Dear Parents

I can hardly believe that another year has flown by and what a year it has been.

For every school an Ofsted inspection is a significant milestone, so I have devoted a separate section to reporting on our experiences this time around.

The school has recently opened a new £2.4m sports hall, named by the students the NEW ENERGY Sports Hall and what a marvellous addition to our facilities it is. The former sports hall will be turned into a new dining facility, much larger than the current facility in the PAC. We are pleased to have renewed our contract with Chartwells who are providing significant capital investment to allow this to happen. There is an article later in the Herald which gives some idea of what the new facility will look like.

Having a new Sports Hall is exciting, but we still need to raise money to buy equipment for it. If you have not already purchased a brick and become part of this historic moment, please contact Steve or Nick at HKBLeisure@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk
As the end of the year approaches we turn our attention to the future. The senior team and governors held a conference in early June ‘Developing our Learning Community’ to plan strategically and to consider the next three years, in so far as any of us know what they will hold.

It was a chance to take stock and consider where the school is now – what has improved, what has yet to improve – the opportunities and the threats.

Of course our central quest is to continue to improve learning and outcomes for all students. We considered what skills will be needed by staff and students, and what the priorities should be in an ever changing world to keep our school at the forefront of education.

We considered our culture and ethos, the state of our partnership working, including with parents.

We considered what we mean when we talk about “inspiring excellence and fulfilling potential.”

One of the new things to be implemented next year is better reporting to parents. To that end we are aiming to give parents log-ins to our systems so that they can access the data for their children (but no-one else’s). In this way you will be able to see their attendance rate, their progress and attainment data and possibly other things too such as the number of 5s and 1s they have earned. We will also be introducing 2 ‘Academic Review Days’ during the year, one on 23rd November and the second on 23rd March. These will be opportunities for parents to attend a 15-minute meeting with their son or daughter’s form tutor, the purpose of which is to discuss their progress and attainment across all of their subjects. Data will be provided and it is hoped that this will prompt three-way discussions between parents, students and tutor, which will not only help students and parents understand the current position, but also what needs to be done to improve further and how parents can help. These days will be a great opportunity to further promote the partnership between school and home. We hope you will leave, not only with a much clearer picture of how your son or daughter is doing and how to help them, but also better informed about some key aspects of the school. It will also be a chance for us to receive your feedback.

One of the major changes we made in the last year, in response to the government doing away with ‘levels’, was to introduce Doddle. I am aware that this is a fundamental change of approach and there is still work to do to explain the system fully to everyone. There is a section on Doddle in this edition of the Herald and further information will be forthcoming next year, including on Academic Review Days. Please bear with us as we all work out how best to use this new system and to explain it to all concerned.

This summer term has seen the usual round of activity which we associate with a lively and vibrant school community: the transition arrangements for the incoming year 7s, the sports festival, music and dance productions, the Art and DT exhibitions, Glastonbrooke and Picnic at the House. I hope you have been able to support as many of these as you can, each one is superb testament to the talent we have amongst the student body.
One of the personal highlights for me was the opportunity to visit Eton College in support of our Year 9 debating team. Having won through to the national final, the visit to Eton gave us access to the Jafar chamber, styled on the House of Commons, and a wonderful day of debating in a glorious setting.

Our ‘personal development days’ (PD days) have been creative opportunities for students to engage in educational experiences which are a little different from the normal routine of the classroom. The school is indebted to Paddy Winter and Amelia Parker for their creativity, ingenuity and hard work in making these happen. Good education is about so much more than merely subject syllabuses and GCSE or A level results, important those these are. Our four PD days throughout the year have challenged students to develop skills such as resilience, reflectiveness, reciprocity and resourcefulness. By participating in the activities students have the chance to develop inter-personal skills such as team work, creativity and determination and they are encouraged to be aspirational, to think outside the box and to wrestle with some of the current issues of the day. The last of these took place on Friday and the theme was ‘Zombie Apocalypse’. Whilst the initial attack of Zombie virus caused considerable excitement and not a small amount of ‘hysteria’, the constructing and testing of a ‘brave new world’ and the decoding of the GCHQ survival messages added some cerebral activities to the day. I am sure you will be pleased to know that everyone survived!

Paddy and Amelia are among the staff who are moving on to pastures new this summer. I would like to pay tribute to all of our leavers who have worked at Hinchingbrooke in any capacity. Thank you for your contributions and we wish you every success in the future. Without diminishing anyone’s individual contribution, special tribute must go to Bernadette Howells who retires as head of Social Sciences after joining the school in 1992 and leading this department since 2005. Not only has she led this department over many years, she has also been a particularly valuable, long serving and effective tutor in the Sixth Form. We will not be losing touch completely however as she has agreed to continue with some part-time teaching next year.

Other long serving members of staff include Rhi Alford (Head of Science) and Vicky Fenton (Second in English) who both started in 2002, beaten by one year by Maria Flach in Geography who joined Hinchingbrooke in 2001.

Thank you to all the staff and students for your commitment and hard work. Thank you to parents and governors for your support in our endeavours. I wish you all a restful and restorative summer break and look forward to continuing our journey in September.

Kind regards

Andrew Goulding
Key Dates

**Term & Holiday Dates**

- **[Staff Training Day: Thursday 1 September 2016]**
- **[Staff Training Day: Friday 2 September 2016]**
- **[Staff Training Day: Monday 5 September 2016]**
- Autumn Term Opens – Tuesday 6 September (Years 7 & 12)
- Wednesday 7 September 2016 (all year groups)
- **[Staff Training Day: Friday 21 October 2016]**
- Half Term Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October 2016
- Autumn Term Closes – Tuesday 20 December 2016
- Spring Term Opens – Wednesday 4 January 2017
- Half Term Monday 13 February – Friday 17 February 2017
- Spring Term Closes – Friday 31 March 2017
- Summer Term Starts – Tuesday 18 April 2017
- Half Term Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June 2017
- **[Staff Training Day: Friday 7 July 2017]**
- Summer Term Closes – Friday 21 July 2017

**Parents’ Evenings Spring Term**

- Year 12 Parent Evening – Tuesday 13 September 2016
- Year 9 Parent Evening – Thursday 5 January 2017
- Year 10 Parent Evening – Wednesday 18 January 2017
- Year 8 Parent Evening – Wednesday 1 March 2017

**Parents’ Evenings Summer Term**

- Year 12 Parent Evening – Thursday 20 April 2017
- Year 7 Parent Evening – Thursday 4 May 2017

**Events Autumn Term 2016**

- HAA AGM – 18 October 6.00 p.m.
- Music Concert – Thursday 20 October 2016
- Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 2 November 2016
- GCSE Celebration Event (For Year 11 2015/16)
- Thursday 10 November 2016

- A Level Certificate Collection Evening (For Year 13 2015/16)
- Tuesday 13 December 2016
- Christmas Concert – Wednesday 14 December 2016

**Events Spring Term 2017**

- NSPCC Numeracy Day – Friday 3 February 2017
- School Production – Tuesday 7 – Thursday 9 February 2017
- IndepenDance Show - Wednesday 15 & Thursday 16 March 2017
- Easter Concert – Thursday 30 March 2017

**Events Summer Term 2017**

- Year 11 Formal – Friday 23 June 2017
- Year 13 Presentation Evening – Wednesday 28 June 2017
- Glastonbrooke – Tuesday 4 July 2017
- Year 6 Taster Evening – Thursday 6 July 2017
- Sixth Form Ball – Friday 7 July 2017
- Picnic at the House – Wednesday 12 July 2017

**Parent Forums**

- Thursday 8 December 2016
- Thursday 9 March 2017
- Thursday 22 June 2017
Ofsted Impressed by the Progress made by Hinchingbrooke School
Principal - Mr Goulding

The school was visited by Ofsted on 26th and 27th April with a follow up visit to complete some areas on 16th May.

Following a phone call the day before to tell us they were coming, the process began at 8.00 a.m. and involved a team of 5 inspectors with an HMI visiting on 16th May.

In all they observed 61 lessons (including joint observations with senior leaders), observed tutor periods, held meetings with senior and middle leaders, governors, pupils and the local authority. Pupil’s views were sought informally and formally, they scrutinised work in books, analysed the school’s planning and evaluation documentation, considered responses on Parent View (Ofsted website) and the school’s own parent survey results. They looked at assessment data, safeguarding policies, and several other school policies and procedures. All in all, a thorough examination and a challenging experience.

The staff were well prepared, in the right frame of mind mentally and gave a very good account of the progress we have made. The middle leaders knew their data well and gave a good account of leadership and the direction of the school. The school looked and felt good and the students, on the whole, were keen to engage positively with the inspection team. The processes and systems we have put in place served us well in terms of providing good evidence. The lead inspector commented positively on the quality and clarity of the school’s own self-evaluation and the website.

Despite being well prepared in advance, there was still a requirement to be ‘on our toes’ and to produce data and evidence about a wide range of things that could not have been foreseen. We did this well thanks to a nimble, responsive and highly effective senior team. The ability to produce data sets from our systems was tested to the limit: fortunately, we have Dr Riddick who is a master at this.

As you will no doubt know we achieved a ‘good’ rating in every category. No mean achievement with the current highly demanding framework. In every Ofsted report there are areas to improve further, the Areas for Improvement (AFIs) are:

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It is not yet an outstanding school because

- Improvements in science and modern foreign languages have not been as rapid as in other subjects.
- Targeted support for disadvantaged pupils and pupils with special educational needs or disability has not yet closed gaps in performance.
- Some parents and carers feel that the school does not communicate well enough or respond to their concerns about achievement in science.

