



# FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

8 November 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Here at Five Acres we are looking forward to a brilliant term of celebration, recognition and achievement. Students have had a successful return to school following the half term break, and it is great to see many of our Year 11 students so well prepared for their PPE exams which started on Monday, and will run for the next two weeks. Year 7-10 students will have the opportunity to showcase what they have learnt in their round of assessments starting on 14 November. All students have timetables and assessment manifests to help guide them.

We want students to be successful and have listened to your feedback asking for students to be rewarded more. Students will now be able to receive a token from staff when they are seen to be showing the behaviour and attitudes that support our school values, with the tokens going to support their house in accruing points towards the end of term prize. Please take some time to talk to your children about how they can earn recognition

through the tokens and postcard systems we run when they display our school values.

Respect is one of our values which will be a focus this week and next through our Remembrance and Respect assemblies. During the Remembrance assembly we will give practical applications for when retrieval can support us in being respectful, in this instance by remembering those who sacrifice so much for our freedoms.

Many of you will have noticed an increased police presence in Five Acres High School recently. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that we are committed to cooperating with the police on any issues that they are working on in the community and supporting them where students bring the school into disrepute by not displaying the values, especially respect, that we strive so hard to encourage them to adopt. The cooperation we provide is centred around keeping the whole school community safe for the enjoyment of everyone.



As the countdown to Christmas approaches, as a school we will be supporting the Forest Food Bank and have decided to use the Reverse Advent Calendar idea as a way to focus donations. You will find a list of items that have been suggested by the Forest Food Bank on page 6 of this newsletter. The list offers suggestions for items to be donated on particular days, but we will welcome whatever students, parents and carers are able to donate. The collections will run up until the week commencing Monday 12 December, and donations can be left in Reception between 8am and 4pm, Monday to Friday.

## YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL

Across the final week of last term, 147 Year 7 students out of a year group of 180, took part in the Year 7 Residential held at the Viney Hill Adventure Centre.

Students had the opportunity to take part in crate stacking, tunnelling, archery and a night hike, followed by hot chocolate around the campfire. This was a fantastic experience for all those involved and those students will have all earned possibly their first Character Education badge and certificate - Bronze Adventure. Well done!



**AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT**

## ACADEMIES & SOCIETIES

### Monday Lunchtime

Year 7-11 Music Practise drop-in  
Year 7-11 Film Analysis Club  
Year 7-10 MFL Conversation Club  
Year 7-11 Chess Club  
Year 9 Book Society (Week A)

### Monday After school

Year 7-10 Winter Play rehearsals  
Y7 & 8 Boys Rugby  
Y7 & 8 Girls Netball  
Y7 & 8 Trampolining

### Tuesday Lunchtime

Year 7-10 Performance Techniques  
Year 7-11 Enterprise  
Year 7 & 8 Book Society (Week A)  
Year 7-9 Eco Club

### Tuesday After school

Year 7-10 Acapella  
Year 7 & 8 Junior Rock Band  
Year 7 & 8 Art Academy  
Year 7-9 Girls Rugby  
Year 7-9 Girls Cricket  
Table Tennis

### Wednesday Lunchtime

Y7-11 Crochet Society  
Y7-11 Harry Potter Club (Week A)  
Y7-11 Music Practise drop-in  
Y7-11 Boccia

### Wednesday After school

Y7-10 Winter Play rehearsals  
Y9-10 Senior Rock Band  
Y7-10 STEM Society  
Y9 Electronics Academy  
Y7 Boys Football  
Y7-10 Girls Football

Y9-10 Boys Football

Y7-11 Golf

### Thursday Lunchtime

Y7-11 Band Skills  
Y7-11 Pride Club  
Y7-10 Poetry by Heart (Week A)  
Y10 Book Society (Week B)  
Y11 Book Society (Week A)  
Y7-11 Equestrian Society

