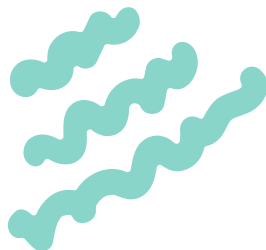


Summer Newsletter



HLC
Secondary



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JULY 2025

WELCOME

From the Head



Dates for the diary

- **Wednesday 3rd Sept - year 7 and year 11 return to school**
- **Thursday 4th Sept - all return to school**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another remarkable school year, I am delighted to reflect on the many achievements our students have accomplished over recent months. It has been a year filled with pride and celebration across all areas of school life.

Our Year 11 students have completed their examinations with great resilience and maturity. We were proud to celebrate their journey at the prom and as they prepare to leave us, ready for the next exciting chapter. Year 10 students have also impressed us through their work experience placements, demonstrating professionalism and dedication that has earned them high praise.

Performing arts and PE have been vibrant parts of our school community this year. Highlights include Sports Day and the amazing DanceFest, where our students showcased their talent and teamwork with great enthusiasm.

We have also celebrated remarkable successes in STEM. Two of our students were honoured on a special awards trip to the Houses of Parliament following their participation in the Big Idea competition. Additionally, two other students have just returned from an extraordinary week at NASA in Alabama, an opportunity made possible through the Jon Egging Trust.

I want to thank all parents and carers for your ongoing support throughout this year. Your partnership continues to be essential to our students' success and wellbeing. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer holiday.

Warm regards,

D Roycroft
Head Teacher

BELONG

Year 6 students enjoyed a vibrant and engaging transition to HLC, participating in taster lessons across subjects. From creative art and energetic dance to drama improvisation, English games, and a Bastille Day celebration in MFL, the students embraced the HLC values and got a real feel for Year 7 life. It was heartwarming to see new friendships form and enthusiastic participation throughout.

RESPECT

We are proud to congratulate Kian on achieving his Blue Peter Sports Badge, a well-deserved recognition of his ongoing commitment to personal development. By attending cadets every week, Kian has demonstrated not only dedication and perseverance, but also the core value of respect—for himself, his team, and the responsibilities he upholds. His consistent effort and positive attitude set a strong example for others. Well done, Kian, on this outstanding achievement.

OUR VALUES

INSPIRE

To mark National Thank a Teacher Day, students took the opportunity to recognise staff who have made a difference in their lives. Mr. Roden and Miss Francis' tutor groups filled out special Thank You forms, sharing messages of appreciation for the support, inspiration, and care they've received. A heartfelt thank you to all our dedicated teachers—you are truly valued.

SUCCEED

Recently, some of our Year 7 students involved in the Parallel Academy Maths Scheme received certificates for taking part in the UK Junior Maths Challenge. Congratulations to all who participated, especially Sofia Abrahams, who achieved the highest score in her year group.

ENJOY

In July, over 120 Year 9 students visited Shrewsbury as part of their GCSE Geography fieldwork. Their study focused on environmental quality across different areas of the town, comparing the busy town centre, parkland in the Quarry area, and the redeveloping train station zone. Their observations supported their initial hypothesis and provided valuable data for their coursework. Next term, students will conduct a river study in Carding Mill Valley.

SPORTS SUCCESS



ACHIEVEMENT

We're thrilled to celebrate the recent sporting achievements of our talented students.

Our Year 7 and 8 cricket team represented HLC at the Shropshire School Cricket Festival and emerged as champions, with a standout performance from Atmar, who took four wickets in four balls against Bridgnorth—an extraordinary feat.

In football, our Year 8 boys claimed victory at the Telford College Football Tournament, thanks in part to Thomas W's instrumental role.

Congratulations also go to Ollie Austin for earning a bronze medal in the 12–13 under 55KG category at the International Jujitsu Open.

We also commend Alexis K, who finished third in a national kickboxing competition—a remarkable achievement and a testament to her determination and skill.

Year 8 student Laura and her team, Lionheart U12 L2, took 1st place at the BCA National Championship 2025, earning the title of British National Champions.



