



## Welcome to our scorching summer edition!

**DEAR Parents/Carers/Students,**  
Welcome to our news-packed edition of HLS Express!  
I'm sure you will all enjoy reading about the School's World Cup winning dancers, Mrs Hales' farewell, Mr Bailey's mammoth

69-mile charity run, success in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge, an exciting new project involving Sixth Form students, sporting achievements, plus lots more!  
We wish you a wonderful summer!  
**PHIL KELLY, Headteacher**

# WORLD CLASS FEAT!



• **MAGNIFICENT SEVEN!** The Higham Lane contingent who helped Chater Dance Academy to global success in the 2017 Dance World Cup (left to right): Isobel, Megan, Molly, Hope, Isabelle, Leah and Hannah.

SEVEN Higham Lane School students returned from this year's Dance World Cup having helped their team strike gold! The dancers were part of a 36-strong troupe from Chater's Dance Academy, based in Nuneaton, who were representing England at the global spectacle in Offenburg, Germany. The girls — Molly (11H3), Megan (10S2), Hope (Year 12), Isabelle (8S3), Hannah (8L1), Leah (8H2) and Isobel (7S1) — and their fellow dancers put in amazing performances to return home with a Gold and a Bronze medal. The Gold medal-winning 'music' troupe were victorious in the 'Acrobatic' section while the 'Santa's Little Helper' troupe

secured a Bronze medal after finishing in third place in their category. Chater's Dance Academy, located in Newtown Road, provided two of the three teams representing Team England in the 'acro' section, which was a huge honour for Pam Chater, who founded the school 40 years ago. "It was incredible," she said. "We were on tenterhooks waiting to hear and, when it was announced we had won gold, the atmosphere was amazing. All the parents were cheering and waving Union Jack flags." It was a moment that everyone involved will cherish for the rest of their lives, including Kelly Chater who, in addition to

being an instructor and coach at her mother's dance school, is employed as a Cover Supervisor at Higham Lane. She said: "To win a gold medal at the Dance World Cup was beyond belief for both me and my mum. To have seven Higham Lane students as part of the team was the icing on the cake!" "Their dedication and discipline was second to none and they are a real credit to Chater's Dance Academy and the School." Winning gold automatically qualifies the team for next year's Dance World Cup, which is being held in Spain. • For more photographs from the Dance World Cup, please turn to P2.





• **GOLDEN GIRLS!**  
The 'Music' troupe produced a 'worldie' display to finish first in the Acrobatic section.



• **SANTA SPECIAL!**  
Hope goes through her routine.

# Higham Lane dancers star in World Cup success!

See full story on P1



• **ALL SMILES!**  
Leah on her way to a Bronze medal.



• **SUPER TROUPERS!** The 'Music' troupe power their way to gold.



• **HAVING A BALL!** Isabelle struts her stuff!



• **TIME TO CELEBRATE!**  
Left: Bronze winning medallists, sisters Megan and Isabelle.



• **NATIONAL TREASURES!**  
Right: Team England members show off their Gold medals.





WE WISH all of those colleagues who are leaving a happy and successful future.

We say farewell to **Abbe Fardon**, who has been an excellent teacher and form tutor. **Jo Miller** and **Susie Cullen** are also leaving us. These three teachers have contributed strongly to our first year of A level English and Media teaching.

**Rebecca Smith** has helped us get A level Law off to an excellent start. She is moving for a post closer to home.

**Eddie Evans** has established himself quickly with students and we are sorry to see him go. **Jon Walford** has successfully completed his Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) status with us and made a strong contribution to Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Students will be particularly sad to see the departure of **Mike Jhutti**, who completed his training with us last year and has now secured an impressive promotion in Coventry. Mike has also made an excellent contribution to extra-curricular football. We also say farewell to

## Farewells and Hellos!

**Steven Miller**, who has made an important contribution.

**Christina Garcia** is returning to her homeland of Spain having made an excellent contribution during her three years with us.

Finally we must congratulate **Shaun Waters**, who has secured a PHD position in Engineering in Austria. He has completed his NQT year with us successfully. **Laura Lewis** is also leaving to accompany Shaun, her partner. She also has completed her NQT year with us successfully.

**Kevin Babic** has resigned as Assistant Caretaker after a long period of illness. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Next term we welcome: **Elizabeth Walmsley**, English, **Claire Hazlehurst**, English, **Emily McIntosh**, English,

**Charmelle Longe**, English, **Alex Cowburn**, Maths, **Andrew Wood**, Maths, **Alex Smith**, Maths, **Sam Wilson**, Maths, **Nicola Pritchard**, Maths, **Harjeet Garcha**, Science, **Kristina Cheng**, Science, **Ahsan Sayed**, Science, **Debbie Moore**, Science, **Rachel Williams**, Science, **Deborah Brown**, Science, **Shanice Moore**, Geography, **Hannah Griffiths**, Law, **Verena Endlicher**, MFL, **Edward Timmins**, Subject Leader ICT, **James Bonham**, Computing and ICT, and **Sade Singh**, Business.

**Tom Ind**, who was covering a maternity position as Learning Mentor, takes up post as an English teacher and English Literacy Intervention Co-ordinator. **Jason Smith** will also be joining our English Department having been one of our excellent Cover Supervisors.

We wish **Katy Ison** (English) and **Chandni Patel** (Science) all the very best as they leave us to begin their maternity leave.

