

THE HUNSLEY WAY

OPENING OF FERRIBY BUILDING

Tuesday 2 September

The opening of the new Ferriby building, a £2.5m teaching facility after only a 38 week construction programme.

This was delivered by Helix CMS, in conjunction with The Education Alliance, Alessandro Caruso Architects and the East Riding of Yorkshire Council. The event was well attended with dignitaries from the majority of companies involved and several members of the press.

Ms Blackledge did the honour of cutting the ribbon to officially open the building ready for the students returning the next day. She said: *"This marks the realisation of a vision and I am immensely proud of a facility that will stand for generations as a beacon of what communities can create through strong partnerships."* Continued on page 7...

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome from the
Headteacher

Macmillan Coffee
Results Days

Year 6 Open Day
Sixth Form Open
Evening

Year 9 Options and
Career Fair

Curriculum Spotlight:
Mathematics



Once again, we were able to celebrate terrific examination results with pupils and parents/carers this summer and we wish students 'good luck' as they move to their chosen destinations. Equally, it is great to see so many Year 11 pupils returning to the sixth form.



After a busy summer for the premises team, opening Ferriby has been a highlight and it is great to see staff and pupils appreciating the new building. Similarly, works have now commenced on Humber building, which with significant investment, is going to become an Inclusion Hub. This repurposed space will include a personal care room, intervention spaces, meeting spaces for external agencies, new SEND offices, sensory circuits and outdoor spaces. We are also intending to make a significant investment into the library and are planning to open a student reception area. Watch this space!

The upgraded bell system has proven to be even more popular than we anticipated. The daily change

of music is generating lots of conversation amongst staff and pupils and the IT team now have a 'request list.'

Many thanks to all the families who attended the settling in evenings for Year 7 and Year 12 recently. We had a very strong turnout, and it was lovely to meet you in person and hear how your child is settling into South Hunsley and/or the Sixth Form.

This year we have welcomed five new governors to the school community, following an overwhelming response to the vacancies. At the first meeting, as well as celebrating the success of students in the summer and acknowledging the hard work of staff and students, the improvement plan was accepted. The

priorities moving forward are not wildly different from previous years, and include: attendance, some specific aspects of teaching such as questioning, a review of curriculum and interventions available to pupils, literacy and relational practice. If you would like to know more about the school improvement plan, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Overall, it has been a great start to the year and as always I would like to offer my sincere thanks for your continued support and partnership.

Enjoy the half term break and safe travels if you are going away. I hope students and staff heading for Milan and New York have a great visit.

Michaela Blackledge
Headteacher



MACMILLAN COFFEE EVENING/MORNING

Thursday 25 & Friday 26 September

For the second year running we have incorporated a Macmillan Bake Sale in our Year 6 Open Evening, plus with any remaining bakes, we held sales both with the students and in our staff rooms. Firstly, we'd like to thank all the students, parents/carers and staff who contributed to the donations of cakes and bakes; whether this was bought or baked, it was really appreciated and some of the designs were outstanding and secondly, to everyone who bought them.

We were astounded by the amount we raised - £561, over double the amount of last year and second place to the school record in 2021!

DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITIONS

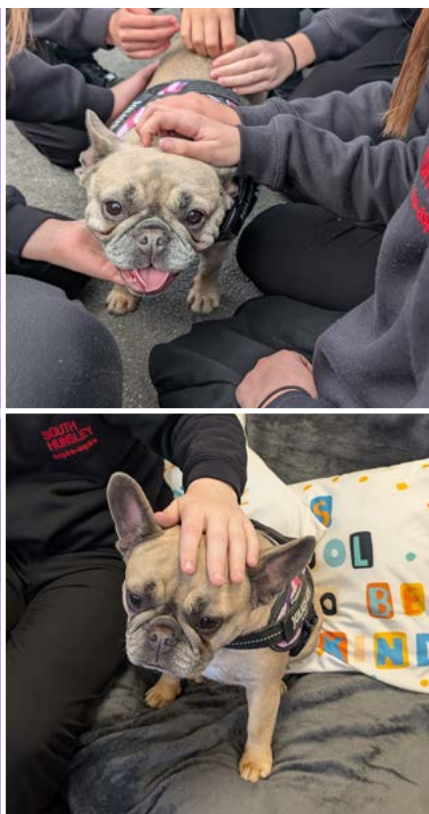
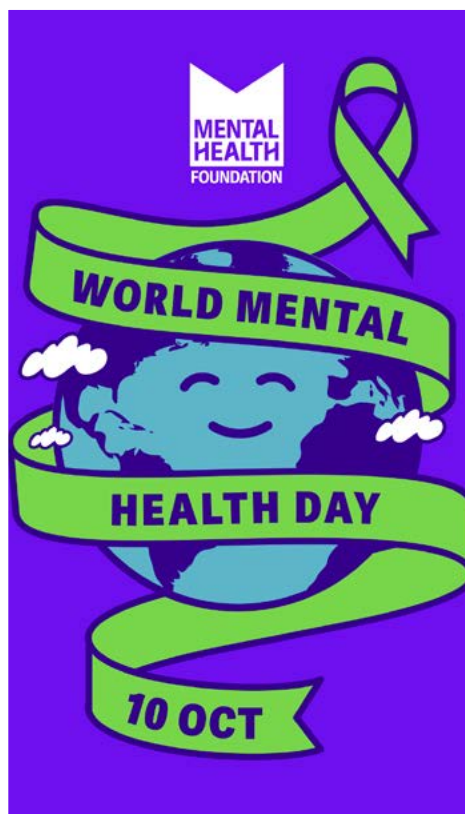
Students in Year 12/13 successfully completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's assessed expedition in the Yorkshire Dales at the end of August in varying weather conditions. All three groups showed resilience, working together as a team and produced excellent expedition projects. The assessors congratulated them all for persevering during the challenging weather - two groups in very wet and windy conditions and the third group in hot temperatures.

