

March 2024

Issue 26

Henlow Heart

The Henlow Way

Dear Parents and Carers

I'm delighted to place our trampolining performance at the National Finals as the first point in this newsletter. Daisy, Erin and Emily are our first ever Year 7 and 8 Girls National Trampoline Champions. The Sports Round Up is full of the amazing endeavours of our young people across a wide range of competitions and I am sure you will enjoy reading it. The range of possible sports is something we are very proud of and feedback from our students shows how they value the facilities and opportunities.

As we approach the Easter break we continue to support Year 11 through Easter school and know that they will be balancing revision with some well-deserved time away from their studies.

The Roll of Honour, in true Henlow tradition, reflects many of the ways in which our students spend their extra-curricular time, school time and own free time. We value and celebrate pursuits ranging from mentoring younger students, musical performances, charity endeavours, sporting achievements, out of school clubs and even awards - including the Luckman Trophy awarded to Alfie.

Our own Meerkat award is given to a student who places the needs of others in front of their own. Sean (Year 7) demonstrated this approach to life at Henlow and many staff members commented on the way in which he readily offers a smile throughout the day. Well done Sean.

'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.' John 10:10

All our days are busy as you would expect in a thriving school and this edition offers an insight into the range of ways in which learning is prioritised and enjoyed at Henlow. As a staff group we are always learning too and we have recently been working towards achieving carbon neutral status. Our bees will be arriving soon as part of this quest and we will update you on their progress.

I wish everyone a safe and sunny Easter

Yours Sincerely



Caren Earp

Head Teacher

Daisy D 8JM, Erin D 7HS, Emily J 7HS

Year 7 & 8 National Trampolining Champions

Year 7-8 Girls Novice Teams

1	Henlow A	159.80	▼
2	Glenlola Collegiate A	159.10	▼
3	Roundwood Park A	159.10	▼
4	King Egbert A	155.70	▼
5	Queen Anne's A	153.80	▼
6	Hayes A	152.80	▼



'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.' John 10:10



The Meerkat Award

We were thrilled to be announce our 2024 Meerkat Award winner is Sean O in 7NR. This award is given to a student who has demonstrated support and care for others in our community, putting others before themselves, consistently throughout the year.

Many staff nominated Sean for the award with comments including; -

'Sean always goes above and beyond to ensure staff and students feel supported. He demonstrates Henlow Values 100% of the time and will help anyone (of any age) if they need assistance.'

'Sean is always thinking of others ahead of himself.'

'Sean is always a pleasant, helpful and caring student, asking after everyone's wellbeing. Consistently demonstrates Henlow values.'

'Sean is always so unfailingly cheerful and happy to say hello. He always brightens up my day.'

'The most helpful student in school, other students always greet him cheerfully, he enquires about your day, health and plans and is genuinely nice to everyone he sees.'

'Sean always has a smile on his face, holds doors open for other people, says hello and asks how your day is and generally just makes people smile.'

'Always kind and helpful. Will hold the door open for everyone and asks how your day is going. The little acts of kindness go a very long way.'



We are all incredibly proud of you Sean!

Roll of Honour

Alfie R 10BW

Voted Cadets' Cadet (commitment to developing other cadets and aiding their learning) and awarded the Lackman Trophy, which is the Cadet of the Year award, selected by the Commanding Officer and other staff at the Annual Henlow Air Cadet Awards night.

Ryley G 8MW, Toby L 8MW and Isabelle W 8RB

Representing Henlow at the Beds Band Factory - feedback included "The performance had some proper Rock and Roll moments"

Sofia T 5JC

For growing her beautiful hair and donating it to the The Little Princess Trust charity.

Connor W 5JC

Achieving NICAS Level 1 in Climbing

Freya D 5JC

Achieving 1st in Vault, 2nd in Floor and 1st Overall at the Gymnastics Reborn Competition

Jacob C 5JC

Coming first in his category at Biggleswade and District Cubs Bowling Competition

Hari C 8JM

Achieving 3rd place English Open Judo Competition

Daisy D 8JM

Achieving 2nd Regional tumbling competition (club)

Bethan M 11NC

Qualifying for the Regional trampolining finals (club)

Lois FC 9RT

Trampoline Zonal Finals Finalist (schools)

U13 Netballers - Izzy H 8TA, Emilia W 8TA, Lyla H 8JM, Cece W 8JM, Lily C 8TA, Iris G 8JM, Bethany F 7AB, Chiara P 7EK