### Thursday After school

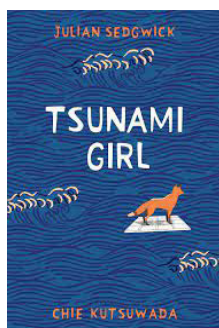
Y7-10 Musical Theatre Choir  
Y8 Boys Football  
Y9-10 Boys Rugby  
Y9-10 Girls Netball

### Friday Lunchtime

Y7-11 Lego Club  
Y11 Massolit/Homework Support  
Y7-11 Cipher Challenge

## READING RECOMMENDATIONS

*Our Reading Programme Lead, Miss Phelps shares her picks for KS3 and KS4.*



### **Tsunami Girl**

by Chie Kutsuwada

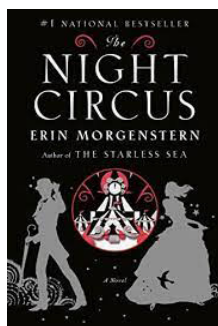
Shortlisted for the Carnegie Greenway Award 2022 and selected for our Reading Teachers Reading Pupils programme, students will find a number of staff delighting in this novel around the school.

Fifteen-year-old Yuki is struggling at school with her confidence, and goes to Japan to stay with her grandfather, a well-known manga artist and to whom she is very close. During her visit, a calamitous event occurs - the March 2011 East Coast

earthquake and tsunami - and her beloved Grandpa is lost.

Yuki and her friend Taka must make sense of the terrible situation and come to terms with the loss of their life as they knew it - and see that through renewal and with resilience, they can emerge from this tragedy with optimism. Interwoven with Japanese folk tales, modern-day ghost stories, and the creation of her very own vibrant manga hero, Yuki finds the courage to overcome extraordinary odds.

Told through both prose and manga, this story for young adults will touch the heart of any reader.



### **The Night Circus**

by Erin Morgenstern

The circus arrives without warning.

It is simply there, when yesterday it was not. Within the black-and-white striped canvas tents is an utterly unique experience full of breathtaking amazements. It is called Le Cirque des Rêves, and it is only open at night.

But behind the scenes, a fierce competition is underway: a duel between two young magicians, Celia and Marco, who have been trained since childhood expressly for this purpose by their mercurial instructors. Unbeknownst to them both, this is a game in which only one can be left standing. Despite the high stakes, Celia and Marco soon tumble headfirst into love, setting off a domino effect of dangerous consequences, and leaving the lives of everyone, from the performers to the patrons, hanging in the balance.

If you have been inspired by Miss Phelps' choices, you can buy books and support the school through our partnership with Rossiter Books - <https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/fiveacres>



## COLEFORD YOUTH HUB

Coleford Youth Hub is now officially open and free to students in Years 5-8. Head along to Cafe Sixteen 16 to get involved.



## YEAR 9 ANIMAL SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

For Year 9 students with a passion for animals, sign up for Animal Science weekend! On Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 December, visit 3 different campuses to meet animal experts, enjoy activities including animal husbandry with small furries and reptiles, an owl pellet workshop, farm visit and a dive into horse neuroscience! Go to [bit.ly/Animal22](http://bit.ly/Animal22) to register your interest.



## CHARACTER EDUCATION

Congratulations to all of those students who were presented with their Character Education shields and certificates this week. Highlighting just some of the numerous ways our students can be involved, Kayleigh earned her Gold Diversity badge for taking part in a Pride Assembly and Gold Environment for being involved in the Save Cannop Ponds petition and Tia earned her award by having excellent attendance in after-school clubs and for representing a sports team outside of school. Well done everyone!



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## STAR STUDENTS

### YEAR 7

Millie (7SHN) has thrown herself into school life already, and we are only just starting the second half of term 1. She seems completely at home at Five Acres High School, joining as many sports teams as possible and completing her homework to a high standard. She always has a smile for her teachers.