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I am pleased to report that things are already in place to address the first two of these bullet points. The Academic Review Days and some changes to our parent forums should help to address the third. I am always open to suggestions from parents as to how we might continue to develop the relationship between school and parents into a more meaningful partnership.

I would like to record my thanks again to all involved in helping us achieve this judgement. We are already considering the next steps on our journey to achieve even higher achievement in all areas.
New Energy Sports Hall Opened
Principal - Mr Goulding

The New Energy Sports Hall was opened on 7th July by Paul Hall MBE, Olympic Coach

Governors, staff and representatives from all areas of the community attended this historic opening. The new sports hall was vibrant and alive with performers from both Hinchingbrooke School and Godmanchester primary School.

We are proud of our place in the community as a centre of excellence for Sport. Hinchingbrooke’s facilities are fully utilised during the day with a wide ranging and inclusive programme of Physical Education and sport, and out of school hours, by an even wider ranging set of opportunities for the whole community, both young and old.

HBK leisure and HSSP are the backbone of our community offer and tributes were paid to Steve Fidler and his team (HBK leisure) and Sue Ager and her team (HSSP) for their work in this area.

The building itself was designed by architect David Carmichael from Lyster Grillet and Harding, with the building constructed by Evers. Solar panels on the roof were part of an energy saving project undertaken by the school through LSC Energy and Bouygues which also includes the replacement of boilers and the installation of LED lighting throughout the school. All providing NEW ENERGY.

The idea for the name of the new sports hall came from the Students. Sports Leaders made a presentation to the senior team in which they talked about Excellence, Inspiration, Team Work, Resilience, Challenge and Equality.

One of the unique features of the hall is the signage and striking sporting photographs, installed by John Norman from Academy Design Partners. The school has had a history of creating sporting legends – many of whom are immortalized in the new building through their shirts, trophies and in some cases by having a changing room named after them. Iwan Thomas, Hannah MacLeod, Caroline Pearce, Darren Bent and, attending the opening, the England footballer Carla Humphries.
Supporting a Hinchingbrooke Sports Legacy

Help Hinchingbrooke School build a Sporting Legacy by engraving your name in stone. For a one-off donation of £25 you can pick a position for your personalised paving block at either the school or community entrance to our fantastic “New Energy” Sports Hall.

To secure your chosen position please contact Steve or Nick at HBKLeisure@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk or 01480 420531, alternatively sign up Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk by searching “Build a Legacy” under events

All funds raised from this initiative will go towards the cost of furnishing our new facility with sports equipment.

Exciting Changes to Hinchingbrooke School

Director of Operations - Dr Riddick

From New Energy to Free Energy

You have seen the New Energy Sports Hall - well now consider the free energy it creates: During the construction of New Energy Sports Hall we installed over 400 solar photovoltaic panels on the south facing roof. This allows us (sunshine permitting!) to generate a peak load of 68kW of free power, which is converted to up to 450kWh of electricity per day.

To put that into perspective: 450kWh per day equates to a financial return of £80 a day – that may not sound like much, but over a year that would be over £20,000!

That is not all!

We have also secured over £600,000 to invest in further energy efficient systems including boilers and LED lighting across the whole school.
This will drastically reduce our energy costs and reduce our carbon footprint by over 3000 tonnes of CO2 which is equivalent to planting over 78,000 trees over the life of the project!

This work has started and will continue over the summer break for completion in early September.

Thanks need to go to Miss Toone, Mrs Eacott and the Eco committee for the initial ideas and to Mr Oliver for delivering the dream.

From Old Sports Hall to State of the Art Dining

So what are we doing with the old sports hall? Well, we have just secured over £500,000 of investment through a new deal with our catering partner Chartwells.

This will transform the dining facilities at Hinchingbrooke to be at the very heart of the school.

We will more than triple our current dining capacity, there will be a more diverse menu to suit everyone’s taste buds and budget.

The new layout will resemble a modern state of the art Food Court with multiple outlets, like you see in high-end shopping malls. This will drastically reduce the waiting and queuing time – which we all know is currently a key frustration.

The Sixth Form dining facilities will also be getting a much needed makeover.

A big thank you to the students and staff who had the arduous task of sitting through presentations during the selection process.

Chartwells have been amazing in being able to finance and deliver this exciting development in time for the start of the autumn term.
Hinchingbrooke School - Carer Friendly School/College of the Year 2016
Director of Student Services - Mr Heath

During Carers week June 2016 Hinchingbrooke Young Carers Group were quite busy. On Tuesday 7th June representatives from the Young Carers group attended the first ever “Pride in our Carers Award 2016” in Cambridge.

The Carer Friendly School award was presented to Mrs Kathy Bradford representing Hinchingbrooke School. During Thursday lunchtime the Young Carers arranged a successful cake sale with all proceeds going to the Carers Trust Charity.

After school on Thursday the Young Carers hosted an information session in the library of Hinchingbrooke House, where they shared experiences of their caring roles to school staff and presented a film project some of the group had been working on.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IkEP8yeVzok

Young Carers are young people up to the age of 18 who support family members/relatives who have an illness, disability or substance/alcohol misuse issue. They may be taking on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that an adult would normally do.

Hinchingbrooke Young Carers meet every two weeks after school on a Tuesday and at Huntingdon Youth Centre at weekends. They go on organised trips and holidays and take part in various projects and initiatives. For more information have a look at the Young Carers noticeboard in Middle School. One in twelve young Carers are secondary aged pupils. If you think you might be a Young Carer speak to any member of staff or come and see Mrs Bradford or Mrs Kingsbury in Nunnery Court.

http://www.carerstrustcambridgeshire.org/
Supporting our Students with Medical Needs
Director of Student Services - Mr Heath

On Thursday 30th June 2016, The Lord Clement-Jones requested the pleasure of the company of Mr Heath and Ms Jacklin at an afternoon tea in the Cholmondeley Room and Terrace of the House of Lords.

This was on behalf of The Young ME Sufferers Trust (Tymes Trust). Hinchingbrooke staff were invited through their work with work Nisai (on-line) Academy and the recognition of the outstanding inclusion work we do in supporting all students at Hinchingbrooke with medical needs and especially the support offered via the Gateway School.

A Royal Seal of Approval for the Exceptional Achievements of our Examinations Officer
Vice Principal - Mr Walker

We are delighted and very proud to report that Anna Grantham, our Examinations Officer, has gained the first ever distinction for a level 5 TCOT (The College of Teachers) qualification. Before the main awards ceremony at Middlesex University, Anna met his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh at a private reception.

This Level 5 qualification is the culmination of a great deal of hard work, research and write-up on Anna’s part. She is now one of a very select number to hold this top qualification within the examination community. What is more, she has achieved all of this whilst doing her day job - an extremely demanding and complex one at that!

Hinchingbrooke School congratulates Anna on this exceptional achievement, and her subsequent award of a distinction – a source of inspiration for the whole community!
Doddle - One Year On
Assistant Principal - Mr Pinder

In June 2015 the school decided to introduce Doddle as an additional learning resource for all students. Doddle consists of two main parts – Doddle Resources and Doddle Progress.

Doddle Resources was launched to all students in October 2015. It contains of tens of thousands of PowerPoints, interactive activities, quizzes, worksheets and exam questions for students to use to aid their learning. Teachers can set the resources for homework or as in-class activities. In addition, students can access many of the resources independently to support their learning, for example if they missed a lesson or would like to go over a certain topic. One of the great features of Doddle is that students get instant feedback on any mistakes they make when completing the questions.

To access Doddle, all students have been given an individual Doddle log-on ID – if they forget, they can ask any teacher to reset it for them. Once logged in it clearly displays all Doddle homework due.

Doddle Progress is another feature of the system which allows teachers to track the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in their subject. This is currently used for Year 7 and Year 8 students. By entering this information into Doddle it helps teachers track the progress of their students and shows how the students can improve. The data also helps produce a holistic step (or grade) for the students which is included on parental reports. It is hoped that from November 2016 parents will have access to this data to support the learning of their children via the ‘Doddle Parental Portal’. The portal will provide weekly updates for students in Year 7 and Year 8 to parents.

Overall the introduction of Doddle has been a great success and it has provided many benefits to our students, particularly the wide range of resources and homework with instant feedback. With the introduction of the Parental Portal Reporting Module next year, it promises to go from strength to strength.

**USAGE FACTS**

- 262,000 resources assigned to students
- 82,000 homeworks completed by students
- 53,000 resources accessed independently by students
- 135,000 launches by students – an average of 90 per student
- Year 7 and Year 11 are the top users, completing 30,000 resources each
- Doddle also covers A-Level Science
- Top departments for Doddle use include English, Science, RPE, MFL and Business Studies
- Doddle Progress helps provide ‘step data’ for KS3 students across all subjects
PiXL EDGE - Launch with Year 7
Director of Student Progress - Mr Grey

This term saw the launch of a new initiative designed to get our Year 7 students involved and recognised for activities inside and outside of school. This program is called PiXL EDGE. Year 7 students now have the opportunity to complete a range of different activities that can be nationally accredited upon completion. The PiXL EDGE is certified on three levels at Hinchingbrooke School: Apprentice (KS3), Graduate (KS4), Masters (KS5). Each of these certification levels has a set number of activities that are required, chosen from the activities database.

PiXL EDGE develops five key skill areas that employers have informed schools are desirable for future employability. These skills are not directly examined at KS4/5 so we are looking to develop them within our students as they move through the school. The five skill areas are:

- Leadership
- Organisation
- Resilience
- Initiative
- Communication

Our Year 7s, under the guidance of their form tutors, have signed up to a wide range of different activities and many have even completed some of these already! Tutors have also delivered a range of different tutor activities to support the development of the skills identified above, particularly Leadership. Students have an online account that they can log in to at www.theedge.pixl.org.uk

This program will be launched with our new cohort of Year 7s starting in September and we hope to see the current cohort go on to achieve certification by the end of Year 8. Additionally we hope that students will become ambassadors for this program and promote it amongst younger years when they reach higher levels of accreditation.

