



FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12 May 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. As you will see from the image below, our school has been involved in a community event attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Anne. This event was organised to mark the naming of a local street in recognition of Coleford's twinning with St Hilaire de Riez. We are proud to be invited to events such as this, which allow students to perform and connect with the local community.

Keeping with the royal theme, we were delighted to learn of Year 10 student Chloe's involvement in the coronation ceremonies last weekend, and our students look splendid wearing their commemorative badges provided by Coleford Town Council.

It is also fantastic to celebrate the success and recognition of past students. This week we were pleased to learn of Lilly Marshall-Davies being awarded the Nairac Youth Award, presented by the Lord

Lieutenant of Gloucestershire.

During the past week we have been making some alterations to our website. As well as making the navigation of the site a little easier, we have also posted a series of self-help guides based around the use of mobile and other electronic devices - <https://www.5acreshighschool.co.uk/information/safeguarding/online-safety> These guides have been made available by National Online Safety for parents and students. We hope you find them easy to access and useful.

Monday 15 May sees the start of the main bulk of written exams for our Year 11 students. Whilst many students will have already banked marks/grades in practical/coursework subjects, there is still plenty that they can achieve over the next five weeks. I wish them every success as they take their opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and



understanding in these exams. If you are a parent of a Year 11 student and would like further information on how you can support your child to navigate the exam season then the student and parent support booklet for mental health and wellbeing that we launched in January may have some helpful guidance - <https://www.5acreshighschool.co.uk/information/safeguarding/mental-health-support>

I hope you enjoy reading through the rest of this edition which celebrates the rich variety of activity and opportunity provided for the enrichment of all of our students.

ROYAL VISIT

Today students had the opportunity to meet Her Royal Highness Princess Anne as she visited Coleford to celebrate the work of the town's Twinning Association and the naming of St Hilaire Avenue. The newly named street is in recognition of the relationship between Coleford and St Hilaire de Riez.

Members of our school choir who visited the French town in June last year performed for Princess Anne and she spoke with our Head Students, Emily and Imogen.



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

Thank you to everyone who participated in the school's coronation events, from the canteen's themed menu to those who chose to wear red, white or blue socks and ties. We raised over £130 for the Forest of Dean Children's Opportunity Centre.

Year 10 student Chloe had the opportunity to travel to London and watch a live screening of King Charles III's coronation from St Margaret's Church, located next door to Westminster Abbey, and have breakfast and lunch in Lambeth Palace, the home of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Below she shares what the day was like.

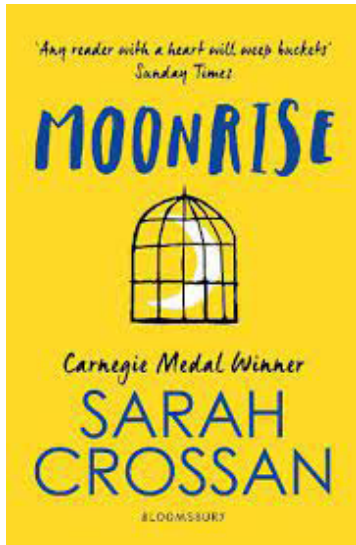
"On May 6, I was fortunate enough to attend a private, live screening of the coronation with Girlguiding as a member of a Girlguiding UK working group. We watched the service in Saint Margaret's Church and had breakfast and lunch in Lambeth Palace. 400 young people attended the screening from organisations that the late Queen Elizabeth II was patron of and organisations that King Charles is also patron of such as Scouts, NCS and St John's Ambulance Cadets.

"The whole day was filled with fun, cheering, waving our Union Jack flags, and lots of talking to other people including the Archbishop of Canterbury! I'm so glad I was able to have received an opportunity like this, and to experience history in person!"



READING RECOMMENDATIONS

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



Moonrise
by Sarah Crossan

Joe hasn't seen his brother for 10 years, and it's for the most brutal of reasons. Ed is on death row. But now Ed's execution date has been set, and Joe is determined to spend those last weeks with him, no matter what other people think...

From one-time winner and two-time Carnegie Medal shortlisted author Sarah Crossan, this poignant, stirring, huge-hearted novel asks big

questions. What value do you place on life? What can you forgive? And just how do you say goodbye?

Sunday Times Book of the Week described *Moonrise* as "Devastating. Any reader with a heart will weep buckets."

Moonrise was shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Award 2017, YA Book Prize 2018 and CBI Book of the Year Award 2018.



The Nightingale
by Kristin Hannah

Two sisters. One must be brave. One should be afraid. Bravery, courage, fear, and love in a time of war. Despite their differences sisters Viann and Isabelle have always been close.

Younger, bolder Isabelle lives

in Paris while Viann is content with life in the French countryside with her husband, Antoine, and their daughter. But when the Second World War strikes, Antoine is sent off to fight, and Viann finds herself isolated, so Isabelle is sent by their father to help her.

As the war progresses, the sisters' relationship and strength are tested. With life changing in unbelievably horrific ways, Viann and Isabelle will find themselves facing frightening situations and responding in ways they never thought possible as bravery and resistance take different forms in each of their actions.

Vivid and exquisite in its illumination of a time and place that was filled with atrocities but also humanity and strength, Kristin Hannah's novel will provoke thought and discussion that will have readers talking long after they finish listening.

*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

ACADEMIES & SOCIETIES TIMETABLE

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

CHESS TOURNAMENT SUCCESS

Since February a group of our students have been taking part in the Delancey Schools Chess tournament. Each student played 7 games against other students from our school in a Swiss style tournament.

