6th November 2026

The Hayling College

THE HAYLING COLLEGE

Happy, Healthy, High Performing

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the second half of the autumn term, I have been reflecting on just how much has already happened at The Hayling College since September. Looking back through our newsletters, it is wonderful to see the sheer variety of learning, experiences and achievements taking place every week. It is a real reminder of what makes our school such a special place to be.

There is so much to celebrate. From the enthusiasm of our new Year 7 students and the determination of Year 11 as they prepare for their next steps, to the creativity, curiosity and hard work evident in classrooms across every year group, our students continue to impress us. Whether they are tackling challenging mathematics, debating important issues, exploring science, developing their creativity or pushing themselves beyond their comfort zones, it is fantastic to see them embracing opportunities to learn and grow.

Of course, school life is about so much more than lessons. Our newsletters have been filled with sporting achievements, theatre visits, performances, clubs, outdoor learning, fundraising, student leadership and community projects. From supporting schools in Kenya to championing environmental sustainability, our young people are demonstrating kindness, resilience, ambition and a genuine desire to make a difference. Just as importantly, we continue to celebrate the everyday successes: the excellent effort, positive attitudes, thoughtful contributions and small steps forward that deserve recognition.

So, what are we looking forward to this half term? Quite simply, even more of the same! More inspiring lessons, more opportunities to get involved, more achievements to celebrate and more chances for students to discover talents and interests they may not even know they have. With preparations for Frozen Jr., Dance Live 2027 and our National Theatre New Views project progressing, alongside our growing environmental work and exciting plans for the College grounds, there is plenty to look forward to.

We will also continue to place kindness, respect and belonging at the heart of College life. Next week's Anti-Bullying Week activities and our Remembrance observance offer important opportunities to reflect on our responsibilities to one another and the wider community.

Our recent INSET day was a further reminder of the commitment of our staff, who are continually reflecting, learning and working together to make our College even better. Our ambition remains clear: excellent teaching, an inclusive and supportive environment, and opportunities for every young person to thrive.

Finally, thank you to our students, staff, parents, carers and wider community for everything you contribute. There is a great deal to be proud of, and I am excited about what we will achieve together over the coming weeks.

Happy, Healthy, High Performing is more than our motto. It is what we want every student to experience, every day.

Martyn Reah
Headteacher

It's Green Careers Week! 2–7 November 2026

Have you ever considered how your future career could help protect the planet?

This week is Green Careers Week, encouraging young people to explore the many exciting careers that contribute to a more sustainable future. From renewable energy and conservation to engineering, construction, science and technology, there are plenty of opportunities to make a positive difference!

Students can get involved by exploring the free resources available, including the Green Buzz Quiz, Virtual Careers Fair, STEM activities and BBC Bitesize careers resources.

Remember, green careers aren't just about working outdoors! Whatever your interests or favourite school subjects, there could be a career that allows you to help shape a greener future.

Find out more and explore the free resources at **greencareersweek.com**.

Dates for your diary

⭐ Monday 9 – Friday 13 November: Anti-Bullying Week – assemblies focusing on kindness

⭐ Monday 9 November: Tomorrow's Engineers Week activities

⭐ Wednesday 11 November:

- Remembrance Day observance – 11.00am
- Parent Surgery – 2.00pm–3.00pm
- Stronger Leaders Programme activities

INSET Day at The Hayling College

We welcomed staff back after half term for a day of professional learning, collaboration and reflection, all focused on our ambition to be a Happy, Healthy, High Performing College.

📖 Teaching, Learning and Inclusion

Teaching staff revisited key approaches to behaviour, purposeful seating plans, responsive teaching and supporting pupils' individual needs. Colleagues also explored Teaching and Learning Communities (TLCs) and MyMindCoach, sharing ideas to strengthen classroom practice, wellbeing and inclusion.

Climate Action and Outdoor Learning

Staff explored our Climate Action Plan and the National Education Nature Park, considering how our school grounds, curriculum and wider community can help students understand environmental challenges and contribute to a greener future. Clean classroom air, energy efficiency, biodiversity and pupil leadership were also key areas of discussion.

Supporting Our Staff – Menopause Awareness

Our support staff took part in a dedicated training session to develop understanding of menopause, challenge misconceptions and consider how we can better support colleagues in the workplace.

One College, One Direction

The day provided a valuable opportunity to share ideas, reflect on our priorities and strengthen our commitment to ensuring every student can thrive. A big thank you to all our staff, external partners and session leaders for contributing to such a positive and productive day!



420 Trees Coming to The Hayling College!

We are delighted to announce that 420 native trees will be arriving at The Hayling College next spring, thanks to the Woodland Trust's Free Trees for Schools initiative.

The project was inspired by ideas shared during a recent INSET day and championed by Mr Arbon, who is planning an exciting House competition centred around planting the new saplings and creating a greener school environment.

