



effort achieves



Hazelwick School Newsletter

November 2025

Dates for your Diary:

Mon 1st Dec:
INSET Day, school closed to students

Tue 2nd Dec - Fri 19th Dec:
Year 11, Mock Exams

Fri 5th Dec:
Year 7, Student Review Day

Fri 12th Dec:
Sixth Form Festive Friday

Fri 19th Dec:
Year 7, Xmas Factor

Fri 19th Dec:
End of Term (1.25pm)

Mon 5th Jan:
INSET Day

Tue 6th Jan:
Start of term (Week 1)

Mon 5th Jan - Fri 16th Jan:
Year 13, Mock Exams

Wed 14th Jan:
Year 8, Options Evening

Thu 15th Jan:
Sixth Form Taster Day

Thu 22nd Jan:
Year 11, Mock Results Day

Mon 26th Jan - Fri 30th Jan:
Year 8, Exams

Wed 28th Jan:
Year 11, Parents'/Carers'
Evening

Fri 30th Jan:
Sixth Form Application
Deadline

Welcome to the November newsletter.

Moving on from the October half-term, we have had a busy return to school this November.

Over 240 Year 7 students attended the Lodge Hill trip, cementing their relationships in their forms, developing their teamworking skills and having a lot of fun at the same time.

There was a fantastic turnout for the Winter Music Showcase, with over 160 friends and family watching 10 enormously talented acts perform on stage. The vocal and instrumental skills on show were superb, but I was equally impressed by the team work and support the students showed one another, both through the rehearsals and performances.



This year we will once again be collecting for the local charity Crawley Open House. Some form groups are already bringing in donations and we anticipate that staff and sixth formers will join them in giving food items, toiletries, scarves and gloves. Should any parents/carers like to contribute, please bring items to reception. Staff at Crawley Open House are always delighted to receive support from Hazelwick and we enjoy contributing to this fantastic facility in our community.



With best wishes,

D Leadbitter

Mr D Leadbitter, Headteacher



News, Events & Activities from the Design & Technology Department...

**SCALEXTRIC
4 SCHOOLS**

Designed with



onshape

Design & Technology Club Gears Up for Scalextric 4 Schools Competition!

Our Year 9 and 10 Design & Technology Club is excited to announce that we are taking part in the **Scalextric 4 Schools National Competition!** Pupils are working hard to **design, build, and race** their very own model car against teams from across the country.

This project is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop key **STEM skills** — from **Computer-Aided Design (CAD)** using *OnShape*, to **3D printing** and refining their designs for the car's body shell. It's a great mix of creativity, engineering, and teamwork, with plenty of problem-solving along the way.

To help bring our project to life, we are looking for **donations of Scalextric track in good, workable condition.** If you have any spare pieces at home, please consider supporting our young engineers by donating them to the D&T department.

We can't wait to see our students' hard work come to life on the track — and hopefully bring home a win for the school!

Miss Awbery



News, Events & Activities from the Food Technology Department...

The Year 9 GCSE Food students have come to the end of their bread making module. To finish this topic area, students had to take one of the recipes and adapt it to create their own bread. We had some incredible pieces created, ranging from tasty cinnamon rolls to garlicky jalapeño doughballs.

All the students worked hard independently and with 100% effort. Take a look at some of the tasty treats that were made!

Miss Calthorpe

In photos: Bella Wainhouse, Mario Lunita, Belle McLaren, Tallulah Carroll, Conor Hall, Kieran Sear, Naomi Correia Goncalves, Blossom Ibe and William King



News, Events & Activities from the Food Technology Department Continued...



News, Events & Activities from the Health & Social Care Department...

Re-start a Heart Campaign

Earlier in the year our Year 12 level 3 Health and Social Care students took part in the Re-start a Heart Campaign. They had a visiting paramedic from the South East Coast Ambulance Service kindly teach them CPR and other important life saving skills.

The students really enjoyed the experience, they asked insightful questions and practised their new life saving techniques confidently. The representative from the South East Coast Ambulance Service said our students were, "a very enthusiastic and keen group who were a pleasure to teach."

Ms Macgregor





News, Events & Activities from the History Department...



