



FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

16 September 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Wow, what a fantastic start we have had to our new academic year. Our biggest ever intake in Year 7 has settled in amazingly well and are making sure the additional space and facilities that we invested in over the Summer are being enjoyed. Whilst we will give you more details of our Summer successes with GCSE and vocational qualifications when results have been validated, we are quietly confident that the results will be the best the school has seen to date. We wish all of our leavers the best in their post-16 options.

Following on from my letter on Monday I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that school will be closed on Monday 19 September to observe the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This will be a day of respect and reflection for many, and I hope you can take this opportunity to be with loved ones at this time. Our homework expectations for next week

will be unchanged in all subjects.

A new academic year can bring additional challenges as we return to systems and structures. As the school continues to grow the upscaling of our processes, especially with external providers, can present additional difficulties. Thank you to those parents who have contacted us regarding issues with our cashless till systems, we have been assured by Blue Runner that they are working to resolve these issues. Challenges give us an opportunity to practise our value of respect in how we deal with one another. We would ask that all communications whether through phone, email, social media and in person are respectful of staff who are often dealing with delicate issues on behalf of third party providers.

Each year I begin by presenting my vision and values. Our vision is that everybody connected with the



school can be successful and our values of Ambition, Confidence, Creativity, Determination and Respect underpin this aim. As students get back into the routines of being at Five Acres we will be challenging them to think of how these values can also be exhibited in the local community, on local transport and within their families. We are looking forward to an exceptional year and would ask you if possible to promote our Open Events which commence next week.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS

Last week we welcomed 180 enthusiastic new Year 7 children to Five Acres High School. They have made an excellent start and despite some nerves, there have been lots of happy, smiling faces. It has been great to see everyone catching up with old friends and making new ones too.

Staff have been incredibly impressed by their uniform, conduct and how well they have settled in and Mr Hayward (Head of Key Stage 3) alongside his Year 7 tutor team are enjoying getting to know our new cohort too.

Here are some one of the things they have enjoyed so far:

"I really liked Oracy because it makes you more confident with speaking."

"I really like the food!"

"English was great, well organized and interesting - I really like English so this was great."

"I really liked my tutor, he's been really supportive."

"I got lost, but a teacher helped me so I was fine - the teachers have been very helpful."

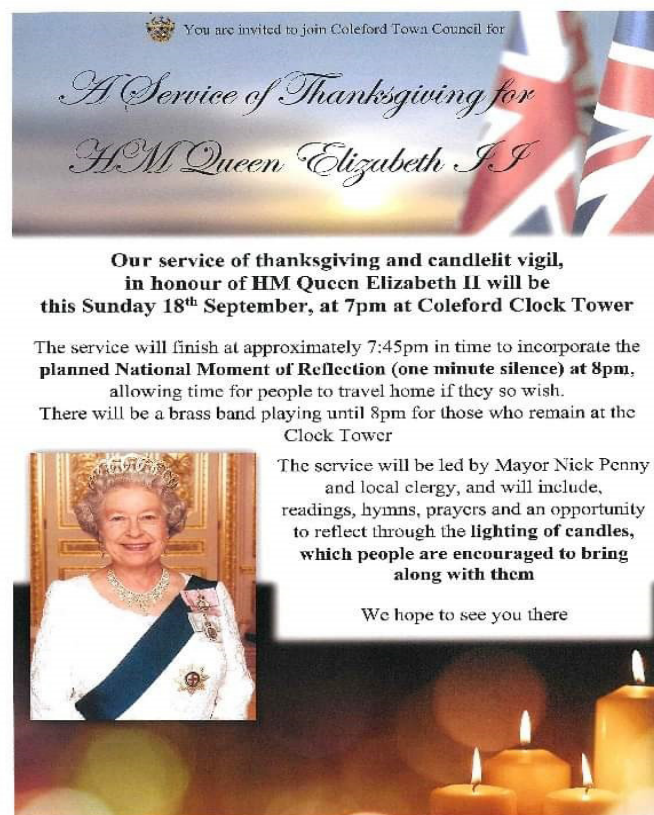
Congratulations to all of our Year 7 students on making such a strong start to their Five Acres High School journey.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

You are invited to join Coleford Town Council's service of thanksgiving and candlelit vigil in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II this Sunday 18 September at 7pm at Coleford Clock Tower.

The service will finish at approximately 7:45pm in time to incorporate the planned national moment of reflection (one minute silence) at 8pm, allowing time for people to travel home if they so wish. There will be a brass band playing until 8pm for those who remain at the Clock Tower.

