

# The Hert

## NEWSLETTER

16 DECEMBER 2022 • ISSUE 3 • AUTUMN TERM

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas with the small flurry of snow over the weekend certainly provided a seasonal backdrop to our 'Twelve Days of Christmas' and national Christmas Jumper Day.

Students who have attended daily in December have been entered into a daily draw to add an element of fun and enjoyment to the final three weeks of term.

This term we have celebrated our students and their successes daily and teachers have awarded over 23,000 positive achievement points in recognition of their hard work: a quite incredible statistic. Students should be congratulated for hard work and positive attitudes towards their learning, they really have raised the bar!

The vast majority of students have welcomed the revised consequence system, students will say themselves, they want to learn

in a purposeful environment without being distracted from their learning – thank you to parents and carers who have supported the school to continually raise the standards for all pupils. Students and staff are undoubtedly ready for the Christmas break and we have

thoroughly enjoyed getting in to the 'Christmas Spirit' with your children over the last few days.

Across the school and Trust, we have seen some real successes and plenty of exciting activities taking place during this term, which I hope

you will take the time to read this edition as we round up the Autumn term.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.



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# CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

## Supporting our local community - Rugeley Food Bank

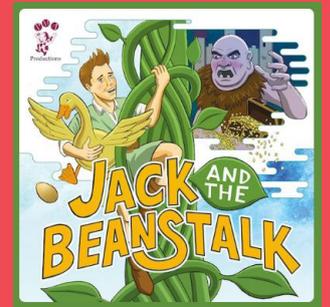
We certainly appreciated the warmth of our Christmas jumpers last week, all in aid of an excellent local cause.

We don't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. Thank you to families who supported this event and for your kind donations to the Rugeley Food Bank all donations were gratefully received.

[www.rugeley.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.rugeley.foodbank.org.uk)



## JACK AND THE BEANSTALK-CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME



We are so proud of a number of students who are taking part in the Christmas pantomime Jack and The Beanstalk. The Prince of Wales pantomime has all the traditional ingredients including music, laughter, stunning sets and lots of audience participation, certainly a recommendation for families over the festive period.

Good luck to the following students:

- Ava Wilsher Y10
- Cassia Ray Y8
- Jessica Farrent Y9
- Amalie Howell Y8
- Megan Green Y7
- Ruby Follows Y10

# HART STUDENT PLAYS AT ST GEORGE'S PARK

## An unforgettable experience

Last month Lola Watkiss from 8-DSY was honoured to have been invited to train at St George's Park. On 18 November she trained on the same pitch as the Men's England Team did the day before they travelled out to Qatar. The FA were brilliant with the girls who play for the wildcats and spitfires from Rugeley. Amy Hunter (Loa's Mum) mentioned 'she was coached by Brighton and Hove Albion women's coaches. It was a great experience for Lola and the girls, they had an amazing afternoon. Something Lola will never forget.



# SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS AT ALL TIME HIGH

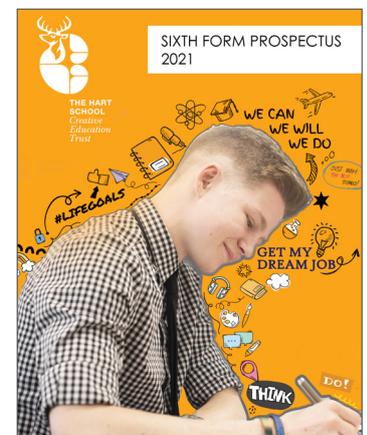
This year, we have received more applications to the Sixth Form from Year 11 students than in any previous years. Interviews are still taking place and we are looking to have one of our highest intakes. Students seem to be keen on the independence that Sixth Form brings whilst being on a familiar site.

The excellent results, exclusive Sixth Form areas and smaller class sizes make a winning combination when they are considering their future. We are celebrating year-on-year improvements in results with students last year gaining the average of a B at A Level and Distinction in vocational subjects.

Our pathways programmes and pastoral support has seen more students than ever being offered places to study at university – 91% of the year group – with every student applying being made an offer.

**There is still time to apply.**

[Click here for application form](#) or contact Mr Brennan [ben.brennan@hartschool.org.uk](mailto:ben.brennan@hartschool.org.uk)



## HUMANITIES HITS!

A huge well done to the Historians in Year 11 - where participation for afterschool interventions have been particularly high in numbers. Masterclass attendees hit a smashing 51 students who gained invaluable insights from Mrs Jenkins in preparation for their PPEs.