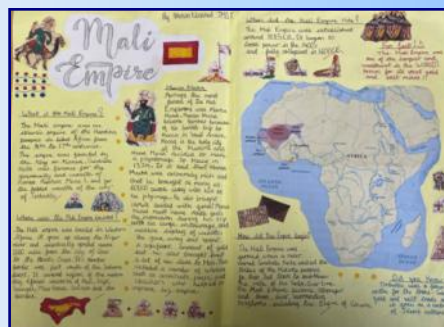
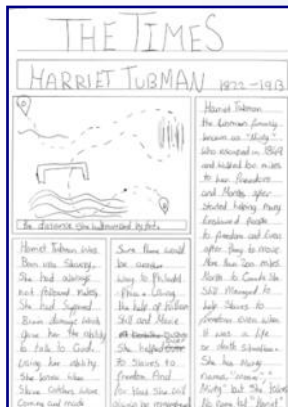
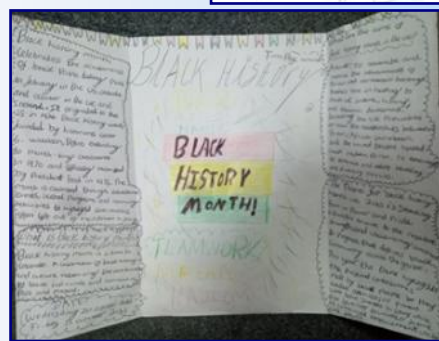
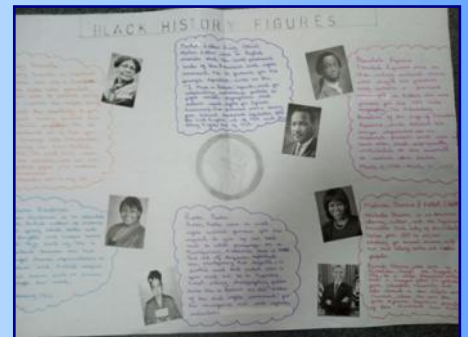
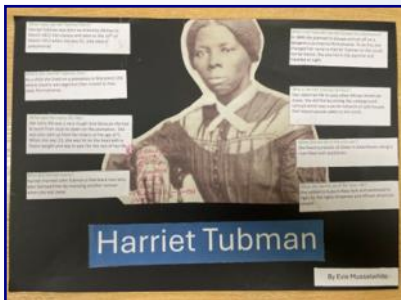
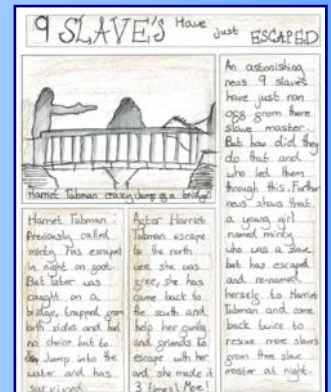
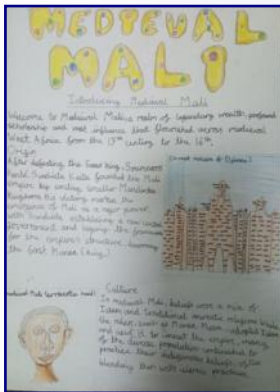
October was Black History Month and students, across all year groups, created some fantastic work to showcase and highlight the importance of Black History in general and some key names who have left their mark (all linked to this years theme of Standing Firm in Power and Pride).



A small selection of this amazing work is shown here. If you would like to find out more about Black History Month then follow the link below:

[Black History Month 2025](#)

Mrs Barton



News, Events & Activities from the Law Department...

A Level Law visit to Sharpe Pritchard LLP

Twenty-seven Hazelwick Law students had the opportunity to learn about what a career in law would be like, spending a day in October at the London offices of Sharpe Pritchard, a historic firm of London solicitors.

After a journey by train to Farringdon and brief walk, we were introduced to the work of the firm by managing partner, Tim Farmer. Sharpe Pritchard was founded in 1826 and today, most of its work is with the public sector and private firms that work with government. When asked why he became a lawyer, Tim answered: 'When needing to solve a problem, the last piece of the puzzle is knowing the law.' A precise and very helpful way of explaining what a career in law is all about.

Students then had a quiz testing their commercial awareness. A very important point about general knowledge and current affairs was made by the presenter - 'if you are going to be of use as a lawyer working in the real world, you have to build up your knowledge and interest in how the world works!' Other sessions in the day included a typical day in the life of a solicitor, routes into the profession and networking skills.

A particularly helpful session was on making applications for law jobs and interview skills. While the focus was on legal roles, the content was a masterclass into how to write an application for any job and how to prepare for, and succeed at, interview.

The day concluded with a role play exercise, negotiating a deal between Mr Graham Romsey and the owners of the Rabbit Café, Romsey wishing to buy a 50% stake in the café.

Students enjoyed a generous lunch and various treats throughout the day; we're all still benefitting from our fabulous Sharpe Pritchard pens! Our thanks to all Sharpe Pritchard staff for their time and efforts in making the day so useful but particular mention must go to Claire Douglas from the firm for arranging such an informative, well-organised day and her willingness to accommodate so many students.

Asking some students for their reflections on the day, Ayisha Hubbard Jefang said, 'Sharpe Pritchard were incredibly accommodating. It's an experience I'll never forget.' Megane Marcelin described it as, '... a thrilling experience that surpassed my expectations.' Adrianna Pelc said, 'It was an amazing experience - I'm a step closer to my future career in law!' And that is what the day achieved - a top London law firm allowing Sixth form students to see what a career in law could be like and what they need to do in order to get there.

Mr I. Thomas



News, Events & Activities from the Drama and Music Department...

High School Musical Auditions

November brings the start of our audition process for the 2026 Hazelwick School Musical, which this year will be Disney's *High School Musical*!

Students have already registered their interest in being part of the show, with over 200 responses from all year groups requesting to be a part of the performance or crew; this is fantastic!

Those that wanted to be considered for a lead role, singing a solo part, attended a rehearsal to learn 'Start of Something New'. Miss Murray taught the song, which contained some tricky harmonies and had Ms Grubb struggling to find the notes, but the students made it seem easy! Over 80 students took part, and as we speak their audition self-tapes are being sent in, ready for call-backs on Monday 24th November and the cast list release on Tuesday 8th December.

