



FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

17 February 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Thank you for supporting us through what has been another brilliant term. For whichever year group we have arranged events, whether academic or performance based, we are fully appreciative of your engagement with us and what we are trying to achieve.

Students have had another fantastic couple of weeks. With PPEs and assessments having started this week, our Year 11 students had the opportunity to recently hear from Young Minds Matter about how to deal with and prepare for any additional stress they may be feeling at this time and in the lead up to their final exams in the summer. Year 11s are responding really positively to the encouragement and additional revision opportunities they have, from completing their bingo cards to asking for past exam papers to support revision.

In our recent parent surveys there have been some really helpful suggestions on how we can continue our improvement journey. In response to this we have

recently upgraded our cashless catering system and will shortly be upgrading our management information system. These and other changes are intended to improve our communication flow and to ensure that you get the information you require in more timely ways.

We also responded to requests to ensure students receive more praise. We have chosen to start our days in roll call with additional positive messages and we have introduced our orange token system. We are thrilled with how students have responded to this with over 6000 tokens towards house points being given out over the last two months for actions in keeping with our school values. We would encourage you to talk to your child about the positive message given with each token they receive. We are also excited to launch our birthday tie initiative and our PlayStation Schools Cup competition. Whilst our core business will always remain safeguarding and academic success of our students, we will continue



to look for new ways to ensure students have multiple ways to shine.

With half term upon us, I want to remind Year 11s of the opportunity to boost their performance in practical subjects by attending the half term sessions. For all other year groups, I wish them well in their preparation towards their assessments, which will start on Monday 27 February. You will be aware that during that week there is another planned day of industrial action by teaching staff. I will communicate by Tuesday 28 February what our plans will be. I want to wish you a fantastic half term break and look forward to seeing your children back with us on 27 February.

HOSPITALITY & CATERING TRIP TO THE IVY, CARDIFF

Friday 20 January saw 12 of our Hospitality and Catering students enjoy a fine dining experience at The Ivy in Cardiff. They had the opportunity to try some fantastic food and take in the luxury atmosphere of a high-end restaurant ahead of their exams later in the year.



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

ACADEMIES & SOCIETIES

Monday Lunchtime

Year 7-10 MFL Conversation Club
Year 7-11 Chess Club
Year 9 Book Society
(Week A)

Monday After school

Year 7-10 School Production
rehearsals
Y7-10 Girls Football
Y7 Boys Rugby

Tuesday Lunchtime

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
Art Academy
Year 7-9 Girls Rugby

U13 and U15 Girls Handball
Y7-11 Rowing
Community Engagement
Programme

Wednesday Lunchtime

Y7-11 Crochet Society
Student Leadership Team
Magistrates Mock Trial
Further Maths

Wednesday After school

Y9-11 Senior Rock Band
STEM Society
Y7 Boys Football
Y9-10 Boys Football
Y7 & 8 Girls Netball
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
Science Magazine Society

Thursday After school

School Production
Rehearsals
Y8 Boys Football
Yoga
Y9-10 Girls Netball
Chess Tournament
Social Skills

Friday Lunchtime

Y11 Massolit/
Homework Support

Friday After school

Y7-11 Lego Club
Gardening Club

STAR STUDENTS YEAR 7

Noah (7SHN) has done so well adjusting to life at Five Acres High School, he is a member of many academy and societies and is excelling in all his subjects. Completing homework on time and correctly. Well done Noah!

YEAR 7

Ashton (7JLN) is always respectful, helpful and smiling! He is an asset to the tutor group.

YEAR 10

Parker (10RSH) has been shortlisted for a competitive international essay writing competition. Parker has been invited to Oxford University to look at their extensive library and campus and to hear the results of the competition. This is fantastic and we are very proud.

YEAR 10 HARTPURY WORKSHOPS

The Year 10 GCSE PE students attended some Higher Education workshops at Hartpury University this week. Students had a tour of the facilities and took part in a practical workshop. They also had theory workshops about the pathway towards Further Education and Higher Education, as well as a workshop on Sports Business Management. This has hopefully inspired some of our current sports students to choose a career in sport and potentially use Hartpury to continue their education journey.



TEN TORS TRAINING EVENT

On Saturday 21 January we had our first GLT Ten Tors training up on Llanbedr Hill near the Brecon Beacons. Despite some surprise fog and snow covering which changed the plans slightly, the day turned out to be a fantastic opportunity to practise navigating in poor visibility - something we don't often get a chance to do. The Five Acres High School group learned a lot and didn't let the cold get them down, they are on track to form a superb team. The next training session gave the team their first experience of Dartmoor and let them put their new navigation skills to good use.



