



# FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

11 March 2024

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the latest edition of the school newsletter. It has been a brilliant couple of weeks and a special congratulations need to be given to our Year 11 students who have now completed their final set of PPEs and our Year 7 students who achieved the school attendance target for four days in a row (96%).

As some of you will have noticed education continues to be a hot topic within the media, including attendance, so I would like to quickly address our position on the Government's guidance around mobile phone use in particular. You will know from our policy that we have taken the stance of allowing mobile phones to be carried on site, but they are to be in bags and on silent during the school day. We have not taken the decision to completely ban mobile phones, which is one of the four suggested actions provided in the guidance, because we understand the need for students to use them for bus e-tickets and to have that safety net if they are walking to and from school. Students have recently been reminded that if a mobile phone is seen on the school site (once they have left the main road around school), a detention

will be applied and the phone will be confiscated until home time.

You may have also noticed mentioned in the media that last week featured World Book Day. We have great pride in the fact that we read at both ends of the day and that students hit levels well above the national average for reading within months of joining us. It was a pleasure seeing so many students involved in the multiple fun activities that were provided by our literacy team during the week which included the big book quiz, reviews of their favourite books and book cover treasure hunt. We were also delighted to provide a number of books this week to some lucky students.

We take great pride in providing an excellent environment for students to learn in, the site team in particular work tirelessly to ensure we make the most of our facilities. We also have a strong commitment to protecting our environment through our eco projects. Whilst we regularly remind students about the need to maintain facilities, there are occasions where specific reminders need to be made about how we treat them and our local



environment. Over the last couple of weeks there has been a craze for bringing in lollypops. This has led to an increase in litter of both the plastic wrappers and the sticks, so we have taken the decision to no longer allow them on the school site. Today we will issue students with some clear guidance around this and would ask for your support in ensuring that lollypops are not brought into school. By reducing the waste associated with lollypops we are helping you to count less in the Big Plastic Count (see page 6 for more information).

I hope that you enjoy the rest of this edition where we celebrate some amazing individuals, give information on excellent opportunities and share some vital information.

## BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

The science team are excited for British science week which runs from the 8-17 March this year. To get involved at home click on the link below:  
<https://www.britishscienceweek.org/>



### KEY DATES

**Saturday 9 March -**

**Saturday 16 March**

Ski trip

**Saturday 16 March -**

**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

**Monday 6 May**

Bank Holiday

**Tuesday 7 May**

Governors Meeting

**Friday 10 - Sunday 12 May**

Ten Tors Event

**Thursday 16 May**

Year 8 Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 22 May**

Open Mic Night

**Thursday 21 May**

Year 10 DEI workshop with

Peter Radford

**Monday 27 May -**

**Friday 31 May**

Half Term

**Week commencing 3 June**

Year 7 & 9 Assessments

**Friday 14 - Sunday 16 June**

DoF Bronze/Silver Expedition

**Wednesday 19 June**

National Thank A

Teacher Day

**Week commencing 24 June**

Year 8 & 10 Assessments

**Week commencing 1 July**

Year 6 Welcome Week

**Week commencing 1 July**

School Production -

The Addams Family

**Week commencing 8 July**

Year 5 Super Learning Days

**Thursday 11 & Friday 12 July**

Sports Days

(weather permitting)

### NATIONAL PIE WEEK

Canteen staff celebrated National Pie Week showing off both their Maths and cookery skills!



### YEAR 8 AND 10 CELEBRATIONS EVENING

Last month we were able to celebrate the success of students in Years 8 and 10 following their first round of assessments. Well done to all of those students who achieved position 1! Photos will be emailed in due course to the parents/carers of the winners.

Please can winners return their trophies to Mrs Brace by Friday 22 March so that we can get ready to celebrate more students.





## READING RECOMMENDATIONS

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

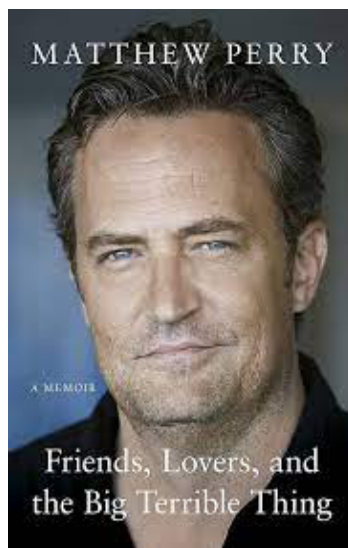


***Midnight Library***  
by Matt Haig

Between life and death there is a library. When Nora Seed finds herself in the Midnight Library, she has a chance to make things right. Up until now, her life has been full of misery and regret. She feels she has let everyone down, including herself. But things are about to change.

