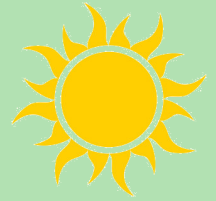


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A farewell message from the headteacher:

Well, what a fabulous year this has been!

As we reach the end of another incredible school year, it seems only right to reflect on everything we have achieved together. It has certainly been a year to remember.

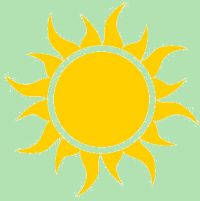
We celebrated the Haven's 10th anniversary in style and created so many wonderful memories along the way. Our students have enjoyed an amazing range of enrichment opportunities, including trips to Trentham Gardens, theatre visits, the Titanic Exhibition, all-day seaside adventures, and even a fantastic day trip to Edinburgh! These experiences have enriched our curriculum, broadened horizons, and given both students and staff lifelong memories and invaluable life skills.

A huge thank you must go to Mrs Harding, whose dedication to planning such exciting trips is second to none, and to Miss Francis, who somehow manages to make all those risk assessments happen behind the scenes!

Throughout the year, our students have embraced opportunities to develop new skills through cycling, outdoor water sports, orienteering, geography fieldwork, exploring careers in film and the arts, alongside all the fantastic learning that takes place in our classrooms every day. I have to thank Mrs Murray for her dedication in making sure the students have the very best outdoor education program.

This summer, nearly half of our school completed nationally recognised qualifications. Every one of them approached their exams with maturity, resilience and determination, and we couldn't be prouder of what they have achieved.

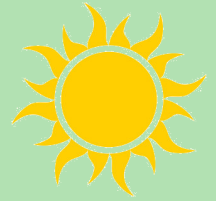
One of the greatest joys of leading the Haven has been seeing our former students continue to flourish. We now have ex-students applying to university and pursuing ambitious futures, proving time and time again that being part of the Haven never limits possibilities—it enables young people to thrive in the right environment, build confidence, and prepare for whatever comes next. Anything really is possible.



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Our students continue to amaze me, not only academically but also through the way they care for one another. Haven young people are kind, thoughtful and considerate. They are developing the ability to reflect, learn from experiences and strive to be the very best versions of themselves. Those qualities will serve them well throughout life.

Of course, I couldn't write this without mentioning the cricket team! What another phenomenal year they have had—winning the regional competition before going on to finish second in the national finals. The players were outstanding, the supporters were incredible, and I'm sure you'll forgive the rather questionable photo of me celebrating with them!

This term marks my final one as Headteacher of the Haven. It has been an absolute privilege and undoubtedly one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. Your children are truly remarkable. They have taught me so much, made me smile every day, and it has been an honour to be part of their journeys. I will always look back on my time at the Haven with enormous warmth, pride and gratitude. Where will I get fashion advice from now....?

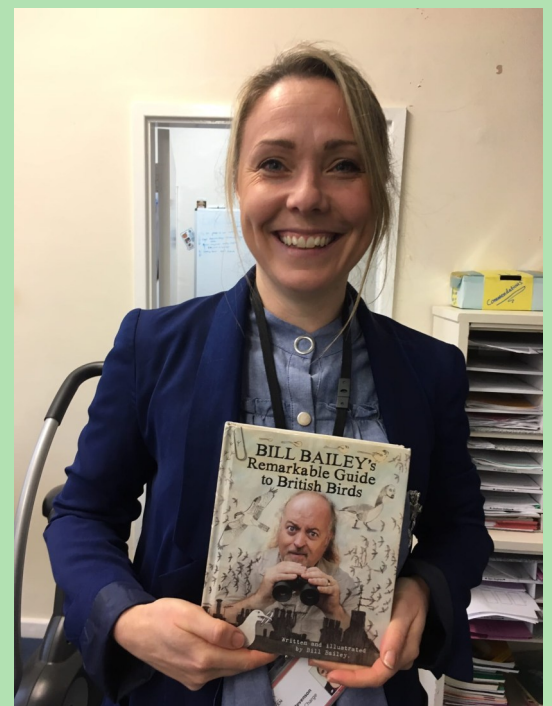
We also say goodbye to Sally, Mrs Westwood, Corinna and Miss Forest. I would like to thank each of them for their dedication, commitment and the contribution they have made to our school community over the years. I wish them every success and happiness in the future.