Adding to our celebration, Georgia competed at the prestigious Dance Worlds and Dance Summit in Orlando, Florida, in the under-16 Pom and Lyrical divisions—placing an incredible 10th and 8th in the world. She has secured a position for Dance Worlds 2026 in the International Open Coed Pom team as the youngest member.

Most recently, she received exciting news confirming she will represent England in the Senior Pom category at the ICU World Championships—again as the youngest team member. An extraordinary milestone and a proud moment for the HLC community.



This term, the PE department continued its sports initiative in partnership with local clubs. Rugby teams showed strong progress in the LCT Head-to-Head competition thanks to Newport Rugby's support. Shropshire Cricket helped our Year 7 & 8 teams win the U13 TWSSA Cricket Championship. The engagement and enthusiasm from students have been exceptional.

Our Year 10 Sports Leaders recently helped run Severndale's Sports Day. Their energy and leadership made the day a huge success. Well done to all involved!

Students celebrated National Sports Week by getting active during breaks and lunch with activities like cricket, skipping, and basketball. A big well done to everyone who joined in and promoted healthy, active living.

PERFORMING ARTS

DanceFest

Over 100 students from across our Learning Community Trust took to the stage at Theatre Severn for this year's spectacular DanceFest 2025, proudly presented by Hadley Learning Community. Themed 'Inspirational Women', the event honoured female icons past and present—from pop legends like the Spice Girls to empowering figures such as Munroe Bergdorf and Chappell Roan. Each performance celebrated strength, creativity, and individuality, with students showcasing their dedication and talent through powerful routines. A heartfelt thank you goes to the performers, staff, and supporters who made the evening such a memorable success.

Drama Showcase

HLC hosted a brilliant drama evening featuring "The Next Chapter" by ImpACT Theatre and a modern adaptation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by HLC's Shakespeare Company. Students from Years 7 to 10 brought these productions to life with energy and creativity, earning well-deserved applause.

Black Country Dance Festival

KS3 dance students performed at the Black Country Dance Hub Summer Festival. Their performance showcased their talent, commitment, and creativity in front of a live audience. A proud moment for all involved.

Charltonbury

This summer, HLC Dance Company Select took to the main stage at the Charltonbury Festival, performing outdoors in front of hundreds of spectators. Representing the school with energy and professionalism, our students delivered a fantastic routine and were a true credit to HLC. It was a brilliant opportunity to showcase their talent at a major event, and they did an amazing job!



VALUE MOMENTS

Year 10 Work Experience

Our Year 10 students recently completed work experience placements across various sectors—from law firms to nurseries, shops to engineering sites. Students demonstrated professionalism and initiative, earning praise from their hosts. Notable mentions include Rohan D, Archie R, Ella P, Erika, Cheryl, Jessica C, Vanessa, Ude, Katy, Alishba, Akramullah, and Hasan for their outstanding contributions. Those in school enjoyed an Army experience day to give them a taster of the job and use their termwork and problem solving skills.



RAF Helicopter

This week, students had an exciting opportunity to explore a real RAF helicopter, which landed on the school field for a special visit. Pupils were able to sit inside, speak to the crew, and learn how the aircraft operates. They discovered that the helicopter can fly at speeds of up to 180 mph and reach altitudes of 10,000 feet. With a range of over 400 miles and the ability to carry troops and equipment, it was a fascinating insight into aviation and military technology.



Jon Egging Trust

Year 8 and 9 students completed the Jon Egging Trust (JET) programme, presenting confidently to an audience that included parents and local professionals. Their growth and development through the programme were evident, and we're incredibly proud of their achievements.



STEM CLUB

HLC's STEM Club has had a standout year, with over 150 students earning nationally recognised CREST Awards for their independent, project-based scientific work. The club has also made waves in competitive engineering, reaching the regional finals of the global F1 in Schools challenge—where students design, build, and race miniature F1 cars using advanced technology. A fantastic year of innovation, teamwork, and real-world STEM skills in action!

