

HILLHEAD HIGH SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

**WE THRIVE TOGETHER!**



Dear Parent/Carer,

Within this newsletter you will find information about some of the work undertaken across the school last term as well as information on school clubs, senior phase study support and our updated Personal and Social Education (PSE) curriculum.

We continue to send out communications on a regular basis via our school app and/or email and if you are not receiving this communication, please contact our school office.

As always if you have any queries in relation to your child, please contact their Pastoral Care Teacher in the first instance. Details can be found on the last page of the newsletter.

## IPADS



Most pupils have now received their new iPads and should be bringing them to school each day. Those who have not yet received them should do so within the next couple of weeks.



## FIRE SAFETY



On Tuesday 21st October, all S1 and S2 pupils took part in an assembly from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service around the dangers of fireworks. This covered the risks of all the different types of fireworks. Experiences of other young people were shared. Both year-groups engaged really well and asked thoughtful questions.



# 55 EVIDENCE GATHERING

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December



e-Sgoil is a national e-learning service established in 2016. The focus is on live, interactive, online learning using technology to remove barriers and improve outcomes for young people. Study support is for Senior Phase learners (S4-S6) who are working towards National Qualifications.

This year's programme offers 55 weekly webinars covering 29 subjects across N4 to Advanced Higher levels and is open to all pupils in the Senior Phase.

On this page you'll find the timetable for the full webinar programme as well as supporting materials and information about how to register.

MONDAY			TUESDAY			WEDNESDAY		
5pm	Maths	N5	5pm	Music	N5	5pm	ESOL	N5
	Health & Food Technology	N5/Higher		Maths	Higher		French	N5
	Biology	Adv Higher		Modern Studies	Higher		Engineering Science	N5
6pm	Maths	N4	6pm	Spanish	Higher	Geography	Higher	
	Physics	Higher		Maths	Adv Higher	History	Adv Higher	
	Physics	Adv Higher		Business Management	Higher	Graphic Communication	Higher	
	Human Biology	Higher	Music	Higher	6pm	Geography	N5	
	Business Management	N5	English	Higher	Engineering Science	Higher		
	Applications of Maths	N5	7pm	Chemistry	Adv Higher	French	Higher	
	RMPS	N5/Higher	English (1)	N5	English (2)	N5		
	Practical Cookery	N5			History	N5		
Politics	H	<b>THURSDAY</b>			7pm	Chemistry	N5	
Applications of Maths	Higher	5pm	Admin & IT (Theory only) *	Higher	Gaelic	N5/Higher		
7pm	Biology	Higher		German	N5	English	Adv Higher	
	Computing Science	Higher		Latin	N5	History	Higher	
				Art & Design	N5			
				English	N4			
				6pm	Physics	N5		
					Chemistry	Higher		
					Design & Manufacture	N5/Higher		
					Biology	N5		
					Art & Design *	Higher		
					German	Higher		
					7PM	Graphic Communication	N5	
					PE	Higher		
					Computing Science	N5		

\* starting 4<sup>th</sup> December

\* starting 20<sup>th</sup> November

[www.e-sgoil.com](http://www.e-sgoil.com)

National e-Learning Offer

# SS EVIDENCE GATHERING



Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Hillhead High has a school subscription to Achieve website.

This website is an excellent revision tool for all NQ Qualifications. It breaks down learning into chunks which are clearly explained and illustrated. There are hundreds of links to free resources and SQA exam questions and solutions. Online assessments will test pupils understanding and help identify your strengths and areas for improvement. Use ACHIEVE to boost your confidence and pass exams with better grades.



**LOG IN**

**USING YOUR GLOW EMAIL**

Student Sign Up

E-mail  
E-mail address

Password  
Password

Password (again)  
Password (again)

Sign Up

Already have an account? [Sign in](#)

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Home My Courses Learn Assess Self-evaluate

Learn

National 5 Business Management

Understanding business Marketing Operations People Finance

Role of business in society

The nature of business organisations

Factors of production

The sectors of industry

Sectors of the economy

Consumers

Home My Courses Learn Assess Self-evaluate

Higher Mathematics

Determine the resultant of vector pathways in three dimensions

1. ABCDEFGH is a cuboid

$\overline{AB} = p$ ,  $\overline{BF} = q$  and  $\overline{HF} = r$

Express  $\overline{FA}$  in terms of  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$

# MENTORS IN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Our school participates in the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) program—an innovative initiative designed to empower young people to become leaders in promoting respectful relationships and preventing bullying, harassment, and violence.

