



FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

30 March 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Happy Easter! As we have come to the end of the term it is important to reflect on all of the brilliant achievements our students have been celebrated for. Today your child should be bringing home their end of term assessment report which will give you details of how they are performing in their academic studies. It will also include information on attendance, reading ages and Character Education awards to date. All of this information together will give you an idea of how your child is progressing, if you have any questions please direct them to the subject teacher or tutor in the first instance.

Alongside the academic achievements it is important to recognise the other aspects that make Five Acres High School a successful place to be. During this term our students have competed in a range of sports, picking up 9 trophies in football, rugby and handball, with both girls and boys beating really stiff opposition. We have also been able to award 11,000+ tokens to students displaying in a variety of

ways the values that we promote. We have also issued around 650 postcards and will be celebrating 150 students at our Celebrations Event tonight. Reading also remains a key part of our school day, and this term our testing showed that once again students continue to thrive due to the challenging and varied texts that they choose for themselves and that we read in Tutor Time Reading Programme.

Heading into next term, whilst much of the attention will be on Year 11s and their GCSE examinations, it is important that all students return with a focus to do well and to improve themselves. Attendance at school is a key indicator of future success and starting the term well is important for every child. Whilst our overall attendance continues to track above the national average, we know that every minute out of the classroom is an opportunity missed. We continue to work hard at providing an environment that is disruption free and to remove other barriers that may hold students back. To help us with this, please can we ask that



any uniform and equipment issues are addressed over the holiday period.

The next term will also bring opportunities for students to put themselves forward for leadership positions within the school. We look forward to sharing details of these opportunities shortly.

As you read the rest of this week's newsletter we hope you get the sense of the vibrant and welcoming place that Five Acres High School is. Our mix of academic and character development should ensure that your child continues to flourish. Rest and enjoyment is very much part of this, so we hope that you can enjoy a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 17 April.

THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL BEST PRACTICE AWARD

We were pleased to learn recently that staff, in particular our Safeguarding team, have been recognised by The Virtual School for the "best practice" support we provide for our most vulnerable students, most noticeably our looked after children. The recognition is based upon the completion of the looked after children's Personal Education Plans (PEPs) and attendance at review meetings. As a safeguarding team we have also attended the virtual school's trauma training and designated teacher training courses. This year the Virtual School education advisor who oversees Five Acres High School has only awarded three out of the 14 schools that they are responsible for.

The  virtual School
Best practice award 2023

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

FISH HEROES PROGRAMME

We were absolutely delighted to be one of just 250 schools to be sent 40 portions of sustainably caught Wild Alaskan salmon supremes from the Food Teachers Centre Fish Heroes Programme. This will enable the Year 10 students to learn how to fillet a salmon portion and also hone their seafood cookery skills. Last week's recipe was Honey Garlic Salmon whilst this week students dished up Roasted Salmon on a bed of wilted spinach with an orange cream sauce. The challenge was set to get headteachers involved and take over the Food Technology practical lessons with students.



ENTERPRISE ACADEMY PRESENTATIONS

As we reported in the last newsletter, our Enterprise Academy students have now had the opportunity to meet with representatives from their chosen charities to present their fundraising profits. Huge congratulations again to all of our students who were involved and raised significant amounts of money for local and wider charities. It was great to hear from the charity representative exactly how much difference their donations would make, from what the money could pay for specifically to raising awareness in a wider context.



Students Evie, Noah C, Noah G, Noah J, Charlie, Lillie, Sophie, Martha, Laci-Mae and Imogen with representatives from their chosen charities.



Students Trystan, Shannon and Evie with representatives from their chosen charities, alongside Enterprise Academy lead Ms Smith

UPDATES FROM HEADS OF KEY STAGES

MR HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 3



Students have now completed assessments, and will be bringing QLAs home as a result of these assessments. Teachers will be handing QLAs directly to students, if students don't get their QLA for any reason they will need to speak to their class teacher. All QLAs should be handed out by the Easter break.

The Y9 options process is now complete. Mr Leach and Mr Ogden are now working through the lists and are building the timetable ready for next year. The plan is for students to find out what their confirmed options are after the Easter Break.

Now that Mrs Walters is supporting as 'Head of Y7 Support' we have made some changes to the morning line up. Y7 have branched off to their own area and Y8 & 9 remain together. This has allowed the line ups to be more personal to year groups - we are now able to share positive feedback to year groups to set them up for a great day. The students have taken to the new procedures really well.

MRS HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4



As we reach the end of the term, a reminder that all Year 10 students will receive their assessment data and QLAs. Our Year 11 students were invited to receive theirs at our PPE results evening this week. For both year groups, the feedback is valuable in closing any gaps and therefore this is a great tool to use for further revision for example, for creating low stakes quiz questions or flash cards.

