



# Hayes School Newsletter

## Message from the Headteacher Moments of Joy



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

The last two weeks have been filled with wonderful moments that truly capture the spirit and energy of our school.

On my way past the hall Aleesha in Year 13 beckoned me in and said "I know you like your music sir, we thought you might like to hear this." Isla, Samantha and Evie then started to sing the song Creep by Radiohead (accompanied by some beautiful piano playing by Vanessa) completely off the cuff. It was a wonderful insight into the confidence and talent of Hayes students.

Immediately after this Henry in Year 7 asked if I'd be his partner in a Year 7 "learning slapstick" drama lesson, leaving me on the receiving end of a very convincing stage slap with sound effects!

Our MFL Bake Off was a joyful celebration of Hayes talent and togetherness. With over 50 entries, the standard was exceptional. A special mention goes to Tilly, whose Black Forest gâteau was truly outstanding—both in presentation and taste. A full list of winners can be found on page 3.

Beyond the classroom, our extracurricular life continues to thrive. Over 1,000 students are now signed up to clubs—a remarkable testament to the breadth of interests and the strength of our community. Last week alone, 45 clubs ran with full attendance, especially among our enthusiastic Year 7 and 8 students.

Sport has had a particularly energetic start to the term. The Year 9 boys football team showed great determination in their National Cup match against Trinity, narrowly missing out with a 3–1 loss. Meanwhile, our senior girls netball team and both senior boys football teams kicked off their seasons with impressive wins. The U14 girls football team secured a hard-fought 1–0 victory in the Kent Cup, and the U13 girls rugby team lit up the pitch with a thrilling 10–5 win in the first round of the National Cup. These early successes speak volumes about the commitment and camaraderie of our students.

Further improving the quality of students' social time together continues to be a priority. To encourage play and connection during break and lunchtimes, we've added new table tennis and volleyball equipment - these arrive on Monday!

Finally, thank you to all who attended our Year 11 and Year 13 Parent Forums. It was a pleasure to share our plans for the year ahead and to work together in supporting students through these important stages of their journey.

As always, thank you for your continued support. I look forward to many more moments of joy in the weeks to come.

Warm regards,

**Mr Hitch R**

*Headteacher*

### **Dates for your diary...**

**Friday 3rd October—Academic Tutoring**

Students to complete remote learning at home during periods 1-4 attending school during their designated time for a 1:1 appointment with their tutor. **School closes P5 in preparation for open day.**

**Monday 6th October—Late start**

**Students should arrive for a prompt 11.10am start—timetable will commence P3.**



**Following parent feedback—this issue will be the last fortnightly newsletter.**

**We are going monthly—look out for our next issue on**

**Friday 7th November.**

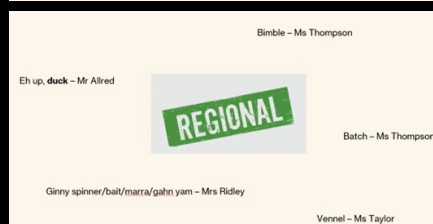
# Languages Week

We're pleased to announce that Languages Week 2025 has been a great success!

The inspiration for the Languages Week assembly this year was the following quote:

**"A special kind of beauty exists which is born in language, of language, and for language." Gaston Bachelard.**

Staff from Hayes shared their favourite words in the English language with students. These words were all very different. Some were words they found beautiful to say or had complex and interesting meaning. Others were funny or just resonated with the person, and a final group were regional words that reflected something from their background or their family story. We then heard from staff and students in the Hayes community who spoke a different language at home and asked them what their favourite words were to celebrate the beauty in and of our diversity of language too.



During the week itself, the staff and students have been busy!

Students in **Year 7** have been collecting points on their Language Passports completing different tasks to broaden their linguistic and cultural knowledge.

**Year 8s** have been submitting entries for the International Pet Poster competition describing their lovely pets at home in French, German and Spanish.

**Year 9s** have been taking part in Word Wall competitions online and have been attending, alongside staff and Sixth Formers language taster sessions every lunchtime.

The languages on offer have been Mandarin, Japanese, Yorùbá, Portuguese and Italian. We've learned numbers up to 10 in Japanese, a variety of animals in Yorùbá, the power of Italian gestures, Mandarin greetings as well as practising writing some characters, and finished off with interesting Portuguese cultural facts.





# The Great MFL BAKE OFF



On Thursday after school, we celebrated with the Great Hayes MFL Bake Off. With 5 judges, 40-something cakes and over 100 attendees to watch and enjoy the spoils of the show, everyone agreed that it was a great afternoon. We were also proud to raise over £120 for the Hayes Food Bank. The Highly Commended prizes went to Darwin Castle, Seren Arif and Ruby Maugham.

Best Taste winner went to Meggan & Tilly McGee, Best Decoration went to Erin McKeating, Sophie Hyde & Emily Martin, and Best Texture went to Joshua Wheway. Congratulations to all the participants!

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in some way during Languages Week 2025 – it wouldn't be the same without you!