U13 County Netball Champions and Sisters n Sport Finalists

Erin SS 9RT, Chloe W 9RT, Anabelle M 10MS, Avelyn S 10MS, Lucy D 10BW, Maddi H 10MS, Sarah S 10MS, Alexandra R 10CG

U15 Indoor cricket Redborne district champions

Kennedy R 5JC

Achieving Practical Karate Certificate and 400m swim award

Amy F 7AB

Achieving Grade 3 harp with distinction

Roll of Honour

Mackenzie K 11NC

For competing at the National Finals Cross Country for Bedfordshire schools team

Robynne R 7BG

Achieving Practical Shotokan Karate Level 9 certificate

Poppy L 6SG

Passing her piano prep exam with flying colours

Ellie B 9BF

Starting her refereeing qualification and officiating Stotfold Juniors matches at the weekend

Phoebe W 6SG

Passing her Grade 1 Piano exam with distinction and passing her Lamda Drama Exam with distinction

Ben H 9KB

Achieving corporal rank in cadets

Sean A 9KB

Driving a golf ball 171 yards on the golf course

William H 9KB

Achieving 800m swimming badge

Emily S 8CL

Selected for Biggleswade Town football team

Alfie W 8CL

Achieving National Bronze Award in bowls

Harrison B 5JF

Achieving Stage 5 swimming badge

Mia C 5JF

Achieving Level 5 Apparatus in gymnastics

Jacob M 5JF

Achieving Stage 7 swimming badge

Darcy D 5JF

Achieving Stage 2 swimming badge

Alanah Y 5JF

Achieving Stage 3 swimming badge

Roll of Honour

Amber J 6ZG

Achieving Level 10 trampolining

Sydney R 9KB

Achieving Grade 2 Piano with Merit and completed Module A training to become a young leader

Erin D 7HS

Regional Acrobatics Champion with qualification to the National Acrobatic finals

Arabella M & Mia J 6SG

Achieving 2nd place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 11 Pairs

Freya D 5JC & Mia C 5JF

Achieving 3rd place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 11 Pairs

Milena S 7AB & Elsa S 7EK

Achieving 3rd place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 14 Pairs

Sophie B & Emily J 7HS

Achieving 8th place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 14 Pairs

Sydney R 9KB & Ella H 7HS

Achieving 11th place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 14 Pairs

Daisy D 8JM

Achieving 3rd place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 14 Tumbling

Charlie W 7HS

Achieving 3rd place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 14 Tumbling

Freya D 5JC

Achieving 6th place in British Schools Acrobatics competition in Under 14 Tumbling

Erin SS 9RT

Selected to be vice captain for the girls under 14 county cricket team

Chloe B 7NR

Achieving Grade 4 piano with Merit

Buddy W 5JC

Achieving Hikes Level 5 at Cubs

Dexter E 8TA

For kindly mentoring Year 5 pupils

Henlow Awards

This week we have been hosting year group award assemblies where we have gathered to acknowledge the accomplishments of the Spring Term. In these assemblies we have given out a mix of over 250 certificates, vouchers and prizes! Over the next 2 pages are all the winners of our termly subject awards, chosen by each department. Well done to everyone of our prize winners this term!