**MR KELLY, Headteacher**

## Long-serving Governor leaves his Mark!



● **INVALUABLE TO THE SCHOOL** — *Mr Kelly, Headteacher, thanks Mark Whitelegg for 10 years excellent service as a governor.*

MARK Whitelegg is stepping down after 10 years of excellent contribution as a governor at Higham Lane School, the last five as Chair, having been Vice Chair before that.

What an amazing contribution of voluntary service!

His time as Chair has overseen the move to academy status and the establishment of our Sixth Form.

Mark's business, commercial and IT acumen has also been invaluable to the School on several large procurement projects including the installation of a new server and network upgrade.

Mark has brought his skills as a project manager to our table and shared his immense knowledge of IT infrastructure. He has very high expectations and sharp eye for detail.

Mark has also greatly assisted us in holding others to

account such as the project managers for our new Sixth Form. Any time it looked like we weren't their number one priority, Mark turned the gas up to great effect!

He has also been strong on developing our Governors' Code of Conduct.

It is wonderful that Mark's two daughters, Rebecca and Abigail, were happy and successful students in our school and have gone on to achieve great things. Mark's wife, Daryl, was also a highly-active member of our Parent Teacher Association.

We thank Mark for his amazing contribution, wish him and his family well and look forward to toasting him at his farewell meal.

**MR KELLY, Headteacher**



# Can you identify any current staff from this 1999 photo?



• A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE — Mrs Hales, then Miss Ward, pictured on the Higham Lane School staff photograph in 1999 (third row, third from right). How many other members of the current staff can you identify from 18 years ago? (See below).

Did you spot: Mr Evans (Assistant Headteacher), Mr Cook (Science Technician), Mrs Maxwell, nee Cann (Modern Foreign Languages), Mr Masters (Science), Miss Slater (PE), Mr Blankley (Geography) and Mr McDonald (Maths Tuition)?



# Jayne says goodbye after 34 years' amazing service!

MRS Jayne Hales is retiring having given Higham Lane School 34 years of amazing service to our Mathematics Department.

For 14 of these years she did an absolutely outstanding job as Subject Leader for Maths, stepping down in July 2016. As SL, Jayne had very high expectations of her staff — a key quality of a successful SL. Her teaching and her results show that she role models excellent practice and leads from the front.

Jayne has always been meticulously organised and highly conscientious. She really led innovation in Maths and was an SL whom you could rely on to just get on with the job and do every task to the highest standard.

A visitor inspector remarked that Jayne "ran a tight ship". She did some very imaginative quality assurance work, taking NQTs on learning walks so they could see other members of the Department at work and therefore establishing standards and expectations, but also encouraging them.

She strongly supported literacy in Maths, and reminded her colleagues of the importance of a tidy classroom to role model to students, so I always tidied my desk before our meetings! She led training to SLs on effective budget management and we have often asked Jayne if we can share her ideas from meetings and subject initiatives with other departments.

Jayne's data analysis was second to none and she was the first person we saw on results download day.

The Department really flourished under Jayne's leadership in terms of student outcomes and the quality of teaching and marking.

Jayne was also an excellent communicator with parents/carers, who really enjoyed her humorous and practical input into the Raising Achievement

Evenings, such as the need to buy folders and stationery for Year 11s as Christmas presents! They laughed at her jokes far more than they laugh at mine.

And of course in her earlier years at HLS she was an active supporter of our Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the photograph of her

meeting the Duke of Edinburgh took pride of place in her classroom, even though she was sporting a black eye at the time, following a recent basketball match!

Over the years Jayne also ran a lot of school trips including skiing, water sports, adventure, youth hostelling weekends away and she also

used to run a basketball club and staff fitness club.

We thank Jayne for her wonderful contribution to Higham Lane School and wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement with her family and friends, on and off the golf course!

**MR KELLY**  
Headteacher



• **OUTSTANDING!** A big thumbs-up from Jayne Hales who is retiring after an incredible 34 years teaching at Higham Lane School.





• **I DID IT!** Mr Bailey shows off his medal after completing the arduous 69-mile run alongside Hadrian's Wall.

# You're our wonderwall!

ON THE hottest day of the year in mid-June, Science Assistant Subject Leader, Mr Bailey, undertook the challenge of running 69 miles alongside Hadrian's Wall!

The route encompassed the entire length of the Roman-built wall, from Carlisle to Newcastle, all in one day! This was the result of over 500 miles ran in training over many months.

The purpose of the challenge was to raise money for *Children with Cancer*, a charity aiming to reduce the pain suffered by hundreds of children across the country and to invest in research that will one day hopefully reduce the occurrence of this evil, indiscriminate disease.

The run was complicated by intense heat encroaching 31C (in the North-East!), so hot in fact that the tar on several roads next to the wall began to melt!

Due to the blistering heat, Mr Bailey consumed over 16 litres of water throughout the course of the day in order to combat dehydration that prevented over half of the 1,000 competitors from completing the event.

After running continuously for 15:33.54 hours, from 07:00 to 22:33, and expending over 10,000 calories, Mr Bailey successfully crossed the finish line on the Newcastle quayside finishing 87th out of the 1,000 starters.

When Mr Bailey was asked if he'd consider running it again he said: "Possibly, I loved the physical test but it was tougher mentally, although I never considered quitting and I'm quietly confident that wall meet again!"

At the time of writing, the funds raised total £605, with a large percentage coming from very generous Higham Lane School staff and students.