ART ACADEMY

Art Academy is an after-school academy which is held every Tuesday, for students in Years 7 and 8. Miss Price runs the academy, with guest appearance from Miss Trumm, and is aimed anyone who enjoys Art and techniques such as drawing, painting and making.

What kind of activities do we do?

We do mini workshops of lots of different techniques, such as drawing, building in 3D and painting. Last term, we had the opportunity to take part in a community project, where we made a Christmas tree and decorations to be displayed in Christchurch in Coleford. These kinds of projects are not only great for developing skills and community links, but they can also go towards students earning Character Education badges. We also looked at several oil pastel techniques including Monoprinting and Sgraffito. These help develop your colour theory and mark-making skills.



What is Art Academy doing this term?

This term we are starting off by looking at sewing skills, initially looking at different hand sewing stitches and making creative keyrings.

Next, we will look at how sewing and textiles are used in Art. Later in the term, we will look at painting skills, including the textures and marks you can create, how to blend colours and how to combine skills to create eye-catching, detailed paintings.



Testimonials from Art Academy Students

'Doing Art Academy has helped me learn new skills.' Ruby, Year 7

'In Art Academy we learn new creative ways and do lots of arts and crafts. This included sewing, drawing and much more.' Lexi, Year 7

'It is really fun and brings out your creative side.' Verity, Year 8

AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

UPDATES FROM HEADS OF KEY STAGES

MR HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 3



Y7 and Y8 continue to have the strongest attendance in the school with Y7 also having the best behaviour record. Year 9 have also had some really strong attendance with over 97% in at times.

On Wednesday 15 February we had a Year 9 Parents Information Evening, this was really well attended and we hope that parents/cares and students found this useful. The deadline for Y9 to choose options online is 15th March- we would encourage parents and carers to start to talk options with their student. We heavily encourage students to talk to their teachers about possible routes. On Thursday 9th March there is a Y9 parents evening which will give another opportunity for students and parents/carers to talk thorough options as well as progress.

The first 2 weeks back are KS3 assessments which students are aware of, in the mean time we hope they have a well earned break at half term.

MRS HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4



Our Year 11 students have shown real determination during their first week of their final PPEs. Thank you for all of your support at home to help our students revise and feel prepared. I have been so impressed with the students' engagement in our Year 11 'Bingo' - a new initiative to support them to carry out small actions that will encourage great habits. 33 students have completed their bingo card in 2 weeks, with many completing two!

This time of year can bring natural stresses to Year 11 students and we continue to support them through this time in school. We recently welcomed Young Minds Matter who delivered an exam stress assembly to students.

We also welcomed back one of our past students to deliver an assembly to our Year 10 and 11 students on Finance apprenticeships and life in investment banking. What a superb opportunity for our students to receive first-hand information in this area and ask lots of great questions.

KEY DATES

Monday 20 - Friday 24 February
Half Term

Monday 27 February

Students return to school

W/C Monday 27 February

Year 11 PPEs

W/C Monday 27 February

Year 7-10 assessments

Wednesday 1 March

Year 8 HPV vaccination session

Thursday 9 March

Year 9 Parents' Evening

W/C Monday 13 March

Y11 Hospitality & Catering exams

Wednesday 15 March

Year 9 Options deadline

Thursday 16 March

Year 8 Parents'
Information Evening

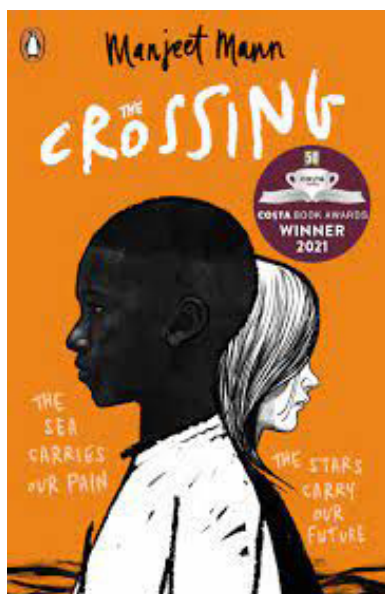
CELEBRATE SPEAKING!