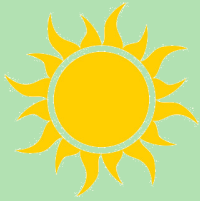
Finally, to all of our students who are moving on to their next adventure: good luck! Go and be fabulous. Believe in yourselves, be kind, look after one another, and never stop being curious. We know you will continue to make us proud.

Thank you to all of our families for your continued support throughout the year. Have a wonderful, safe and relaxing summer, and take care of one another.

With very best wishes,

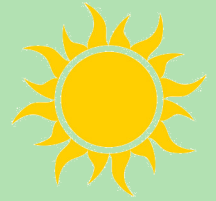
Zoie x





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Humanities

Investigating the river on the Chase, completing nature art and playing rounders was how a group of key stage 3 and 4 Humanities students spent 14th May.

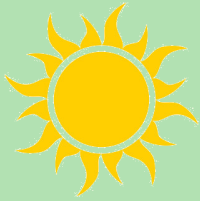
For their Geography, students measured the velocity of the water, the width and depth of the channel. We also had a good look for any signs of life in the river and some students completed some very good field sketches. It was great to see young people learning outdoors, spending time in nature and working to understand the river environment.

For their Art, students were tasked with finding objects from nature to make animal designs and they enjoyed some rock painting. Students worked so well and showed some real artistic flare!

After a picnic lunch, students and staff had a game of rounders. Well done to Mrs Maxwell who got a rounder! It hadn't rained all day, but we decided to stop the game when we heard a huge rumble of thunder and head back to school before it all got soaked.

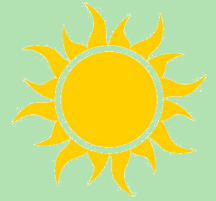
Well done to all the students who put on their wellies and walking boots and took part in the day which was really good fun.





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English:

Key stage 3 students have been studying a Shakespeare play with Ms. Harding: A Midsummer Night's Dream. On Wednesday 1st July, they went to see it in Stratford; here is a year 9 student's account of the day...

"So, I started the day off with hopping in the car and we drove to Stratford (where Shakespeare was born). The drive was about an hour long, but while we were 30 minutes into the drive, we stopped off and bought some sweets from the shop and had a Greggs sausage roll. The second part of the drive was pretty chill- I sat in the back and put my headphones on.

When we arrived in Stratford, we found a parking spot and got everyone together to start the school trip. We walked around the place and we could see a man in costume being Shakespeare talking about Shakespeare. Then we stumbled across a little boat on the River Avon that showed you things about Shakespeare's past.

Once the boat was finished, we were hungry so Ms. Harding bought us all chips, we found a big open field where we could eat them. Moments later, we were playing catch with a tennis ball while also looking at the swans that were near the river.

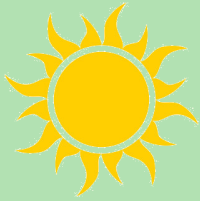
After that was done, we started to walk around the town a bit more- we were going to ho up the tower where you could see the whole of Stratford but it was shut down for the day. So, we made our way to the play we were going to watch.

The play we were seeing was 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. When I got there, I realized it was very busy. We walked into the theatre and I got hit with a cold breeze of air. The play was mixed with sadness but it was also humorous as the actors jumped up and down on the stage. The set and lighting were very effective.

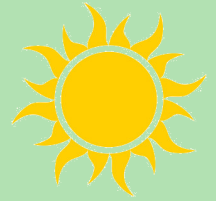
After the play was done, I picked up my belongings and headed out with the rest of the group. Shortly after, we came across a little ice cream shop and we all had an ice cream while we walked back to the car- trying not to miss the England match!

