

Fortnightly

Edition 2

December 1, 2023

We Made Our Mark!

This week Heron Hall students took part in the democratic process ran by the British Youth Council. Our student leadership team organised and ran the campaign and voting process. They shared the topics with students, made the voting slips and ballot boxes, collected and counted the voting slips. Students voted by choosing a topic most affecting young people:

1. Nationally
2. Locally

At Heron Hall students voted for that the most important issue nationally was FREE UNIVERSITY and locally was HOMELESSNESS.



From left to right: Head Boy Theodor; Head Girl Teah; Headteacher Mr Barzey; Deputy Head Girl Krima; Deputy Head Boy Adam

The issues the students voted as the most important will be debated by Members of Youth Parliament. They will campaign to influence the UK Parliament and their local representatives, ensuring that the views of young people are listened to by decision makers. Heron Hall students were given the opportunity to influence decision makers who can make a real difference on the issues that matter to young people. Make Your Mark is one of the most important and influential ways young people can take part in a democratic process.

Keep up to date with current events at HHA



Upcoming Events

Thursday 7th December Year 11 Parents Evening
Friday 8th December HHA Coffee Morning
Thursday 14th December Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day
Friday 15th December STRIVE DAY
Monday 18th December Rewards Assemblies
Tuesday 19th December Reward Breakfast
Tuesday 19th December Last Day of Term
Monday 8th January First Day of the Spring Term
Thursday 18th January Year 9 Parents Evening
Thursday 25th January Year 12 Parents Evening
Thursday 1st February Year 9 Options Evening
5th - 23rd February Year 11 Mock 2 Exams
12th - 16th February Half Term

PTA QUIZ NIGHT

On a cold and frosty evening, our resilient PTA members defied the cold to join us for a first quiz night. Heartfelt thanks to our parents who attended; your presence made it a delightful and fun-filled evening.

In an epic battle of Parents vs Teachers, the parents emerged victorious showcasing their extensive knowledge of geography and music.

Congratulations to our brilliant parent team.



AGE UK ENFIELD VOLUNTEER WORK

We are proud to announce that some of our Year 10 students have started volunteering for the Age UK Enfield breakfast service. Run from the Trust's facility, The Nest, the service is a lifeline for many elders in the community.

Through engaging in games, sharing stories, and creating artwork with the over-60s community, our students exemplified empathy, respect, and community spirit.



Kelly Hon, from Heron Hall, who is coordinating the initiative, said: "Our students involvement was much more than serving hot drinks and breakfast. It is also about bridging generational gaps and fostering connections." "I was very proud of the students."



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

A group of students from all year groups, who earned zero behaviour points since the beginning of this year, went on a reward trip in recognition of their exceptional behaviour. Their reward was an enjoyable trip to the cinema, for their dedication and contribution to our school community and as a token of gratitude for their hard work.



YEAR 11 NEWS - SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

Did you know?



Developing independence has many benefits: increased academic success, increased motivation and confidence and improved awareness of students' own strengths and weaknesses, as well as how to manage these.

Independent learning isn't about working alone: teachers and parents still need to support and enable the learning that is needed in this time so that it is structured, productive and effective. We can't expect children to just 'know' how to work independently as well as effectively, they will need some guidance and support.

Independent learning is most effective when students can be encouraged to self-regulate their own learning and behaviour.



What can you do?

Discuss your child's areas of strength and weakness, across the subject range they are studying, but also within each subject and topic. Independence isn't just about working, it's about reflecting on their progress and performance and considering where their time would be best spent.

Discuss the different ways your child could study, whether through booklets or textbooks, apps and other options. There are many ways to revise and most students have a preference, but often a combination is the most effective. The PiXL apps we have available, such as the Maths app, can dovetail well into a revision schedule, alongside practice questions and revision of topics that they are unsure of.

If your child doesn't have them already, ask their class

teachers for the PiXL Independence materials that we have created. These are available for most subjects and provide a variety of different tasks, along with a credit system, to help structure their revision whilst also developing their independence.

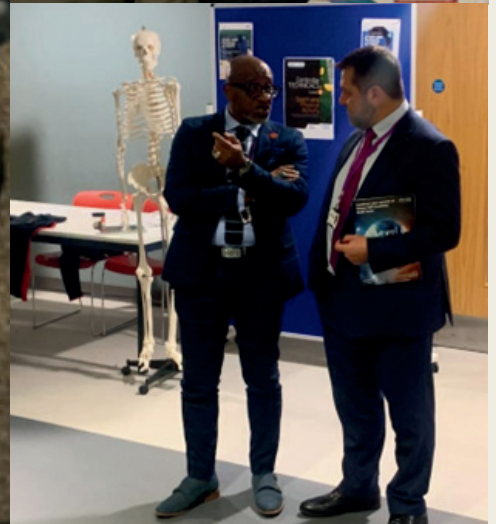


SIXTH FORM NEWS

Heron Hall hosted their Sixth Form open evening on the 9th of November where parents and students were able to sit through a very informative evening which provided them with key facts and information about our Sixth Form. Parents and students were also able to speak to subject specialist staff and current sixth formers about various subjects and post 16 options. Mr Charalambous CEO and Mr Barzey Headteacher were also present at the open evening and offered their advice and guidance.