Through engaging discussions and scenario-based learning, MVP encourages students to think critically about real-life situations and equips them with practical strategies to safely intervene as active bystanders. The programme fosters empathy, confidence, and a strong sense of responsibility, helping pupils build a safer and more inclusive school community.

Our trained student mentors from S4 will be working with S1 pupils to lead sessions, model positive behaviour, and support others in making respectful choices.



# COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY

## FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM AND CLOTHING ITEMS

A reminder to all parents and carers that we have some new and good quality second hand uniform items available for anyone who needs them.

We also have some warm winter jackets, hats and scarves, hoodies and school bags available too.

Please get in touch with your child's Pastoral Care teacher if you need any of the above items or have any questions.



## FINANCIAL INCLUSION OFFICER (FISO)

Nicola McCaskill is the FISO at Hillhead High. You can get in touch with Nicola directly or if you would like more information, please contact your child's Pastoral Care teacher. Nicola can offer advice on the following:

- Email Nicola McCaskill - [schools@money mattersweb.co.uk](mailto:schools@money mattersweb.co.uk)
- Call Nicola McCaskill - 0141 648 2022
- Benefits Advice, including Universal Credit, Disability Benefits, Council Tax Reduction
- Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
- Free School Meals and Clothing Grant
- Bank Accounts
- Free Bus Travel
- Child Disability Benefit
- Young Carers Grant
- Debt Advice
- Fuel support



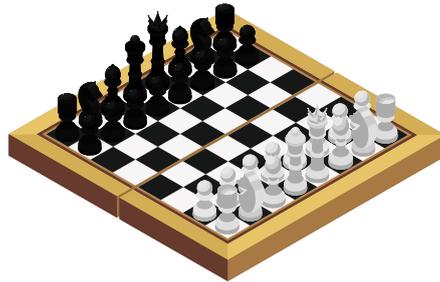
# CONGRATULATIONS

## CHESS

Humam in S1 was successful in the annual Edinburgh Junior Chess Congress at Broughton High School and won First Place in the Open section (S6 and under). This is an incredible achievement.

Humam has been playing competitively since P4 and has a long track record of success, including his primary school team consistently winning the annual championships. Furthermore, since P5, he has been a member of the Chess Scotland International Squad. For the past two years, he was awarded the top junior prize in the Major Section of the Chess Scotland Grand Prix, a season-long national competition that brings adults and junior players from across Scotland, with points earned throughout the year.

Well done Humam!



## OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

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If your child has achieved success in a talent or activity outside of school, we'd love to hear about it and celebrate their accomplishment. Please email [gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.sch.uk)



# PERSONAL AND SOCIAL EDUCATION

During the 2024/25 session, we have redeveloped our Personal and Social Education (PSE) curriculum to ensure that it reflects modern life, builds pupils' life skills and resilience, and meets the needs of our Hillhead community.

The redesign has been a collaborative process involving pupils from all year groups, staff from across departments, and parents, who shared their views in focus groups held in January and February 2025. Their input has helped shape a programme that is relevant, engaging, and meaningful for our young people.

## Curriculum Structure

The new curriculum is structured around four key themes explored by every year group:

1. **Habits for Learning** – developing positive learning behaviours and retrieval skills
2. **Habits for Belonging** – fostering inclusion, respect, and a sense of community.
3. **Habits for Work** – preparing pupils with the skills needed for future pathways.
4. **Habits for Life** – focusing on wellbeing, safety, and making responsible choices.

## Focus on Safety and Risk Awareness

Within the Habits for Life unit, pupils focus on understanding and managing risk, both at home and in the wider community. Topics such as substance misuse, relationships and sexual health, online safety, and crime prevention are explored progressively, revisiting and building upon previous learning as pupils move through school.

