. The weather was not kind to us, so our planned walk had to be cancelled, but students were able to participate in other fundraising activities.

The curtain closed on our Enrichment Week with our Summer BBQ, hosted by the PTFA. With a fantastic turn-out from our community. We would like to thank you all for attending and for supporting our school.



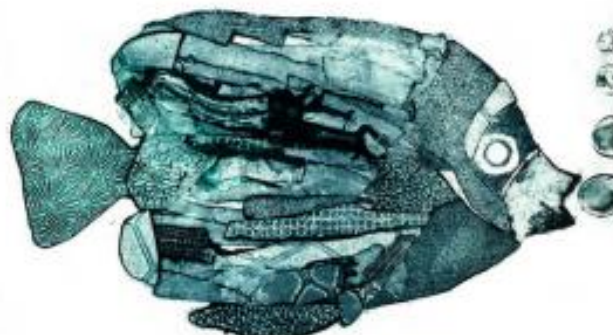
Callie 8LB



Eric 7LB



Amelie 8IS



Sophie 7CH



Enrichment Week





HSL Sponsored ~~Walk~~ Skip 2023

Unfortunately, the heavy rain and strong wind on Friday 14th July meant we were not able to complete our sponsored walk up and around Leckhampton Hill. However, HSL pupils still managed to earn their sponsorship money by completing a challenging circuit of exercises in the sports hall instead, including enough skipping, lunges, sit-ups and triceps dips to make up 9km! So far, we have raised over £1400 in sponsorship money, all of which will go to the three charities voted for by our pupils:

Cheltenham Animal Shelter

Macmillan Cancer Support

The World Wildlife Fund

Thank you for sponsoring your child, and please use Scopay to make any remaining donations.





Student Achievements

Prudence in 7CH has recently completed her blackbelt exam in Karate.

This is a very intense physical and mental challenge lasting over six hours!

Congratulations to Pru - what an achievement!



Ollie in BIS has been selected to play elite representative age group Cricket for Gloucestershire.

Ollie will be part of a group of only 14 boys representing Gloucestershire, playing against other Counties and overseas teams. A fantastic experience for him and a reward for his commitment and hard work.

Congratulations Ollie!





Sports Day

Sports Day 2023 was a fantastic finish to this year's sporting calendar!

The pupils encouraged and cheered on their teammates and friends in other houses all afternoon with every competitor and spectator fully involved in the event. The races were of high calibre across every discipline and tutors and Sports Captains had done a wonderful job selecting and managing the teams for both the field events and track events. The young leaders who helped officiate the event throughout the afternoon were a real credit to their houses and it ensured the event could run seamlessly throughout.

Thank you to all of the families who managed to spectate and support all of our pupils, it was a lovely atmosphere for each athlete to compete in. Thank you to Cheltenham College who housed us for the afternoon, creating a great track in a beautiful setting.

It was a joy to watch so many youngsters giving it their all to create new school records, achieve a personal best time or gain valuable points for their house.

Congratulations to Lilley Brook who are the new holders of the House Sports Day Cup!





Sports Day





Sports Day





Sports Day





Sports Day





Sports Day





Sports Day





Sports Day





Sports Day





Sports Day





School Uniform Reminder

Please don't forget to take advantage of an exclusive open evening for HSL families on 8th August at the Monkhouse store in Cheltenham.



Cheltenham Shop
Exclusive Open Evening
08th August 2023
17:30pm – 20:00pm



252 High Street
Cheltenham
Gloucester
GL50 3HF

By Appointment Only!
Book Now Via
monkhouse.com/appointments

Exclusively for High School Leckhampton Customers to shop for uniform outside of regular opening hours.
Uniform still available online and in the Cheltenham store during normal shop opening hours.





Gloucestershire Homes for Ukraine

Since April 2022 many schools in Gloucestershire have welcomed children from Ukraine who have fled war with their families. The Homes for Ukraine scheme has allowed Gloucestershire households to share their homes while Ukrainians get settled in Gloucestershire.

The Homes for Ukraine team at the county council are urgently seeking follow-on placements for guests who have already been in the UK for 6 months to 1 year, and have not yet fully regained their independence.

Relocating to a new host can mean children need to change schools, leaving their friendships and disrupting their education. We can support Ukrainian children in our school community by helping them stay in the same area and attend the same school.

If you would like to be part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme in Gloucestershire please get in touch with the county council. You will find more information on the flyers attached.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like any further information on the scheme using the following email: [hfuteam@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:hfutuream@gloucestershire.gov.uk) Alternatively, you can register your interest on the following page and we will contact you directly: <https://apply-to-offer-homes-for-ukraine.service.gov.uk/>

Please note that Gloucestershire County Council have locally increased all host payments to £600 per month, so lower figures published in the national guidance can be disregarded.

Could you be a Homes for Ukraine champion?

Join the many generous Gloucestershire people who have opened their homes to those fleeing the war in Ukraine.

We need people who have a spare room or two, an annexe, or even another property, to house a Ukrainian family and help them rebuild their lives.

Hundreds of Ukrainian guests have so far regained their independence and settled in Gloucestershire with the help of our champion hosts, and here's how you can help:

Sign up to express an interest in hosting. Find out more online or book an informal chat with the Gloucestershire Homes for Ukraine team.

The Homes for Ukraine team would then let you know about guests who match your household.

Meet the guests and get to know them before deciding whether to go ahead with hosting.

Hosting agreements are very flexible, and the Homes for Ukraine team are available to assist and advise you every step of the way.

All hosts receive payments of £600 per month to thank you for your help and to cover any additional household expenses. These payments are tax free, and hosting will not impact your council tax.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact us via HFUTeam@gloucestershire.gov.uk



Register your interest today:

Visit <https://apply-to-offer-homes-for-ukraine.service.gov.uk> or scan the QR code to express your interest in becoming a Homes for Ukraine champion!

HFUTeam@gloucestershire.gov.uk
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ukrainian-support

Gloucestershire
COUNCIL



Cheltenham Half Marathon 2023

On Sunday 3rd September 2023, our very own Miss Kennedy and Mr Powell-Jones will be representing HSL in the Cheltenham Half Marathon. Please click on the link below and show your support by donating to Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice. We wish them the best of luck in their training over the summer.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katherine-kennedy12>