Congratulations also go to nine Year 11 students who in September completed their Silver assessed DofE expedition in the North York Moors. Some wet conditions didn't dampen the teams' spirits, and the groups successfully completed two nights camping and three days navigating through the lowlands and moors north of Helmsley.

We are proud of them all and look forward to them completing all sections to achieve their DofE Awards.



We also look forward to introducing our new Bronze members from Year 9. Letters and an initial information meeting date will be sent out to families next half term and we will have a stall at the Year 9 Options evening to answer initial questions.



WELLBEING WEEK

**Monday 7 -
Friday 11 October**

World Mental Health Day takes place annually across the globe and aims to shine a light on improving mental health for everyone. Each term we hold a Wellbeing Week which is designed to inform and inspire students to maintain strong mental wellbeing. Assemblies were held throughout the course of the week with tips on improving mental health.

CARDIAC RISK IN THE YOUNG (CRY) HEART SCREENING

Saturday 18 - Sunday 19 October

Funded by the Jamie Lancaster Memorial Fund, the team at CRY carried out an ECG on young people in the community for free as part of their mission to diagnose cardiac abnormalities and save lives. Over two days they screened around 193 young people which is an incredible amount, bearing in mind only 103 places are pre-booked! During this time they reached the 300,00 milestone and Jamie's older brother, Ross, and their cousins Alex and Katie were there to celebrate this massive achievement. If you would like to get your child screened, please look out for notifications for April and October 2026. You can find out more about the charity or make a donation by visiting their website [here](https://www.cry.org.uk).

**1 IN
100**

young individuals CRY screens have a condition which will require monitoring and could cause health problems later in life.

Every week in the UK
12

fit and healthy young people die of undiagnosed cardiac conditions.

**1 IN
300**

young individuals CRY screens have a potentially life-threatening cardiac condition.



Left to right: Katie, Alex, Jenny, Ross and Graham





13,555 NOT OUT!

Wednesday 22 October

We welcomed back former Headteacher, Mr Williman, who was joined by Mr Loynd, Mr Holness, Mr Duerden, Miss Hepburn, Miss Walker, Miss Dobson and Mrs Trainor who wore red in support of his final run of his current challenge for the [Ruth Strauss Foundation](#). In doing so he has now completed a total distance that equates to 13,555 cricket runs, 12 more than the current test record of England and Yorkshire batting legend Joe Root!

What started out as a 'Six 6s Challenge' running 6 distance events in 6 consecutive months has ended up with 16 events in seven months, and all whilst wearing cricket kit!

Reflecting on the last seven months and achieving this milestone, Mr Williman said:

"It's been a great adventure and one that has given me the opportunity to raise awareness of the fantastic work the Ruth Strauss Foundation do in supporting children and families who are sadly going to lose a parent through a terminal, incurable or life limiting illness. From the London and Edinburgh marathons to the various half marathons, 10 mile and 10k races I've run, everyone I've

met has been so supportive and interested in what I'm doing and the work of the foundation.

Running these events in full cricket kit has certainly had its challenges but importantly has led to so many people asking me 'why' and provided an opportunity to raise awareness of the foundation. As a parent with a lived experience of supporting, along with my wife Erika, our children following her diagnosis of incurable bowel cancer I know first-hand how important their work is.

Whilst the main aim behind this challenge was to raise awareness, I've been humbled by the generosity of so many people who have donated to

the RSF and hope to hit the £10,000 target I've set myself in the coming weeks.

Although the 'Six 6s Challenge' has now come to an end, I've already started planning my next challenge for what many people are now calling me the 'running cricketer'!

Thank you for your kindness, support, and generosity and best wishes to everyone."

Well done Mr Williman, enjoy a well-deserved rest and can't wait to hear about your plans for the running cricketer in 2026! He has currently raised £7,440 for Ruth Strauss Foundation over this time but if anyone would like to donate, please [click here](#).



