

FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

22 January 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome back to what we hope will be a successful year for you all. During our recent INSET day I took the opportunity to outline what I consider to be the three conditions for success for staff and students over the coming months. These are full attendance in school and in lessons; high expectations and a commitment to continuing to develop skills. I also used a quote that has been attributed to the Finnish education system which is "we can't afford to waste a brain". The idea behind this statement is that all of us are valuable to our community and each of us has a vital role to play. The way that we can continue to play our part is by taking our responsibilities seriously and by continuing to do our best. Showing up for school is a responsibility that has recently been referenced by the government and media outlets.

I want to take this opportunity to remind us all of the benefits of consistently turning up for school on time and with an attitude that allows us to develop. At Five Acres High School students receive high quality teaching that ensures students progress at a faster rate

than all other schools in the district. Students also benefit from a Character Education programme that has been nationally recognised. They also benefit from a large variety of interventions that support academic well-being and other identified needs. The offer in our school canteen is nutritious and healthy and we have an excellent array of lunchtime and after-school activities for students to participate in. This incredible offer ensures that students continue to develop our five values of Ambition, Confidence, Creativity, Determination and Respect. Attendance at our school is at the heart of all we do and whilst we continually look at ways for rewarding students' attendance at school, the biggest reward is the acquisition of knowledge and the skill to use it well to improve our community.

Our newsletters exist to allow us to celebrate the many brilliant ways in which students excel whilst at school and beyond. We hope that these stories inspire other students to aim high, work hard and be kind. We love to celebrate our students, so far since September we have awarded



17000 positive rewards across the school, if you would like to share with the wider school community the successes of your hobby or talent, please contact us. We also regularly include recommended reading material, as we want to encourage all of our community to see the pleasure in reading and to understand the value of reading a variety of genres.

This year we are also taking the opportunity to re-introduce our governors and will have regular features that let you know more about who they are and how they support the school. If you have an interest in supporting the school to continue its improvement journey in this way, please email admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk.

JUDO SUCCESS

Year 8 student Harvey recently received recognition from his judo coaches and was awarded their Judoka award for the improvements he has made in the sport and for doing his absolute best. Well done Harvey!



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.

	Lunchtime	Where?	After-school, 3pm-4pm	Where
Monday	Music Practice Drop-In Chess competition	Room 42 Room 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YR7 Netball • Fitness • Elite Singers Rehearsals • 'The Addams Family' Acting Rehearsals 	Blue Gym Room 42 Room 48
Tuesday	Principal Rehearsals for 'The Addams Family' YR8 and YR9 book club	Room 42 Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YR8 Netball • YR7 boys' Football • Badminton • 'The Addams Family' Singing Rehearsals 	10 Block
Wednesday	Music Practice Drop-In Further Maths	Room 42 Room 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YR7-YR10 girls' Football • YR8 boys' Football • Badminton • Junior Rock Band (Y7 Only) • 'The Addams Family' Acting Rehearsals • Art Academy 	Room 42 Room 48 10 Block Room 1
Thursday	Mathematical Arts YR10 book club	Room 31 Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YR9 and YR10 Netball • YR9 and YR10 Boys' Football • Dance 	
Friday			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magistrates Mock Trial • Lego / Crochet 	Room 37 Library

SPORTS ACADEMIES

	<div>  <div> <h3 style="text-align: center;">SPRING TERM</h3> <h3 style="text-align: center;">SPORTS ACADEMY TIMETABLE</h3> <h3 style="text-align: center;">3-4PM</h3> </div> </div>			
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	YEAR 7 NETBALL	YEAR 8 NETBALL	Y7-Y10 GIRLS FOOTBALL	Y9 & 10 NETBALL
		Y7 BOYS FOOTBALL	Y8 BOYS FOOTBALL	Y9 & Y10 BOYS FOOTBALL
	FITNESS BLUE GYM	Badminton BLUE GYM	Badminton BLUE GYM	DANCE BLUE GYM

PERFORMANCE ACADEMIES

FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMIES & SOCIETIES



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME
Music Practice Drop-In Session Room 42	Principal Rehearsals for 'The Addams Family' with Mr Hutton Room 42	Music Practice Drop-In Session Room 42	Music Department Closed
AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
Elite Singers Rehearsals Room 42 'The Addams Family' Acting Rehearsals Room 48	'The Addams Family' Singing Rehearsals 10 Block	Junior Rock Band (Y7 Only) Room 42 'The Addams Family' Acting Rehearsals Room 48	Y11 Music P6 (Week B Only) Room 42 Y11 Drama P6 Room 48

YEAR 9 RUGBY

Just before Christmas our Y9s had the opportunity to play at Kingsholm stadium in the EDF Cup against King Alfred's Academy. We unfortunately lost after putting up a good fight in what was a very entertaining game. The experience of playing on Kingsholm however will hopefully become a lifetime memory, although we do have some boys with enough potential to be playing for Gloucester in the future.



AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

UPDATES FROM HEADS OF KEY STAGES

MR JONES - HEAD OF YEAR 7



Year 7s continue to thrive as they return to Five Acres High School in 2024! It's a short term but a vital term and Y7s are excelling. Attendance is at 97.2% this term - 7YWN are leading the way with 99%! There have been 410 positive behaviour events in Y7 this term and Cameron 7YWN led the way in our first week back to be our top behaviour points earner. There has also been a noticeable reduction in APs for Y7 this term - with even more students getting it right every day. In Character Education, 7APZ are in the lead with 111 badges awarded out of the Y7 total of 506 so far this year - fantastic work. After some set movement, Y7s have settled back into their learning brilliantly. They are such a determined and confident cohort!

MR HAYWARD - HEAD OF YEARS 8 & 9



Welcome back to a new term - Happy New Year! In the term running up to Christmas we handed out nearly 17,000 positive rewards, with nearly 8000 awarded to students in Years 8 and 9! Year 8 received 3784 positive rewards and Year 9 received 3599. The whole school ratio from positive points to negative is 6 positives to 1 negative, and this ratio is even higher in Y8 and Y9. It was a fantastic term for positive rewards and long may it continue.

Year 9s will be picking their options shortly, there are some key dates coming up. The Year 9 Options Information Evening is on Thursday 25 January, with Year 9 Parents' Evening being the following week, Thursday 1 February. Students will then be required to submit their option choices by Friday 9 February.

MRS HAYWARD - HEAD OF YEARS 10 & 11



Happy New Year! Our KS4 students have certainly returned with positivity and ambition. Our Year 10 cohort has had their highest attendance of the academic year over the last two weeks! A fantastic effort by all who are recognising the impact of being in front of specialists to support their success. Year 10 have also been working hard in their current assessments. I have received so much positive feedback from teachers around the mature approach our Year 10s have demonstrated over this time, along with some superb revision resources that students have independently created.

Our Year 11s are approaching their next set of PPEs, which will also be the last before their official GCSE exams begin. A reminder that we have an information evening surrounding this on Thursday 25 January. We welcome all parents/carers and students in Year 11 to attend. Our Year 11s have also started playing 'Bingo' to support their revision. Any student who completes their 'Bingo' card, marking 10 boxes in a week, will receive a treat. New cards will be given to students on Monday, an example is below, so please encourage them to show you how they are getting on.

B	I	N	G	O
Get any 10 of these signed by a teacher or parent to win a prize.				
Working lunch attended with a teacher or in IT rooms	Retrieval questions (flashcards/LSQ/100 Qs) with family/ friends	Complete a memory dump on an insecure topic	Create 10 flashcards on key terms	100% Attendance for a week
Use your Assessment Manifest to track revision	First 5 in an English Lesson	20 mins revision on a subject	Champions Hour / Tutoring attended	Week with no detentions or APs
20 mins revision on a subject	Working lunch attended with a teacher or in IT rooms	First 5 in an English Lesson	Watch 1 Massolit video and complete a cornell notes	Complete 5 XP Sparx questions
Champions Hour / Tutoring attended	Create a revision timetable	Complete 5 Target Sparx questions	Create 10 flashcards on key terms	Working lunch attended with a teacher or in IT rooms

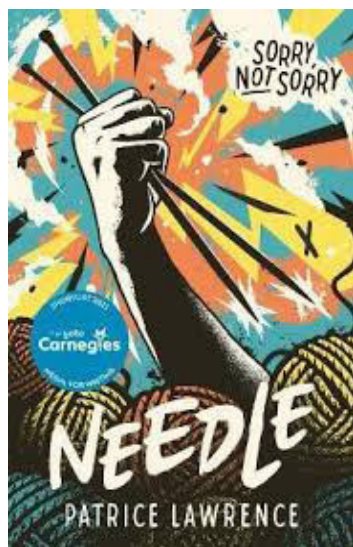
CELEBRATIONS EVENING 21 DECEMBER 2023

Congratulations to all of our Year 7, 9 and 11 students who received a Position 1 award at our Celebrations Evening in December. You can find photos of our winners in the Photo Album section of the school website. We are looking forward to celebrating the success of our Year 8 and 10 students in February.