Each year group concludes the unit with two key lessons on Evaluating Risk:

1. Hazard Perception - pupils analyse scenarios to identify potential risks and how to avoid them.
2. Mistakes - pupils reflect on situations where poor decisions have led to risk or harm, exploring how to seek help and the support services available.

## Next Steps

This year, our new curriculum is being piloted and evaluated through ongoing pupil and staff feedback to ensure it continues to evolve and meet the needs of our learners.

At Hillhead, we are committed to helping every pupil develop the knowledge, confidence, and resilience to stay safe, supported, and ready for life.

Hillhead High School: PSE Curriculum											
	June	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
P7									P7 to S1 Transitions IDL: Us		
S1	P7 to S1 Transitions IDL: Us			Habits for Belonging			Habits for Learning		Habits for Life		
S2	Habits for Learning			Habits for Belonging			Habits for Work		Habits for Life		
S3	Habits for Learning			Habits for Belonging			S3 to S4 Transitions IDL: Me				
S4	Habits for Learning			Habits for Belonging			Habits for Work		Habits for Life		
S5	Evidence Gathering	Habits for Learning		Habits for Belonging			Habits for Work		Habits for Life	Exam Leave	
S6	Habits for Leadership	Habits for Work		Habits for Belonging			Habits for Leadership	Evidence Gathering	Habits for Life	Exam Leave	

# PASTORAL CARE DETAILS

Pastoral Care Responsibilities								
Session 2025-26								
Mrs K McLennan	2D	3A	3F	4A	5A	5B	6A	
Mr J Greechan	1E	2A	2E	3C	4D	5F	6D	
Ms A Williams	1A	2F	3E	4F	5C	6B	6C	
Ms J Hewitt	1B	1F	2B	3B	4B	4E	5D	
Mrs N Alexander	1C	1D	2C	3D	4C	5E	6E	6F

Mrs McLennan – [gw18mclennankarenemm@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw18mclennankarenemm@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Greechan – [gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Ms Williams – [gw20williamsalice@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw20williamsalice@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Ms Hewitt – [gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mrs Alexander – [gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

# SUPPORT FOR LEARNING

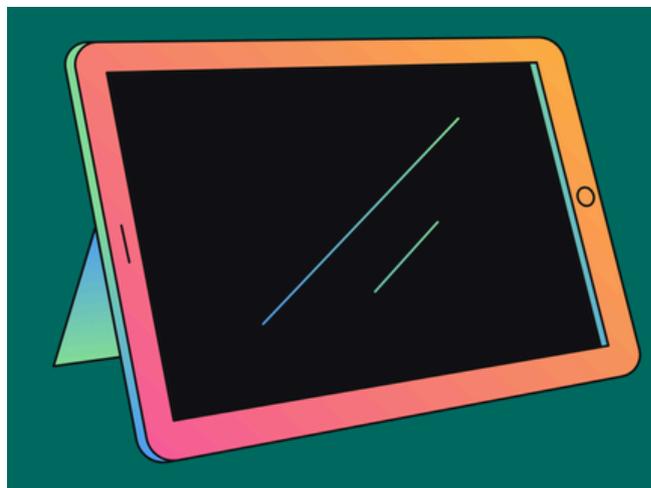
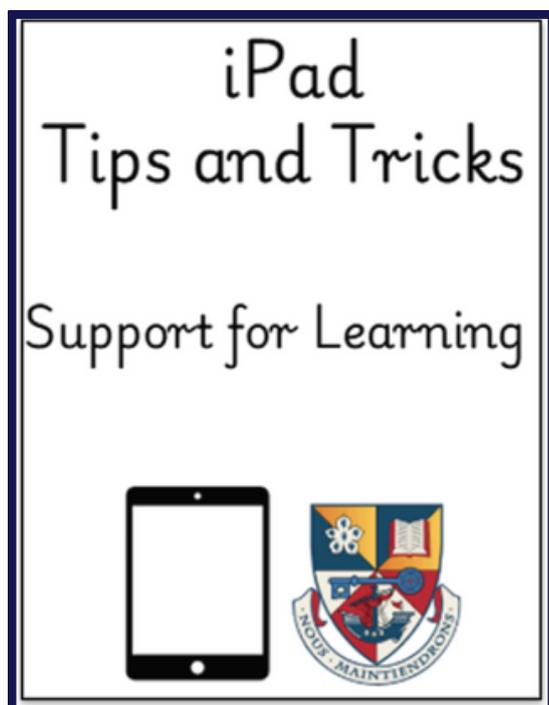
## S6 INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The S6 Inclusion Committee celebrated Dyslexia Awareness Week by hosting assemblies highlighting myths around dyslexia. The Committee also hosted a lunchtime event to share further information and allow pupils and staff to test their new knowledge!