We hope to issue certificates to our first cohort by Easter next year and appreciate the support parents can offer to ensure our students are able to achieve this. We aim to ensure that our students are in the best position to gain employment in the ever competitive world of work.

For more information about the PiXL EDGE, year 7 parents can contact their tutor or Head of Year (Mrs Tandy).
Lower School News

Year 7 - Mrs Tandy

Year 7 are finishing the year just as positively and impressively as they started. We now have 298 Year 7s who have achieved their Bronze ribbon (two hundred 5s) and 236 who have earned their Silver ribbon (three hundred 5s) which is a phenomenal achievement. Moreover, seven students have earned their Gold ribbon by getting over five hundred 5s, which is absolutely staggering. Their names are listed below. There are a number of students who are tantalisingly close to earning their Gold ribbon so I expect we will see more being awarded before the end of the term.

Gold Ribbon winners:

- Alicja Ziemian
- Ella Cheung
- Ellen Hollinghurst
- Maisie Isaac
- Natasha Boyle
- Klaudia Luka
- Charlotte Watson

This term some of the form reps and other Year 7 students have undertaken visits to Primary Schools and have supported our Pre-Taster mornings. The Year 7s took a lead role in deciding what sorts of things Year 6s needed to know (see some sample slides below) and very much enjoyed being treated like celebrities at their old Primary School. Being part of these visits has really helped the students to reflect on just how far they have come this year and how quickly they have settled in to life as part of the Hinchingbrooke community.
As I write this, the Lower School Sports Day has just finished. I was staggered by the number of talented athletes we have at Hinchingbrooke and was pleased to see every Year 7 event filled. We were keen to see as many students participating in events as possible and it was clear that Year 7 had taken this message on board.

As the end of the school year approaches and I prepare to take on my next cohort of students, I would like to say what a pleasure it has been to work with this year group. They truly are a phenomenal cohort of students and I will miss being their Head of Year. I wish them all the best and will enjoy watching them continue to grow and flourish over the coming years.

Year 8 - Mrs Hodgson

We have had a very busy and inspirational summer term and we are all looking forward to our whole year celebration event on Monday 18th July. We’re confident it will be sunny from 12 – 5pm that day!

We have plenty of year 8s who have proved themselves very capable academically and have worked consistently hard to prepare themselves well for the start of their GCSE subjects in September. We have also been impressed by the huge number of students who have followed advice and taken advantage of all the additional opportunities that have been offered to them this term. We have a high proportion of very capable athletes as exemplified on sports day and at various Summer sport fixtures. We also have many talented musicians who performed amazingly both in our school concerts, in our House talent shows and at our very successful Glastonbrooke event. The year 8s have had many leadership opportunities and at a recent regional event, comments were relayed back to school that they were the best set of leaders that had ever taken part!

Various trips have taken place this term including a tour for 50 to the Bank of England which was clearly very exciting and a group of girls successfully took part in a Women in Engineering interactive day where they we involved in high level design work.

Overall a successful year and it has been a privilege to watch our new teenagers developing into very lovely, successful and altruistic people. The year 8 tutors have worked tirelessly to help our students be the best they can be and, as a team, we look forward to watching them flourish further in KS4.
Middle School News

Year 9 - Mr Pape

It feels like this year has just flown by, and with the summer holidays upon us and as we leave year 9 behind it is really important that all of the fantastic ‘black ties’ have one eye firmly looking forward to what I’m sure will be an equally successful year 10. Being the first year group to undertake a three-year options and GCSE focus we have the biggest head start to what we all hope will be the school’s most successful year 11 GCSE’s starting in May 2018. It is however wonderful to stop and think about some of the wonderful experiences and opportunities that our year group have been involved in already over the last year.

In February we welcomed 15 students from China on an immersion trip. They got the chance to experience many aspects of life at Hinchingbrooke School and British life including; attending lessons, making and enjoying a high tea, playing lawn games and acting out scenes from Shakespeare. They were paired up with one of our Year 9’s, who had to apply for the role of Buddy by letter. We had over 30 letters and all were of a very high standard. Comments that were fed back to the School included:

"The school was brilliant in welcoming the students and making them feel part of the community."

"I love this school very much. Teachers and classmates are very friendly."

"The school is beautiful and big, so we have a good environment to learn. The teachers here is friendly and nice, and the lessons are funny too. I think Hinchingbrooke School is better than Chinese school."

Our year 9 debating squad headed to Eton school, after competing in and winning the Cambridgeshire heat of the national debating trophy, they were outstanding as they argued, reasoned and talked their way against the best student’s from across the country!

Following on from the success of the Monsters Ball, the Form Captains polled their tutor groups about a fun Reward trip. The decision was made and before half term the staff took 92 Bronze badge holders on a trip to Bounce, Milton Keynes for an hour of crazy bouncing, somersaulting and basketball jump shots. The trip ventured across town to an all-you-can-eat World buffet. Many plates of Indian, Chinese, Italian and brightly coloured ice cream were consumed before returning to Huntingdon.

On the note of dragons, almost all students have successfully achieved 150 5’s, 215 have gained over 300 5’s and 8 have gained the prestigious golden dragon award for achieving over 450 5’s. The 5’s are awarded in each curriculum lesson for students who are achieving above expectation in that lesson. A big well done to all for the continued focus. With the year 9 exams providing a clear benchmark for the concentration, effort and focus of pupils we hope that this will springboard the year group into year 10 where mock exams, intense GCSE knowledge and preparation not to mention work experience await!
A huge thank you must go to all of the year 9 tutors and support tutors for their constant patience, support and enthusiasm, coupled with the truly wonderful Miss Winter, year 9 SSO who has worked tirelessly with the year 9s throughout the year.

To all year 9’s we wish you a long and restful summer in preparation for a focused, outstanding, successful year 10.

I’ve been Mr Pape
You are the best year 9 (In my humble opinion!!)
Good Holiday!

Year 10 - Mr Chambers

This has been an exciting few months for our Year 10 students. Aside from the dawning realisation that their GCSE year is almost upon us, students have had a number of great opportunities in recent times. Most notably, all of our students experienced a new style of working before half-term as they ventured out in to the surroundings (and, in some cases, other countries) for their Work Experience placements. These turned out to be very successful with many students coming back with a fresh outlook and some new ideas for their future pathways. Mrs Tanton-Smith did a sterling job in ensuring the process ultimately ran smoothly and her daily updates for staff kept us informed of the successes of our students.

This term has seen students preparing for our annual Sports Day event and the eagerly-anticipated final PD day this year which is based on an imagined Zombie Apocalypse! Students will be engaging in a whole host of challenging and exciting activities to see how they would cope should such a terrifying situation arise.

A number of enrichment trips have taken place with students most recently venturing (along with some Year 9 students) to the Harry Potter studios. Further opportunities will be available over the coming months and into Year 11 and hopefully as many students as possible can take part.

One of our most important processes underway in June and July is the shortlisting for our new school prefects. This year we have had nearly a third of year submit applications and students have been tasked with linking their application to people who inspire them and whom they respect. A fascinating array of applications have been submitted as we look for our 30 prefect representatives for Year 11 who will take on a series of roles and responsibilities to support their year group and their school as a whole.

Overall, with so much happening in Terms 5 and 6, a well-earned summer rest is needed before a hectic and engaging final year ahead for our students.
Year 11 - Mr Milner

The exams have dominated the Year 11 calendar over the last months. The season ended as it began with students demonstrating immense commitment and fantastic camaraderie in the face of great challenges. The way they have pulled together in the face of adversity will be one of my lasting memories of the group.

Since the exams have ended the Year 11 students have enjoyed 2 big occasions; their final assembly and the Prom. The assembly was certainly eventful and for the most part uplifting. Despite it taking place following the exam season for the first time, the attendance was exceptional. The form videos were excellent and really captured the essence and uniqueness of each group. We had a whole cohort interactive quiz, the journey of a football around the school and some ‘singing’ (at least I think that’s what it was). Intertwined with these amusing ditties were some really heartfelt messages, illustrating the real bonds that have developed within forms over the previous 5 years. We are blessed with some very talented musicians and singers in the year group and were given fantastic renditions of some well-known tracks by ‘The Eureka Moments’, Emily Thompson and Isabella Maddocks. The students paid fitting tributes to the tireless work of their tutors too, which was a lovely touch, presenting them with gifts and sharing some anecdotes. I just about held my emotions in check until the wonderful year book team presented me with some lovely gifts just before I gave my speech. That was it, I was gone. I did manage to struggle on and hope my messages were adequately conveyed, but just in case the following is an outline of the contents:

What a journey. So many of you have come so far over a relatively short space of time. It is now the end of one journey but also the start of a whole new one. So although some of you will be upset, which is natural, just think about all the adventures you have to come. If you approach them as you have the last few years at Hinchingbrooke there is no doubt you will be successful. Pride has always been at the forefront of my messages to you, and I hope you are proud of yourselves and of each other. I can honestly say I am immensely proud of you and of having played some small part in your lives. My wish for you all is that you have a long and happy life, in which you feel you have made a difference. I hope you all get to experience a similar sense of achievement as I have in helping you over these last 3 years. Be the best version of yourself possible and good luck to you all.