Subject	Year	Attainment	Progress	Honourable Student
English	Key Stage 2	Mia C 5JF	Poppy L 6SG	Freddie W 5JC
	Year 7	Rafe S 7AB	Jude D 7AB	Isla B 7HS
	Year 8	Lily B 8CL	Lily T 8RB	Izzy H 8TA
	Year 9	Chloe W 9KB	Archie C 9RT	Raiyer H 9RT
	Year 10	Gracie N 10BW	Dominique S 10MS	Dominic M 10MS
	Year 11	Ellie H 11NC	Mackenzie K 11NC	Katie W 11DW
Maths	Key Stage 2	Molly J 6ZG	Maisie H 6SG	Darcy D 5JF
	Year 7	Harry H 7NR	Ella H 7HS	Erin D 7HS
	Year 8	Max H 8MW	Charlie B 8JM	Louie P 8RB
	Year 9	Lewis S 9BF	Raiyer H 9RT	Adom A 9KB
	Year 10	Thomas M 10CG	Dominic M 10MS	Alexander N 10MS
	Year 11	Finn H 11DW	Thomas J 11DW	Lilly L 11EW
Science	Key Stage 2		Noah B 6ZG	Erik T 5JF
	Year 7	Jasper Y 7SP	Charlie C 7AB	William B 7EK
	Year 8	Eliza B 8JM	Matilda P 8RB	Joshua S 8MW
	Year 9	Charlie H 9KB	Natalie M 9RT	
	Year 10	Alexandra R 10CG	Luke N 10MS	Jayme D 10CG
	Year 11	Anwen J 11DW	Mackenzie K 11NC	Fraser K 11NC
History	Key Stage 2		Lois W 5JF	Faye S 6ZG
	Year 7	Robbie M 7AB	Summer M 7HS	Rory M 7SP
	Year 8	Rohit S 8MD	Yasir T 8CL	Logan H 8TA
	Year 9	Chloe W 9KB	Harry S 9KB	Chloe W 9RT
	Year 10	Arabella H 10CG	Nathan L 10MS	Luke N 10MS
	Year 11	Bethan M 11NC	Will D 11NC	Neve M 11AJ
Geography	Key Stage 2	Cory B 6ZG		
	Year 7	Ruby A 7HS	Summer M 7HS	Joseph R 7AB
	Year 8	Isabelle W 8RB	Owen M 8TA	Hamza S 8CL
	Year 9	Flora C 9BF	Ruby D 9KB	Parum S 9BF
	Year 10	Phoebe B 10CG	Adeola A 10CG	Dominic M 10MS
	Year 11	Anwen J 11DW	Tom W 11NC	Thomas J 11DW

Subject	Year	Attainment	Progress	Honourable Student
Computing	Key Stage 2	Maia T 5JF		
	Year 7	Nicholas C 7BG	Charlie C 7AB	Jessie M 7SP
	Year 8	Josh S 8MW	Eliza B 8JM	Ollie R 8MD
	Year 9	Lois F 9RT	Chloe W 9RT	Raiyer H 9RT
	Year 10	Alexandra R 10CG	Charlie L 10CG	Dylan B 10CG
	Year 11	Kiane H 11EW	Daniel A 11DW	Seun O 11NC
DT	Key Stage 2	Linnea M 5JC	Heather M 6SG	Brendon S 6SG
	Year 7	Joseph R 7AB	Jacob D 7HS	Edward B 7EK
	Year 8	Samuel H 8JM	Seren w 8MW	Melody G 8CL
	Year 9	Lauren S 9KB	Marco C 9BF	Chloe W 9KB
	Year 10	Jacob b 10BW	Hope H 10CG	Grace L 10BW
	Year 11	Will D 11NC	Alex A 11AJ	Thom F 11EW
Food	Year 7	Robyn C 7NR	Zach B 7SP	Isla G 7AB
	Year 8	Ryley G 8MW	Isabelle C 8MD	Cain D 8MW
	Year 9	Layla S 9RT	Tyrell F 9BF	Lewis S 9BF
	Year 10	Lucy M 10MS	Marley B 10BW	Toby J 10BW
	Year 11	Kacie M 11NC	Gracie D 11AJ	Liv C 11AJ
Art	Key Stage 2	Linnet W 6SG	George U 6SG	Lennon C 5JC
	Year 7	Chloe B 7NR	Devon D 7BG	Kai G 7AB
	Year 8	William D 8TA	Daniel R 8JM	Emilia D 8MW
	Year 9	Chloe W 9KB	Harry S 9KB	Aayan R 9BF
	Year 10	Arabella H 10CG	Zuzanna S 10BW	Mia M 10CG
	Year 11	Fraser K 11NC	Laura N 11DW	Sophie H 11NC
Music	Key Stage 2	Zane B 5JF	Sebastian J 6SG	Sarah C 5JC
	Year 7	Theo R 7EK	Emily S 7SP	James S 7EK
	Year 8	Ryley G 8MW	Matthew B 8JM	Toby L 8MW
	Year 9	Amber R 9BF	Jack G 9BF	Sydney R 9KB
	Year 10	Dawid K 10BW	Grace L 10BW	Dante Y 10CG
	Key Stage 2	Jack H 5JF	Tia T 6ZG	Sebastian J 6SG
	Year 7	Charlie W 7AB	Harry H 7NR	Erin D 7NR
	Year 8	Gethin A 8MD	George E 8JM	Daisy D 8JM
	Year 9	Tyrell F 9BF	Raiyer H 9RT	Dejanna A 9BF
	Year 10	Alfie C 10MS	Asher C 10MS	Anopa C 10CG
	Year 11	Bethan M 11NC	Seun O 11NC	Jack J 11DW
PE	Year 7	Charlie W 7AB	Harry H 7NR	Erin D 7NR
	Year 8	Gethin A 8MD	George E 8JM	Daisy D 8JM
	Year 9	Tyrell F 9BF	Raiyer H 9RT	Dejanna A 9BF
	Year 10	Alfie C 10MS	Asher C 10MS	Anopa C 10CG
	Year 11	Bethan M 11NC	Seun O 11NC	Jack J 11DW
	Year 10	Jacob B 10BW	Mensah K 10BW	Dominic M 10MS
RE	Key Stage 2	Amelie P 5JC	Jack H 5JF	Rosiebelle M 6ZG
	Year 7	Caleb F 7EK	India S 7NR	Lani C 7NR
	Year 8	Ryley G 8MW	Alexa G 8RB	Olivia B 8MD
	Year 9	Sydney R 9KB	Flora C 9BF	Ben H 9KB
	Year 10	Dominique S 10CG	Erin C 10CG	Thomas M 10CG
	Year 11	Neve M 11AJ	Thomas W 11NC	Shanaya N 11NC
Business	Year 10	Jacob B 10BW	Mensah K 10BW	Dominic M 10MS
	Year 11	Monty S 11AJ	Beatrice R 11DW	Robyn M 11AJ
Social Sciences	Year 10	Ina J 10BW	Luke N 10MS	Janiya B 10
	Year 11	Monty S 11 DW	Emily W 11NC	Gracie D 11
Drama	Year 10	Arabella H 10CG	Daisy M 10CG	Mia M 10CG
	Year 11	Robyn M 11AJ	Finja R 11DW	Beatrice R 11DW