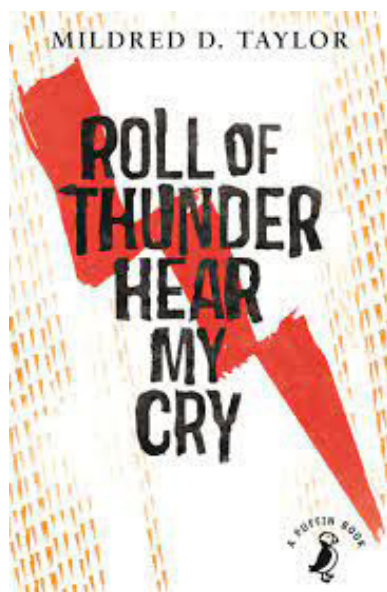
A reminder to our Year 11 students that there is a fantastic opportunity for you during the second week of the Easter break to attend some sessions in school to support your exam preparation. The sign up sheet for this has been sent to all students. It has been a shorter term than usual yet a very busy and successful one. We hope you all enjoy a restful break.

Easter Holidays Champion Revision

Second week	Mon	Tues 11th Apr	Weds 12th Apr	Thurs 13th Apr	Fri 14th Apr
AM 9-11.30		THD BTEC Sport	LTM Art	JAN English Language Paper 1 - Section A	CCL/BSH History
		JWS Higher Maths	JWS Crossover Maths	JWS Foundation Maths	
		PON Engineering	CRS English Language Paper 2	CGN French	CRS English Poetry Anthology / unseen
		SPE Photography			
		RHN Geography			
PM 12-2.30		JWS Higher Maths	JWS Crossover Maths	JWS Further Maths	APZ Spanish
		PON Engineering	SJE RE Short course and full course - Christian Belief	SHN Biology separate science	
		SPE Photography	LTM Art	KHS English Language Q5 - Creative and Non-Fiction Writing	

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

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



Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry
by Mildred D. Taylor

Mildred D. Taylor's much-loved classic, for readers aged 12+, *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry* follows a feisty African-American girl - Cassie Logan - as she grows up in Mississippi during the Great Depression and learns the shocking realities of racism. Perfect for fans of *Noughts and Crosses*, Malorie Blackman and

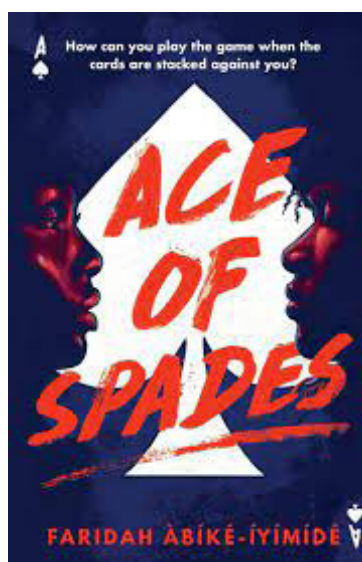
To Kill a Mockingbird.

'Look out there, Cassie girl, all that belongs to you.'

Cassie finds it difficult to understand why the farm means so much to her father. But, as she witnesses the hatred and destruction all around her, she begins to learn the importance of standing up for your rights.

The powerful and moving story of growing up during the American Depression.

Mildred D. Taylor was born in Jackson, Mississippi and is the author of several young adult novels which tackle issues of race, including *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry*, *Let the Circle Be Unbroken* and *The Land*.



Ace of Spades

by Faridah Abike-Iyimide

Ace of Spades is *Gossip Girl* meets *Get Out*, with a twist. Buried secrets come to light when two students are targeted by an anonymous bully with an explosive agenda.

Welcome to Niveus Private Academy, where money paves the hallways, and the students are never less than perfect. Until now. Because anonymous texter, Aces, is revealing the darkest secrets of two students.

Talented musician Devon buries himself in rehearsals, but he can't escape the spotlight when his private photos go public.

Head girl Chiamaka isn't afraid to get what she wants, but soon everyone will know the price she has paid for power. Someone is out to get them. Someone who holds all the aces. This thriller takes a powerful look at institutionalized racism.

*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

WELCOME BACK

One of our Teaching Assistants, Mr Lambert, has recently returned to work following a period of absence due to illness. He wanted to take the opportunity to share his story with students, parent and carers.

“My type of cancer was a very rare sarcoma of the tongue. I was told I could lose my voice and may have to use a soundboard for the future to communicate throughout life. I was also told I had a very small chance of playing football ever again!

“I needed to have an operation to remove a lump that was located towards the back of my tongue. As the lump was removed, half of my tongue was replaced with skin from my leg and reconstructed with that skin!

