



# FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

10 March 2023

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the first newsletter for this half term. Students are working hard to show off their skills and talents in their Spring assessments, we look forward to sharing the results of these assessments towards the end of the term and celebrating the progress made.

Progress in assessments and development of children's character has been proven to be adversely affected by poor attendance. The Government definition of persistent absence is any child who has an absence at least once a fortnight. We want to continue encouraging you to prioritise attendance at all stages of education because of the effect of cumulative days missed can be considerable. We understand that there are times when attendance is disrupted due to other circumstances. This is a good time to remind you about our earlier correspondence giving details of upcoming industrial action days. Can I thank all of you who have navigated some difficult weather conditions this week to ensure your child can benefit from the excellent education we provide.

We are always looking for ways to overcome difficulties that arise and barriers that hold students back. Our emphasis on reading, Character Education and performance alongside our drive for academic achievement ensures that students have a better chance of success.

On the subject of success, we were proud to learn that since September, our students have completed a huge 1,290,556 questions for Sparx Maths – this is a fantastic achievement. Also, a number of our students have been recognised for their hard work through Bedrock Learning, earning certificates for literacy excellence. We are excited to launch the next level of our Character Education offer this term – Platinum. This will be available to students in Years 9, 10 and 11 and provide an opportunity to recognise those students who show exceptional levels of commitment and achievement in relation to character. We are very proud of our girls football and boys handball teams who were crowned champions this week.



Shortly we will be starting the Student Leadership Team application process for head students and Character Education leads for the next academic year. Further details will be provided after the Easter break for students who will be entering Years 10 and 11 in September.

We continue to build on our rewards system with the successful launch of our birthday tie initiative and investing in additional equipment for students to use during break and lunchtimes to ensure that all of our students continue to thrive during their time with us. The 7000+ tokens that students have been rewarded with show what a brilliant group of students we have here at Five Acres High School.

## ART LEADERSHIP TRIP TO BEECHENHURST

The Art Leadership Team took advantage of the beautiful snowy landscape this week! We are so fortunate to have such beauty around us and the photographs we have taken will inspire our large scale paintings very soon.



**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

## SPORTING SUCCESS

Monday 6 March saw a great day of sporting success. A huge congratulations to our U13 Boys Handball Team who have won the England Handball County Tournament at Gloucester Oxstalls, beating schools such as Kings, Pates and The Crypt to claim their title. The U13s will now progress onto the regional finals.

Our U12 Girls Football team were also victorious in the District seven-a-side tournament! They now progress onto the County finals next week. Massive congratulations to all of the students who were involved.



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## CHARACTER EDUCATION: PLATINUM CHARACTER CHAMPION ACCREDITATION

Following the awarding of the Association for Character Education Kitemark Plus earlier this academic year, we are excited to announce the new layer to our Character Education programme - Platinum.

This will be available to students in Years 9, 10 and 11 only and will enable these students to work on developing their intrinsic values independently in a project-like fashion. This award has been created to recognise students' with exceptional levels of commitment and achievement in relation to character and to support their development as a flourishing young person in preparation for the next steps they will take in education and the world of work.

To take part, students should apply via a form that they will have access to on the student dashboard or that can be accessed via the QR code below.

Students can also ask for a paper application form from Miss Harris in the SLT office or Ms Smith in Room 44. There is no requirement for students to have a certain number of badges at a certain level and it will not replace the current programme, but run alongside it.

For more information, please visit the school website - [www.5acreshighschool.co.uk](http://www.5acreshighschool.co.uk).



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## STAR STUDENTS - ENTERPRISE ACADEMY

We have now gathered all the profits made by our Key Stage 3 students in the Enterprise Academy from Term 1 and are preparing to invite the registered charities into school to make the amazing donations. A huge well done to the following students for raising such a huge amount of money. It is a real credit to them.

Evie (Year 7) has raised a staggering £550.35, Evie and Shannon (Year 9) have raised a brilliant £98, Noah C, Noah G, Noah J and Charlie (Year 7) have raised £20 by working together and Josh (Year 8) has also raised £20. Year 8 students Lillie, Martha, Sophie, Laci-Mae and Imogen have all raised £87.50. Total amount raised was £775.85 for a range of charities including Forest of Dean Dog's Rescue, Alzheimer's charity The Azalea Club and Teens in Crisis. We look forward to sharing the photographs of the students handing over their fundraising efforts to their chosen charities in future newsletters and our social media platforms.

As we have covered in previous newsletters, students were given £10 to start their businesses and many of the students used that money to create their own Christmas decorations and gifts, which were sold in the school's Christmas market and outside of school to raise such fantastic amounts.

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## UPDATES FROM HEADS OF KEY STAGES

### MR HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 3



Students are well into the swing of their assessments and it has been great to see the vast majority of our students being fully prepared. Their use of their knowledge organisers, Low Stakes Quizzes and assessment manifests will serve them well.