The Henlow Way

What does a day at Henlow look like? Anyone working within schools will tell you that no two days are the same, that's part of the real joy of working with young people! In this special feature we spent a week out and about around the school capturing our day to day activities to give you an insight into 'The Henlow Way'. Over the next few pages we hope we give you a flavour of what happens between 8:45am and 3:35pm everyday and why Henlow Academy really is a wonderful place to be.



676 Lessons take place per week



50 clubs take place before school, at lunchtime and after school





985 lunches are served and 941 snacks are brought





22 Key Stage 4
subject support
and revision
sessions are
available to
students



75 SEND interventions take place which include ELSA sessions and subject support



20 hours of extra
Maths and English
support



67
peripatetic
music
lessons take
place with
7 different
specialist
peripatetic
teachers





36 hours of pastoral based interventions take place throughout Henlow including Mindfit, Boxing, Horse Therapy, Art Therapy, counselling and the Restart Programme



The Henlow Careers Fair



On Friday 8th March we hosted our annual Careers Day. With a record number of staff, our students were able to talk to a range of people with a broad range of careers. There were many comments from exhibitors about how engaged and enthusiastic Henlow students were, asking such well thought out and inquisitive questions. As always, we are incredibly proud of our students!

A HUGE thank you to the following businesses and organisations
for volunteering their time at our 2024 Careers Fair



CHAMPNEYS

easyJet



CARTER



Music @ Henlow



Young Voices - 16th January

The music department got off to a busy start this term with the Young Voices concert at the O2 on the 16th January. This year we were seated in a corporate box which gave a new vantage point over the concert and more space to eat our tea! Mrs Sharp, Mrs Gray, Mrs Hill and Mrs Fordham really enjoyed the comfy sofas!!! The music this time included Glenn Miller and medleys such as Matilda, Walking and the annual Pop Medley.

Beds Band Factory

Huge congratulations to Krane, a Year 8 band who competed in the Beds Band Factory on Thursday 15th February. The song they chose Knights Of Cydonia by Muse was a real challenge which the feedback recognised. Comments included the technicality needed to play the piece, the strength of the rhythm and "some proper Rock and Roll moments"

"Some proper Rock & Roll moments"