The books in the Midnight Library enable Nora to live as if she had done things differently. With the help of an old friend, she can now undo every one of her regrets as she tries to work out her perfect life. But things aren't always what she imagined they'd

be, and soon her choices place the library and herself in extreme danger. Before time runs out, she must answer the ultimate question: what is the best way to live?



***Friends, Lovers, and Big Terrible Thing. A Memoir***  
by Matthew Perry

Here is the riveting story of acclaimed actor Matthew Perry, who takes us along on his journey from childhood ambition to fame to addiction and recovery in the aftermath of a life-threatening health scare. Before the frequent hospital visits and stints in rehab, there was five-year-old Matthew, who travelled from Montreal to Los Angeles, shuffling between his separated parents; fourteen-year-old Matthew, who was a nationally ranked tennis star in Canada; twenty-four-year-old Matthew, who nabbed a coveted role as a lead cast member on the talked-

about pilot then called Friends Like Us. . . and so much more.

In an extraordinary story that only he could tell - and in the heartfelt, hilarious, and warmly familiar way only he could tell it - Matthew Perry lays bare the fractured family that raised him (and also left him to his own devices), the desire for recognition that drove him to fame, and the void inside him that could not be filled even by his greatest dreams coming true. But he also details the peace he's found in sobriety and how he feels about the ubiquity of Friends, sharing stories about his cast mates and other stars he met along the way. Frank, self-aware, and with his trademark humour, Perry vividly depicts his lifelong battle with addiction and what fuelled it despite seemingly having it all.

*Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing* is an unforgettable memoir that is both intimate and eye-opening - as well as a hand extended to anyone struggling with sobriety. Unflinchingly honest, moving, and uproariously funny, this is the book fans have been waiting for.

***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>***

## 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](mailto:admin@5acreshighschool.co.uk)

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

## UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS



### Upcoming Tournaments

#### Football:

Thursday 18th January - Year 8 Boys 7 aside District (Cinderford 4G)  
 Tuesday 30th January - Year 7 Boys 7 aside District (Cinderford 4G)  
 Wednesday 24th January - Year 9 Boys 7 aside District (Cinderford 4G)  
 Thursday 25th January - Year 10 Boys 7 aside District (Cinderford 4G)

Wednesday 31st January - U16 Girls 7 aside District (Cinderford 4G)  
 Wednesday 7th February - U14 Girls 7 aside District (Cinderford 4G)  
 Thursday 8th February - U12 Girls 7 aside District (Cinderford 4G)

#### Handball:

Monday 29th January - Year 8 Boys & Girls County Tournament (Wycliffe College)  
 Monday 5th February - Year 10 Boys & Girls County Tournament (Wycliffe College)

#### Indoor Cricket Tournaments:

Friday 2nd February - U15 Boys (Newent)  
 TBC - U13 Boys  
 TBC - U13 and U15 Girls

#### Rugby 7s

Wednesday 6th March - Year 7 Monmouth Boys Rugby 7s (Monmouth Boys)  
 Wednesday 20th March - U14 and U16 Girls Sibford 7s (Sibford)  
 Thursday 21st March - U15 Boys Sibford 7s (Sibford)

## 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



## BIG PLASTIC COUNT 11-17 MARCH

# THE BIG PLASTIC COUNT 11-17 MARCH

By joining thousands of people across the country and counting all the plastic you throw away for a week, you can gather the vital evidence we need to convince UK ministers, supermarkets and big brands to lead the way at the global talks that could finally phase out plastic production for good.

Let's get counting to make the Global Plastics Treaty as big and bold as it can be.

