



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN
SCHOOL

Achieving Excellence Together



Headteacher's Corner

With Easter just around the corner, we're approaching the end of what is officially regarded as the Spring term. I say "officially regarded as" because it really hasn't felt very spring-like out there! Of course, even in a mild year, most of this term is taken up by the decidedly wintry months of January and February. And that begs a question: why do we call it the Spring term when it's really the Winter term? Because, I assume, "hope springs eternal." Schools are about looking forward, readying young people for the future towards which they look with excited anticipation.

With exams just around the corner, there's plenty to be nervous about and life is, as many of us know, not always easy. However, the act of renaming "Winter" as "Spring" is an act of defiant hope. Things may get tough but rather than fretting over the worries of now, we can look forward to the joys of what is to come. Rather than allow ourselves to be dragged down by the grey cold drizzle of winter, we'll look forward to the warm sunshine and new growth that heralds the rebirth of the natural world.

And if this all sounds a bit religious... well, it is: it's Easter that we'll be celebrating in a few days' time. In the Christian tradition it commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. That may or may not resonate with your beliefs but there's no doubt that this term, this *Spring* term, is a time of rebirth, of renewal, of anxiety replaced by hope and sadness giving way to joy. And if that's not the purpose of education, I don't what is!

Cross Country

English schools cross country results: Georgina Campbell and Ellie Bryan competed at the national schools cross country last Saturday in what can only be described as challenging Baltic conditions. To get to that level is a fantastic achievement but to finish 13th as Georgina did was really special and worthy of high praise. Ellie finished in the pack and put on another sterling performance. Well done.

Mr S Singleton

Dance News

Year 9 students took part in a series of two workshops led by professional dancers from Motionhouse dance company. They learnt movements from their touring work *Charge* and lots of daring contact work with many lifts. They gained a lot from these workshops and it has helped build knowledge for their GCSE course.



Mrs L Monk

HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday 23rd March 2018

Forthcoming Dates:

School Easter Holidays - School closed

Friday 30 March - Friday 13 April 2018.

Ski Trip for Year 9 & 10 pupils

Friday 30 March - Saturday 7 April 2018

Year 8 Parents Evening

Thursday 19 April 2018

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C'était vraiment génial!

Our language immersion trip to Château de la Baudonnière in Normandy, 7th-11th March

After a slightly delayed departure at 3.45am instead of the scheduled 3.15am, we all slumped into a huge, luxury double decker bus for just 18 of us, the majority of whom managed to get some kip before a long, but very relaxing 6 hour ferry



crossing from Portsmouth to Caen. After a 1½ hour coach transfer, we arrived at our truly charming French château, just in time for dinner in the "verandah", where we met the feisty resident parrot "Jam" and the two proud strutting peacocks "Kevin 1" and "Kevin 2".

At the beginning of every meal there was a mini presentation, (*en français bien sûr*) of what we would be eating and a mini French lesson (with repetition obligatory) on the relevant food, crockery and cutlery vocabulary and phrases needed for each meal, including "*Je voudrais encore du.... s'il vous plaît!*".

Every day entailed a mix of activities (all conducted in French) such as: archery, aeroball, orienteering, French breadmaking, initiative exercises in the forest, indoor brain teasers, circus skills,



photography, cider tasting and a trip to the market at Granville, punctuated by a series of four bespoke French classes of one to two hours each. Evenings were also busy with a welcome talk on Wednesday evening, brain games on Thursday evening,

a French-themed soirée the third evening, and a Henley talent show on our final evening.

Despite the packed and tiring schedule, all the students seemed to be sad to leave on

our last day, many commenting on how much progress they had made and how much more confident they felt about speaking French.



As trip leader, I was so proud of the whole group and how they conducted themselves in the classroom and when doing the

activities. The *animateurs* as well as other members of the chateau staff



commented on the impeccable manners and politeness of the Henley

students as well as their motivation and enthusiastic approach to every activity they undertook. *Bravo et merci! Nous sommes fiers de vous tous!*

Mrs L Wootton

Equestrian News

I am pleased to announce that many of our Equestrian Team members have qualified to represent the school and Warwickshire at the County Championships in April!

- 70cm showjumping - Mia Jarrett, Ned Campbell and Georgie Campbell (team)
- 70cm showjumping – Ned Campbell (individual)
- 80cm showjumping – Charlie Kingston-Cox (individual)
- 90cm showjumping – Charlie Kingston-Cox (individual)
- Preliminary dressage – Honor Yeomans

In addition to the successes listed above, Ciara-Anne McMahon has qualified to represent the school at the Grass Roots dressage regional finals.

Congratulations to all the team.

Miss J Roberts

As part of our Kindness Week at the start of next term (16th – 20th April) we are going to be raising

awareness for the charity Phabkids who facilitate activities for both disabled and able bodied children and adults.



Each year around 116 children and young people aged from 8 to 25, supported by 99 enthusiastic and specially trained Phab volunteers and carers, are taken to two carefully chosen and fully accessible outdoor activity centres in the beautiful and inspiring surroundings of the New Forest and the Lake District. Through the challenging and exciting activities on offer and the experience of being away from home and just having great fun together, the children build their self-esteem, confidence and independence and learn new practical, personal and social skills which all helps them when they go back home - along with some great memories and new friends made.

Hundreds of fundraisers around the country help Phabkids to provide much needed places on these unique weeks for youngsters with a range of disabilities and complex needs, enabling them to experience and enjoy greater independence and freedom.



We're looking forward to playing our part in supporting these activities. In assembly next week Year 7 and 8 will receive a fundraising envelope to collect sponsorship for exciting activities they will be doing in their Dance, PE and Music lessons. The London Marathon is the next major sporting event that Phab volunteers are taking part in and is taking place at the end of the week and so Year 7 and 8 are going to try complete activities which equal the total calories expended in running the 26.2 miles in a marathon. This includes aerobics, a sing/rap off and a dance off! You will be able to follow their progress on Twitter @henleyschool. Thank you in advance for all of your support.

Miss S Blyth

Alumni news

Ex-student Sophia Potter's success in fencing has continued even whilst she is studying hard for her A'levels. Sophia has been selected to



fence for Great Britain at the European Championships in Sochi, Russia and has also been selected to fence at the World

Championships in Verona, Italy over the Easter period.

She is now on British Fencing Talent Programme, well on her way to becoming an Olympic fencer and has

received an invitation to fence for England at the Commonwealth Fencing

Championships in July. Sophia has

recently secured funding from SportsAid under their "Backing the Best Award".

Congratulations Sophia.



Year 7 "Guess My Job" 21st March

Our thanks go out to all our local businesses who came in to school to be grilled by our eager Year 7s! The pupils enjoyed asking lots of questions and finding out about different jobs that people do. Our visitors were David Morris of Morris Mica Hardware, Alcester and Redditch; Jenny Hall from MPA Financial Management in Henley; Celeste Robinson and Louis Quinn (ex-pupil!) from Fortem; Scott Parmenter, Trainee Solicitor with Ladders, Stratford and Sarah Underhill from Helping Hands.

Helping Hands are recruiting locally.

Do you feel a passion to care for others? Are you looking for a flexible career supporting people on a one-to-one basis so they can live independently at home?

You can earn **up to £13.35 per hour** as a Care Assistant in Henley-in-Arden with the family-run Helping Hands Home Care. We have many exciting opportunities available in and around Henley, Claverdon, Wootton Wawen, Hatton, Tanworth-in-Arden and surrounding villages.

No experience is necessary as we provide full training. If you feel a calling to care for others, can drive and have the right to work in the UK, we'd love to hear from you!

Call our Recruitment team on 01564 454 291

