



# FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

18 September 2023

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for the new academic year. The year started brilliantly with Year 7s really settling in to the rhythm of the school, their attendance puts them at the top of all year groups within the school. This year our target remains at 96% and above; ensuring that all of our students are in as many lessons as possible is a key aim to ensuring both personal and academic success.

For parents who are new to the school I would encourage you to follow us on the following social media platforms - Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - where we will post updates, events and celebrations of students. We are aware that there are a number of other social media groups that people may access to receive information, but please be aware that we do not routinely monitor these sites or update them with the latest information. See p4 for the official Five Acres High School contacts and social media pages.

I am delighted to welcome three new staff members to our

teaching team this year. They are Miss Wilkinson (Humanities), Mrs Morris (MFL) and Mr Thompson (Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour). I wish them every success as they embark on their journey with us. Shortly the school will be welcoming new members of staff into our catering and admin teams.

I was thrilled over the summer to celebrate the academic successes of our Year 11 students. A record number of top grades was achieved along with a record number of students able to access Level 3 courses. Students have begun some brilliant apprenticeships, college and sixth form placements and I wish them continuing success as they enter the next phase of their education.

As usual over the holiday period there have been a number of improvements to the school site including more outdoor games and activities for social times, an upgrade in our internet servers, a redecoration of key classrooms and much more. This continued investment alongside a full



teaching staff for the year gives me confidence that this year will once again be one to remember at Five Acres High School.

During September and October Year 6 parents will be looking to make their next choices for secondary education. I look forward to welcoming them to visit our school during our open events on September 26 (Open Evening) and 27-29 September (School in Action mornings). Whilst these events are aimed at students of primary age, we welcome visitors at any time during the year who wish to come and see what makes Five Acres High School one of the top 5% of schools in the country.

## ART LEADERSHIP TRIP

We started our trips and visits programme straightaway this term, with a trip to London for the Art Leadership Team, on the second of our INSET days. They had the opportunity to explore and observe great art including a visit to the Tate Liverpool. We know the visit will inspire them in their creative endeavours this term.



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

## ACADEMIES & SOCIETIES

Staff have been busy working on the timetable for our extensive extra-curricular academies and societies programme. We have shared the most up to date versions of the timetables as we get them, but due to staff commitments there are times where they are subject to change. We encourage students to check in regularly with the academy and society leads and the student notice boards.

### Academies and Societies - Sept to Dec 2023

	Lunchtime	Who?	Where?	After school	Who?	Where?
<b>Monday</b>	Chess	All	30	<p>Please see the PE and Performance timetables for all music, drama and sporting academies and societies.</p>  <p><b>Aim high. Work hard. Be kind.</b></p>		
	French Interventions (invited YR11 students only)	YR11	44			
	YR7 book club	YR7	36			
<b>Tuesday</b>	Eco Society	All	22			
	YR9 book club	YR9	Library			
	Cipher Challenge	All	33			
<b>Wednesday</b>	Further Maths	YR11	30			
	Maths Academy	All	33			
	Art Leadership	Art leaders only	5			
	YR8 book club	YR8	Library			
<b>Thursday</b>	Board Game Society	All	33			
	Enterprise	All	27			
	KS3 and KS4 Art	All	5			
	YR10 book club	YR10	Library			
<b>Friday</b>	GCSE Art	GCSE Art students only	5	Lego Academy - all	All	Library

## OPEN EVENTS



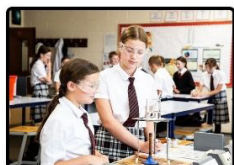
### FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS



**Open Evening 26 September 2023 from 4:45pm**

**HEADTEACHER TALKS AND TOURS -  
COME ALONG AND LEARN ABOUT OUR SCHOOL**

HEADTEACHER'S TALKS WILL BE HELD AT 5PM, 6PM &  
6:30PM WITH TOURS AVAILABLE UNTIL 6.30PM



**School In Action Mornings  
27, 28, 29 September from 9:30am-12:30pm**

BOOK YOUR SCHOOL IN ACTION TOUR AT  
[WWW.5ACRESHIGHSCHOOL.CO.UK](http://WWW.5ACRESHIGHSCHOOL.CO.UK)

Beech Avenue, Berry Hill, Coleford GL16 7QW  
Tel: 01594 832263 Email: [admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk)

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

## MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE WINNER

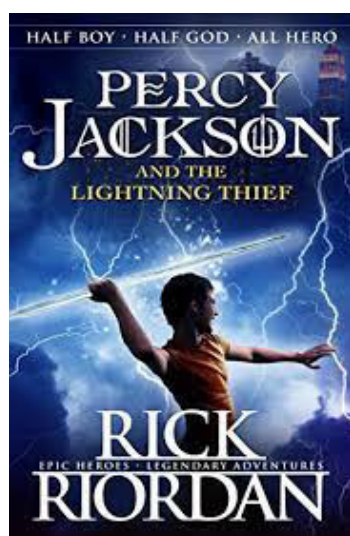
Congratulations to Year 8 student Robert who came first in the Humbug Chase mountain bike event held on September 10. The Humbug chase is for riders aged between 8 and 12, and covers approximately 8 miles of track through the Forest of Dean. A fantastic achievement, well done!