Hot on the heels of the emotional rollercoaster of the previous afternoon came the Prom the very next evening. Having nervously watched thunderstorms come and go during the afternoon, the evening arrived and other than a short sharp shower, the majority of arrivals were met with dappled sunshine. And what arrivals there were – Phenomenal! We had a multitude of expensive cars including Ferraris and Porsches, there was a tractor, a tank, a fire engine and a horse-drawn carriage accompanied by some hitchhiking skateboarders along with a HELICOPTER which landed on the playground next to Lower school!

Next we had the clothing. I am not going to lie, I am in no way an expert in the world of fashion, however all 246 students (a record Prom attendance) looked fabulous. Having my wife and daughter with me made my evening extra special, and it was little Imogen who commented that there were lots and lots of princesses – some of whom danced with her which she loved!!! The casino-themed evening was masterminded by the genius who is Mrs Woolhouse, ably assisted by a core group of prefects. There was a Black Jack table and Roulette wheel, along with some amazing balloons which appeared to defy gravity (though I am reliably informed there were wires involved). The photo-booth was a hit as were the sweets which were devoured within minutes of them being placed on tables. As the evening drew to a close awards were presented. The most prestigious of these being for the Prom King and Queen, which were awarded to James Price-Wilkins and Ula Kolodziejczyk. I was delighted as they have been a couple pretty much since I took over the year group in 2013, and I have just mastered how to pronounce Ula surname! The evening ended with a last dance, but not the traditional slow couple-only dance, this was ‘Mr Brightside’ by the Killers and was accompanied by students mushing and crowd surfing! The evening captured the spirit of togetherness which this year group as demonstrated throughout their time at Hinchingbrooke. I wish them luck and I will miss them greatly.
House Identity - Cromwell House

Head of House - Mrs Trewin

The History of the Cromwell’s at Hinchingbrooke House

Cromwell house was named after Oliver Cromwell (25th April 1599 – 3rd September 1659) who was born in Huntingdon and became a political and military leader and later Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Many years before this, Richard Cromwell was in possession of Hinchingbrooke as a house, which was given as a gift from Henry VIII for supporting him. Cromwell was the great-grandfather of Oliver Cromwell, whom visited the house as a child to play in the grounds with Charles I, who later became the King of England.

House Update

We have recently said ‘goodbye and good luck’ to our amazing out-going House Captains as they venture on to University this September - Hayley Pywowar (Art Foundation course at CRC) , Stephen Lutman (Farming, Coventry University) and Skye Knott (Law, Lincoln). They were a great, hard-working trio and we wish them all the best for the future. Their replacements this year, after a rigorous interview procedure are; Angel Butler, Kirsty Knell and Josh Young. We are hoping for great things from them as they try and help steer the Cromwell students to victory in the House Cup for 2017 – it’s been a long time coming! We are due!

Inter-House

Throughout the year, the House Leaders strive to deliver a varied inter-house programme for the students to get involved in. Each event is competitive and the results add in to the end of year total for the House Cup, along with ‘House Points’ from the students’ academic work.

Activities include: Basketball, Football, Hockey, Handball, Rugby, Dance, Swimming, Cross-Country, Sports Day, Rounders, Netball, Debating,
Flower-arranging, Bake-offs, Reading, Bunting and even a Science problem solving task.

There is plenty for students to do – so let’s all keep encouraging them to get involved! Our Cromwell ethos being ‘One Team, One Dream’.

The most recent Cromwell success to celebrate are all of our medal winners at Sports Day. These year 7 and 8 students listed all medalled in their event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ryley McDougald</td>
<td>100m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nico Erlugh</td>
<td>Hurdles</td>
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<td>Ryley McDougald</td>
<td>Triple Jump</td>
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<td>Jacob Johnson</td>
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<td>Spencer Trewin</td>
<td>High Jump</td>
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<td>Tom Smith</td>
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<td>Morgan Smith</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
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<td>Spencer Trewin</td>
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<td>Jake Bycroft</td>
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<td>Cameron Eakins</td>
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<td>Connor Penney</td>
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<td>Majek Lesniak</td>
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<td>Sam Terry</td>
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<td>Emma Swanston</td>
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<td>Joy Boampong</td>
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<td>Alex Rowland</td>
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<td>Hattie Smith</td>
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<td>Havana Millar</td>
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<td>Alex Rowland</td>
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<td>Stef Stamford</td>
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<td>Molly Bateman</td>
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<td>Molly Bateman</td>
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<td>Cambridge Eakins</td>
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<td>Kaif Iqbal</td>
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<td>Panashe Moyo</td>
<td>Shot Putt</td>
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<td>Tom Garcia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ellis Sullivan</td>
<td>Triple Jump</td>
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Charity

Whilst we may not have won the overall House Cup this year, we continue to be the best House for raising money for charity. Over the year, any events we do try to generate funds for MACMILLAN. In September, we will be presenting a cheque for £1000 to mark this academic year’s achievements.
Upper School News

Director of Sixth Form - Mr Fordham

The Sixth Form Ball was graced with our largest ever number of students, our largest ever number of staff, and a fine, if chilly, evening. As always the students enter the wonderful surroundings of the Apostle’s Court via the Gate House to the sound of jazz, but quickly find their way to the marquee pulsing with the sound of hip hop. Highlights included the Bucking Bronco, from which flailing wannabee hard men were hurled onto a cushioned inflatable surround, an ice cream van offering free Flake 99s, two photo booths, and the lovely grounds lit by globe lanterns suspended from the trees. Many thanks to the Summer Ball Committee who worked so hard to make this an excellent evening, one of whom found out early in the year she would be unable to come, but carried on fulfilling her role.

We moved the Year 13 Presentation evening, previously in December so that A Level Certificates could be presented, to the summer, rebranded as a Celebration Evening. We were pleased to welcome ex Head Boy of Huntingdon Grammar School, Professor Roger Searle, of Durham University, to be our guest speaker. Professor Searle has just returned from a six week project at sea, mapping out the mid-Atlantic Ridge, and spoke on the topic of lifelong learning. The proximity of the Celebration Evening to the Ball meant that this became a week of goodbyes to our wonderful Year 13s, and we wish them all the very best for their exam results in the summer and for the next steps in their lives.

Our excellent speaker programme had what was probably its high point this term as Professor Flitwick visits Hogw..., that is, Hinchingbrooke. The Library was packed with sixth formers and teachers to hear Warwick Davis, who has been in three Star Wars films, Monty Python, Labyrinth, Willow, as well as the Harry Potter films and numerous other films and TV series, talk about his career as an actor. He did a charms class, showed how he can be transformed through prosthetics, and spoke with stunning eloquence about all aspects of his life.
Directorate of Performance and Creativity
Mr Cooke - Vice Principal

As the Summer term and academic year comes to a close, it is as ever, a very busy time. The PE Department hosted a Sports Day on Friday 1 July 2016 followed by the ‘Sports Awards Evening’ on Thursday 7 July 2016 in the Performing Arts Centre. We had a ‘festival-feel’ to look forward to with ‘Glastonbrooke’ on Tuesday 5 July 2016 and ‘Picnic at the House’ in our penultimate week. These events are open to all and really is a P&C Directorate event with students and staff performing music, dance and drama inside and outside Hinchingbrooke House. Additionally, on display were various pieces of art produced by students and a small craft fair. This was a marvellous event which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

As a school we are also preparing to welcome our new Year 7 students who will be joining us in September. On Tuesday 5 July 2016 we hosted the Year 6 Sports Festival. Hopefully this gave students a positive taster experience of sport at Hinchingbrooke School. In addition, there was the Year 6 Transition evening on Wednesday 6 July 2016 where the new students and parents/carers were provided with an abundance of new information.

Thank you to all the staff in the Performance & Creativity Directorate for their hard effort and commitment throughout the year.

I wish the students an enjoyable, relaxing and safe summer.

The Physical Education Department
Head of PE - Mr Turnbull

Sports Awards 2016

On Thursday 7 July 2016, we enjoyed an evening of celebrating sporting achievements lead by the PE Department.

This was a wonderful night of magical moments, we opened with a spotlight dance from Charlotte Thompson and Jacob Johnson, Mr Goulding played a game of Boccia with Jabe Peake who represents England and it ended up a great win for Jabe! A kickboxing performance by Jasmin Hart which was very impressive. Mr Turnbull and Mr Pape were great interviewers throughout the night. The evening was drawn to a close by Mr Cooke, Vice Principal and Mr Hobley who abseilled in from the top of the PAC to deliver the trophies to our Victor and Victrix Ludorum, Harry March and Elise Bowles respectively.

Well done everyone involved!
Hunts School Sport Partnership

Mrs Ager

Hunts SSP Subscription

The Hunts Schools Sport Partnership is a non for profit organisation hosted at Hinchingbrooke School. Established in 2006, the Partnership works with schools across Huntingdonshire to give every young child a sporting chance through high quality physical education.

Our 2016/17 Primary School Subscription Service is out now! We work with primary teachers and school staff to give them the knowledge, skills and confidence to give children the skills to take part in a range of sports and physical activities. Providing high quality physical education to give every child a positive experience in physical education. Our highly skilled team of qualified teachers and sports coaches provide one to one support, intervention programmes, collapsed Sports Science, Healthy Lifestyles events, training courses and much more. For more information go to www.huntsssp.org

Inclusive Competitive School Sport

A variety of events have taken place during the summer providing inclusive competitive opportunities for pupils from across the Hunts School Sports Partnership to get ready for the School Games.* *The School Games is a government programme to engage children and young people in competitive sport. www.yourschoolgames.com

Tennis - 28 teams took part in the year 3 & 4 tennis event at Hunts Tennis club in Huntingdon in May. St Peter’s School sports leaders supported players through 244 matches! Students worked very hard throughout the day and were exceptional.