SPACE CAMP ALABAMA



Esmae, Harry, and Mrs Stewart recently had the incredible opportunity to attend Space Camp at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama—the birthplace of America's space program. Supported by Northrop Grumman and the Jon Egging Trust, the trio trained like real astronauts, using high-tech simulators, tackling the Multi-Axis Trainer, and completing water survival exercises. They also took part in realistic missions to Mars and the Moon, learning to problem-solve and work as a team under pressure. Surrounded by historic spacecraft and cutting-edge technology, they explored the past, present, and future of space exploration. A highlight of the trip was connecting with students from around the world, building confidence, global friendships, and a lasting passion for STEM. A truly inspiring experience that proved the sky is not the limit—it's just the beginning.

TEEN TECH AWARD

HLC's STEM Club has reached the national finals of the prestigious TeenTech Awards for an impressive ten consecutive years, earning national recognition for innovation and problem-solving. This year, students Bella and Jess stood out with their project DriveSafe—a high-visibility cycling coat featuring built-in indicators and brake lights. Their thoughtful, safety-focused design won awards for Most Ethical Product and Best Communication, showcasing how our students are using STEM to make a real-world impact.



Trips

OPAL COAST



In May, 29 students from Years 8, 9, and 10 embarked on an exciting trip to The Opal Coast in France. After a long journey, they arrived in the charming town of St Omer, staying in a beautiful chateau. Highlights included baking croissants and pain au chocolat, visiting Nausicaa—the largest aquarium in Europe—and even trying snails. Students embraced French culture and actively practised their language skills.

YEAR 9 CAREERS



Year 9 students explored various career paths this term. Our Solutions 4 the Planet teams had an incredible day at the PAM Building, where they explored how real-world engineering and innovation come to life. From watching molten metal in the foundry to touring the production floor, students were amazed by every step of the manufacturing journey. They even delivered their own presentations and received fantastic feedback from the PAM team. PAM Building designs and manufactures drainage solutions — from concept to customer — all on-site. We're so proud of our students for engaging, learning, and being inspired by the possibilities of STEM.

ST IVES



Students on the recent arts residential trip enjoyed a day full of creativity and exploration. Highlights included a mark-making workshop with artist Rowena, a photography walkabout with professional photographer Chris Webb, and a peaceful sketching session at the Barbara Hepworth Museum. The group also took part in a beach treasure hunt to inspire their drawing, with the unexpected delight of spotting a seal in the harbour. The trip concluded with a visit to the Eden Project, rounding off an inspiring and enriching experience.

Trips

MANCHESTER UNITED

Students recently enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Manchester United's iconic stadium, where they had the chance to tour the locker rooms, walk through the players' tunnel, and step out onto the famous pitch. As part of the experience, they attended an inspiring presentation focused on ambition and resilience, encouraging them to push themselves to achieve their personal best—on and off the field. It was a memorable day that combined the excitement of football with valuable life lessons.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

This year, students completed their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards, demonstrating resilience through expeditions, physical challenges, skill-building, and volunteering. Their commitment to personal growth and community contribution is inspiring.



Our Values

Here at HLC we emphasise five core values: Belong, Respect, Inspire, Succeed, and Enjoy.

These values are central to the school's ethos and are embedded in all aspects of school life, from the curriculum to personal development. We aim to create an environment where students feel a sense of belonging, are inspired to learn, achieve success, and enjoy their educational journey

STUDENTS WITH THE MOST VALUE POINTS THIS YEAR:

YEAR 7 - NIAMH S-C

YEAR 8 - EMELIA N

YEAR 9 - NIMITHA F

YEAR 10 - OLIVER H



Sports Day

This year's Sports Day was packed with excitement, energy, and friendly competition. Students took part in a wide range of events including javelin, long jump, high jump, running races, relays, and the always popular tug of war. Staff also joined in the fun with their own relay and tug of war challenges! In the morning, students in classrooms competed in our Academic Olympics, showcasing their knowledge and teamwork. The action began the day before with a fantastic swimming gala. It was a brilliant two days of sport, learning, and school spirit—well done to everyone involved!