## S1 IPADS

With S1 being issued their iPads, the SfL department has started our iPad 'Tips and Tricks' sessions, focusing on accessibility features to make accessing the curriculum easier and more efficient.



# SCIENCE FACULTY

## ADVANCED HIGHER CHEMISTRY



Our 20 Advanced Higher Chemists have completed their labs at Glasgow University. Well done to all involved!

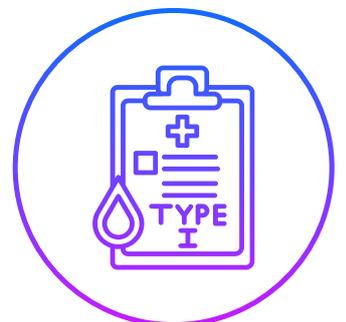
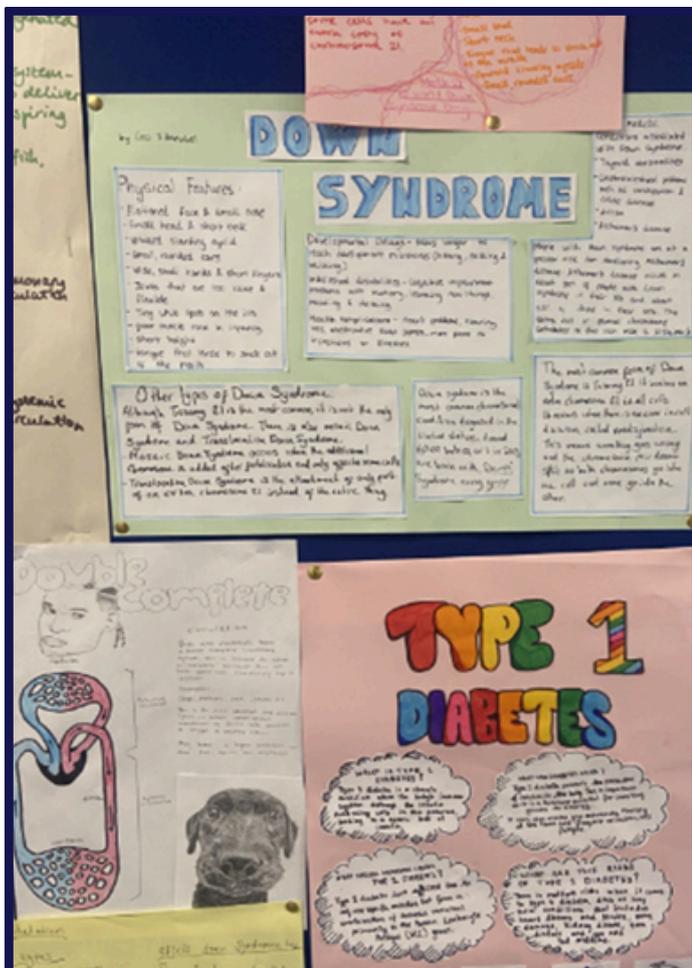
## S5 PHYSICS

A group of S5 Physicists enjoyed a Biomechanical Engineering event at Strathclyde University.



## S4 BIOLOGY

S4 Higher Biologists have been learning about mutations and creating information posters to share their learning.



# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



**WE ARE A READING SCHOOL!**



## BOOK CLUB

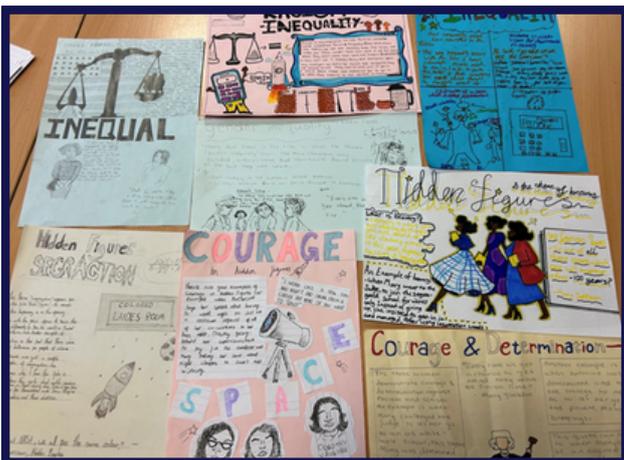


We had a book tasting to choose our first novel of the year! We voted on "I Must Betray You" by Ruta Sepetys. Book club have also launched a spooky story writing competition this month for pupils in S1 and S2. Top winners received their prizes on the week of Halloween.



## S3 ENGLISH

S3 English have been studying "Hidden Figures". Pupils created theme mats and are currently preparing individual research projects to present on for Black History Month.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Huge congratulations to Zakaria Khan (1B) who has been named as a finalist in The Lord Provost's Poetry Prize. He has been invited to the final at the City Chambers.



# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## GLASGOW YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL

A huge congratulations to Jack Cameron in S5 who was one of the young programmers at the Glasgow Youth Film Festival. He worked so hard on many aspects of the festival including advocating for the film Train to Busan to be part of the programme, co-writing the programme insert for the documentary Runa Simi and masterfully hosting a Q+A with the Director Augusto Zegarra. He also showed his own short film at the festival, and this was played on the cinema screen to attendees.



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

S4 pupils took part in their final expedition to gain the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. They endured terrible weather, navigated well and worked well in their teams. For several of them it was the hardest thing they'd ever done! Congratulations!

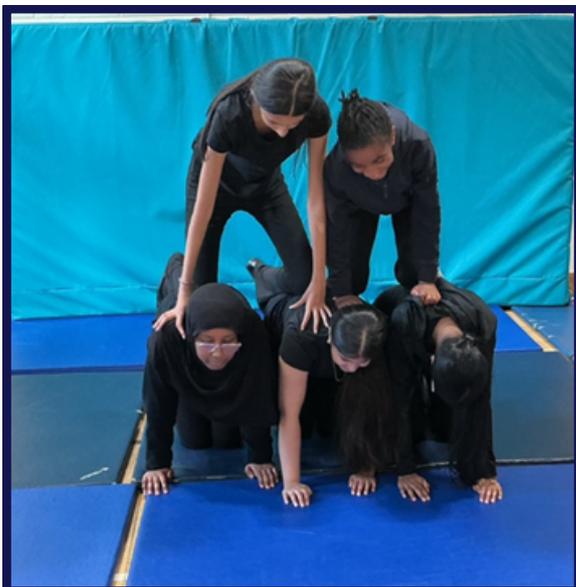


# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

S1's Travelling out of school – PE Classes have now moved on to their second activity of the year. All S1 pupils started off with a block of gymnastics, combined with fitness. S1's will now be travelling out of school for PE, to places such as Kelvinhall and Maryhill.



One pupil in 1F completing a straddle jump



1D pupils doing gymnastics in gym 1

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

BGE Snapshot – Below you will find a snapshot of some of the activities S2 were undertaking during block 1:



2D pupils playing football at Hughenden



2C pupils playing basketball at Springburn



2E pupils playing frisbee at Hughenden



2F pupils playing badminton at Kelvinhall



2A pupils playing badminton at Kelvinhall

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Pupils of the Block – Pupils of the block have recently been awarded in PE, for block 1 of our activities. Pupils have been nominated by class teachers and every teacher selects two pupils who have demonstrated an exceptional working attitude during class, and have displayed our school values. Well done to the following pupils:

(BGE – Broad General Education, SP – Senior Phase)