### YEAR 9

Luke (9AFS) is a very polite and respectful student. He is punctual and is very involved in the Tutor Time Reading Programme. Luke also signed up for several Societies/Academies and attends them on a regular basis. It is an absolute pleasure to have Luke in 9AFS.

### YEAR 10

Rowan (10RSH) has been amazing on the first day back at school this term as he has received the very first orange token for his tutor group by displaying our school values in all that he does. This is a great achievement - well done!

### YEAR 11

Connor (11CGN) has recently been nominated for a Pride of Coleford award and is a Character Education Lead for Ambition. Connor always strives to achieve the highest grades by completing extra independent revision and has always achieved 100% in his French homework.

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



Welcome back to the new term. We had a great 1st term, particularly Y7 who have now completed their first term as Five Acres High School students. Y7 completed the first term with the highest attendance in school and the best behaviour reports.

This term will see the 1st assessments of the year.

These assessments will take place in lessons and will be used to help set students across all of KS3. Assessments begin on the 14/11 and will last for 2 weeks. Students have 'Assessment Manifests' and 'Knowledge Organisers' and we encourage students to use these regularly in order to prepare for their assessments. If students have subject specific questions around the assessments we would encourage them to speak directly with their class teachers. We wish all students luck in preparing for and sitting their assessments.

## MRS HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4



The year 11 PPEs begin this week and will continue until the 18 November. All students have been given a copy of the timetable for the next 2 weeks. We are really excited to provide our students with this opportunity to showcase all of their learning. I would like to remind all students to continue to revise effectively

during this time through the use of flashcards, low stakes quizzing and subject specific revision set by their teachers. For many, the results they are awarded in this set of exams will be provided in their references for their future education settings, as well as being a great tool for our students to guide them in the areas to target their future revision.

Our Year 11s should head into this round of PPEs with confidence and determination, knowing that where they have used the resources available to them appropriately they will be successful. We know that exam periods can be a particularly stressful time, so it is important for wellbeing that during this time students find a balance by breaking up their revision with making time for exercise, socialising and relaxation as well as eating healthy foods and staying well hydrated and therefore these should be factored to students revision timetables.

It has been great to see so many of our Year 10 students engaging in effective revision strategies. I see so many students using their flashcards in their free time to support their revision. Year 10s should be preparing for their assessment window which begins on 14 November for 2 weeks. Knowledge organiser or flash cards can be collected from Reception or Head of Year office, if they are required. I would also encourage our Year 10s to create a revision timetable for this assessment window to help them organise their time. If they would like support with this, their tutor will be able to help create this wonderful tool.

We also have the opportunity for some of our Year 10s to have their careers meeting with our careers advisor over the next 2 weeks. If they are keen to begin to discuss their future destination, please encourage them to come and see me to arrange this.

## MFL COMPETITION

It is inspiring to see students from year 9 (Spanish and French) participating on a National Language Competition. They will be completing different challenges during this week at lunch time. Wish them luck!



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Is your child interested in learning a musical instrument, but isn't sure which one? Gloucestershire Music is hosting its Try and Instrument day on Saturday 12 November, 10-12pm, at Sir Thomas Rich's School. There is also an opportunity to be involved in a number of music sessions from the Five Valleys Music Centre, held on Saturday mornings. You can find out more at the Open Day on Saturday 12 November at Archway School, Stroud.



## 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](mailto:admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk)

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## FOREST FOOD BANK DONATIONS

This year we will once again be supporting the forest food bank as a collection base for any donations that parents/carers are able to provide.

To help focus donations this year we are using the Reverse Advent Calendar idea (see the image) to provide ideas for donations based on the Food Bank's suggestions. These are suggestions and we will still welcome whatever parents/carers and students are able to donate. The collections will open from November 8 and will run up until the last week of term, week commencing 12 December. This will allow Forest Food Bank volunteers to collect the school's donations and distribute them. Donations can be left in Reception between 8am and 4pm, Monday-Friday.