GCSE AND A-LEVEL RESULTS DAYS

Thursday 15 and Thursday 22 August

Congratulations to all who received their GCSE and A-Level results over the summer break; students have excelled again this year and we are absolutely delighted by their performance.

Brilliant grades have been achieved by both Year 11 and Year 13 students. The results reflect the outstanding teaching in each subject, the dedication students put into their studies and the support from home.

Our students are now well prepared for their future destinations and we have thoroughly enjoyed

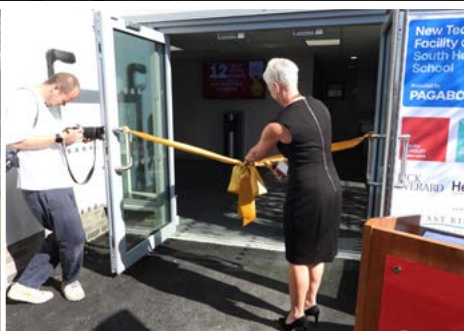
welcoming back those who joined South Hunsley and Sixth Form this September.

We congratulate all students on their well-deserved success and we are extremely proud of their achievements.

Students joined us in The Space in the morning to collect their results, giving

them an opportunity to celebrate with their friends and speak to their teachers if they need support with UCAS. Brilliant grades were achieved across both year groups, reflecting the hard work that they have dedicated to their studies.

Well done to all, we are excited to see where your journey takes you.



OPENING OF FERRIBY BUILDING

Tuesday 2 September

...continued from front cover.

The Ferriby Building is a two-storey, state-of-the-art development that spans over 743sqm, with eight modern classrooms, a entrance hall, administrative offices and toilet facilities. The sustainable design maximises natural light, improves energy efficiency and ventilation, and creates an uplifting environment that enhances the student learning experience, while supporting the school's long-term biodiversity net gain and environmental goals.

Year 12 and 13 pupils gained hands-on experience both on-site and in Helix's offices, leading to a Construction Apprenticeship for one South Hunsley pupil (see page 12). More than 240 Year 9 pupils explored the live construction site, inspiring the next generation to consider careers in construction. Selected pupils also created memories and drawings to be buried in the grounds of the new building to remind future learners of the importance of school community (photos above).

"It has been a wonderful

occasion celebrating the official opening of the Ferriby Building. I've been really fortunate to be involved in the process right from the start. We have agonised over certain decisions, but I think we all agree the attention to detail has really paid off. We've got a beautiful new building that will definitely inspire future generations. Staff know how fortunate they are to work in a building like this. Absolutely everybody is delighted." said Ms Blackledge.

Click [here](#) to view a video made by Helix CMS.



YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

Thursday 25 September

This year we decided to invite both Year 5 and Year 6 pupils to our Open Evening which was well received by several of the Year 5 parents, giving them an extra opportunity to visit what may become their secondary school and become familiar with the surroundings. We thank all 1100+ visitors for taking their time to visit the school; we hope you and your child enjoyed it and hope to see you return in September 2026.

On the evening, there was a great buzz around school, with over 200 students

helping out with tours, talks or with subjects, it gave the best endorsement of what South Hunsley has to offer and a glimpse into our curriculum, school community and facilities.

Our Headteacher Ms Blackledge held four talks in Riding Hall along with our Head Students and some Year 7 pupils who spoke about their own experiences.

Each subject area had demonstrations for visitors to take part in, including science experiments, rock climbing, quizzes and treasure hunts. There were

also support stands in The Hub such as Wellbeing, Buswise, Uniform, Allocation Criteria, Selfie Pod and our Macmillan Bake Sale. Thank you to everyone who bought or baked for the charity.

Overall, the evening was a huge success and would like to thank everyone involved, staff, parents and pupils for showcasing our amazing community.

If there is anyone who couldn't make the Open Evening, please contact [Emma Harrison](#) to arrange a tour.



FLORENCE W

Florence is heavily into motorsport and races go-karts nationally. It's a huge part of her life and is on track most weekends. She races for a team based in Nottingham "Tom Day Racing". She is currently leading the championship and Fulbeck Kart Club along with taking the Winter Championship trophy home as the winner.

**An amazing achievement
Florence keep it up!**

OLIVIA B

Year 9 pupil, Olivia had a busy summer, a week's slalom school in France, paddling with friends in France for a 2nd week, competing for three days in the Peak UK challenge (5th down river, 3rd slalom, 1st kayak cross, 2nd overall in u18 women), racing at Cardington Slalom, as well as working as a tennis leader and somehow fitted in some ballet and squash also.

**Keep up the hard work
Olivia, we are really proud
of your results.**



ELEANOR E-H

Firstly, Eleanor played in the Humber Junior Squash Academy (HJSA) and South Hunsley School Autumn Invitational Competition and finished 3rd in her group, playing boys, several years her senior and size!

Eleanor also played in the Yorkshire Junior County Closed competition in the girls U13 and U15 age category. Eleanor was crowned number 1 girl in Yorkshire for U13 and U15, a massive achievement and she is currently ranked 4th U13 girl in England.