*Team MFL*





## Coursework visit to Birchwood Spa and Golf

As part of the OCR Cambridge Technical Level 3 in business course, students are asked to complete a coursework unit based on Birchwood Spa and Golf in Dartford.

Year 12 Cambridge technical business students visited Birchwood Spa and Golf on Tuesday. They attended a presentation based on Birchwood's spa and golf customer services and were given the privilege to try out their driving range.

Here are some pictures showcasing our students and teachers golfing skills...



AUTUMN TERM 2025

### WHO ARE WE

We're a group of parents, carers and staff who want to support Hayes School and help our children get the most out of their time here.

### OUR MISSION

- Build a friendly and inclusive school community
- Run events that bring people together and give students a real sense of belonging
- Raise funds to provide extra resources and opportunities that the school budget can't always cover

### WHAT WE DO

From open days and concerts to fundraisers and socials, we work alongside the school to make things happen. The money we raise goes straight back into Hayes, funding equipment, experiences and projects that add something extra to our children's education and wellbeing.

### WHY JOIN US

**Stay connected** - secondary school doesn't have to mean losing touch with school life.

**Meet other parents** - make connections you might not otherwise have.

**Have a say** - share your ideas on how we can make Hayes even better.


**Share your skills** - whether it's baking, DIY, social media, admin, or something else, every bit helps.

**Make a difference** - big or small, your involvement really does benefit our children.

### STAY CONNECTED

 @friendsofhayesschool

 Friends of Hayes School

 We've also set up WhatsApp groups to make it easy to stay in touch. Join as many or as few as you like - there's no pressure. Just dip in and out when you can.

**General Chat & Suggestions** - share ideas, ask questions, or just see what's going on.

**Events & Volunteering** - keep up to date with what's coming up and how you can help.

**Uniform Shop** - help tidy stock, run sales, or share ideas to make it better.

## Uniform Supplier

### 121 Uniforms

#### Stock update:

We currently hold stock of gender-neutral labelled blazers, as boys' and girls' labelled versions are gradually being phased out. Jumpers and skirts are also available, subject to size and demand. School ties good stock.

#### Turnaround times:

- Hayes blazers with crest and braids: 7-14 working weekdays
- Grey skirts and jumpers with Hayes embroidery: 5-10 working weekdays



As 121Uniforms operates as an online supplier, we understand some parents may feel uncertain about ordering without a physical try-on.

To reassure families: you simply need to provide your child's current size, and our team will recommend a comfortable fit with allowance for growth. We also offer home try-on support via our local rep, should additional guidance be needed.

#### Delivery Options from our website:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| • Self-collection via 24/7 Inpost locker       | from 2.99 |
| • Standard courier home delivery               | from 4.99 |
| • Home try-on assistance (6-8pm) via local rep | 6.99      |
- (ideal for working parents; includes up to 3 visits until fitted)

[www.121uniforms.net](http://www.121uniforms.net)



# Celebrating Student Achievement @ Hayes



## FUTURE TENNIS STAR

Isabella in Year 7 has been selected by the Lawn Tennis Association to join their 2025/2026 longlist becoming a National Pathway Player. She has been recognised as a talented junior with a promising future in tennis.

Isabella is also part of the Kent County squad and regularly competes at regional and national events.

Below are some photos of Isabella at the Nationals, when she became 9U Kent Champion and 11U Kent Champion finalist over the summer. She also competed at Surbiton where she met many pro players including Sir Andrew Murray.

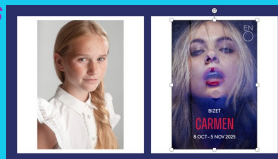


Huge congratulations to Sebastian in Year 9, who has been selected for the England Men's U15 talent camp.

This is a huge achievement and we are very proud of you.



Eden, Year 9, has this week started rehearsals for The English National Opera's production of Bizet's Carmen which will show at The London Coliseum'.



## DARTS CHAMPION

Many of you will remember previous articles about Paige in Year 12. Paige is a world class darts player and over the summer she has achieved several additional wins:

