



# HSL NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students, staff and families for their continued hard work and support.

At last, the sun is about to finally come out as we approach the holidays!

I would like to congratulate our Year 11 students, who have approached the GCSE examination period with maturity, determination and impressive organisation. It has been wonderful to see so many students attending Ignition sessions, arriving exceptionally well prepared and armed with revision flashcards wherever you look! We have been incredibly impressed with their attitude and commitment so far. I hope they remain focused over the next month and use the half term break wisely: taking stock of the progress they have made, preparing for the busy three weeks ahead, but also making time to relax and enjoy some of the sunny weather that is hopefully heading our way.

Although examinations are still ongoing, we also recently had the bittersweet experience of saying goodbye to our Year 11 cohort. They enjoyed a fantastic prom which was clearly appreciated by all and provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the end of their time at The High School Leckhampton together. We are incredibly proud of the young people they have become and the way they have represented the school throughout their final year. We look forward to sharing their next destinations in future editions of the newsletter, but they are already setting themselves up for a wide range of exciting opportunities and choices once results are published this summer.

There has also been great excitement across the school recently with the anticipated launch of our new drinks machines after half term, which support our work to reduce plastic waste. Alongside this, we have launched our next musical, *Beauty and the Beast!* The staff-produced trailer certainly entertained everyone and has added to the buzz around what promises to be a fantastic production - albeit in 2027! I am also very pleased to confirm that remedial works to the school field will shortly be commencing. This has been a difficult and frustrating issue for the school and I am grateful that Gloucestershire County Council and the contractors are now undertaking the necessary work to ensure the field is fully fit for use once again. Importantly, this work is being completed at no cost to the school. I would like to thank our students for their patience and especially our PE team, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that curriculum lessons, sporting opportunities and fixtures have continued throughout this period. All things being equal, we are hopeful that the field will be back in use from September.

I hope you all enjoy a restful and enjoyable half term break. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of The High School Leckhampton.

Helen Wood, Headteacher



## Student Spotlight

Congratulations to our new House Captains! We are very excited to have you leading our school over the coming year.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- \* **End of term**  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 3:35pm
- \* **Year 9 Exam Week**  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June
- \* **Year 7 and 8 Science Festival**  
Year 8 - Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
Year 7 - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June
- \* **GCSE Art Residential**  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June
- \* **Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition**  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

## PTFA Preloved Uniform & Lost Property

The PTFA Preloved Uniform team will be available at the same time as lost property viewings this Summer Term. This is a great opportunity to check for any missing items and to purchase good-quality, affordable uniform. Dates (6.00–8.00pm).

23rd-25th June  
14th-16th July

If you have any outgrown uniform in good condition, donations are very welcome and can be dropped off at school reception. All proceeds go back into supporting our school community.

## This Month in Pictures



HSL's new Performing Arts Captains!



Year 9 took part in a creative writing workshop with Anna February.



There has been a wealth of sporting success this month; our pupils have been working very hard!



The LRC has had a delivery of many new books for our pupils to borrow over the half term.

## HSL vacancies

We are currently recruiting for a range of positions at HSL.

If you're interested in finding out more information, please click the link below:

<https://www.hsl.gloucs.sch.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=80>



The High School  
Leckhampton



## Plastic Waste Reduction at The High School Leckhampton

On the 4<sup>th</sup> June we will be launching a range of exciting new drinks which will greatly reduce our use of plastic and encourage the use of reusable bottles at school.

Schools of a similar size to The High School Leckhampton throw away around 53,000 plastic bottles and cans each year! In terms of harmful CO<sub>2</sub> generated, that's the volume of two Olympic sized swimming pools each month.

Many bottles still do not get recycled, and even those that **do** get recycled are creating more harmful CO<sub>2</sub> into our environment at each recycling process.

The Gen Juice Drinks Hubs are being introduced, which will allow students and staff to purchase a variety of drinks dispensed into their own reusable drink bottles.

These chilled drinks are mixed to order and then dispensed into the drinks bottle and are school compliant, vegan, glutenfree, without sugar and use natural ingredients.