Overall, the trip was good and I had fun."





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English:

All students at The Haven were invited to attend the West End production of 'Mean Girls: The Musical' on 24th June 2026. we took 19 students from years 7-13 to see the show. The aim of the trip was to familiarise students with different types of performance genres and to develop critical skills (and, of course, to have fun!). Here is a review from one of our Key Stage 4 students...

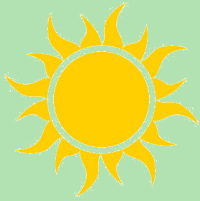
“Mean Girls the Musical is about the difficulties in being a teenager; for example, puberty, friendships, and life in general. The characters are interesting– the plastics, the art club, or even the freaks! This stage adaption is pulled off really well.

The best bit by far was the acting from Janice and Damien, played by Georgie Buckland and Max Gill. They reminded me of my best friend and I; their song, ‘where you belong’ was great in person– it made me think of friends and the openness and helpful relationships it can bring and I could feel for what they were going through.

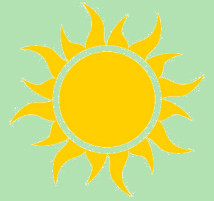
Another thing we liked was the character Arron and his relationship with Cady. So much so that I wanted them to sing a song to expand further. It was disappointing that it ended on them yelling at each other and then kissing– this was confusing but I’m glad they ended up together.

Unfortunately, some of the technical difficulties meant you couldn't hear some of the songs– the music was too loud over the voices, but this is the only thing that I would change.

Overall, I really liked it– I originally thought I wasn't going to like it and thought id be bored, but in the end I really enjoyed it and can't stop listening to the songs from it.”



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Vocational Studies:

We are thrilled to announce the outstanding achievements of our pupils in Vocational Studies this year. We are proud to celebrate the attainment of 3 Certificates and 1 Award in BTEC Entry Level 2 Vocational Studies. Vocational studies play a vital role in preparing our students for real-world challenges and career readiness. This term, the main focus area was on using public transport, providing our students with practical skills and knowledge to navigate the transportation system efficiently and independently. These achievements highlight the dedication and hard work of our students, and we are proud of all of them. Congratulations to all the recipients, and we look forward to further success in Vocational Studies as we continue to empower our students for their future endeavors.

Careers:

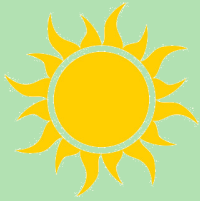
We are incredibly proud of our school leavers this year, all of whom have successfully secured places at their next destinations, including local colleges and training providers. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the hard work, determination and resilience they have shown throughout their time with us.

Choosing and preparing for the next step can be a challenging process, so it is wonderful to see every student move on to a pathway that suits their interests, strengths, and future aspirations. We wish them every success as they begin this exciting new chapter.

This year, we have also developed some excellent partnerships with local colleges.

These links have helped to support our students in making informed decisions about their futures and have opened up valuable opportunities for transition and career exploration.

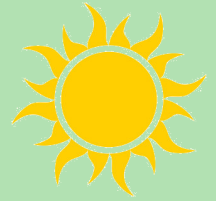
A huge congratulations to all of our leavers – we are so proud of you and cannot wait to see what you achieve next.



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Psychology:

This summer, we have had our first cohort of fabulous GCSE Psychology students sit their exams. We are so proud of their effort and dedication to their own learning over the past two years. We wish them all the best for their results in the summer – they all deserve fantastic grades! Thank you for filling our Psychology lessons with fun, laughter, and serious drawings for the last two years – we will miss you!

Sixth Form enrichment

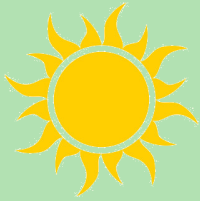
As the academic year draws to a close, it has been lovely to spend some quality time with our Sixth Form leavers during enrichment activities.

These opportunities have allowed students to continue developing their social and communication skills while creating some wonderful memories together before they leave us.

