



Welcome from Mrs Isaksen

Dear Parents/Carers and students,

As another half term approaches, I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support so far this academic year.

Parental support is a key driver of student success, whether in attendance, behaviour, or attitudes to learning. Your commitment to our high expectations is evident in the way the vast majority of students demonstrate 'The Huxlow Way' every day.

Staff work tirelessly to support the small minority who are still working towards meeting these standards, ensuring they have the guidance they need to succeed.

A highlight of my term has been welcoming visitors to our school and feeling incredibly proud as our students exemplify Respect, Ambition, and Pride in everything they do.

Students consistently report feeling safe in school, knowing they have Trusted Adults to turn to, and developing a strong sense of belonging and pride in our Huxlow community.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us strive for excellence in all that we do.

Please enjoy this final edition of our newsletter for the term. I wish all our students a safe and well-deserved break.

In this newsletter:

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HARA Sixth Form

CLICK [HERE](#) TO VIEW A LETTER SENT TO PARENTS/CARERS REGARDING OUR NEW MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM.

Outstanding Behaviour

Congratulations to the following students who have demonstrated exemplary behaviour and have been awarded a £20 voucher as recognition for their outstanding conduct. Your dedication and positive attitude have not gone unnoticed!



We are Huxlow

Students are reminded to embrace the fundamental values of **Pride** and **Respect**. Wearing our school uniform symbolises dignity and dedication, representing Huxlow's integrity and pursuit of excellence.

Demonstrating **Respect** in everything we do in our community creates a nurturing and inclusive atmosphere. By adopting these values, we inspire others positively.

Behaviour at Huxlow

At Huxlow, our goal is to ensure that lessons are free from disruptive behaviour. If students disrupt lessons and need to be parked, they will receive a reset after school; if this happens more than once, they will be required to spend a day in reflection.

We ask that parents and carers support Huxlow's behaviour system by arranging for their child to fulfill these sanctions, including picking them up after a reset at 4:05 PM. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. **Good behaviour leads to positive outcomes.**

End of Term Rewards

We are excited to celebrate students who have achieved 100% attendance and exemplary behaviour this term. Please support us by encouraging your child to achieve 100% attendance next term and to strive for outstanding behaviour, so they can partake in the celebrations.

- 100% Attendance - Enjoy Tropical Treats
- Excellent Behavior - Entry into the Huxlow Star Raffle
- 100% Attendance and Zero Negative Behavior Points this term - Certificate awarded



'The winner of the Huxlow Star Raffle was Polly in Y7. Congratulations!'



Parent Views

Thank you to all the parents and carers who responded to our recent Huxlow Views survey.

The results show that the majority of respondents feel that their child is happy and safe at Huxlow. They also felt that the academy set high expectations for students and that their child was doing well at the academy.

Positive comments included:

'My son enjoys every minute of school and comes home highly motivated, happy and determined to try his best the next day for stars. Couldn't be happier with Huxlow.'

'I'm very happy this school does everything possible to keep my son safe and he is encouraged to work hard.'

'My child feels safe and content.'

'Since the new head has started, I think the school has massively improved.'

Based on the results, our next steps include improving how we communicate with parents, particularly regarding what their child is learning. Additionally, we will continue fostering a culture of respect among our students.

Information about our curriculum and the topics covered by each year group can be found [here](#) on our website.

Year 11 Support

Year 11 still have a whopping 400 lessons before their May exams and they are making the most of it!

As part of our ongoing support for Year 11 students, we would like to remind you of our Year 11 platform, launched in September, which provides key resources to help you to support your child through key revisions

On this platform, you will find:

- Intervention Timetable – outlining extra sessions available to support your child's learning.

- Revision Guide – with essential resources and strategies for effective exam preparation.
- Prom Passport – details on how students can earn rewards and qualify for this year's prom.

We encourage you to explore the platform to stay informed and support your child's progress.

Please visit our [website](#) or scan the following QR code to access all the information.



Huxlow and Rushden Academy Sixth Form

As the term ends, 6th form students engaged in various activities.

They attended a PSHE session on Apprenticeships with Mrs. Holmes and researched post-18 options. A tasting session featured a 'Grab and Go' menu with burgers, pizzas, and 'Huxlow cookies,' allowing students to pre-order meals.

Additionally, six Year 13 students are on a funded trip to India for community support and sightseeing, including funding a water well they will visit.

Follow social media for updates on their experiences and impact!



Ethos Team

Intervention - Healthy Friendships

This term, alongside our Anti-Bullying campaign, the Ethos Team have been actively providing interventions focusing on healthy friendships. A dedicated group of Year 8 students embarked on group mentoring sessions aimed at helping their peers identify and nurture healthy friendships while effectively navigating the challenges of sustaining them.

Looking ahead to the next term, Ethos will introduce "Miss Understood," a series of six insightful sessions covering crucial topics such as self-esteem, body image, friendships, emotions, puberty, and the impact of social media.

Additionally, Luke from the Grace Foundation will return to conduct a specialised group intervention designed specifically for boys.