We've had some strong attendance from KS3 this term, Y9 have shown some big improvements in particular. Year 9 have also cut their negative behaviour logs by a third when you compare last term to term 2 before Christmas. This positive step in attendance and behaviour shows that Y9 are ready to fulfil their options. A reminder that the deadline for Y9 to choose options online is 15th March. Thank you to all those parents who attended the Year 9 Parents Evening this week, either in person or by online appointments.

### MRS HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4



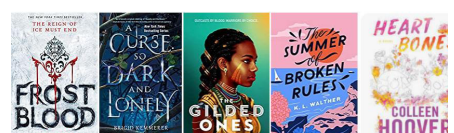
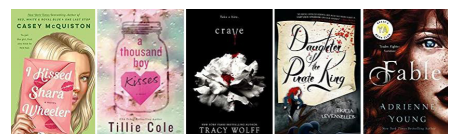
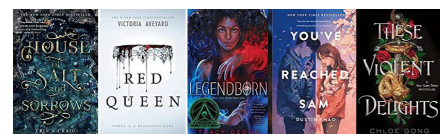
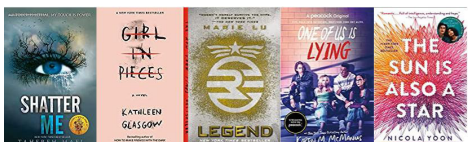
It has been a busy couple of weeks for Year 10 and 11, completing their assessments. Year 11s have now finished their final PPEs, meaning the next time they sit exams it will be for their official GCSEs. We have been really impressed with the maturity students have shown throughout the process and these preparations have been a great success. There will be an opportunity for Year 11s to attend revision and coursework sessions over the Easter break.

A timetable will be shared with you shortly. Next week, Year 11 students will also be receiving a starter revision pack which will include past papers, low stakes quiz retrieval questions and more. We hope that students will find this beneficial in the next phase of their revision for their final exams. All of our Year 11s should have now applied for at least 2 establishments for college or sixth form. A reminder that careers meetings are available should students feel they require further support with this.

Year 10 students have completed their final assessments which they will sit in a lesson format. For the next round of assessments in the summer, Year 10 will begin to prepare for their GCSEs by sitting these in the exam hall. Our Year 10s have several futures events planned this term to look forward to, including workshops for those considering business management or systems engineering, as well as some inspirational talks from previous students.

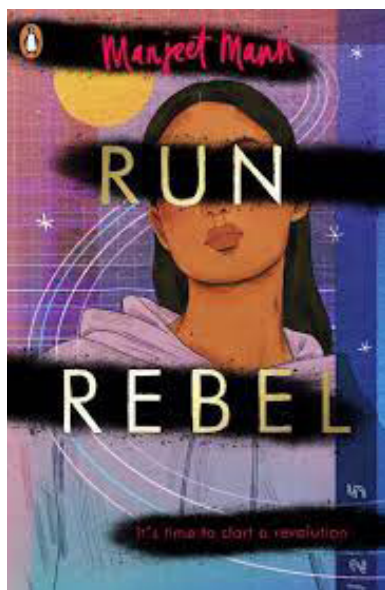
## PRE-LOVED BOOKS

We are looking for donations of Young Adult fiction to provide pre-loved books for students to access in the library. If you have any of the titles shown in the images, they would be gratefully received!



## READING RECOMMENDATIONS

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



***Run, Rebel***  
by Manjeet Mann

"I am restless, my feet need to fly."

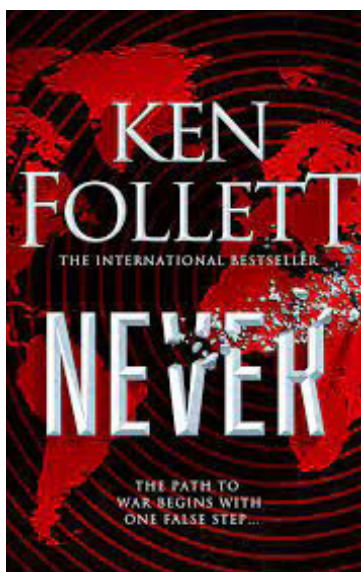
Amber is trapped - by her father's rules, by his expectations, by her own fears. Now she's ready to fight - for her mother, for her sister, for herself.

Freedom always comes at a price.

*Run, Rebel* is a trailblazing

verse novel that thunders with rhythm, heart and soul - perfect for fans of Sarah Crossan, Elizabeth Acevedo and Rupi Kaur.

An award-winning read being the winner of the Shadower's Choice Award, from the Carnegie Medal 2021, the UKLA Book Awards 2021, Diverse Books Award and winner of the Sheffield Children's Book Award 2021. It was also shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award in 2021.



