

6 March 2026

[w/c 9 March – Week: 2](#)

MESSAGE FROM..... MRS WATTS, EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL



Celebrating World Book Day – The Power of Reading at Home

This week we have been celebrating *World Book Day* in school – a wonderful opportunity to recognise the power of books and the lifelong benefits that reading brings to young people. On the day we had a number of literacy themed activities that took place around school including: reading at the start of every lesson, a book scavenger hunt during social times, book hedghogs being made in the library, decorate a door and special World Book Day themed treats from the school canteen – it was great to see so many students and staff getting involved.



Reading is one of the most important habits a child can develop. Across all subjects, a strong vocabulary and confident reading skills make a significant difference to academic success. Research consistently shows that students who read widely not only perform better in English, but also achieve more highly in subjects such as Science, History and Geography where understanding complex language is essential.

Vocabulary is particularly powerful. Every new word a student learns gives them another tool to understand ideas, express themselves clearly and engage with the world around them. Students who read regularly encounter thousands more words each year than those who do not, and this exposure helps them to develop the language skills needed for examinations, further study and future careers.

While we work hard in school to promote reading, the encouragement students receive at home is just as important. One of the most effective ways parents can support reading is by modelling it. When young people see adults reading—whether it is a novel, a newspaper, a magazine or even a recipe—it sends a powerful message that reading matters. Talking about books, sharing recommendations and simply making time for reading at home can have a huge impact.

If your child is not sure what to read next, our school library is a great place to start. Our librarian, Mrs Oz, is always happy to help students discover books that match their interests and reading level. Sometimes the key to unlocking a love of reading is simply finding the right book, and we encourage all students to visit the library regularly to explore new authors and genres.

A few simple ways you can support reading at home include:

- Encouraging a short period of quiet reading each day
- Asking your child about what they are currently reading
- Visiting the library together to choose new books
- Sharing recommendations or reading the same book and discussing it together
- Modelling reading by making time for it yourself

World Book Day reminds us that books can open doors to imagination, knowledge and opportunity. Thank you for continuing to support your child's reading journey at home and helping us build a culture where reading is valued and enjoyed by all.

Together, we can ensure that every student develops the vocabulary, curiosity and confidence that reading brings.

THEME & WORD OF THE WEEK

for week commencing 9 March

THEME – “Should schools have active uniforms?”

WORD – Percent

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

10 March – Year 10 Parents’ Evening, 4.00pm – 7.00pm

GENERAL NEWS/STORIES

National Careers Week – This week we have been celebrating National Careers Week, providing our Year 8 and Year 9 students with valuable opportunities to explore the wide range of career pathways available to them. As part of this, students attended a series of special assemblies delivered by industry professionals. Our Year 9 students heard from a representative from Lynch Construction, who shared insights into careers within the construction industry and the many routes into the sector. Year 8 students welcomed a speaker from the NHS representing the Allied Health Professions, who highlighted the diverse roles available within healthcare beyond the more commonly known careers. In addition, a group of Year 8 students took part in a Modern Foreign Languages webinar, where they learned about the many exciting career opportunities that can arise from studying languages. We hope that these experiences will have helped students begin to broaden their understanding of the world of work and the variety of pathways open to them in the future.



Unity in Community – Are a charity based in Hull who aim to support the most vulnerable people in society. They have been successful in a funding application for supporting people struggling to top up their pre-payment meters across the UK. They are able to support households with fuel vouchers; these vouchers are sent via text message. They would like to offer this support to the parents, carers and guardians of students who attend HHS. To qualify, you must pay for your energy through a **prepayment meter** and have **not received energy vouchers from Unity in Community** within the past 12 months. This is in response to the ongoing cost of living crisis and beneficiaries can be working, unemployed, self-employed or retired. For more information and to register, call **01482 420836** Monday to Friday, 9am – 3pm – if busy, please keep trying.



Mental Health Support Team - The Mental Health Support Teams in Schools offer early support if you’re feeling low, worried, or finding it hard to manage your emotions. If things are feeling tough at home or in school, speak to your school’s Mental Health Lead, Miss Thetford or SENCO to find out how we can help.



New Lunch Menus for after Easter – click [here](#) to view the new lunch menus for next term, starting after the Easter break.

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE PRINCIPAL

This week Mr Earl met with some fantastic students for hot chocolate, To read more go to our [News Story](#).

ATTACHMENTS

- PTA Indoor Car Boot Poster



PE UPDATE



PE RESULTS

w/c 2nd March 2026

MONDAY 2nd MARCH 2026

⚽ Y11B Boys Football (Community Cup QF): Hellesdon 4-1 Hewett
[Goals: W.Mathias, J.Tink, I.Harris, K.Jeles]

TUESDAY 3rd MARCH 2026

⚽ Y8/9 Girls Football (Barclays Football Competition): Y8 = 5th, Y9 = 6th
[Goalscorers: E.Barnes 7, M.Lowe 4, F.Treloar 4, P.Edridge, J.Knights 2, M.Farrow]

WEDNESDAY 4th MARCH 2026

⚽ 6th Form Boys Football (Pathway Cup QF): Hellesdon 0-0 Notre Dame A (Hellesdon won 5-4 on pens)

THURSDAY 5th MARCH 2026

⚽ Y8B Boys Football (Community Cup QF): Hellesdon 3-3 Taverham (Hellesdon won 4-3 on pens)
[Goals: J.Batute, J.Bhebe, M.Oshe]

⚽ Y10B Boys Football (Community Cup QF): Hellesdon 5-2 Hewett
[Goals: F.Holland 2, T.Lindridge 3]





PE FIXTURES & EVENTS

w/c 9th March 2026

MONDAY 9th MARCH 2026

⚽ Y11 Boys Football: GCSE / A-Level PE Internal Moderation Match [KO: 3.30pm / Finish: 4.45pm]

TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2026

⚽ Y11A Boys Football: Pathway Cup QF v. Thorpe (a) [Leave: 1.10pm / KO: 2pm / Return: 4pm]

⚽ Y9B Boys Football: Community Cup QF v. Taverham (a) [Leave: 3.10pm / KO: 3.45pm / Return: 5.15pm]

WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH 2026

🏃 Sports Leaders Event: Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics Competition @ UEA [Leave 9am / Start 10am / Return: 2pm]





NEWS FROM OUR SIXTH FORM

A Level Success for 2025!

We are very pleased to announce that we are one of the top 5 Sixth Forms for Norfolk in the latest Department for Education (DfE) league tables for A Level progress.

“We are incredibly proud that our students’ hard work and determination have placed our school among the top five for A-Level progress in Norfolk. This achievement reflects the dedication of our students and staff, as well as the great support of our parents and carers”. Mr Taylor, Director of Sixth Form.



Sixth Form attend the Future Careers Expo

Our Sixth Form students attended the Future Careers Expo, organised by the Chamber of Commerce. Students were able to have some really useful conversations with various organisations and employers about future careers opportunities.



 Follow us on Instagram

To find more about what happens at Hellesdon Sixth Form



@HELLESDONSIXTHFORM

Attendance Matters



We're committed to working with parents and carers to ensure your child feels happy and safe in school. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office.

Call us: 01603 424711

Email us: principal@hellesdonhigh.norfolk.sch