### **The Big Plastic Count. What is it and how do you get involved?**

Nearly 100 billion pieces of plastic packaging are thrown away every year by households in the UK. As part of our school eco drive we want to contribute to the Global Plastic Treaty and take part in a national scheme The Big Plastic Count. Your child has brought home a tally sheet you can complete by recording the plastic thrown away in your household. This is also a great opportunity for your child to receive their bronze environment Character Education badge and every entry will receive a house point!

### **How to take part?**

From Monday 11 March in the morning until Sunday 17 March in the evening, count as you throw! Simply mark every piece of plastic package as you throw it away on the Let's Count Tally Sheet. Students have been able to pick these up in assemblies

1. Put the Let's Count Tally Sheet up on your fridge, or near your bin or recycling.
2. Tell everyone you live with that you're going to be taking part and ask them to include their plastic waste in the count too.
3. Using the Let's Count Tally Sheet, record the different types of household plastic packaging waste you use for one week. This includes plastic going in your bin and plastic you put out for recycling.
4. Use the Plastic ID Tool to look up plastic items if you need to.
5. Remember to write down any piece of plastic packaging you use while out and about, then mark it on your tally sheet when you get back home.

### **What not to count**

Don't include: plasters, medication packaging, non-dairy milk/juice cartons, nappies, dog poo bags, plastic cutlery or period products.

We don't want to include plastic items that are used for medical or sanitary reasons, or by people with disabilities who rely on plastic items for independence.

Also, we are not counting coffee cups or Tetra Pak, the plasticised cardboard material that many juice/milk cartons are made of.

Check out the Plastic ID Tool online to familiarise yourself with the kinds of plastics we're counting up for this survey. Find out more about The Big Plastic Count here: [thebigplasticcount.com](https://thebigplasticcount.com).

## YEAR 10 PE VISIT TO HARTPURY COLLEGE

Our GCSE PE students had a great opportunity to attend a Sports taster day at Hartpury, supported by GROWS.

The students had a campus and academy tour, gaining an understanding of University life. They also took part in a sport degree and careers talk as well as workshops in Sports Business management and Sports coaching.

Our students were able to go into the labs and watch university students testing on the equipment. It was a great opportunity to see some of the key terms we have been discussing in our lessons being used in a real situation. Our students were impressed with the volume of courses offered at the campus for further education and the range of opportunities to work within the sporting industry.



## EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

The Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme is funded by the Department for Education for children in Reception to Year 11 who receive income-based Free School Meals. The aim of the programme is to make sure that children and young people are entertained, active, educated, safe and fed during school holidays.

Bookings for activities will go live from midday on Monday 11 March for 25 March to 5 April 2024. For more details visit <https://gloucestershirehaf.com/forest-of-dean-haf/>



## STAR STUDENTS

Brooke (10BR5) is very well mannered and always responds well to instructions, tasks and challenges. She has a nice calming and relaxed manner and reads very well in tutor time.

*Mr Robbins*

Lola and Luke (10AF5) are both being absolutely amazing in their homework completion, uniform, punctuality and respect. To be able to log more than three Character Education badges in a week shows not just the building of great character but also an absolute outstanding determination.

*Ms Flinders*

Evie and Riley (7JWS) are always polite, kind and work incredibly hard, regularly going over and above completing five Low Stakes Quizzes. Well done!

*Mrs Walters*

## HIGH FLYERS

*The students listed below have received the most positive rewards for the week commencing 26 February 2024*

*Year 7*

*Trinity, Willow and Ellis  
(7 awards)*

*Year 8*

*Harry, Josh, Trystan and Caitlin  
(5 awards)*

*Year 9*

*Amelia  
(9 awards)*

*Year 10*

*Jack  
(9 awards)*

*Year 11*

*George  
(5 awards)*



## ENTERPRISE SOCIETY FUNDRAISING PRESENTATION

We want to share a huge congratulations to all of the ambitious students who took part in this year's Enterprise Society programme. Students are invited to put together a business plan and if successful are given £10 by the school to put their plans into action. This academic year, students focused their creativity into designing and producing Christmas decorations, festive treats and more to be sold at our in-school craft markets and to their families and friends in December.