- Mr Gemmill -> BGE - Khang Ninh SP – Darius Cheskin
- Mr Gillespie -> BGE – Kaylee Lujika SP – Karis Stewart
- Mrs Trobe -> BGE - Sophia Stewart SP – Yashraj Pillai
- Mrs Houston -> BGE – Duke French SP – Sadie Macdonald
- Mr Neil -> BGE – Cole Ralston SP – Cian Hillan
- Mr Richardson -> BGE – Ted Sherry SP – Nathan Zacharia
- Mr McFarlane -> SP – Jie Goldie
- Miss Riddell -> BGE – Ava Strachan SP – Etsuya Tsukamoto
- Mrs McEwan BGE – Benjamin Abel SP - Shinee Dhatualia

# SPORTS CLUBS AND TEAMS

The whole school clubs timetable is now up and running. Clubs provide pupils with the opportunity to develop wider skills, build resilience and be part of a team, to name a few. The school's program is extensive and you will see below what is currently on offer:

<b>Monday</b>	Fitness	S1-S6	Lunch Time	Fitness Suite	Mrs McEwan
	Film Club	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M106	Ms Southern
	Study Skills Support	S5-S6	Lunch Time	Library	Mrs Macdonald
	Book Club	S1-S3	Lunch Time	M112	Mrs Rothery
	Badminton	S1-S6	After school	Gameshall	Mr Gillespie
	Show Choir	S1-S6	After school	Assembly Hall	Ms Ross
	Foreign Language Social Club	S1-S6	After school	M208	Mr Singh
<b>Tuesday</b>	Gender and Sexuality Alliance	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M106	Miss Thomson
	Film Club	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M112	Ms Southern
	Volleyball Team	Seniors	Lunch Time	Gameshall	Mr Gemmill & Mrs Mc
	Foreign Language Social Club	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M208	Mr Singh
	Eco Club (alternate Tuesdays)	S1-S6	Lunch Time	T32	Ms Caldwell
	Brass Ensemble	S1-S6	Lunch Time	Music Departme	Ms Ross
	Table Tennis	S4-S6	Lunch Time	Gameshall	Mr McFarlane
	Volleyball Team	Seniors	After school	Gameshall	Mr Gemmill & Mrs Mc
	Gymnastics	S1-S6	After school	Gym 1	Mrs Trobe and Miss F
<b>Wednesd</b>	Netball	S1-S6	After school	Gameshall & G1	Mrs Houston & Miss
	Well-Being Wednesday TBC	S1-S6	Lunch Time	T08	Mrs Milligan
	Film Club	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M112	Ms Southern
	Fitness	S1-S6	Lunch Time	Fitness Suite	Mr Gemmill
	Girls Football	S1-S6	Lunch Time	Gameshall	Mrs McEwan
	Anti Racist Alliance	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M106	Ms Southern
	String Orchestra	Instrument relate	After school	Music Departme	Ms Ross
<b>Thursday</b>	Gymnastics	S1-S6	Before School	Gym 1	Miss Riddell
	Fitness	S1-S6	Lunch Time	Fitness Suite	Miss Riddell
	Tranquil Thursdays	S1-S2	Lunch Time	Library	Mrs Macdonald
	Film Club	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M106	Ms Southern
	Board Games Club	S1-S6	Lunch Time	T31	Mr Creaney & Mr Turr
	Volleyball	S4-S6	Lunch Time	Gameshall	Mr Gemmill
	School Show	S1-S6	Lunch Time	Drama Studio	Ms Williams
	Chinese Mahjong	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M217	Ms Wang
	Girls Basketball	S1-S6	After school	Gameshall	Miss Riddell / Mrs Mc
Wind Band	Instrument relate	After school	Music Departme	Ms Ross	
<b>Friday</b>	Gymnastics & Fitness	S1-S6	Before School	Gym 1	Mrs Trobe
	Boys Football	S1-S3	Before School	Gameshall	Mrs McEwan & Miss I
	Volleyball	S4-S6	Lunch Time	Gameshall	Mr Gemmill
	Feminism Society	S1-S6	Lunch Time	T31	Ms Thomson
	Film Club	S1-S6	Lunch Time	M106	Ms Southern
	School Show	S1-SS6	After school	Drama Studio	Ms Williams
<b>Teams</b>	Under 15's Basketball Girls	Age related	Various	Various	Mr McFarlane
	Under 18's Basketball Girls	Age related	Various	Various	Mr McFarlane
	Boys Football Team (S3 and below)	Age related	Various	Various	Mrs McEwan & Miss I
	Volleyball Team (Senior Boys)	Age related	Various	Various	Mr Gemmill
	Volleyball Team (Senior Girls)	Age related	Various	Various	Mr Gemmill & Mrs Mc
	Junior Netball Girls	Age related	Various	Various	Mrs Houston & Miss
<b>Other</b>	Hillwalking	S1-S6	Various	Various	Mr Gillespie