Some of those involved in the tournament were new to chess this year so a huge well done to them for learning a new skill and putting themselves forward for this challenge. It was so close at the top of the group with the top 3 only being separated each by one point!

3rd Travis (18 Points)

2nd Robert (19 Points)

1st Jack (20 Points)

Congratulations to all 3 on their success in this tournament. We look forward to seeing who the winner will be next year in the school tournament!



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

ROTARY CLUB WRITING COMPETITION

How would you like to win £100 and have your story published?

The Forest of Dean Rotary Club has teamed up with Dean Scribblers to launch a new writing competition for ages 7-18 years.

Choose one of three extraordinary picture prompts and base your story around the theme 'turning point'. Each picture also comes with an optional first sentence you can use to get your story started!

The judges are looking for stories that are unique, exciting, and full of character. Think you have what it takes? Submit your story online or by dropping off a hard copy at any of the Forest of Dean libraries before the closing date of Sunday 10 September.

Every longlisted entry will be featured in an anthology, with some fantastic prizes for the winners. To enter, you must either go to school or live within the Forest of Dean District Council area. There are different word counts for each age category, so be sure to read through the competition rules carefully. Writing workshops will be held during the summer, so check the Dean Scribblers' website (deanscribblers.com) for details.

Full terms and conditions and links can be found at www.rotary-rfod.org.uk/scribblecomp.php
Get writing!



KEY DATES

Monday 15 May

Y11 Summer Exam Series start

Wednesday 17 May

Year 9 HPV (2nd dose)
vaccination session

Monday 29 May-

Friday 2 June

Half Term

Monday 5 June

Students return to school

Friday 9-Sunday 11 June

Bronze Duke of
Edinburgh training

Thursday 15 June

We Will Rock You trip
(Production cast)

W/C 19 June

Year 7 - 10 Assessments

Wednesday 21 June

Big Bang Fair

Thursday 29 June

Year 8 Parents' Evening

W/C Monday 3 July

Year 6 Welcome Days

Tuesday 4 July

Governors Meeting

Wednesday 5 and

Thursday 6 July

We Will Rock You
school production

Friday 7 July

Year 9 Dip/MenACWY
vaccinations

Sunday 16 -

Monday 31 July

Borneo expedition

Thursday 20 July

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Friday 21 July

Monkhouse on-site
uniform

sales event

Monday 24 July

Celebrations Evening

Tuesday 25 July

End of summer term

STAR STUDENTS

Madison is a star student of 10RSH as she dedicates three evenings a week to teaching and working with children aged 5 years and up to help them with karate. Madison has been learning karate for eight years and in July will be doing a grading for her 1st dan black belt. This is a great achievement and shows ambition, determination and real confidence.

Megan (10RSH) is always fully equipped, has a new reading book for DEAR regularly and attends homework club to ensure that her homework is up to date. She shows the value of determination in our tutor group.

PARENT EVENING UPDATES

Due to changes in the school calendar, Year 8 Parents' Evening will now take place on Thursday 29 June from 3:15-6:30pm and Year 10 Parents' Evening will now be held on Thursday 20 July.

Both evenings will take place in school, with face to face appointments with subject teachers, however we do have the facility to accommodate virtual appointments if you are unable to come into school. Appointments will take place in individual class teaching rooms. Parents of Year 8 and Year 10 students have been emailed further details on how to book appointments and when the booking system will open for each of these events.

KARATE COMPETITION SUCCESS

Year 10 students Jessica and Madison took part in a karate competition in Coventry on Sunday 7 May. This was Jessica's first ever competition, and she was placed against black belts due to the age category that she was competing in. She rose to the challenge and came away with a bronze medal.

As you will see from our Star Students this edition, Madison has more experience, and was successful in earning a silver medal. They both did amazingly well!



CROCHET SOCIETY

Members of our Crochet Society have been incredibly busy creating the brilliant pieces of work below. Feedback from parents has shown that they are particularly pleased that students are having less screen time by pursuing this hobby! Students are feeling more confident and even able to help other members during lunchtime sessions. Well done to everyone involved!



MYCHILDSCHOOL APP

As you will be aware we launched our new parent app, MCAS, this month. This is in line with changing to our new student information management system, following a Trust-wide tender process. The move coincided with the new financial year. We have now phased out the MyEd app, that you may have previously used, so please delete MyEd from your device to avoid confusion.

MCAS allows you to report absences and view key information such as your child's timetable, attendance and behaviour. We will also be using this app for the majority of our communications and alerts we send to parents. We are looking to roll out additional features as they become available.

Parents have been emailed details on how to activate accounts, and we appreciate your patience while this process has taken place. You can find further details on the app and key information on the school website - <https://www.5acreshighschool.co.uk/mcas>



GCC FREE SCHOOL MEAL HOLIDAY SUPPORT

A reminder that for the May/June half term, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to eligible families who have signed up to its Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through grant funding it has received and is separate to that of term time free school meals.

The scheme is for children in reception to Year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of £15 per child.

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register, they will already have been included. Registration closes at midday on 16 May. For more information, please go to <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/meals-during-school-holidays/holiday-free-school-meal-vouchers/>

TENTORS

We are incredibly proud to announce that last weekend, our Ten Tors team not only completed their challenge but finished first across all Greenshaw schools and third place on their route! The route took them across gruelling Dartmoor countryside and they were required to take part in several training sessions before hand. Their success is inspirational and achieved with the support of Miss Young who cheered them on every step of the way. Congratulations!