Students and staff will help themselves, using the modern touch screen, to any of the 6 different drinks. These include water flavour-fusions such as Raspberry Peach, Strawberry and Watermelon together with the popular Tropical, Powerberry and Cherry juice drinks. All drinks are fast-pour and deliciously chilled. Even better news is that the drinks will cost only **£1.20 for a 500ml serving**.

From the 4<sup>th</sup> June students and staff will need to remember to bring a reusable bottle to school, so that we can all cut this plastic use and waste, offer better value and enjoy great hydration with the delicious new chilled drinks.

At schools already serving generationJuice, student feedback regarding drink variety, fast delivery, taste and value has been really positive, and they fully support the way we can all reduce our carbon footprint and help the environment, one drink at a time.



# NEWS FROM HSL PTFA

parents • teachers • friends

## Sign Up to EasyFundraising: Free Donations for HSL Every Time You Shop

Just 36 families have already raised over £760 this school year through EasyFundraising - simply by shopping online as usual.

When you shop with over 8,000 participating retailers, including supermarkets, clothing stores and travel companies, the retailer donates to the school at no extra cost to you.

It's free to join, easy to use, and even small donations quickly add up when more families get involved. Get started today:

- Sign up in a few minutes: [HSL PTFA EasyFundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thehighschoolleckhamptonptfa/)
- Shop as normal via Easyfundraising
- Watch your purchases turn into donations

**Every click counts - and together, we can raise so much more!**

Friday 10th July:  
HSL Summer Fair & BBQ, 6-8.30pm

Join us for an evening of delicious food, live music, student-run stalls, a tuck shop and plenty more!

Keep an eye out – full details coming soon!



thanks for your support

## WANTED: Pre-Loved Uniform

We urgently need sports kit, especially girls' skorts and P.E. tops.

As our Year 11s prepare to finish in a few weeks, we'd love to ask a small favour - if their uniform won't be needed for younger siblings, please consider donating it to our Pre-Loved Uniform Shop. **Donations can be dropped off at HSL Reception during school hours.**

Please keep the pre-loved items coming - your support really counts!

### DIARY DATES

9<sup>th</sup> June PTFA Committee Meeting 7.30pm

June/ July - Dates TBC Preloved Uniform Sale, 6-7pm

10th July Summer Fair & BBQ



Scan the QR code to join our friendly PTFA Volunteers team!

## House Captains 2026-27

We are delighted to announce the appointment of our new House Captains, Vice Captains, Sports Captains, Performing Arts Captains and House Prefects for the coming year.

These outstanding Year 10 students have been selected for their enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to contribute positively to our school community. As student leaders, they will play an important role in leading their Houses, encouraging participation, supporting younger students and helping to build school spirit across a wide range of activities.

To recognise this important milestone, we recently held a special celebration with students and their families. It was wonderful to acknowledge the achievements of these students alongside their parents and carers, and to celebrate the exciting opportunities ahead for them as school leaders.

Our House system is an important part of school life, and we are excited to see this group of students grow in confidence and leadership as they take on their new responsibilities. We know they will represent their Houses with pride and set a positive example for others throughout the year.

Congratulations to all students appointed to these leadership positions. We look forward to seeing the contribution they will make to our school community.



**House Captains:** Edith, Jessica, Tom, Nate, Delphine, Josh and Imogen



**Sports Captains:** Ninon, Jude, Chloe, Luther, Henry, Macie and Grace



**Performing Arts Captains:** Joe, Saoirse, Matilda, Amelia, May, Charlotte and Freddie

## LRC updates

We recently welcomed local author Anna February into the library to host an engaging workshop for some of our Year 9 students, based on her book 'The Hive.' The book is described as "A thrillingly original dystopian murder mystery - think The Hunger Games meets A Good Girl's Guide to Murder!" Students had to solve puzzles with clues hidden amongst Anna's writing. Congratulations to our winning team, pictured below.



## New Books

It's always a good day when I arrive to find a big box of new books on my desk! This month we've had a focus on Manga and Supportive Reads with books from Barrington Stokes. They publish dyslexia-friendly, accessible short novels by award winning authors and I encourage students to come along and view our stock.

## Overdue Books Reminder

Please may all students check their shelves at home for any overdue books from the library. We have several missing books that students are eager to borrow. A special request for Year 11s to return any library books; it doesn't matter how overdue they are, they will always be welcomed back onto the shelves!

Ms Hayes, Librarian Assistant



## Sporting Success

Congratulations to our athletes and swimmers who competed recently for our school teams at the Cheltenham District Events. All competitors performed to the highest standards and showed that all of their individual training at their clubs is really paying off!

District Athletics –

L. Hart - 1st U17 800m

O. Makiri - 1st U17 Shot Put, 2nd in Discus

W. Robinson - 1st U17 200m, 2nd U17 100m

T. Nock – 1st U17 Javelin

E. Nolan – 1st U15 800m,

J. Goodman – 1st U15 High Jump,

R. Athley-Williams – 3rd U15 High Jump

A. Jeanvoine – 1st U15 District

All the athletes that came 1st will be representing Cheltenham District at the Gloucestershire County Schools on Saturday 6th June (along with Henry Longden in the U17 Hammer).

## Sports Day – Save the Date!

We are pleased to announce that Sports Day is going to be taking place at the Prince of Wales Stadium this year. Unfortunately, the date of Sports Day has had to change to Thursday 2nd July to accommodate this.

More details will be provided to all families after half term, but parents will be able to watch from 12pm-2pm.



## District Swimming

Year 7 Girls Team came 3rd, Year 8 Girls Team came 1st, Year 9 Girls Team came 2nd (with only Year 8 swimmers in it), Year 7 Boys Team came 3rd, Year 8 Boys Team came 1st, Year 9 Boys came 3rd. Overall, the Girls Team – 2nd in KS3, the Boys Team – 1st in KS3.

Relays - Both the Year 8 and 9 Girls and Boys Teams won their Medley relays. Freestyle Relays – Y8 Girls 1st, Y9 Girls 1st, Y7 Boys 1st, Y8 Boys Boys 1st, Y9 Boys 2nd.

Individual results:-

S. Juesus-Castro (Y8) came 2nd in the 50m backstroke

S. Shotton (Y7) came 3rd in the 25m backstroke

J. Truscott (Y8) came 2nd in the 50m breaststroke

T. Kania (Y7) came 2nd in the 25m breaststroke

D. Dincer (Y8) came 1st in the 50m butterfly, 1st in the 50m freestyle and 3rd in the Y9 50m breaststroke

I. Gibbins (Y8) came 3rd in the 50m butterfly

I. Kellie (Y8) came 3rd in the Year 9 50m butterfly

S. Lomax (Y8) and O. Dincer (Y8) came joint 1st in the 50m butterfly.

Congratulations to Anna Richardson (Y7) who competed in the Inter-Regional Tumbling Championships for Gymnastics, and came 1st in the U13's. Anna has now qualified to represent the South West at the Inter-Regional Finals in Birmingham.



## CEP Climate ChangeMakers at the Wilson Gallery: Wednesday 10th June 2026

This year, four Year 8 students (Raphy Betts, Eva Brunwin, Daniel Chambers and Joe Harris) and one Year 9 student (Erin Hodgkinson) have been taking part in the Cheltenham Education Partnership's (CEP) Climate ChangeMakers program. Together they have attended 5 workshops across this academic year which have supported them in planning, carrying out, and evaluating their own environmental project in school linked to reducing and recycling litter.

Our Climate ChangeMakers are being given the opportunity to present the results of their reducing and recycling litter project to members of the public at the Wilson Gallery (51 Clarence St, Cheltenham GL50 3JT) between 6pm and 7:30pm on Wednesday 10th June. It is a fantastic opportunity for our students to take part in and they would like to invite everyone in our school community to come and see what they have been working on this year.



## Walk to School Week 2026

Walk to School Week took place from Monday 18th until Friday 22nd May this year.

Thank you to Charlotte (10IS) and Amelie (11CH) 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.