The service will be led by Mayor Nick Penny and local clergy and will include readings, hymns, prayers and an opportunity to reflect through the lighting of candles, which people are encouraged to bring along with them.



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

The Modern Foreign Languages department is hosting a variety of events to celebrate this year's European Day of Languages. On Monday 26 September (the official European Day of Languages) students will enjoy an assembly about the benefits and importance of speaking another language in today's world. On Thursday the canteen will be offering authentic French and Spanish food options. Finally, we will end the week with a Fun Friday Languages Quiz to test students' knowledge of different languages around the world.



ACADEMIES & SOCIETIES

Staff are currently in the process of confirming our extensive Academies and Societies offer and more details will be shared with students and parents/carers as soon as we can. Students can expect to see our usual Sports offerings of Rugby, Netball, Golf and Rowing, plus Book Societies for each year group and so much more.



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

HOW TO USE FLASHCARDS EFFECTIVELY

Retrieval practice is a really effective way to revise. This is a revision strategy where students actively test their memory, rather than re-reading or highlighting. This makes the memory stronger for students so they can recall that information confidently and quickly. All students in Years 10 and 11 have been given a pack of flashcards to take away with them to aid their studies, this is a fun and active way to use retrieval practice and test memory.

What makes a good flashcard?

Flashcards are quick fire questions written on small pieces of card. They should have a question on one side, and an answer on another. The best flashcards have small amounts of information with specific questions. Varying the question starters (what, why, who, when, explain) can mean that students are using different skills, not just information recall.

How can I help?

Flashcards and quizzing are brilliant ways to get involved in your child's revision. Although the making of flashcards is important, quizzing using the flashcards is the most powerful revision. You can use these cards as games at home with the family or quiz on a regular basis as a habit.

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Our Reading Programme Lead, Miss Phelps shares her picks for KS3 and KS4.
Everything Everything
by Nicola Yoon



My disease is as rare as it is famous. It's a form of Severe Combined Immunodeficiency, but basically, I'm allergic to the world. I don't leave my house, have not left my house in 15 years. The only people I ever see are my mom and my nurse, Carla.

But then one day, a moving truck arrives. New next door neighbours. I look out the window, and I see him. He's tall, lean and wearing all black—black t-shirt, black jeans, black sneakers and a black knit cap

that covers his hair completely. He catches me looking and stares at me. I stare right back. His name is Olly. I want to learn everything about him, and I do. I learn that he is funny and fierce. I learn that his eyes are Atlantic Ocean-blue and that his vice is stealing silverware. I learn that when I talk to him, my whole world opens up, and I feel myself starting to change—starting to want things. Maybe we can't predict the future, but we can predict some things. For example, I am certainly going to fall in love with Olly. It's almost certainly going to be a disaster.

The Midnight Library
by Matthew Haig

Between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices... Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets?

A dazzling novel about all the

choices that go into a life well lived, from the internationally bestselling author of *Reasons to Stay Alive* and *How To Stop Time*.

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. Would any of these other lives truly be better?

In Matt Haig's enchanting new novel, Nora Seed finds herself faced with this decision. Faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one, following a different career, undoing old breakups, realising her dreams of becoming a glaciologist; she must search within herself as she travels through the Midnight Library to decide what is truly fulfilling in life, and what makes it worth living in the first place.

If you have been inspired by Miss Phelps' recommendations, head to uk.bookshop.org/shop/fiveacres to discover more great reads.

AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

STAR STUDENTS YEAR 7

I'm so impressed with how 7GTS have started their learning journey at Five Acres High School, well done all. Everyone is looking really smart in their uniforms and students have clearly put a great deal of effort into getting all of their equipment organised. Students have settled well into their lessons and we are already well into reading our first book (*Boy87*) in Tutor Time Reading. I have been really impressed with the number of students looking to get involved in our after-school academies. It was great to see how enthusiastic AJ, Jenna, Lilly and Ellie were at the thought of attending the rugby academy earlier this week, which they subsequently really enjoyed. In addition Bobby, Harry, Robin, Jake, Cian and Olly have all attended the Football Academy. It would be great to see all students attending at least one academy a week. Well done all. Thank you, Mr Thomas.

YEAR 9

After the summer holidays, Osgar (9AFS) came back to school with all equipment and a perfect uniform. He is polite as always and is really helpful in TTRP helping to hand out the new pencil cases. Osgar is punctual to school as well as to DEAR time.

YEAR 10

Tia (10RSH) is a great ambassador for our school, she has gained numerous badges and shields as part of the Character Education programme. Tia takes part in various school events, activities and academies like netball, football, book club and Tia recently took part in the school showcase.

