

# HOULTON DECEMBER NEWS 2024



HOULTON  
SCHOOL



## Welcome from the Principal

### Dear Houlton family,

As we approach the end of our first term of this academic year, I couldn't be more proud of the resilience, engagement and energy of our whole community having made it to this point - despite shortening days, coughs and colds. That said, as this packed edition of the newsletter makes clear, there's been no stopping our pupils who have been out on numerous educational visits, toured a pantomime and engaged in a range of exciting, transformational learning experiences within their classrooms.

As I write this foreword we are eagerly anticipating this year's festive extravaganza, which is always such an impressive showcase of our pupils' talents - and there's usually the odd contribution from staff, too! I always look forward to the final day of term, seeing everyone enjoying some fun with their festive dress whilst raising money in support of those for whom Christmas can be a challenging time.

Whether we are Christians or not, the festive period provides extended time with family and is always a good time for reflection. We hope that it is a happy time for most families but we also recognise that for some this will be the first Christmas without a loved one or there may be difficult challenges. For all of us at Houlton, this is our first Christmas without Jakub, whom we lost over the summer break. I hope you'll join me in taking a moment to remember Jakub, cherish our memories of him, and to extend compassion to his family and friends.

As always, take care of yourselves and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the new year.

**Michael McCulley**  
Principal

# Year 9 Peer Mentors

Peer mentoring has been evidenced to have a positive impact on the emotional health and well-being of young people and support with behavioural and academic development.

This is why we have launched a new scheme which has seen Year 9 pupils apply to be trained as Peer Mentors, with a fantastic response rate.

The successful 15 recruits have been completing training sessions on topics such as communication techniques, listening skills and anti-bullying techniques. As we are nearing the end of the training course, it is fantastic to see the Peer Mentors growing in confidence in their role.



In due course, Peer Mentors will finish their course and receive their celebration, certificate and badges. The Peer Mentors will then be paired with Year 7 and Year 8 pupils who are struggling in different areas, to act as role models and provide further support.

**Miss Charlotte Sargent**  
Pupil Experience Leader: Year 9

## Maths

# Building Confidence in Numeracy

Numeracy is more than just numbers - it's a vital skill that equips pupils to problem-solve, think critically, and succeed in both education and everyday life. At Houlton School, we are committed to ensuring that every pupil develops confidence and proficiency in maths.

To support this, a focus on improving numeracy skills takes place every fortnight during form time. These sessions include engaging activities designed to strengthen understanding and fluency in key mathematical concepts. For pupils who need additional support, we also run weekly interventions to help them overcome challenges in maths through tailored teaching and extra practice.

### Our Next Step:

We are excited to announce that we are working to develop a Houlton Way of teaching numeracy across the curriculum. This approach will ensure that:

- Pupils recognise when and how numeracy is used in other subjects, such as science, geography, and technology.
- A consistent method of teaching numeracy is applied throughout the school, helping pupils feel confident and capable regardless of the subject.

Shown below is a recipe for Stuffed Turkey.

### Stuffed Turkey

Serves 4

Turkey	500g
Red Onion	1
Garlic Cloves	2
Chestnut Mushrooms	150g
Spinach	140g
Chicken Stock	300ml

Mary wants to make Stuffed Turkey for 10 people.

How much of each ingredient is needed?  
Include units.

This initiative will make numeracy a key part of all areas of learning, showing pupils its importance in real-world applications and future careers.

### Using Sparx for Homework

At Houlton School, we use Sparx Maths as our main online tool to support numeracy. All pupils are required to complete their maths homework through Sparx, which provides personalised tasks tailored to their learning needs. Regular use of Sparx helps to reinforce classroom learning and develop key skills.

### How You Can Support at Home:

- **Encourage Sparx Usage:**  
Ensure your child logs into Sparx each week to complete their homework. Consistency is key to building confidence and fluency.
- **Make Maths Part of Everyday Life:**  
Support numeracy with real-world activities, such as:
  - Measuring ingredients while cooking.
  - Adding up costs or working out discounts while shopping.
  - Calculating distances and times during travel.

### Why Numeracy Matters

Strong numeracy skills empower pupils to succeed both academically and in life. By embedding numeracy across the curriculum, encouraging Sparx homework completion, and working together with parents, we aim to ensure every child develops the skills they need to thrive.