Geographers across the cohort have been working incredibly hard learning about the impacts of fast fashion and the environment in a globalised world, the landforms found in a cold world such as pyramidal peaks and corries, year 7 have been deepening their knowledge of the UK and their map skills.

Both years 10 and 11 have demonstrated positive attitudes when conducting their PPEs which will ensure further success in the future exam seasons.

# A JOURNEY OF A PLANET

“ Alas I feel the weight of the world,  
Every life and soul in my arms  
the weight of misfortune and nature of  
this world, all is known down below  
As the gravity of this realm still bellows me.

I stand here in a sea of wishes,  
Carrying a ball of life along its journey.  
I see those in front and behind me,  
All carrying a ball.  
All varied sizes and own personalities.  
One with rings, one that's cold  
One that is gas and one that is small.

All on this journey to a golden dancer,  
Her choreography is exquisite,  
Dances of passion and desire, a fiery passion,  
as we pass by her beauty  
A sight I do not see much  
My journey is a long one  
Yet I desire to see the light that  
Helps my world even more every day

However, I must not reach too close for her,  
As my world may burn,  
As much as I desire her, I may never have her.  
So, Alas I feel the weight of the world. ”

*By Amora Rosa*

## ELSA SUPPORT

**Our support for students wellbeing is continuing to grow...**

We now have three ELSA staff who work with students on self-esteem, confidence, anxiety, understanding emotions and relationships with friends. ELSA stands for Emotional Literacy Support Assistant. We also work with and fund Malachi Counselling Service who work with students, using counselling based on therapeutic techniques.

Christmas can be difficult for students and families, there is a change in routine and also family members who are no

longer with us can be sorely missed.

The NHS have a really useful website which is aimed at young people and is also useful for parents to look at too. They have information on self care, sleep, how to deal with unhelpful thoughts, self-care and social media. The information is presented by short videos which are from 50 seconds to 3 minutes. They also have links to other websites including Young Minds and The Mix (The Mix has really

useful information on being safe online too).

The Website can be accessed by clicking on the link below:  
<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/mental-wellbeing-tips/youth-mental-health/>



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# KARATE SUCCESS



## Student Experiences

Ella Hawkes was in October chosen to represent team GB in the kick boxing world champions that took place in Italy. There were 17 people chosen from all over the world for each section. She was extremely lucky to be representing not only her club – Rugeley Martial Arts - but also Great Britain.

She returned home from Italy with two medals - Gold in

light con and silver in points. She has been training with the club for almost five and a half years and taking part in the world championships was truly an amazing experience.

On Saturday 3 December Luke Bowerman went for his black belt within Karate. He has been participating in Karate for 7 years with the goal of becoming a black belt. On Saturday morning

he was not feeling well but pushed himself as he wanted to achieve this goal that he had set himself and worked towards over the last seven years. After over three hours of grading which included showing their skills and discipline within the sport, they began to hand out belts and certificates, when they called his name, he couldn't believe it he was so happy!

## TROPHIES COME HOME



Melody started dancing when she was very young. She started by watching her sister and then started competing when she was 7/8 years old. She has won numerous trophies, including dancing competitions in Blackpool, Skegness as well as locally.

Every Monday is competition practice, Tuesday is flex, stretch and freestyle and Sunday is competition day. Sunday is always a really early start and she doesn't return home till very late the same day. In her most recent competition Melody achieved a 4th placed finish in a competition in Birmingham along with a 7th place competition with her partner.

## SUMMER GOES FOR GOLD AT THE WAKO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Summer Harvey represented Great Britain's kickboxing team at the World Championships in Italy. There were approx. 62 countries and 2500 athletes taking part over various age/weight groups so it was a huge tournament. Summer had trained really hard for the championships as she won Gold for Great Britain.

Summer now ranks top in the Wako Children's, Cadets and Juniors World Championships.





## WREATH MAKING

Check our fabulous handmade wreath following our PTFA event earlier this month. This event raised over £100 thanks to everyone who supported this event. If you wish to get involved please email

[PTFA@hartschool.org.uk](mailto:PTFA@hartschool.org.uk)

## OFF TO A FLYING START Spotlight on a Rising Star

Kevin Acheampong (Y10) – Kevin is a talented athlete and has represented the school at both football and rugby during this term. The Y10 football team are currently undefeated in their league having beaten EDA and Chase Terrace respectively.

Kevin has also represented the Y11 boys football team and acquitted himself well in both matches he has played so far (scoring in one of them).

