

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing week it has been at Higham Lane School! Despite the very cold weather and snow earlier in the week, our students have coped remarkably well. They have shown great maturity, resilience and adaptability, making us incredibly proud. Thank you for your efforts in ensuring that your children were appropriately dressed for the wintry conditions—it has been heartening to see our community pull together during this challenging weather.

## Sporting Triumphs Across the Board

This week has been a standout one for sporting achievements at Higham Lane. Our students have excelled across several sports, demonstrating teamwork, determination and skill.

Badminton vs. Etone College:

U16 Boys: Won 6-2

U16 Girls: Won 7-1

U14 Boys: Won 7-1

U14 Girls: Won 8-0



Netball:

Huge wins against TNA (16-0), Ash Green (8-1), and St Thomas More (11-0).

Football:

Year 8 Girls triumphed in the Community Cup!

Year 10 Boys secured a fantastic victory over Friesland Academy in the National Cup. This week they played again; A very entertaining game against a tough opposition. Our student’s attitude and behaviour throughout was excellent and HLS went 2-0 up but unfortunately conceded 2 in the second half. It therefore went to the dreaded penalties, finishing 3-3 so down to sudden death. After 3 more penalties each team, Andrei pulled off a superb save and Noah stepped up to score the winning penalty! A trip to Bromsgrove in the 4th round awaits and down to the last 32 schools in the country!!

Congratulations to all our players and coaches for their hard work and commitment—it’s wonderful to see their efforts rewarded with such brilliant results! Thank you also to all of the staff who give up their free time to provide these amazing opportunities for our students!



## Good luck Mr Parker!

Our very own Mr Parker is running not one, but two marathons in April 2025!! Wow. Please see the link below for further details or if you would like to sponsor him to raise more money for charity.

We are very proud of you Mr Parker! <https://2025tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/adam-parker>

## Understanding the Brain: Zones of Regulation

Supporting our students' emotional well-being is at the heart of everything we do. Every Monday morning we will be teaching all students about Zones of regulation and Self-regulation. This is to support our students with understanding their feelings and give you strategies to self-regulate. The workshops teach the students how the brain works and impacts on their actions, how to identify the Zone of regulation that they are on, how to manage your emotions and self-regulate and a variety of stress management techniques that can be used in different situations and environments.

Through these sessions, students will:

- Understand the Zones of Regulation and how to identify their own emotional state.
- Learn strategies to manage emotions and self-regulate in challenging situations.
- Discover practical stress-management techniques they can use at school, at home, and beyond.
- We believe these sessions will provide students with valuable life skills to support their mental health and emotional resilience.

## Operation Sceptre: Maintaining a Safe School Environment

We are pleased to report that screening and searches found no knives or indeed any other weapons. We did however find one prohibited item—one vape. To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, we will continue to conduct periodic screenings. On some occasions, we may use a single entrance for this purpose. As always, we will notify parents, carers and students in advance. Thank you for your continued support in maintaining a safe and healthy school environment.

## Attendance Matters: Let's Aim High

Attendance is a key factor in academic success, and I am delighted to share that our current whole-school attendance stands at 94.3%, an improvement of over 2% from last year's 92.2%.

## Weekly Attendance Champions:

Year group winners: 7S3, 8H3, 9L2, 10H3, and 11H2. Special recognition to 7S3 for achieving 100% attendance this week! They have earned 'Jump the Queue' passes for lunchtimes—a fantastic reward for their dedication.



## Attendance Challenge:

From Monday 25th November to Friday 6th December, we are running a 100% Attendance Challenge. Students with perfect attendance during this period will be entered into a raffle. One winner from each year group will receive a 'Golden Ticket,' which can be redeemed for exciting prizes from our Rewards including Amazon vouchers, sports equipment, and more.

## **Praise Kiosk: Celebrating Student Achievements**

Our Praise Kiosk continues to be a huge hit, with students redeeming House Points for exciting rewards. Items range from stationery to unique experiences like 'Jump the Queue' passes. This term, we've added two new rewards to our 500 House Point category: Table Tennis Sets and Travel Chess Sets. Encourage your child to save up their points for these fantastic new options!

## **Road Safety and Cycling Reminders**

We have had two concerning incidents in the local community involving students and road safety. Thankfully, no injuries occurred, but these near-misses serve as a reminder of the importance of vigilance.