The excitement is palpable amongst the school community, and we are thrilled to be working together again with so many enthusiastic and talented young people.

Show dates are scheduled for Wednesday 1st July, Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd July 2026, so mark your calendars as you'll want to get a ticket once they are released!

The Drama and Music Departments



Left to Right: Millie Dodd, Eloise Cathcart, Polina Goeva, Kimberly Ferreira-Iodice, Millie Morley and Danielle Mangan-Sarson study the score intently.

Left to Right: Ivy Brown and James Hill learning Troy Bolton's part, expertly guided by Miss Murray, our Head of Music.





House News...

As the cold and frosty November weather settles in, so do the new namesakes for the House system! We kicked off the month with our House assemblies and the announcement of the winners of the House Crest Competition to give our figures a proper welcome. The students came up with some beautiful, creative designs, making it tough for the House leaders to choose; the final designs are all pictured below.



Huge congratulations to the winners of each House for crafting the designs that will build the House legacies:

Lovelace	Shezan Naushad 7MST
Parr	Daanish Syed 12MCR
Inayat Khan	Jack Yates 8RPA
Sancho	Subi Baskar 7PWE
Moody	Nidhi Vaidya 7IHO
Faraday	Jenson Burdett-Dixon 7DMA

It is currently a tight competition for the House Points table, with very close scores between both the top three and bottom three places! Congratulations to Mrs Stapleton and Lovelace House for their current lead. Hopefully, the following months can see even more House points across the board to continue this close competition.

House Points Table November 2025

The winning house is ...

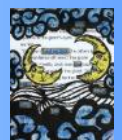
Lovelace
15,961 points!

	2nd place – Sancho 15,768 points
	3rd place – Parr 15,761 points
	4th place – Faraday 12,851 points
	5th place – Inayat Khan 12,622 points
	6th place – Moody 12,456 points

Thank you so much to all students who got involved in the World Quiz Challenge during form time. Make sure to keep an eye out for the results.



There are still plenty of brilliant house events to get stuck into this half term, so make sure to get involved with the Chopstick Challenge (Year 11), Blackout Poetry (Years 7, 8 and 9), Balancing Competition (Year 7) or the Blindfold Penalty Shootout.



Can't wait to see you there!

Mx Nolan



Careers Café...

In this section of the newsletter, we bring students, parents and carers information on careers and the world of work.

Green Careers

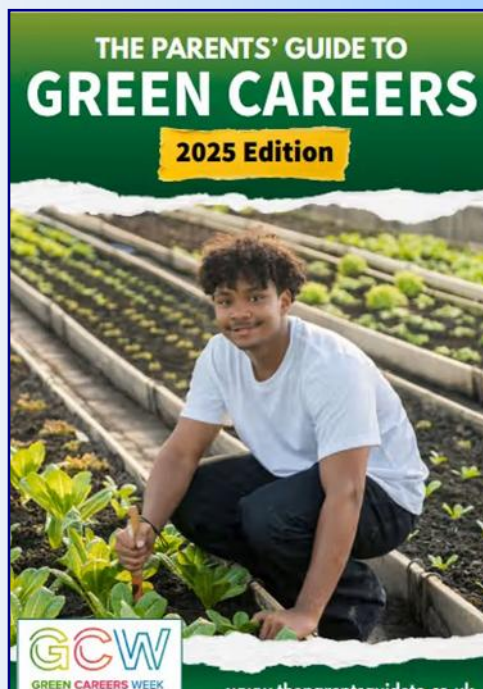
Hazelwick supported Green Careers Week in November through form time activities and assemblies.

We are excited to share The Parents' Guide to Green Careers – 2025 Edition, a free resource to help families explore future jobs that make a difference. From renewable energy to eco-design, the guide helps you:

- Understand what “green careers” mean.
- Explore pathways after GCSEs, sixth form or university.
- Start future-focused conversations at home.
- Access resources, quizzes, and work experience ideas.

Download it here: [The Parents' Guide to Green Careers](#)

[Read more](#)



Labour Market Information

Clean Energy Jobs Plan

The government has identified 31 clean energy roles, from electricians and engineers to project managers, which will be vital for meeting future energy goals. Around 150,000 workers will be needed by 2030, supported by new Clean Energy Technical Excellence Colleges.

[Read more](#)

Careers Café Continued...

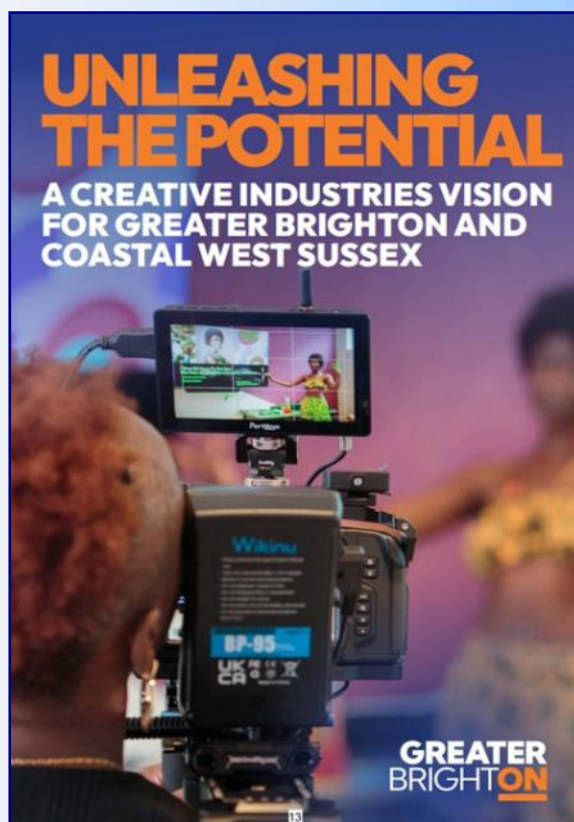
Creative Industries Vision

Greater Brighton & Coastal West Sussex already support 10,000+ companies and 54,000 workers in the creative sector. A new regional strategy, *Unleashing Potential*, sets out plans to:

- Retain and attract talent.
- Strengthen career routes.
- Build an inclusive economy.

The goal: to make the region the UK's best place for creative talent to thrive. [Read more](#)

[Unleashing the Potential Greater Brighton Creative Industries Vision APX. n 1.pdf](#)



Higher and Degree Apprenticeships

The October 2025 listing features 1,600+ vacancies from over 50 employers. Find details on:

- Locations
- Salaries
- Direct application links

Download the PDF or check the FAQs to see how the guide can help.

[Higher and Degree Listing - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

Mrs Andrews



Read On!

My article for this month aims to promote the reading of non-fiction books and the benefits associated with reading information books, as opposed to fiction. I have also featured some of the non-fiction book series that have proved popular with our students and recommended titles from the BookTrust's Bookfinder. Many thanks to Mr Leadbitter for being our guest book reviewer for this month.



National Non-Fiction November

Introduced in 2005, The Federation of Children's Book Groups introduced 'National Non-Fiction November' to celebrate those readers that enjoy reading information books and to raise the profile of non-fiction reading. The theme for this year is 'Past Puzzles and Timeless Treasures.' This theme celebrates the non-fiction reading associated with history, archaeology, historical place and objects. The Federation has produced a booklist of book recommendations that tie-in with this theme, and I have shared the link below.

<https://fcbg.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Past-Puzzles-and-Time-Treasures-Booklist.pdf>

Check out the Federation's activity booklet that supports National Non-Fiction November to further explore information books.

<https://fcbg.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/National-Non-fiction-November-Ideas-Booklet-2025.pdf>

Benefits of Reading Non-Fiction

The National Literacy Trust undertook research into children and young people's non-fiction reading in 2022 and the key findings were:

- ⇒ Non-fiction reading is popular regardless of gender and socio-economic background. A similar percentage of boys and girls (54.5% vs. 56.7%) and children who did and didn't receive free school meals (54.1% vs. 55.7%) said they read non-fiction in their free time.
- ⇒ Twice as many children and young people who read non-fiction said they read to learn more about the causes they care about (34.3% vs. 14.6%).
- ⇒ Twice as many non-fiction readers said they read to relax (62.0% vs. 33.4%), that reading makes them feel better (53.2% vs 26.0%) and that they read to feel connected to the world (28.3% vs 11.7%).
- ⇒ While more than 1 in 4 (25.6%) children and young people say they read to learn more about the issues and causes they care about, this rises to more than 1 in 3 (34.3%) of those who read non-fiction.
- ⇒ More non-fiction readers said that taking care of the environment was important to them (68.7% vs 48.6% of those who didn't read non-fiction), felt they knew what to do to help look after the environment (69.2% vs 55.7%), and spoke to friends or family about the environment (56.5% vs 39.3%).
- ⇒ More non-fiction readers also said that they had read (43.4% vs 18.7%) or written (18.4% vs 7.7%) about the environment in their spare time.

Read On Continued...

The main finding of the report was that 'Young people who read non-fiction were motivated to read for educational purposes, to satisfy curiosities, to foster social connections and to support their mental wellbeing.'

The full report can be found from the National Literacy Trust's website:

https://nlt.hacdn.org/media/documents/Non-fiction_and_the_environment_2022.pdf

Our Favourite Non-Fiction Recommendations

I have selected some of the library's non-fiction series that have proved popular with students and given a short synopsis of each title/series.



The FACTopia series of non-fiction titles are my 'go to' recommendation for leisure reading. They are well-produced with brightly coloured quirky illustrations. What makes these different from other series is that they have a trail element which makes for fun reading. My favourite in the series is the history-themed book: I now know the name of the first human cannonball, the year that the first artificial snow machine was invented and how a peeled orange inspired the design of a famous building in Australia. Each book has four hundred facts and the full list of titles can be found on the What On Earth! publishers website.

