



HEBER HIGHLIGHTS

February 2023

www.bishopheber.cheshire.sch.uk

Issue 120

Headteacher Editorial:

May I start off by wishing you a (very) belated Happy New Year! It's fair to say that this is the half-term that goes the quickest for me each year – not necessarily because it's the shorter term but because of the amount of events we commit to; such as; Parents' Evenings, Year 9 GCSE Options Evening, Sixth Form applications as well as the Year 11 and Sixth Form mock examinations to name the big ones!

We also have a rather remarkable event to acknowledge, dare I say celebrate, in this edition. That is, the incredible achievement of **Mrs Robinson** who officially departs this half term, leaving a legacy as the longest serving member of staff at Heber ever! Mrs Robinson (1982 - 2023) joined Heber 41 years ago in January 1982 as a Teacher of PE having qualified as a Teacher in June 1981. Over the five decades at Heber Mrs Robinson has held a variety of posts during her tenure. She started with us as a Teacher of PE and a Form Tutor but very quickly became Assistant Year Leader of Year 7 (1987) and then Head of Year 9 (1989) and then Head of Year 7 (2004) one of my very first appointments as the new Headteacher. More recently she has taken on Year Leader responsibilities for both Year 7 and Year 8 to support us in succession planning. Having worked past her retirement age, Mrs Robinson is now leaving us to enjoy her well-deserved retirement – although we've planned for her to support us with the Menai Trip in July 2023. We will formally say goodbye to Mrs Robinson in the Summer Term.



It's fitting, therefore, in the week that Mrs Robinson leaves us that the Commissioner for Schools celebrates Children's Mental Health Week. Mrs Robinson was one of the

biggest advocates and drivers for supporting young people and their wellbeing at Heber. last week was [Children's Mental Health Week](#), which provides us with an important opportunity to join the national conversation about what good mental health looks like, and where children and young people can get support quickly.

The Children's Commissioner has created a short 'Let's talk about your feelings' flyer to help older students talk about their feelings and to tell them where to get support. One has been created for [secondary](#) school children.

As in previous years, our most recent **Staying Safe @Heber** focuses on Children's Mental Health Week and our Safer Internet Day. Our online activities can have a significant impact on our mental health and well-being.

The theme of 'Safer Internet Day' this year is 'Wanting to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. Please follow the link to website [here](#).



Reading: At Heber, we believe that 'every teacher is a teacher of reading' and this is exemplified by our reading programme in Personal Development time three mornings a week. Tutors are reading a range of books with their tutor groups, from classic literature including George Orwell's 'Animal Farm' through to modern fiction such as 'Girl, Woman, Other' by Bernadine Evaristo. Developing a love of reading is proven to have a positive impact on young people's lives, from their wellbeing to their career pathways and life opportunities... *continued on Page 2*

We also have another member of staff leaving us this half term: **Mr T Wynne (2021-2023)** joined Heber nearly two years ago in March 2021 as our Data and Exams Officer and he has been instrumental in implementing new whole school systems (such as Arbor). Mr Wynne is leaving us to take up a promoted post as a Data Analyst at Chester University.

Academic Year 2022-2023 (important dates)

Spring Term 2023

- 27.02.23 **Students return to School (Week 2)**
- 02.03.23 Year 7 Parents' Eve (4.15 - 7.15 p.m. remote)
- 13.03.23 Science Fair (SPH 4 - 6 p.m.)
- 14.03.23 Performing Arts Heber Footlights (MSH 7-9.30 p.m.)
- 17.03.23 Non-uniform Day (Comic Relief – RND 2023)
- 30.03.23 Y11 / Y13 Year Photographs (MSH 9 - 10 a.m.)
- 31.03.23 **End of Spring Term (12.30 p.m. finish)**

