



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2026

HLC Secondary
www.hadleylearningcommunity.org.uk
01952 387000
HLCadmin@lct.education
@HLC_Secondary



FEBRUARY 2026

WELCOME

From the Head



Dates for the diary

- 27th Mar - last day before Easter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move through the Spring term, I am incredibly proud of the breadth of opportunities our students have embraced and the way they continue to represent our school with confidence, maturity and ambition.

This half term has been particularly rich in enrichment experiences. A group of our students enjoyed an unforgettable STEM trip to Disneyland Paris, where they explored the science and engineering behind some of the world's most innovative attractions. We have also been delighted to work alongside the Jon Egging Trust to provide inspiring visits to RAF Cosford and RAF Shawbury. These experiences have broadened horizons and given students valuable insight into future career pathways, teamwork and leadership.

Preparing students for life beyond school remains a key priority. Our Year 10 cohort recently took part in mock interviews, supported by over 50 volunteers from local businesses and organisations. The professionalism shown by our students was exceptional, and we are extremely grateful to our community partners for giving their time to help develop students' confidence and employability skills.

The performing arts have also taken centre stage this term. The HLC Dance Talent Show was a wonderful celebration of creativity and courage, with students delivering energetic and polished performances. Our production of Macbeth showcased not only dramatic talent but also the dedication of students and staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring the performance to life. In addition, our MFL celebrations highlighted the cultural richness within our school, promoting language learning and global awareness.

Sport continues to be a real strength, with notable successes across football, swimming and basketball. The determination, teamwork and resilience demonstrated by our students reflect the values we strive to nurture every day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is through our strong partnership with parents and carers that we are able to provide such a wide range of meaningful experiences. I wish you all a restful half term break and look forward to another successful period ahead.

Warm regards,

D Roycroft
Head Teacher

BELONG

Our Year 10 Sports Leaders have been doing fantastic work supporting after-school sports sessions for HLC Primary pupils. Working closely with the PE team, they have planned and delivered engaging activities, including a brilliantly run football session last Friday. Their professionalism and leadership have been outstanding. Well done, Year 10!

RESPECT

Our Year 9 football team put in a determined performance as they hosted Idsall School in the cup. After falling behind early, the boys showed great resilience, scoring three unanswered goals to secure a 3-1 win. It was a tough match in challenging conditions, and the team handled it superbly. Congratulations, Year 9, and good luck in the next round!

OUR VALUES

INSPIRE

Students in ImpACT have demonstrated impressive maturity and focus while exploring the challenging theme No Knives, Save Lives. Over three weeks of rehearsals, they have approached the material with sensitivity, professionalism and a real commitment to creating meaningful, message-driven performance work. We are incredibly proud of them.

SUCCEED

As part of their Wider Study unit on "Not-so-Natural Disasters," Year 9 students have been learning about the Aberfan Disaster of the 1960s. We are pleased to celebrate the exceptional non-fiction writing produced by 9HEN4, who have shown deep understanding and strong written expression in response to this powerful topic. Well done to all involved.

ENJOY

Our Year 7 girls took part in an exciting rugby development day at Telford College to launch the new T1 Rugby Series values. The event focused on skill-building, teamwork and developing confidence on the pitch. Students took part in coached sessions before competing in a round-robin tournament against four other schools. The team represented HLC brilliantly, showing determination, enthusiasm and great sportsmanship throughout the day. A fantastic experience for all involved!

Performing Arts

Showcasing Dance Talent Across the Trust

Our Aspire and Dance Company Select students recently took part in the Thomas Telford Celebration of Dance, delivering performances that highlighted their creativity, discipline, and passion.

The event brought together schools from Thomas Telford MAT and our Learning Community Trust, creating a supportive and uplifting atmosphere where students could share their artistry and celebrate one another's achievements.

We are incredibly proud of our dancers for representing HLC with such confidence and flair. Their commitment to their craft was clear in every performance.