<https://www.whatonearthbooks.com/product/factopia/>



This is our most popular non-fiction series with students aiming to read all the 'Ultimate Football Heroes' titles. The series has a 'Faction' approach; factual information told in a fictional style, and the biography of each player relates their journey from playing football in their youth to becoming Premier League stars. Most of the titles are written by brothers Matt and Tom Oldfield, with Emily Stead of Charlotte Browne writing the titles from the women's game. I have included the link to the official 'Ultimate Football Heroes' website, which includes information regarding all the titles in the series, including the activity and joke books. Please note that there are links to online bookseller sites.

<https://heroesfootball.com/>

Read On Continued...



Journalist and non-fiction author Clive Gifford and illustrator Carl Pearce have taken a similar Faction approach to their 'Amazing Cricket Stars' series. There are currently four titles in the series, and I hope they publish further titles as I have been asked by students for more non-fiction books about famous cricketers! Please check out Clive Gifford's official website for more information about Gifford's other non-fiction books and some biographical facts about his work as a journalist, as well as a non-fiction author.

<http://clivegifford.co.uk/>



'The Extraordinary Life Of' series published by the book publisher Penguin have to date selected the lives of sixteen people to celebrate for their outstanding achievements. Each title gives both a brief biography about the individual and outlines their achievements. The Penguin website has the list of all sixteen titles, with a synopsis for each title. Please note the site also includes links to online booksellers.

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/series/EXTLIV/extraordinary-lives>

Bookfinder's Non-Fiction Recommendations



If you are seeking further non-fiction recommendations, I have included the link to the BookTrust's Bookfinder's list of information titles for young people aged twelve years plus.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book-recommendations/bookfinder/bookfinder-recommendations/?ageGroups=12%2B+years&bookfinderCategories%5B%5D=Non-fiction>

Keep reading!

Mrs Thornton BA (Hons) MCLIP
School Librarian



Read On Continued...

Guest Reviewer

Our guest reviewer this month is: Mr Leadbitter

Book Title: Educated

Author: Tara Westover



I have always loved to travel in person, and visiting other parts of the world has always fascinated me and driven a deep interest in the lives of others. As a young adult, I was often not able to go to places in person, and I discovered the joy of exploring other places, cultures and other individuals' lives through books. I read *Educated* by Tara Westover about 7 years ago. It is non-fiction (linking nicely to Non-Fiction November) and I was immediately fascinated by the life that Tara experienced as a child, the physical environment that she grew up in in southern Idaho, USA, and the challenges she faced due to some of the beliefs that her family held.

What do I think about the book?

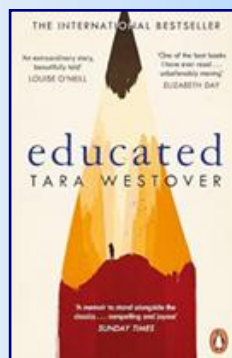
Educated tells the story of the author's life from a very young age to early adulthood. She grew up at the foot of a mountain in the middle of the countryside. Her father was deeply paranoid about the government, and so Tara was never allowed to go to school, she was never allowed to visit the doctor – she didn't even have a birth certificate. Along with her 6 siblings, Tara worked in the family junkyard.

As she gets older, Tara decides to take steps to educate herself. Aged 16, she gets some learning resources and starts to teach herself at home. This starts an extraordinary journey that ends up taking her around the world. Not only does she have to learn new things, new skills and new habits, she also has to reflect on the upbringing she has had and the trauma and emotional turmoil that have come with them.

It is hard to believe at times, but the fact that this is a true account makes it even more compelling. Tara's current achievements make this an enormously uplifting story of success against adversity, with a remarkable transformation and self-discovery of a young person uncovering the enormous power of education and growth.

Who would enjoy this book?

This book is appropriate for students in Year 11 and above. There are some difficult experiences that she went through that she moves on from. Anyone wanting to get an insight into the lives of others on the other side of the world, and wanting to see the transformation of a young person against adversity, would love this book.





Sport... Cross Country Update

Hazelwick Senior Boys Compete at the South East Regional of The English Schools Cross Country Cup

Following a fantastic team performance at the County Round in Brighton, our senior boys team, Roman Khan, Oliver Davis, Samuel Davis, Patrick Orozco and Abdelmalek Aliane qualified for the South East Regional round of the English Schools Cross Country Cup.



For the event, we travelled to Tonbridge, where the boys faced a very high level of competition from across Sussex, Surrey, Kent and London. They acquitted themselves brilliantly over an undulating 5.3km cross country course.

Although we didn't qualify for the national finals this time, we'll keep trying! I was very impressed with the grit and determination the team showed on the day.

Well done!

Mrs Reynolds

District Cross Country

13 students from Years 7 to 10 were taken to participate in a district cross country event, held at Crawley Rugby Club. Each age category had to run distances of around 3km up to 5km.

All students dug in and fought what was a pretty challenging course. Some excellent times and places from all students. Well done to everyone who performed!

Miss Calthorpe

Junior Boys (Y7&Y8)	Junior Girls (Y7&Y8)	Inter Boys (Y9&Y10)	Inter Girls (Y9&Y10)
Oakley Plumb 4 th	Holly Phillips 2 nd	Adam Chanakira 4 th	Molly Tripp 2 nd
Oliver Williamson 8 th	Kara Murray 4 th	Adam Baccar 14 th	Anabel <u>Miorali</u> Linan 4 th
Logan Neupert 9 th	Eliza Thompson 11 th	Jude O'Neill 17 th	
	Evie Connell 12 th		





Sport Continued...