Houghton Primary School and Kimbolton Primary Academy, qualified in the ‘A’ teams to represent Hunts at the Level 3 (County) School Games on the 30 June. ‘The tournament made me want to play more tennis’ It was FAB!’

Quick Sticks Y5/6 Quick Sticks Hockey Tournament,

During a gloriously sunny day in June, 34 teams took part in the Hunts SSP y5/6 Quick Sticks Hockey tournament. During the tournament 107 games were played and 419 goals were scored! Brington School won the ‘B’ team event excelling above other much larger schools, a great result for Brington. Godmanchester and Brampton Schools also both qualified in the ‘A’ teams to represents Hunts SSP at the Level 3 County School Games. Good luck to all of the teams.

Hinchingbrooke School Sports Leaders supported the event in in active leadership roles. Schools were very impressed by the students. ‘Great event, well organised and the sports leaders were fantastic and very fair’, ‘What a brilliant, sporting well organised and fun occasion’
Athletics

The Hunts SSP Annual Quadkids Athletics event took place despite forecasted rain and storms with 40 teams taking part across the day and 130 more children than last year. Crosshall Junior and Buckden Primary School came 1st and 2nd in the A teams Large Schools event with Holme and Offord Primary Schools securing 1st and 2nd in the Small schools event.

Leadership Academy students and Sports Leaders from Hinchingbrooke School, Sawtry Village Academy, St Peters School and St Ivo School supported the event and had a busy day measuring 800 Vortex Throws and standing long jumps.

‘The Sports leaders were really supportive and encouraging running alongside pupils in the 600m run’

‘It was a great event and I’d happily do it all again’

Archery

Four lower school students took part in the recent level 2 School Games Archery competition held at Grafham Water Centre. After an hour’s tuition, where they were introduced to the correct technique for shooting at target, the competition began.

There were four rounds with each archer shooting 3 arrows. The scores from each archer and each round were then added together to give a total for each school.

The final result was Longsands 1st, Sawtry 2nd Hinchingbrooke 3rd.

Hinchingbrooke’s archers were: Harry Parker, Rooney Kerridge, Jamie Reece and Samuel Turner.

Young Leaders at Thongsley Primary School actively lead at Sports Science event

The students rotated around a range of activities during the day and supported younger pupils in taking part in fun activities like the Batak, Crazy Catch, Funky Moves, Speed Stacking and more.
Hunts School Sports Partnership Leadership Academy

The Hunts School Sports Partnership Leadership Academy was officially launched in March 2016 with the first Leadership Academy conference at Hinchingbrooke School.

Over 80 students from Hinchingbrooke School, Abbey College, Sawtry Village Academy and St Ivo School joined together to receive their Leadership academy induction which included teambuilding activities and practical workshops on inclusive sports and football supported by coaches from Hunts FA.

The leadership academy provides students in Year 9 and above, support and training to enable them to develop their leadership skills in a variety of sporting activities and environments.

Many Leadership Academy members have been able to access the wide range of NGB courses offered through the Leadership Academy Programme. These have included, The Junior Football Leader Award, England Netball Leader award, Rounders Leader Award, British Gymnastics Judging course, Tennis Leaders Award, Inclusive Sports Workshop and Athletic Leader Award.

The Leadership Academy members have been able to put their training and leadership skills to good effect through volunteering at local clubs, supporting sporting events within their own schools and through the Hunts School Sports Partnership competitions including Tennis, Penathlon, Hi Fives Netball, KeySteps Gymnastics, Quicksticks Hockey and Quadkids Athletics. Many new friendships between students from the different schools have been formed by the Academy members whilst working and supporting each other at these events.

The next wave of recruitment of Leadership Academy members will take place very soon in preparation for the start of the new academic year in September. For further information on how you can become a part of the Leadership Academy contact Claire David, Leadership Academy Coordinator at huntsssp@hinchbk.cambs.sch.uk or visit our website for further information www.huntsssp.org.

Leadership academy members receive a Polo Shirt, Bag, Lanyard & whistle, Handbook, Logbook and access to a wide variety of National Governing Body Leadership courses.

Find us on Facebook and follow our page at Hunts-SSP
Find us on Twitter and follow our page at HuntsSSP
**The Duke of Edinburgh Award**

**Duke of Edinburgh Award Preliminary Expedition**

Team DofE are very proud to report that 86 year 10 pupils successfully completed their preliminary expedition in June and were an absolute pleasure!

Students arrived at the campsite on Friday night, pitched their own tents and cooked their evening meals before embarking on a practice walk on the Saturday with their adult mentor. During this walk they focused on their navigational skills as well as looking at their pacing, and basic outdoor First Aid skills.

Upon returning to the campsite, tired and weary, they planned their own walk for Sunday. Students enjoyed the evening and in the absence of their mobile phones it was a pleasure to see that they did recall how to actually have a discussion with each other without staring at a screen and/or updating their 'status' every five minutes! After enjoying their evening meals that they personally prepared using their trangias, we were treated to a fantastic firework display for the Queen's birthday, after which they all disappeared into their tents and awoke Sunday morning, excited to be released into the wild alone!

As the groups packed up their tents and cooked their final meal of the weekend it was clear that some groups were more confident than others. As they plucked up the courage to leave the campsite, maps in hand, all was going well - that was until one group came back to the campsite realising they had taken the wrong path out and had actually headed off in the complete wrong direction! I couldn't figure out if I was worried about them or reassured that they figured out that they were going wrong fairly quickly; either way, they were off!

I am pleased to announce that all groups returned successfully, with some excellent stories - Manav Krishnan almost sunk in some boggy ground and had to be rescued by his team mates who pulled him out, resulting in him losing a boot in the mud; Mrs Brooks fell head-first out of her tent ending up on her face explaining that she would rather land on her face than risk hurting her wrists; Becky Tibbot woke the whole campsite up screaming at midnight because she was being attacked by a ferocious pussy cat that was trying to get into her tent; Ben Reed was head-butted by a goose whilst he was asleep, and I am sure the students have many more magical memories that are going to stay with them.

The students have worked incredibly hard too, not only this weekend, but in order to be allowed to embark on the expedition section of the Award all students have been working at developing themselves across all areas. They've been learning new skills, becoming more physically active and volunteering to give back to the community. They have had to show huge amounts of commitment, organisation and courage to complete the Award and they should all be very proud of themselves.

Yarwell Country Park have contacted us congratulating Hinchingbrooke School on the exemplary conduct of our students and said that they thoroughly enjoyed hosting us for the weekend.

A big thank you to Miss Leighton, Miss Pamplin, Mrs Brooks, Mr Nance, Mr Gwynne and Miss Safford, without your help and enthusiasm and generosity we simply would not be able to run this award, so thank you! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers who have supported both the school and your children in completing the award, I really hope your son or daughter has come home with lots of stories, good memories and most importantly have learned something from the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition.

Miss Crumpler
The Music Department

Head of Music - Mr W. Cooke

Examinations

Our GCSE, A Level Music and A Level Music Technology students have all now sat their final exams. Two years of learning, creating, performing, analysing, theory, studio time and listening have been well spent and now we wait with baited breath for the results in August!

Good luck to our Y13 students who are moving onto pastures new, be it University, a Gap year, or employment.

ROBERT BURTON has had success once again with his phenomenal saxophone playing, achieving second place in the highly prestigious Lutine Prize for soloists, from the Junior Guildhall in London. Huge congratulations, Rob.

RECRUITING NOW! We always welcome new members to all our choirs and ensembles and are particularly keen to promote the following to you:

HINCHINGBROOKE COMMUNITY CHOIR – rehearsals every Friday, 4.00-5.15pm in the Music Department. Everyone welcome – students, staff, parents, friends etc.

ORCHESTRA – rehearsals every Thursday 3.40-4.30pm. Everyone welcome, staff and parents included.

The Food Technology Department

Head of Food Technology - Mrs Crabtree

Cooking Taster for New Year 6s

Almost 50 Year 6 students enjoyed a taster session over 3 evenings in the Food Department. They had a great time learning how to make fruit scones and all had some tasty treats to take home. They put a lot of older students to shame with their washing up! It was lovely that Gemma Greer, Sophie Lloyd and Mia Roberts all gave up their time to come and help; the younger students enjoyed chatting to them about life at Hinchinbrooke. They are now eagerly waiting to learn to cook in Year 7.

Mrs Sheehan
The Design & Technology Department
Head of Design Technology - Miss Lee

More than 400 hours of work, over 100 ideas, occasional tears and problems to solve, but they got there in the end.

The Design Technology staff would like to say how proud we are, yet again, of the amazing achievements of the students in DT at GCSE, AS and A2. We cannot showcase all of the projects here, but have selected a small sample to show the diversity, quality and level of challenge our students are capable of demonstrating in their work. We hope you are as impressed by their achievements as we are!
Women in Engineering Day 2016

On Thursday 23 June 2016 we took 38 girls from years 8-12 to Burgess Hall to take part in a range of tasks aimed at encouraging girls to go into Engineering and Design careers. The girls had to build parts of a giant Lego house in small teams then assemble it, create a water pipe system for a town and build a tall water tower to hold a water container. During the day the girls had chance to meet engineers and talk to them about what they do on a day to day basis.