**Well done Eleanor, such a
star in the making.**



HOLLY S & MILA T

Year 8 pupil, Holly S and Mila T are both athletes from Kingston Upon Hull Athletics Club. They'd like to share their athletics achievements from a recent county event, where they were selected from athletes across the county to represent the Humber team.

Holly S is a keen high jumper and at the county event she jumped a brilliant 1.40m which meant she matched the county record height for U13 girls, which has not been matched or broken for 22 years! (set in 2003).

Mila T is a sprinter and long jumper and at the county event she jumped a fantastic 4.64m, breaking the U13 girls county record that was also set 22 years ago in 2003! At the same event she also broke the U13 girls 150m sprint county record with a fast time of 20.43 sec!



THINK MENTAL HEALTH

Monday 6 October

As part of Wellbeing Week, Think Mental Health came to talk to our students to provide awareness of mental health. As part of this, we are also promoting our own Simmo's Circle Male Group, to reduce the stigma of mental health within men.

MATHEMATICAL COMPETITION FOR GIRLS

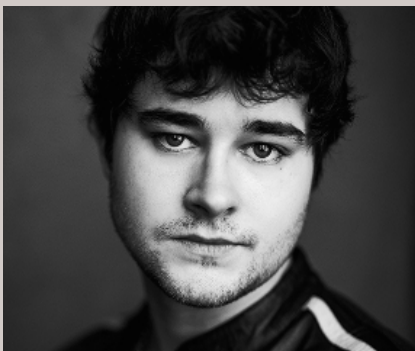
Thursday 9 October

We entered seven of our KS5 Further Maths students for the Mathematical Competition for Girls. This was the first year that this very challenging competition has run. An example of the difficulty is question 1 part c asked them for the fourth root of 16096216216081 - this is a non-calculator paper!

Diya G in Year 12 got the highest in the school and comfortably achieved a distinction (top 25% nationally of a very talented pool attempting this paper). Year 13 student, Emily C also got a distinction, and Year 13 student, Erin S received a merit, along with Hannah M, Jess D and Maya B who all got merits for their performances. On 9 October they took the Senior Maths Challenge, along with some of the Year 12 and 13 maths cohort.



SIXTH FORM ALUMNI



Dean Makowski-Clayton

After leaving Sixth Form Dean attended Mountview. With several theatre appearance under his belt, Dean has been cast as Irv Ravitz and ensemble in the West End show 'The Devil Wears Prada', Dean said "He would like to thank his family and friends; without whom, he would not be where he is today."



Harvey Young

Harvey left Sixth Form to study Acting for Stage and Screen and has recently been spotted as an extra starring alongside Steve Coogan in *How Are You? It's Alan (Partridge)* on BBC One. He sent a message "London has opened so many opportunities for me and all I can say is thank you for the hard work you put into me to push me to do well and do the right thing. I'm getting there, I really am and maybe my dream might soon come true."



Joe Saunders

Joe has travelled to Milan and Paris during their fashion weeks to model for clothing designers. He has sent several images of his work and looks amazing!





SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Thursday 16 October

Current and prospective students and their families were invited to join us for the South Hunsley Sixth Form Open Evening, which had a great turnout and was a huge success.

The evening started with a Welcome Talk from the Directors of Sixth Form, Mr Jacobs and Mr White, along with the Headteacher Ms Blackledge. Head student Gigi S, also added to the talk about her experiences at South Hunsley.

In The Space and within the Sixth Form building were the different curriculum subjects to choose from,

along with teachers and students to chat with. In addition there were talks from Mrs Barley about the Industry-led Curriculum and Mrs Woodhouse on the Aspire Medical Pathway. All talks were well attended and many asked questions afterwards too.

We would like to thank all those involved in this event, including the support staff,

teachers and students alike who gave up their time to make it happen.

If you missed this event and would still like to look around our Sixth Form, please come to our Additional Sixth Form Evening and Careers Fair on Thursday 27 November. Watch our social pages @HunsleySixth for further information and tickets.

HELIX CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP

My name is Joshua Ellis. I was a student at South Hunsley Sixth Form and throughout my two years here, I studied BTEC Sport and Criminology, as I was really interested in both subjects. I set my levels high so I could achieve as much success as possible in my A-Levels.

During this time, South Hunsley helped with my critical thinking, such as how to apply information and not to just memorize it, my social development, including my communication skills and my teamwork. Now, I have applied these to the workplace. Finally, I believe Personal Development helped my confidence, responsibility and resilience. It taught me to never give up on tasks and to be confident in front of others and to set a good example.

My apprenticeship with Helix CMS involved a lot of research and preparation. I knew construction was the career for me as it has always interested me, and I enjoy seeing different projects from start to finish. I knew that they had a project on South Hunsley grounds and were constructing the new Ferriby building. Therefore, in my own time, I researched the company and found out they were the right company for me. I emailed Beth Bellingham, the Business Development Manager, and told her about my aspirations. I was thrilled when Beth offered me a two-week work experience.

