



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. We have lots of wonderful news and updates to share with you as we move towards the festive season.

Charity Appeal: A huge thank you to everyone who donated to our food bank appeal, the response has been absolutely amazing! Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will make a significant difference to those in need within our community.



National Exam Results: The latest national data for GCSE and A Level results is out, and we are thrilled to share our fantastic achievements.

For more details, you can view our school's performance here:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/137767/higham-lane-school---nuneaton%2c-cv10-0bj#>

GCSE: Higham Lane School is ranked 299th out of 4181 secondary schools in the UK, placing us approximately in the top 7% nationally. We achieved a Progress 8 score of +0.6, which is well above average, meaning the average student is achieving 6/10 of a grade higher on average in every subject than similar students nationally. This is the highest Progress 8 score our school has ever achieved!

Our Attainment 8 score is 54, compared to the England average of 45.9 and the Warwickshire average of 47.5. Additionally, 64.5% of our students achieved a grade 5 or above in English and Maths at GCSE, compared to the England average of 45.9% and the Warwickshire average of 48.5%. This demonstrates the hard work and dedication of both our students and staff.

A Level: Our A Level results are equally impressive, with an average point score of 36.51 (equivalent to an average grade of B-). The average point score in England is 35.29, and the average in Warwickshire for state-funded schools is 35.15. We are also delighted that 28.3% of all grades at A Level last year were A* or A, and 58.5% of all grades were A*, A, or B. These are also the best results the school has ever achieved!

Well done to our amazing Year 11 and Year 13 students from last year! Thank you also to our incredible staff who worked so hard to support our students, we look forward to more success from our current Year 11 and Year 13 students in the summer.

Computer Science House Winners: A special congratulations to Evie F and Andy H for their outstanding achievements in Computer Science. Their dedication and hard work have been exemplary, and they have set a high standard for their peers.

HLS Carol Service: I had the privilege of attending the school carol service on Tuesday evening at St Nicolas Church. It was a wonderful evening filled with festive cheer and excellent performances by our students. A big thank you to our music and drama staff for their hard work in putting the show together, I am also looking forward to the HLS Christmas Concert in Coombe Hall next Tuesday, which promises to be another fantastic event.



Football Success: On Wednesday, I had the privilege of watching our Y10 boys' football team at the Bedworth Oval as they beat Fairfax School 5-2 in the 5th round of the national cup. This victory puts us in the last 32 schools nationwide! Well done to our amazing Y10 footballers and to Mr Bottrill and Mr Wilson for their expert coaching.



Y11 SPE: Thank you to everyone who attended the Y11 online parents' evening on Thursday. We hope our Y11 students and parents/carers found the feedback useful as our students move towards their GCSE exams in just a few months' time. We have the Y10 and 12 SPEs next week, and we look forward to those being equally successful.

Vaping: Please be aware that we are trialling vape detectors in the toilets to ensure no students are vaping and all students are safe at school. The government will be banning the use and selling of vapes across the whole country in 2025 due to health concerns, including popcorn lung, nicotine addiction and damage to teeth and gums.



10-Day 100% Attendance Challenge: Well done to all the students who had 100% attendance over the last two weeks. Your names will go into the raffle to win a Golden Ticket, which will be drawn in assemblies this week. Golden Ticket winners can pick one item from the reward shop.

Staffing Changes: Please check Class Charts before your child returns in January to see if there have been any staffing changes to groups.

Sixth Form Movie Night: Next Thursday, our Sixth Form will be hosting a movie night. This is a great opportunity for students to relax and enjoy a film with their peers.



BEBRAS Results - Gold Winners: In November, students from Year 7 to 12 participated in the UK BEBRAS coding competition. There were over 400,000 students across the UK and more than 50 countries worldwide. Well done to all students, here are the gold award winners from our school, who were in the top 10% nationally.

Staff Karaoke/Masked Singer: We have an exciting event planned for Monday 16th December. During lunchtime in Coombe Hall, we will have a Staff Karaoke/Masked Singer event. Tickets are £1.00 and can be purchased on ParentPay. There will be no tickets on the door, so make sure to get your tickets early, all money raised will go towards the school garden project.

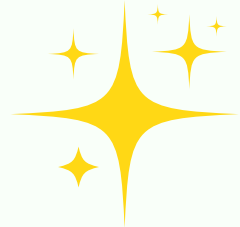


Word of the Week: Scarce – Please use this word with your child to help expand their vocabulary and understanding.

Word Class	<i>Adjective</i>
Meaning	1.(especially of food, money, or some other resource) Insufficient for the demand.
Examples	1.Following the drought food was scarce . 2.Places for five year olds were scarce in the area.
Synonyms	Scant, Meagre, Sparse, Insufficient, Exiguous.
Challenge	Use scarce in a conversation this week. Use it in your written work and receive a house point.

Last Friday of Term Awards Assemblies: On the last day of term, all year groups will have their Awards Assembly. Students will have the opportunity to win:

- Form Tutor Award
- Subject Awards
- Special Recognition Awards
- House Point Badges
- Attendance Raffle for students over 97%



We will finish at 12:40 pm on Friday 20th December 2024. Please make arrangements for your child to be collected or to travel home safely.

We have lots to look forward to as we build up to Christmas, including the Awards Assemblies, staff karaoke and our Xmas dinner. It has been a fantastic term, and I am incredibly proud of all the achievements and hard work from both students and staff.

Have a wonderful and relaxing weekend.

Best wishes

Michael Gannon
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 17th December – Christmas Concert

Friday 20th December – Students finish at 12.40pm – last day

Monday 23rd December – Christmas Holidays Start

Friday 3rd January – Christmas Holidays End

Monday 6th January – Inset Day

Tuesday 7th January – Students back to school

HIGHAM LANE
Christmas Concert
'A Celebration of Music'
TUESDAY 17TH
DECEMBER 2024
COOMBE HALL
7PM
ADULTS £5
SENIOR CITIZENS AND STUDENTS £3.50
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM MU1



52,122



49,765



49,216