If anyone is inspired to add to this total, please use the following link or see Mr Bailey

directly:-  
[www.virginmoneygiving.com/gavinbailey3](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/gavinbailey3)

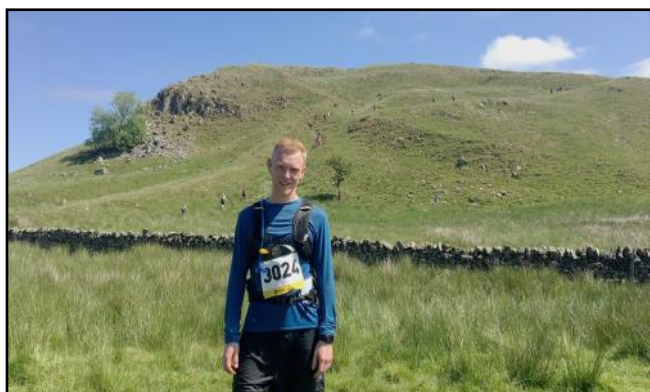


• **GLORIOUS SCENERY!** Time for a selfie alongside the wall.





• **NEWCASTLE HERE I COME!** The sign says it all as Mr Bailey passes the psychological halfway point.



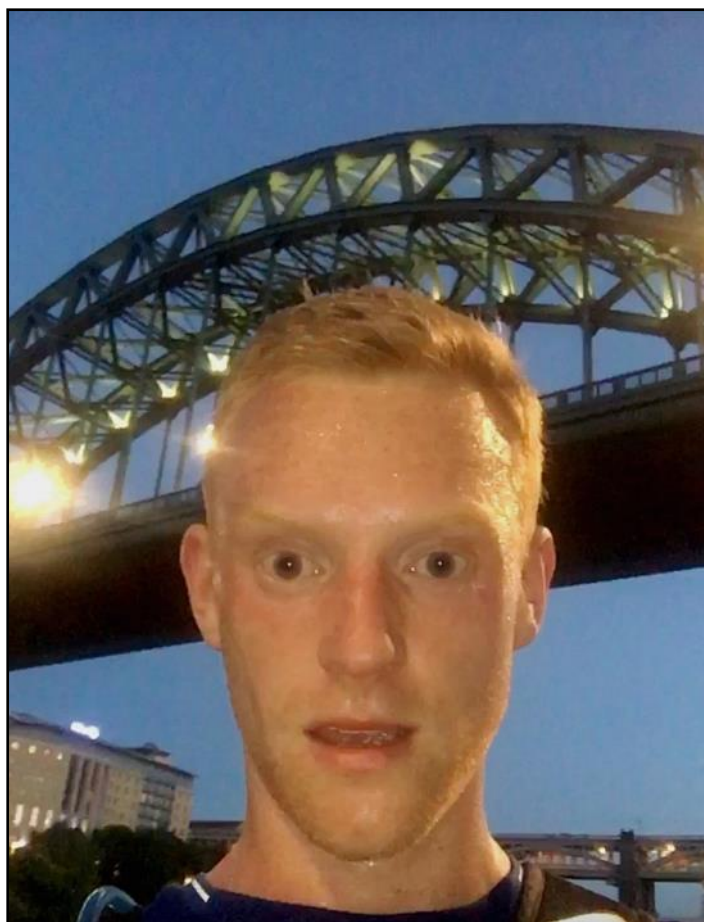
• **ONWARDS AND UPWARDS!** Preparing to tackle a steep climb.



• **SWEET!** Confectionery upped the runners' sugar levels.



• **COME ON DAD!** Mr Bailey's son greets him at the 44-mile checkpoint.



• **A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!** The Tyne Bridge is reached after more than 15 hours' hard slog in the blistering heat.



# Interacting to broaden horizons and help the lives of others!



• **EXCITING NEW PROJECT** — Higham Lane School's Interact President, Serena, receives the Charter document from Peter Roberts, Interact District Governor, watched by Rotary Club of Arbury representatives, Sixth Form Interact members, Mr Kelly (Headteacher) and Mr Ladha (Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form).

AN EXCITING new project has just begun when the Interact Club of Higham Lane School was chartered during a ceremony at Weston Hall.

Arbury Rotary Club has worked closely with staff and members of the Sixth Form at the School to develop and introduce the Interact Club.

Interact offers young people aged 12 to 18 opportunities to broaden their horizons, make new friends and help the lives of others, both at home and abroad.

The club is supported by Higham Lane staff and the Arbury Rotary Club, providing mentoring and guidance to the Interactors.

Following a buffet dinner and encouraging speeches attended by 48 guests, Rotary District Governor, Peter Roberts, presented the club Charter to the Interact president, Serena.

This was followed by the Mayor, Cllr Bill Hancox, awarding each of the Interactors with their club lapel badges.

The presentation ended with Arbury President, Roger Coopey, presenting the Interact presidential chain of office and a ceremonial block and gavel to Serena from the members of the Arbury club.

Every Interact club carries out two service projects a year, one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding.

Clubs meet at last twice a month and are sponsored by their local Rotary Club, who mentor and guide the Interactors as they carry out projects and develop leadership skills.

Worldwide, there are 20,372 Interact clubs in 159 countries with a total membership of 468,556.



• **SERVING THE COMMUNITY!** Head of HLS Sixth Form, Mr Ladha, with the volunteers and helpers at Nuneaton Food Kitchen.

**Helping to feed the homeless**

**HIGHAM** Lane School's Sixth Form students have been helping out in Nuneaton's Food Kitchen.

The volunteers are supporting the organisation by offering their services each Tuesday evening, helping to feed the homeless.