I found the work experience very enjoyable and it has confirmed that this is the career I want. I worked with the Senior Quantity Surveyor, Paul Saunders, who taught me how to apply Excel formulas to correctly certify subcontractor's payment applications and cost items such as flooring and mastic. I visited Ferriby and learnt about different procedures to follow for a building to be completed successfully. Overall, the work experience went well, and I am very thankful for the opportunity.

I have received a warm welcome since starting my apprenticeship, including from Ross Bellingham, the Commercial Director, who has made me feel part of Helix CMS. I have developed new skills, understand how a professional environment works, and contribute to real projects. The team is supportive and welcoming, making it easier to settle in and ask questions. I love seeing how different departments work together and how my role fits into the bigger picture. Overall, it's been a positive and valuable start to my journey here.



Beth Bellingham, Business Development Manager said,

"We were initially impressed with Josh's proactive approach in reaching out to us directly. First we offered CV and skills mentoring; Josh was responsive and active in taking on board feedback and quickly improved his CV. On the back of sending over his CV to the Directors, we offered Josh a two-week work experience."

"During this time, we explored career paths and assessed Josh's skills and interests. At a formal interview, Josh was well prepared and impressed the team with his knowledge and confidence. Helix have not previously offered apprenticeships, but he had a great foundation for working with us."

"Since joining, Josh has been an active part of the team. We are excited to have a Construction Management Apprentice, and the value Josh will offer supporting all areas of the business."

Well done Josh, we are so proud of your achievements.



CAREERS FAIR

Thursday 27 November

We're excited to announce our Careers Fair is taking place on Thursday 27 November! This is running alongside the Year 9 Options Evening and Additional Sixth Form Evening and will hopefully help pupils to make decisions on their future plans.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore their future pathways, meet employers, and learn more about further and higher education options.

The event will feature a wide range of local colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers, and employers from various industries across our region. Whether students are considering sixth form, college, university, or entering the world of work, there's something for everyone!

EVENT SCHEDULE

3.00pm - 4.15pm	Year 9, 10 & 11	Quiet Session – <i>Invitation only</i>
4.15pm - 5.30pm	Year 12 & 13	Post-16 and Post-18 Progression Opportunities
5.30pm onwards	Year 9 & 11	Open to all students attending the Sixth Form and Options Evening

Tickets will be available to book on Eventbrite for each session and you will be sent further information in due course. We look forward to seeing students and families there to explore the exciting opportunities that await beyond school!



RESTART A HEART DAY

Thursday 16 October

Our Year 7 students took part in Restart a Heart Day, an important national event aimed at teaching young people lifesaving CPR skills.

Throughout the day, students were guided by professionals from the Fire Service, NHS paramedics and local doctors who generously gave their time to demonstrate how to recognise a cardiac arrest, call for help, and perform effective CPR.

The hands-on sessions gave every Year 7 student the chance to practise chest compressions and understand how quick action can make a real difference in an emergency.

We are incredibly grateful to our visiting volunteers for inspiring our students and helping them develop the confidence to save a life.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October

Throughout the month, we proudly celebrated Black History Month through a range of engaging and inspiring activities including music from iconic Black singers and artists being played on the bell tannoy during movement time, showcasing Black musicians across generations. In the library, special displays have highlighted books by Black writers and authors, encouraging students to explore diverse voices and stories that have shaped literature and culture and have also been shown on the screens on site.

Across the curriculum, students have been learning about key Black figures from influential leaders and activists to scientists, artists, and athletes. The celebrations also included a live BHM assembly, featuring student performances and reflections, as well as form time resources that have helped students discuss important themes such as identity, equality, and representation.

Together, these activities have created a powerful celebration of Black history, culture, and achievement, helping our whole school community reflect, learn and be inspired.

HALF TERM VISITS

We hope all the students on visits in October half term have a great time. Year 7 and 8 pupils are going to Inter Milan and our Sixth Form students are visiting New York. We hope they have a fantastic time and make memories that will last a lifetime.



BUILDING OUR SCHOOL'S LEGACY

Thursday 25 September

The beginning of the new school year has come and gone, meaning a new, wonderful set of aspiring students have now joined our school community in Year 7. However, it is crucial that we are constantly building the future legacy of our school and therefore one of our most important events of the year is our Year 6 Open Evening.

On the evening, a countless number of pupils and staff members welcomed Year 5 and 6 pupils from all across the area. Booths of information and creative games were set up in a multitude of classrooms all around the school, giving these curious future students a chance to dive straight in and see all the infinite opportunities that South Hunsley has to offer. Talks from the heads of the school were easily accessible on a frequent rota. Helpers were littered on every corner ready to lend a helping hand. And, evoking a buzz that the most famous of tourist attractions would envy were all our sports' and arts' facilities. Our variety of which spanned from our towering rock-climbing wall to our sparkling dance studio.