Summer Term 2023

- 17.04.23 **Students return to School (Week 1)**
- 18.04.23 Whole School Photograph
- 20.04.23 Year 10 Parents' Eve (4.15 - 7.15 p.m. remote)
- 21.04.23 Non-uniform Day (Friends of Heber)
- 25.04.23 Year 7 Menai Trip - Parents' Mtg. (MSH 6 p.m.)
- 01.05.23 **School closed: May Day Bank Holiday**
- 03-05.05.23 Year 11 GCSE Languages Speaking Tests
- 05-08.05.23 Sixth Form DoE Gold Award Expedition
- 08.05.23 **School closed: Coronation Bank Holiday**
- 15.05.23 GCSE/A-level external exams begin
- 16.05.23 ATC Civilian Committee Mtg. (7.15 p.m.)
- 22.05.23 Year 8 End of Year Examinations start
- 25.05.23 Upper Sixth Leavers Assembly (6 - 7.30 p.m.) tbc
- 26.05.23 Upper Sixth Study Leave (tbc)
- 26.05.23 Year 11 Celebration Assembly (SPH 1.30 - 3 p.m.)
- 26.05.23 Year 11 Exam Preparation Period starts
- 26.05.23 Upper Sixth Leavers' Ball (Chester Racecourse)
- 26.05.23 Close for Half-term (3.30 p.m.)
- 29.05.23 **Half Term**
- 05.06.23 **Students return to School (Week 1)**

Please visit our website for further information.



Follow us on @BishopHeberHS / @Heber_Head or for sports fixture/updates @HeberSport

Continued.... **Reading:** Our Sixth Form students play an important role in cultivating a culture of reading through our 'book buddies' programme, pairing up with some fantastic Year 7 and Year 8 students to read in the library together on a Monday and Friday morning.

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Many families continue to support reading at home and if you're looking for ideas, why not consider the following:

- ✓ [Fantastic Fiction](#) - it is a great resource for informing you of an authors' back catalogue, the chronology of a popular series and makes suggestions to similar writers you may like.
- ✓ 'Turn the Subtitles On' campaign (Click [here](#)). Research shows that turning the subtitles on the TV can have a significant impact on young people's reading skills.
- ✓ If you're looking for book suggestions, you may like to explore www.bookheads.org.uk for booklists, or visit a site like www.barringtonstoke.co.uk which produces books for under-confident or dyslexic readers.



The interactive production even had some students showing off their best dance moves and it was an evening of fun all round!

Miss S Bollard, Teacher of English

Performing Arts

New School Musical Production

Following the success of our latest school musical production 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat', we have been busy behind the scenes making plans for our next musical which will be staged in November 2023.



We are delighted to announce that we have secured a licence to produce a classic from the musical theatre genre, which will provide opportunities for all students currently in Years 7-12 who have a passion, talent and commitment to the Performing Arts, vocally, instrumentally, technically and of course, as stage performers.

All will be revealed at the end of our Footlights concert on Tuesday 14th March.

Mr S Ferrelly, Head of Performing Arts



We'd like to remind you that the 2023 **Non-uniform Day** in aid of Red Nose Day is Friday, 17th March. Our donations of £1 per person will allow the school to contribute over £1,300 to support Comic Relief.

Trips

The Snow Queen, Theatre Trip

On the evening of Tuesday, 3rd January, 50 Year 7 students visited Storyhouse in Chester to watch a wintery production of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*.



The high-quality production made for a fantastic evening enjoying the comedy, drama, and superb music from the band of musicians.

HEBER FOOTLIGHTS 2023 PERFORMING ARTS CONCERT

Tuesday 14th March

7.00 p.m. Main School Hall

Join us for what promises to be a thoroughly enjoyable evening of solo song, instruments, drama, dance, and student devised small group performances. Also featuring performances from Choir and Brass Group.

Tickets on sale from Friday 3rd March (£7/£5)

<https://yourboxoffice.co.uk>

(Bishop Heber)



50th Anniversary of Cheshire Regimental Museum

On Tuesday, 1st November 2022, His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester, the High Sheriff and other dignitaries attended a 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Cheshire Regimental Museum. Cheshire Army Cadets Force of Chester Castle Detachment was invited and represented by Lance Corporal Olivia Lewis of Upton High School, Lance Corporal Caden Beard (11ACu) of Bishop Heber High School with Command Sergeant Major Allen as the Detachment Commander.



A display had been built together in the museum showcasing the history of the Army Cadet Force where exhibits featured uniforms the cadets would have worn during the Second World War to present day. This was an opportunity for our cadets to organise and collaborate with fellow factions on a celebratory display of Army Cadets from November 2022 – March 2023. At the event, His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester had the chance to meet and speak with our cadets about their involvement with the project. The display is still open to the general public to visit and view; it could be a worthy day out this half term.

Mr S Allen, Site Maintenance Officer

Meet Our Student Librarians

Heber Library is proud to introduce you to our newly recruited Student Librarians. They have recently had their first training session with our Library Manager, Mr Doran and Mrs McDonough-Nicholls from CWAC Public Libraries. The students have gained a valuable insight into how school and community libraries operate, cataloguing and an understanding of the Dewey Decimal Classification System.



