



# NEWSLETTER

Year 7 at Cheltenham Science Festival 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the sun now shining we have had a very packed month of sporting fixtures at HSL. A particular highlight has been our participation in the district athletics cup, with all our year groups achieving some impressive individual and team results. Our Year 8 boys team achieved a fantastic 3rd place against some very strong competition from all the secondary schools in Cheltenham. We have some incredibly talented athletes and competitors, some of whom feature in this newsletter, and you would be very welcome to join us for Sports Day on Friday 5th July to see the track events. See page 3 for further details.

We are also very proud of how we develop the sports leadership and team work skills of our pupils, and in this newsletter you can read about the activities of our sports leaders who have umpired, organised and motivated younger pupils in a range of sporting events over the last few weeks. It has been a great learning experience for all of them and they have represented the school and themselves superbly.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at our Summer BBQ, organised by the PTFA, on 12th July, and will be writing to all families before the end of term with information about the start of term in September, so please look out for this letter.

With warm wishes,  
Helen Wood  
Headteacher

## Key Dates - July 2024

2nd July	LAMDA exams in school
3rd July	Year 6 Taster Day and Parents' Talk 6pm
5th July	Sports Day - Parents welcome to watch
8th July	Enrichment Week begins - Year 9 on Duke of Edinburgh
12th July	PTFA Summer BBQ 6-8:30pm All welcome!
Saturday 13th July	Bateman's Uniform Pop-up shop at HSL (Sports Hall) 10-2pm
15th July	RRS Steering Group meeting (lunchtime)
16th July	SJM - Coffee and catch up with SEND parents
18th July	Year 9 Reports issued
19th July	Term ends of pupils at 12:20



# SPORTS DAY 2024

STARTS @ 12:30  
PRESENTATION @ 15:00

THE HIGH SCHOOL LECKHAMPTON  
SCHOOL FIELD



**5TH  
JULY**

PARENTS ARE  
WELCOME TO  
SPECTATE!

PLEASE SIGN IN  
UPON ENTRY TO THE  
GATES, AT THE TOP  
OF THE SCHOOL  
FIELD!

# Our Parent, Teacher & Friends Association (PTFA) Key Updates

## THE HIGH SCHOOL LECKHAMPTON

# Summer BBQ & Fayre

Friday 12th July - 6pm to 8.30pm

PTFA BAR

US STYLE BBQ STAND

PTFA TUCK SHOP

ICE-CREAM



STUDENT RUN STALLS

STUDENT MUSICAL PERFORMANCES



HOT DRINK TRAILER



REAL ALE



STUDENT JAZZ BAND



The High School  
Leckhampton

Supported by HSL PTFA

## Pre – Loved Uniform Sale : Now ONLINE!

To make it easier to see what pre-loved uniform is available, we are pleased to share that the list of available stock is now available online found here: [The High School Leckhampton - Pre-Loved Uniform \(hsl.gloucs.sch.uk\)](http://The High School Leckhampton - Pre-Loved Uniform (hsl.gloucs.sch.uk)).

This list will be updated monthly. If you would like to purchase items, please email [thsl.ptfa@gmail.com](mailto:thsl.ptfa@gmail.com) with orders and we will come back to you. Items will be available for collection from the HSL reception. Returns and refunds permitted should items not be suitable

**As always, we are always looking for new stock – if you have any donations, please drop them off with reception**

– thank you in advance.

## Next PTFA Key Dates

- ✓ Summer Fair / BBQ – 12th July - 6.00pm – 8.30pm
- ✓ Next PTFA Meeting – 5th September – 7pm- All Welcome
- ✓ Year 7 Icebreaker Disco – 20th September – 7.00pm



Join us on our Facebook group for further info and news  
"The High School Leckhampton PTFA"



Join us on our Instagram group for further info and news  
"highschoolleckhamptonptfa"



To get sight of the upcoming volunteering opportunities, please join us on the volunteering WhatsApp group. Follow the QR code to the left for easy access.



This year we have been able to provide more leadership opportunities for the students at HSL within lessons, at sports clubs, during house matches, at school fixtures as well as organising and running Primary school events.

Our students have taken on the responsibility of officiating, coaching and organising with maturity and confidence and we are very proud of the contributions that they have made to our sports programme.

Year 7's act as officials in lessons by umpiring and scoring matches. They also umpire and referee in their lunch time sports clubs and have developed excellent communication and diplomacy skills in choosing their house teams to ensure as many students as possible can be involved.

In Year 8 the students further develop their officiating and coaching skills through umpiring and refereeing Year 7 and 9 house matches, assisting at Year 7 sports clubs and supporting Year 7's at school fixtures.