This will continue over the summer holidays and the next academic year.





• **LEADING LIGHTS!** Higham Lane School's Junior Leadership Team 2017-18. Back: Tommy and Anna (Head Boy and Head Girl). Front: George, Laura, Jack, Molly, Josh and Jessie (Assistant Head Boys and Head Girls).

## Junior Leadership Team increased to eight positions!

SUCH was the excellent standard of applications this year, a decision was made to increase the 2017-18 Junior Leadership Team to eight positions.

Congratulations are extended to the new Head Girl, Anna (10L2) and Tommy, (also 10L2), who has been appointed Head Boy.

The roles of Assistant Head Girls and Assistant Head Boys have been expanded from four to six positions, these having been awarded to Molly (10L1), Jessie (10S2), Laura (10H1), Jack (10H1), George (10H2) and Josh (10S1).

Able supporting JLT will be a 21-strong Senior Prefect team. This time, the Senior Prefect roles have been developed to offer more students extra responsibility and the opportunity to really make a difference in school.

Senior Prefects will now lead Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and evening events, some will be Curriculum Ambassadors for a range of subjects, while others are responsible for Prefects and ensuring they are fulfilling their roles and responsibilities.

All the candidates faced a tough problem-solving exercise and interview with the interviewing panel made up of last year's Head Boy and Head Girl, Sam and Lauren, Year 10 Progress Leader Mrs Davies, Assistant Headteacher Miss Fern, and Headteacher Mr Kelly.

Since the start of the summer term in April, a team of Prefects has carried out break and lunch time duties under the supervision of Senior Prefects.

Each team also works together at school events, such as Student Progress Evenings, and meet once a fortnight with their designated member of JLT to raise any concerns or suggest improvements to various aspects of how the School operates.

**MISS FERN, Assistant Headteacher**

## JLT, Senior Prefects and Prefects 2017-18

### Junior Leadership Team

Anna (10L2) Head Girl, Tommy (10L2) Head Boy; Laura (10H1), Jessie (10S3) and Molly (10L1) Assistant Head Girls; Josh (10S1), George (10H2) and Jack (10H1) Assistant Head Boys.

### Senior Prefects

Saaimah (10H2), Trinity (10S1), Marayam (10H2) and Declan (10S2) Anti-bullying Ambassadors; Scott (10H2) Curriculum D&T; Jack (10S3) Curriculum English; Lauren (10S1) Curriculum Geography; Millie (10H2) and Klara (10H2) Curriculum Mathematics; Dylan (10S2) Curriculum PE; Georgia (10H1), Ellie (10S2), Natasha (10S3), Pavi (10S3), David (10L3), Thomas (10H3), Jonathan (10L1), Billie-Jo (10S3) and Megan (10H3) Duty Day; Lauren (10S1), Ben (10H3) and Amy (10S1) Evening Events.

### Prefects

**Monday** — Ben (10H1), Trinity (10S1), Lauren (10S1), Casey (10L2), Emma (10H1), Karla (10H1), Abbi (10S2) and Yasmin (10S1).

**Tuesday** — George (10H2), Millie (10L1), Josh (10S1), Jack (10H1), Jess (10S2), Jessie (10S3), Jonathan (10S2) and Scott (10H2).

**Wednesday** — Alex (10H1), Ellie (10S3), Maryam (10H2), Saaimah (10H2), Jack (10S3), Ben (10H3), Riah (10L1) and Sade (10H3).

**Thursday** — Lauren (10S1), Laura (10H1), Millie (10H2), Klara (10H2), Suleman (10L1), Rohit (10L1), Ethan (10L2) and Dylan (10S2).

**Friday** — Charin (10H3), Sophie (10H3), Amy (10S1), Tom (10H1), Aaishah (10H1), Hannah (10H3), Lucy (10H3), Isabelle (10S1), Declan (10S2) and Ryan (10H2).





# Dancer Anoushka is a shining star!

HOT-FOOTED dancer, Anoushka (7L3), is rapidly making a name for herself on the local dance scene.

The talented 12-year-old, who is honing her dancing skills under the guidance of principal, Alison Turner, at Stages Dance School, first picked up a medal at a competition held in April.

A tap solo, performed to the tune of 'Sax' by rapper Fleur East, caught the judges' critical eye, the achievement being even more pleasing to Anoushka as she had choreographed the whole sequence herself.

In June, Anoushka put her best foot forward once again while competing in 'Shining Stars', an annual two-day dancing spectacle held at the Civic Hall in Bedworth.

Here, she repeated her solo performance, in addition to further ballet, tap and modern routines, during both evenings of the event.

A thrilled Anoushka said: "I felt quite nervous as, at the interval, I had to wait 22 minutes before I performed my solo.

"My friends had watched me perform and hugged me when I returned to the dressing room and said how well I had done. I felt so proud of myself for having the confidence to do it.

"In future I would like to have my own dance school and be a dance teacher."

• **BEST FOOT FORWARD!** Dedicated dancer Anoushka is making her presence felt on the local dance scene.





# Hard-hitting lesson to avoid life-changing consequences



FOR the seventh year running, Year 9 students were given the opportunity to take part in the nationally-acclaimed Prison Me No Way workshop delivered by the No Way Trust.

They embarked on the crime awareness day with the enactment of a deadly road collision following young people joy riding, and then followed the crime story through police interrogation, the cells and the court process.

Students learned that their actions have consequences and that sometimes they can prove to be life changing.