***Never***  
by Ken Follett

A *Sunday Times* Thriller of the Month, *Never*, the international

best-seller imagines a scenario that we hope never comes true, a story that will keep you transfixed until the final page.

A stolen US army drone. A shrinking oasis in the Sahara desert. A secret stash of deadly chemicals.

Each is a threat to global stability. Each can be overcome with only the highest levels of diplomacy. But when those in charge disagree and refuse to back down, an international chain reaction kicks off with potentially catastrophic consequences: a world edging closer to war...

Now three people must work with the utmost skill to stop that from happening:

A spy working undercover with jihadis, a brilliant Chinese spy-master and a US president beleaguered by a populist rival for the next election.

*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>

## 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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The students had ample opportunity to taste Italian cuisine, including an evening at a family-run pizza restaurant. A favourite for the students and staff was definitely the local bakery! We also took skidoos up the mountain on Wednesday, for an evening of hot chocolate and crepes, as well as a quiz and karaoke night in the hotel. We were so impressed with the determination all of our students demonstrated during the week, taking the opportunity to master a new skill, despite some of the challenges they faced. To see the daily highlights of the trip, please visit the school Facebook page and watch our ski trip videos. For those looking to join us next year, we will be sending information out very soon!



**W/C Monday 13 March**  
Y11 Hospitality & Catering exams

**Wednesday 15 March**  
Year 9 Options deadline

**Thursday 16 March**  
Year 8 Parents' Information Evening

**Tuesday 21 March**  
Governors Meeting

**Monday 27 March**  
Spring Concert

**Thursday 30 March**  
Celebrations Evening

**Friday 31 March**  
INSET Day

**3 April - 16 April**  
Easter Holidays

**14-16 April**  
Dartmoor Training

**Monday 17 April**  
Students return to school

Well done to all of those students who received shields and certificates this week from Mr Phelps for their hard work and commitment to our Character Education offer. Individual photos will be available on the school website shortly.



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## SUE RYDER SPRING FAYRE

A vibrant illustration for a Spring Fayre poster. It features a blue sky with white clouds and yellow bunting flags. In the foreground, there are green rolling hills. A woman in a red dress is riding a blue bicycle on the left. Two women are walking in the center. On the right, a family is walking: a woman in a blue dress carrying a baby in a blue carrier, a man in an orange shirt pushing a stroller with a child, and a young girl in a purple dress. The text 'Join us at our Spring Fayre' is prominently displayed in large yellow letters. To the left, the date and time are listed: 'Saturday 25th March 10am-5pm' at 'Leckhampton Court Hospice grounds'. A list of activities includes 'BBQ, pop-up bar and tasty treats', 'Live music and entertainment', 'Leckhampton Court Tea Rooms', and 'Glitter face painting, bouncy castle, and family fun activities'. A blue circle on the right states 'Entrance fee on day: £2.50 FREE for children under 12'. The bottom left mentions 'Sponsored by PerryBishop PROPERTY MADE PERSONAL'. The bottom right features the Sue Ryder logo and text: 'palliative, neurological and bereavement support'.

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice

Join us at our  
**Spring Fayre**

**Saturday 25th March**  
**10am–5pm**  
Leckhampton Court Hospice grounds

- BBQ, pop-up bar and tasty treats
- Live music and entertainment
- Leckhampton Court Tea Rooms
- Glitter face painting, bouncy castle, and family fun activities

Sponsored by  
**PerryBishop**  
PROPERTY MADE PERSONAL

**For more information**  
**visit:** [sueryder.org/springfayre](https://sueryder.org/springfayre)  
**email:** [leckhampton.fundraising@sueryder.org](mailto:leckhampton.fundraising@sueryder.org)  
**f** /SueRyderLeckhamptonCourtHospice  
**t** @SueRyderLCH

Entrance fee on day: £2.50  
**FREE** for children under 12

**Sue Ryder**  
palliative, neurological and bereavement support

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**in2print**  
make an impression

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## BEDROCK AWARDS

Congratulations to Year 7 students Sophie H, Scarlett P, Matthew L, Lucy W, Poppy B, Henry B, Ben W, Mutya-Rose H, Joshua W, Xanthe D and Daniel S, Charles G, Aiden B, Summer S, Chloe R, Joshua P, Lexi E, Jacob E and Sophie A in Year 8 for receiving recognition from Bedrock Learning for Literacy Excellence



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## GIRLGUIDING TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA

We love to be able to share with you the success and experiences of our students outside of Five Acres High School. During the February half term, Year 10 student Chloe had the opportunity to travel to South Africa through Girl guiding. Here's her story:

"This half term, I was fortunate enough to travel with Girl guiding Gloucestershire to South Africa for our INTOPS (International Opportunities) trip. Out in South Africa, we discovered the country's turbulent past, experienced lots of their culture, spent a day with South African Girl Guides, and ate some traditional food (including worms!). The trip was absolutely fantastic, and the memories will last a lifetime!"