If you have any questions about our numeracy sessions, Sparx Maths, or Numeracy across the curriculum, please don't hesitate to contact Ged Lowry (Maths Teacher/Numeracy Coordinator).

Breaking News: Next term we will be launching another great new numeracy tool called Numeracy Ninjas. More information next time!

**Mr Ged Lowry**  
Teacher of Mathematics and Numeracy Coordinator

# Experiments, competitions and options evenings – a busy term for the Science Department!

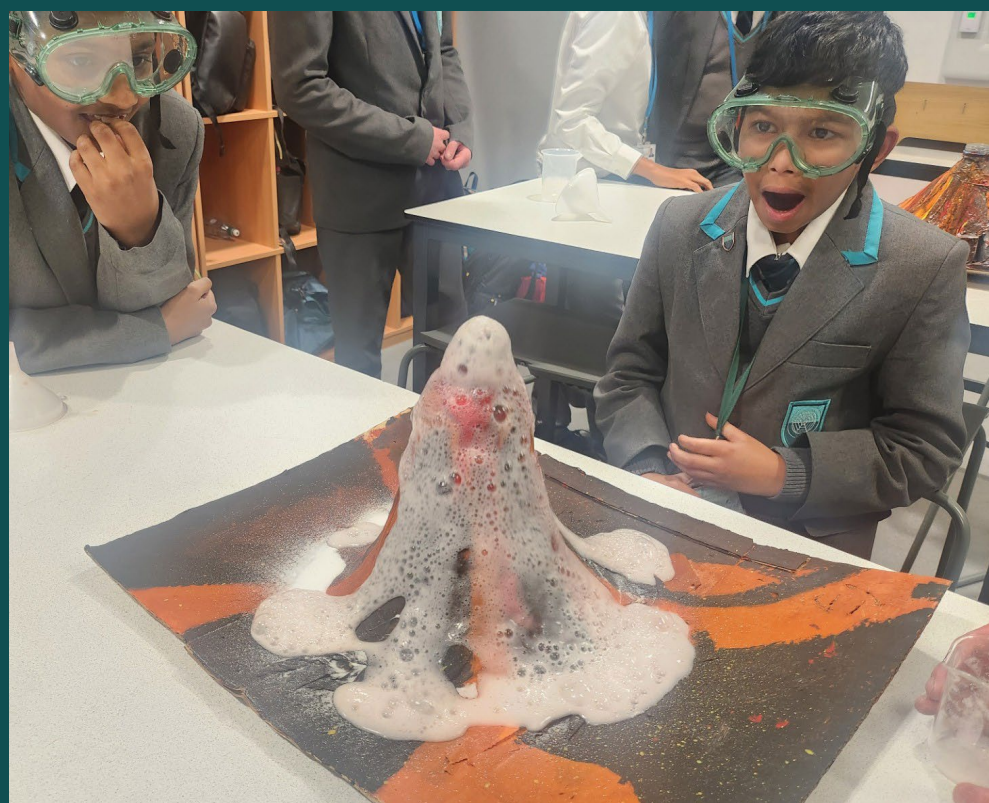
It's been an explosive term in Science so far, with our science club creating volcanoes and making them erupt with bicarbonate of soda and vinegar!

It's been a term of dissecting too! Our Year 8s have been dissecting eyeballs, our Year 9s dissecting chicken feet, and Year 10s dissecting goats' hearts - all so pupils can get a good look at the things learned in lesson.

Dr Towey took keen scientists, Ellen and Loïc from Year 10 and Saketh and Gloria from Year 9, to take part in the local heat of the RSC Top of the Bench competition, designed to inspire excitement about chemistry in pupils. We are delighted to let you know that our team has been invited back to the regional finals in January - well done!

Finally, we are looking forward to setting up our Year 9 Options Evening stall before the end of term. If you need any information about combined and triple science and couldn't make the event, please contact the school office and we'll be in touch.

**Mr Kristian Docherty**  
Second in Charge: Science



## Computer Science

### KS3 Pupils Excel with iDEA

This term has seen the launch of iDEA for all KS3 pupils. iDEA, also known as the Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award, is an international award-winning programme that helps pupils to develop digital, enterprise and employability skills.

To access the programme, pupils must set their own passwords and use their school email addresses.

iDEA will be set for homework, and guidance will be provided on which units pupils should complete first. Pupils only need to complete 30 minutes of homework.