The British Council is hosting a virtual festival of languages in education and community through speaking and performance. Students can practise and celebrate the language that they are learning, or use in their community, and take part in a virtual festival of speaking. Students should prepare a short poem, presentation, sketch or piece of dialogue in their chosen language. This can be a joint or solo performance and should be no longer than 90 seconds. Record yourself delivering the performance. Participants under the age of 16 should use PowerPoint slides, Bitmoji, images or video, rather than showing their faces. Send your video to your MFL teacher so we can share it with everyone on social media.



READING RECOMMENDATIONS

*Our Reading Programme
Lead, Miss Phelps shares
her picks for Key Stage 3 and
Key Stage 4.*



The Crossing
by Manjeet Mann

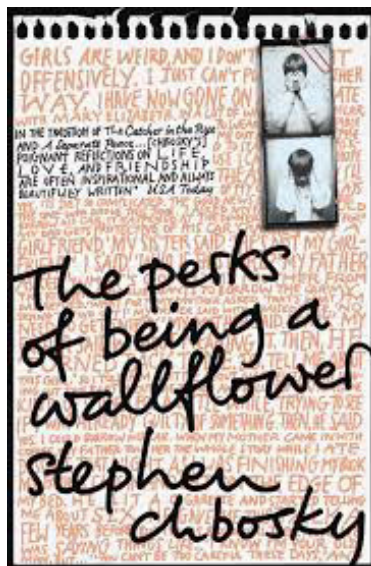
A trailblazing new novel about two teenagers from opposite worlds; *The Crossing* is a profound story of hope, grief, and the very real tragedies of the refugee crisis.

Natalie's world is falling apart. She's just lost her mum and her brother marches the streets of Dover full of hate and anger. Swimming is her only refuge.

Sammy has fled his home and family in Eritrea for the

chance of a new life in Europe. Every step he takes on his journey is a step into an unknown and unwelcoming future.

A twist of fate brings them together and gives them both hope. But is hope enough to mend a broken world?



***The Perks of Being A
Wallflower***
by Stephen Chbosky

The Perks of Being a Wallflower is a deeply affecting coming-of-age story that will spirit you back to those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up.

Charlie is a freshman. And while he's not the biggest geek in the school, he is by no means

popular. Shy, introspective, intelligent beyond his years yet socially awkward, he is a wallflower, caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it.

Charlie is attempting to navigate his way through uncharted territory: the world of first dates and mix-tapes, family dramas and new friends; the world of sex, drugs, and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, when all one requires is that perfect song on that perfect drive to feel infinite. But Charlie can't stay on the sideline forever.

Standing on the fringes of life offers a unique perspective. But there comes a time to see what it looks like from the dance floor. In 2012, Stephen Chbosky adapted the story that was first published in 1999, for the big screen, with a film starring Emma Watson and Logan Lerman in the lead role of Charlie.

*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](https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/fiveacres)

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 11

Jayden (11JAN) produced outstanding work in English recently - the paragraph that he created was used as a class model. Well done.

Millie (11JAN) shows quiet determination by always working hard and producing work of an excellent standard.

Shelby (11JAN) always works really hard and demonstrates a solid knowledge and understanding of each topic in her English lessons. Her analysis is really coming along.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

On Tuesday 24 January students and staff were able to celebrate Chinese New Year - Year of the Rabbit - thanks to the canteen's themed menu.



BINGO & CURRY NIGHT FOR BORNEO EXPEDITION



WEDNESDAY, 1 MARCH 2023
At Five Acres High School

Doors Open: 6:30pm Eyes Down: 7:00pm

Curry: 7:30pm

This event is open to family and friends of Five Acres High School. Cakes, drinks and raffle at additional cost. To support catering, please complete the Google form at this link shorturl.at/eqCS4 with an estimate of how many will be attending with you. £8 adults, £5 children - cash payments on the door.



Berry Hill Under Fives Group

A charity-based preschool, we provide care and education for children aged 2-4 years, based in the grounds of Five Acres High School.

With highly qualified and experienced staff, providing a range of stimulating activities for all ages.

Registered to provide 15 or 30-hour funding provided by the Government for children aged 3 years. Also available for 2 years old who meet the criteria.

Open daily during term time 8.15am - 2.45pm Monday to Friday. Flexible opening hours may be available upon request.

