

10 May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

It was wonderful to welcome Year 8 parents into school this week for our parents' evening.

As we have started the crucial exam period for our Year 11 and Year 13 students this week, I wanted to take a moment to extend our best wishes to both you and your children. The final exams represent a significant milestone in their academic journey, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication they have shown throughout their time with us.

First and foremost, we want to wish all our Year 11 and Year 13 students the best of luck in their upcoming examinations. We recognise the effort and commitment they have put into their studies, and we have every confidence that they will excel in their exams. Information around the timetabled exam preparation sessions have been sent to all parents, please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or Head of Year if you need further information about these sessions.

This week our year 10 students received an assembly from Exeter University launching the Exeter Scholars Programme. This is an opportunity for year 10 students who meet the widening participation criteria to attend an all-expenses-paid residential programme at the University on 30th July - 2nd August 2024. The Scholars Programme also includes a series of events and activities that focus on building confidence and developing key transferable skills and allows students to find out more about university life and hear from current University of Exeter students. The deadline for applications is midday Friday 24th May. More information can be found at the following link: [Year 10 Exeter Scholars Programme](#)

Huish Episcopi Academy are an Education Partner with the Exeter University which gives our Sixth Form students contextualised offers and ongoing support from the University during their time with us. Applications for Huish Sixth Form are still open, please use the following link to apply: [Sixth Form application](#)

As we transition into slightly warmer weather, I would like to remind all parents and students about our uniform expectations. Blazers are compulsory items of uniform and students must have these with them each day. Coats and jumpers are optional for students and students may wish to leave these at home. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter, as it contributes to the overall sense of professionalism and pride within our school community.

Additionally, I would like to bring to your attention some key dates for upcoming events that you should be aware of:

KEY DATES FOR THIS HALF TERM	
14 th May	Year 12 UCAS and Apprenticeships Information Evening
24 th May	Year 11 and 13 celebration events
27 th – 31 st May	Half Term
13 th June	Young Musician of the Year competition



Headteacher: Mrs Katie Boyes

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Huish Episcopi Academy
Wincanton Road
Langport
Somerset
TA10 9SS
t: 01458 250501
e: office@hea.ac.uk
w: www.huishepiscopiacademy.org.uk

14 th June	Year 11 leavers date
19 th June	Final exam date
21 st June	Sixth Form end of year party
28 th June	Year 11 Prom
4 th July	Summer Concert
1 st July	Sports Day
1 st -2 nd July	HE+ Year 12 residential trip to Cambridge University
1 st – 5 th July	Year 12 work experience week
8 th – 12 th July	Year 10 work experience week Bude- Year 9

Please mark these dates in your calendar to ensure your participation and support for your child during these important moments in their academic journey.

Attendance

As we have hit week 4 after Half Term, we have noticed a significant increase in illnesses being reported to the school as reasons for absence. As we have written previously, we are unable to authorise lengthy periods of absence for illnesses without medical evidence being provided.

If your child requires a medical appointment, we strongly advise you to book these out of school hours whenever possible. If medical appointments must be arranged during school hours, please ensure you provide advance notice.

Year 10 RE revision opportunities – Mrs Oldershaw

Following the Year 10 Mocks in April and subsequent parents' evening, we are pleased to be able to offer Year 10 students additional opportunities to work with a member of staff, in preparation for the end of year mock examinations in June.

- Tuesday 14th May at 3.30pm until 4.30pm (Vocabulary and Knowledge)
- Tuesday 21st May at 3.30pm until 4.30pm (Vocabulary and Knowledge)
- Tuesday 4th June at 3.30pm until 4.30pm (Structure of 15 mark questions)
- Tuesday 11th June at 3.30pm until 4.30pm (Structure of 15 mark questions)
- Tuesday 18th June at 3.30pm until 4.30pm (Structure of 15 mark questions)

Sessions will take place in RE1. Please arrive with your exercise book, RE Knowledge Organiser and a drink.

Year 12 progression evening



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We would like to invite year 12 parents/carers to our upcoming UCAS and Apprenticeships information Evening which will take place on Tuesday 14th May. Refreshments will be available from 5.30 pm in the Sixth Form Café, with the presentation starting at 6.00pm in H1.

End of year exams

The end of year 12 exams will take place from Monday 24th to Friday 28th June. The grades achieved by students will play a key role in determining predicted grades used for UCAS applications. The expectation is that students are using their non-timetabled lessons in school, alongside their free time outside of school, to prepare for these examinations.