FOR 8 - 12 year olds



### READING RECOMMENDATIONS

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



***Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief***  
by Rick Riordan

The first book in the bestselling *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series. Now with a new cover look, read the story that launched Percy Jackson into the stratosphere, before the Disney+ series comes out.

“Look, I never asked to be the son of a Greek god. I was just a normal kid... until I accidentally vaporized my maths teacher.” Percy Jackson is having a bad week. His life has gone from normal to monsters-from-Greek-mythology-randomly-appearing kind of strange. Worse still, the king of the gods thinks Percy has stolen his lightning bolt - and it seems making Zeus angry is a very bad idea.



***Bridgerton: Duke and I***  
by Julia Quinn

The first novel in Julia Quinn's worldwide bestselling Bridgerton

novels, now a series created by Shondaland for Netflix. This is the story of Daphne Bridgerton and the Duke: welcome to the ballrooms of Regency London...

Can there be any greater challenge to London's Ambitious Mamas than an unmarried duke? Lady Whistledown's Society Papers, April 1813. By all accounts, Simon Basset is on the verge of proposing to his best friend's sister, the lovely - and almost-on-the-shelf - Daphne Bridgerton. But the two of them know the truth - it's an elaborate plan to keep Simon free from marriage-minded society mothers. And as for Daphne, surely she will attract some worthy suitors now that it seems a duke has declared her desirable...

***If you have been inspired  
by our 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)***

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



## UPDATES FROM HEADS OF KEY STAGES

### MR HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 3



Year 7 students have made a great start to secondary school with a smooth transition for the majority. It is great to see Year 7 growing in confidence as the days go by as they begin to learn their way around the school and get to know their teachers. The best part is watching new friendships start, some of these friendships will last a lifetime and they are starting right now, which is awesome.

Year 8 and Year 9 have made a strong start back after the holidays. All three year groups are showing really strong attendance, with nearly every student in 100% correct uniform with the right equipment, ready to learn. We have introduced a new system where tokens are handed out to celebrate when a student does something positive or works hard. In the first three days alone over 350 were given out, the majority of these to Key Stage 3 students. This further demonstrates the excellent start that they have made.

A couple of housekeeping notes for the new term, all the information for new academies and societies have been given out and these academies and societies have begun. School sports fixtures have already begun, students who are involved will be given the relevant details.

As a reminder to students and parents the structure of the pastoral side of the school in Key Stage 3 is as follows: I am now Head of Year 7, 8 and 9 and Head of PE. Mrs Toulson is the Pastoral lead for Years 7, 8 and 9 and Mrs Walters is Year 7 Pastoral Support and the second contact for Year 7s after tutors, as Mrs Walters has overseen the transitions from primary schools. For any pastoral concerns, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance, as they will see your child on the most regular basis and will be able to build effective and supportive relationships.

### MRS HAYWARD - HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4



What a superb start to the new academic year for KS4. Our Year 11s have hit the ground running and are full of positivity. Our tutors have been incredibly impressed with the engagement and enthusiasm students are demonstrating in their morning and afternoon intervention sessions. Period 6 is also in full swing with our students taking all of the adaptations in their stride.

Year 10 have been equally impressive with their approach to beginning their GCSE courses. I have been blown away by the number of positive emails I have received from staff about the dedication they are already showing towards their success.

Over 100 rewards were given out within the first three days to students in Key Stage 4 either through tokens or postcards, which is absolutely amazing!

Our careers meetings are also back up and running. If there is any student who would like their appointment, they should see Mrs Hayward. Priority at this time will be given to Year 11 to support with applications, however, where there is space, Year 10s are also welcome to join.

## CONTACT US

To keep up to date with life at Five Acres High School, please follow us on Facebook (FiveAcresHighSchool), Twitter (FiveAcresHigh) and Instagram (FiveAcresHighSchool).

To contact the school, please call 01594 832263 or email [admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk)

## MACBETH IN STRATFORD

On Thursday 14 September 56 students travelled to the birthplace of William Shakespeare to see the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of Macbeth. Students really engaged in the dark tragedy based on murder, superstition and madness. The experience was a great opportunity to see the text they are studying brought to life.



## YEAR 11 GCSE ART

There is plenty of inspiration to be found in our Year 11 GCSE Art class! It has been great to see so many of them really pushing themselves to come up with exciting concepts and ideas.



## KEY DATES

### Tuesday 26 September

Open Evening

### Wednesday 27-

### Friday 29 September

School in Action mornings

### Tuesday 3 October

Y7 and Y11 school photos

### Tuesday 3 October

Governors Meeting 1

### Friday 6 October

Y7 Residential Group 1

### Thursday 12 October

Y11 Parents Information Evening

### Friday 13 October

Y7 Residential Group 2

### Tuesday 17 October

Careers Event

### Friday 20 October

Y7 Residential Group 3

### W/C 23 October

Year 11 PPEs Week 1

### Wednesday 25 October

Open Mic Night

### Thursday 26 October

Y7 Parents Evening

## STAR STUDENTS

Kimberley (7LMS) has shown impeccable behaviour and independence during her start to Yr 7.

Caleb (8VBR) has shown excellent critical thinking and enthusiasm in his MFL lessons.

Charlotte (9AWS) has made such a strong start to Year 9 by always doing the right thing. We know she will go above and beyond this year and is an example to follow for others.

Oakley (9SWS) is having a great start to school this year. He is working hard and making progress. Well done!