

# Heckler

Week 14 Published 17 December 2020

## Goodbye 2020!



As we approach the end of the Autumn term, I am delighted to report that we finish for the Christmas break with the school in a very strong position. This term has been a tough one for us all. We started off by stating that the coronavirus would not define us. We vowed to deliver a provision to our students which is second to none and wherever possible we would make the school operate as normal as possible. I am proud of all the staff and students who have made this happen. Whether in the classroom, or having to work from home, learning has been of the highest order for each of our seven year groups and we are exactly where we planned to be, in terms of progression through syllabi or schemes of work. Whatever the final method of assessment for our GCSE and A Level students next summer, we will be well positioned when competing on a national stage.

You will appreciate from previous Heckler reports and social media feeds that despite the difficult circumstances, we have had an outstanding term. I continue to marvel at how as a school community we have a wonderful balance of academic excellence, supported by exemplary pastoral care and, where possible this term, the extra-curricular activities that students and indeed staff will long remember, which help cement our school values. Despite many families facing financial challenges, our charity fundraising this term has been excellent, with over £4500 raised to date.

I am sure, like us, you will be delighted that we have been ranked as the 7th best state secondary school in the North of England in the Sunday Times Parent Power Survey, which analyses a plethora of measures over the last 10 years. This accolade is just reward for the tremendous hard work our students, staff and parents put in every day of the week. Indeed, to illustrate the success this year, on our school website you will see a link to our virtual [Senior Prizegiving Ceremony](#), celebrating the academic success of our GCSE and A level students in the 2020 examinations.

Despite the well known difficulties faced by the students, they achieved record results which have put them in very strong positions for progression into the sixth form, to university or high calibre employment.

In spite of difficult public sector funding conditions, we continue to be in a healthy financial position, which will again allow us to further invest in an outstanding provision, in terms of both capital infrastructure and also the human resources directly in front of our students. Indeed, we are currently in the final phase of updating fire safety systems, replacing windows and doors and extending design and technology and food workshops, as the result of a £580,000 bid we achieved from the DfE. We are currently bidding for funding to replace the 'temporary' modern foreign languages block, with a state of the art facility. Hopefully, I will be able to communicate some good news on this later in the year.

I am sad to report that some of our staff are moving on to new career opportunities; Mrs Whitaker, Head of Year will be leaving us and will be replaced by Mrs Griffin. Mrs Edwards is leaving, who was undertaking a maternity cover for Mrs Fitzgerald, who has now returned. Mrs Noble is going on maternity leave and will be replaced by Mrs Frere, and Mrs Ashaq, a lunchtime supervisor, will be exploring new opportunities. We wish them the best of good fortune in their new endeavours.

Merry Christmas



As we approach the end of 2020, I would like to publicly thank all of the school staff. Every one of them plays an invaluable part in ensuring that we always provide the best possible education for our students, very often going above and beyond what could reasonably be expected of them, all because they care passionately about every individual student. However, none of the above would happen without the unfaltering support from parents and I thank you for the family commitment, which is always very evident and invaluable.



**Peter Roberts**  
**Headteacher**

Whatever your plans for the festive period, I do hope you have a lovely break and manage to spend some quality time with loved ones. On behalf of all the staff, our very best wishes to you for Christmas and the New Year.

## Department Focus: Music

As with many departments in school at the moment, it is been a slightly different term since September. However, we have been lucky enough to still provide our students with an excellent Music curriculum and work in specialist classrooms. The curriculum has had to be altered slightly, but students have still been performing, composing and learning about a variety of different styles of music.

Year 7 students have started the year looking at the Elements of Music through a case study on Vivaldi's Four Seasons and doing lots of keyboard work including learning the piece Falling Slowly. Year 8 students have looked at Film Music this term through practical keyboard skills, listening activities and on our specialist Cubase software to compose a short film score. Year 9 have started their GCSE course looking at various genres/styles of music from Theme & Variations to fusion styles such as Bhangra and Blues Rock. Year 10 and 11 have continued their GCSE topics and are making excellent progress. At A Level, students have been working on their coursework components while learning new set works for their exam.



We have been lucky enough to have Callum Quinn helping this term in Music. Callum is training as an ITT with us at HGS. He has taught lessons across different year groups and helped with various ensemble work and performances. Callum returns after February half-term to continue his studies, Good luck with your second placement.

# Department Focus: Music cont

We are thrilled that we have still managed to create Music outside of the classroom, albeit much less than we normally would with Covid-19 restrictions and year group bubbles. Our sixth formers put together a couple of pieces earlier this half term that can be viewed on the school website. We have also been working hard to get a Christmas concert together which can be viewed by following this link:

[HGS Christmas Concert](#)



Some performances took place in school, some from St James' Church (their Carol Concert will be available early next week, the YouTube link will be on our Music Twitter page), and some took place from our students' own homes. A really big thank you to all the students who rehearsed and participated in these performances, your dedication and hard work is deeply appreciated. You will see and hear from the newly formed year 7 Junior Choir, our Senior Choir, Soul Band, GCSE and A Level class performances and some soloists.

We cannot wait to get all of our ensembles up and running again when it is safe to do so but in the meantime, we will continue to support our students both inside the classroom and through extra-curricular activities.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas period and a very Happy New Year from the Music Department.