### Computer Science Progress

As this term ends, we take time to reflect on the progress pupils have made so far. Year 7 have developed strong ICT-based skills in using computers, getting to grips with the Moodle system.

They have also covered social media and e-safety as part of their studies, something we can all agree is of vital importance in the modern world.

Year 8 have begun developing their own 'choose your own path' games, learning about games through internet research, creating mood boards to show the potential feel of their game as well as starting to produce their scripts.

They have also looked at cybercrime, and how to keep healthy when using computers. I am looking forward to introducing them to Python next year when we start crafting their story-based games.

Year 9 have started working on a creative iMedia unit this last term (which has some similarities with our KS4 Broadcasting

course) where they have learned how to identify a client's needs, develop mood boards and mind maps as well as produce sketches towards the final design.

Next term we revisit and further develop their Python skills, before diving into the ethics and impacts of computers.

The brand-new Year 10 cohort has worked exceptionally hard this term, delving deeper into the world of computers and covering a wide array of topics including computers, data representation and networks.

They have also developed their skills when facing exam questions. I am looking forward to continuing to work with them throughout this coming new year.

**Mr Matt Cresswell-Peters**  
Head of Computer Science

# Social Sciences

## It has been a busy half term in the Social Sciences department!

Psychology pupils are nearing the end of their first topic – Memory. They have studied several factors that can affect the accuracy of their recall... the hope is that they will be able to put some of this knowledge into practice when it comes to their revision!

Pupils have also played the role of both researcher and participant in several replications of studies that are on the

specification – although we haven't found a way of replicating the deep-sea diver's study as yet!

Sociology pupils have started to look at the different research methods used in sociological research.

They have been busy writing and analysing their own questionnaires. We have also been looking at official statistics and spent some time analysing data from the last census – looking for patterns and trends and thinking about the accuracy of the data. Pupils are looking forward to the next census!

Members of the Social Studies club are busy producing Christmas cards ready to send to a local care home – which we hope to visit and spend some time with the residents in the Spring Term.

I am still keen to bring these subjects to life for pupils, so to this end if you or anyone you know works in a related field and would be willing to come and talk to the pupils about what 'A day in the life of...' is like I would love to hear from you: [clarke@houlton.tlet.org.uk](mailto:clarke@houlton.tlet.org.uk)

**Ms Emma Clark**  
**Head of Social Sciences**

## English

# Poppies in Remembrance

On 11th November, Key Stage Three pupils took part in a lesson focused on the John McCrae poem 'In Flanders Field' where they looked at who we remember and why, and the symbol of the poppy.

Pupils then wrote their own remembrance messages on poppies to those who have served during wartime, which we have displayed all through the English Department to pay our respects to those who fought in wars around the globe.



# Fright Club Competition

Creepy tales, urban legends and supernatural spinechillers... pupils have been submitting entries for this spooky competition and we'd like to congratulate the following pupils whose entries have been sent off to Young Writer's as part of the national competition where they could win a prize and become a published writer.

**Azrael in 7 Armstrong**

**Karthikeya in 7 Shakespeare**

**Hannah in 7 Shakespeare**

**Georgina in 8 Winton**

# Writing Creatively at Houlton

**Year 7** have read **'Boy 87'** by **Ele Fountain** and have begun focusing on descriptive writing to build mood and atmosphere for an environment like Shif's experience travelling precariously by ship to begin a different life in a new country.

Have a look at an extract written by Matthew in 7 Obama:

*As the flames leaped and danced aggressively like a dance show, the brightness flashed and sprayed against the tent walls, lapping the edges off. The volcanic heat felt hellish. Horrific gasps of shock and agony came from the neighbouring structures. Soon after, everyone was choking. Everyone was evacuating like there was a lion chasing them...*

**Year 8** have read a modern adaptation of **'The Odyssey'** alongside focusing on informal letter writing and re-telling the story from the antagonist's (villain's) perspective.

