



## Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



I'd like to begin this term by extending a warm welcome back to all our pupils, parents, and staff. I hope you've all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and are feeling just as enthusiastic as I am about the start of a new school year. A special welcome also goes out to the new pupils and families joining our school community — we're thrilled to have you with us. It's been fantastic to see so many of our new students already settling in so well over the past few days — confident, happy, and ready to thrive.

With the new academic year now in full swing, The Hurlingham Academy has quickly returned to its core mission: exceptional teaching and learning. It has been a real pleasure to walk through the school this week and witness calm, purposeful classrooms led by dedicated, expert teachers. Our pupils have returned with a fantastic attitude to learning, and staff have been truly impressed with their engagement and enthusiasm, even with the rainy weather!

I genuinely couldn't be more excited to embark on this new academic year. September always brings with it a sense of promise and fresh opportunity. Those who know me will know I often say this, and while I may be repeating myself, I truly mean it. I encourage all our pupils to seize the many opportunities that lie ahead. I look forward to celebrating their achievements with you throughout the term and beyond.

## Year 7 Induction Schedule

We would like to remind all parents of year 7 pupils that our induction schedule means some slightly altered timings to the school day over the next couple of weeks. The induction schedule for **Year 7 students ONLY** is as follows:

### **Week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> September**

Year 7 PREP (Compulsory) Monday to Thursday 3:30pm – 4:30pm. School to finish at 4:30pm.

### **Week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> September**

Year 7 PREP (Compulsory) Monday to Thursday 3:30pm – 4:30pm. School to finish at 4:30pm.

### **Week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

Year 7 Clubs (Compulsory) every Monday from 3:30pm – 4:30pm. School to finish at 4:30pm on Mondays only.

Study skills every Thursday 3:15pm– 3:40pm



## Coding Success: Lego Robotics Workshops

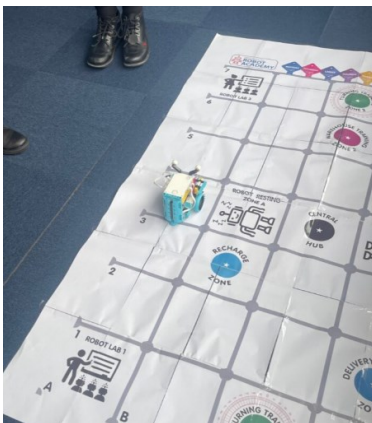
In the final week of term, 62 students from Year 8 and Year 9 took part in an exciting 'Raising Robots' workshop, where they programmed Lego robots known as 'Grabots' to complete a series of challenges. Using the Lego Education Spike Prime software, students created their own code to bring their robots to life.

The first challenge was to guide the Grabot to the first block on a grid mat – and it was impressive to see how many students achieved this with little support. From there, the tasks grew increasingly complex: programming the robot to move and make a 180-degree turn, travelling to a charging station and waiting for a set time before moving on, and finally, the ultimate challenge – coding the Grabot to collect a Lego satellite from one station, transport it across the map, and carefully place it down at another.

This final task demanded logical thinking and problem-solving skills, and congratulations go to Gabor, Luido and Joshua W, who were the first to complete it successfully. Recognition also goes to Daisy, Yin-Lee, Fleur, Adam and Hiba, who made fantastic progress and completed many of the earlier challenges with their Grabots.

This workshop built on earlier Lego coding activities, including a House Competition earlier in the year where students raced Lego 'Robodogs' by programming them to follow sequences of colours.

Our school is proud to be partnered with the Smallpeice Trust, the Raising Robots programme together with Lego Education. Thanks to these partnerships, students will continue to have exciting opportunities to develop their coding skills in fun, creative, and hands-on ways.



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## Welcome Year 7

We're delighted to extend a warm welcome to all our new Year 7 pupils. It's been wonderful to see how quickly you've settled in, and we're truly excited to support you as you begin your five-year journey with us at The Hurlingham Academy. We look forward to seeing each of you grow, thrive, and reach your full potential.



## Key dates for weeks beginning 8th and 15th September

Description	Date	Time
Line up for all pupils	Monday 8th September	8:25am
Whole school assembly	Monday 8th September	8:30-9:00
Year 7 Prep	Monday 8th – Thursday 11th September	15:30 - 16:30
Year 7 Prep	Monday 15th – Thursday 18th September	15:30 - 16:30
Year 10 Geography field trip	Friday 19th September	All day



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