The girls were fantastic, they came up with great ideas during the tasks and won prizes for their contributions during the day.
Directorate of Enterprise and Enquiry
Vice Principal - Mr Walker

We are coming to the end of a hugely enjoyable and somewhat intensive term in the life of the Directorate. As I write, a group of Year 11 students are completing their European Computer Driving Licence, an ICT qualification which provides an excellent grounding in software packages for home and office use – and still has currency despite the recent referendum result! All other Year 11, 12 and 13 exams are completed, and we eagerly await the results this Summer. Year 10 have just taken some practice exams in Maths and English which will help us make sense of the new 1-9 grading in these subjects.

Of course, testing and examinations are a necessary part of Directorate life, but they are just one part of the picture. You will read in the following pages about some of the other terrific events and experiences that have taken place in recent months. As ever, I am indebted to the staff who give so freely of their time to make these things happen. Our mission is to inspire excellence and fulfil potential, and to encourage our students to develop a thirst for learning in the scientific, mathematical, technological and economic worlds.

Please don’t hesitate to get in touch if you can support us in any way. We are always looking for speakers, work experience opportunities, and inspiration for extra-curricular learning in any shape or form. If you have an interest or experience in any of our subject areas we would be delighted to hear from you.
Mathematics Department

Head of Mathematics - Mr Bennett


This year 120 of our top mathematicians in years 7 and 8 took on the best that the United Kingdom could offer in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

Over 250,000 top students in year 7 and 8 sat the challenge with roughly the top 6% receiving a gold certificate, the next 13% received a silver certificate and the next 21% bronze.

Approximately 6500 of the top students out of the original 250,000 students are invited to attend a follow-on competition the Mathematical Kangaroo Challenge.

Our mathematicians have made us very proud this year with 6 students receiving a gold award, 14 students receiving a silver award and 30 students receiving a bronze award. That means that 50 of our students are now effectively in the top 40% in the country and better!!! An amazing achievement from our brightest mathematicians. And if that was not enough five of our year 8 students qualified for the kangaroo challenge putting them up with the top 6500 mathematicians across years 7 and 8 in the whole of the United Kingdom.

Congratulations to all our students that took part.

**Gold Certificates:**

Jamie Benge, Joseph Winterlich, James Beckett, Amelia Oliver, Joseph Thacker, Megan Perry and Edward Belchier

**Silver Certificates:**

Jake Marsh, Lottie Whitehead, Ziyad Skinner, Emilia Hutting, James Beamish, Layla Keating, James Inman, Alistair Campbell, Amelia Dwight, Rosie Shepherd, Daniel Knaggs, Kai Pattison, Joseph Usher and Joy Boampong

**Bronze Certificates:**

Mark Crouch, Taylor Allan, Robert Mcmaw, Beth Stratton, Alice Nicholson, Luke Clemmence, Thomas Warham, Oliver Moore, Alex Suntharalingam, Evie Belchier, Lucas Watford, Amy Gatward,


**Kangaroo follow-on challenge:**

Joseph Thacker (merit), Amelia Oliver (merit), Jamie Benge, James Beckett (merit) and Joseph Winterlich.

Mr Hancock
On Saturday 18th June Major Tim Peake returned from his spell on the International Space Station, completing many tasks and activities in the name of Science. Following that legacy, Hinchingbrooke School’s very own Science club have been conducting some experimental work to add to the work already completed by Tim Peake.

When he went to space, he took 2kg of rocket seeds with him. They were returned a few months later to earth when the ISS commander returned to Earth. The European Space Agency (ESA) want to see the effects of microgravity on seeds and how they grow after being in space. Thanks to Dr Richard Binks, Hinchingbrooke School were lucky enough to get hold of some of these seeds to grow and monitor. Together with an instruction booklet, the seeds arrived in a red packet and a blue packet - one set which had been into space and one set that had not.

On Wednesday 15th June the experiment started right here in room 93. Feel free to come down and see the experiment taking place. Over the next 35 days we will be monitoring and recording the growth of both sets of seeds and adding to a national database alongside other organisations completing the same task. Once the experiment is finished and the data is gathered, Hinchingbrooke School will have successfully grown seeds from space and contributed to the ESA’s research! Now, you can’t say that every day!
Business Department

Head of Business - Mrs Beadles

Harry Potter World

Year 9 and 10 Business Studies Visit to Warner Brothers Harry Potter Studios June 2016. The Year 9s and 10s had a great time at the Harry Potter Studios, once the transport had negotiated the awful traffic problems which caused them to be an hour late.

The students had a talk on the business of movie making which prompted them to think of all the wonderful careers available in the 2nd largest revenue generating industry in the UK. They learnt about all the work that goes on behind the scenes of the Harry Potter movies and really delved into this magical world.

Citrus Saturday - Year 9 Business Studies Market Stall

On Saturday 2 July, Year 9 Business Studies students held a market stall in Huntingdon selling homemade lemonade. It was a great day. £130 profit was made and the students were impeccably hard working and enthusiastic.

Keith Salmon – Year 9 Business Studies Talk - How to Start up a Business and Create Effective Sales

On Tuesday 28 June, Keith Salmon, Market Manager for Huntingdon and St Ives, came to talk to all Year 9 Business students about how to start up a business and create effective sales. He was very inspirational.
Directorate of Global Citizenship
Vice Principal - Miss Nightingale

Wow...what a year. It has sped by in a bit of a blur what with all the fantastic events and changes which have occurred. As always Global Citizenship has run an astounding number of trips across the course of the academic year to all four corners of the globe (well nearly). Students have always done both us and themselves proud with how they have conducted themselves when out on show.

There has been all the amazing Literacy work led by our Literacy Coordinator, Miss Spikesley and Mrs Williams. There are so many keen literacy ambassadors it’s untrue, and the work they do with younger students in the library, in order to create a buzz around reading is phenomenal. I love going into the library, especially during form time on a Friday, to see it packed to the rafters with students who are keen, engaged, and quite frankly buzzing about what they are doing! It’s great to witness. Great too that this extends to the Year 6 students in the summer term when Mr Hancock, Mrs Reed, Miss Spikesley and Mrs Williams run their annual Literacy and Numeracy programme. This year’s theme is superheros!

It has also been a great feather in our caps that during the first year we have run debating clubs in Middle School, that we have ended up in the National finals...at Eaton School no less. Hopefully by the time this goes to print, we will know how we fared.

We look forward to another year of fantastic results at GCSE, AS and A2. The students and staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that we have all done as much as we can so students achieve their full potential in subjects across the directorate. I truly hope that all the hard work pays off and that we have a bumper summer.

It is also that time of year when we say farewell to some of our colleagues. This year it saddens me greatly to say farewell to Mrs Fenton in the English Department, who will be leaving us for the somewhat colder and wetter climbs of Scotland. She will be missed by the English Department and beyond and we wish her well with her new adventures. Miss Parker will also be leaving us this summer, for a promotion to Head of Department in another school. It is a thoroughly well-deserved promotion, and our loss is certainly her new school’s gain. Mr Winter leaves us this summer too. His departure is also a result of another well-deserved promotion to the role of Head of Department. Miss Blume, who has been a wonderful addition to the languages department this year is moving to Wales and taking a new position in a school in Chester. Mrs Hetherington is off to Australia, and assures me it’s too far to commute on a daily basis, and as such we must say goodbye to her too. Mrs Howells is officially retiring this summer, but I am thrilled to say that she will be back with us in September, fulfilling a part time role in the Social Sciences Department. Mrs Flach is also starting her well-earned retirement at the end of the summer term and will be greatly missed in the Geography Department.

It is also time for me to take on a new challenge and as such Mr Walker and I are swapping Directorates. Mr Walker is now the Director of Learning for Global Citizenship and I have become the Director for Learning for Enterprise and Enquiry. I know that Global Citizenship will go on from strength to strength and flourish under Mr Walker’s leadership. I have thoroughly enjoyed steering this ship, but now look forward to working with a new set of fantastic colleagues.

Have a great summer everyone!
In May, Hinchingbrooke got the phone call they’d been waiting for! Ofsted were arriving the very next day to give Hinchingbrooke an overall rating. The last inspection had rated the school ‘Requires Improvement,’ in 2014. Staff and students alike, were keen for Ofsted to recognise the improvements the school has made.

Ofsted were in the back of many lessons for two days before making their final decision. A marked improvement in exam results was most noticed by the Inspection and the school was awarded an overall rating of ‘Good.’

Ofsted stated that Mr Goulding had ‘carefully steered improvement’ and the Lead Inspector, Kim Pilgrim, said that the quality of teaching had improved from previous inspections.

In the future, Hinchingbrooke School is aiming to get an outstanding report from Ofsted. Here at HBK TV, we are sure the school will go on to achieve this rating!
A few weeks ago 48 Year 9 students and 4 Geography staff ventured to Sicily to experience life near Europe’s most active volcano. Having arrived in sunny Sicily and settled into the hotel, we familiarised ourselves with the local beach in Letojanni.

Monday saw us conquer Mount Etna, with the help of cable cars and 4 x 4 jeeps we reached 2900m above sea level. It was a fantastic out-of-classroom learning opportunity for students, who benefitted from the knowledge and expertise of local guides. On arriving back in Letojanni, we were able to try some of the delicious gelato and spend some time on the beach, dipping our toes into the turquoise blue Mediterranean Sea.

The following day we had an early start as we were off to catch the boat to explore the Aeolian Islands of Lipari and Vulcano. Travelling around the World Heritage site students bathed in revitalising, natural mud baths, explored the volcanic black sand beaches and visited the Museum of Volcanology where students investigated how local people interact with their volatile surroundings.

On the final day, we went to the breath taking Alcantara Gorge. With the help of a 4D film, students learnt how rivers rapidly cooled lava flows from Mount Etna, resulting in fascinating rock formations. Guides highlighted the diverse flora and fauna in the region and how the ecosystem functions successfully.