Have a look at an extract written by Ruby in 8 Armstrong, re-telling the tale of Odysseus and Polyphemus, from the cyclops' perspective:

*As I soundly slept in my homely cave, surrounded by my dear sheep, I suddenly heard a strange noise; peoplings. My heart skipped a beat. My sheep! My poor, poor sheep! I needed to protect them, my family. I could not let them take my family away. All I could do was trap them to save them, so I did. Quickly, I trapped those vile, soul-sucking, betraying, good for nothing peoplings. For my sheep, I would do anything.*

*Even after giving them a friendly warning, those fools tried to deceive me! How unfair is that? All I wanted to do was protect my family, my flesh and blood. Then they had the audacity to stab me in the eye. How in the world am I meant to take care of my sheep?*

*They made me blind. I don't really even remember because those rodents drugged me. Well that was just the cherry on top. And still, after all of this, they escaped! So that no one else suffers because of the peoplings, I set a curse on them to protect everyone and my sheep.*

**Year 9** have read an abridged adaptation of the Victorian novel **'Jane Eyre'** and created their own spooky Gothic stories based on the use of the supernatural, pathetic fallacy and mystery in Brontë's novel.

Have a look at an extract written by Macie in 9 Armstrong (avert your eyes if you don't like descriptions of blood and gore!):

*It was an eerie, blood-curdling, algid morning on the moors. The dark brown wooden bench she sat on was damp. All night it thundered, rain drowned the land coming down in buckets.*

*The next morning the land was filled with fluffy white snow almost too perfect to be real. Time ticked, thoughts drowning her in guilt.*

*"Why did I do this? I told myself I was better than this. Lies. Lies. Lies."*

*She thought she was better than that. She was just tricking herself. Deep down she loved it. She could still taste the bitter, red liquid swimming in her mouth.*

*Bodies. Bodies. Bodies. The eerie mist of emptiness floundered over her. Baths of red liquid, still warm, splattered the white fluffy snow, running all over the moors like a flooded river. The air fresh, thunder puddled down.*

*"Why, why, why? Am I really this stupid?" She was all by herself, drowning alive with loneliness and guilt. She didn't need to be afraid of it; she just needed to talk to it. She took a backseat in her own world trying to save what she had already done. Temptation, temptation, temptation. What would she do now? What could she do? Run away...*

**Year 10** have finished studying their modern play **'An Inspector Calls'** by JB Priestley. Pupils have not only learnt more about life in the Edwardian and Victorian eras but also focused on the huge societal changes post-war, and how even now society can still be seen to covet old fashioned values and systems. Who is really to blame for the death of Eva Smith? We all have a different answer. What does your child think?

## Winter Wonderland

We are running a Young Writers competition starting in January which invites pupils to write a poem on the theme of wintertime.

For this competition, there is no word limit and the poem can be written in any style you like.

Whether you love or dislike winter we would love to know...

If you'd like to enter, then please see Miss Schofield in HU0.05 for more information.

## What's next?

In the new year, pupils will be moving on from their texts in the summer term and will now be studying:

- Year 7 – Poetry
- Year 8 – 'Julius Caesar' by William Shakespeare
- Year 9 – 'Journey's End' by R.C Sherriff.
- Year 10 – 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.

Don't forget to watch out for some festive adaptations of the Dickens' classic to watch over Christmas.

**Our recommendation is A Muppets' Christmas Carol!**

**Miss Claire Schofield**  
Second in Charge: English

# A Memorable Visit to Duxford: Exploring History at the Imperial War Museum

This term, pupils embarked on an exciting journey to the Imperial War Museum in Duxford. Known as one of the largest aviation museums in Europe, the site provided an incredible opportunity to explore history, engineering, and the bravery of those who served in various conflicts.

The trip began with a guided tour of the museum's expansive hangars. The first stop was the AirSpace exhibit, home to iconic British aircraft like the Spitfire and the Concorde. Pupils were amazed to see these engineering marvels up close, especially the Spitfire, which played a pivotal role in World War II. Some pupils even stepped inside the Concorde to experience the luxury and innovation that made it one of the fastest passenger planes in history.

Next, the group moved to the Battle of Britain Hangar, where they learned about the heroic pilots who defended Britain during World War II. Interactive displays and personal stories brought the history to life, helping pupils appreciate the courage and sacrifices made during this critical time. The Ops Block was a particular highlight, providing a reconstruction taking pupils to the very heart of Duxford during a crisis moment in British history.

The highlight for many was the American Air Museum. This impressive hangar showcases American aircraft from World War II to the present day, including the massive B-52 Stratofortress bomber. Pupils were struck by the scale of the planes and the stories of the soldiers who served alongside their British counterparts.