The Year 9's support Year 7 and 8 fixtures by leading warm-ups, coaching on the side line and umpiring and refereeing netball and football matches. They have taken ownership of the Year 7 and 8 house teams and supported in the selection of teams for these events.

We also have a number of students who have taken on coaching roles and officiating roles in their own sports clubs outside of school, and we always love to hear of their successes and any awards that they have achieved.

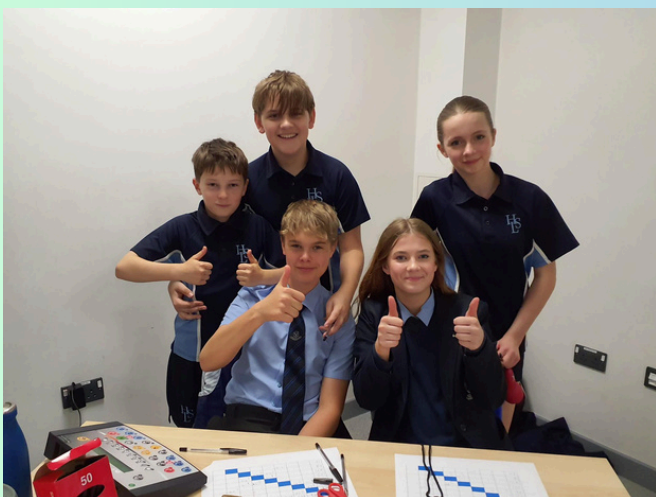
50 of our Year 7's will be running the Leckhampton School Sports Day this summer term, many going back to their old primary school. They will oversee the events as officials; timing races and measuring the throws and jumps. They will learn how to record scores accurately whilst also coaching the KS2 students through their events, talking to their members of staff, and being role models for HSL.

This was a great event last year and look forward to the sun eventually shining for the event this year

## Spotlight on sports leaders - Cheltenham District Primary Netball Tournament

30 Year 8 students ran the Cheltenham District Primary Netball Tournaments in April and May. We hosted 12 different primary schools and had 2 students from HSL assigned to each school. The jobs of the HSL students were to lead warm-ups, make the changes for the team, keep all the players motivated and umpire the matches. Our HSL leaders all had to lead presentations for their team and nominate players that stood out to them for exceptional teamwork and sportsmanship. Four students also ran the results table for each of the tournaments and had to learn how to input results from each match and work out the positions that each team finished. They then had to present the results to all the schools and the staff whilst doing a round-up of the day and handing out medals to the Primary students. Our students worked sensibly with the primary students and staff throughout the whole day and did a fantastic job representing HSL.

The teachers from the Primary Schools and the staff from 'Move More' commented on the level of professionalism, maturity and confidence that our students showed and complimented them on how well they interacted with the primary students!





Isbourne sports leaders Years 7-9



Windrush sports leaders Years 7-9



Year 8 sports leaders

## Spotlight on sports leaders - Cheltenham District Primary rounders Tournament

As well as Year 9 students taking on leadership and coaching roles for external clubs and clubs in school as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, we had over 30 Year 9 students organising the Cheltenham District Rounders Tournament at the beginning of May. Nine local primary schools attended the event, and again each of our Year 9 students were assigned a different role.

Some students were working directly with a primary school, leading them through warm-ups, teaching them the rules, making sure they moved safely around the school site, getting them to their next fixture.

Some students were assigned to umpiring the matches for the afternoon, making sure they were fair and consistent when applying the rules, and confident and clear when talking to the students and different staff members.

Others had to run the tournament by collecting score cards, organising the timing for the afternoon, recording the results and planning the finals matches after the first round of the tournament. Our Year 9 students had to meet and greet their teams, learn all their names and make them feel settled helping them to enjoy a wonderful sporting afternoon at HSL.

All their hard work was in front of the primary school parent's, and it was lovely to receive incredibly positive feedback from Head teachers, teachers and parents throughout the afternoon about our HSL students. Many spectators commented on how well our students conducted themselves in terms of their positivity, approachableness, professionalism, and their excellent levels of engagement with the younger students.

Well done to all that have taken part as a Sports Leader this year!



## PREMIER YOUTH DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE (ATHLETICS)

Both Henry (Y8) and Zac (Y9) competed in the Premier Youth Development League. The league has 3 matches against 6 other clubs from the south-west.

In the first match Henry (y8) who competed against year 9's came 4th in 300m he got a fantastic win in the hammer and was part of the 4x300m relay which came 4th.