READING RECOMMENDATIONS

*English Teacher, Miss Butler
shares her picks for Key Stage 3
and Key Stage 4.*



Needle

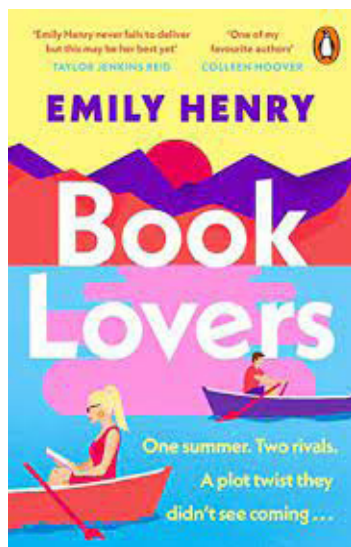
by Patrice Lawrence

A powerful and heart-rending exploration of a teenager's journey through grief, rage and getting caught in the criminal justice system from award-winning author Patrice Lawrence.

Charlene is a demon knitter. It's the only thing she enjoys and the only thing she believes she's really good at.

So when her foster mum's son destroys her latest creation, Charlene loses it and stabs him in the hand with her knitting needle. It damages a nerve and she gets sucked into the criminal justice system for assault.

Charlene's not sorry and she's never apologised to anyone in her life. But people keep telling her that if she says sorry, they'll go easier on her. Can she bring herself to say it and not mean it when her freedom's at stake?



Book Lovers

by Emily Henry

One summer, two rivals. A plot twist they didn't see coming...

Nora is a cut-throat literary agent at the top of her game. Her whole life is books. Charlie is an editor with a gift for creating bestsellers. And he's Nora's work nemesis.

Nora has been through enough break-ups to know she's the woman men date before they find their happy-ever-after. That's why Nora's sister has persuaded her to swap her desk in the city for a month's holiday in Sunshine Falls, North Carolina. It's a small town straight out of a romance novel, but instead of meeting sexy lumberjacks, handsome doctors or cute bartenders, Nora keeps bumping into... Charlie.

She's no heroine. He's no hero. So can they take a page out of an entirely different book? Set over one sizzling August, Book Lovers is the new chemistry-filled 'rivals to lovers' romcom from New York Times #1 bestseller Emily Henry.

***If you have been inspired
by our choices, you can buy
books and support the school
through our partnership with Ros-
siter Books - <https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/fiveacres>***

KEY DATES

Tuesday 23 January 2024

Governors Meeting

Wednesday 24 January 2024

Shakespeare Performance

Thursday 25 January 2024

Year 11 Parents' Information
Evening

Thursday 25 January 2024

Year 9 Options Information
Evening

Thursday 25 & Friday 26 January

Y11 Hospitality & Catering Unit 2
Practical assessment

Monday 29 January 2024

Year 8 HPV Vaccination session

Tuesday 30 January 2024

Year 9 Aim Higher Talk

Wednesday 31 January 2024

Year 8 NHS Theatre presentation

Wednesday 31 January 2024

Drama Cabaret Evening

Thursday 1 February 2024

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Week Commencing 5 February

Year 11 PPEs

Thursday 8 February 2024

Open Mic Night

Monday 12 - Friday 16 February

Half Term

Week Commencing 19 February

Year 11 PPEs

Thursday 22 February

Year 8 & 10 Celebrations Evening

Saturday 24 - Sunday 25 Feb

Ten Tors Training

Week Commencing 26 February

Year 11 PPEs

Saturday 9 - Saturday 16 March

Ski trip

Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 March

TenTors Training

Wednesday 20 March

Spring Concert

Monday 25 March-Friday 5 April

Easter Holidays

Monday 8 April

INSET Day

Saturday 19 - Sunday 20 April

TenTors Training

TENTORS TRAINING EVENT

On Sunday 14th January, we embarked on a navigation training expedition with a fantastic group of 9 students in the stunning Brecon Beacons! All students were absolutely amazing, with each student showcasing their incredible navigation and teamwork skills. We are looking forward to the next training event in Dartmoor in February!