**WDF Europe Cup Youth Girls Singles Champion**

**JDC Girls Series Champion**

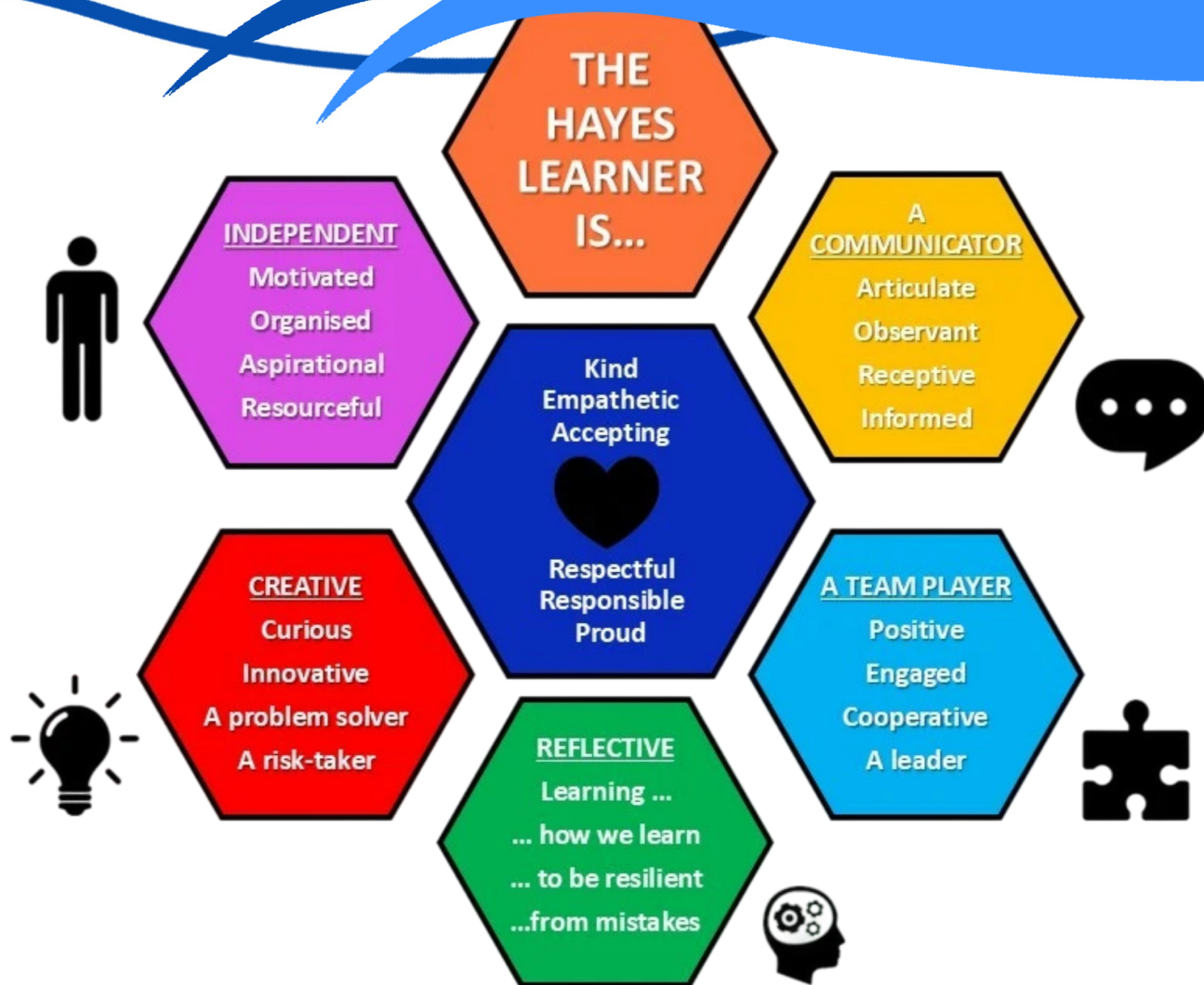
**2 x England Youth Grand Prix Girls Champion**

**Welsh Open Girls Champion for the 4th successive year!**

Look out for her at upcoming championships including the England Masters and World Masters in October.

Congratulations to Paige on her continued success!





## Assembly Focus: Hayes Learner Attributes

This month, the Lead Teacher Team delivered a series of inspiring assemblies to remind students about the importance of our **Hayes Learner attributes**. These attributes aren't fixed personality traits—they're behaviours we can all develop. For example, independence isn't something you either have or don't have; it's something you build by being more motivated, organised, aspirational, and resourceful.

As part of our **Learning to Learn curriculum**, each year group focuses on a specific attribute:

- **Year 7** – Independence
- **Year 8** – Creativity
- **Year 9** – Team Player & Communicator
- **Year 10** – Reflectiveness
- **Year 11** – Revision Skills
- **Sixth Form** – Independence

To bring these attributes to life, students watched clips of teachers from a range of subjects explaining how these behaviours show up in their classrooms. For instance, creativity in maths might mean exploring new or unusual ways to solve a problem, while independence in languages could involve using your planner's knowledge organiser when you're stuck.

At the end of each assembly, students were challenged to reflect on this question:

**Where will you demonstrate these learning behaviours—today, this week, and this term?**

Let's rise to the challenge and make these attributes



Top Attendance W/C 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2025		
Year	Tutor group	Percentage
7	7CAP	99.33%
8	8EKA	96.77%
9	9NXF	96.07%
10	10SMC	96.55%
11	11YGE	99.29%
12	6AMT 6DDD	100.00%
13	6MJP	98.46%

Top Attendance W/C 22nd September 2025		
Year	Tutor group	Percentage
7	7MBB	100.00%
8	8MAT	97.40%
9	9LAT	96.24%
10	10SMC	93.68%
11	11YGE	97.62%
12	6ATS 6DC 6IBA	100.00%
13	6AMT 6MJP	100.00%

## Thank you for Parking Considerately

When driving to the school, please can we remind you to park with consideration for our neighbours.

As a school, we have a very limited proximity that students travel from. Please ask yourself if your child can get to school using public transport or on foot and, if you have to drive them, please ensure that you are not blocking driveways or inhibiting the journeys of local residents.