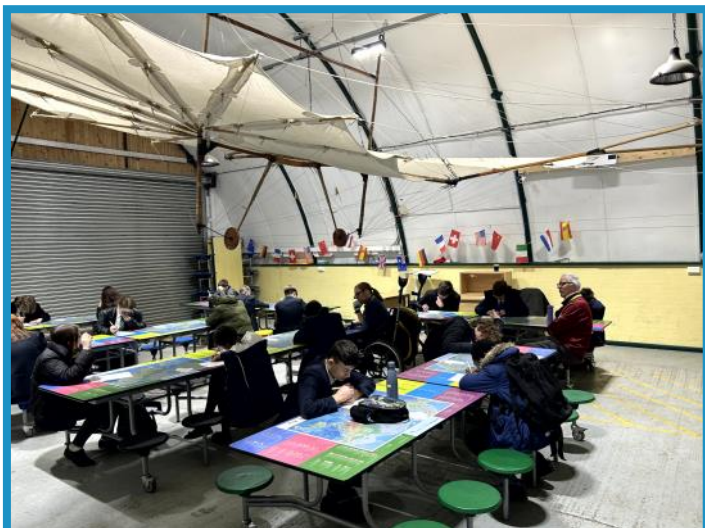
Music @ Henlow

Year 9 and 10 Music students visited the Shuttleworth Collection as part of a project where a symphony is being composed about the life of Richard Shuttleworth by Cheryl Frances-Hoad. The purpose of the visit was to explore chapters of Richard Shuttleworth's life including.

- His early years
- His car racing career
- His flying career
- Collecting and restoring vintage cars
- Collecting and restoring vintage planes

The students then reflected on his life choosing the chapter they found the most inspiring. This will then be turned into the first movement of the symphony.

The next stage of the project will be at Henlow in April when the students will work with Cheryl on the composition.



Meppershall @ Henlow



After the longest half term 2 in living memory, our KS2 pupils had earned their Christmas break. When the spring term started in January, they were energised, so hit the ground running. This was a fairly short term, which meant we had to cram it full of exciting learning experiences and extra-curricular opportunities.

Year 5 took part in their very first Christingle service at St Mary's church. They learnt all about what the Christingle represents and each pupil made one to take with them to the service. Some pupils from each form lit the Christingle candle and others read to the congregation.

Lots of pupils took part in the vast array of sports clubs on offer. For our Year 5, it was their first fixtures competing against other local schools. KS2 pupils came together and showed amazing sportsmanship in rugby, football, indoor athletics, boccia, gym, dance, trampolining and hockey! If all this wasn't enough, new clubs popped up such as Christian club, creative club and after school table tennis club. Our students relished the chance to try something new.

We celebrated our love of reading during World Book Day and our pupils' imaginations knew no bounds. Books such as 'Lord of the Flies', 'Billionaire Boy', 'The Mr Men' and 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' were all represented. Miss Cave was hexed and cursed many times in the day by Harry Potters and Hermione Grangers.

We have managed to squeeze in some learning too! Year 6 sat their final mock SATs and staff were blown away by the dedication and determination they showed. We are now on the countdown to the final tests in May and Year 6 have got their heads down and are working hard.



Pupils took part in the British Science Week challenge to create a tree. They researched different shapes and features, then built their trees using just paper and card; no glue, staples or paperclips but this didn't deter them! Their finished pieces were wonderful and it is great to see the up and coming STEM experts flexing their problem solving minds.



In design and technology, pupils made mazes, flapjacks, carrot cakes and tried Batik for the first time. 6SG split light with prisms in their science lesson. We also honoured our school values by supporting the Comic Relief charity.

Our KS2 sports leaders were carefully selected for their leadership skills and they have been supporting the PE department.

KS2 staff and pupils have worked really hard to squeeze so much into our spring term. Once we are rested and refreshed, we will be looking forward to what adventures the summer term has in store!



The Library Round Up

This term in the library, it's been all about LOVE ,BOOKS and READING!



Henlow Hub

Last month a 'blind date' with a book activity was held. A variety of library books were 'wrapped' up and students could select their 'date/book' based on the short 'summary' that was written on the front of the parcel. This activity became very popular and many books needed to be wrapped up throughout the week (of course, students who borrowed a book from the selection were offered a 'love heart' sweet, this may have helped!!

We hope students enjoyed their 'date with a book' and we asked that they complete the review slip inside the book. Students who did complete the slip, were entered into a prize draw.

WANTED!

The library stock is gradually being adapted to meet the needs of our KS3/4 students. We would be **extremely** grateful for any fiction and non-fiction books suitable for ages 11 to 16.

Our non- fiction collection is in particular need of resources and we would welcome '**up to date**' material that is appropriate for this age group (general interest/hobbies and curriculum based)

A huge thank you to parents/carers/students who have kindly donated books for our library.

Carol White
School librarian
cwhite@henlowacademy.org.uk

Teen and Young adult library books

As a reminder, these collections in our library are aimed at older children. As a general rule, teen books are written for ages 12+ and YA (young adult) are aimed at 14+.

We would be grateful if the attached form can be completed. If you have **already** filled this out, there is **no** need to complete it again **unless** you wish to change your previous permission.