Over the last few weeks, we have enjoyed a variety of outings, including visits to the Zoo, walks around Chasewater and an exciting trip to the Escape Rooms in Stafford. Each experience has encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, independence and, most importantly, plenty of laughter and enjoyment.

Thank you to our Sixth Form leavers for making these trips so special. We wish you all the very best for the future and look forward to hearing about your next adventure.

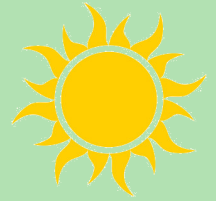




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Art:

Trinity arts award:

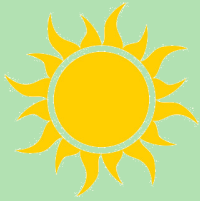
The students that have started this qualification this year are working hard and their portfolios of work are looking impressive. As part of their coursework we went on a trip to Trentham Gardens in June to look and admire the sculptures around the vast lake. The students enjoyed trying to find the twenty one wired fairies created by the sculptor Robin Wight. They also liked the fact that art can be outside amongst nature and blend into its surroundings.



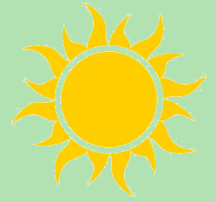
This term the students in all key stages have completed a printing technique unit and an insect art topic. The students have been amazed to discover which everyday objects are good to print with and effective. They have used vegetables, bubble wrap, different parts of their hands and they have learnt how to print with ink paints. A number of fantastic pieces of printed artwork have been created.



Students have discovered artists who create artwork of insects, such as Rosalind Monks, Lucy Arnold, Kelly Stanford and Christopher Marley. They have then used different media to create their own insect art pieces.



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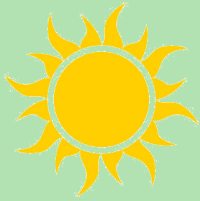
PE:

We have had another wonderful year in the PE department, where students have worked on a range of skills through lots of different types of sports. Throughout the year, students have had a go at tennis, athletics, table tennis, squash, boxing, basketball, football, cricket, rounders and disc golf. The levels of determination and resilience throughout the whole school has been phenomenal as students have both practiced familiar sports and trying brand new sports!

Students have also been working hard on their BTEC PE qualification, with one group completing the qualification in its entirety, and another completing the whole of component 1

Outdoor Education:

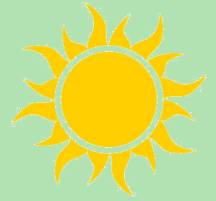
Our outdoor education provision has proven beneficial for our students over the years, and this year they got to experience a number of activities that promotes team work, resilience, confidence, determination and contribution. A few of the activities have included rock climbing at Awesome walls in Stoke, trampolining at Airea 51 in Telford, a range of activities at Beaudesert activity centre and paddleboarding and kayaking at Chasewater.



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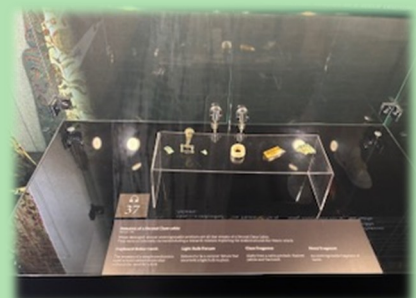
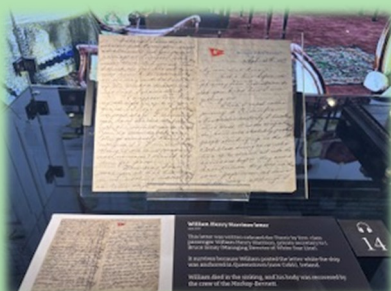
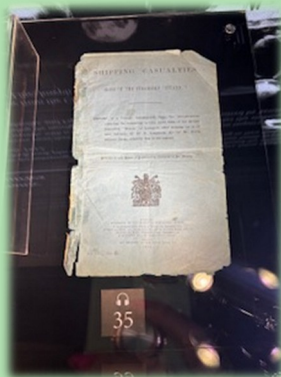
Titanic trip:

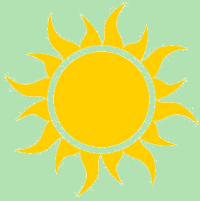
This half term, some students visited the Titanic Exhibition at The NEC as part of their humanities curriculum.

