

The Hart

NEWSLETTER

22 MAY 2023 • ISSUE 6 • SUMMER TERM

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I hope this update finds you and those closest to you in the best of health

Recruitment

This week has been extremely busy at The Hart School. We are recruiting staff for September before the final resignation date at half term. I am pleased to report that we have secured some excellent staff for September. It hasn't been easy as I'm sure you are aware that there is a national recruitment crisis with teaching and support staff, but we are nearly there and I won't compromise on the quality of the staff that we employ on a permanent basis.

Year 11 and 13 examinations

I am delighted to say that Year 11 and Year 13 students have made an excellent start to their exams this week. Their behaviour and attitude have been superb and we are extremely proud with how maturely they are approaching this important time. Our external invigilators have commented very positively about the process so far. Thanks must go to all parents/carers and to the pastoral team for supporting the students so well at home

and in school.

We will continue to support students through the next phase of the adapted timetable next week and into the final phase after half term. I would like to also thank the staff who have given up their time to offer extra support to students through revision sessions at lunchtimes, after school, weekends and during their holidays.

Year 11 Attendance

As previously stated, Year 11 students are expected to attend school every day. Further to the letter dated 12 May, please be reminded that there is no 'study leave' for Year 11 students and that they are expected to be in school every day, as usual, whether they have an exam or not.

We have made changes to the Year 11 timetable, adding in additional 'booster' sessions with subject teachers to support their exam preparation. These sessions are compulsory, not optional.

Any student that is not in school without valid reason will be marked as unauthorised. This is protocol as per our absence policy. This includes any student who requests to leave school – this is not permitted without medical evidence or extenuating circumstance(s).

What does Unauthorised absence mean?

Guidance provided by the local authority states that a parent or carer must secure the regular attendance of their child at a school at which the child is a registered pupil. Unauthorised absence from school can result in a fixed penalty notice being issued and escalation of a statutory action process.

Please continue to support your child to follow their

revision schedule to ensure that final preparation is effective. Students' revision must continue throughout the entire examination period. It is essential that students do not stop these valuable activities at the point of the examination series beginning.

We are varying our booster timetable daily, in order to ensure we provide students in Year 11 with the best possible support in advance of their next examinations by having the 'right' teacher for the 'right' subject in class with them.

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of students maintaining the highest levels of attendance to all their lessons.

Miss Sandham



WE CAN • WE WILL • WE DO

MOUNTAIN BIKING CLUB

Students have been taking part in a Mountain biking course funded solely by British Cycling.

Students did us proud yet again! Students have been taking part in a Mountain biking course funded solely by British Cycling.

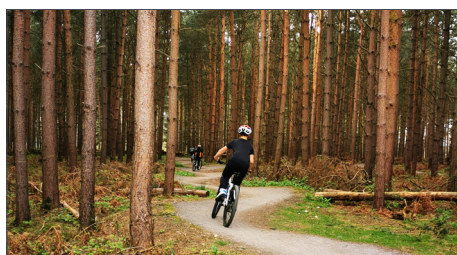
coaching by Matt Blythe and Toby Turner from British Cycling UK.

The mountain biking trails started with targeting youngsters who were just getting started, looking at bike maintenance and basic skills. Moving on to four challenges, each bit getting trickier using different surfaces/terrain and

features. All of which will help students to master their skills and ride safely.

Over the course of the term students will be taking on more tricker trails to challenge themselves further, whilst benefiting from coaching along the way.

The club takes place at Birches Valley on the chase, where students have the opportunity to complete the Pedal and Play Trail as well as taking advantage of expert



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We are pleased to share that the Staffordshire County Council is providing free school meal vouchers for the May half term. This means they will be issuing one £20 voucher to the parents and carers of all students in receipt of free school meals. The voucher will be issued directly by Staffordshire County Council. If you have not received your voucher/s by 6.00pm on the 25 May 2023 please contact the yourfamilyhub@staffordshire.gov.uk

Details on eligibility criteria can be found on the school website: <https://www.hartschool.org.uk/main/hart-school/free-school-meals> along with a direct link to the application page for Staffordshire County Council.



SLOW COOKER PROJECT

SUPPORTING STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Hart School is pleased to be supporting the Staffordshire County Council Slow Cooker project aimed at supporting families in receipt of Free School Meals, as part of a Department of Work and Pension's Energy Efficiency campaign.

The Hart School is acting as a distribution hub for the 222 slow cookers provided to families with a child in receipt of free school meals.



The Hart School Invites you to attend:

Wednesday 21st – Friday 23rd June 2023
7:00pm – The Hart School
Penkridge Bank Road, WS15 2UE.

"Grease" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW) - www.theatricalrights.co.uk

THE DIANA AWARD ANTI-BULLYING TRAINING

Several young members from all year groups have recently been training to be anti-bullying ambassadors.

Why? BECAUSE YOUNG PEOPLE CAN MAKE A CHANGE!

The training consisted of travelling across the West Midlands and interacting with many other schools in order to obtain more information on how we can be the very best ambassadors to support well-being, respect, community action and diversity at The Hart School. Our young students have obtained a wealth of knowledge and will be coming to you for support and advice in the upcoming weeks. Day-to-day you'll find us working in the school with young people to challenge bullying, and call out these type of behaviours. We are driving forwards in celebrating young people and much, much more.