All of the businesses saw a profit and so they were able to return their initial £10 investment and share those profits with local and national charities. On Monday 4 March, representatives from the charities were invited to attend a presentation to receive the fundraising and meet the students who took part. In total the Enterprise Society raised £1805, which has been shared with 12 charities. A special mention must go to Year 7 students Casper, Alfie, Thomas and Harry whose business raised £541.59 for Macmillan Cancer Support, and were told that this was the single biggest donation the Gloucestershire branch had received from any organisation. As well as their fantastic fundraising, students will also earn up to three Character Education badges!



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



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## DANCE SUCCESS

Congratulations to Year 7 student Willow who recently competed at the South-East Regionals in Horndean, Hampshire. She absolutely knocked it out of the park to win the 12 and under Waltz, Foxtrot, Quickstep, Cha Cha Cha, Rumba and Jive. Also, she and her partner, Henry, came second in the 15 and under couples for Waltz and won for their Cha Cha Cha! Willow will be competing again in the summer in Blackpool and has now moved up into the Junior category. Well done!



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## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM 2024-2025 APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

A graphic with a red background and a white starburst shape in the center. Inside the starburst, the text 'STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!' is written in bold red capital letters. To the left of the starburst is a white megaphone with a red handle. Below the starburst, the text 'HEAD STUDENTS (CURRENT Y10) CHARACTER EDUCATION DEPUTIES (CURRENT Y9)' is written in bold white capital letters. At the bottom, the text 'Please check your school email for details' and 'Closing date: Tuesday 9 April 2024' is written in white.

**STUDENT  
LEADERSHIP  
TEAM  
APPLICATIONS  
NOW OPEN!**

**HEAD STUDENTS (CURRENT Y10)  
CHARACTER EDUCATION DEPUTIES  
(CURRENT Y9)**

**Please check your school email for details**

**Closing date: Tuesday 9 April 2024**

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## YEAR 10 GROWS WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY

Love watching true crime? Your chance to give it a go live! GROWS' two-day CSI experience is a fantastic way to try your hand at solving a crime by investigating a crime scene using a range of forensic techniques to pinpoint the suspect. Be the master mind you always knew you were...

**When:** Two days in the Easter holidays – Either Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4 April OR Thursday 4 and Friday 5 April (TBC)

**Where:** University of Gloucestershire, Francis Close Hall Campus, Cheltenham

**Why take part:** Your chance to see if it is as simple as it seems on TV! Find out about specific courses and careers while building team working skills and extra-curricular experiences for your CV, you might just get the chance to make some new lifelong friends!

**How to apply:** Apply online at <http://www.grows.ac.uk/csi>



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## FREE BREAKFAST OFFER

The canteen is still running its free breakfast offer to all students, which now features porridge or cereal. As well as the free breakfast choices, there are paid options of assorted pastries, bacon or sausage, hash browns and fruit juices available too.



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



## WORLD BOOK DAY

To celebrate World Book Day students were able to take part in a number of activities this week, culminating in a scavenger hunt where students were asked to find teacher's favourite books to earn house points. Here they are, how many of these have you read?

### Book

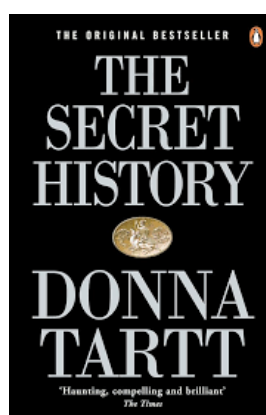
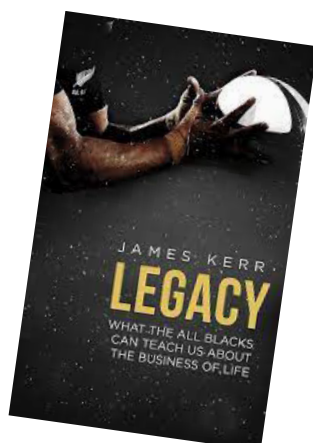
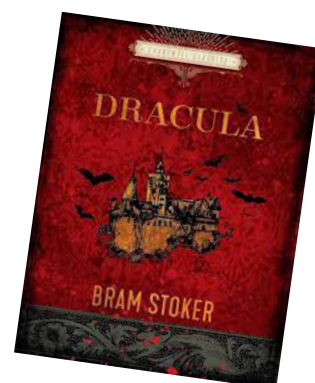
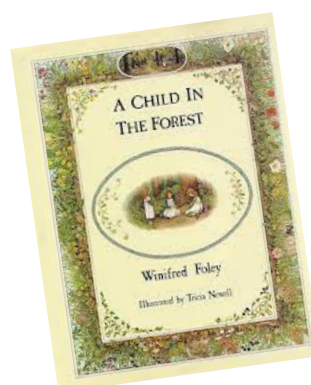
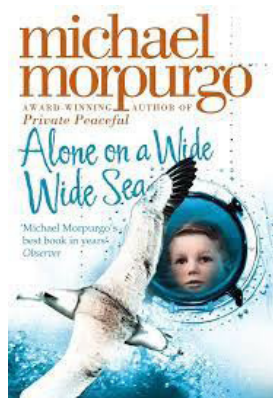
A Child in the Forest  
 Alone on a Wide Wide Sea  
 Dracula  
 Fantastic Mr Fox  
 Flambards  
 Goodnight Mister Tom  
 Hamnet  
 Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire  
 Into Thin Air  
 Kites  
 Legacy: What the All Blacks Can Teach Us  
 Lion the Witch & the Wardrobe  
 Midnight Library  
 One Hundred Years of Solitude  
 Small Great Things  
 The Name of the Wind  
 The Secret History  
 The Secret History  
 The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo

### Author

Winifred Foley  
 Michael Murpurgo  
 Bram Stoker  
 Roald Dahl  
 K.M Peyton  
 Michelle Magorian  
 Maggie O'Farrell  
 J.K. Rowling  
 John Krakauer  
 Romain Garry  
 James Kerr  
 C S Lewis  
 Matt Haig  
 Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
 Jodi Picoult  
 Patrick Rothfuss  
 Donna Tartt  
 Donna Tartt  
 Taylor Jenkins Reid

### Staff Member

Miss Smith  
 Mr Thomas  
 Mrs Knight  
 Mr Hayward  
 Mrs Rontree-Jones  
 Miss Wilkinson  
 Miss Harris  
 Ms Flinders  
 Mr Ogden  
 Mr Thompson  
 Mrs Jones  
 Mrs Harman  
 Mrs Walters  
 Mr Jones  
 Miss Cavill  
 Dr Kelly  
 Mrs Harrison  
 Miss Anderson  
 Miss Butler



## FOSTER CARERS NEEDED TO HELP LOCAL CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Nexus Fostering based in Gloucester, is a local fostering agency supporting and training foster carers to help and care for local children that are unable to live with their birth families. Unfortunately, the number of children being taken into care in Gloucester, Bristol, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Worcestershire is increasing so the need for Foster Carers is as urgent as ever.

“At Nexus Fostering based in Gloucester, we’re looking for local people like you to become foster carers. By providing a loving and stable home environment, you can support the increasing number of children and young people in the local area who cannot live in their family homes. Not all children require long-term care. We also need foster carers for short-term placements, respite care, and to provide temporary homes to support young parents and their babies. So, if you have a spare room and are ready to change lives, please give us a call on 01452 491980 or email Bridget Fletcher on [bridgetf@nexusfostering.co.uk](mailto:bridgetf@nexusfostering.co.uk).”



**Why foster with Nexus Fostering?**

-  Social worker led since 2002
-  Consistently rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted
-  Our teams will support you 365 days a year, 24 hours a day
-  We offer a competitive weekly allowance and benefits packages
-  Regular carer support groups, day trips and activities for all the family
-  Careful and considered matching process led by our dedicated placements team, leading to successful outcomes
-  Bespoke support packages for our therapeutic-led services and tailor made outreach support for children
-  You'll never stop learning! We offer extensive initial training and continually invest in your development

**If you think you could make a difference to a young person's life, get in touch today for an informal chat about what's involved.**

Tel: **01452 491 980**

or visit us online at: [www.nexusfostering.co.uk/Gloucester](http://www.nexusfostering.co.uk/Gloucester)

Unit A5 | Elmbridge Court | Cheltenham Road East | Gloucester | GL3 1JZ

## LOST PROPERTY

We are continuing to update the school website with items of unnamed lost property. If you recognise something belonging to your child, please ask them to go to Reception to collect it.  
<https://www.5acreshighschool.co.uk/parents/communication/lost-property>