Phone - 01594 810808

Email - Berryhillufg@yahoo.co.uk

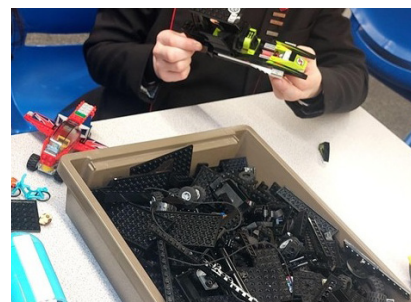
Charity Registration Number: 1053461

Ofsted Registration Number: EY449671



LEGO CLUB

A big thank you for the very kind and generous donations of Lego that we have received. Lego Club has been a really popular addition to the extra-curricular activities we offer at Five Acres High School and we are grateful to all those who have made donations. We have very happy and creative students as a result!



POEM FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

Year 9 student, Rey, joined us from the Ukraine in October 2022. She recently created a poem about love, written first in Ukrainian and then she translated it into English. With Valentine's Day this week, we thought it would be timely to share her work.

What do you know about love types?
There are enough of them, and many are not named at all...
When you ask a person which love is more important,
He might answer:
"Parental love";
"Teen love";
"Friendly Love".
Perhaps someone can answer...
"Just love".
But who will answer
"Love for yourself"?!
Who's to say you have to love yourself the same way?!
Who's to say you have to respect yourself as well?!
The identity of oneself is like a deep sea.
The longer you study it, the more you realize that you know nothing.
You have to love this sea,
Respect for what is still alive,
Recognize boundaries.
The sea is diverse:
With different waters,
With complex currents,
With unusual fish,
With beautiful corals.
Every sea is unique.

CHARACTER EDUCATION SHIELDS

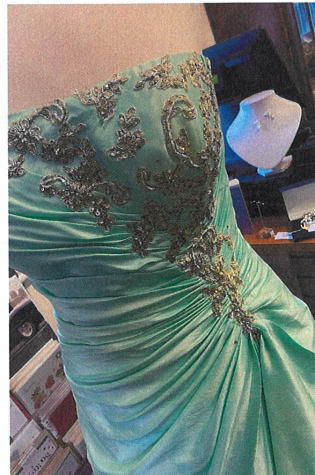
A number of our students, across all year groups, were presented with Character Shields this week. Our students continue to work hard in extra-curricular events to earn their awards. Individual student photos will be added to the Photo Album section of the school website.



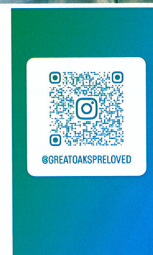
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PRE-LOVED PROM OUTFITS

Charity, Great Oaks Hospice, has a Pre-Loved store stocking an amazing array of gowns, men's suits and shoes just waiting to be re-loved. With Year 11 Prom set for the summer, they are offering money-saving ways to go glam on the big day. As an additional incentive, the store has partnered with Dehaze Photography to offer a deal where if student buys their prom dress or suit from Great Oaks Pre-Loved they will receive a voucher for a photoshoot. The voucher will be valid for three months from the day of purchase and can be used on the day of the prom or any other date within this period, subject to availability.



Great Oaks Pre-Loved Coleford



Great Oaks Pre-Loved have a variety of beautiful dresses in varied sizes suitable for your prom.
We are open 9-4pm everyday except Sundays.

Pre Loved is Re Loved



2, Mushet Place, Coleford. Glos

WORLD BOOK WEEK

Starting the week students return after half term, we will be celebrating World Book Week. See below for the activities that students can get involved in.

WORLD BOOK WEEK



Monday 27 February 2023

Guess The Teacher KS3 Novel Hunt. See how many novels you can find on the reverse of teachers' lanyards.



Tuesday 28 February, Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2 March

Five Acres are welcoming Rossiters 'Pop-up Book Shop' in the library where students can purchase from the most up-to-date novels available. The shop will be open, in the library, during break and lunchtimes. Please note, the shop is cash only.



World Book Day - Thursday 2 March

'Guess the Novel' from the opening lines...

Students have the opportunity to guess the 20 novels (taken from our Tutor Reading Programme) in the quiz from the opening lines.



Friday Finale - Friday 3rd March

Let the battle commence with 'The Super, Amazing, Fantastically, Incredible Quiz'. House teams battle it out on the final day. 100 House points up for grabs!!!

STEM SOCIETY TRIP

Our STEM society (Y7 and 8) visited the Mechanical Art and Design Museum in Stratford. This museum showcases mechanical works of art looking mainly at kinetic art. Energy stores (of which kinetic is one) is a very important theme in Physics and it is important to have a grounding in this if any of our students want to progress into STEM careers (engineering, science, technology). The students thoroughly enjoyed comparing energy stores and building their own intricate marble runs in the marble run room utilising gravitational potential and kinetic energy stores.



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