Coming This March: The Addams Family at HLC

We are taking to the stage from 3–5 March 2026 in the HLC Theatre.

This wonderfully ghoulish musical comedy brings the much-loved Addams family to life. When the Addams' invite the "normal" Beinekes over for dinner, chaos, secrets and hilarious misunderstandings unfold. It's a warm, witty tale of family, honesty and learning to embrace our differences. Featuring lively musical numbers, quirky characters and plenty of creepy fun, The Addams Family promises to be a spectacular celebration of our students' talent and hard work. Our cast and crew have been rehearsing with tremendous dedication, and we cannot wait to share their efforts with our school community.

Please book your tickets via ParentPay!



Macbeth Comes Alive at HLC

Students from Years 7 to 10 delivered a powerful performance of Shakespeare's Macbeth, transforming the school hall into the world of the Scottish play for an evening of drama, tension and exceptional talent.

The cast and crew worked tirelessly to create a memorable production.

We are incredibly proud of every student involved, both on stage and behind the scenes. Their dedication and teamwork created a truly unforgettable experience for all who attended.



STEM

A Day of Mathematical Fun: NSPCC Number Day

On Friday 6th February, students embraced all things numerical as part of the 26th annual NSPCC Number Day—a national event celebrating the importance of Maths in school and everyday life.

Across HLC, pupils took part in a range of engaging activities designed to build confidence and spark curiosity. A whole-school number scavenger hunt encouraged students to track down hidden digits around the building and solve challenges using their findings. Many also chose to take part in specialist problem-solving lessons, putting their detective skills to the test as they worked together to uncover the mystery of Arithmetown's Trophy Thief.

The day was a fantastic celebration of mathematical thinking, teamwork and creativity. We look forward to continuing to promote a love of numbers throughout the year.

STEM Comes to Life at Disneyland Paris

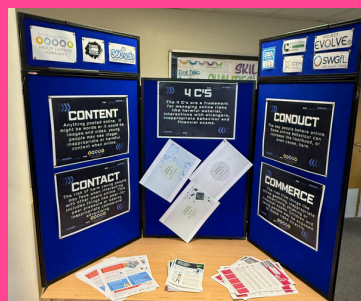


In January, our Year 10 students attended STEM Live at Disneyland Paris, where they explored how Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths power the park's rides, animatronics and innovative design. They saw classroom concepts brought to life—from the physics of rollercoasters to the engineering behind complex systems. A memorable highlight was meeting Disney Imagineers, who shared how creativity, teamwork and problem-solving shape world-class attractions. The experience broadened students' horizons and inspired many to consider future STEM careers. We are incredibly proud of how confidently they represented the school on this exciting and educational trip.

Supporting Families: Online Safety Evening for Parents and Carers

We were pleased to welcome parents and carers to our recent Online Safety Evening, offering support on how to keep children safe and confident online. Mrs Stewart, Subject Leader of Computing and CEOP Ambassador, shared practical advice on online trends, risks and strategies for safe technology use at home, including parental controls, social media and gaming safety. Families then explored a marketplace-style support session with Paul from RoarTech Education and representatives from the West Mercia Police Cyber Crime Team, who provided expert guidance on digital literacy, device management and staying safe online.

Thank you to everyone who attended—together we are strengthening the partnership between school and home to keep young people safe in the digital world.



Careers, Sport, Attendance & Geography

Year 10 Mock Interview Success

Our Year 10 students enjoyed an invaluable introduction to the world of work as they took part in a series of professional mock interviews led by a range of local employers. Representatives from Talbots Law, Wrekin Housing Group, Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, Evolution Foods, Telford & Wrekin Council, SCC Group and others generously gave their time to support the event.

Each student completed two interviews within an hour, gaining meaningful experience and insight into recruitment processes. They also received personalised feedback designed to help them recognise their strengths and understand how to further develop their employability skills.

We are incredibly proud of how confidently and maturely our students approached the challenge. Their professionalism shone through, and many left feeling more self-assured and inspired about their future careers.