Vacancies

For vacancies available at the academy, please click on the link below-
[Huish Episcopi Academy- Vacancies](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration in ensuring the success of our students. Together, we can provide them with the guidance and encouragement they need to achieve their goals and aspirations.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Thank you for your attention to these matters, and we look forward to celebrating the achievements of our Year 11 and Year 13 students together.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. Boyes
Principal

FORMER GLADIATORS PUT STUDENTS THROUGH THEIR PACES

Students at Huish Episcopi Academy test stamina in circuit training and obstacle course

Former Gladiators Jenny Pacey and Wayne Gordon host inspiring workshop for students

Last week, students at Huish Episcopi Academy were visited by two former Gladiators who inspired them to take on various sporting challenges and activities.

A group of 50 students across Years 8-10 were given the chance to spend time with athletes Jenny Pacey and Wayne Gordon. Both featured on the 2008 edition of the British television



**Respect
Ambition
Resilience**

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series ‘Gladiators’ – under the aliases Enigma (Jenny) and Doom (Wayne) – and have impressive sporting careers.

Between Jenny and Wayne, they share accolades such as representing Great Britain in the long jump, pentathlon and bobsleigh. Jenny is now training a new set of Gladiators for the TV show’s next series, whilst Wayne is pursuing an acting career. They also have their own fitness company and brand called Pace & Go.

Their visit to Huish Episcopi Academy involved students quizzing Jenny and Wayne on their lives as elite athletes before their stamina, strength and agility was put to the test taking on physical challenges in the afternoon.

Beginning with a ‘Gladiator warm up’, students underwent a 25-station circuit training rotation, trying a variety of exercises compiled by the Gladiators. In pairs, students then faced a race against the clock to complete a Gladiator-inspired obstacle course in the fastest time. This was a great test of students’ teamwork ability, with the winning pair congratulated and awarded signed autographs from Jenny and Wayne.

Jenny and Wayne’s visit comes as part of their role as Sports Ambassadors for United Learning, a national schools group which Huish Episcopi Academy joined last year. The event was part of a group-wide initiative PARIS 2024, which is about promoting sport and active lifestyles with activities inspired by this summer’s Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Year 12 CTec Sport and Physical Activity students, who are at the school’s Sixth Form, worked alongside Jenny and Wayne to cheer on the younger students and record race times.

Florence Q, a Year 8 student at Huish Episcopi Academy, said of the day:

“I thought the gladiator experience was a really good and interesting visit. We learnt a lot about the Olympic values and applied them to the practical work after. The assembly was a nice start to the afternoon and learning all about the ex-gladiators’ lives was really interesting. They told us a lot about their childhood and careers and we found out that both of them have either worked or acted on film sets at some point. The practical bit after was a really good workout and being able to do it with a partner made it even better to cheer each other on.”

Wayne Gordon, elite athlete, actor and former Gladiator who visited the school, said:
“What a very special day at Huish Episcopi Academy, from the staff to the students. The staff were very friendly, engaging and with a clear display of passion for what they do. The enthusiasm of the students is an indicator of the relationship with their teachers. The students are thoughtful, engaging and hardworking. An absolute pleasure to pass on experiences with them today. Today was by far the best Gladiator workshop we have done – team building, team bonding, respect and heart.”

Tracy Rose, Head of PE at Huish Episcopi Academy, said:

“This was an exciting opportunity for our students to try something out of the ordinary. Everyone who participated really got stuck into the challenge and thoroughly enjoyed

speaking to the former Gladiators. Thank you to Jenny and Wayne for coming in and inspiring the students with their life stories and for their help in encouraging the students whilst they took on their physical challenges.”



A Level PE

Our A Level PE students recently visited The University of Bath Human Performance Centre. Here, they took part in physiological testing, both lab and field based, had a tour of the world class facilities, and listened to a lecture on altitude training. We were also very fortunate to see the GBR swim team training in the 50m pool for this summer's Olympic Games, including Tom Dean, the current double Olympic 200m freestyle champion. A very awe inspiring day!



U13 & U15 girls cricket tournament

On Wednesday the 8th of May 16 girls attended a cricket tournament. This is the first fixture of the year for them and some with very little training so far. However, they turned up to play with an amazingly positive attitude toward each and every game where they showed a great team support throughout. As a team they cheered each other on and were always congratulating each other when things went well or not. They were the only team of girls that kept smiling throughout the day and did not have one bad thing to say about their games! Even the organisers of the event commented on how polite, kind and enthusiastic the girls were throughout the day - not giving up and just doing their best. All in all the girls represented the school in an outstanding way throughout the day - well done girls.