However, just like how author Jim Butcher said 'a house does not make a home'; pamphlets, power points and pristine learning spaces don't make up our school. Instead, the heart of South Hunsley lies within us pupils, the teachers and the interconnection between us all. Therefore, the discussions of utmost enthusiasm that were had between parents, youngsters and us volunteers were what truly made this opening evening so enticing and successful for everyone involved. It really was utterly heart-warming to witness such an immense sense of admiration for the school. The passion was inescapable, undeniable and infectious. And although the evening's purpose was to welcome the Year 6s,

I am sure I can speak for everyone when I say that the experience was just as special for us current students. It gifted us a chance to bond with our peers, whether it was through setting up a sign alongside another pupil or ricocheting off one another's charisma and knowledge when speaking to a parent or Year 6.

Overall, our sense of school community really shone through. And, therefore, at the end of the night, the Year 6s walked away with their stomachs content with delicious baked goods, their minds filled with gripping new information and most of importantly, their hearts blanketed with hopeful anticipation for the future.

by Georgina Hall

Welcome to our Inspiring Reading news page. At South Hunsley, we recognise the importance of reading in improving life chances for young people. We share our love of reading through promoting a culture of reading, providing students with access to a range of texts in all subjects and supporting students who struggle with reading with interventions and in class support. We aim to develop independent readers who have a good understanding of texts - both fiction and non-fiction.

The purpose of this page is to provide practical support for parents to support students with reading outside of school.

Where can we access quality texts?

- School or community libraries not only offer free access to books, but they often also have audio books and e-books that your child could borrow.
- Book shops provide a chance for your child to browse and purchase books with support from the staff, if they wish. Some book shops will have review cards dotted around with some of their top-picks too.

- Audio books can be purchased from devices, including phones, as well as on CDs or borrowed from a library

How can I support my child with reading?

- Help your child to be proactive in their wider reading. For example, if they are covering World War II, explore age appropriate texts on this through poetry, online articles or novels. You can find what your child is studying in the curriculum section on our [website](#).

- Find a quiet space and time during the day/week where your child can regularly read alone or with you.
- Take an interest in what they're reading and studying at school by reading around topics as well so that you can engage in discussion about their texts/ areas of learning, whilst modelling an interest in reading.



Interview with Zak W

We are very excited to share the news that Year 8 pupil, Zak W, has had his poetry book published. He was also listed in the 85 commended Foyle Young Poets of the Year. We interviewed him to find more about his book *Dreampoet* and his love of reading.

How did you get into poetry?

"I've always had a fascination with literature. I entered a Christmas poetry competition in school and came 3rd place."

What is your book about?

"Dreampoet is a collection of 25 poems. I've created a surrealist world through poems, where the feeling of having a dream

is sucked out of your mind and put into words."

Why is reading so important to you?

"Reading inspires me in so many ways. It ignites a spark to explore and understand creativity and words. Poetry is beautiful because it can be interpreted in different ways."

It can bring people together by bringing them apart."

Which books inspired you?

"Night Sky with Exit Wounds and The Great Gatsby."

Do you plan to write more?

"Yes I do, watch this space!"

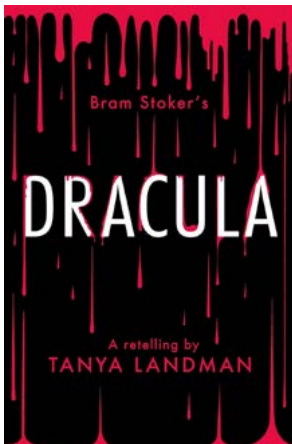
Zak's book is available to buy on Amazon, [click here](#)

THIS HALF TERM'S RECOMMENDED READING



Dracula - A retelling

by Tanya Landman



Bram Stoker's Dracula is a masterpiece of horror fiction in which he creates a nightmarish world of vampires, evil-doing and insanity.

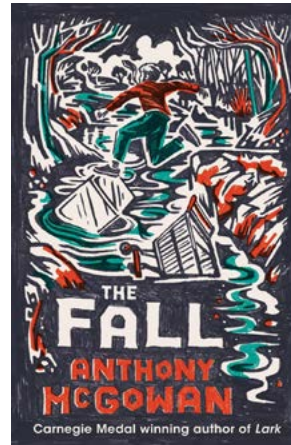
A ship steered by a dead man... A huge black dog springing from its deck... A girl, sleepwalking towards disaster...

When rising young solicitor Jonathan Harker helps the

mysterious and sinister Count Dracula purchase property in London he unleashes an evil that threatens to destroy the whole of humanity.

The Fall

by Anthony McGowan



Jealousy drives Mog to make a terrible mistake in this tragic and gritty tale of betrayal, expertly executed by the Carnegie Medal winning author Anthony McGowan. Mog might be a loser, but he's not as much of a loser as Duffy, poster child for victims everywhere. So he's not best pleased when Duffy tries to get in with his best mate. Mog decides to take

action, but when he lands Duffy in the beck, a rancid stream behind the school, he has no idea how far the ripples will spread...

DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY



Dance of Resistance

by Catherine Johnson



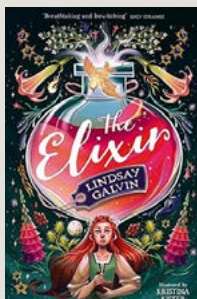
Dancer, singer, actress, movie star, civil-rights activist – Josephine Baker was a phenomenon! Overcoming the poverty and abuse of

her childhood in a segregated America, Josephine grew up to become one of the biggest stars of the early 20th century, particularly adored in her adopted country of France. She used her connections to help the Resistance in their fight against the Nazis during the Second World War and later became involved with Martin Luther King Jr and the civil rights movement in the US. Controversial and outspoken, she is an iconic historical figure and Catherine Johnson brings her story vividly to life for a young audience.



The Elixir

by Lindsay Galvin



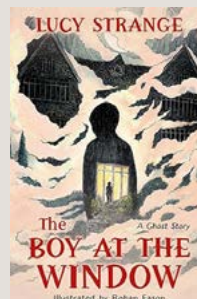
Ann Storer has inherited her grandmother's mysterious gift of healing, which she shares through the special tinctures she dispenses in her

family's apothecary shop. When she combines her talents with the genius of a young Isaac Newton, recently arrived to board above the shop, the two create an incredible elixir with seemingly unlimited powers. But seventeenth-century England is a dangerous place to display any special abilities, and Ann must hide all evidence when witchfinder Abel Geach arrives in town.



The Boy at the Window

by Lucy Strange



Folk say the fog plays tricks – that it shapes itself into little hands and frightened faces that press at people's doors and windows, desperate

to come inside. But Hugo is convinced the ghost he has seen at the window is no trick of the fog. The boy's hollow eyes are haunting him. What would happen if Hugo were to open the door and let him in? Brace yourselves for a chilling, wintery ghost story...

GCSE INFORMATION SUPPORT EVENING

Thursday 9 October

The start of the academic year begins by preparing our Year 11 pupils for their upcoming GCSEs and we would like to thank all parents/carers who came along to our GCSE Support Evening in Riding Hall to help support your child within this period.

The evening started by sharing our GCSE outcomes and explaining how proud we are of the pupils. These come from relationships between school, students and parents, quality first teaching, assessing gaps through retrieval practice, sharing quality online resources and preparation in school and at home.

The event served to inform the most successful ways to support the child whilst they undertake their GCSEs, including importance of planning, independent learning, revision, exam technique, answer structure and the biggest single contributor to success - attendance.

Family involvement during this crucial time can make a big difference, with successful students often talking of the importance of a 'team effort'. This could also involve an online platform, GCSE Pod which helps pupils achieve 1.5 grades higher. As well as academic advice, information was given with support available, especially for those feeling stressed.

Our careers team also explained what is available to them in Year 11, helping with their next steps after South Hunsley School.

If you would like to view the slides from the evening, please click [here](#).

YEAR 7 SETTLING IN EVENING

Thursday 9 October

Thank you to all parents and carers who came along to the Settling In Evening for our new Year 7s.

We hope it was informative and put your mind at rest by getting to know your child's tutor hearing how well your child has settled in.

If you need to talk to someone about your child, please get in touch with Mrs Dale (Head of Year 7) or Mrs Upton (Assistant Head of Year 7).

PROGRESS EVENINGS

Please note progress evenings this academic year will be a mixture of face-to-face and online appointments.

We have listened to feedback and are trialing a move back to face-to-face evenings in Years 8 and 11.

Appointment times will be the same whether the event is online or face-to-face.

Year 10 Progress Evenings in November will be online and communications will be sent out shortly.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Termly Update

All parents/carers should have received a Curriculum Overview for their child, showcasing the various topics that they will be learning in each subject. Please click on the links below to access the documents per year group.

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9

Year 10

Year 11

CURRICULUM SPOTLIGHT: MATHEMATICS

**“Pure mathematics is, in its way,
the poetry of logical ideas.” – ALBERT EINSTEIN**

Mathematics is far more than a collection of formulas and calculations — it is a language of logic, resilience and discovery. Through Mathematics, our students learn to reason, to recognise patterns, solve problems and build mathematical fluency.

At South Hunsley, we are passionate about developing confident, independent thinkers who can apply their mathematical knowledge to a wide range of contexts. From Year 7 onwards, students are encouraged to see Mathematics as an interconnected subject — one that builds systematically from essential number and algebraic fluency towards more advanced problem-solving and reasoning.

In **Years 7 and 8**, students benefit from a dedicated weekly problem-solving lesson, giving them the opportunity to explore rich tasks, mathematical puzzles and apply their knowledge to unfamiliar scenarios. These lessons help students to think flexibly, work collaboratively, and develop perseverance — vital skills for success not just in Mathematics, but across all areas of learning. Alongside this, students study key topics such as number, algebra, ratio and proportion, geometry, and

data handling, building the strong conceptual foundation needed for GCSE and beyond.