Mr Angeletos Head of Year 12 said: “our Sixth Form evening was well attended and we received positive feedback both from parents and students; they really liked our new facilities such as the new café and were impressed with the subject expertise from all staff”.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact Mr Molokwu Assistant Headteacher KS5 or Mr Angeletos Head of Year 12 at dangeletos@northstartrust.org.uk



HERON HALL FOOD BANK

We are happy to announce that we now have a 'food bank' at Heron Hall. We have increased our storage facilities to hold more dried food goods and we are able to provide food to more families in need. The food bank is organised and run from the main school office.

We have a group of Year 9 student leaders however, who are responsible for:

- Regular stock takes
- Organise for donations to be collected
- Keep the food bank stocked up with on date items
- Keep storage space clean and tidy.



Please do not hesitate to reach out the school office if you feel you could benefit from Heron Hall Food Bank.

Madam Hon

This term there are over 30 clubs for students to choose from to enrich their school experience here at Heron Hall.

For information on clubs:

- Students can ask their form tutors and view the timetable of clubs on the weekly Bulletin
- The Club Timetable is also available on the Year Team board for pupils
- Students can also ask **Madam Barnwell** who is able to add their names onto the register and confirm attendance

	CLUB	TIME	PLACE	STAFF	MEMBERS
MONDAYS	Book Club	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	N1.1	Madam Barnwell	All Years
	Badminton Club	Lunchtime 12.35pm - 1.15pm	S1.1	Mr Oliveira	E33 - Years 7-9
	Art Club	Lunchtime - 12.35pm - 1.15pm	S2	Madam Knightley	E34
	Art Club	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	S2	Madam Knightley	All Years
	Homework Club	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	Library	Mr Simpson	All Years
	Music - Individual Practice Rooms	-	S2.3	Madam Heffer / Mr Sash	All Years
TUESDAYS	Red Story	After School - 3.30pm - 5.00pm	H1.8	Mr Ashcroft	E33 - Years 7 and 8
	Cooking Club	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	S0.1	Madam Ellis	All Years
	Chess Club	After School - 3.30pm - 4.15pm	H1.1	Madam Towner	E33 - Years 7-9
	Deafening Society	Lunchtime - 12.35pm - 1.15pm	E1.1	Madam Keates	All Years
	Newspaper Club	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	S1.7	Mr Gilman	E34 - Years 8 and 10
WEDNESDAYS	Madam - Drama and Music Club England	Lunchtime - 12.35pm - 1.15pm	Drama Studio / School Hall	Madam Heffer	All Years
	English Intervention	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	H1.1 / H1.4	Mr Gilman / Mr Johnson	All Years
	Art Club	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	S2	Madam Knightley	Year 10-11
	Art Club	Lunchtime - 12.35pm - 1.15pm	H1.7	Madam Knightley	All Years
	Choir	After School - 3.30pm - 4.30pm	H2.3	Madam Heffer	All Years
	100w Workshop	Period 5 - 2.25pm - 3.30pm	N1.1	Ms Lewis / Mr Heffer	E33 - Year 8