In addition, they also attended workshops on anti-social behaviour, road safety and arson throughout the day.

The No Way Trust also provided us with a convicted prisoner this year, who spoke to our students at length about the consequences of his behaviour and how it has changed his life forever.

We hope the Year 9s listened to his advice on staying out of trouble with the police!

**MRS MITCHELL, Subject Leader for CPSHEED**







• **STANDOUT PERFORMERS!** A big thumbs-up from Owen and Toby who both received Gold awards in this year's UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

# Owen and Toby strike gold!

ON THURSDAY, April 27, 55 Year 8 students from both top sets in Mathematics took part in a national competition called the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

The challenge involved a variety of questions aimed at challenging their mathematical skills and requiring them to apply their mathematical knowledge to solve some difficult problems in a one-hour time limit.

The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics.

The UKMT organises national mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old UK school students. Each challenge leads into a follow-on round and UKMT run mentoring schemes and summer schools for high performing students.

The top 40% of students nationally receive a gold, silver or bronze certificate and around 1200 of the highest scorers are invited to participate in the Junior Mathematical Olympiad. The next 5500 highest scorers are invited to participate in the Junior Kangaroo.

Over the past year, Mr Crowther, Mrs Chawner and Miss Pritchard have set aside one lesson a month to help students acquire the skills that would help them achieve the best mark possible. This has involved a range of activities in class to allow pupils to develop their enterprising skills as part of the challenge.

A few weeks later, the results arrived to reveal another

impressive performance by the students of Higham Lane. Out of the 55 students who took part, 29 of them received a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. The group's overall average of 53 marks compared to the national average of 50 marks, shows how well they performed compared to the rest of the country!

This year's Challenge results produced two standout performances from Owen (8L1) and Toby (8H1), who both received the Gold award. On top of this, Owen managed to achieve 95 marks out of a total of 135, which was a score good enough to qualify for the Junior Kangaroo.

This is a fine achievement for a student with outstanding mathematical qualities who has worked hard to achieve beyond the potential of many students, not just in this school but around the country as well.

Owen completed the Junior Kangaroo in June and at the time of writing, is still waiting for the results.

All of the participants in this year's challenge can be very proud of the effort they have made in preparing for this year's event and have excelled themselves beyond their potential.

This continues to show how Higham Lane is producing mathematicians of the highest standard in preparation for what lies ahead in the future.

Congratulations to everyone who took part, and especially those who achieved an award for their inspiring efforts and commitment over the past year.

**MR CROWTHER, MRS CHAWNER and MISS PRITCHARD**  
Mathematics Department





## Junior Mathematics Challenge HLS Results for 2017

STUDENTS at Higham Lane School achieved two Golds, 15 Silvers and 12 Bronzes in this year's UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

Over 250,000 students from across the UK sat the Junior Maths Challenge, with roughly the top 7% receiving a Gold certificate, the next 13% Silver, and the next 20% Bronze.

Around 1200 of the top students are invited to sit the follow-on competition, the Junior Mathematical Olympiad, while the next 5500 UK high scorers take the Junior Kangaroo.

**Gold  $\geq 77$  Silver  $\geq 63$  Bronze  $\geq 52$**

**Best in School:** Owen (8L1) Gold Award — 95 marks.

**Gold Award Winners:** Owen (8L1) 95 and Toby (8H1) 82.

**Silver Award Winners:** Faheem (8L2) 74, Owen (8L1) 73, Lilly (8H1) 72, Nicholas (8S2) 72, Thomas (8H2) 72, Hannah (8L3) 71, Isabelle (8L3) 71, Jack (8L1) 71, Jay (8L2) 71, Kate (8S1) 68, Kim (8H1) 67, Tia (8H1) 67, Daniel (8L2) 66, Prasanna (8H1) 66, James (8H2) 64.

**Bronze Award Winners:** Gabriella (8H1) 62, Matthew (8H3) 61, William (8L1) 60, Caroline (8S1) 59, Eva (8S1) 59, Alicia (8H2) 56, Edward (8H3) 55, Matty (8S3) 54, Prapti (8S3) 54, Harvey (8S3) 52, Jess (8S2) 52, Randall (8L2) 52.

## Calling all keen mathematicians!

We are looking for two enthusiastic students from Year 8 to take part in the UKMT Team Maths Challenge.



If you are interested, please let Mr Crowther know. More details soon!

## How well would you do?

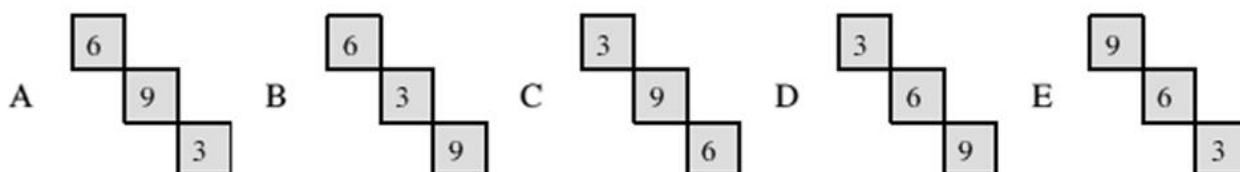


HERE are two questions. One question is from the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge that the Year 8s completed. The other question is from the UKMT Junior Mathematical Olympiad. Can you answer either of these two questions? If so, write down your workings and solutions for the questions and hand it in to Mr Crowther when we return to school in September. A prize will be awarded to students who calculate the correct answer for either question!

### UKMT Junior Maths Challenge 2017

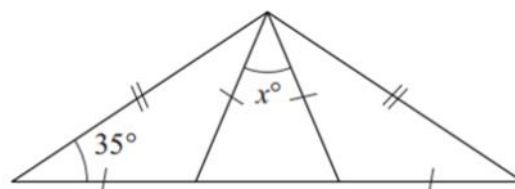
Q. In a magic square, the numbers in each row, each column and the two main diagonals have the same total. This magic square uses the integers 2 to 10. Which of the following are the missing cells?

	10	5
8		4
7	2	



### UKMT Junior Mathematical Olympiad 2016

Q. Three isosceles triangles are put together to create a larger isosceles triangle, as shown. What is the value of  $x$ ?







# Farewell and good luck!

EMOTIONS were running high amongst departing Year 11 students when they broke-up for examination study leave at the start of the Whitsun holiday.

Many shed tears of sadness following the final afternoon assembly as they knew it was the last time their cohort would be all together under one roof.

In keeping with tradition, the School provided leavers with a super send-off, ensuring they took with them fond memories of growing up and studying

with each other over the past five years.

However, the morning was taken up with a gruelling 2½-hour English Literature GCSE examination before students could let their hair down at lunchtime, meeting up on the front field to bid fond farewells to friends and staff.

In the afternoon everyone packed into Coombe Hall for an emotionally-charged Leavers' Assembly, expertly organised and hosted by Year 11 Progress Leader, Mr Davies.

Proceedings began with successful students and tutor groups receiving their respective achievement accolades, followed by a wide range of entertainment, courtesy of teachers and students.

As the school bell signalled the end of the day, celebrations came to a close and students said their last goodbyes before departing for home, taking with them precious memories of their time together at Higham Lane School.











## Celebrating the end of five years together!

ONCE again, the picturesque setting of Coombe Abbey, near Coventry, was chosen as the location for our Leavers' Dance.

Returning to the idyllic rural setting for a third successive year, the historic hotel provided a breath-taking backdrop as glamorous young ladies dressed in colourful ball gowns and dashing young men sporting slick suits arrived aboard a wide array of transport, ranging from a tricycle to top-of-the-range luxury cars.

Heavy showers prior to the event failed to put a damper on proceedings and, once inside, the party-goers enjoyed a sit-down meal before spending the remainder of the evening demonstrating their latest moves on the dance floor and posing for photographs.

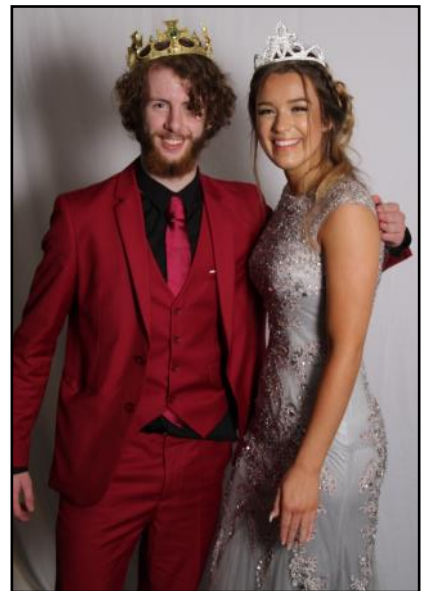
As always, the Leavers' Dance was a memorable occasion for the Year 11 students and a fitting finalé to their five years studying at Higham Lane School. More photographs can be found on the HLS website.



• A CD, containing a full range of photos from the Leavers' Dance, will be available to purchase on GCSE results day. All proceeds to charity.











# Physicist Lewis receives top award



• **SUPER SCIENTIST!** Lewis receives his 'School Physicists of the Year' certificate.

IN MID-JUNE, Sixth Form student Lewis and his family attended a special conference at the University of Warwick to celebrate the School Physicists of the Year Awards.

Lewis was selected from the HLS Year 12 Physics group to receive this award.

The event gave Sixth Form and college students an opportunity to look around the Physics Department at the University of Warwick and talk to current undergraduate students, who also put on some demonstrations, such as making ice-cream using liquid Nitrogen (yummy!).

Students and their families were then given a lecture by Rachel Edwards on 'Listening for Disaster' and attended an awards ceremony where students from across the county were awarded with a certificate.

Over the past year, Lewis has really come into his own in Physics. It is a subject which he excels in and has always come in the top three of the class with his assignments.

His tenacious nature and natural problem solving ability are a great asset and his resilience to never give up when a problem is too hard is wonderful to see.

May these attributes carry him far in his future learning in the wonderful world of physics and his future endeavours.

Congratulations from Miss Willis and the Science Department. Keep up the fantastic work!

**MISS WILLIS**  
Science Department

• **CRÈME DE LA CRÈME!** Lewis and the other top Young Physicists from Sixth Forms and Colleges show off their certificates at the award ceremony, held at the University of Warwick.



• **WELL DONE!** A proud family congratulate Lewis on his accolade.







## News from the Science Department

THE Science Department has been having fun with the Sainsbury's Lego cards assigning a character to each member of staff. Here is our collection:







## News from the Music Department



## Term finishes on a high note!

THE rain that arrived early evening did not cool the excitement and enthusiasm of this year's Summer Concert! For a second successive year, inclement weather meant we could not sit outside in the Memorial Garden. However, having been fed and watered by Miss Mackey and her hard-working catering crew comprising members of the Junior Leadership Team and Mrs Dunne, the audience sat back and listened to a wide variety of performances given by our fantastically-talented Music students.