# LANGUAGES FACULTY

Classes across the Languages Faculty took part in various activities to celebrate European Day of Languages, including designing a T-Shirt for the International European Day of Languages competition



S2 have been watching the movie Belle et Sebastien and writing a review of this much-loved story.

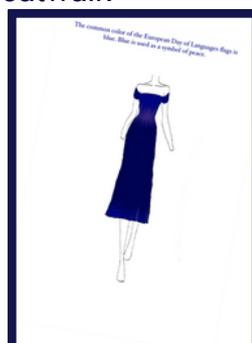


S4 Spanish have been debating whether bullfighting is Cultura o Tortura and been taking our first steps in flamenco. ¡Olé!

S1 Mandarin have been busy collecting points for correct answers to swap for goodies in Miss Wang's shop!



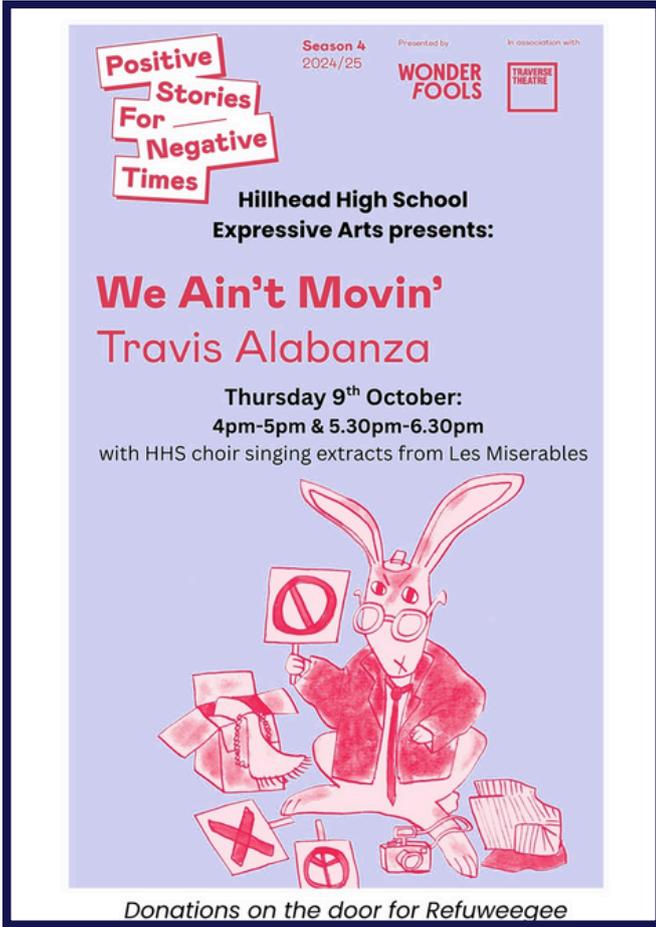
It's all about La Mode in S3 French to coincide with Paris Fashion Week, looking at aspects of the fashion industry from fast fashion to watching a French documentary on Chanel preparing for their runway show, to designing our own runway outfits for our paper doll catwalk



# EXPRESSIVE ARTS FACULTY

## DRAMA CLUB

The Drama club worked hard to put on a play for audiences to enjoy before the October break. The script deals with themes of taking a stand against racism and discrimination. All are welcome to attend this event in the Assembly Hall this week.



## S5 DRAMA

S5 Drama trip to the Citizen's Theatre – Thursday 9th October. "Small Acts of love" and backstage tour.

