

Value for this half term: [Hope](#)

Theme for this week (17 Oct - 21 Oct 2022): [Jesus the hope of the world](#)

Life Skills theme for the week: [We are able to appreciate other students and staff](#)

“Men and women are limited not by the place of their birth, not by the colour of their skin, but by the size of their hope.”
- John Johnson

It's been another busy week in The Harleston Sancroft Academy (secondary phase), with many KS4 students, plus their families, attending last Thursday evening's Further Education Event. Thanks to all who came along and received fantastic guidance from the FE providers and colleges who were in attendance.

If you have been following their progress on Twitter ([link](#)), you will have seen that the fifty KS4 students on the French and History trip experienced a huge amount in France and Belgium in the space of just thirty-six hours. Our students will have so much to share with us when they return to school on Monday 17 October. Thank you also to the staff who so generously gave their time and energy, making this trip possible.

On Thursday 20 October, we are very much looking forward to welcoming Year 7 students and their families to an evening focused on supporting reading in the home and giving information about the ways in which we promote reading skills and a love of reading in the Y7 English classroom. This event will take place in the Library, from 17:30 to 18:30.

This is, of course, the last school week of this half-term. It's a really beautiful time of the year to be out and about in nature. Whether you go by the astronomical or the meteorological [calendar](#), it's definitely autumn now! Next weekend marks the autumn [equinox](#) when day and night will be around the same length; this can be seen in the word's origin, derived from the Latin *equi* (meaning 'equal') and *nox* (meaning 'night'). As Welsh poet and Anglican priest R.S. Thomas suggests in the poem below, autumn is a wonderful time to “pause a minute / Let the mind take its photograph / Of the bright scene”. Thomas encourages us to savour the experience, fortifying ourselves against the cold and darkness of the winter days to come.

A Day in Autumn (R.S. Thomas)

It will not always be like this,
The air windless, a few last
Leaves adding their decoration
To the trees' shoulders, braiding the cuffs
Of the boughs with gold; a bird preening

In the lawn's mirror. Having looked up
From the day's chores, pause a minute,
Let the mind take its photograph
Of the bright scene, something to wear
Against the heart in the long cold.

After the half-term holiday, on Monday 31 October, our Year 11 students will begin their formal, internal examination period (Exams 1).

Another important date for your diary is Friday 4 November, for the Harleston Fireworks display; gates open at 18:00, with fireworks from 19:00. More information is available [here](#) (add link).

Prayer for the week ahead ([FaithND](#))

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

*As we welcome the autumn months,
may the earlier setting of the sun
remind us to take time to rest.*

*May the brilliant colours of the leaves
remind us of the wonder of your creation.*

*May the steam of our breath in the cool air
remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.*

*May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given
and bounty we are to share with others.*

*May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great promise that death is temporary
and life is eternal.*

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever.

Amen

Useful links and ongoing notices:

- Please visit the Harleston Sancroft Academy Twitter feed for news and information
- [Here](#) is a list of lunchtime and after-school clubs.

Please note, all clubs are FREE and students do not need to sign up - they can just turn up on the day. For any lunchtime sports clubs, students should put on their trainers (they won't change into full sports kit). For after-school sports clubs, students will need to be fully changed into their PE kit.

Upcoming Events:

Thurs 20 Oct: Reading Evening for Y7 students & their families - 17:30 - 18:30

Mon 24 - Fri 28 Oct: October half-term holiday

Mon 31 Oct: All students return to school

Mon 31 Oct: Year 11 Examinations (1) until Friday 11 November

Fri 4 Nov: Fireworks Display at Harleston Sancroft Academy, secondary phase