# HSL Summer Travel Survey 2026

This half term, all students and staff had the opportunity to participate in our Summer Travel Survey. This was our second travel survey of the academic year and we were interested to see whether more or fewer students and staff were walking, cycling or scooting to school compared to winter and compared to last year. Please see the results below:

Although the percentage of staff walking and cycling to school has increased since the winter it has decreased since last summer. Furthermore, the percentage of students walking, cycling or scooting to school continues to decrease since last year despite the longer days and better weather this term. The Eco-Committee will continue to educate and encourage all students about the personal and environmental benefits of traveling to school actively using government advice from the UK Chief Medical Officers and ask that parents and carers do this at home too!

Travel Survey	Winter 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Winter 2025	Summer 2026
% of students walking, cycling or scooting to school	80	74	73	73	69
% of staff walking, cycling or scooting to school	17	N/A	29	17	23

**Physical activity for children and young people (5-18 Years)**

- BUILDS CONFIDENCE & SOCIAL SKILLS
- DEVELOPS CO-ORDINATION
- IMPROVES CONCENTRATION & LEARNING
- STRENGTHENS MUSCLES & BONES
- IMPROVES HEALTH & FITNESS
- MAINTAINS HEALTHY WEIGHT
- IMPROVES SLEEP
- MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD

**Be physically active**

Spread activity throughout the day

Aim for an average of at least **60** minutes per day across week

All activities should make you breathe faster & feel warmer

Activities to develop movement skills, and muscle and bone strength **ACROSS WEEK**

**Get strong** (INACTIVITY)

**Move more**

Find ways to help all children and young people accumulate an average of at least 60 minutes physical activity per day across the week

UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines, 2019





# TEENS WE NEED YOU



**Exciting paid job opportunity**  
for teenagers 14-17

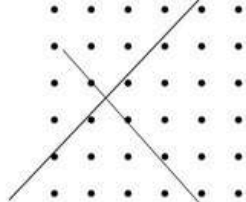
Gain events experience at our  
mindfulness summer camps

across Gloucestershire during the summer  
holidays

THE  
WIL  
SON



OFFER  
GRID



FIND OUT MORE  
& BOOK HERE

# FREE ART WORKSHOPS

For 14-17s - All workshops 6-8pm

- 17 June - Stop Motion Animation with Sarah Fox
- 15 July - Beginners' Portrait Photography with Steven Tatlow
- 19 August - Line by Line: Guided Drawing with Atul Bhunkal
- 16 September - Hand Sewing Basics: Applique with Alice Biggadike
- 21 October - Performance, Costume & Storytelling with Eddie Langham
- 18 November - Where the Birds AR: Meditative Ink Wash with Albert Chung
- 16 December - Wood Carving Motifs with Richard Woods





# Cheltenham Canoe Club TASTER SESSIONS 2026

Come and have some fun and learn to kayak (pool sessions and rivers)

## Adventure



Great fun for adults  
and parents with their  
children aged 11+



**Taster Sessions** – Thursday evenings throughout the summer at Sandford Parks Lido 7.30pm-9pm. Please register your interest and we will be in touch: [coaching@cheltenhamcanoeclub.com](mailto:coaching@cheltenhamcanoeclub.com)

**Kayak Course** includes four coached development sessions – Three at Sandford Parks Lido from 7.30pm-9pm on Thursday evenings and one coached river trip to introduce you to calm and moving water. The Club will provide all equipment and coaching. **If interested, please contact:** [coaching@cheltenhamcanoeclub.com](mailto:coaching@cheltenhamcanoeclub.com)

Taster Session, get a feel of what Kayaking is all about.	Dates
Lido Taster session at the Lido 7.30pm-9pm	
Taster session for May	Thurs 14th or Thurs 28th
Taster session for June	Thurs 11th or Thurs 25th
Taster session for July	Thurs 9th or Thurs 23rd
Taster session for Aug	Thurs 7th or Thurs 21st

### Cost

Adults: **£30** per Session  
Juniors (U18) and Students (18+):  
**£15** per Session

[www.cheltenhamcanoeclub.com](http://www.cheltenhamcanoeclub.com)

After your session, you may wish to join the Club where there is an ongoing programme of activities:  
lido sessions, until the end of August. **River paddling** or **canoe slalom** throughout the year..



You could  
progress  
to this!