Move onto match two and Zac took over the 300m race and he flew round to an amazing 2nd place. Henry did superbly again to win his Hammer and both boys formed part of the relay which placed an impressive 2nd place.

in the third match Zac zipped round to take an amazing win in the 300m, Henry got a solid 2nd in the hammer and both boys ran a very fast 4x300m relay to take the win. The new relay time places them 13th fastest in the UK in 2024 - what an achievement!

Not only did the boys do amazingly but Cheltenham Harriers won each match overall which means they will now go onto compete in the National Finals in Manchester in August.

What great success for two super HSL pupils!

We can't wait to see how they do in Manchester.





## Right of the month - Article 32: Protection from harmful work

In tutor times this month the focus has been on child labour. Students have found out about children around the world who undertake dangerous work on a daily basis. They have identified reasons why children should be protected from harmful work and have made links to other rights such as the right to have an education and how this is often at risk when children have to work to help support their families. Inspired by a global art movement, students are currently designing a piece of street art, to help raise awareness of the issues surrounding child labour. We look forward to sharing some of these with you next month.



## Taking action - update on the OutRight campaign:

During June, some students sent letters to individuals or organisation who they felt could and should take more action to prevent climate change. Some have already received replies - one letter and the response to it is below. We are looking forward to receiving more replies in the next few weeks.

Dear Mr Chalk,

Our names are Katie and Erin; we currently attend the High School Leckhampton and are in Year 9. We are writing to you today, to discuss environmental issues that are extremely important to us, our school and our community.

As a school we believe in having an eco-friendly present and future; we want to believe that this can be done if we all work together to tackle all the issues and differences that need resolving. Our school already is big on having an eco-friendly school as our blazers are made from plastic bottles and in a recent OFSTED report they quoted, we are 'outstanding in all areas.' Additionally, last year our school received the Green Flag Award. This was achieved by every member of staff and pupil in this school.

Firstly, it is important that we remember the risks and consequences climate change is going to have (and already has) on EVERYONE! We believe the worst possible outcome due to climate change would be death, unfortunately this will be the case unless we act. This is proven by scientists who say between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year, from undernutrition, malaria, and heat stress.

To prevent this colossal number becoming reality we need your help to educate our community into becoming as eco-friendly as possible. To do this, we need to encourage young people and adults to become more efficient in planting trees and to make sure they recycle their waste successfully. For this to happen, we must make sure people understand what recycling to put in which bins (etc. glass, cardboard, metals.) One of the ideas we must carry out to succeed in this plan, is to connect to the human mind by using colour coded signs and posts which we hope will encourage more successful recycling. If posters were put around public places, this would help people understand how important waste recycling is and why it needs to be done. The key messages on the posters could be about giving unwanted toys, books, items of clothing and more unwanted belongings to charity shops. Another message we want the poster to give off, is that recycling and litter picking saves animals lives. Since we know that many marine lives are suffering and are at risk of extinction, due to the amount of plastic we are throwing away each year. This is causing a problem because of unnecessary items being discarded into areas such as parks, rivers and public spaces.

An additional idea we have is to introduce the planting of trees as an exciting, significant milestone. We would do this so that the planting of trees is more publicly normalised. One way of achieving this would be to have every child plant a tree after leaving their primary school. They could plant this tree either on the school grounds or in their local wildlife area/park. Additionally, we could make it an annual thing to plant a tree in your first few months of primary school because the children could then grow through primary school alongside their designated tree.

To conclude, we hope our ideas will help with the goal to reach a sustainable climate. We would really appreciate it if you could spare some time to consider our proposals and reply to us with beneficial feedback for our climate and community.

Yours sincerely,

Erin and Katie from The High School Leckhampton Year 9.

Taking action - update on the OutRight campaign:

Dear Erin and Katie,

Thank you for your email on the climate emergency. I am grateful to you both for taking the time to contact me about such an important issue. It's a particular pleasure to hear from HSL pupils; congratulations to you and all at the school on the OFSTED 'outstanding' rating.

I feel very strongly about tackling climate change. I entirely agree with you that the climate emergency - together with anti-microbial resistance - is the most important issue humanity faces. That's something I have been saying for many years, long before I became an MP.

In fact, I wasn't much younger than you when there was a great storm in our country (your parents might have heard of it) which blew down thousands of trees. Even back then (1986) people were saying that climate change might be responsible, and that event had a big impact on me.

It's partly why, as Cheltenham's MP, I presented a Bill to Parliament, the first MP ever to do so, to enshrine in law a commitment for the UK to be carbon-neutral by 2050. That Bill became law, and we are the first G7 country to make that legal commitment. You can read my speech here: [https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-30/debates/9ECD0AF0-6797-4BE7-A3C2-AC8E45CF8B57/ClimateChange\(NetZeroUKCarbonAccount\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-30/debates/9ECD0AF0-6797-4BE7-A3C2-AC8E45CF8B57/ClimateChange(NetZeroUKCarbonAccount))

On planting trees locally, this is Gloucestershire County Council's responsibility. I will share with you their email [glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk) so you can discuss your ideas with them directly. If I am re-elected, I will happily write to them too!