Drop ins - Tues, Wed, Thurs Lunchtime

This term, we have welcomed an average of 24 students to our Drop-In sessions. During the past week, we focused on exploring the various types of love.

Students participated in an engaging activity where they expressed their thoughts by writing on strips of paper, which were then creatively linked together to form a heart-shaped paper chain.



Parents Anxiety Workshop



This term, the Ethos Team has hosted a variety of engaging events for parents, including a Parents' Anxiety Workshop, a paint and sip coffee morning, and our inaugural Community Coffee Afternoon at Crow Hill.

Amy Matthews, our Ethos Family Support worker, shared her enthusiasm, stating, "It has been so wonderful to meet so many fantastic parents this term. I'm excited about organising more events and meeting even more families in the future."

Anti-Bullying at Huxlow Academy

At Huxlow, we promote respect through a strong anti-bullying culture, including recent workshops for Years 8, 9, and 10 that empower students to challenge bullying and support their peers.

Our PSHE curriculum encourages open discussions on the difference between bullying and banter, helping students develop empathy and understanding.

We take a zero-tolerance approach to bullying, ensuring that all incidents are taken seriously and addressed to maintain a safe and respectful school environment.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

our school values
Ambition Respect Pride

KINDNESS
is 'The Huxlow Way'

Who can I report bullying to?

- Form Tutor
- Head of Year,
- Trusted Adult,
- Anti-Bullying
- Ambassadors

Types of bullying:

- Unkind Words
- Name Calling
- Racist Language
- Excluding People
- Being Physical
- Being Unpleasant Online

Huxlow Academy
Ambition • Respect • Pride

Enrichment

Mon 03/02/2025	Tue 04/02/2025	Wed 05/02/2025	Thu 06/02/2025	Fri 07/02/2025
Hub Lunchtime club MA3 13.30-14.20	Ethos Toast Ethos Room 11.10-11.30	Ethos Toast Ethos Room 11.10-11.30	Ethos Toast Ethos Room 11.10-11.30	Hub Lunchtime club MA3 13.30-14.20
Board games ML1 13.30-14.20	Drop in Ethos room 13.30-14.20	Drop in Ethos room 13.30-14.20	Hub Lunchtime club MA3 13.30-14.20	Board games ML1 13.30-14.20
KS4 Indoor Football Sports Hall 13.30-14.15	Hub Lunchtime club MA3 13.30-14.20	Hub Lunchtime club MA3 13.30-14.20	Board games ML1 13.30-14.20	Badminton gym 13.30-14.15
Gymnastics Club gym 13.45-14.15	Board games ML1 13.30-14.20	Board games ML1 13.30-14.20	Drop in Ethos room 13.30-14.20	KS3 Dance Club Dance Studio 13.50-14.10
Y7 Dance Club Dance Studio 13.50-14.10	Mythology and Creative Writing EQ 13.40-14.15	Dodgeball sports hall 13.45-14.15	Year 8 & 9 Indoor Football Sports Hall 13.45-14.10	
Basketball (All Years) Sports Hall 13.50-14.15	Year 7 Indoor Football Sports Hall 13.45-14.10	Year 9 Drama Club Drama 13.50-14.15	Badminton gym 13.45-14.15	
		Girls Football gym 13.50-14.15	Year 7 Drama Drama Studio 13.50-14.10	
		U13 Boys Football Club hall 16.20-16.20	Further GCSE hall 16.20-16.20	

We offer a wide range of enrichment activities every day, giving students the opportunity to explore new interests, develop their character, and build confidence.

These activities play a vital role in enhancing student well-being by promoting teamwork, resilience, and a sense of belonging within the school community.

Engaging in enrichment helps students develop important life skills beyond the classroom, supporting their personal growth and future aspirations.

Residentials

We offer our students a residential opportunity throughout their school life here at Huxlow.

In Years 7 and 8 this year, students have the opportunity to spend 3 days at an activity centre in Shropshire. In Year 9, there is a biannual trip to France and in Years 9 and 10, a biannual opportunity to visit Iceland.

In Year 11 there is a biannual trip to France and in Years 11, 12 and 13, there is the annual Tour of Remembrance to Poland.

For students who also are choosing to stay on in our sixth form, once they have finished their exams in Year 11, there is a two day residential to build relationships before sixth form begins!

These opportunities are offered to build cultural capital and to take learning outside of the classroom.



Curriculum Highlights - Excellence in every classroom

At Huxlow Academy, our commitment to delivering an engaging and enriching curriculum is shining through in every subject. Students are embracing new challenges, developing key skills, and demonstrating enthusiasm for their learning. We are also pleased to note that staffing stability has improved, ensuring that high-quality teaching is maintained across the school.

Here are just a few of the fantastic things happening in our classrooms this term:

French

Year 9 students have been exploring French traditions and celebrations, showing a fantastic understanding of the cultural aspects of the language. Their enthusiasm for learning about different customs has sparked some insightful discussions.

In Year 8, students have been immersed in the world of French music, discovering artists from various genres and learning about the North African and Caribbean influences in Rai and Zouk. Many were surprised to find that global stars like Daft Punk and David Guetta are actually French!