Football Results Update

U14 Girls Football

The U14 Girls underwent their first County Cup Game against Dorothy Stringer School this month. Being a new team and the first time playing together, nerves were high. Luckily, we managed to bag a goal within the first 10 minutes by Kara Murray. Dorothy Stringer School were quick on their feet and shortly after nabbed themselves a goal. Half time and the score was 1-1. This didn't throw the Girls off though as they came back fighting in the second half to get us a second goal from Kara and to keep us safe from defeat a brilliant goal from Evie Cullinane.

Well done to everyone who played and a big well done to Anaiya Valambhia, who got voted player of the match for some incredible saves in goal. Our U14's are now through to the next stage of the cup.

Miss Calthorpe



Picture from back left to right: Evie Cullinane, Kasey Uka, Holly Phillips, Kara Murray, Harmani Sandhu, Abbie Streatfield, Kayla Johannes, Belle Imhoff.

Front left to right: Evie Musselwhite, Shennen Charlotte, Anaiya Valambhia, Fatimo Adedji, Jade Frankham

U16 Boys Football

County Cup 2nd round win vs Warden Park 3-3 in normal time (Hazelwick won 3-1 on penalties)

The U16 team progressed safely through their county cup second round tie with a win against Warden Park. The next round will take place in January against either Beacon School or Willingdon Community School.

Mr O'Brien

Tshiamo Martin-Anson, Jack Ward, Kian McDonnell, Rehaan Hussain, Hassan Moghul, Abdelmalek Aliane, Oliver Davis, Ashraf Ramjean, Roman Khan, Patrick Orozco, Oscar Nsobya, Jacob Marshall, Aatish Limbachia, Corey Addy





Sport Continued...

Hazelwick Sports Leaders had a busy first half-term!

During half-term, our fantastic Year 10 sports leaders have been kept busy helping at Primary Quicksticks events. The first was an event run by Hazelwick for local schools. Key Stage Two played a tournament, whilst Key Stage One practised skills. During the event, our leaders carried out a variety of roles, including; umpiring, scoring, teaching skills and general admin tasks. They all did this with great enthusiasm and were a credit to the school.

A few weeks later, they got another chance to practice these skills. This event, hosted at Hazelwick, included primary schools from across all of Crawley, with the winners going through to the county finals. Again, the leaders were great and enabled the event to be a success. Well done to local school, Milton Mount on their win. At the time of writing, the leaders have a third event to help run in November. The skills they are developing will certainly help them in later life, whatever they choose to go on and do.

Very well done Year 10.

Mrs Reynolds



U16 Boys Rugby

District fixture vs St Wilfrid's Catholic School

Hazelwick win 30-10

Tries scored by: Alfie Larkin x3, Nathan Hughes. Conversion: Alfie Bagshaw

Hazelwick vs Oriel

Hazelwick win 25-20

Tries scored by: James Bourne, Mikey Luxford (2), Hayden Healy, Jeremy Ataisi





Sport Continued...

Netball Results

Our Under-12 netball team played against The Gatwick School on Tuesday 18th November and delivered an outstanding performance, winning 18–0.

A huge well done to Maka Mutsvani, who was exceptional in the Centre position and was deservedly awarded Player of the Match by the opposing team. All the girls played brilliantly, showing great teamwork, determination, and skill throughout the game.

Well done, team!

Miss Pordage



Elvie Manful, Soraya Ibrahim, Liv Miler, Maka Mutsvani, Ava Waters, Bee Walker, Rose Morley, Casey Ismailoviq, Grace Smith

Year 7 Rugby



The Year 7 rugby team have made an excellent start to the season. For many of the students, these were their first competitive rugby matches, yet they have shown tremendous character, enthusiasm, and a real willingness to learn.

The team have played two games and remain unbeaten, securing impressive wins against both St Wilfrid's Catholic School and Oriel High School. Their progress in such a short time has been very encouraging, and they should be very proud of their achievements so far.

Well done to all involved!

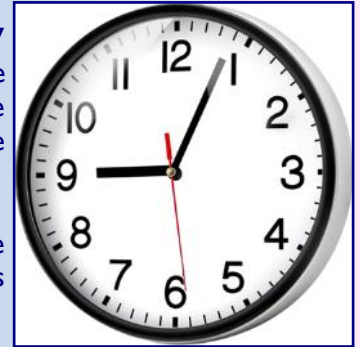
Mr Bagnall



Attendance and Punctuality...

Good attendance and punctuality are vitally important for all students from Year 7 through to Year 11. Hazelwick School ensures that all its students receive a full-time education that maximises opportunities for all students to realise their true potential. The school recognises that punctuality and regular school attendance are essential to social inclusion and integral to effective learning and academic progress.