Thank you all again for taking the time to write to me. I particularly value hearing from Cheltenham's young people, and I will do everything in my power to protect our environment on your behalf.

Best wishes,

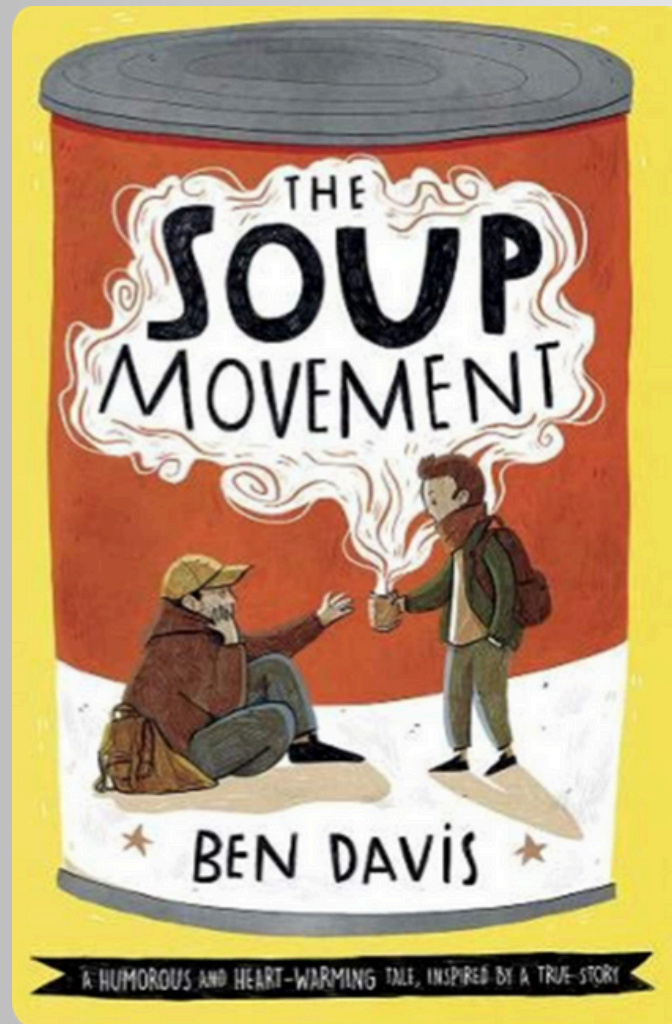
Alex

Rt Hon Alex Chalk KC  
 Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice  
 Parliamentary Candidate for Cheltenham

And finally, we are pleased to share that we have received a certificate recognising our participation in this year's Unicef RRSA OutRight campaign. It will be displayed in school and shared with the students. We have already signed up to take part in next year's campaign and we will share more about that in September.



## HSL Book of the month - June



This month, we are recommending that our pupils and parents of the HSL community read: *The Soup Movement* by Ben Davis.

To aid his recovery from a life-threatening illness Jordan and his family move out of the city for a healthy new start. Jordan's getting enough funny looks as the new boy at school as it is, without his Mum giving him homemade soup every day for lunch! But when Jordan meets a homeless man called Harry, and gives him the soup, it is the start of an unlikely friendship. Soon the two of them begin giving soup to the other homeless people around town and when his sister shares their antics on Instagram the #SOUPMOVEMENT begins-they even make it on the news!

On Friday 28th June, Year 7 and 8 were lucky enough to take part in an author talk with Ben Davis, who spoke about all of his fantastic books he's written, including *The Soup Movement*.

Check out next month's newsletter for a pupil review of the session!

## Walk to School Week 2024

Walk to School Week took place from Monday 20th until Friday 24th May this year.

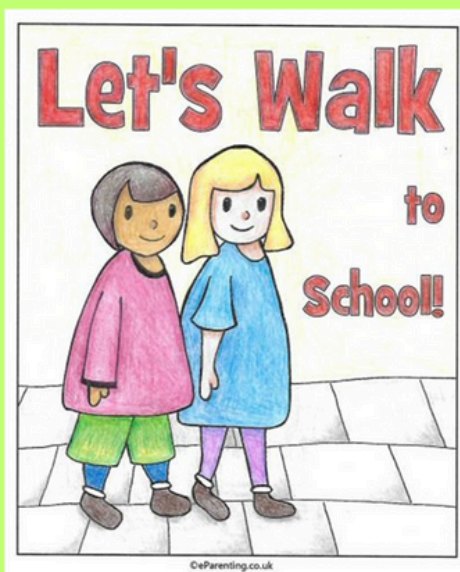
Thank you to Charlotte (8IS) and Amelie (9CH) for producing the poster to advertise Walk to School Week.