Here are some quotes from the day...

“I loved that we all were given a passenger ticket as we entered. Then we got to find our names on a big board at the end to see if we survived or not... I survived!”

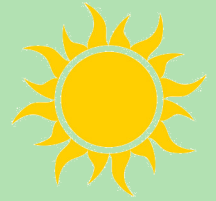
“The best part of the exhibition for me was being able to sit in a lifeboat and see what those passengers saw on a huge screen, watching the Titanic sink with their friends and family on. It was so sad”





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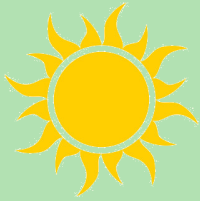
Cricket

This has been our best ever Summer of cricket. We started out with our girls' team at the Staffordshire tournament. Last year we managed half a team; this year we had a full squad—even reserves! On the day, the organisers decided to make it non-competitive which our girls were disappointed about. However, they are very clear that we definitely won!

We then moved on to a new tournament at Lichfield CC with schools from the south and east of the county. The team went along intending to use it as a warm-up for the regional finals and not take it too seriously. They played four games in driving wind and a bit of rain, ending up as comfortable winners.

Typically, the regional final was then postponed due to extreme heat! We attended the rescheduled date, again at Lichfield, along with 8 other teams from across the West Midlands. Despite tough competition, and 30+ degree temperatures, we won our group taking us onto a final against a team from Coventry. This game went extremely close with the opposition needing 13 to win off the final over. Tight bowling and fielding saw us win by 8 runs and become Regional Champions!

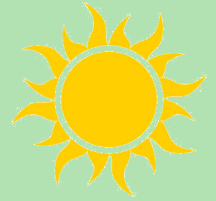




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Cricket

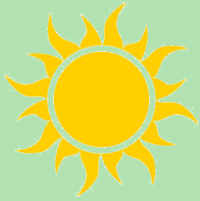
This meant we had qualified for the first ever National Softball finals, being held at the home of Leicestershire County Cricket Club, Grace Road. We had an early start as the coach left at 8.00, though some of the schools taking part had already been on the road for 3 hours at that point!

The squad and coaches arrived at the ground and were amazed at the size of it. The Leicestershire team, including some England players, were just finishing training on the pitch, but we cleared them away and warmed up for the big event.

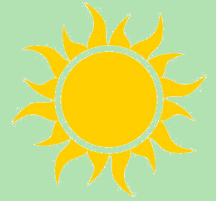


We were in a group with schools from Northumberland, Bedfordshire and Wiltshire. As expected, all of them played to a high standard but we battled hard and ended up winning the group undefeated.





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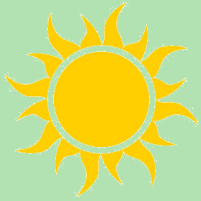
Cricket

This set up a final match against a team from Merseyside. They had also won their group and with an even higher net run rate than The Haven. We knew we were in for a tough game; the travelling army of Haven Ultras somehow became even louder to help the team raise their game.

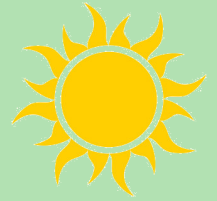


Despite some great effort, it soon became clear that the opposition were just too strong. The Haven gave it everything, but were well beaten in the end by a better team.

However, we knew that just by stepping onto the pitch they were already winners. We were incredibly proud of the team and finishing second in a national competition is fantastic. It was a day that we will never forget, and a reward for all the hard work they have put in. And if it was a competition for the best fans, we definitely won!



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Cricket



National Finals Runners Up 2026