To achieve and maintain high levels of attendance and make the most of the opportunities available at school, it is important that students follow the steps below:



- ◇ Attend school everyday.
- ◇ Arrive to school by 8.25am and to be settled in their form rooms by 8.30am.
- ◇ Take holidays and family visits at weekends and during school holidays only.
- ◇ Stop the use of electronic devices at a reasonable time in the evenings and to get a good night's sleep to be able to wake up efficiently in the mornings.
- ◇ Access online resources for support if needed, including the school website's Wellbeing page for advice on mental health and to speak to their Head of Year team if there are any concerns.
- ◇ Attend school and make use of the school's medical wing if feeling slightly unwell in the mornings, rather than missing the whole day.
- ◇ Use travel apps to plan journeys ahead when travelling to school; the Metrobus: Sussex, Surrey, Kent app and Google Maps app can provide live bus trackers, bus timetables or information on road traffic.

Did you know?

- * Students with no absence are 3.1 times more likely to achieve GCSE Grade 5 or above than students who missed 10 – 15% of all sessions.
- * Students with no absence are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSE grades 9 – 4 including English and Maths, than students who missed 15% - 20% of KS4 lessons.
- * Of students with absence of 50%, only 3% managed to achieve 5 or more GCSE grades 9 – 4, including English and Maths.

Parents and carers are asked to contact the school by 8.30am on each day of their child's absence. When a student's attendance becomes a significant concern through accumulated unauthorised absences and unauthorised Leave of Absence requests, a referral to West Sussex Pupil Entitlement Team for consideration of a Fixed Penalty Notice or court action could be made.

For more information on the school's Attendance Policy, please visit the Key Documents and Policies section of the school website.

Student News...

Caitlin Muggeridge (8BLU) performs in 'We Will Rock You'

During half-term Caitlin performed in 'We will Rock You' with the British Theatre Academy at the Minack Theatre. The main picture shows Caitlin as 'Aretha.' The Cast rehearsed all week through all weathers and performed 4 incredible shows at the most spectacular location - a handmade theatre carved from the rock and located right on the cliff edge in Porthcurno, Cornwall.

What a life experience. Well done Caitlin!



Success in the Gymnastics Finals

James Hill from 9ZBA has had more success at the men's Gymnastics National Finals. He won a gold medal as part of the team competition, he was 6th in the all around competition and as a result has been invited to a GB training camp in December, where he will receive training from some of the country's best coaches.

We are very proud of him and his hard work and dedication to his sport, alongside being a fantastic member of the Hazelwick community.

Well done James!





Student News Continued...

U13 Chess Team Championship

Recently, Iaroslav Sinkevich (8BLU) and Ishaan Ahmad (8TLA) represented Hazelwick at a chess tournament in Hassocks against other schools in East and West Sussex.

For a school to compete it required 2-5 players, the top 2 scores added up to make a final team score.

They played 6 one-hour games each and ended up winning the school tournament by a narrow gap of a draw or half a point.

Here are the top 3 school positions:

1. Hazelwick School – 6.5 (6 wins, 5 losses, 1 draw)
2. Brighton College – 6 (6 wins, 6 losses)
3. Ardingly College – 5.5 (5 wins, 6 losses, 1 draw)

Iaroslav Sinkevich



World Kindness Day...

On 13th November, people around the globe celebrate World Kindness Day, a day first established in 1998 by the World Kindness Movement. Its purpose is to encourage kindness and to highlight the positive impact that even small acts of kindness can have on individuals and communities.

Students in Year 7 and 8 have had an assembly focused on the theme of kindness. Students learned that kindness isn't just "a nice idea" — research shows it has real benefits. Acts of kindness can increase levels of serotonin and dopamine in the brain, boosting mood and overall wellbeing. Studies also suggest that being kind can reduce stress and improve relationships.

Importantly, students were reminded that kindness must start with ourselves. We are often our own harshest critics, and learning to treat ourselves with compassion is an essential part of good mental wellbeing. Simple self-care practices such as keeping a gratitude list, celebrating personal successes (big or small), taking mindful breaks, or speaking to ourselves with the same encouragement we'd offer a friend can make a real difference.

World Kindness Day is a wonderful reminder that kindness is something we can choose every day — towards others, and towards ourselves.

Miss Barlow





Spotlight on Safeguarding...

For your information this month, via the Newsletter, we are raising awareness of the topic of anti-bullying.



Anti-Bullying Week in November is an important reminder of the harm that bullying can cause and also a call for action to challenge bullying when it takes place. According to the NSPCC, in 2024-2025, Childline delivered 6617 counselling sessions to young people whose main concern was bullying. The Office of National Statistics state that an estimated 1,544,000 children aged 10 to 15 years (34.9%) experienced in-person bullying behaviour and 847,000 (19.1%) experienced an online bullying behaviour, in the year ending March 2023.

Bullying can have serious short and long term consequences for young people. In the short term, bullying is known to lead to school absence with over 16,000 young people between 11-15 missing education at any one time primarily due to bullying, according to the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen). Other short-term effects include being excluded, placing strain on families, self-harm, depression plus overall wellbeing will be impaired. In the long term, a study by Kings College London has shown that the impact of bullying can potentially be evident after 40 years. The Anti-Bullying Alliance have stated that the frequently bullied are more than likely in the future to experience a range of mental health issues as an adult including suicide ideation. Also the bullied young people are more likely to earn less money, not be in employment or education or training into adulthood, be obese (particularly in women) not gain qualifications and not be in stable relationships.