Young Adult Books Permission Form

World Book Day



This month we really celebrated reading for pleasure. A **book week** was held where various activities took place.

Students 'caught' reading independently throughout the week were given a 'golden ticket'.

A prize draw was held in the library and students from each year group won a prize.

Kennedy 5JC

Bella 6SG

Erin 7HS

James 8RB

Charlie 9KB

Tabbi 10BW

Alex 11AJ

We also asked students to send in photos of them reading in an 'unusual place'.

Well done to all students who submitted their photos. We received some fantastic entries making it extremely difficult to select an overall winner!.

A decision was made and an Amazon gift card was awarded to Ruben 7HS

All students who entered also received a prize. Well done to everyone.



On Friday 8th March, we celebrated World book day' and students in Years 5 & 6 had the opportunity to dress up in a book character costume. During lunchtime, prize draw and competition winners were announced and a selection of fun activity sheets/book quizzes were available for students to have a go at.



Staff were also 'caught' reading! Students were asked to identify who was who hiding behind their books! House points were awarded for each correct answer.



To the community of Henlow Church of England Academy,

My name is Niamh Taylor, and I first joined youth parliament at the beginning of Year 8 at Henlow. For the new term of youth parliament for the next 2 years, I have been re-elected into central Bedfordshire youth parliament representing my constituency of Henlow Academy as a current Year 10.

Along with applying for the position in youth parliament, everyone must present 3 key issues which appear to be important to ourselves, or within our constituencies. The three I have chosen are as follows:

- Mental health
- Social media
- LGBTQ+

These three issues are, I feel, amongst the biggest and most prolific topics impacting the youth of Central Bedfordshire. I also consider these to be important as firstly, the mental health of young people must be addressed and we need to see an increase in improvements in help for these young people's mental health services. Secondly, the education within schools on social media can be substandard, and therefore more awareness of this matter needs to be raised, for example, by providing and delivering more PSHCE lessons for ages 12 and above about staying safe on social media. And last but not least, LGBTQ+ has become a huge part of today's youth and I believe it is necessary that awareness and understanding should be raised for the support and integration of this community.

Every two years, the UK Youth Parliament runs a 'Make your Mark ballot' for 11-18 year-olds in the UK. It's your chance to say what issues matter to you the most. And they want to hear from as many of you as possible to get your opinions heard. The next ballot is in February 2024. For this, a form will be sent around to every form tutor within our school for our student body to have their opinions and views heard. This ballot for 2024 contains 10 key issues for the UK youth parliament to choose to campaign about for the next 2 years. These key issues are:

- Education and learning
- International Relations
- Health & wellbeing
- Rights, Equalities & Democracy
- Jobs, the Economy & Benefits
- Crime & Safety
- Culture, Media, Sports
- Climate Change and the Environment
- Transport
- Youth Work & Young People's Services

Within my role in youth parliament, I will bring a strong sense of leadership and cooperation. As well as this I genuinely care about the issues the youth face and their future, our future. Today's youth face a myriad of challenges, and we must have representatives who understand these problems.

I look forward to working on your behalf.



Youth Parliament



WE ARE A CARBON NEUTRAL SCHOOL

By accurately measuring, offsetting and committing to reduce emissions by 2030, Henlow Church of England Academy is not only Carbon Neutral, but in alignment with both Science Based and UK Government targets for Carbon Emissions reductions.

School Transport Consultation

Central Bedfordshire Council have published a letter outlining proposed changes to their 'Home to School Transport Policy'. Further details of the proposed changes can be found here:

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1590/consultations_home_to_school_transport_policy_changes_2024

One of the proposed changes will mean that students will only be eligible for transport to their 'nearest' school. This would apply to all new students on entry into Year 7 at Henlow from September 2025 (or 'in year' applications during the 24/25 academic year). It is not yet clear how the current pause of the Schools for the Future programme will impact this with Henlow being the only school in the cluster with a point of entry at Year 7. We are also waiting for Central Bedfordshire Council to confirm how this will impact students in Meppershall's year 5 & 6 who are currently educated on the Henlow site. As a Trust, we are concerned that the Local Authority has not considered the impact on students and families and that this proposal does not take into account the best interests of children or the current two tier/three tier situation in our locality.

