

26 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the summer term. It's an exciting time for all of us as we embark on another term of learning and growth.

We hope that you have had a relaxing and enjoyable break, and that your children are feeling refreshed and ready to tackle the challenges ahead.

Young talents shine in stunning production of Moana JR

Moana JR, the Disney musical, at Heron Hall Academy was nothing short of amazing.



From the breath-taking musical numbers to the stunning costumes and set design, everything was to an incredibly high standard.

Two sold out performances were enjoyed by our families. The students really brought their characters to life with passion and authenticity, and their energy and enthusiasm were very infectious.

Well done also to the students that helped backstage and with prop and set design to make the show come to life. The Trust, which manages our school, has invested heavily in Heron.

This has ensured our students can perform with great facilities, such a professional lighting and sound equipment.

Preparing students for their future careers

As part of our ongoing commitment to support students to make meaningful and impactful career choices, Year 11 students have been given 1-1 interviews with a careers advisor. The careers advisors works with all students to ensure that they are clear on the range of career opportunities open to them following completion of GCSES. Students are supported to make choices such as further education or apprenticeships in vast array of different fields.

Hill Dickinson - Top law firm programme for Year 10s

20 year 10 students participated in The Heron Hall Law Programme this term. Students took part in weekly 1-hour workshops over a 12-week period, with talks from guest speakers who work in a variety of roles within the law profession.

The culmination of the programme provided students with the opportunity to visit an actual law. Students were also able to undertake Q&A sessions, network over lunch and appreciate what

typically a day in the life of a law firm looks like.

By popular demand - our first Community Fun day on 13 May

I hope everyone takes advantage of this opportunity to have some fun and connect with others.

It's always wonderful to come together as a school and enjoy a variety of activities, music, food, and stalls from local vendors.



Remember to mark your calendars for Saturday, May 13th from 11am to 4pm and spread the word to family and friends.

And best of all, entry is free! Don't miss out on this exciting event hosted by Heron Hall Academy.

Breaking barriers - Women in construction programme

30 year 10 female students participated in a girls only programme centred on increasing female participation in construction.

The programme was delivered across 6 weeks, with leading firms Meridian Water and Vistry.

Students were supported to develop project management skills which are vital to leadership and management roles in

the construction sector. The students also developed key knowledge and skills relating to building design, resources, financial implications and regeneration.

GCSEs

This term is an important one for all of our year groups, but particularly for those in Year 11 who will be taking their GCSEs. We understand that this can be a stressful time for both students and parents, but we want to assure you that our teachers are working incredibly hard to support your child's academic success.



SIX great GCSE study tip for success!

North Star Community Trust



GCSEs Helping your child

North Star Community Trust

We have every confidence that our Year 11 students will rise to the challenge and achieve their best possible results. We have produced two short videos to help support our families and students in preparing for their GCSEs.

You can watch them [here](#).

Enjoying learning at Heron

Of course, academic success is just one aspect of what we aim to achieve here at our school. We want all of our students to enjoy learning and feel confident in themselves and their abilities. We believe that a positive and supportive environment is essential for this to happen, and we are committed to providing just that. As always, we encourage parents and carers to be actively involved in their child's education. By working together, we can ensure that your child has the best possible chance of success. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. We are always here to help.

Rhea takes championship bronze!

Congratulations to Rhea in year 9 who has won bronze at the British Karate Federation championships.



What a remarkable achievement in the very competitive world of martial arts. Her hard work, dedication, and commitment has paid off with a medal winning performance.

New PTA set up

We are delighted to announce the establishment of a new Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) at our school. The PTA is a vital link between parents and teachers, providing a platform for collaboration to improve the education and well-being of our students.

The PTA will also help foster a strong school community by promoting communication and understanding between parents and teachers.

We encourage all parents to participate in the PTA and take advantage of the opportunities it provides to make a meaningful impact on our school community.

The next meeting will be on the Thursday 4 May when we are hoping to appoint a Chairperson and other members of the committee.

To learn more about the PTA and how you can get involved, please contact the school or visit our website and social media pages for updates. To be added to the new PTA email list simply reply [here](#). We look forward to working together through the PTA to create an even better learning environment for our children.

Barclays Life Skills programme for Year 10s

The whole of Year 10 have been involved in the Barclays Life Skills programme as part of our PSHE program. This involves understanding about debt and different types of debt, including mortgage, payslips, income and expenditure and importantly how to avoid financial scams.



These are so important in helping our students navigate the world after they leave Heron Hall.

Brilliant Club success

This term 14 of our Year 10 students have been engaged with a University level programme through the Brilliant Club. They have worked with a tutor from Kingston University to create an extended piece of writing about the role that art can play in

creating freedom. The students also got the opportunity to tour around Oxford University at the start of the programme.

Year 7 Transition

We are inviting all parents whose child will be joining us in September to a coffee morning on Monday 24 April. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents new to Heron Hall Academy, and current parents who have a new sibling starting with us, to meet our community team and look to the opportunities for being involved at Heron Hall Academy. The coffee morning starts at 9.30am and all are welcome.

Summer School

Just a reminder that we also run a Summer school for our new year 7s each year. This year Summer school will run from the 24 to 28 July. This is a great opportunity to meet members of staff, familiarise yourself with Heron Hall Academy, and lots of great activities to prepare students for starting in September. Details and how to sign up will come soon.

Coffee mornings

Our half termly Coffee Morning events provide a wonderful place for our parents, carers and staff to meet socially in support of the school and its values. These have been well attended by our parents. Please consider coming to the next one we advertise.

Working with us.

Please check out our latest vacancies at the school and across the Trust. See them [here](#).

Stay in touch

By subscribing to our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram platforms, you will be able to stay up to date with our latest news and events. You can also view our latest newsletter [here](#).

We are looking forward to an exciting and productive term ahead. Thank you for your continued support, and we wish you and your children all the best for the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barzey', written in a cursive style.

Mr Arthur Barzey
Headteacher