



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of term, I want to reflect on what has been an incredible final week at Higham Lane School, full of achievements, celebrations and festive joy.

Last Friday's Christmas Fair was a roaring success, thanks to the outstanding efforts of our Heads of Houses: Mrs Betteridge, Mrs Davis and Mr Douglass. A special mention goes to Miss Charles and Mr Williams, who bravely volunteered for the wet sponge stocks to raise funds for charity, what fantastic team spirit!

Our Food Bank Run was another enormous success, with a phenomenal number of donations helping those in need this festive season. Thank you to Miss Rowlands, our amazing Junior Leadership Team, staff, students and parents for making this possible.

Monday's Staff Karaoke in Coombe Hall was a real highlight. Staff showcased their vocal talents to raise funds for charity—it was both entertaining and heartwarming. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Christmas Card Competition Winners were announced this week! Congratulations to Haylli (Gold, Year 7), Aoife (Silver, Year 7) and Ted (Bronze, Year 8). Special mentions go to Noah, Fliss, George, Layton, Daisy, and Zeena in Year 7 and 8. Well done to all participants!

Our House Five-A-Side Football Tournaments were another triumph, with Year 8, 9, 10, and 11 teams competing across the week. Fantastic effort from everyone involved!

Tuesday's HLS Christmas Concert showcased the amazing talents of our students and staff. A heartfelt thank you to our Music and Technical Teams for delivering such a magical evening.



On Wednesday, Year 7 students demonstrated their mathematical prowess during the Maths Olympiad, working in teams to tackle challenges and earn chocolate prizes and house points.

Our final day of term saw students in lessons during Periods 1 and 2 before enjoying a range of festive activities in Period 3, including a Christmas Picnic and Award Assemblies.





Our wonderful Sixth Formers celebrated the festive period with a film night in the conference room in the Sixth Form Centre on Thursday evening after school. They made beautiful home-made cakes, popcorn, snacks and soft drinks and thoroughly enjoyed the film *Nativity!* There were lots of laughs, especially with respect to the brilliant Mr Poppy!

The Word of the Week is "vibrant." Please encourage your child to use this word to enrich their vocabulary.

Uniform - As we begin the new term in January, please ensure your child's uniform and equipment are up to standard. Detailed guidance on footwear, coats, jewellery and hairstyles is provided below:

Footwear: Plain black leather or leather-look shoes/boots are acceptable. Trainers, including black ones resembling shoes are not permitted.

Coats: Only plain, full-length black coats or anoraks are allowed. Hoodies, tracksuit tops or patterned coats are not suitable.

Jewellery and Hairstyles: Only a watch, school badge and one small stud per ear are permitted. Other piercings, makeup (for Years 7 and 8) and excessive makeup for older years are not allowed.

Updates to Student Services - Student Services will remain closed during lessons (except for emergencies) but will be open before school, break, lunchtime and after school to offer support to any students that need it outside of lessons.

Staff Updates - We sadly bid farewell to Mrs Robinson, who will take up the role of Headteacher at Higham Lane North Academy. We are delighted to announce that Miss Charles and Mr Williams will begin their roles as Deputy Headteachers in January.

We also say goodbye to Miss Routley, Mrs Hiett Jones, Mrs Chawner and Mrs Paruk, and wish them all the very best in the future. We also wish Mrs Clempson the best for her maternity leave.

In January, we warmly welcome Mrs Shaunak (Maths), Mrs Webb (Computer Science & IT) and Mrs Ealing (Progress Leader, Year 7).

Key Dates - School resumes for all year groups on Tuesday 7th January 2025 (not Monday 6th January)

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Warm regards,

Michael Gannon
Headteacher



57,143



54,895



53,829