There is currently an open consultation allowing parents/carers to have their say on these changes, the deadline for responses to be submitted is Wednesday 3rd April. The Poppy Hill Church of England Multi Academy Trust will be lodging a formal response on behalf of both of our schools. We would encourage parents/carers to respond also and ask that you let us know of any concerns such that we can ensure that we are taking the needs of local families into account in our formal response. Please do so by emailing consultation@henlowacademy.org.uk

THE HENLOW ACADEMY GYM AND DANCE FESTIVAL



THURSDAY 25TH APRIL 6:00PM – 7:30PM
HENLOW SPORTS HALL

TICKETS £3 THROUGH PARENTMAIL



NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024

pta@henlowacademy.org.uk Charity Number: 1063320



Welcome to our Spring PTA Newsletter!

We hope you're all well, and like us, willing the spring weather to arrive! Our PTA team met on the 5th February to review our recent Quiz Night and to arrange the all important dates for this years key events!

During our meeting, we all agreed Quiz Night 2024 was a huge success. We received really good feedback and raised £1221.19! Thank you to everyone involved especially our teams, and our kind sponsors First Step Estate Agents. With these funds and the money raised from our amazing Christmas Fayre, we're able to support our school with extra facilities - more on that to come!

PTA 2024 Events Calendar

Our Next Events - Save the dates!

Year 5 & 6 Disco - Friday 10th May

Year 7 & 8 Disco - Friday 14th June

Year 9 & 10 Disco - Date TBC

Summer Fayre 24 - Friday 28th June

Prom Night!

£2000 of funds raised from 2023 events will contribute to a well deserved prom for our year 11 leavers on July 3rd. This will provide a fantastic venue for their special event!

Funding New Music Equipment!

We had a request from Mrs Fordham for a new Tabletop Looper to allow a wider range of students to access GCSE Music in particular rappers and beat-boxers.

Mrs Fordham replied - I've already told some of the students and they are very excited about this new equipment, thank you to the PTA.

Sign Up for our School Lottery!

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

It's easy to set-up just £1 per week.
With a cash winner for our school every week & the chance to win the **£25,000 jackpot!**
Anyone can join in!



FREE Pre-loved Uniform & PE Kit

Our lovely PTA member, Emma Jayne Stevens, takes your kindly donated school uniforms and passes them on to other families, so our uniforms get a new life!

See our Facebook page for details of how to donate.

Our Facebook Page

For the latest news, event dates and requests for donations, please follow our page!

Henlow Academy PTA

Thank you to our Business Friends!

If your business would like to help us raise funds by donating a raffle prize, sponsoring events or matched fundraising, we would love to hear from you! Please email Michelle at pta@henlowacademy.org.uk - Thank you!

Residential Sales
Lettings
New Homes
Shared Ownership

The team that invests in your community

First Step Your No. 1 Local Estate Agent

BACKONTRACK

NO ORDINARY GYM

backontrackltd.com

For all your made-to-measure soft furnishings, curtains, blinds and shutters visit our friendly team at our Hitchin store.

gillroyinteriors.com

PE Kit Requirements

A reminder that students should be changing their socks each lesson to either royal blue football type socks or white sports socks. Kit marks will be issued from January. For students with long hair a hair bobble is required. If students do not come prepared kit marks will be issued.

As Students have the option to wear their summer polo tops this term, please remember that these cannot be worn for PE and students should still bring their PE top.

Group	Sports	Equipment
KS2 Boys	Cricket Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
KS2 Girls	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
KS2 Mixed	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 7 Boys	Cricket Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 7 Girls	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 7 Mixed	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 8 Boys	Cricket Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 8 Girls	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 8 Mixed	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 9 Boys	Cricket Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 9 Girls	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 9 Mixed	Rounders Athletics	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 10	Athletics Games	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers
Year 11	Rounders Games	Henlow PE Kit White Socks Trainers

Stock Your Pencil Case!

Please ensure your child has the correct stationery with you everyday. Students are expected to come equipped for the business of learning and therefore we do not provide stationery for pupils.

You need a pencil case containing:

- Cartridge pen, handwriting pen, ballpoint or a friction pen (black)
- 30cm ruler
- HB pencil and a spare
- 2 Dry wipe board marker pen and a wiper/cloth
- Coloured pencils (not felt tips)
- Ink eraser pen (if using a cartridge pen)
- Green pen (friction pen preferred)
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener (which can collect shavings)
- Glue Stick
- Scissors
- Highlighters
- Scientific calculator (ESSENTIAL FOR KEY STAGE 3 MATHS)
- Protractor
- Headphones (suitable to be plugged into any tablet)

Stationery and revision equipment is available to purchase at the school shop on Monday, Wednesday and Friday break times in the hall.