After half-term, our Student Librarians are excited to commence their duties and support Heber Library in promoting a strong reading culture around the school. They will play a pivotal role in supporting the upcoming Cheshire Book Awards, future library events and have the opportunity to visit the Educational Library Service in Winsford to purchase some new reading material on behalf of the school.

Our Student Librarians include Glynn Allwood (7H&W), Lexi Fenlon (7KCI), Lorna Fisher (7AMc), William Hart (7H&W), Emily Hughes (7RWh), Isabella Longland (7RWh), Finn McGrillis (7H&W), Austėja Milieskaite (7KCI), George Roberts (7RWh), Lauren Samuels (7H&W), Phoebe Tomlinson (7RWh), Annabelle Williams (7RWh), Lizzie Cejnar (8KCa), Isla Saltiel (8KCa) and Erin Williams (8KCa).

Mr L Doran, Library Manager

of Accelerated Reader

The Accelerated Reader competition between Band A and Band B is still on-going. Please see the results so far.

Year 7 Band A – 370 quizzes, Year 7 Band B – 397 quizzes.
Year 8 Band A – 76 quizzes, Year 8 Band B – 169 quizzes.



Thank you to Sophia Grimmer (7RWh) and Dylan Williams (7RWh) for updating the Accelerated Reader board in the Library.

Mrs A Williams, Teacher of English

Sport

Equestrian

Congratulations to Maisie Jeffery (10RLe) for competing at in the British Dressage Petplan Area Festival at Aintree Equestrian Centre.



Maisie & her pony, Orchids Yoica (Jaffa) recorded a personal best of 68.68% in her class placing the 5th (out of 40) – highest placed U21 rider.

Congratulations also to Izabel Worthington (9CHa) and her pony Machno Gabrielle on being selected for the British Dressage Under 21 International Pathway which means they're eligible to be selected to ride for Great Britain this year.



Mr M Lindley, Head of P.E.

Hockey

Well done to the U13 girls hockey team who came 2nd in the Chester and District indoor hockey tournament. It was a very close tournament with great play from all schools.



We would also like to congratulate our Year 10 Netballers for their awesome performance on Thursday 9th February. They came third in their district competition after narrowly losing out in the semi-final.

Miss E Smith, Teacher of P.E.

Athletics

With a new 200m personal best of 24.09, Theo Shepherd (9RMa) picked up gold at the Northern Indoor Championships on Sunday. He has also set the club record at West Cheshire Athletics Club for 200m U15. With such success, Theo went on to compete at the Club Nationals finals.



Mrs H Corrigan, Teacher of P.E.

Cross Country



Well done to our athletes that ran in the County Cross Country for Chester Schools. Highlights – Emilia Pyper (8RKy) & Rhys Owen (9TRo) bronze medals in the Juniors race qualifying for the English Schools Nationals & Harriet Beattie (7KCI) 5th in the minors qualifying for the inter-counties race.



Mrs H Corrigan, Teacher of P.E.

Table Cricket



Congratulations to our Heber Table Cricket Squad. Winners of the Secondary Schools Lords Taverners Table Cricket District Event in Warrington at the Padgate Academy on Tuesday, 24th January, finishing undefeated throughout.

Mr M Lindley, Head of P.E.

Ultimate Frisbee Championship



After three Covid-affected years of not competing, Heber had a team in the U20s National Indoor Championships. With the top 16 teams competing in Coventry, we finished a very respectable 7th place. More importantly, we walked away with the Spirit trophy. Our congratulations go to the following students who were involved:

George Jones (8GLE), Harry Ames (13B&H), Ioan Crump (13JSt), Fred Delf-Rowlandson (13G&V), Chiara Sherlock (13G&V), Oscar Spencer (13JPe), Thomas Larkum (12NSt), Tom Candy (11ChE), Sam Fielding (11JPr), Fin Williams (11ACu) and Ted Atkinson (11DBI).

Mr K Lowe, Teacher of Maths

Post-Heber Accomplishments

Congratulations to former student Lucy Jones who has just turned professional with her golf. Lucy demonstrates that the dedication and hard work over the years can lead to the achievable. All of us at the Heber wish her the very best for her future career.



Former student, Ben Curry was originally selected as an 18-year-old for the England game v the Barbarians ahead of the summer tour to Argentina in 2017 but had to withdraw from that game with a back spasm. He then had to wait a further 4 years for his first full-international cap against the USA on 4th July 2021.