“I have been on three different types of feeding and breathing tubes (tract tube) for breathing - (nasal tube) for feeding and I still currently have my peg tube (feeding). However, I can now eat soft foods and I can drink all kinds of fluids. All of my treatment was done in London, at a sarcoma specialist hospital. I am still having speech and language sessions now but I have dramatically improved.

“My biopsy took two months to come back because it was so rare but now this has been sent around the world to help others who may have sarcoma in the future. A database has been created to get results back within a week now!

“My surgical team are stunned with how I have defied the odds of playing sports again and I’m back working in the job I love! When you hear the word cancer you feel as though your life is over and you will never be the same again, but cancer has shown me that you’re not that main one affected by it , so are others around you, I just had to fight to beat it!”



NEWENT PANTHERS NETBALL COACHING

Newent Panthers Netball Coaching holds training sessions at the Newent Community School courts and indoor gym. Sessions for students in Years 6-9 will be running on Monday evenings starting on Monday 17 April from 4:30-6pm.

All coaches are DBS checked, have safeguarding training and hold an England Netball coaching qualification. For more details and to book sessions, see their website at newentnetball.com



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

PARKING & ROAD SAFETY

Parents are reminded that there is limited parking available in the main car park at the end of the school day and that the areas designated and marked out for buses should remain clear to allow for traffic to flow in and out of the school site. We would also like to remind students who walk to and from school to use the specific crossing area directly outside of school and on the crossroads when leaving the school site and walking from home to school and returning.

PROSPECT TRAINING

This half term we have been given a fantastic opportunity for some of our Year 10 and 11 students to gain a Level 1 Award in The Importance of Resilience and Grit. The training has been delivered by Prospect Training Services, and has given students the opportunity to work as part of a team and receive one-to-one coaching.



KEY DATES

Thursday 30 March

Reports home

Thursday 30 March

Term 2 Celebrations Evening

Friday 31 March

INSET Day

Monday 3 April-Friday 14 April

Easter Holiday

Monday 17 April

Students return to school

Monday 24 April

Art Leadership Team trip
to Liverpool

Thursday 27 April

Year 10 Parents' evening

Monday 1 May

Bank Holiday

Thursday 4 - Friday 5 May

Year 7 Heartstarters

Monday 8 May

Bank Holiday

Tuesday 9 May

Governors Meeting

Wednesday 10 May

Borneo Expedition Parents
Meeting

Friday 12 May -

Sunday 14 May

Year 10 PGL

Netball Tournament

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SCHOOL GARDEN

As spring is fast approaching we have been working towards re-establishing our school garden. We have a few obstacles to overcome such as a poly tunnel fit to burst with brambles and a greenhouse that needs to be repaired and made safe with the application of a safety film. We would like to work with staff, parents/carers and the local community to help us make a difference for our students.

Local contractors Dean Park Ltd have provided us with free hire of a mini digger and RMS Construction Solutions are providing a digger operator. We are also delighted to have support from Margaret Bevan from Berry Hill Under Fives Group, who will be working on the project with us.

We would also be very grateful for any donations of gardening equipment or seeds/plants. Donations can be left outside the school office on Friday 31 March (INSET Day) in readiness for our volunteer day. Many thanks for your support.



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

WORLD-CLASS SCHOOLS ESSAY COMPETITION

Congratulations to Year 10 student Parker who took part in the World Class Schools essay writing competition on the theme of friendship. Parker was shortlisted and recently had the opportunity to meet Dr Robert Douglas-Fairhurst at Magdalen College, Oxford, one of the judges of the competition.



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES CERTIFICATE

Year 10 student Elicia took part in the GROWS Creative Industries sessions that they have been hosting over the last four Saturdays. She has visited the University of Gloucester Hardwick and Park campuses in Cheltenham, South Gloucestershire and Stroud Campus in Bristol and the Gloucestershire College Campus in Cheltenham.

She has taken part in classes in photography, graphic design, interior design, animation, videography, computer games design, special effects make up, TV production and fashion. She was the only student from Five Acres High School to attend and completed all four sessions receiving a certificate this week. Elicia thoroughly enjoyed the experience and not only got to visit various campuses and meet staff and final year degree students she made new friends too.



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

SCIENCE MAGAZINE HOT OFF THE PRESS

Science Magazine Society students have released their first edition. The aim is to put together an issue once a term focusing on a different scientific theme - for their debut edition they have focused on Health and Disease. Look out for a separate email featuring the full magazine. Well done to Mrs Harrison and all the students involved.



GOLDEN TICKET CELEBRATIONS

This week students who had been nominated to receive a Golden Ticket had the opportunity to take afternoon tea with Mr Phelps. Students were recognised for their hardwork and determination throughout the whole term. They enjoyed a selection of sandwiches and sweet treats, and a game of Uno!



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT