



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
SEMPER FIDELIS

**"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!" (Luke 1: 45)**

Friday, 08 March 2024

I wanted to start today's letter by wishing all the Hagley Catholic High School mum's a very Happy Mother's Day for this coming Sunday. I do hope you are all royally spoilt, as you should be, and whatever you end up doing I do hope it is enjoyable.



Today is also International Women's Day, a day to celebrate the women and girls in our lives and never lose sight or focus on the achievements, value and contribution of women in our families and society and to continue the call for a world that is diverse, inclusive, tolerant and equitable.



### Lent

We have continued our commitment to giving alms this Lent by raising money for our chosen charities, with bake sales and sponsored walks just some of the activities taking place this past fortnight. Thank you to those families who have supported our efforts and continue to do so. A reminder you can donate to your child's year group charity via Arbor Shop

Year 7 - Fr Hudson's Society

Year 8 - Cancer Research

Year 9 - Acorns Children's Hospice

Year 10 - Cancer Research

Year 11 - Asthma and Lung UK

Sixth Form - Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal

### Matilda The Musical

Last week Miss McKee put on the musical Matilda with the most wonderful cast of students. It was far and away the best thing I have seen at Hagley to date, and public congratulations goes to them all and to Mrs Foster, Mr Handley and Miss Haywood for all their work too. Lara who played Miss Honey wrote;

*"As a sixth former who has done many school productions in the past, I am incredibly grateful that this show was my last at Hagley. Matilda was a performance that was adored by everyone of all ages and really captured the amount of talent in our school community; whether it was our gifted ensemble, our fantastic crew backstage or our teachers who have supported us throughout the year. We all came together and put a lot of time and effort into this production. I'm certain that next year's will be just as brilliant."*



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## World Book Day

Hagley celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 7th March with a feast of activities taking place to inspire a lifelong love of reading!

World Book Day events kicked off with a Book Fair in school which was extremely well attended by students of all years. Students enjoyed the chance to explore a number of teenage texts and many texts were keenly purchased. It was amazing to overhear so many positive conversations about reading! We overheard students discussing what they were currently reading or watching on TV and many students were able to recommend texts to each other. A massive thank you to the sixth formers: Kiera J, Annalise F, Tom H and Molly C who ably led the event and should be praised for their positivity and tremendous leadership.



Although the Book Fair in school has now ended, the Hagley online Book Club (through Scholastic) is now open. Go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/hagley-rc/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and order online. For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 20p in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your order online by 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Students can pick up a book leaflet from their English teacher or search online using the link above.

During World Book Day week, students learnt about the importance of reading through their 'Character and Culture' lesson on Tuesday where they were encouraged to think about their own personal reading journeys, hear about their form tutors' favourite books and explore just why reading is an important activity, not just for one day a year, but throughout our lives. Indeed, to further support the accessibility of books in school, form groups have been challenged to create Form Reading areas within their form rooms.

KS3 students have been challenged to read 3 texts and visit a library or book shop between now and April 9th. However, we encourage students from all key stages to read and the 'Hagley Recommended Reading lists' for students in years 7-13 have been sent out to support parents/carers and students in finding suitable books to read. (The £1 book voucher was emailed out to parents and students and can be used at bookshops.)

Furthermore, students have also been challenged to create a piece of 'Blackout Prose' art and write a poem on the theme of 'change' for the Worcestershire Young Poet competition. Although the poem may be set for homework, entry into the competition, is of course, optional. Please see the link for more information: [Could you be Worcestershire's next Young Poet Laureate? | Worcestershire County Council](#). Certificates and prizes will be awarded in school to celebrate effort and attainment in this event aside from the Worcestershire competition.

On the day of World Book Day, students had the chance to spot the mystery staff readers from a line-up of avid readers and work out the title of a famous book by using their super detective skills and piece together the letters on staff lanyards.

Finally, the whole school has the chance to take part in a Book Swap event on Friday 22nd April, where students and staff can bring in a book (or more) to swap. This event will take place at lunchtime in the Sixth Form. If you have any books to donate (or books suitable for the Sixth Form) please send in on this day. We want all Hagley students to have the chance to find something they can enjoy reading, regardless of having the ability to pay for a book.



It has been a delight to see students and staff getting involved in celebrating and encouraging Literacy and Reading. Watch out for more events and activities set to take place in the Summer term!

Mrs Lawson (English Teacher and Literacy Lead)

## School Attendance

School attendance continues to be high on our agenda, with good reason too as we all know that children cannot learn and maximise attainment, progress and that sense of belonging if they are not in school.

I was delighted to receive recognition this week from the Fisher Family Trust for being in the top 25% of all secondary schools for attendance. Thank you so very much to all our families who work really hard, alongside us, to ensure your children are in school. Please don't give up on this and keep sending them in, we must continue to help our young people to build resilience and grit.



FFT National  
Attendance Award  
2023/24

## Student successes



It's great to be able to share more success stories about Hagley student's prowess away from school.

This week congratulations go to Josh in Year 11 who has been selected to play county level rugby for Greater Birmingham Under 16's. In his first game last weekend he was part of a comprehensive victory, running out 31 – 0 winners.

Lily in Year 7 is another one of our champions to celebrate.

Lily won the British Youth Championship (BYC) qualifier West Midlands, U12 Girls Foil fencing competition on Sunday 25th February. She won all her fights on the day and will now represent West Midlands in May in Sheffield in the National foil fencing competition. Lily is currently ranked 9th in England in the U12 girls foil individual category.



Winnie, also in Year 7, is the new Amateur World Champion in Muay Thai boxing having won all her recent fights in an event in Norfolk, defeating both national and international fighters on her way to the title.



## Sport Results



On Wednesday night Hagley hosted the annual U14 district netball tournament for ten schools from across the district. Our girls had a slow start to the tournament against some weaker opposition but won all games to make it through the group stages. They really picked up the intensity and work rate in the semis to convincingly beat Dormston.

This meant we met Oldswinford Hospital School (OSH) in the final.

OSH are an exceptional team and to finish half time 3-3 is a testament to how well they all played. Unfortunately OSH took a couple of early goals in the second half which we couldn't recover from, resulting in Hagley taking 2nd place in the tournament.

Players of the tournament went to Isla Higgins, who worked so hard throughout, was always available and the main passage of play in attack and Caitlin Baker Smith linking up with Isla to bring the ball up court and into attack and making some critical interceptions.

Huge congratulates go to all the girls on this achievement – Ella, Caitlin, Erin, Isla, Esme, Emilia, Poppy.

## Vacancies

Finally, we have a vacancy for September to take on the role of Assistant Subject Leader in PE. Please do forward this to anyone you know who might be interested. The advert can be found here: [Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy - Vacancies \(emmausmac.com\)](https://emmausmac.com)

With every good wish and blessing for the weekend ahead.

Yours sincerely

J Hodgson  
*Principal*

**Forthcoming Events and Calendared items**

**Spring 2:**

14.03.24 - Year 9 Parents Evening

22.03.24 - Break up for Easter