New Head Girl, Anna, and Head Boy, Tommy, confidently introduced each performance, the soloists and ensembles playing with such confidence in a variety of musical genres. The School is grateful for all the students' hard work and dedication, week in, week out, to provide such a wonderful end to the school year.

Have a super summer and perhaps bring a friend along when rehearsals begin again in September!

**MRS DAVENPORT, Subject Leader for Music**

• More Summer Music Concert photographs can be found on the HLS website!







## News from the Music Department





# When the going gets tough!



• **RESPECT!** Jess, Fallon and Karen, flanked by their two other team-mates, who competed in the gruelling Tough Mudder challenge.

THREE Higham Lane School Sixth Form students showed true grit and determination while competing in the Midlands leg of the Tough Mudder challenge.

The trio, comprising Jess, Fallon and Karen, were part of a five-strong team who tackled the strength-sapping course at Belvoir Castle in Leicestershire.

Out of the 12,000 field, they were the youngest team taking part, which earned them immense respect from fellow Mudders while tackling the gruelling 12-mile circuit of hills, mud, set grass and plenty of insane obstacles.

The girls were competing under the banner of Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs, who were overjoyed with their fund-raising achievement.

WAYC invited the team and their families to a celebration event in early July, when the charity unveiled their new name, logo and branding.



## Lauren and Matthew go down in History!

CONGRATULATIONS are extended to two Year 11 students whose names will be going down in history this year! Lauren (11H3) and Matthew (11S2) have both been selected to take part in a University of Cambridge residential programme during the summer.

They are two of only 24 History students nationwide who have been selected by the University themselves, based solely on their applications.

Well done also to Malaika (11S3), who has been selected as a reserve, and to all the



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other Higham Lane students who were nominated and applied, on the high quality of your applications.

**MISS GIBBS, Assistant  
Subject Leader for History**





# Feathered friends!

STUDENTS and staff returned after the Easter holiday to be greeted by 15 newcomers on the school roll!

For a third successive year, Mummy and Daddy Duck have chosen Higham Lane as a safe haven to rear their offspring — much to the delight of everyone at the School!

However, after twice nesting in the Memorial Garden, this year's chosen location was Coombe quad, which also offers good protection by way of low-lying shrubs and bushes.

So-much-so, that no-one knew a nest existed until Mum was seen proudly parading her new fluffy family around the quad! (See photos).

Ducks first bred at the School two years ago when seven ducklings were successfully reared.

Last year, 12 out of 13 fledglings survived, but unfortunately a second nest

had its 11-strong clutch of eggs destroyed just hours before hatching due to flooding following a torrential thunder storm.

Happily, all 15 ducklings survived this year and, along with Mum, were subsequently transported to the Ashby Canal where they were released into the wild.

Out of the blue, at the beginning of June, another female duck was discovered with nine youngsters in Chine Sensory Garden.

Sadly, seven of the fledglings rapidly disappeared as a result of predation by the local corvid population but, against all odds, the other two managed to survive.

The School now looks forward to welcoming back its feathered friends again next spring for another successful breeding season.



## Term dates and holidays

**FRIDAY, JULY 21**

Break-up for summer holidays.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 17**

A-level results day.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 24**

GCSE results day.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**

INSET day.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

INSET day.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**

Autumn term begins.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20**

Break-up for half-term.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 30**

Autumn term recommences.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

Inset day.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22**

Break-up for Christmas and the New Year.

A comprehensive list of calendar dates can be found on the School's website — [www.highamlaneschool.co.uk](http://www.highamlaneschool.co.uk)



## Don't miss the next deadline!

THE next electronic edition of HLS Express will be uploaded to the School's website on December 19, 2017. Would you please ensure all your contributions are with Mr Nikols by December 8 at the very latest. Thank you.





## Walking the walk!

FOR a fifth successive year, Higham Lane School's annual Sponsored Walk was blessed with warm summer sunshine.

As in recent times, the ever-popular event was held at Ambleside Fields, where valuable funds were raised to help make improvements to the School.

These include new facilities and equipment which can be enjoyed for many years to come.

In addition to students, a number of staff also decided to walk the walk in the name of fitness!

• *More photographs from the sponsored walk can be found on the Higham Lane School website!*







## News from the Physical Education Department

# Golfers crowned Warwickshire Champions!

DURING the Easter holiday, Higham Lane's golf team travelled to the south of the county to participate in the Warwickshire Schools' Golf Competition.

The event, held at Leamington Golf Club, was a three-person team challenge where all the scores were added together, the school with the smallest number of strokes being declared the winner.

Year 9 student, Greg, shot an impressive 66, just two strokes off the individual champion, while fellow year group member, Luke, carded a 72.

Despite only being in Year 7, Edward displayed his golfing skills and chipped in with a 76.

A combined total of 214 strokes meant Higham Lane had beaten all the others taking part,



• **IN THE SWING OF THINGS!** Higham Lane's golf team (left to right) Edward, Luke and Greg, who triumphed in this year's Warwickshire Schools' Golf Competition.

including favourites Warwick School by just two shots.

Due to their County success, the trio progressed to the National

Golf Finals, held at the prestigious Woodhall Spa course, in Lincolnshire, on July 12.

In a meeting with Headteacher, Mr Kelly,

before they left, Luke was adamant they were going there to win!

On the Tuesday prior to the competition, the three were invited to play a practice round and get used to the difficult conditions at the testing Woodhall Spa course.