He has also been selected to

represent the Staffordshire County U15s team who have recently played Repton School, Shropshire and West Midlands. They have also got an upcoming fixture against South Yorkshire. Kevin has been involved in all these matches and provided and assist during the 4-3 victory over Repton School.



# HUGE SUCCESS FOR THE YEAR 10 GIRLS NETBALL TEAM

## RESULTS

\*\*\*\*

Hart 10 - 0 Cannock Chase

Hart 11 - 9 Netherstowe

Hart 9 - 0 Friary

Hart 2 - 1 Chase Terrace

Hart 1 - 1 Cardinal Griffin



Year 10 Netball team have had huge success so far this year winning four out of six games. We have seen fantastic performance from all players starting with Millie Orgill playing centre and linking defence to attack. Also in attack was Paige Wilson who made some fantastic passes into the shooters. Jessica Wall scored a number of goals from the edge of the circle with Freya Evans. Megan Win (Yr8) was put under so much pressure from a really aggressive Goal Keepers this year, but managed to brush them aside. In defence we had Sienna

Matthews who kept the Wing attack out of the game, along with Hope Croft who kept the ball out of the circle along with Freya Smales who both managed to intercept passes into the circle. They have really worked hard in training on a Thursday evening as well as being dedicated to represent the Hart school.

Well done Team Hart!

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# CET SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

## Real high wattage stuff!

Hart School students travelled down to Abbeyfield School, Northampton on Wednesday 30 November to perform Shakespeare's Twelfth Night as part of Creative Education Trust Shakespeare festival.

Students took part in a series of workshops with professional theatre practitioners: Ryan Early and Mark Friend over Autumn term. These sessions provided a unique and fantastic opportunity for the students to gain an insight into the performing arts profession.

Their performance was described by the CEO as real high wattage stuff! Well done to all students who took part in this prestigious event and to Miss Cowley who directed this performance.



# CHRISTMAS TREES

As part of the St Augustine's Christmas tree festival the Community Ambassadors decorated a Christmas tree to celebrate famous female scientists - Chemistree. The festival ran from Tuesday the 6 of December to Sunday the 11 of December and our tree was voted joint Winner.



The Year 7 team also contributed to St Michaels tree festival where the theme was recycling.



# RUGELEYS BIG SWITCH ON



## The Hart School Choir and Izzy Jenkins were delighted and honoured to perform on the main stage at the Rugeley Town Christmas Light Switch on.

The snow flurries and festive lighting made a for a magical evening, something akin to a

Hallmark Christmas Movie. The feeling in the town was magical and it was wonderful

to be part of such an historic event

# EVENINGS OF EXCELLENCE

## Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 Rewards

December has been a month to remember with a whole host of rewards distributed to our wonderful students. The Christmas rewards kicked off with our World Cup strategy with students receiving points for positive attendance and goals from their allocated teams. One winner per year group receives the final prize!

Our festive celebrations then arrived with our “12 days of Christmas” and “December to Remember” the hot topic amongst our student body.

Last but not least, we arrived at our rewards evening for both Key Stage 3 and 4. This included awards for attainment, progress and Director of Faculty Awards. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers at the evening events to celebrate the success of our pupils. A representative from each faculty area was rewarded each student with a certificate and photo. All photos will be published on our social media subject to photo permission.

On the second part of the evening, The Hart School Values were celebrated with students picking up trophies for Happy, Ambitious, Resilient and Tolerant Awards. Special awards were given for Community Honours and The Principals Award. Staff came together to nominate just 4 students for each category out of 1145 students in Years 7 to 11. As a staffing body, we were so proud of all our winners; fully deserved!



## SIXTH FORM EXCELLENCE

### The Hart School Sixth form once again took part in the CET Public Speaking and Essay Writing Competition.

Students were welcome to submit essays on a topic of their choice while the public speaking entrants had to craft and perform a ten minute piece of oration on the subject “The Future Starts Now”.

Though we didn’t take the top prize, our students Lucy Bannister, Wren Crozier and Grace Illingworth performed amazingly getting honourable mentions at the end. In the coming months we will be able to share the work that was produced by these incredible students. We also took our own team of supporters along, as you can see from the picture.



## CAROL SERVICE

It was so wonderful that we were able to collaborate with St Augustine’s Church to deliver a service right at the “Hart” of our community.

Musicians and performers from Key Stage 3 through to Key Stage 5 showcased their talent through both solo and ensemble performances.



## DAY OF PLAY

A fantastic opportunity arrived this half term with Hart School musicians rising to the occasion by collaborating with all secondary schools with the Creative Education Trust. We were so proud of students who represented the school with pride and showcased just how talented they are!