

26 April, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Ski Trip

Over the Easter holidays, 30 students went skiing to Sestriere in Northern Italy. The slopes, stunning scenery and excellent instructors created a memorable experience for all. The students had the opportunity to improve their skiing skills, try new challenges, and enjoy the thrill of gliding down the slopes. We are particularly proud of our students for their perseverance and determination throughout the trip. Skiing can be a challenging sport, especially for beginners, but each and every one of our pupils showed incredible resilience. Not only did our students have the chance to improve their skiing, they also had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the Italian culture and take part in other activities such as sledding and karaoke. I would like to express my gratitude to Ms Glynn, Ms Maisuria, Mr McCreeth and Mr Toland who accompanied students. Finally, I want to extend my thanks to our students for their exemplary behaviour and positive attitude throughout the trip. They represented Haydon school extremely well and made lasting memories that will stay with them for years to come. I am hoping now that the Ski Trip will once again become an annual event offered to students.



Cambridge Robocon Competition

Our Head of computing, Mrs Dale, led a team of Haydon Sixth Form students to the ROBOCON competition in Cambridge over the Easter holidays. In the competition, over two days, our students showcased their engineering and coding skills with their robot “Thonnie.” “Thonnie” impressed by battling through tough competition, overcoming 10 other robots to secure a spot in the semifinals. The students’ dedication and innovative design undoubtedly made them formidable contenders in the competition. Well done Team Haydon!

Behaviour Update

Our focus for this term is to amplify our rewards programme for the students who exceed our expectations on a daily basis in how they conduct themselves. Teachers will be ensuring that in each lesson such students are given the recognition they deserve by issuing positive behaviour points and good news notes for a range of exemplary behaviours, including displaying any of the six Haydon values or for simply enthusiastically participating in lessons. This will truly be exciting for many students as they will be able to trade these points in at the end of the term for a variety of sought after prizes. Therefore, the race on! Please be encouraging your child to always conduct themselves in a manner to make you and themselves proud as this will be recognised and rewarded in school!

Uniform Update

As you are aware, we introduced our new uniform policy last term which has been well received and supported by all stakeholders. The changes implemented have had a significant impact in maintaining consistent standards of uniform amongst our students which have definitely contributed to the students’ general deportment.

However, in spite of the success of the changes implemented, a survey amongst the students revealed dissatisfaction with the design and fit of the current uniform skirt which results in students wearing the skirt incorrectly. As such, we have made the decision to change the uniform skirt and have liaised with our uniform providers to secure a new style of skirt that should prove to be a better fit for our range of students. The new skirt is therefore now available at Beats School Uniform for purchase and can be worn alongside the current skirt if purchased. However, this will not be a compulsory item until the next academic school year. Please note that there are no changes to the rest of the uniform items and the new skirt is at the same cost as the existing one.



As it relates to uniform in general, please be reminded that the standards are to be upheld despite the changing weather. As such, please ensure that your child wears the correct items of uniform daily along with a suitable coat to wear to and from school. Please remind them that incorrect items of uniform such as hoodies and sports jackets are not allowed and will be confiscated if worn. We ask that you continue to support the school in this regard as we strive to maintain high standards within the school community,

Site Update

All our solar panels are now operational and producing electricity for our school. Air conditioning units are being fitted in Dobson Building and the project should be completed within this academic year. We are already saving significantly on the electricity costs which can then be recycled into other areas to support student outcomes.

Our flood resilience project is progressing well and the rain garden in front of our Reception should finish in May. In July, we will start working on our second rain garden near our library. The school received a specific grant for this project, and we look forward to seeing the final results.

Sixth Form

I'd like to wish Year 12 well with the mock examinations they are currently taking. These examinations are a great indicator of the progress they have made since beginning their A Level courses. The results of these examinations will help students begin to plan for the University and Degree Apprenticeship applications they will be making and so are an incredibly important part of their Sixth Form journey.

Year 13 begin their last few weeks of study at Haydon with their final day being Friday 10th May, before commencing study leave and their summer examinations. The final day will involve a Leavers Breakfast and Leavers assembly which will be an excellent way to celebrate what for many of them will be the end of 7 years in our school community. The Year 13 Ball on Thursday 11th July is always a highlight of the school calendar and tickets for students are now on sale via ParentPay.

Free 'Year 5 Big Experience Summer Camp day' - Friday 26th July

Building on the huge success of our Year 6 Summer Camp, we are delighted to extend an invitation to all current Year 5 students for a memorable day at our upcoming 'Year 5 Big Experience Summer Camp day' on Friday 26th July.



Achieving individual excellence
in a caring community

This fantastic opportunity is open to all Year 5 students in the area and allows your child to have the entire school to themselves, engaging in a day filled with exciting challenges, team-building activities, sports, and creative games. The event promises fun and laughter and valuable learning experiences that will contribute to their personal growth. Best of all, this summer camp day is offered to you entirely for free! We encourage you to seize this chance for your child to create lasting memories, foster new friendships, and develop essential skills in a supportive and enjoyable environment.

Follow [this link](#) to book your free place. Feel free to share this link with friends, neighbours and family who have Year 5 children.

Please note, that we have limited places available and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Jones
Headteacher

Key Dates

Bank Holiday : Monday 6th May
Year 10 Parents' Evening : Thursday 9th May
Year 9 Camp : Saturday 18th May to Friday 24th May
Year 12 Parents Evening : Wednesday 22nd May
Half Term : Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Headteacher: Mr R Jones BSc(Econ) MBA NPQH

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