As students progress into **Key Stage 4**, they deepen their understanding of more complex areas including quadratics, trigonometry, probability, and statistics, while continuing to refine their reasoning and communication skills. Lessons emphasise not only how to approach and solve problems, but also why particular methods work — helping students to appreciate the logic, structure and complex problem solving within Mathematics itself.

Enrichment opportunities

like the UKMT Maths Challenge further inspire students to think creatively and stretch beyond the classroom. After half term, a new lunchtime Maths Club will be launched, run by a small group of enthusiastic Year 12 students. This will be open to Year 9 and Year 10 students on a Monday lunchtime, the

club will offer a fun and supportive environment to tackle challenging questions in preparation for the Intermediate Maths Challenge — details to be shared after the break!

Post-16, we offer a strong and varied Mathematics pathway, including A Level Mathematics, A Level Further Mathematics, and Core Maths (AQA). These courses allow students to extend their analytical skills, explore the applications of Maths in other fields, and prepare for a wide range of future academic and career opportunities — from engineering and economics to computer science and the social sciences.

Mathematics is about more than numbers. It is about curiosity, perseverance and the satisfaction of discovery. Every problem solved brings our students one step closer to understanding not only Mathematics itself, but the patterns and principles that shape the world around them.

SCHOOLCYCLED

At EcoHunsley we love to recycle and have fun, so we have decided to join Hunsley Primary on their way of recycling: SchoolCycled. They collect bottle caps in their lessons and sent them to SchoolCycled so they can be recycled in other things, such as chairs and benches. We want help them with this, so throughout our Years 7 and 8 forms we are in a competition. Each form will collect plastic bottle tops in each collection period (every fortnight). Then whichever forms collects the most bottle tops at selected collection periods gets prizes for the whole form (sweets and chocolates). So, everybody let's get ready and RECYCLE!

By Thomas L-W Year 7



CYCLE TO SCHOOL WEEK

Monday 13 - Friday 17 October

Last week it was cycle to school week, we shared the impacts of cycling to school on posters around the school, these included improving mental wellbeing and physical health. To celebrate the week, anybody that cycled to school on Monday, Wednesday or Friday were put into a prize draw to win vouchers and biking accessories. We had a lot of students coming to school on their bikes, despite the chilly weather. The lucky winners were picked out of a hat and claimed their prizes the last Friday of term.



HALLOWEEN PUMPKINS

Halloween is coming up soon and that means that people will be carving pumpkins, but what should you do with them after Halloween?

The answer is not to leave them in a woodland/ grass verge for animals to eat as some people may think. Pumpkins, whilst not toxic to woodland animals, can be harmful especially to hedgehogs. If left, they also decompose which could lead to an increase in rats in the area. There are two options that can be taken. One is to cut up

the pumpkin into smaller chunks and place in your food waste bin and compost it. The other option is that it can be used for birds. Birds love pumpkin and the seeds, so it can be cut and hung up from trees. If doing this, you would need to remove it once it starts to decompose and then place it in the compost bin.



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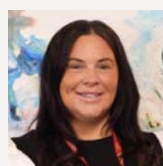
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EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLES

The extra-curricular timetable has now been updated for all the activities we have to offer.

There are two timetables, one for the Sixth Form and one for the School.

Click [here](#) to view the PDF for further information.



FLU IMMUNISATION

Click [here](#) to consent to your child's flu immunisation, either yes or no. These are happening on the first day back.



2025

UPCOMING
EVENTS**Calendar**

Click to view our school calendar.

**Food Menus**

Click to view our food menus for the upcoming term.

NOVEMBER

MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER

Half Term Starts

Year 7-11 Flu Immunisations

**MONDAY 3 - SATURDAY 8
NOVEMBER**

Green Careers Week

**MONDAY 3 - TUESDAY 18
NOVEMBER**

Speaking Mock Exams

THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBERYear 10 Progress Evening
(A Half)**SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER**

STEM Day

**MONDAY 10 - FRIDAY 14
NOVEMBER**

Anti-bullying Week

TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

Remembrance Day

WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBERYear 10 Progress Evening
(B Half)**FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER**

Children in Need

THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER

Year 9 Options Evening

Additional Sixth Form
Evening

Careers Fair

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER

St Andrew's Day

DECEMBER

MONDAY 1 DECEMBER

Year 7-11 Flu Immunisations

MONDAY 8 DECEMBER

Year 7-11 Flu Immunisations

WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER

Human Rights Day

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER

Hanukkah

THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER

Last day of term

THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER

Christmas Day

JANUARY

MONDAY 5 JANUARY

Training Day

TUESDAY 5 JANUARY

Terms Starts

SUNDAY 18 JANUARY

World Religion Day

TUESDAY 27 JANUARY

Holocaust Memorial Day

Dates correct at time of print and can change without prior notice

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