Celebrating Outstanding Achievements in Sport

We are delighted to celebrate the recent achievements of our sports students, who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication and community spirit.

Our sports captains organised a highly successful charity week in aid of Dementia UK, which included a student-led movie night. Thanks to impressive participation across the school, an outstanding £550 was raised for the charity—a remarkable accomplishment driven by our students' compassion and initiative.

We are also thrilled to recognise Rohin and Arjun, two talented basketball players at Telford Basketball Club, who have been selected for the national Basketball England Aspire Programme. Out of around 20,000 young players nationwide, only the most promising athletes are chosen to take part, making this a truly exceptional achievement.

Both students continue to embody resilience, commitment, and leadership, and we are incredibly proud to have them representing our school community.

LCT Attendance Week: A Trust-Wide Success

LCT Attendance Week brought an exciting sense of friendly competition across the trust—and we are delighted to share that HLC was one of the winning schools for most improved attendance. Our students showed fantastic commitment throughout the week, and this recognition reflects their hard work and the ongoing support of our families. Every day of learning truly makes a difference, and this achievement highlights what we can accomplish when we work together. Thank you to everyone who helped us reach this milestone. Let's keep the momentum going and continue building excellent attendance across our school community.

The Geography Department who run the Eco Committee facilitated a community Bird Watch this term. It is part of the Big Schools Bird Watch for the RSPB. It was lovely to see students across the school looking out of their windows and on the school grounds observing how the birds around the HLC site are doing. We mostly saw pigeons and gulls but there was a wide range of species including our favourites - blue tits and robins!

MFL



This week, the MFL department proudly celebrated the outstanding progress of our Year 9 French and Spanish students. Since joining us in Year 7, these learners have shown excellent commitment and enthusiasm, so much so that many are now confidently working at GCSE level. To recognise their achievement, students were invited to a special MFL Success Afternoon at our MFL Café. They enjoyed refreshments, received certificates of achievement, and spent time reflecting on the fantastic progress they have made. The event also gave students the chance to discover how choosing a language at GCSE can open up exciting future opportunities, academically, personally, and globally. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and look forward to seeing their language skills continue to grow.

Year 8 French students brought language learning to life this half term with a lively French Fashion Show. After building their vocabulary around clothing and descriptive adjectives, students showcased their progress by presenting each other's outfits in French—complete with confident catwalk performances. The event was full of creativity, laughter and stylish flair, giving students a fun and memorable way to practise speaking and celebrate their fantastic work.

Year 9 students have been strengthening their communication skills through an energetic speaking-skills activity using classic board games such as Snakes and Ladders. What began as a simple, nostalgic game quickly became a powerful learning experience, encouraging teamwork, confidence and lively conversation. The session created a warm sense of belonging and a positive atmosphere across the classroom.

This half term, Year 11 French and Spanish students have been working incredibly hard as they prepared for their French mock exams. Over the last two terms, they have been building a strong bank of vocabulary and sentence structures that will help them extend and develop their answers with confidence. To support their revision, students created their own personalised flashcards, allowing them to take ownership of their learning. They used these to assess their progress independently placing the words they already know on one side, and focusing their revision on the vocabulary they still need to master. This simple but effective strategy has helped them identify gaps, strengthen weaker areas, and become more confident linguists. We are extremely proud of their determination and effort, and we look forward to seeing their hard work reflected in their mock exam results.

L'Épiphanie: Bringing French Culture to Life

Students across our MFL department enjoyed taking part in L'Épiphanie, a much-loved French tradition that celebrates the arrival of the Three Kings and the sharing of the galette des rois. Pupils decorated crowns, learned about customs such as the youngest child sitting under the table to assign slices, and explored regional variations of the galette. The highlight for many was tasting the pastry and sharing their opinions using their growing language skills in both French and Spanish.

It was a vibrant celebration of culture, language and community—and excitement is already building for the MFL Bake Off coming in March.

