

January 2025

SCHOOL YEAR 2024/25 NEWSLETTER NO. 3

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all and I hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break.

Students returned to school on 6th January and have made an extremely positive start to their studies. I have spoken in a number of assemblies recently and my theme for all students has been "Making New Memories". I reminded them of the hard work they need to put in over the coming weeks and months so that they can truly achieve their full potential, and of the values that are so important to us here at Prince Henry's ([a link can be found here](#)). I would like to thank you as parents/carers for your continued support in upholding Prince Henry's high standards – it makes a significant difference and is much appreciated. Wearing the correct uniform, being punctual, having good attendance, bringing in the necessary equipment and completing homework and revision all have a real impact on learning.

We enjoyed an excellent end to last term, culminating in a wonderful [Christmas Concert](#). On 6th December, we also were treated to a fantastic evening of live music from our students at the [Drop the Mic event](#), organised by Interact. This raised almost £1,350 for charity, and I would like to thank Mrs Taylor and all the other colleagues and students who worked so hard to make it such a successful occasion. Congratulations too, to Year 9 students, who raised £78 at their [Christmas Fayre](#).

Earlier in the term, the school community joined together on 11th November for its customary Act of Remembrance, and our Head Students laid a wreath at the war memorial in Evesham on [Remembrance Sunday](#). During the second half of last term, students were able to enjoy a range of trips and other extra-curricular activities. These included the Sixth Form visit to [Birmingham's German Christmas Market](#); various theatre trips; Art and English trips to London; a Local [Democracy Day](#) for some Year 9 students; visits to Oxford and [Cambridge Universities](#) for some Sixth Form students; as well as an Advent Concert held jointly with students from other local schools at All Saints Church in Evesham. It was also a pleasure to recognise the achievements of students from all year groups at [Rewards Assemblies](#), and to meet some Year 10, 11 and Sixth Form students at recent [Rewards Tea Parties](#). Rehearsals are also well under way for our production of 'Guys and Dolls' that will be performed in February. Last term we enjoyed a series of [breakfasts with Year 11 students](#) in the Sixth Form Common Room, and we are now doing the same with our Year 9 students, as they prepare to make their GCSE option choices.



REWARDS ASSEMBLIES



GERMAN MARKET TRIP



ACT OF REMEMBRANCE



REWARDS TEA PARTY



A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

DROP THE MIC

In December we heard the very sad news that two former and longstanding members of teaching staff had passed away. [Mrs Veronica Most](#), who served as Head of Year, Assistant Headteacher and Teacher of Food Technology, taught at Prince Henry's for 29 years from 1982 until her retirement in 2011. [Mr Ross Garratt](#) joined the school as Deputy Headteacher (as well as teaching English) in 1984, retiring in 2003. Both Veronica and Ross were highly respected colleagues, who embodied all the values that are so important to us at Prince Henry's. Our thoughts are with both of their families and their many friends.

Staff Update

At the end of last term, we said goodbye to Mrs Thomas, Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Thomas had been a student at Prince Henry's and returned to the school as a Maths Teacher in 2005. Having been a Head of Year and, since 2015, a member of the Senior Leadership Team she is now looking forward to a well-deserved retirement.

At Christmas we also said farewell to another longstanding and highly regarded teaching colleague. Ms Maurice has been a Teacher of English (as well as Drama and Film Studies) at Prince Henry's for 21 years and we wish her every success for the future. Mr Smith and Mrs Riley have joined the English Department for the Spring Term.

Mrs Lancaster has just started her maternity leave, and Mrs Weller will be taking on additional responsibilities as Acting Head of Psychology.

Last term we also welcomed Miss Riley as a new member of our Reception and Administration Team, and Miss Dillow, who has joined us as a new Learning Support Assistant.

As a result of Mrs Thomas's retirement, a number of changes have been made to the school's Leadership Team. Mrs Couliou, Mrs Fisher and Miss Marcham have all been promoted to Assistant Headteacher, with Mrs Couliou and Mrs Fisher retaining their respective roles as Head of Modern Languages and Science.

Mr King (Head of Year 10), Mr Roleston (Head of Year 9) and Mrs Summers (Head of Mathematics) have all been promoted to Senior Teacher. I am sure you will wish to join me in congratulating these colleagues and wishing them every success in their new and enhanced roles

Severe Weather

I did write to you last week in relation to the local flooding and, with the potential for inclement weather at this time of year, please see the "[Severe Weather and Emergency Closure Procedure](#)" page in the Information area of our website for details of the procedure in the event of the school having to close due to severe weather.



