



Huxlow Academy

Ambition • Respect • Pride

Our Ref: PLE/KHU/HTLet

Date: 19th June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

It was with a great deal of emotion and celebration that we said farewell to our Year 11 students on Tuesday. As I have shared previously, this group of students have really risen to the challenge in the build up to and during the exam season this year. The year group have really become a supportive and focussed group and the leavers assembly celebrated the many memories they have of the time spent together over the last 5 years. They have faced many challenges, including Covid and have become a wonderful group of young adults. We look forward to seeing them during their final few exams, at the Prom and also on results day.

Exam season continues as Year 10 undertake some Mock exams next week. These will be crucial in identifying areas to focus on next year as they become Year 11 and we start the build up to their final assessments.

As one year group leaves us, we have started welcoming the new Year 6 students that will join us in September. I thoroughly enjoyed visits to Finedon and Irthlingborough Junior School to meet them last week. We outlined the plans for the upcoming transition days and some of our Year 7 Transition Ambassadors answered questions to reassure them about the move to Huxlow and how much they had enjoyed their first year with us.

I would like to commend all our students and staff on how they handled the short heat wave last week. Despite the warmth they continued to ensure valuable learning was taking place across the school. As the temperatures have now returned to more bearable levels, please ensure that the usual uniform expectations are followed unless otherwise informed.

We were very pleased to open 'The Pod in the Quad' to sell a selection of items available in the canteen. This new servery will reduce some of the queuing times in the canteen which meant some students were reluctant to purchase meals. The replacement of the warm food counter has also enabled Aspens to offer a wider main meal selection every day. Coupled with the more formal dining hall setup and table games available in the hall we are continuing to enhance the lunchtime experience for everyone.

In the sporting arena, Huxlow have won three District Tournaments in one week. Miss Donald's Year 9 & 10 Rounders Team won their competition and will now represent East Northants at the County Schools Games. Mr O'Connor's Year 7 & 8 Softball Team won their first District Competition, and his Year 10 Softball Team won their District competition and will also go to the County School Games - A great week for our school! Mrs Letts also has a very talented Year 9 Dance squad at the County School Games, which is the most teams we've had representing Huxlow in four years!

Other winners last week included our intrepid Warhammer players who visited Warhammer World in Nottingham and competed with other schools. Congratulations to Max P who came 1st for best painted models, Viktor gained 2nd for best painted models, Jack L achieved 2nd overall in battles and Max P was 3rd overall in battles. The students had a great time and were commended for their behaviour and respect to those organising the event. Mrs Holmes enables this group to meet and if any other students wish to join please let her know to find out times and locations.

It is testament to our staff that we have over 30 trips, fixtures and visits arranged between now and the end of term. Last week saw visits to Silverstone and the Good Food Show in Birmingham. Every trip entails a large amount of organisation to ensure they go ahead smoothly and safely. I particularly want to thank our Finance team who manage all the payments and Mrs Hughes who oversees the trips as our Educational Visits Coordinator. I would like to make a plea on their behalf to try to avoid last minute changes and late payments as this can increase the workload for the team hugely and they are already very busy undertaking many other tasks to get ready for the end of term and in preparation for September.

Student Leadership continues to grow here at the Academy. It is a key priority to grow and develop our young people into the leaders of the future. We have appointed 11 new Year 10 Prefects, who all received their new Prefect ties in front of the staff last week. We have also trained eight Year 8 Anti-bullying Ambassadors through the Diana Project and alongside Mrs Porter and Miss Finch, their work will grow over the coming term and academic year. There will also be opportunities for other students to be trained in the summer term.

Our student council is thriving, and we have held monthly meetings to discuss key issues and hear the voice of the students through each Form Captain. As well as this, the Sports Leaders have been extremely busy preparing to help with primary school sports days.

We have 40 Transition Ambassadors who have also been working hard, supporting visits to primary schools, and preparing to support with the transition in July. We will continue to grow our body of student leaders and look forward to the opportunities that the future holds.

I am sure you are aware that over the weekend the NEU announced two further strike days to take place on Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July. We have started our planning as to what we can offer on these days, and I will communicate with you as soon as possible regarding which students will be able to attend school, and any impact on events that we have planned for those days. As ever our priority will be ensuring the safety of students and supporting students approaching formal exams in the near future.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours faithfully



Mr Paul Letch
Headteacher