History

Students in Year 8 had an unforgettable experience this week when amateur historian Ian Wedge visited Huxlow to share his expertise on the First World War.

With a fascinating collection of historical artifacts—including a real WWI helmet recovered from a battlefield and a decade-old WWI-style biscuit—he truly brought history to life.

Students responded with insightful questions, showing curiosity, respect, and engagement, fully embracing The Huxlow Way.



Mathematics

Mathematics at Huxlow continues to challenge and stretch students at all levels:

Year 13 and Year 12 have been focused on their mock examinations, demonstrating resilience and problem-solving skills.

Year 11 have been reviewing their mock feedback and pushing forward with their GCSE scheme of work.

Further GCSE Maths students have shown real dedication, attending after-school sessions every Thursday to prepare for A-Level Maths. A group of 14 students is already showing great promise!

Year 10 & Year 9 – 60 Year 10 students from the top sets and 30 of the most able Year 9 students took part in the prestigious UK Maths Challenge, a national competition designed to develop high-level problem-solving skills.

Year 8 have been investigating circles and mastering key concepts in geometry.

Year 7 have been developing their understanding of perimeter and area, with one group trialling an inquiry-based lesson where they asked questions to explore a puzzle or problem—an exciting step in fostering independent learning!



Curriculum Highlights - Excellence in every classroom

English

Year 7 have been diving into Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, bringing the play to life through discussion and creative activities, which will continue into next term.

Year 8 have been exploring non-fiction texts through the lens of Conflict, examining how figures like Mary Seacole have been represented throughout history.

Year 9 have been engaging with poetry on themes of race and anger, leading to some powerful discussions. Their creative writing skills have also been put to the test as they enter their own poems into the Young Writers "Poetry Escape" competition.

Year 10 have been dissecting *A Christmas Carol*, with a particular focus on Scrooge's character and key quotations—a crucial step in their GCSE preparation.

Year 11 are deep into revision, mastering their Power & Conflict poetry anthology by securing three key quotations for each studied poem in preparation for their exams.

"This is just a snapshot of the fantastic work happening across the curriculum. With a committed team of teachers and engaged students, learning at Huxlow Academy continues to thrive!"

Smashed Tour

On February 13th, Year 7 and 8 students participated in the SMASHED alcohol awareness workshop, aimed at educating them about the dangers of binge drinking and alcohol abuse.

The workshop combined drama and interactive activities, that highlighted the potential consequences of alcohol misuse.

- **Understanding the Dangers:** Students learned about the health risks and long-term effects of excessive alcohol consumption on both physical and mental health.
- **Overcoming Peer Pressure:** The workshop provided strategies for resisting peer pressure.
- **Building Awareness and Empathy:** Students developed a greater understanding of how alcohol abuse affects individuals and communities, fostering empathy for those struggling with addiction.



SEND Drop-Ins

SEND drop-ins will take place next term with slots available for parents to be able to book an appointment to discuss any needs.

Details to follow shortly.

There will be morning and afternoon appointments available, however do contact the SEND team in the meantime, if you have any questions before this.

senco@huxlow.northants.sch.uk



Attendance

KS3/4 - 91.28%
Post 16 - 92.16%
Y7 - 92.87%
Y8 - 90.00%
Y9 - 92.00%
Y10 - 91.59%
Y11 - 89.97%
Y12 - 93.37%
Y13 - 90.70%

Positive Points

Y7 - 98995
Y8 - 92358
Y9 - 91748
Y10 - 87703
Y11 - 85370

Dates for the Diary

14th February - School closes
24th February - School opens
27th February - Y12 Parents Evening

Safeguarding

Huxlow Safeguarding Team 2024/25



Mrs R Roberts
Deputy Head
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs L Gauvrit
Senior Assistant Head
Operational Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Z Correa
Assistant Head
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Safeguarding Team:
Mrs J Watson - Deputy Head
Mrs N Groves - Attendance Officer

Other Trained Staff:
Mrs K Isaksen - Headteacher
Mrs H Sghendo - Head of Year 7
Mr L Venn - Head of Year 10
Mrs J Holmes - Director of Learning for Sixth Form
Mrs K De Gaunza - Family Support Worker

Mrs H Huchet - Assistant Head
Miss K Marlow - Behaviour Lead



You can contact MASH directly on: 0300 126 7000
You can contact the Local Authority Designated Officer on: 07831 123193

What to do if you have a safeguarding concern:

During school hours - contact Mrs L Gauvrit
l.gauvrit@huxlow.northants.sch.uk

Outside school hours - contact MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) 0300 126 7000

If there is no immediate danger or if you need advice, contact the Northamptonshire Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub 0300 126 7000 (Option 1)

Reports can also be online by visiting
<https://nctrust.co.uk/report-a-concern-or-request-support/>



IF IT IS AN EMERGENCY AND YOU THINK THAT A CHILD MAY BE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER PLEASE CONTACT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTLY BY CALLING 999.

IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT MASH URGENTLY DURING THE EVENING, AT NIGHT OR AT THE WEEKEND, PLEASE PHONE THE MASH OUT OF HOURS TEAM - 01604 626 938