## Diary Dates

18 December - School Closed

4 January - School Re-opens -  
All students to attend

7 January - Year 11 Parents' Evening  
Booking open now click [link](#) to book

8 - 15 January - Year 10 Mock Exams

15 January - Sixth Form Taster Day

W/c 18 January - Year 8 Exams

# Busy! Busy! Busy! December at HGS



Year 13 Formal Friday



Christmas Jumper Day



Salvation Army Gift Appeal



HECKMONDWIKE  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Senior Prizegiving 2020

[Link for Virtual Senior Prize Giving](#)



Reverse Advent - Food Bank



Virtual Carol Concert  
Click [link](#) to view



# Heckler's This Term



## Heckler

Week 2 | Published 22 September 2020

### Head Teacher's Welcome

As we complete our first week of the new school year, we have been delighted to welcome new students and staff to Heckler's. It is a pleasure to be back in the building with you. Our Year 7 students have been welcomed and settled into their new school with a warm and friendly atmosphere. We have been fortunate to have a number of new staff members joining us, bringing with them a wealth of experience and expertise. We are excited to have them on board and to work with them to ensure the best possible learning environment for our students. We have also been pleased to have a number of our staff members return to Heckler's after a period of absence. We are grateful for their continued commitment and hard work. We are confident that we will have a successful year ahead of us and we look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a positive and enjoyable experience at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 2 | Published 22 September 2020

### DT gets a Makeover

The Design and Technology Department has recently received a makeover and we are pleased to share with you the new look. The department has been completely redecorated and the new look is a reflection of our commitment to providing a high-quality learning environment for our students. The new look includes a new color scheme, new furniture, and new equipment. We are confident that the new look will enhance the learning experience for our students and we look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a positive and enjoyable experience at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 3 | Published 27 October 2020

### Lees Cup Resumes

Let the Games Begin!

**HOUSE EVENTS**  
**ATTACK TERM ONE**

HEC Girls	Year 10 Boys Football
HEC Boys	Year 10 Girls Football
HEC Girls	Year 9 Boys Football
HEC Boys	Year 9 Girls Football
HEC Girls	Year 8 Boys Football
HEC Boys	Year 8 Girls Football
HEC Girls	Year 7 Boys Football
HEC Boys	Year 7 Girls Football

## Heckler

Week 3 | Published 27 October 2020

### HGS Esports

Introducing HGS Esports Teams 2021

Team Name	Head Coach
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]
HEC Esports	Mr. [Name]

## Heckler

Week 3 | Published 27 October 2020

### New Student Lanyards

Our new student lanyards are now available. The lanyards are a reflection of our commitment to providing a high-quality learning environment for our students. The lanyards are made from high-quality materials and are available in a range of colors. We are confident that the lanyards will enhance the learning experience for our students and we look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a positive and enjoyable experience at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 4 | Published 3 October 2020

### Teacher Trainees Impress at HGS.

Our teacher trainees have been successful in their first year at Heckler's. They have shown a commitment to their studies and a willingness to learn. They have also been successful in their practical work and have been able to apply their knowledge in the classroom. We are proud of their achievements and we look forward to working with them to ensure that they have a successful career at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 4 | Published 3 October 2020

### Virtual Sixth Form Open Evening

Our virtual sixth form open evening was a success. We were able to provide our sixth form students with a virtual tour of Heckler's and to answer their questions. We were also able to provide them with information about our sixth form courses and our sixth form activities. We are confident that our sixth form students will have a positive and enjoyable experience at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 4 | Published 3 October 2020

### Lest We Forget

Our students have been successful in their first year at Heckler's. They have shown a commitment to their studies and a willingness to learn. They have also been successful in their practical work and have been able to apply their knowledge in the classroom. We are proud of their achievements and we look forward to working with them to ensure that they have a successful career at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 5 | Published 13 November 2020

### Singing for Children in Need

Our students have been successful in their first year at Heckler's. They have shown a commitment to their studies and a willingness to learn. They have also been successful in their practical work and have been able to apply their knowledge in the classroom. We are proud of their achievements and we look forward to working with them to ensure that they have a successful career at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 5 | Published 13 November 2020

### We Made TV

Our students have been successful in their first year at Heckler's. They have shown a commitment to their studies and a willingness to learn. They have also been successful in their practical work and have been able to apply their knowledge in the classroom. We are proud of their achievements and we look forward to working with them to ensure that they have a successful career at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 11 | Published 11 November 2020

### Retired Head Celebrates 90th Birthday

Our retired head teacher has celebrated his 90th birthday. He has been a successful head teacher and has made a significant contribution to Heckler's. We are proud of his achievements and we look forward to working with him to ensure that he has a successful retirement at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 12 | Published 11 November 2020

### Best Yorkshire Secondary Schools Named - HGS Ranked ...

Heckler's has been named as one of the best Yorkshire secondary schools. We are proud of this achievement and we look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a positive and enjoyable experience at Heckler's.

## Heckler

Week 12 | Published 11 November 2020

### Digital Age at HGS

Our students have been successful in their first year at Heckler's. They have shown a commitment to their studies and a willingness to learn. They have also been successful in their practical work and have been able to apply their knowledge in the classroom. We are proud of their achievements and we look forward to working with them to ensure that they have a successful career at Heckler's.



## Heckler 12

## Heckler 13