Thank you to all who made the effort to walk or cycle to school during Walk to School Week, especially staff who live far from school but still made the effort to shorten their drive and walk part of the way like Mrs McAlpine!

### Walk to school week

Walk to school week is from Monday 20th May to Friday 24th May 2024.

It's an amazing opportunity to help the environment and reduce carbon emissions by trying to use the car less.....and you'll get lots of fresh air!

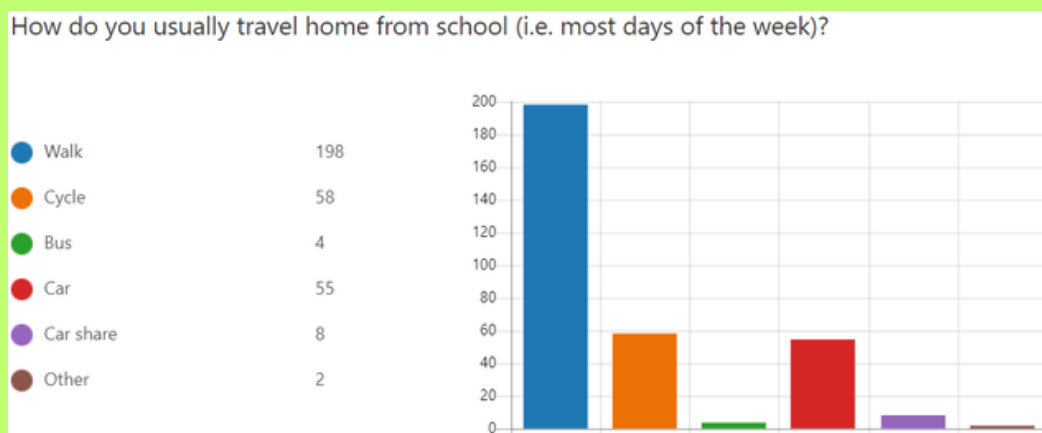
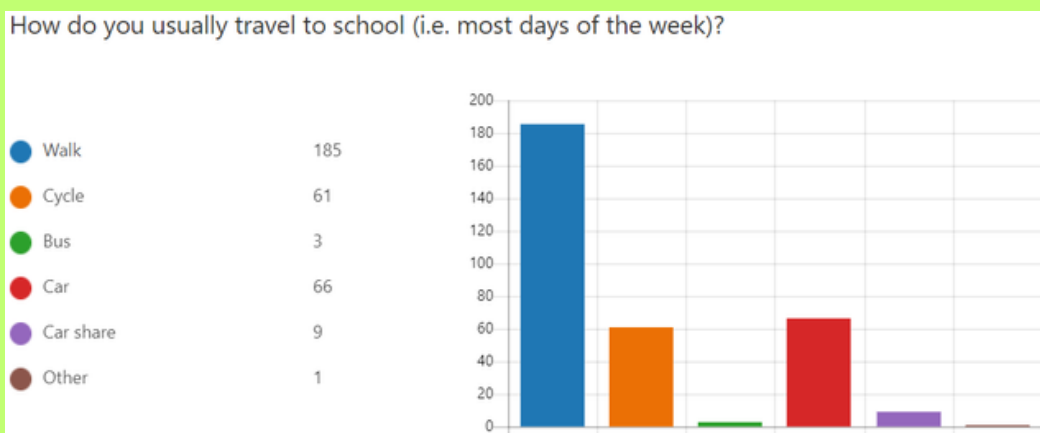
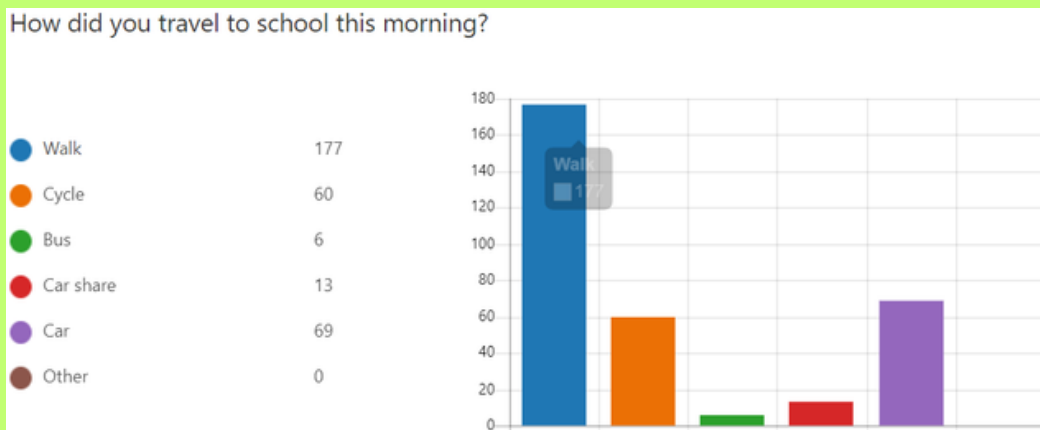