Please may I also take this opportunity to ask for your support in stressing to your children the [dangers of playing near cold water or stepping on ice during periods of cold weather](#).

Contacting the School

I would like to remind parents/carers that all routine enquiries and information about your child should be conducted through the Form Tutor. For more serious matters please try to contact the relevant Year Head, Deputy Year Head or Assistant Deputy Year Head as listed below:

	Year Head	Deputy Year Head	Assistant Deputy Year Head
Year 9	Mr L Roleston	Miss C Rimell Miss K Smedley	Mr B Pigott
Year 10	Mr J King	Mrs H Miles Mr S Heafield	Miss L Woodman
Year 11	Mr T Cooper	Mr M Cain Mrs L Weller Mr C Loader	
Sixth Form	Mrs C Webb	Mr J Martin	Mr T Pilling Mr B Bornoff Mrs K Mifflin Mrs H Oldham Mrs G Pearce
Learning Support / SEND	Mrs S Nolan	Miss C Park	Miss H Banfield
Student Wellbeing Lead	Mrs S Thorner		

For the occasional issue that can't be dealt with by the relevant Head of Year or Head of Department, you may also contact members of the school's Senior Leadership Team, whose responsibilities include:

Mr B Freeman, Snr Deputy Head	: Pastoral issues, Safeguarding
Mrs A Lungley, Deputy Head	: Curriculum, Teaching & Learning, Reports, Data & Assessment
Mrs N Barker, Deputy Head	: Alternative Provision, Press Officer
Mr A Duffy, Assistant Head	: Teacher Training Programmes
Mrs C Webb, Assistant Head	: Sixth Form, Careers & Enterprise
Mrs D Couliou, Assistant Head	: MFL, NACE, Pupil Admissions, Literacy across the Curriculum
Mrs C Fisher, Assistant Head	: Science, Teaching & Learning, CPD, Marking & Monitoring
Miss T Marcham, Assistant Head	: School Transport, Timetable & School Trips
Mr A Hulse, Operations Manager	: Site Management, Data Protection Officer
Mr M Brunt, Finance Director	: School finance

Please bear in mind that my colleagues have many commitments and that they are not always immediately available to deal with enquiries, although they will do their best to get back to you as soon as possible. If you contact the school to discuss a pastoral matter and your child's Year Head is not available, you will be put through to Mrs Davey who acts as the school's Pastoral Secretary for Years 9-11. She will ensure that your enquiry is passed on to the relevant Head of Year and that it is followed up as soon as possible. Parents/carers who wish to see a teacher are asked to make an appointment in advance.

In case we need to contact you please keep us updated with any change of address and/or telephone numbers and any change to home circumstances. We have a legal responsibility to ensure that the personal data we hold about you and our students is correct. Updating us with regard to any changes in a timely fashion ensures that you will not miss any important communications from the school.

Curriculum Information

The Curriculum area of the school website contains a wealth of information for students, parents and carers regarding the course content for each subject, broken down by year group. On each subject page, you will find links to information about homework; the curriculum and curriculum map (the order in which topics will be taught during the academic year); and the learning journey from Years 9 to 11. Each subject page also includes links to a wide range of additional resources, including exam boards, PHHS Live and subject-specific external websites.

Year 9 Options

Shortly, Year 9 students will be choosing options to study for GCSE. Just as a guide to parents/carers, students will study their Core Subjects of Maths, English, Science, Citizenship, PSHRE and Core PE and the vast majority of students will study a Modern Foreign Language to GCSE. They will also study a Humanities subject along with their option choices to ensure their curriculum is broad and balanced.

Internet Safety

Whilst the internet provides many positive benefits for children, both with widening their education and keeping in touch with friends, it is a sad fact that, with young people spending increasing amounts of time online, there are enhanced opportunities for predators to exploit them via social media and/or the internet. With this in mind, I want to share some important information about support for parents and carers on assisting your child in navigating the internet safely.

There are many organisations providing detailed information on a range of topics in this area such as talking to your child about online safety, the risks of online games, livestreaming and parental controls, sexting and video apps.