[Click here for the price list](#)

Name ALL your belongings clearly

Prom Dress Event

Class of 2024

With over 100 dresses in our
stunning collection to choose from



Thursday 18th April 2024



18.00 – 20.30



17 Leys Avenue, Letchworth, SG6 3EB

Every purchase goes towards funding essential care

At Henlow Academy we are very aware of the increase in the cost of living and are actively looking for ways to support families through this period. In order to support parents/carers we have put together some potentially helpful resources below. If you are concerned about any cost aspects to do with your child's education please email jgregory@henlowacademy.org.uk (Mrs J Gregory).

Childcare Offers for Parents

The Childcare Choices campaign aims to raise awareness and understanding of the support available from the government with the costs of childcare.

You can help ensure your parents and carers aren't missing out by directing them to <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> where they can easily find the right offers of childcare support for them.

With the school Christmas holidays approaching and looking ahead to half term in February, it is more important than ever that your parents and carers are able to access the financial support they qualify for. They could be entitled to:

- up to £2,000 a year of Tax-Free Childcare per child (or £4,000 if disabled) for children up to 11, or 17 if they're disabled
- help with up to 85% of their childcare costs for children up to 16 with Universal Credit
- 30 hours of free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds if they're a working family in England.



Free School Meals Eligibility and Entitlement

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals please ensure they are using this entitlement. The canteen offers a wide range of choices at lunchtimes. If you feel your child might be eligible for Free School Meals please follow the link below:

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/53/benefits/4/free-school-meals/3> The school is then contacted via Central Bedfordshire

Free School Meals Holiday Courses

Central Bedfordshire offers a variety of holiday courses free for students entitled to Free School Meals - please follow this link to find out more.

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/11/children-and-young-people/1134/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf>

Emergency support

Emergency provision is available following an emergency or crisis to meet the immediate day-to-day expenses relating to food and utilities. Supermarket vouchers and top-ups for pre-paid energy meters are provided to meet these needs.

To be eligible for the emergency provision you must be:

- permanently residing within Central Bedfordshire
- 16 years or older
- in an emergency situation and not have enough money to meet the immediate needs of you and your family
- able to provide sufficient proof of identity

You do not need to be in receipt of any benefit or entitlement. Find out more [on our website](#).

The Need Project Referrals

We are able to refer families to The Need Project. If you would like a referral made please email Petra Crofts pcrofts@henlowacademy.org.uk with number of adults, number of children, what gender the children are, any food allergies in the household and giving permission for your details to be shared with The Need Project

Help for Households

You can find more information about the broader support available to help with the cost of living on the Help for Households website.

<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Cost of Living Support

Pupil Premium

Are you eligible for Free School Meals?

If you think you are eligible please contact Central Bedfordshire on the number below. As well as receiving the option to have Free School Meals you may also be entitled to a variety of initiatives at school. These may include free access to Breakfast Club, support with the cost of Food Tech, help towards uniform, subsidised music lessons, help towards the cost of school trips as well as other initiatives throughout the year.

The qualifying benefits to receive free school meals for children in Year 3 and over are:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income does not exceed £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (during the initial roll-out of this benefit)

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8306. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- dates of birth for your children
- if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number

The school will then be informed and you will receive further information. If you would like to find out more about how the school uses the funding to support pupils in the school, you can find more information on the school's Pupil Premium Strategy on the school's website http://www.henlowacademy.co.uk/web/pupil_premium/396258 or contact Mrs Gregory (jgregory@henlowacademy.org.uk) For more information on how to apply for Free School Meals, please contact Central Bedfordshire Council directly on 0300 300 8306.

Could you be entitled to Pupil Premium Funding support?

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Additional Information
Monday 15th April	First day back	
Tuesday 16th April	RSE Parents Evening	Please see ParentMail for further information
Friday 19th April	Year 9 Take Your Child to Work day	For Year 9 students who have previously filled in the sign up paperwork
Thursday 25th April	The Henlow Gym and Dance Festival	Tickets available through ParentMail
Monday 29th April - Friday 3rd May	Year 10 Mocks	
Monday 6th May	May Bank Holiday	School closed
Tuesday 7th May	Year 11 exams start	
Monday 13th - Thursday 16th May	Year 6 SATS	
Friday 24th May	Year 11's Celebration Assembly	
Monday 27th May - Friday 1st June	Half Term	

If your child is leaving at the end of this academic year (particularly Year 8 and 11) please ensure any outstanding debt on your dinner money account is settled.