As the trip came to an end, pupils reflected on the lessons they had learned—not just about planes and history, but about innovation, resilience, and the human stories behind the machines. The visit to Duxford was more than an educational outing; it was an inspiring journey into the past that connected history with the present.

A special Houlton thanks goes to Ian and Phil - our "redcoat" volunteer guides who made the different exhibits come to life and really engaged pupils and staff alike.

**Mr Jamie Abbott**  
Head of Faculty: Humanities

# Geography – A Term in Review

The Geography Department would like to thank the pupils for all their hard work this half term! Students have been looking at a range of topics in class:

**Year 7** pupils have been looking at global issues including climate change, flooding and how to mitigate against the issues caused. They have gained an appreciation of the key issues the world faces.

**Year 8** classes have been looking at development and inequalities, particularly the problems associated with conflict minerals. They have looked at the Democratic African Republic as an example of a country in Africa.

**Year 9** has been looking at issues created by the world's resources consumption, looking at food, water and energy as examples. They have gained an appreciation that we all need to do our part to use the world's dwindling resources in a more sustainable way.

Geographers in **Year 10** have been looking at the rivers unit of the AQA course. They have studied the key processes, landforms and management of rivers and have completed case studies on the River Tees and management of the River Cherwell at Banbury.

I would like to wish all our pupils and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Mr Darren Jones**  
Teacher of Geography



# 'Calling It Out' Performance and Workshop

As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting respect and equality, Year 9 pupils recently attended a powerful performance and workshop called Calling It Out, delivered by the Loudmouth Theatre Company.

The session focused on tackling harmful sexual behaviour and emphasised the importance of non-tolerance in our school community.

The performance explored the impact of everyday incidents of sexual harassment and assault, especially on girls and young women. It provided a safe space for pupils to discuss these issues, reflecting on where these behaviours come from and exploring alternative,

positive ways to interact. The accompanying workshop encouraged pupils to think critically about how to challenge and report such behaviour safely, reinforcing that everyone has a role to play in creating a safer environment.

Pupils were fully engaged throughout the performance, listening attentively and participating in the discussions that followed. The feedback from the session was overwhelmingly positive, with many pupils expressing how the experience had helped them better understand the importance of respect and how to stand up against harmful behaviour.

We are proud of the way our Year 9 pupils responded to this important topic and will continue to build on this learning as part of our wider PHRSE curriculum.

**Mrs Becky Cooper**  
Head of PHRSE



## Design Technology

# 180 Keyrings

Avocados, hearts, letters and gaming controllers were just some of the shapes our young designers created when casting pewter while manufacturing their keyrings.

Vigorous filing, sanding, polishing and buffing, and great enameling resulted in professional outcomes from all pupils.

This marks the completion of Year 7's first Big Question at Houlton School in Design & Technology and it is fantastic to see each pupil walk out of the workshop with a sense of pride as they produce their first product.

### Year 10 visit Design Museum

Year 10 enjoyed the first of many curriculum enhancement trips this term. The Design and Technology pupils spent the day at the London Design Museum. At Houlton, we believe that educational visits provide pupils with transformational learning experiences that enable them to see their subject choices come to life.

**Mr Russell Hill**  
Head of Faculty: Creative





# Year 7 & 8 Sharpen Culinary Skills

We have had another lovely term in our department, full of wonderful smells, flavours and interesting creations.

Year 7 pupils have been focusing on chopping skills, learning the brunoise and julienne techniques to include in calzones.

Year 8 classes have been understanding the scientific process of enzymic browning and how it fits in with food presentation. Pupils have been busy making apple pies and applying a solution to apples to slow down enzymic browning.

Pupils have also conducted DTTR on their practical skills and you can see some of their key learnings.

Year 9 pupils have looked at how lesson content transfers to GCSE style through understanding specifically what Fair Trade is. Pupils have transferred their knowledge and understanding into exam-style questions and produced some wonderful banana cakes as a result.

Our Year 10 pupils again have been shown industry at its best. Pupils visited Waitrose in Lutterworth and were shown all aspects of the business, from filleting a fish to the apprenticeships the company offers, speaking to managers and shop floor workers and learning about logistics and stock control of temperatures.