Captaining the Sale Sharks this season and hitting a

rich seam of form has earned him the call-up to the EPS (Elite Player Squad) by the new England Head Coach, Steve Borthwick. Ben impressed the new head coach and earned his first start in the Calcutta Cup match against Scotland in the first round of this year's six nations at Twickenham. It's hoped that Ben will be joined by his brother, Tom on his return from a recent hamstring injury in the next few days/weeks.



It has been a whirlwind of a start to 2023 for former Heber student Safia Middleton-Patel. Having signed her first professional contract with Manchester United Women, she has followed this up with her first senior debut on emergency loan to Coventry United FC helping to secure them a win against Blackburn Rovers.

And rounding it off making her senior debut for the Welsh International Women's team in the Pinatar Cup against the Philippines on the 15th February, playing 90 minutes and coming away with a clean sheet for her first senior cap. So much more to come from this young keeper, congratulations Safia!

Mr M Lindley, Head of P.E.

Community News

Parking Outside School

The Police have asked us to remind parents with regards to parking outside of the school. They have stated that, where necessary, enforcements in the form Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) can be issued by them for wilful obstruction of the highway. The FPN is a fine for £50 which is non-endorsable. In terms of parking/waiting restrictions, outside the School, Cheshire Police have confirmed that:

“On Chester Road outside the school, the centre white line is unbroken to one side of the road. The highway code paragraph 248 states - You MUST NOT stop or park on a road marked with double white lines, even when a broken white line is on your side of the road, except to pick up or set down passengers, or to load or unload goods”.

The Police have asked for your assistance in keeping the road way clear both in the mornings, when dropping children off at School, and in the evenings when collecting them. Please do not park on the yellow solid line or zig-zag lines as these must be kept clear at all times of stationary vehicles. Please also be mindful that, when parking on the side roads near the school, drivers do not obstruct driveways or park in such a way that does not leave a clear line of sight on to Chester Road. The School is happy for drivers to pull into the main School car park to drop off in the mornings, and/or after 3:30 p.m. when the School buses have departed. Please do not use the 6th Form entrance. Due to Health and Safety reasons the School does restrict cars coming on to the School site between 3:10 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support with this matter.

Commando Style Camps

No Mans Heath and District Parish Council has hosted Commando Style Camps for children aged 5 - 11 years for several years which have proved to be very popular. The Parish Council are now considering whether to host a Commando Style Camp for a week during the summer holidays aimed at older children aged 11 – 16 years.

If your child would be interested in attending, please contact the Clerk for further information.

Telephone: 01948 770678

Email: nomansheathanddistrictpc@hotmail.com

Main School Office

Your help with the following would be appreciated.

Lost property:

- Please ensure all items of School clothing and

equipment is clearly named/labelled.

Equipment:

- Please ensure your child comes to School with the correct equipment for the day. Please do not allow students to bring any items of value into School as we cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage.

Attendance

Our School's attendance policy has recently been updated and can be located under the parents' section of the school website for further information.

[Attendance Policy | Bishop Heber High School](#)

Finance

You can now donate to the Enrichment support fund via Scopay.

The following items are available to purchase online via Scopay:

Casio Scientific Calculator fx-83GTX £8.00

Casio Classwiz Scientific Calculator fx-83GTX £20.00

8GB USB Memory Stick £5.00

Gum Shield £2.50

If you wish to purchase any of these items please do so via Scopay and they will then be available for your child to collect from the Finance Office.

If you have not yet signed up for Scopay and you need the information on how to do this please email finance@heber.org.uk and we will send you the details, please include the student's name in the email so that we can send you your unique log in.

Free School Meals

Did you know that by registering for Free School Meals your child not only has the opportunity to enjoy a free school meal but they could also be entitled to a substantial reduction in the cost of some educational visits and after School activities?

The School also benefits from additional funding for children who are registered for free school meals or

who have been registered in the past six years. The funding gives every student in the schooling system the same opportunities to succeed.

Additional support mechanisms at Bishop Heber include intervention classes along with financial support for educational visits and activities.

Am I eligible for Free School Meals?

You will qualify if you are receiving one of the following benefits;

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Do you receive Working Tax credit?

If you or a partner receive Working Tax Credit regardless of income you will not qualify for free school meals.

Free School Meals Helpline - 0300 123 7039

Free School Meals Information -

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/.../school-meals.aspx>

The free school meals team can assess your claim over the phone using an eligibility checker to confirm entitlement.