

9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of another successful half term, we would like to thank our parents and carers for their continued support and respect for our 5D Hazeley community due to the ongoing V2 roadworks. Thank you for taking the time to read the important updates and reminders, and we hope you have an enjoyable and safe half term.

### Year Group messages

#### **Year 13 - PPES**

Year 13 PPEs will take place over the two-week period of 20<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, as per the letter sent out at the start of this term. Students will have exams in all A Level subjects, students have their individualised timetables which are also available on Arbor. During this time students will be on study leave for their A Level subjects, so do not need to attend tutor time or lessons during this two-week period. However, BTEC HSC, IT, Business, Finance and PE lessons will continue as normal and students must attend these, unless they are in an exam. All students must wear the correct dress code when attending school during this period, have their ID card with them and must sign in and out on Invenry as normal. We wish the Year 13s the best of luck.

#### **Year 11 - Sixth Form Interviews**

All Year 11 students who have applied to Hazeley Sixth Form will be interviewed the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> February. These interviews are focused around ensuring students are on the right courses for them, that are accessible through their forecast grades and allow them to access their chosen pathway after Sixth Form. The interviews are a compulsory part of the application process, students will not be given an offer without being interviewed. Dates and times of interviews will be emailed to student's school email accounts and will also be available through their form tutor.

#### **Year 9 - Pathways Meetings**

As part of our Pathways and Employability programme, Year 9 students met with their Form Tutors for 1:1 meetings to discuss how they are developing their transferable skills and competencies along with information on how their curriculum subjects link to future opportunities. These important conversations allow students to reflect upon their GCSE preference choices and begin to prepare for their Year 10 experience of work placement.

#### **Year 9 - Parents evening**

Parents evening for Year 9 is taking place online on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Appointments are 5 minutes in duration and details have already been sent home. If you are unable to access our online booking system, please contact [parentsevening@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:parentsevening@thehazeleyacademy.com)

### General messages

#### **World Book Day!**

World Book Day 2023 is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, and at Hazeley, we have already begun our celebrations! Firstly, we've taken time to celebrate our 25 readers with the most progress or most engagement since September - our 'Halfway Heroes' enjoyed an awards breakfast on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February to acknowledge their amazing commitment to improving reading.

Next, we are busily preparing our staff costumes for the day itself, last year we had (almost) 101 Dalmatians, Miss Trunchbull, The Woman in Black and an array of elves – we can't wait to get our staff costumes out once more to talk all about our favourite books.

Our wonderful staff have also been recording our very own Hazeley audiobook collection of short stories by Rad Bradbury. Throughout the day on World Book Day, students in every year group will hear their teachers' reading extracts from these stories, culminating in our DEAR event period 5, where we get to find out how each story ends! On World Book Day, we will also be launching our 'Read for Good' readathon, raising money for books for children in hospital – we are hoping to beat last year's total of £300! Look out for updates across our social media platforms and have a very happy World Book Day on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Metacognition and The Art of War

The Art of War, written by Sun Tzu in the 5<sup>th</sup> Century BC, is an influential guide to military strategy that profoundly affected how battles and conflicts were managed. In it, Sun Tzu, suggests how we should approach the enemy, saying: *If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the results of a hundred battles.*

What if the enemy was a difficult Progress Review test or learning Shakespeare's most challenging soliloquy? What if the battles were the learning challenges that our students face every day?

As Sun Tzu suggests, success in learning and life lies in understanding the challenges before us and understanding ourselves, how we learn, relate to others, deal with stress and failure.

In our work in developing metacognition, we are asking students to consider themselves as learners and asking them metacognitive questions throughout their learning phases. This will improve their independence and resilience when they face tricky topics or situations. I ask parents and carers to try using these questions at home during homework or revision (see infographic)

By knowing themselves, developing reflective skills and understanding the challenges ahead, our young people will be equipped to take on any battle in life!

Gemma Williamson  
Deputy Principal for Teaching and Learning

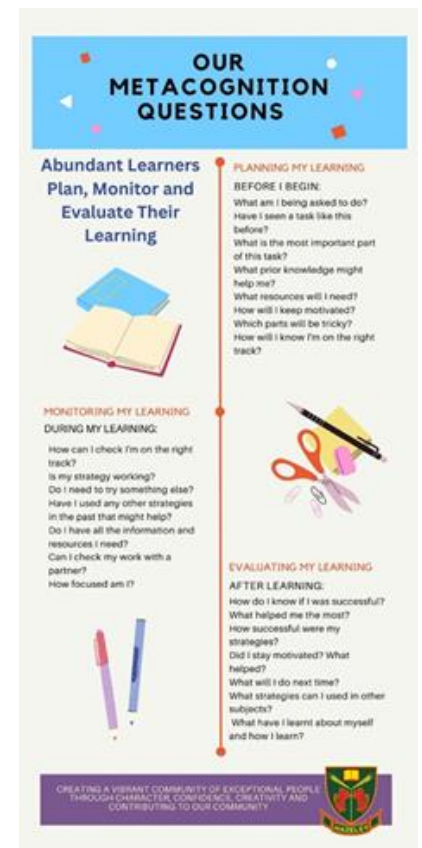
### P6

So far this year, Hazeley students have attended over 5,900 hours' worth of P6 sessions which is a fantastic accomplishment. The new calendar, for sessions after half term, will be available on the school website this Friday. Arbor will open at 12pm this Friday to book places on 'bookable' P6 clubs. [The Hazeley Academy - Extra Curricular/P6](#)

If you would like to support P6 sessions at The Hazeley Academy or have an idea on the clubs your son/daughter would like to see more of, please contact me on [llazenby@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:llazenby@thehazeleyacademy.com)

### National Careers Week – A Whole School Celebration!

The week commencing the 6<sup>th</sup> March is National Careers Week which is an opportunity to raise our students aspirations and allow them to discover possible future careers. Please do visit the National Careers Week website and the Unifrog platform to support your child to research opportunities at the following website addresses: [www.ncwresources.co.uk](http://www.ncwresources.co.uk) and [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org)



### **Pathways and Employability Newsletter**

We are delighted to share with you the most recent Pathways and Employability Newsletter for February 2023. –

[Please click here](#)

### **Life Skills update**

This term has seen lots of opportunities for our students to develop their character such as taking part in the Milton Keynes Youth Cabinet election where seven of our students took part, created their own manifestos and then the whole school voted for their candidate. In Life Skills lessons we have covered a range of topics including healthy relationships where year 7 considered how relationships involve honesty, trust, respect and open communication and the importance of making compromises where necessary. There were also lessons on financial awareness thinking about the choices we all must make every day and lessons on body image and self esteem with the use of social media having an impact on wellbeing - students learn strategies to deal with challenging situations.

We welcome feedback from parents on any aspect of our Life Skills programme, how we deliver the lessons and the content we cover. Please do not hesitate to contact [lmckenzie@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:lmckenzie@thehazeleyacademy.com) with any thoughts or reflections. Our summary of lessons for the year can be found in this link [Life Skills](#)

Kind regards,

Miss T Whiteman  
Head of School