OVERALL RESULTS:



CONCORDE



DARBY



BRIDGE

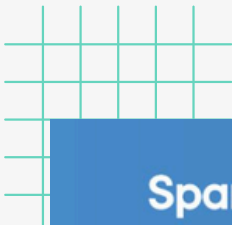


APOLLO



SPARX

Achievements




Sparx Maths

What we have achieved this year...



Hadley Learning Community



1,524,451
questions correctly answered by our students




13,654
hours of personalised maths practice completed by our students

147,828
Misconceptions and knowledge gaps addressed through videos viewed by our students



65% of 764 students using Times Tables have either improved, or are considered confident, in their times tables



Sparx Science

What we have achieved this year...





Students at Hadley Learning Community - Secondary Phase were set
23,228
homeworks
this year in Sparx Science



Students at Hadley Learning Community - Secondary Phase completed
2,522 hours
of personalised practice this year in Sparx Science



Students at Hadley Learning Community - Secondary Phase correctly answered
216,704 questions
this year in Sparx Science
Your students have access to over 23k questions designed to build their science knowledge and challenge their thinking

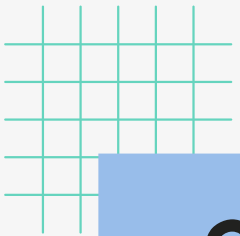


Students at Hadley Learning Community - Secondary Phase addressed
43,951
misconceptions & knowledge gaps through the Let's Learn It support
Every question has support available when students need a helping hand.



SPARX

Stars



Certificate of achievement

Students who have topped the charts with XP points or achievements are:

Maths

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| Year 7 | Sofia A |
| Year 8 | Fred E |
| Year 9 | Falaq K |
| Year 10 | Tenille A |
| | |
| | |

Science

| | |
|---------|------------|
| Year 7 | Eva K |
| Year 8 | Fanowiss B |
| Year 9 | Ismaeel R |
| Year 10 | Naina K |
| | |
| | |

First place

Fred Enejeta achieved Sparx Level 100—the first student in school to do so. Sparx homework is set weekly, with over 1.5 million questions answered and nearly 14,000 hours of learning completed this year. Students with high completion rates are rewarded, and participation is driving meaningful improvement across all year groups.





SPARX

Achievements

The Power of Reading

Research shows that strong readers become successful because they read regularly over time. Once children learn to decode words, consistent reading is key to continued progress. A clear gap can develop between those who read often and those who don't, with regular readers gaining confidence, resilience, and the ability to tackle more complex texts. This not only supports academic achievement across the curriculum but also builds valuable life skills. For teenagers, the challenge is finding time to make reading a daily habit—and for adults, it's about encouraging and creating space for that habit to grow.

"All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others"

...e with me always - take any form ...
...nly do not leave me in this abyss, ...
...nd you! Oh, God! It is unutterable!
...without my life! I can not live with

Students at
Hadley Learning Community – Secondary Phase

read

27,718,839 words

this year in Sparx Reader

Exposure to more words is a proven way to expand students' vocabulary and improve reading ability.

Certificate of achievement

Students who have topped the charts with XP points or achievements are:

| Reading | |
|---------|------------|
| Year 7 | Evan D |
| Year 8 | Karlie S |
| Year 9 | Anna-Mae C |
| Year 10 | Megan J |
| | |
| | |

SUMMER SELF CARE

Mental Health

Advice from Young Minds UK

Some valuable advice from YoungMinds on how young individuals can address loneliness during the extended holiday period...

While some enjoy a long stretch of sunny fun, others, especially teens, may feel lonely and disconnected. The lack of structure and social interaction during these six weeks can make the return to school in September quite daunting. If you're a working parent, you can support your child or teenager by engaging in conversations and assisting them in establishing a routine, no matter how small. Encourage them to organize a few social activities to anticipate, whenever feasible.



YOUNGMINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

kooth

Kooth is a free online service offering emotional and mental health support for children and young people

www.kooth.com

If you're concerned about your child being lonely this summer, consider these tips



Stay connected



Structure your days



Keep active



Have a rest

Reassurance

Words that may help your child if they are struggling or feeling down over the summer holidays

We are going to get through this together

I love you, nothing can ever change that

Even if I don't understand, know that I want to

You can talk to me, I'm here for you