**Mrs Baldeep Devgun**  
Head of Food Preparation & Nutrition



DTTR		NAME: Sonny	DATE: 13/12/24
CREATIVE Department			
Diagnose, Therapy, Test, Revisit			
<b>Diagnose</b>	<b>My successes:</b> For the chicken curry I was able to successfully brunoise an onion and for the apple I was able to use the bridge technique to cut it.	<b>Areas for development</b> I need to improve on rolling out my pastry and cutting my chicken in even slices.	
<b>Therapy</b>	I know how to improve because... I listen to my teacher and get tips from classmates.	<b>Something I know now:</b> How to use different cutting techniques. <b>Something I can do now:</b> Use a bread saw for a curry.	
<b>Test/Revisit</b>	<b>Improvements I made:</b> I cut my food in more even slices.	<b>How will you ensure you improve next time:</b> Asking my teacher for help and get advice from my peers.	

Refer to your Learning Audit and/or Knowledge Organiser



## Art & Design

# Houlton Artists Shine Across All Years

Our Houlton artists have been producing some incredible work this term.

Year 7 pupils have been producing detailed mono-prints that are inspired by nature!

Year 8 has been studying a range of landscape artists and having a go at capturing our local town of Rugby.

These were created using a pen and ink wash technique.

Year 9 artists are working towards producing final outcomes as a response to the individual investigations they have been undertaking this term. There is a huge array of different approaches including sculpture, paint, drawing and mixed media!

Members of the Year 9 Jewellery Club have been adding coloured glazes to their clay button badges – they look incredible!

Year 10 Photography pupils have been getting to grips with the studio lighting equipment to produce a series of portraits in response to various photographers.

To conclude our 'Natural World' project, Year 10 Fine Art pupils have been creating artwork in relief and 3D using cardboard and clay.

**Ms Ruth Woodcraft**  
Head of Art & Photography



# Pupils Shine in French and Spanish This Term

As the term draws to a close, we're excited to share the incredible progress and vibrant activities that have unfolded in our Languages Faculty.

Pupils across all year groups have embraced a wealth of opportunities to engage with French and Spanish, building confidence, cultural awareness, and linguistic skills. Here's a glimpse into what our talented pupils have been up to!

## Year 9 Taster Sessions: A Taste of GCSE Success

Our Year 9 pupils have been busy sampling Spanish and French in specially designed taster sessions, aimed at giving them a flavour of what GCSE languages have to offer. These sessions are an exciting opportunity for pupils to experience the richness of studying a language at a deeper level and to make informed decisions about their next academic steps. We're thrilled to see their enthusiasm as they explore how languages can open doors to global opportunities.

## Year 8: Dreaming of the Perfect Holiday

With the grey skies of November and December as the backdrop, our Year 8 French pupils have been brightening their lessons by tackling the Big Question: What would be my dream holiday? This topic has sparked creativity and imagination, with pupils using their language skills to describe ideal destinations, exciting activities, and holiday highlights. From sandy beaches to bustling city adventures, their responses have transported us to sunnier climes and demonstrated their growing confidence in expressing complex ideas in another language.

## Year 7: Exploring Preferences – Can We Like Everything?

Our Year 7 pupils have been grappling with the intriguing question: Can we like everything? Through lively discussions and engaging activities, they've been learning to express their likes and dislikes in French. Whether talking about food, hobbies, or sports, they've made fantastic progress in mastering the vocabulary and structures needed to share opinions. It's been wonderful to see their excitement and curiosity as they explore the foundations of language learning.

## GCSE Highlights: ActiveHub and Champions Club

For our GCSE pupils, this term has been packed with innovation and opportunity.

### Introducing ActiveHub

We're thrilled to have launched Activehub, our new digital learning platform, designed to support pupils in their GCSE French and Spanish studies. This interactive resource offers a wealth of tools to enhance learning, including practice exercises, revision activities, and personalised feedback. It's a fantastic way for pupils to build their skills independently and stay on top of their studies.

Parents, we encourage you to explore ActiveHub and see how it can support your child's learning journey. You can access the platform at ActiveHub – we'd love to hear your feedback! (Use your child's login details to gain access).

### GCSE Champions Club

Our GCSE Champions Club continues to provide invaluable support to our pupils. Every Friday after school, Week A, Mr Raffy runs a special after-school session, offering tuition in French and/or Spanish. This is an exceptional opportunity for pupils to receive tailored guidance and boost their confidence – completely free of charge! Whether they're looking to refine their pronunciation, strengthen their grammar, or tackle tricky topics, the Champions Club is the place to be. Don't miss out on this unique chance to excel!