Overall it was an amazing trip, students were a credit to Hinchingbrooke and we look forward to running the trip again next year.

Mrs Moyes
History Department
Head of History - Mr Leigh

At 6am on Thursday 9th June, nine teachers and 90 bleary-eyed Year 9 pupils boarded two coaches from Hinchingbrooke School and set off on a three day tour of battlefields of Northern France and Belgium. On the first day of the trip, the pupils visited the largest British military cemetery dedicated to the First World War, Tyne Cot which remembered those from the Battle of Passchendaele (1917). Following a brief talk from Mr Wheelely about the battle, the pupils got the chance to visit a museum which contained some amazing artefacts that had been discovered in the fields of the local area. Tyne Cot is particularly remarkable as it contains the graves of 7,000 fallen soldiers from the Battle of Passchendaele (1917) and a wall dedicated to those missing which holds the names of 33,00 men. The students were visibly moved by the sight of the seemingly never-ending wall of names and behaved with a maturity beyond their years whilst at the site. Two pupils were lucky enough to have found the grave or name of a family relative, having conducted some research prior to going on the trip, something which they found to be extremely emotional.

Shortly after leaving Tyne Cot, we made the short journey a German cemetery at Langemarke, to pay our respects. Students found this site distinctly different to the British cemetery in terms of how the Germans remembered their war dead as they were buried stood-up right in order to squeeze all in. After a long first day, the pupils were hopeful of slopping off back to their rooms to make the most of the free Wi-Fi available at the hotel, however, Mr Hobley had other ideas. Following dinner, pupils were taken outside and onto the lawn for an evening of team building exercises and games and despite some initial reluctance, mostly on behalf of the teachers, all 99 people on the trip spent the next hour and a half engaged in wheel-barrow races and having lots of fun- a great way to end a fantastic first day.

On Friday, the students of Hinchingbrooke once again conducted themselves throughout the day with a real sense of decorum and maturity that made them a credit to the school. After an early start, we made our way to the Somme and went into our first trenches on the trip at Newfoundland Park, which was the home of Canadian troops during 1916. Students were lucky enough to be able to get up out of the trenches and make their way across No Man’s Land following in the footsteps of those who went over the top on 1st July 1916. After this we visited Thiepval, the huge Lochnagar crater and the grave of an ex-Hinchingbrooke student, F.E Clarke who was 17 when he gave his life for his country. Understandably this was an extremely emotive moment and all teachers commented on how well the students engaged with the moment and their behaviour throughout the day.

To close the day, we made our way to the Belgian town of Ypres to take part in the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate. Josh Nye and Charlotte Warner were chosen to represent the school and laid a wreath to commemorate the soldiers who took part, and died, in the First World War. Various members of the public observed how well behaved the pupils were during the ceremony and said how they were a credit to the school, so Year 9 deserve enormous praise for the way they conducted themselves.

Unfortunately, all good trips must come to an end at some point and before we made our way home the students got to visit the very muddy trenches at Hill 62, to visit the amazingly interactive Passchendaele Museum and, of course, sample the local delights in the chocolate shop in Ypres. Seeing pupils struggle with the pack of a British Tommy, sniffing different types of poisonous gas and hearing them scream in ecstasy as they were told it was ‘chocolate time’ were highlights of the trip for all staff involved.

I’d like to thank all staff who came on, and helped to organise, the trip as without them it wouldn’t have the success it was. The pupils of Year 9 also deserve enormous credit for their behaviour, maturity and engagement throughout and were a real pleasure to take away.

Mr Alexander
**RPE Department**

**Head of History - Mr Chester**

**Is it possible to tell ‘The Holocaust Story’?**

The question we posed to the students at the annual Hinchingbrooke Holocaust conference is one that has puzzled scholars, teachers and students alike: how do we engage with such a complex a topic such as this without becoming sensationalist yet still retaining a focus on truth? What story or account should you focus on in the first place? The RPE, English and History departments all focus on aspects of the Holocaust and we wanted to engage students in the same discussions we had been having as staff; were we in danger of focusing too much on the history of the causes of the Holocaust? Is the most important revelation from the genocide that human nature has such a capacity for evil? Are there words which can actually describe this horrific event? Can you have empathy with such an event?

Friday 10th July saw a group of 30 Hinchingbrooke students from years 9, 10 and 12, along with 10 teachers from Cambridge University RE PGCE course, travel to the Imperial War Museum to visit the award winning Holocaust exhibition. Students took the opportunity to expand their knowledge of the events of the Holocaust itself and the lead up to the events from the perspective of politics, immigration and complicity. Students were then able to explore how we might tell different stories of these historical events through a seminar on the personal narratives considering whether a focus on individual’s emotions, thoughts and testimonies might reveal more than just a consideration of the facts and figures of the past.

The real exploration of the topic began in the conference held at Hinchingbrooke on Monday 13th July where the students worked with the teachers from Cambridge on a challenging approach to Holocaust education. Alongside the discussion of historical rigour of studying the past and ethical challenges posed by the Holocaust, the students were introduced to the role of literature and language in expressing truths. Exploring books such as the ‘Book Thief’, ‘Boy in the Stripped Pyjamas’ as well as a discussion of Shylock from ‘The Merchant of Venice’, students began to consider the role of empathy – is empathy possible? Why do people write stories about these events? Is it possible to describe these events? Does empathy matter more than truth? Considering these ideas emphasised the need for the students to be aware of how we express ideas and underlying messages that may be given and so from words to objects and curation, the students, working with the art department, examined how an exhibition could be successfully curated to convey an interpretation or story of the Holocaust to a museum visitor.

Using these different approaches, the day then saw the groups of teachers and students working together to curate an exhibition on the Holocaust. Selecting from a vast array of possible exhibits the students groups decided which story they felt was the most important to tell visitors and how best to arrange their displays to ensure that visitors took away an understanding of such a diverse topic. In order to really challenge the student understanding of this we were very fortunate to be able to welcome visitors such as Dr Alice Pettigrew from UCL Centre for Holocaust Education and Dr Kevin Kiester and Dr Tsuruhara Toshiyasu from the University of Cambridge Peace Education Research Group. Incorporating the discussions from these leading experts in the field of Holocaust and conflict education meant that students were able to ensure that their exhibitions were relevant to a modern audience and reflected the complex nature of the events.

Throughout the 2 day conference, the students excelled themselves as both a credit to the school and to themselves showing a real understanding and insight into the problems surrounding the study of such a complex and diverse topic.
Film Studies Department

Head of Film Studies - Mr Lloyd

Hinchingbrooke Nominees for the Cambridgeshire Young People's Film Festival 2016

The AS coursework films have had a couple of cinema outings this term. First, the Cambridgeshire Young People’s Film Festival annual awards at the Huntingdon Cineworld on Friday 24 June saw Panic in the House and Crime Scene – Do Not Enter get a screening in the KS5 nominations. The films were up against some very stiff competition and Panic in the House gained a commendation from the judges for its cinematic qualities.

2016 AS Films screening at the Cambridge Big Weekend

At the point of writing, all the Hinchingbrooke AS films are to be screened in the Cinemobile for the Cambridge Big Weekend on Parkers' Piece on the weekend 9 July. The films will be shown on Saturday afternoon starting at 14.00. Entry is free.

The Cambridge-based filmmaker and teacher for the BFI Film Academy Ryd Cook has kindly reviewed the student films. He has praised them all as ‘technically great and make use of the equipment really well. They’re also great visual stories’. Ryd also commends the films individually:

**Fate** by Corina Traflet, Rhianna Thompson and Ollie Curliss-Ackril
Good tension. Technically good too with focus pulls & good exposure/lighting.

**Tick Tock** by Archie Smith, Cess Lanz, Aiden Hawkins and Kayleigh Glass-Parker
Excellent sound & cinematography.

**Panic in the House** by Melissa Lewis, Ben Moat, Katrina Cailao and Lewis Colman
Great use of locations, excellent art direction, good style & use of filmmaking trickery. Wonderful melodramatic performance!
Tea by Szymon Simlak, Katherine Quinn and Paddy Bird
(This) is a great concept... Edited well and made me laugh.

Emma by Pauline Gehrke, Tom Wells, Rebecca Dodman and Alfie Toseland
Has a good story line and the lighting is really effective... Not a story usually told in student films so that is impressive!
Costume and locations are great too.

Crime Scene – Do Not Enter by Billy Crane, Philippa Mowat and Joe Humpston
Love the editing in seeing a clue and then a flashback. Great costumes and locations too.

Stalker by Elliot Gill, Costanza Casedei, Archie Campbell and Megan Hill
Great sound and editing.

The Chase by Kyla Murray, Louise Allin, Cai Oram and Ciaran Sullivan
Great performances, lighting and sound design. Also good non-linear narrative as well, seeing the end at the start is a good thing to do to keep the audience interested.

The Winning Ticket by Veronica Vercoe, Megan Edmeades-Jones, Jonah Hill and Abi Cunnick
This was fun! Excellent dilemma/goal set up at the start. Great silent film style, good sound design too.

All the 2016 student films can be found at: http://www.hinchingbrookeschool.co.uk/FilmStudies/Student_Films.html

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Social Sciences Department

Head of Social Sciences - Mrs Howells

Farewell to our Year 13’s

The Social Science Department got together with Business Studies to say ‘Goodbye’ to our year 13s on Wednesday May 25th. We held a BBQ on the terrace and students chatted, listened to music and took part in a Social Science and Business quiz. It was a really nice event, and was attended by approximately 60 students from Psychology; Sociology; Health and Social Care; Politics and Business.