Made by  
Charlotte Deacon  
8IS and Amelie  
Holloway 9CH

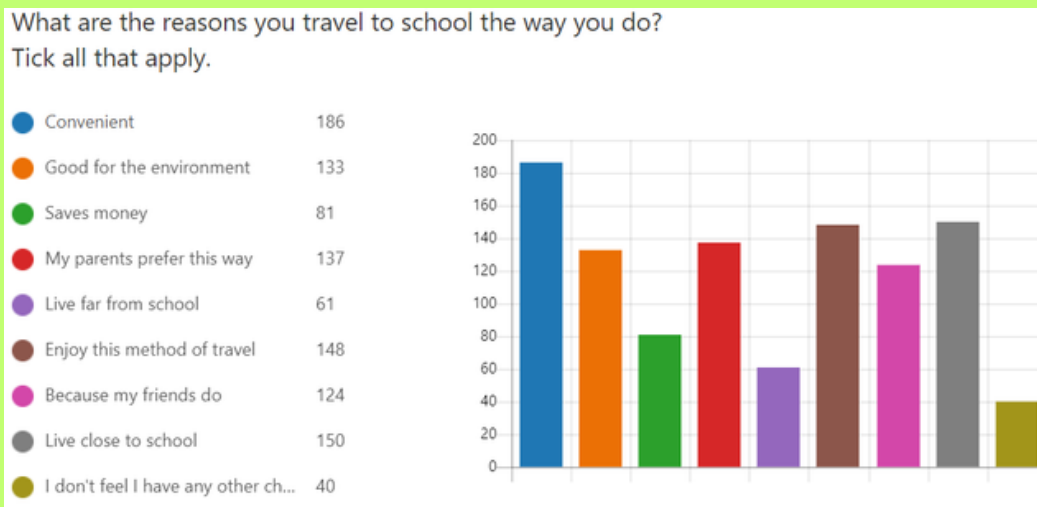
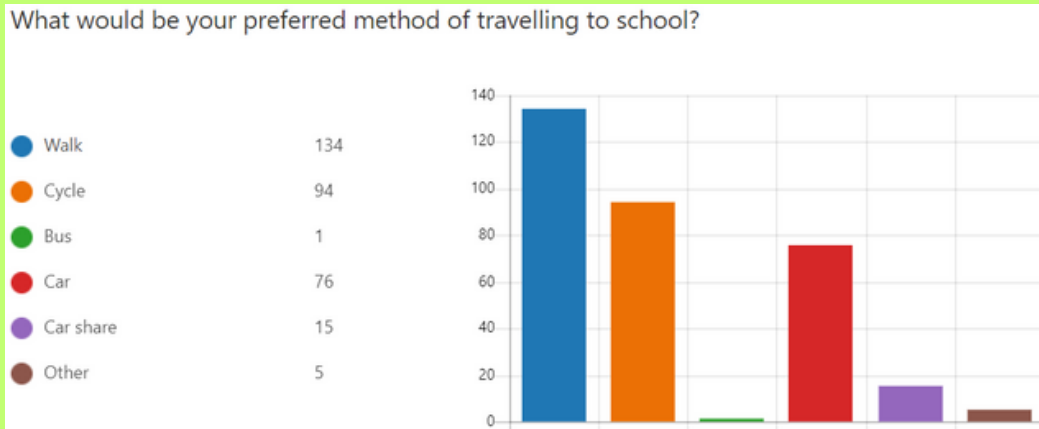
# HSL Summer Travel Survey 2024

During Walk to School Week, all students and staff had the opportunity to complete a short questionnaire to help us understand how our students and staff are travelling to school in the summer term. We last completed a travel survey in the winter term and were looking to see how summer travel compares to winter travel.

We would like to thank all those that completed the survey and a summary of the results can be found below:



# HSL Summer Travel Survey 2024



It is fantastic to see that over 10% more of our students are walking or cycling to school compared to December, demonstrating our commitment to ensuring that we look after our environment and build a sustainable future for all.