As a parent/carer, the NSPCC recommend a number of ways in which you can help. **1. Talk to your child** – Choose the right time, try and stay calm as they may feel scared and embarrassed and let them know who they can speak to if they want to speak to another adult. **2. Help them relax** – There can be a loss of confidence due to bullying so encourage them to take part in activities to make them feel good about themselves. For example clubs, sport, playing games and listening to music. **3. Arrange a meeting** – A meeting is a good opportunity to ask about the actions the school plans to take and to ensure that you are satisfied with their response. **4. Report bullying** – Ensure your child knows how to block accounts and how to report on the relevant social media/gaming platforms.

At Hazelwick School for Anti-Bullying Week, Year 7, 8 and 9 form groups were completing quizzes and writing positive anti-bullying messages on cards which will then be displayed on a noticeboard for all students to see. Anti-bullying (including an awareness of prejudicial bullying) is also taught in Year 7 PSHE lessons during the Autumn Term to make young people aware of bullying behaviour.

Where to get further information and support:

- **YoungMinds**
[Bullying | Get help and advice | YoungMinds](#)
- **Childline**
[Bullying and advice on coping and making it stop | Childline](#)

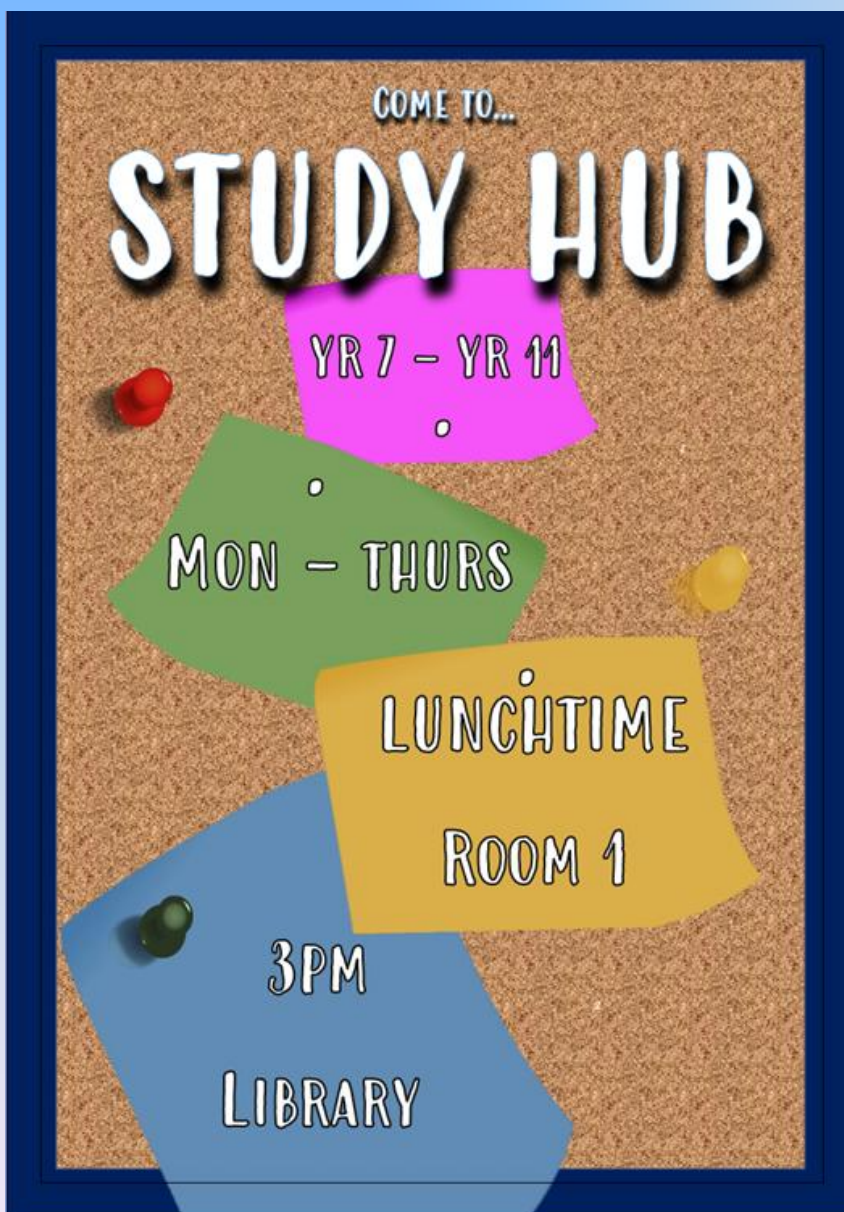


Insight - Parent Portal

Insight is a secure online system which allows parents/carers to access a range of data and information about their son/daughter. Once logged in, parents/carers can view information such as their child's timetable, session attendance, behaviour points and school reports.

If you have not accessed this yet and would like more information, please email insight@hazelwick.org.uk

Homework & Revision Clubs



Study Hub

Years 7-11

supervised study at
lunchtime and 3-4 pm
after school.

No need to book, simply
turn up when you need
help.

Sixth Form: Monday to Friday until 4.30pm – Supervised study in the Octagon.