



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. As we come to the end of another busy and successful week at Higham Lane School, I would like to share some important updates and news.

National Teaching Assistants Day:



Today is National Teaching Assistants Day, and we are truly blessed to have such an amazing team of learning support staff here at Higham Lane. A special thank you to Mrs Taylor, our fantastic new SENCO, and our dedicated teaching assistants who work tirelessly to support students who need a bit of extra help in lessons and around school. Their hard work and care make a significant difference to the lives of many of our students, and we are incredibly grateful for everything they do.

European Day of Languages:

On Thursday, we celebrated European Day of Languages with assemblies throughout the week, highlighting the many benefits of learning a language, even just a few words or phrases! Language skills can open so many doors, and we want our students to understand how helpful these skills can be in their future. A huge thank you to Mrs Finley for leading the assemblies, which have been very well received by both students and staff. Thank you also to tutors for leading activities on the subject of languages and to the canteen for providing a range of foreign foods from around the world on Thursday for our students to enjoy.

GCSE Progress 8 Results:

I am absolutely thrilled to announce that the unvalidated Progress 8 data for our Year 11 GCSE results last year has just been released by an external company; it indicates that our Progress 8 score is likely to be around +0.62, meaning on average, Year 11 students achieved just under two thirds of a grade higher than expected in every subject. This is absolutely incredible and is the highest Progress 8 score the school has ever achieved and is a testament to the hard work of our students and staff. It is an incredible achievement that reflects the excellent teaching and learning happening here every day. This will be one of the highest Progress 8 scores of all schools in Warwickshire. Additionally, approximately 83% of students achieved a grade 4 or above in English and Maths, putting us among the highest-performing non-selective state schools

in Warwickshire. We are extremely proud of our students, as these results will open doors for them in the next stage of their education. A huge thank you to our dedicated staff for their unwavering support in helping our students reach their full potential.

Student Services Door:

Unfortunately, we have a technical fault with the door by Student Services. Until the door can be repaired, all visitors, including parents dropping off children should report to the main reception via Shanklin Gate. Student Services will be temporarily closed to visitors, and we appreciate your understanding as we work to resolve this issue.

Visitor Feedback:

This week, we had a visitor from another high-performing school who conducted a learning walk around our school. He was incredibly impressed by the high standard of teaching and learning, the excellent behaviour and attitudes of our students, and the quality of their uniform. It is always encouraging to receive such positive feedback from fellow professionals in similar settings to us.

Year 7 Lunch Changes:

As of Monday 30th September, Year 7 students will no longer have an early lunch and will join the other year groups at the normal lunchtime. This early lunch arrangement was a temporary measure to help them settle into secondary school life, and we are pleased to see how well they have adjusted.

Attendance Update:

There is a strong link between good attendance and positive outcomes for students. We are proud that our attendance remains above the national average, but we are always looking to improve further. The more students are in school, the more likely they are to reach their full potential in both their exams and future careers. Thank you to Mrs Taylor, our Attendance Lead and Mr Williams, our Attendance Champion for their hard work, and to all of you for supporting your child's attendance.

Year 7 Meet the Tutor and Curriculum Evening:

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Year 7 Meet the Tutor and the Year 7/8 Curriculum and Support Evening on Thursday. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and it has been wonderful to hear how supported and informed you feel. Thank you to all the staff who made these events such a success.

Open Evening – 10th October:

A quick reminder that our Open Evening is on taking place on Thursday 10th October. The school will close at 2:15 pm in line with SPE timings to allow staff to set up the event and have time to eat before the evening begins. I am looking forward to meeting prospective parents and carers and sharing the many successes of our incredible school.

Collaboration and New Developments:

On a personal note, I am thoroughly enjoying working with our new CEO, Andrew Dickinson, as we explore new and exciting ways to collaborate across the Central England Academy Trust (CEAT). We are also very excited about the opening of Higham Lane North Academy, just up the road. This new school will allow us to share resources, school facilities and opportunities, further enhancing the education we offer to all of our students.

Wishing You a Relaxing Weekend:

As we head into the weekend, I hope you all get the chance to spend some quality time with family and loved ones. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing our students ready and recharged for another great week ahead.

Warm regards,



Michael Gannon
Headteacher, Higham Lane School

Nuneaton and Bedworth Music Centre

We run weekly groups to suit all ages and abilities and best of all these groups are FREE to access! Whether you are just starting on your musical journey and can play 4-5 notes or have been playing for a while, why not come and join the fun!

Check out the Intro document that can be found here: www.highamlaneschool.co.uk/schoolcommunication

Careers

Years 10, 11 and 6th form

Informational Webinars about Apprenticeships

A series of informative webinars that will provide an abundance of tips, advice, and information around the topic of apprenticeships. Each webinar lasts between 30 - 60 minutes and will take place on Zoom. Participants will be required to sign up before the session and will receive an email confirmation and a reminder an hour before it begins. The webinars will be recorded and shared with all registrants after the session.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars/>



12,733



11,141



11,660

Years 11, 12 and 13

Princethorpe College Sixth Form Open Evening

SixthForm Open Evening is on Wednesday 16 October 2024, from 6.30pm to 9.00pm. Bookings can be made by scanning the QR code on the poster on the HLS website.

**Careers
cont'd**

Following the Open Evening, we will host 2 taster days for prospective Sixth Form students on Thursday 12 December 2024 and Tuesday 14 January 2025. These give the students the opportunity to go to lessons in the subjects they are interested in taking, meet and chat with current students and staff, have break and lunch in the Sixth Form Centre and attend an Admissions and Sixth Form Life presentation at the end of the day, to which parents/guardians are also invited.

The deadline for applications is Monday 20 January 2025 and the online registration form can be accessed at this link: [The Princethorpe Foundation- External Sixth Form Registration Form](#)

MTC Open Day - 3 dates

Come along and tour our facilities, chat with our teams and current apprentices, and learn more about carer options with our engineering employer partners. more information available via the MTC Poster on the HLS website.

Dates for your diary

Monday 7 – Tuesday 8 October Year 9 Safeline

Thursday 10 October School Open Day (Daytime Tours and Open Evening)

Monday 14 October Governors day

Monday 14 – Friday 18 October Year 11 Careers Practice Interviews

Wednesday 16 October HLNA Open Evening Event (based at HLS)

Thursday 24 October Sixth Form Open Evening

Friday 25 October INSET DAY

Monday 28 October Half term holiday begins

Friday 1 November Half term holiday ends

Monday 4 November Autumn term begins