Fewer students stated that they would prefer to travel by car than in December, suggesting that students are more aware of the physical, social, mental and financial benefits of walking and cycling to school. Students are also eager to encourage others to walk and cycle given how many enjoy this method of travel.

We would like to thank all parents and carers that support their children in travelling to and from school sustainably, including organising car shares when walking and cycling is not possible. An important part of being a flagship school at the heart of its community is our responsibility to keep our roads as clear and our air as clean as possible.

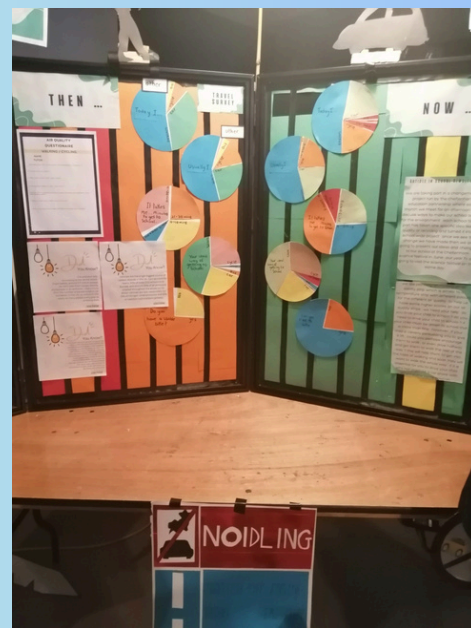
The HSL Travel Survey will return in Winter 2024.

## Cheltenham Education Partnership ChangeMakers Showcase



This year, four Year 9 students (Elijah, Constance, Henry and Justin) took part in the Cheltenham Education Partnership's (CEP) ChangeMakers program. Together they attended 5 workshops across the academic year which supported them in planning, carrying out, and evaluating their own environmental project in school linked to Air Quality.

From 5:30pm until 7:30pm on Wednesday 19th June 2024, our ChangeMakers occupied a space at the Wilson Gallery and presented the results of their Air Quality project to members of the public. It was a fantastic event and the HSL display was particularly impressive. Miss Kennedy would like to thank Elijah, Constance, Henry and Justin for all the time and effort they put into their ChangeMakers project, including creating their display, an interactive computer game, and a piece of artwork contrasting a high pollution with a low pollution world. Miss Kennedy would also like to thank the parents who attended, along with Mr Matthews, Mrs Holland and Mrs Cox, to support our ChangeMakers.





## International Day for Biological Diversity 2024



The Eco-Committee celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 by carrying out the annual measuring of the trees growing on our school site. The Eco-Committee also designed and delivered their final assemblies to each year group to celebrate the progress made this year and to share their wishes for next year. Their final task before the end of term is to work with Miss Kennedy and Mrs Agombar to submit the application to renew our Eco-Schools Green Flag accreditation.

### Writing Instruments Recycling

Every tutor room now contains a shoe box serving as a collection point for broken or used writing instruments. To minimise the quantity of unrecycled waste that we are producing at school, HSL will take these writing instruments to our nearest recycling point in town.

Please see the poster below for which writing instruments we are collecting for recycling.

If you have any spare shoe boxes at home please consider donating them to HSL! We have plenty more rooms in need of collection points. Please hand in your shoe boxes to Miss Kennedy in GW3.

### Recycle your writing instruments here



**Accepted**

All brands, made from rigid plastics or metal:

- ✓ Ballpoint, gel, fountain and eraser pens
- ✓ Mechanical pencils
- ✓ Refills and cartridges
- ✓ Correction instruments (bottles, tapes and pens)
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Felt tips, whiteboard and permanent markers

**Not accepted**

- ✗ Wood, cardboard, bamboo and flexible plastics
- ✗ Glue sticks, rubbers & rulers
- ✗ Graphite and colouring pencils, chalk sticks
- ✗ Sharp objects