If your child experiences any difficulties whilst using the Internet there are organisations that can offer support. The [Online Safety area](#) of the school website, found within the Health & Wellbeing area, contains links to a wide range of parental guides, useful organisations and other resources.

The Health & Wellbeing area of our website also includes links to resources and contact details for some useful [sources of external support for parents and carers](#) as well as [resources for students](#) on topics such as Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Finally, please reassure your child that it is never the child's fault if they encounter abuse online. It is the responsibility of the adult or other child who is acting irresponsibly or breaking the law.

Home School Agreement & Expectations

Please may I draw your attention to our [Home School Agreement & Expectations](#). The Agreement encapsulates the values and ethos that shape the whole Prince Henry's community and summarises the expectations (including school rules) for students, parents/carers and the school itself in order to meet those values

Attendance

Please remember that if your child is unwell and either unable to attend school or engage in remote learning, our normal absence procedures apply. Please ring the school on 01386 765588 between 8.30 - 9.15 am. This is in line with government policy to notify parents/carers of unexplained absences and is aimed at safeguarding students.

Dedicated attendance line- message on the answer phone

Option 1 - Reporting your child's absence in Years 9 -11

Option 2 - Sixth Form issues including reporting absence

Please leave details of your child's name and tutor group and the reason for their absence.

Prince Henry's and South Worcestershire SCITT (Initial Teacher Training)

Do you want to have a positive impact on a young person's education? Do you want to inspire the next generation of doctors, engineers or mathematicians? We have trained over 100 teachers in the last 8 years and if you have answered yes to any of the questions above, then we are continuing to offer outstanding School-Led Initial Teacher Training courses in partnership with Arthur Terry SCITT in the following subjects, some of which include a tax-free Bursary to support your training:

Maths	Training Bursary £29,000
Biology	Training Bursary £26,000
Chemistry	Training Bursary £29,000
Physics	Training Bursary £26,000
History	N/A
Geography	Training Bursary £26,000
English	Training Bursary £5,000
Physical Education	N/A

Modern Foreign Languages Training Bursary £26,000

If you require any further information then please see <https://www.teachwithprincehenrys.co.uk/apply/> or email us at teachingschool@princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk.

PHHS Interact

During the second half of last term, Interact was able to raise almost £1,350 from their Drop the Mic Event, which, in addition to money raised from cake sales, a Halloween quiz and a non-uniform day, has given a year to date total in excess of £2,500 raised. Interactors worked hard to put on the Drop the Mic evening event, which was very successful due to the huge team effort involved. The proceeds will go to this year's chosen charities – The Daisy Chain Benevolent Fund and The Washing Machine Project. In November, more than 58 shoeboxes were filled with gifts and essentials. In December, a vegetable collection was organised to support the Caring Hands Diner in Evesham. This was gratefully received when Interactors from the Sixth Form delivered the vegetables and groceries that had been collected.



Diary Dates

Thursday 9th January
 Sat 11th – Sat 18th January
 Wednesday 22nd January
 Wed 5th – Sat 8th Feb
 Friday 14th February
 17th – 21st February
 Monday 24th February
 24th – 28th February
 Wednesday 26th February
 Sun 2nd – Sat 8th March
 Thursday 6th March
 10th – 21st March
 Wednesday 19th March
 Sat 5th – Fri 11th April
 Mon 7th – Fri 11th April
 Friday 11th April
 14th – 25th April
 Monday 28th April

Year 12 Parents'/Carers' Evening – 4.30-7.30pm – in person
 Ski Trip to Italy
 Year 10 Parents'/Carers' Evening - 4.30-7.30pm – in person
 'Guys and Dolls' – The Henrician Theatre
 TED Day – School closed to students
 Half-term
 Term re-starts (Week 2)
 Year 13 internal assessments
 Year 9 Parents'/Carers' Evening – 4.30-7.30pm – in person
 Sixth Form New York Trip
 Year 11 Parents'/Carers' Evening – 4.30-7.30pm – online
 Year 11 internal assessments
 Year 13 Parents'/Carers' Evening – 4.30-7.30pm – online
 Year 10 History trip to Berlin
 Sports Tour
 End of Term for students – 3.35pm
 Easter holidays
 Start of term (Week 1)

Thank you for your continued support

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Dr A Evans
Headteacher