The initiative will give students the opportunity to work together, enhance our school grounds and support local wildlife, leaving a lasting legacy for future generations.
420 trees, four Houses and one greener future.
We look forward to sharing updates as the project develops!



Forest School Fun

Our students enjoyed a fantastic day at Forest School, making the most of the great outdoors. Activities included building an assault course, making a snowman, splitting logs for the fire and even enjoying a game of chess.
It was wonderful to see students developing teamwork, resilience, creativity and problem-solving skills while having fun and embracing the fresh air.





This week, students took part in a moving and reflective Remembrance Assembly led by Mrs Long. The assembly explored the importance of remembrance and the sacrifices made by those who have served their country.

Mrs Long brought a personal and heartfelt perspective to the occasion, sharing connections to her own family and her husband's role, helping students to appreciate the significance of remembrance on a deeper level.



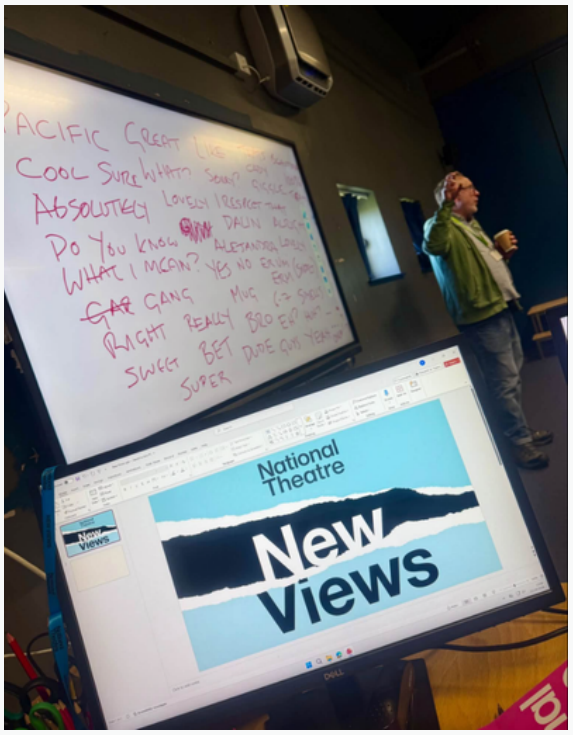
The assembly concluded with a beautiful vocal performance that provided a powerful and memorable moment for all those present.

It was a poignant reminder of why we remember, honour and give thanks to those who have sacrificed so much.
Lest We Forget. 🌺

Students Step Into the World of New Writing

Students have made an exciting start to this year's National Theatre New Views project, an initiative that encourages young people to engage with new writing while developing their acting, creativity and theatrical skills.
We were delighted to welcome Christopher Hill for our first workshop this week. His expertise and guidance will play an important role in supporting and inspiring our students as they create and perform original work. We look forward to sharing their progress throughout the year.





Year 7 Dance

Our Year 7 dancers have been exploring the exciting concepts of balance and counterbalance in their lessons this week.
Working in pairs, students challenged themselves to create a range of impressive shapes and movements, demonstrating teamwork, trust and creativity. One highlight was an incredible double lift that required excellent communication, concentration and core strength.
Well done to all our Year 7 dancers for their enthusiasm and commitment as they continue to develop their skills and confidence.

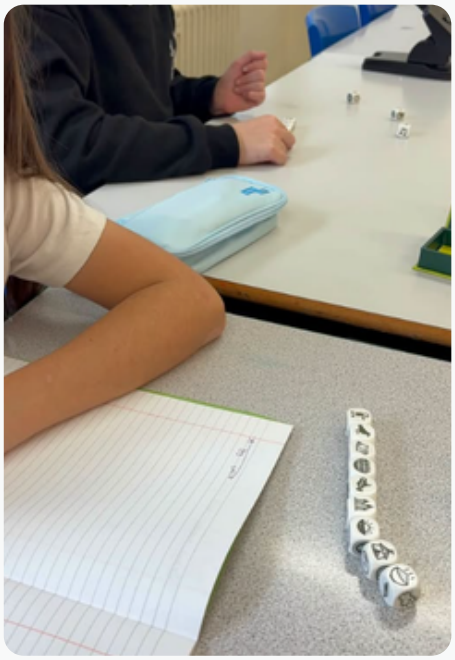


Year 10 Celebration Assembly

Before half term, our Pupil Progress Leads led celebration assemblies, recognising the many successes across the year group.
With sporting achievements, preparations for the winter production and an impressive number of merits earned, Year 10 made an excellent start to the academic year. We were also delighted to celebrate another group of Gold Star Learners. Well done, Year 10!



Creative Writing Club



Before half term, members of our Creative Writing Club used story-writing cubes to inspire their latest pieces of writing.

