



# Huxlow Academy

Ambition • Respect • Pride

Our Ref: PLE/KHU/HTLet

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please find below another packed letter to let you know what has been happening across our busy Academy over the last week.

On Monday evening I had the immense pleasure of visiting our Duke of Edinburgh students at their campsite after day 1 of the qualification expedition. It was wonderful to see them working together and supporting each other through the tough challenge. All 22 students passed the expedition with flying colours. Chris from Chiltern Adventures said if they added one more night, they would have met the standards for a silver qualifying expedition easily. The adult organisers couldn't praise the students enough. They were all polite, respectful, kind to each other, worked amazingly in their team and showed a high standard of skills throughout the two days. The words 'best group of students they have worked with' was said a few times by Chris and his team, along with 'great ambassadors of the school.' Superb plaudits as Chiltern Adventure work with so many schools from across the country every year.

On Wednesday, Year 7 students visited Space Centre in Leicester. Once again, the students were praised for their exemplary behaviour and engagement on the trip. Our students are so much fun to spend time with every day and having the opportunity to take them to experience the curriculum outside of the school is really beneficial.

We were very excited to hear about the impressive athletics performance of our students at the District Championships, where 1st and 2nd place qualify to represent East Northants District at the County Athletics Championship in Corby on 10th June. Details of the students' impressive achievements are below:

- Huxlow qualified 1st or 2nd in 17 events! (our best performance ever!)
- The students won 10 events!
- Our U15 Boys and U15 Girls won their team competition by scoring most points.
- U17 Girls finished 2nd and U17 Boys finished 3rd in their team comps.
- Year 7 also had great success in the District Championship on Thursday.

Congratulations also goes to three of our Year 8 girls, Ava Robson, Eva Rainsbury and Megan Burke, who play for AFC Rushden and Diamonds under 13s. They won the U13s Cambridge League Cup Final on Saturday 13th May, after being 0-1 down they came back to win 2-1. A fantastic achievement and brilliant end to the season.

On Wednesday evening, Year 10 students went to see Back to the Future at the Shaftesbury Theatre, London and thoroughly enjoyed the show. The life skills learnt around theatre etiquette and the enthusiasm shown for live theatre will really develop the ambition for our next school show and help prepare those who are undertaking music and drama qualifications.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Cerys Ramswell and Lauren Rodaway who represented the school at the recent Talk Out Loud conferences. They then went on to prepare slides and deliver them as part of the assemblies on Mental Health Awareness week. To stand up and present to the whole school over the week and share these important messages so effectively takes real courage and is a superb embodiment of our Huxlow values of Ambition, Respect and Pride.

A plea - We are still providing numerous plastic cups to students who want water during break and lunch. This is a problem due to the expense and also the impact on the environment. Please could we request all you ensure your child has a refillable water bottle after half term. Thank you for your support in this.

A careers fair will be taking place on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Students from Year 8, 10 and 12 will visit the event held in the Sixth Form Centre and have the opportunity to speak to numerous businesses about the exciting roles available in a variety of career sectors. Hopefully this will inspire students in their future career choices.

It was with sadness that we said farewell to our Head of Geography, Mr Ashurst, this week. As a fellow geographer I want to thank him for instilling a love of the natural environment and inquisitiveness in the world around us in so many of our students over many years. We wish him well as he moves onto a new challenge that will also place him in charge of careers across his new school.

Alongside the daily learning that is taking place, we are continuing to manage and develop our support services and site. This week we have welcomed both fire safety and safeguarding compliance reviews. These ensure that we have everything in place and will guide us to any areas where we can make improvements.

Our support and site teams work extremely hard in the background for Huxlow and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for the hard work already completed over the year. The Academy could not run without them.

And finally, we were delighted to welcome our Year 9 parents into school to meet with their child's teachers last week. This is a Year group where parents didn't manage to come into school over Covid, and last year. For many this was their first chance to meet with teachers in person. Having the chance to talk about progress face to face and build relationships between the school and home is a priority for us and it was good to celebrate how far this group of students have come and plan for their next steps together.

Please enjoy a relaxing and safe half term. It looks like the weather forecast is positive for next week and will provide an opportunity to get outside, however, I know Year 11 and Year 13 students will continue to plan their time well to focus on the exams they have started so well.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully



Paul Letch  
Headteacher