### **Key Road Safety Tips:**

Use designated crossings or the lollipop person whenever possible.

Stop, look and listen before crossing.

Always walk, never run across roads.

For students cycling to school, helmets are mandatory, and all bicycles must be roadworthy. Please reinforce these safety practices at home to help ensure every journey is a safe one.

## **Word of the Week**

This week's word is Cognitive, meaning "relating to thinking, learning, understanding, and reasoning." Please encourage your child to use this word vocabulary.

## **Bereavement Support Group**

Our school counsellor, Mrs Worth is offering a monthly Bereavement Support Group for students. If your child would benefit, please email [contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk](mailto:contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk) to register their interest.

## **Extra-Curricular Activities: Stay Warm, Stay Engaged**

As the cold weather sets in, remind your child about the fantastic extra-curricular activities available at Higham Lane. Many of these take place indoors and are completely free of charge, offering a great way to stay active and engaged during the winter months.

## **Games Club:**

We are seeking donations of quick-play games like Jenga, Guess Who, and similar for our Year 7 Games Club. Donations can be dropped off at Student Services or with Mrs. Watson in MU2.

## **A Polite Reminder**

To minimise disruptions, we kindly ask that parents do not drop off forgotten items such as lunches, food for cooking lessons or PE kits during the school day. Please also ensure that all communication with staff is respectful and that appointments are made in advance if you wish to speak to someone.

I would also like to say thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended school on Thursday morning for the SEND Coffee Morning. A big thank you goes to our new SENCO, Mrs Taylor and her team for arranging this lovely event.



Thank You and Have a wonderful weekend and thank you for your ongoing support, especially during this busy time of year. Your involvement helps make Higham Lane School the thriving, supportive community that it is.

Wishing you and your family a safe and enjoyable weekend!

Michael Gannon  
Headteacher

## CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

All donations, big or small, are appreciated and will be delivered to Doorway or Nuneaton Food Bank. Only donate what you can afford.



### WHAT CAN YOU DONATE?

- Tinned food
- Long-life / dried food
- Crisps
- Biscuits / chocolate
- Squash
- Cereal bars
- Tooth brushes & paste
- Deodorant
- Toilet roll
- Sanitary products

Please do not bring in any food that is perishable.

## The Guardians Grow Charity



Support for Parents & Carers of Teens & Young Adults with ADHD & Autism

“Together: Parent & Carer peer Support”

Join us every Monday from 12 PM to 2 PM for a warm, understanding space to connect, share, and find support with others who truly understand.

This group offers:

- Emotional resilience through shared experiences
- Practical tips and insights for everyday challenges
- A network of supportive, compassionate peers

Come be part of a community that empowers and uplifts. You don't have to navigate this alone.



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## Dates for your diary

- Wednesday 4th December - Year 13 Information Evening
- Thursday 12th December - Year 11 Student Progress Evening
- Tuesday 17th December - Christmas Concert
- Monday 23rd December - Christmas Holidays Start
- Friday 3rd January - Christmas Holidays End
- Monday 6th January - Inset Day



40,111



38,107

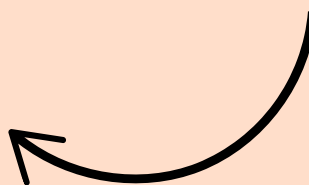


37,993





Click here to check out  
the extra-curricular clubs  
available at HLS!



## Years 10 and 12

### Work Experience Placement Opportunity - Nuneaton and Bedworth Leisure Trust

We have been allocated 3 work experience placements through Nuneaton and Bedworth Leisure Trust. There is 1 placement in each of the following areas:

Bermuda Adventure Soft Play x1

Bermuda Park Nursery x1

Empire Gym x1

If you would like this placement you need to see Mrs Green or Mrs Mitchell in their office in the library. Placements will be given on a first come first served basis.

### Work Experience Placement Opportunity - Barnardo's Children's Centres (Early years, teaching, childcare)

Barnardo's Children's Centres have at least 4 spaces available for work experience.

All staff members have DBS checks and are Safeguarding trained, they also have risk assessments for travelling as there may be sessions that are ran at different venues across Nuneaton and therefore you may be required to travel with members of staff.

If you are interested in this placement please come and see Mrs Green or Mrs Mitchell in the library.

Careers