Scan QR code to learn more

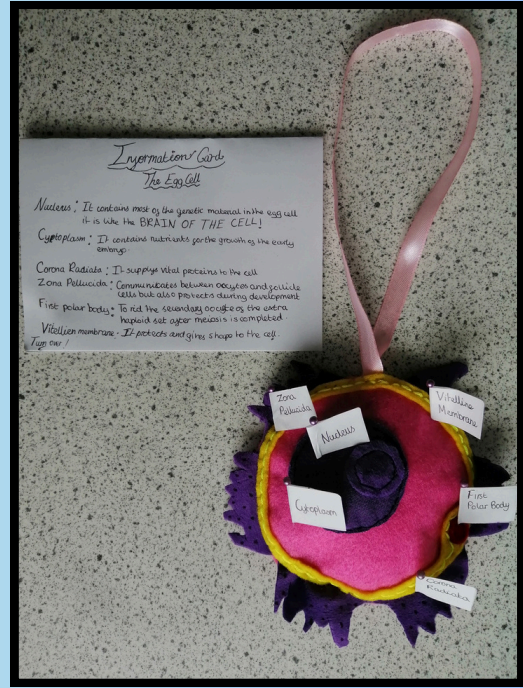
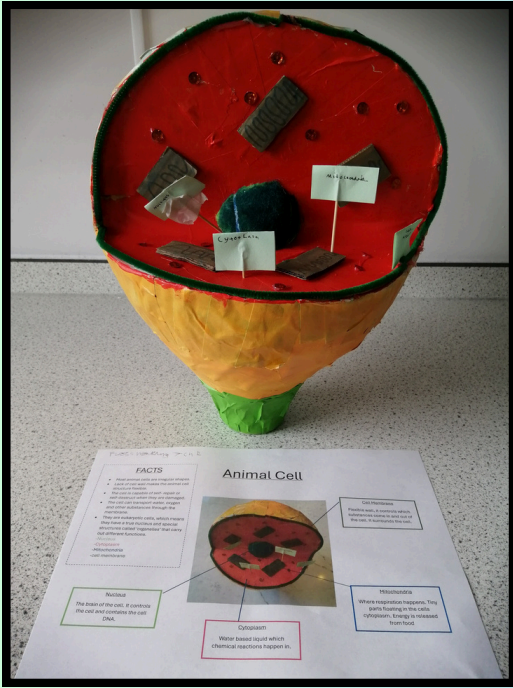


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Year 7 Science Cell Models

Year 7 have been busy in Science since their end of year assessment creating 3D cell models from recycled materials. Every student in 7CH1 and 7IS selected an animal or plant cell to make a model of as well as an information card listing the functions and parts of their chosen cell. Miss Kennedy would like to thank all her Year 7 students (and their parents!) for the effort they put into making their fantastic cell models.

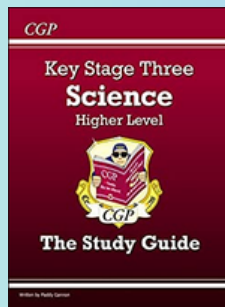
Please see the photos below for some examples:



Year 9 CGP KS3 Science Study Guide return

During Year 7, all Year 9 students were given a numbered copy of the CGP KS3 Science Study Guide for them to use for their Science classwork, homework, catch-up and revision. As Year 9 students have now finished the KS3 Science course the time has come to return these CGP Study Guides that we have loaned out so we can redistribute them to our new Year 7 students starting in September. Some parents selected to purchase their child's copy of the CGP KS3 Science Study Guide and so these purchased copies do not need to be returned.

If any child has lost their CGP KS3 Science Study Guide, we politely request that parents pay £3.15 via Scopay so we can purchase a replacement copy. Thank you!



## Year 7 Trip to Cheltenham Science Festival

On Tuesday 4th June 2024, Year 7 walked to the Cheltenham Science Festival in Imperial Gardens. During their visit, all Year 7 students attended a GCHQ talk called 'How to be a Spy' and had the opportunity to speak to scientists in the interactive Discover Zone about how their research links to the KS3 Science Curriculum.

Evelina (7CH1) really enjoyed the Science Festival, saying it was "a brilliant way to learn more about the world around us", and Seb (7CH1) said it was "an exciting and educational experience".



## Year 7 Science of Sewage Talk

On Wednesday 5th June 2024, Year 7 attended a session led by Rob Jansen from Severn Trent Water. Rob explained how the water company treat our sewage and played a game, hosted by Sophia Kania (7WI), to educate the year group on what not to flush down the toilet or put down the kitchen sink. At the end of the session Miss Kennedy signed a pledge on behalf of Year 7 that from now on they would only flush the 3 Ps down the toilet and avoid pouring fat, oil and grease down the kitchen sink.

Emily (7CH1) found the talk very informative because of all the new facts she learned, like how "although oil is a liquid it should not go down the sink because it will clog it up". Talking about fat, oil and grease (FOG), Emily said that "although they don't seem harmful, they are extremely damaging together... making something called a fatburg and the largest one weighed over 250 elephants!"

Isaac(7CH1) said that a fact that stuck with him from the talk was that "toilet wipes that say 'fine to flush' are not actually fine to flush and that they block the sewage pipes". Isaac said that the talk allowed him to "look at developing technology for the future" such as human waste being used to power electrical devices.





The High School  
**Leckhampton**



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