

# HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM WEEK 6,  
6TH JUNE, 2025



Dear Parents

The first week of the final half term draws to a close with the realisation that there are not too many weeks left in this academic year to cram everything into! I write to you today having just handed out Leavers' Hoodies to our Year 8 pupils, who joined me for a celebratory Magnum Ice Cream to mark the end of their Common Entrance exams this week. They should all be rightly proud of themselves for their efforts, not just this week, but in making the most out of every moment leading up to this week. An exciting residential to the Lake District lies ahead of them next week and I hope that they get some good weather.

It is very much the season for trips and our Year 4 pupils have thoroughly enjoyed their residential trip to the Horstead Centre this week, partaking in a range of exciting activities including bushcraft, archery, crate stacking, canoeing, climbing, a night hike, paddleboarding and fun around the campfire. Meanwhile our Year 7s departed early last Sunday morning for Château de La Baudonnière, where they have immersed themselves in the French language and culture whilst challenging themselves across a range of thrilling activities including: raft building, aeroball, archery, climbing and an assault course. With all of the instructors speaking only in French, it was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to develop their French listening and speaking skills, whilst writing up their daily journal ensured that their written French was, also, put into practice each evening. An incredible excursion out to the stunning Mont St Michel allowed them to explore the historic ramparts and take in the incredible views from the top – counting the numerous steps as they climbed! Thank you very much to the Château staff for their energy and enthusiasm over the course of the week, ensuring that our pupils have an abundance of memorable moments to treasure. Residential trips provide so many benefits for children, increasing confidence and self-esteem as well as enhancing their collaborative social skills. They, also, give opportunities for learning, problem-solving and building resilience. And, not forgetting, sharing magical moments with your friends! Next year we look forward to new residential trips such as the upcoming ski trip to Passo Tonale, as well as a potential multi-sports trip to Haileybury School in Malta (TBC) as part of the PSB.

Closer to home, the Formula Goblin event on the first Saturday of half term was enjoyed by eleven girls and boys from Year 6. Held on Lotus Cars' test track for the first time, the quick slalom and drag races that each pupil drove in the morning were followed by a full lap of the 2.2 mile circuit. Ably led by Mr. Smith, the Town Close teams then watched a bonus race for over 12s. In this, Mrs Minors (joined by Eva Thomas from Year 8) made a fine showing against parents and teachers from other schools! Our pupils competed with enthusiasm and we were delighted to take away the Spirit of Greenpower award. Sunday saw a large field of F24 teams gather at Hethel. Our brilliant 'Team Phantom' of Sophie F, Kitty K, Evie B, Elizabeth W, Alejandro OO, Patrikas G and William D were exemplary on track and in the pits. In the 90-minute races their skilful teamwork came to the fore, with speedy driver changeovers backing their great driving and taking them to victory! First place in the Kit-Car category was not all - no less impressive was the way they explained the technical features of the car while being judged for the Ford Engineering Award, which they also won! Huge thanks go to William Anthony and Sue Buck for co-running the Sunday trip, to Lotus Cars for hosting, to parents for their eager support on both days and to the volunteers without whom Greenpower cannot run the events.

Next week will be another busy one and there are lots of events in the coming weeks to look forward to including a whole host of upcoming Sport Day events, the Year 6 production and the Norfolk Show. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events in the weeks ahead.

I hope that you have a great weekend.

