



**Year 8 Newsletter**  
**Summer 2024**

**Key Events**

July 18<sup>th</sup> – Sports Day  
July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Last Day of Term (school closes at 1.40 pm)  
September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Years 7 and 11 only start AU1  
September 4<sup>th</sup> – Years 8, 9 and 10 return to start AU1

**Armed Forces Day**

Mrs Richards organised an Armed Forces Day collaboration which saw some of our pupils working with and learning about life in the armed forces. Drill exercises, PTI sessions and a bake sale to raise funds for the Armed Forces took place.

Photo: Year 8 pupils practicing drill exercises.



**Sporting Success**

Year 8 clearly have a very talented group of young sports people. This was further exemplified in the summer term with the boys' Athletics team winning the district gold medal at Mountbatten Centre; the girls' Football team narrowly losing out to Henry Cort 1-0 in the district final, and the boys' Football team comfortably beating Brookfield School 5-1 in their district final.



Top left: Boys' Athletics team  
Top right: Girls' Football team  
Bottom left: Boys' Football team

**Hampshire Book Awards**

A group of Year 8 pupils were fantastic ambassadors for the school at the recent Hampshire Book Awards hosted at Park Community School. Thank you to Mrs Norton for organising and accompanying the pupils. Photograph below.



**Message From Mr Shaul and Miss Wilkins**

As Year 8 draws to a close, It is time to reflect on what has been a very busy yet rewarding year and look forward to what Year 9 promises in September. Many pupils continue to improve their learning skills in preparation for the choice of option subjects next year. There will be some minor tweaking to the year group structure from September with some pupils changing from X to Y band. This is to counteract the imbalance in numbers and needs of the pupils and create a better learning environment for all. May I take the opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the year. I look forward to continuing to support the pupils in Year 9.

**Merit and attendance update for Year 8**

Since the start of this academic year, we have accumulated 44,500 merits! This is the second highest year group total and reflects the efforts of all the Year 8 pupils this year. Particular plaudits go to our Purple badge winners (1,000 merits achieved since the start of Year 7). They are:  
Izzie Manchip, Hannah Waddington, Callum Lillington, Marc Daye, Ryan Cai and Florence Butcher.

I am pleased with the improvements made with pupils getting to school and class on time. Year 8 attendance was 90.5% in the summer terms. The drive to improve attendance and punctuality will continue in Year 9.

**House News**



As you will be aware, this year has seen the relaunch of the house system. I am delighted to share with you the logos for the 3 houses which have been designed based on ideas submitted by the pupils. Our first new House Sports Day will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July, and we hope all pupils will participate. Pupils are asked to come to school in their PE kit with the option of wearing a top that corresponds to their house colour. There will be a mixture of traditional sports day activities as well as tug of war and fairground styled activities, such as ring toss, crossbar challenge and tin can alley. Pupils will amass points for their house by participating in as many activities as they can.