HHA Parents Teachers Association

COFFEE MORNING WITH MINCE PIES AND CAKE

*Friday 8th December
9:30am to 10:30am*

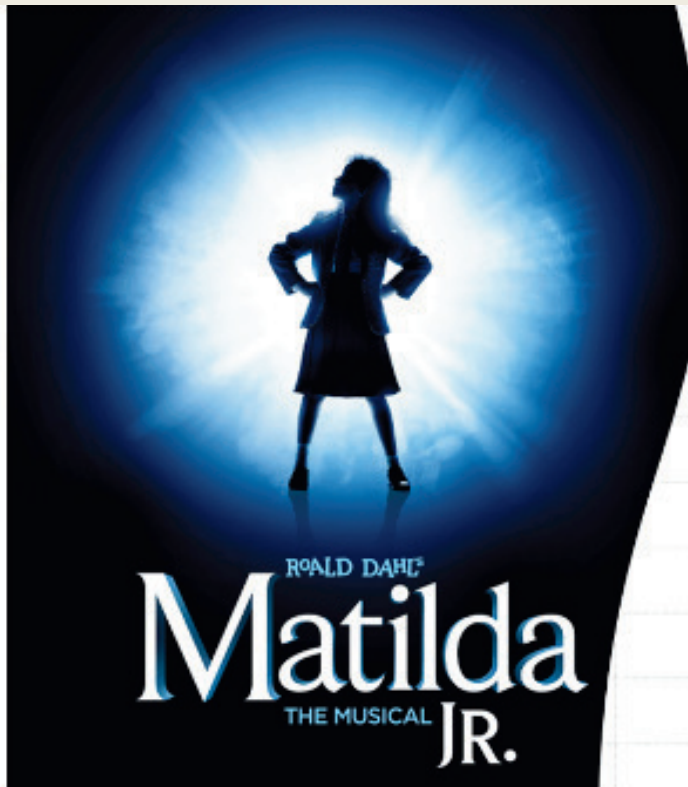
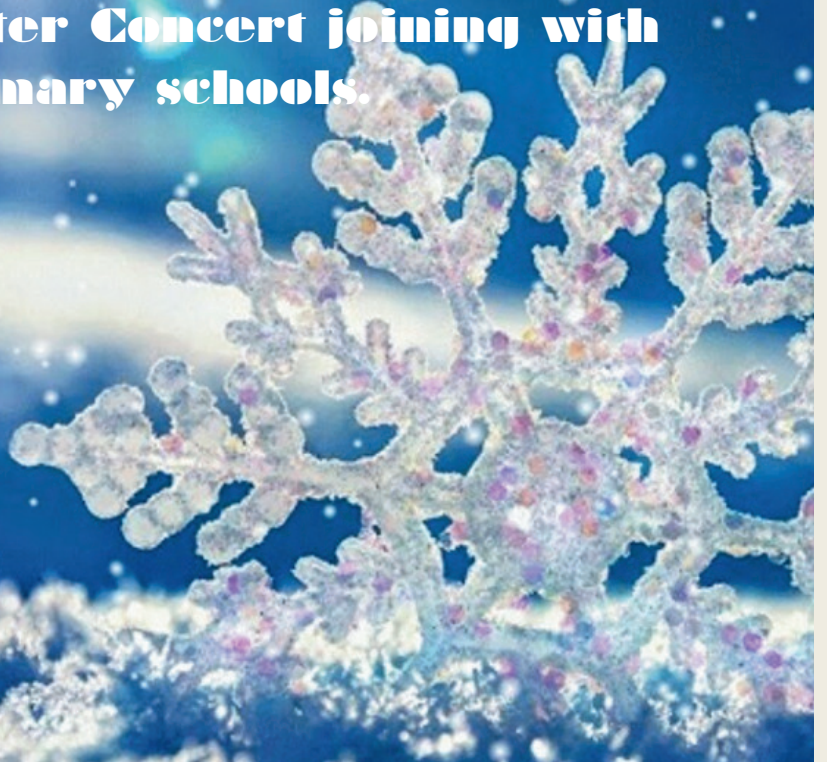
Join us as we discuss the
RSHE curriculum
and answer your
questions

*Christmas Hamper
Raffle £2*



Thursday 14th December at 5.30pm. we are having a Winter Concert joining with the primary schools.

Winter Concert



The students are currently preparing for an incredible performance in March 2024. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks.

Financial Support offered by Enfield Council

Household Support Fund

Enfield Council has been allocated £5,695,989 from the Department of Work and Pensions' (DWP) Household Support Fund to support vulnerable households facing a rise in energy bills and the cost of living. The funding is from 1 April 2023 and must be spent by 31 March 2024.

<https://www.enfield.gov.uk/services/benefits-and-money-advice/household-support-fund>

Help with Food

If you are finding your money does not stretch far enough and you are struggling to afford the cost of food, a food pantry can provide you with a heavily discounted food shop. To receive support from a food pantry you will pay a weekly membership fee (between £3.50 and £4.50), which will allow you to shop at the pantry each week. Pantries look similar to shops and you are able to select a certain amount of food based on your own food preferences.

<https://www.enfield.gov.uk/services/your-council/cost-of-living-support/help-with-food>

Health and Wellbeing

There is plenty support available for your health and wellbeing from many organisations.

<https://www.enfield.gov.uk/services/your-council/cost-of-living-support/help-with-managing-health-and-wellbeing>



North Enfield Foodbank



Our foodbank works using a voucher referral system.

Find out more about how we work.

<https://northyenfield.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/>

SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet-enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.



INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'sneadrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.



CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.



SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.



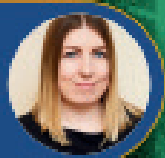
CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.



Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of Tech Insider The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



#WakeUpWednesday