With characters, settings and plot twists decided by the roll of a dice, students challenged themselves to think creatively and develop imaginative new stories.

Ice Skating Champion

Congratulations to Eleanor, who achieved first place in her recent ice skating competition.



A wonderful reward for all her hard work and dedication. We are incredibly proud of her achievement!

Year 8 Debate Challenge

Before half term, our Year 8 students took part in a thought-provoking Speaking and Listening assessment in English, debating whether a local wildlife park should be replaced with new housing.

Adopting a range of community roles, including wildlife experts, teachers, builders and prospective homeowners, students explored different viewpoints and presented well-reasoned arguments. They demonstrated excellent communication skills by listening respectfully, responding thoughtfully to challenges and supporting their opinions with evidence.

It was fantastic to see such confidence, maturity and critical thinking on display. Well done to all our Year 8 students for their enthusiastic participation and persuasive speaking.





Show Racism the Red Card

Before half term, a group of students visited Fratton Park to take part in a Show Racism the Red Card workshop, helping to launch our school's anti-racism campaign.
The session encouraged students to champion equality, respect and inclusion, inspiring them to make a positive difference within our school community.



Young Green Briton Challenge

As part of Green Careers Week, our Year 8 students took part in the exciting Young Green Briton Challenge, a national initiative that encourages young people to explore environmental issues in their local communities and develop creative solutions for a more sustainable future.
Throughout the day, students worked collaboratively to tackle real-world environmental challenges, generating innovative ideas around sustainable transport, biodiversity, conservation and improving local green spaces. Their enthusiasm, creativity and problem-solving skills were evident in every activity.

Our visiting facilitators were highly impressed by the quality of the students' ideas, praising their ability to think critically and creatively about the future of their community and the wider environment.

The experience also helped students develop important skills for the future, including teamwork, communication, confidence and leadership, while providing an insight into the growing range of careers within the green sector.
A huge thank you goes to Mrs Gillian Jackman, Head of Creative Faculty, and the staff team who helped make the day such a success. Their planning, support and enthusiasm ensured a memorable and inspiring experience for all involved.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 8 students for the maturity, imagination and positive attitude they demonstrated throughout the challenge. They showed that they are not only learning about the future but are already thinking about how they can help shape it.

Fantastic Start for Year 7 Netball

Our Year 7 netball team made a fantastic start to their season at Crookhorn School, playing their first competitive matches on a full-sized court.
After a challenging first game, the team showed great determination to secure an excellent win in their second match. Congratulations to Leo for some superb shooting and to Poppy, who was named Player of the Match.
We are incredibly proud of the team's teamwork, effort and resilience. Well done, Year 7!



Hampshire SEND Youth Forum Survey

The Hampshire SEND Youth Forum is inviting young people aged 14–25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to share their views through its latest survey.

The survey is open until Sunday 8 November and provides an opportunity for young people to have their voices heard and help shape future support and services.

Families and eligible students are encouraged to take part before the deadline via the link provided.

https://hampshirecc.welcomesyourfeedback.net/s/2026-SEND-forum-survey

Year 9 Mathematicians Rise to the Challenge



W**e are incredibly proud of our Year 9 mathematicians!** This week, students tackled the challenging topic of calculating the volume of cylinders using the formula $\pi r^2 h$ and showed excellent understanding throughout the lesson.

Using diagnostic questions and simple hand-voting responses, every student was able to engage confidently and demonstrate their thinking. This approach allowed misconceptions to be identified and addressed immediately, while encouraging all students to participate without the pressure of speaking out in front of the class.

The result was a lesson full of focus, confidence and outstanding effort. Well done, Year 9!



Participation Counts!

Congratulations to our latest raffle winner, whose fantastic efforts in Maths and Geography earned them postcards, raffle tickets and a brilliant prize!

It's great to see hard work and positive contributions being rewarded. Remember, every postcard is another chance to win!

Attendance Matters: A Positive Start to the Year

We are delighted to share some encouraging news from the Department for Education's latest Similar Schools Attendance Report.
The Hayling College ranked 7th out of 21 comparable schools for overall attendance, achieving 90.5%, which is above the average attendance rate for similar schools.

Some of the report's highlights include:

- Year 9 attendance reached 91%, placing us ahead of 16 of the 20 similar schools in the comparison group.
- Our rate of persistent absence was lower than the average for comparable schools.
- Attendance among pupils eligible for Free School Meals improved by 2.5 percentage points compared with the previous year.
- Our Monday and Friday morning attendance was particularly strong when compared with similar schools.
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While we are pleased with these results, we know there is more work to do. Improving attendance remains a key priority for the College, and we will continue to work closely with students and families to support regular attendance and remove barriers to learning.

Every day in school provides valuable opportunities to learn, achieve and thrive. Thank you to our students, parents, carers and staff for your ongoing support. Together, we can build on this positive progress and make attendance even stronger throughout the year.