Our mission is to empower young people to lead that

positive change through a range of initiatives which unlock their potential, inspire action and create opportunities, ensuring that no young person is left out or left behind.

We aim to launch our campaign this summer by supporting our students and staff as best as possible. The first badge we are aiming for is the 'Well-being' one. Look out for our current ambassadors proudly showcasing their training badges on their blazers. We are so proud of their commitment and dedication, so please congratulate them and promote this culture of making a change.

We are always recruiting new members who want to make a positive difference. So, watch this space!



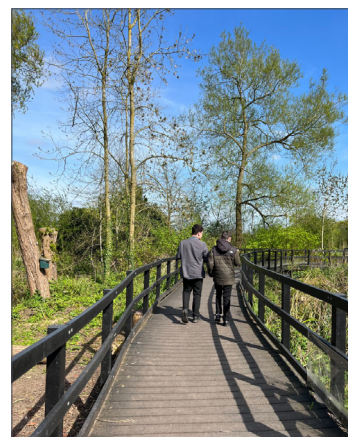
YEAR 8 SCHOLARs

The Year 8 scholars have had an amazing start to the summer term exploring biodiversity.

They have been researching all about species in the UK and the threats that they face. They have had the opportunity to see first hand the species we have in the local area with a trip to Wolseley Wildlife Centre in the first week of May.

Currently they are collating all the information they have found and are preparing some

displays to show off their discoveries. We can't wait to see what they come up with!



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REWARDS UPDATE

Well done to all of students who have been awarded with their bronze, silver and gold badge so far this academic year.

Students look incredibly smart walking around with their badges on their lapels. Any student who has hit threshold but not received their badge will be celebrated at the end of the current half term.

In addition, we have seen so many of students rewarded for their excellent attendance to school. A reminder that iPads are up for grabs when students have 100% attendance in May. All that

is required to enter the draw is 16 school days. Students need to be in it, to win it!

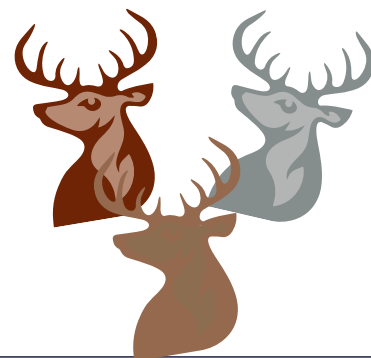
As we now approach the final half term of the academic year, students will be striving towards earning their place on the Gold Badge celebration event. I am delighted to announce that the winners will attend a trip to Alton Towers. During the final week of term, we will have additional incentives available

for students to celebrate their hard work this academic year.

Reminders

As we approach the final half term of the year, it is time to start thinking about new uniform for September 2023 for so many of our families. I would encourage all parents and carers to visit our school website and double check that any new purchases are in line with school policy. If any families require any additional

support, then please contact the school. The key contact for the hardship fund is nathan.lewis@hartschool.org.uk



YEAR 10 FOOTBALL DISTRICT CUP FINAL

Hat-Trick Of Shootout Successes For Hart

The Year 10 football team travelled to Cardinal Griffin to take on King Edward VI School in the Cannock & District Cup Final. The boys were in confident mood as they had beaten tough opposition in the quarter-final and semi-final in order to reach this point.

The game began with King Edward VI on the front-foot, putting the Hart defence under pressure. They managed to create a couple of half-chances and had a penalty shout turned down by the referee. However, the score remained 0-0 as the match entered the last 10 minutes of the first half. Suddenly, it was the Hart School who began to show some attacking vigour. After having their own penalty shout also turned down, Alfie Mason provided two delightful crosses that unfortunately could not be converted into goals. Then, with a few minutes remaining of the first

half, a free kick was awarded to King Edward VI School. It was a about 25 yards from goal, but this did not stop their player scoring with a superb strike to break the deadlock. Half-time score: 0-1

After a rousing half time team talk, The Hart School started the second half determined to find a quick equaliser. Numerous chances were created but thanks to some excellent defending, an equalising goal could not be found. King Edward VI School did have the chance to double their lead after launching a counter-attack, but The Hart School defence once again stood firm. With time nearly up and the prospect of a gut-wrenching defeat staring the boys in the face, Kevin Acheampong collected the ball in the box and poked home the equaliser.

Consequently, the match went to a penalty shootout. The Hart

School players were confident having won their quarter-final and semi-final in the same manner with a 100% success rate. Will Gasser gave them the perfect start by saving the first two of King Edward VI School's penalties. This was backed-up by Callum Jones and Josh Eppy who successfully converted their respective penalties. King Edward VI School scored their next two penalties and Alfie Mason scored his for The Hart School. This meant that Kevin Acheampong had the chance to become the

'Hart Hero' by scoring his penalty. He confidently strode toward the ball and dispatched it into the net to secure a well-deserved title for the Year 10 team. The players and supporters could not hide their jubilation as the Year 10 Football Team were crowned Cannock & District Cup Winners 2022-23.

All the players should be immensely proud of their performances and conduct throughout the entire cup competition.