OPEN EVENTS

There are still some places available for our Open Events - Open Evening on Tuesday 20 September and School in Action Mornings on Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 September for parents of Year 6 children to come along and see what we do.

To book a place on one of our Headteacher's talks (5pm, 6pm and 7pm) please email admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk with your preferred time and child's current primary school. Staff will be available to provide tours from 4:30-6:30pm.

School In Action appointments are currently available at 10am, 11:15, 12pm and 12:30pm.









**FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL
OPEN EVENING
20 SEPTEMBER 2022
FROM 4:30PM**

HEADTEACHER'S TALKS AT 5, 6 & 7PM

SCHOOL IN ACTION MORNINGS
21 & 22 SEPTEMBER 2022, 9:30AM-12:30PM

Come and see us in action and find out why we believe choosing
FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL
will give your child the best
chance of success

Please email admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk to book your
Headteacher's talk time and School In Action Morning appointment

Tel: 01594 832263 Email: admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk Web: www.5acreshighschool.co.uk

AMBITION, CONFIDENCE, CREATIVITY,
RESPECT, DETERMINATION




FASHION SHOW IN AID OF TIC+

fundraising
FASHION
show

FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER
7pm arrival for 7.30pm

Tickets £10 | Fantastic raffle! | Fizz on arrival
Goodie bag to include a special gift

**Join us for an evening of Fashion, Fun and
Fundraising at Teri Chance Boutiques in Lydney**





In aid of




Tickets cost £10
To book email fundraising@ticplus.org.uk

The event will be taking place at
Teri Chance Boutiques, Unit 14-15 The Marina,
Harbour Road, Lydney, GL15 5ET

To book tickets you can also visit
TIC+ Offices, Carlson Suite, Building 7, Vantage Point
Business Village, Mitcheldean GL17 0DD



UPDATES FROM HEADS OF KEY STAGE MR HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 3



The Year 7 students have made a fantastic start to secondary school with a smooth transition for the majority of them. It is great to see Y7s growing in confidence as the days go by as they begin to learn their way around the school and get to know their teachers. The best part is watching new friendships start, some of these friendships will last a lifetime and they are starting right now, which is awesome. Equally Year 8 and Year 9 students have made a strong start back after the holidays. All three year groups are showing really strong attendance, with nearly every student in 100% correct uniform with the right equipment, ready to learn.

A couple of housekeeping notes for the new term - all the information for new academies and societies are currently being put together and this will be with you shortly. School sports fixtures have already begun, students who are involved will be given the relevant details. There has also been a re-structure on the pastoral side of the school, I am now Head of Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Head of PE and Mrs Toulson is now Pastoral Lead for Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9. Tutors remain the first port of call for parents with pastoral concerns as the tutor will see your child the most. If an issue needs to be escalated it will go to Mrs Toulson then myself.

MRS HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4



It has been fantastic to have Year 10 back in the building. They have made a superb start to their GCSEs, demonstrating great commitment to their learning. I have been really impressed to see so many Year 10 students already starting their revision packs by creating some great flashcards and testing each other in their free time. These fantastic habits you are already starting to build will put you in a great position to be successful over the next two years.

Walking around Year 11 lessons and talking to students, there is a real buzz and positive energy. It has been great to see so many staying for Period 6 and recognising how important the additional time spent with subject specialists is.

CONTACT US

To keep up to date with life at Five Acres High School,
please follow us on
Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

To contact the school, please call
01594 832263 or
email admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk

STAR STUDENTS YEAR 10

Theia-Rose Williams (10AWS) has impressed in tutor time this past week. Not only is she reading an incredibly sophisticated book in her DEAR time, but she also follows along diligently with her bookmark as we read *The Green Mile* during tutor time. Plus she's always a smiley face to greet in the morning!

YEAR 11

Harlee (11JAN) has really impressed over the first two weeks of the new academic year. As a new member of staff, I have been struck by the whole group's excellent work ethic but Harlee's quiet focus and ambition to achieve has been noticeable. She is always willing to answer questions and has produced work of an excellent standard. Well done, Harlee!

KEY DATES

Monday 19 September

Bank Holiday

Tuesday 20 September

Open Evening

Wednesday 21 September

School In Action morning

Thursday 22 September

School In Action Morning

Thursday 29 September

Year 7 Heartstarters Workshop

Monday 11 July

Sports Day - Rounders & Softball

Tuesday 4 October

Governors Meeting

Tuesday 11 October

Year 7 and Year 11 School Photos

Thursday 13 October

Year 11 Parents

Information Evening

Monday 17-Friday 21 October

Year 7 Residential