### Looking Ahead

Here's to a brilliant term in Languages, we hope you rest well over the festive break and come back in January full of energy for the term ahead – and for many more exciting adventures in Languages learning.

We wish you Feliz Navidad and Joyeux Noël!

**Mr Matthieu Raffy**  
Head of Faculty: Modern Languages



# Year 10 BTEC Acting and Dance Pupils Shine in Pantomime Tour of Sleeping Beauty

Our talented Year 10 BTEC Acting and BTEC Dance pupils have recently completed a successful tour of their pantomime production of *Sleeping Beauty*, which took them to five local primary schools and an evening performance at Houlton School.

Over the course of seven performances, our pupils demonstrated incredible professionalism, creativity, and dedication to their craft.

The tour began with performances at Henry Hinde, Crick, Yelvertoft, Hilmorton, and Clifton, where the pupils captivated young audiences with their vibrant portrayal of the classic fairy tale. They didn't just act - they were involved in every aspect of the production. The pupils managed their own sound and lighting, sourced their own costumes and props, and even choreographed their own dance routines, showcasing their versatility and teamwork.

In addition to the performances, our dancers took time to teach workshops for primary school children, introducing them to the joy of dance and movement. These workshops were a highlight, with the younger pupils enjoying the opportunity to learn from such skilled role models.

The Year 10 pupils handled all aspects of the production from 'get ins' to 'get outs,' taking full responsibility for setting up and clearing down each performance space. Their ability to manage the practical elements of the tour, alongside delivering a high-quality show, was nothing short of impressive.

Feedback from the primary schools was overwhelmingly positive, with many commenting on the pupils' professionalism and enthusiasm. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the schools for welcoming us, and we hope to return next year to spread more fun and magic with another fantastic production.

A special congratulations to our Year 10 BTEC pupils for their hard work, dedication, and exceptional teamwork—this tour would not have been possible without them!

**Mr David Bird**  
Head of Acting

**Miss Frankie Connolly**  
Head of Dance



# PE Updates

This half term, the PE department at Houlton School has been full of activity, both in lessons and through our fantastic co-curricular program. Pupils across all year groups have shown great enthusiasm and determination in their lessons, with Year 7 focusing on Tag Rugby and Football, Year 8 mastering Table Tennis, Year 9 excelling in Badminton, and Year 10 showcasing their skills in Volleyball and Badminton.

Our co-curricular clubs have also been running all term, offering opportunities for pupils to participate in Volleyball, Netball, Football, and Rugby. It's been wonderful to see pupils engaging with sport, developing their skills, and embodying the Houlton spirit of teamwork and resilience.

## Curriculum lessons this half term

**Year 7:** Tag Rugby + Football

**Year 8:** Table Tennis

**Year 9:** Badminton

**Year 10:** Volleyball + Badminton

## Co-curricular opportunities this term:

- Mixed Football (Tuesday's/Wednesday's/Thursday's)
- Netball (Tuesday after school)
- Running club (Thursday after school)
- Girls Football (Wednesday after school)
- Volleyball (Tuesday after school)

Please follow our X page with all news regarding fixtures, results and PE department news. @HoultonPEdept

## Year 10 GCSE PE update

Our inaugural GCSE PE cohort has made an excellent start to their course, showing great commitment and enthusiasm as they progress through their first term.

They have focused on the Physical Training topic, gaining a solid understanding of fitness components, principles of training, and methods to improve performance.

As we move into Anatomy and Physiology, pupils are building a deeper knowledge of how the body works during physical activity.

In practical lessons, the focus has been on Badminton, where pupils have been developing their core skills and techniques to enhance their performance as players.

It's fantastic to see their passion for both the theoretical and practical elements of the course shining through.

**Miss Abbie Hartfield**  
Head of PE





HOULTON  
SCHOOL

Houlton School  
Signal Drive, Houlton, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 1ED

Telephone: 01788 593 300  
Email: [hello@houltonschool.org.uk](mailto:hello@houltonschool.org.uk)  
[www.houltonschool.org.uk](http://www.houltonschool.org.uk)

 @HoultonSchool |  @HoultonSchool |  @houltonschool