MEET OUR GOVERNORS

Please meet Link Governor for Community, Academies & Societies and Character Education, Jason Griffiths

I am reading:

The Dawn of Everything: a New History of Humanity by David Graeber & David Wengrow; A Man from the North by Arnold Bennett; White Tears Brown Scars: How White Feminism Betrays Women of Colour by Ruby Hamad - book on loan from my daughter!

I am listening to: Dizzy Gillespie; Goldfrapp; Black Midi; The Rest Is History podcast.

I am watching: Garth Marengi's Darkplace; Channel 4 News

I am excited to be a Governor because: I get to work with a great team of Governors who care deeply about Five Acres High School, and are really lovely people too! It is a privilege to see and hear about the amazing hard work and dedication of the teaching teams totally focused on giving students the very best opportunities and support they need to succeed.



FEBRUARY HALF TERM FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS

Applications for the holiday Free School Meal voucher scheme for February half term opened on Tuesday 16 January and is available until midday on Tuesday 30 January 2024

The scheme is for children in Reception to Year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. Gloucestershire County Council are unable to consider college and sixth-form students, not students who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from Reception to Year 2) - they are not eligible for this scheme.

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of £15 per child. To find out more about the scheme and to apply, if you haven't already, please visit <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/holiday-school-meal-vouchers/>

Families who have signed up previously do not need to re-register for February 2024 holiday vouchers, they will already have been included. Families that have previously signed up will need to contact Gloucestershire County Council with any changes to their circumstances (eg if the number of children who are eligible increases or decreases).

To ensure the scheme reaches all those who are eligible, GCC is encouraging parents that have not previously signed up to register as soon as they can.



ENTERPRISE ACADEMY FUNDRAISING

Following our Winter Markets, students from the Enterprise Academy have raised some fantastic amounts for local and national charities. There is still some fundraising to come in, so we will share the presentations to the charities across our social media pages and the newsletter shortly.

Here are a few headline figures so far:
£55 raised for the Orchard Trust; £40.66 raised for Cancer Research UK, £251 raised for Forest of Dean Dog Rescue and £541 for Macmillan Cancer Support.



CONTACT US

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

To contact the school, please call 01594 832263 or email admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk

AMBITION - CONFIDENCE - CREATIVITY - DETERMINATION - RESPECT

STAR STUDENTS

Tia (10BRS) has an amazing work ethic and willingness to help out new students in school. She is a very kind and caring student to have in our tutor group.

Mr Robbins

Alana (10AFS) is a very polite, punctual and kind student. She is well prepared for every day and finishes all of her homework on time. It is an absolute pleasure to have her in my tutor group.

Ms Flinders

Holly is a star student in 9AWS because she takes complete responsibility for her learning and maintains extremely high standards across all aspects of her school life. She is sure to catch up on work after an absence and is proactive in asking for help. She is an absolute pleasure to have in the classroom.

Miss Williams

HIGH FLYERS

The students listed below have received the most positive rewards for the week commencing 15 January 2024

Year 7

Olly & Sienna

8 Awards

Year 8

Brodan

6 Awards

Year 9

Peyton

7 Awards

Year 10

Jack

9 Awards

Year 11

AJ

6 Awards

FUNDRAISING THANK YOU!

Thank you for all the support for our Foodbank appeal, as a school we collected a fantastic 221.25kg of food which will provide over 500 meals for the local community. Our carol concert also raised a brilliant £219.31 for the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity.



DATE CHANGE - YEAR 11 PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING

YR11 Parents - we have changed the date: Join us on Thursday 25 January at 4.45pm for our Subject Support evening where subject specialists will be running sessions on how to be successful in the next round of PPEs and beyond. Please confirm your attendance via the link below, where you will also be able to select the sessions you wish to attend. We look forward to seeing you!

<https://buff.ly/3vtGI47>



YR11 Parents, Subject Support Evening



**Thursday, 25th
January. 4.45pm.**

Aim High. Work Hard. Be Kind.