Mrs Beadles, Mr Wheeley, Mrs Miller, Mrs Weightman and Mrs Howells cooked whatever food the students brought with them. The weather was not particularly wonderful, hence we have no photos, but at least it kept dry.

All in all it was a lovely social evening and a fitting end to a lovely cohort of students.

We wish them well.
MFL Department

MFL Transition

Over the past couple of weeks Mrs Nuñez and I worked closely with some of our feeder Primary Schools: Godmanchester, St Anne’s, Brampton, and Cromwell Academy to deliver Master Classes in French, Spanish and German to Year 6 students. The Primary School students got to choose the language of their Master Class and learnt about pronouncing key sounds in the target language and the culture in France, Guadeloupe, Switzerland, Spain, Argentina, Uruguay, Austria and Germany. In groups, the pupils created country fact files with the help of iPads and presented the country of their choice in the target language to the rest of the class.

Mrs Nuñez and I visited our feeder Primary Schools and got an insight into the fantastic work the schools have been doing in MFL. As languages are now compulsory to learn at Primary School, it was a very interesting and exciting time for us to see how schools have progressed in delivering Modern Foreign Languages and how language learning is now a vital part of their curriculum.

We had a truly fantastic time and felt very inspired afterwards after having met such keen, young linguists that will be joining Hinchingbrooke in September.

Miss Blume

German Exchange in Huntingdon, June 10th – 17th 2016

Finally, after 6 months waiting, our German Exchange Students and their teachers Frau Kaupp and Frau Kurfess arrived at Hinchingbrooke School to enjoy a week in England with us. They arrived in the evening of Friday 10th June and spent the weekend with their host families going to the sea side, Harry Potter World, Peterborough etc.

The Germans spent two days in sunny London, Monday and Wednesday, which included fun activities such as a London Bike Tour, an Alternative Tour around the capital and the Skygarden. On Tuesday Mr Goulding warmly welcomed everyone in the library and two 6th formers gave a tour and talked to the students about the school’s history. Having spent all day in lessons with their partners, it was time for an afternoon packed with sporty activities and a BBQ. Thanks to the fantastic Mrs Crumpler, who gave up her time to lead the activities, everyone enjoyed some exercise and the German students got an insight into how to play rugby and rounders. In return, the Germans taught the British how to play football ; ) A BBQ with burgers, brownies, rain and thunder was the perfect end to the day. On Thursday we all enjoyed another sunny day in Cambridge where we had the chance to visit King’s College, one of the
most prestigious colleges in Cambridge. This was followed by a lot of ‘punting fun’ on the river Cam and everyone enjoyed relaxing in the sun.

The week was over very quickly and the day of the departure had come too quickly for some students. I would hugely recommend to take part in the exchange next year as it doesn’t only teach us about another culture and language, it might also be the beginning of a long lasting friendship.

Miss Blume

Extra-Curricular Activities

What another great year it has been for the extra-curricular provision here at Hinchingbrooke School! I am writing this article in the wake of yet another fantastic Extra-Curricular event that was held here on Thursday 30 June for Year 6 students coming up to Hinchingbrooke in September. We hold this event each year so students can come along and have a look at what clubs and activities will be on offer to them next year, Hinchingbrooke School has a long tradition of outstanding lunch time and after school clubs.

This year has seen over 30 clubs on offer each week, available to all year groups, covering areas as varied as Debating, Amnesty International, Swimming and Raspberry Pi. Academic research and anecdotal evidence has shown that extra-curricular participation can improve a student’s behaviour and academic performance as well as providing them with opportunities to develop interests and friendships. We like to think that all students across all year groups will participate in at least one extra-curricular activity per term. We are always open to suggestions so if there is a club in particular that a student would like to participate in but is not currently available, they should come and see me, Mrs Pittock in the Geography block and we can work together to make their club idea a reality.
Members of our debating club have had great success in the PixL up for debate competition this term, seeing them win a place in the competition final when they will be taking their arguments to Eton! This is such a great example of the benefit students can gain and the opportunity’s that can be provided for them when they take part in extra-curricular activities.

Next year the Computing department are very excited to launch a new Code Club. This program by showing them how term the students will imaginations and making we’re living in a digital age. technology. They should doesn’t just mean you can thinking skills, and is useful for days and times for all clubs an after school club.

Gardening club will be a new addition to our extra-curricular clubs timetable next year. Mrs Nairne-Clarke has been working relentlessly this term to recruit volunteers and raise funds to make her dreams of turning the middle school quiet garden into a fantastic sensory garden for students to enjoy. Mrs Nairne-Clarke hopes that it will be a place to stimulate all senses in an environment of calmness, creating an atmosphere for the well-being of health and mind. It will be a therapeutic place where students can take an active part in their garden, where they can grow their own vegetables and understand about healthy eating and where they can create new projects that will encourage and stretch their creative minds. The garden will also provide a ‘safe place to potter’ during lunchtimes, and a place where students can understand the importance of plants and their features.
“Bells Gone: What’s On?” will take place on Friday 9 September 2016 at lunch time in the Pepys building. Club leaders are available for students to find out more information and sign up to the clubs they would like to try out in the first term. The event is always well attended, is open to all year groups and is an opportunity for students to see teachers in a less formal situation. Club leaders also promote their clubs in lessons and are usually available at break and lunch times to answer any queries, or students can just call in to see Mrs Pittock in her office, found in the Geography Block.

The extra-curricular club timetable for the autumn term will be published to all parents and students in the first full week of term in September. It will also be displayed in form rooms and available on the school website at the following link www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/Timetable

**Year 10 Work Experience 2016**

Vocational Education Coordinator - Mrs Tanton-Smith

Over a quarter of the students that I have received feedback from have managed to gain some part time work.

The feedback from employers has been very positive and includes these comments:

“He has a job lined up for weekends and hopes he can start bar training when he is 16 - sensible lad!”

“The most impressive part is the fact that he cycles 30mins there and back and his timekeeping has been brilliant!”

“She has been timely, smiley and undertaken any task requested of her.”

“a popular figure with the ladies, and very well liked!”

“Grown massively in confidence since the start”

“really great last week helping in lessons and organising the history department and has made a good start in the library this week and really helpful”

“have both worked really well with Year 1 and Year 3 and been given a range of tasks to complete”

“received very high praise from the teachers she has been working with and has really enjoyed and valued her experience.”
“doing very well on her W/E a bit nervous at first but has settled in well and is now with another department learning lots.”

“He’ll definitely go very far if he continues to push himself the way he did at our company”

“Great kid to have around and we all loved him”

“Has a great approach to trying new things- bold and courageous whilst always very trusting.”

“She proved to be an excellent member of the team”

“she will be receiving an award for her involvement and efforts“

“Has been hard-working and reliable, getting on with tasks as they are set”

“He is enthusiastic and cheerful”

“Was excellent at washing up”

“Confident and worked well”

“Good people skills “

“Is a natural according to his boss”

"He's not allowed to go back to school! he's so good!”

“Will be able to achieve anything she sets her mind to.”

“Did himself great credit with some interesting and insightful questions to the Magistrates.”

“He is a credit to himself and the school.”

“Has excellent customer service skills and has been working in the technical department. He is a pleasure to have around”.

“We are extremely pleased with his work ethic”

“He is very punctual often arriving before his mentor and then working really hard during his day.”

“Very pleasant young man who they will miss at the end of the experience”

“The manager of the fruit and veg section described them as being hard working and dynamic”

“The boys worked really hard and have helped us massively”

“The set of three girls there are the best work experience group they’ve ever had”

“He even said he would give her a job tomorrow!”

“If they want to call for summer work they’d be welcomed back with open arms!”

“They are so proactive, hard-working and positive”

I think it is safe to say that the students did Hinchingbrooke proud.
There has also been some really amazing feedback from students too who I believe have really embraced the experience

“Overall I really enjoyed my experience”

“Made me consider the range of careers working with animals”

“It was really fun and staff explained what I had to do to become an events planner”

“It was a great experience I would recommend to anyone who loves wildlife and being outdoors”

“I would rather do what I did on work experience full time than go to school”

“It was good to learn new things”

“Was really good fun but really made me think if I want to do this as a job in the future”

This experience teaches them skills that they would not learn inside a classroom; there were a high proportion of students this year who were extremely nervous about stepping out of their comfort zone but I know they are so pleased they did as they had an amazing time.

Hinchingbrooke Alumni Association

President (ex officio): The Principal
Vice President: Tom Wheeley
Treasurer: Dave Riddick
(Operations Director at HBK)
Secretary: Ann Monk (formerly OHA)
Publicity Officer: Matt Durrant

A meeting was held of the steering committee in June and the constitution was formally adopted. Officers were appointed as detailed above and the small committee is keen to make the HAA a successful and vibrant organisation for all associated with the school in any way.

In an update form Future First we learned that we are to lose Josh Armstrong and we wished him well for his PhD studies in America. Our new contact is Katherine Leadbetter (known as Kat) and we look forward to working with her.

There will be an Annual General Meeting held on 18th October at 6.00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of Hinchingbrooke House where the financial summary presented at the June meeting can be formally adopted.

The number of students signed up for the HAA from both Year 11 and Year 13 is very promising and there are now a total of 631 alumni on the network, of whom 119 have offered to come in to school to talk to students and 88 of whom are volunteer mentors, which is most encouraging.
Future First have supported a number of events from a wide range of areas including a comedy night, a talk about journalism and a reunion for 1980s year group. They have also provided posters for the school of Alumni and their careers.

In return the school has hosted two round table discussion events, which were attended by several other schools, about sharing best practice in running alumni networks.

It was agreed to send out one final letter to OHA members offering them a chance to register with the HAA, using the OHA list.