Then, in the actual competition on the Wednesday, the boys were pitted against 36 other schools, each representing their counties.

They all played extremely well on the day to finish equal 15th.

Well done to the all three boys for a superb achievement and a big thank you to all the parents who organised their entry, travel, accommodation, and supported them during the competition.

MR WILSON

Subject Leader for PE



• **CELEBRATION TIME!** Higham Lane's Year 11 netball team who were invited to undertake a lap of honour at the Wasps v Team Bath game.

## Netballers get a buzz out of Wasps invite!

HIGHAM Lane's Year 11 netball team were left buzzing after receiving a special invite from Wasps!

To mark finishing fifth best team in England at this year's Nationals, the girls were invited to undertake a half-time

celebration parade during Wasps' Vitality Netball Superleague fixture against Team Bath on June 3, which they won 49-35.

MRS DAVIES, PE Department

## County call-up



• **TALENTED NETBALLERS** — Hannah, Emma and Freya.

TUTOR group 7L2 have more than their fair share of talent when it comes to netball with the skills of three form members being recognised by Warwickshire!

Two of the girls — Hannah and Emma — have received a call-up to the Under-14 County Academy, while Freya has been invited to join the Under-16 County Development Squad, a remarkable achievement considering she is still in Year 7!

MRS DAVIES, PE Department





## Spotlight on the Year 10 County Cup Football Final







## Higham Lane 1, North Leamington 2 AET







## Spotlight on the Year 10 District Cup Football Final







Higham Lane 3, Twycross 3 AET (Twycross won on penalties)







## News from the Physical Education Department

# Rounders teams do the School proud!

ONCE again, Higham Lane's Year 9 and Year 10 girls have done the School proud on the rounders field!

The Year 9 team swept aside all the opposition that other Nuneaton schools could throw at them, winning the District tournament with no losses and, as a result, going on to represent North Warwickshire at the County School Games at Warwick University.

The side also played in the Under-15 District League a year young and finished a fantastic third!

Higham's Year 10 girls just love rounders so much that they have done the double again!

The team played exceptionally well in the league competition and defeated all of the local competition convincingly.

They played with the same competitiveness in the Year 10 tournament, where again they came out on top, beating all the teams in great fashion.

This group of students have won every District rounders tournament from Year 7 upwards. What a legacy with which to leave Higham Lane!

**MRS MITCHELL**  
PE Department



● **THE HLS YEAR 9 ROUNDERS TEAM** — represented North Warwickshire at the County School Games. Back row (left to right): Stacey (9S2), Holly (9S2), Molly (9S2), Ava (9S2), Prapti (8S3), Lily (8H3), Holly (8L1). Front: Megan (9S3), Amelia (9S2), Rosie (9H3) and Esther (8L3).



● **THE HLS YEAR 10 ROUNDERS TEAM** — Double winners yet again! Back row (left to right): Molly (10L1), Philpa (10H1), Lucy (10H3), Jessie (10S3), Megan (10H3), Katie (10L2), Billie-Jo (10S3), Leah (10S1). Front: Mollie (10L2) and Hannah (10L1). Missing from the photo is Asmita (10L1), Morgan (10L3) and Lauren (10S2).

## Outstanding improvement from Year 8 players



THE Year 8 rounders team followed in the footsteps of Year 9 and Year 10 with their own successful season.

In the Year 8 Nuneaton & District League, the team found St Thomas More too strong on the day, and lost by only half a rounder.

However, they were able to turn the tables in the District Tournament, where the close competition continued between the two teams, with Higham victorious by only half a rounder!

The improvement from all players this year has been fantastic, which has been helped by their excellent commitment to practices. May this improvement continue next year!

**MISS BLUNT, Assistant Subject Leader PE**

● **THE YEAR 8 ROUNDERS TEAM** — Back row (left to right): Evie (8S1), Molly (8H1), Madelaine (8L3), Maisie (8L2), Prapti (8S3), Lily (8H3), Holly (8L1), Julee (8S3). Front: Summer (8L1), Chloe (8L3), Lilly (8H1) and Caroline (8S1). Missing from photo: Daisy (8S3) and Sophie (8L2).





## News from the Physical Education Department



• **FANTASTIC SEASON!** The Year 7 Girls' and Boys' athletics teams.

# Excellent individual and team performances from athletes

IT WAS a fantastic performance by our Year 7 athletes in their first District competition.

The boys triumphed in the overall competition with the girls finishing runners-up, only four points adrift of the winners.

Here are some of the excellent individual results achieved by our Year 7 athletes:-

**Kiera (7S1) 200m 3rd**  
**Charlie (7L2) 600m 1st**  
**Freya (7L2) 1200m 1st**  
**Hannah (7L2) High Jump 1st**  
**Charlie (7L2) High Jump 2nd**  
**Girls' 4x100m Relay 2nd**  
**Marco (7S3) 100m 1st**  
**Joe (7S2) 200m 2nd**  
**Marco (7S3) 200m 3rd**  
**Zach (7L1) 300m 3rd**  
**Sam (7H1) 1200m 2nd**

**Sam (7H3) Shot 1st**  
**Charlie (7H3) Discus 1st**  
**David (7L3) Javelin 2nd**  
**Matthew (7H1) High Jump 2nd**  
**Sam (7H1) Long Jump 2nd**  
**Boys' 4x100m Relay 1st**

Congratulations to all the athletes who took part in the District competitions this season, which provided several excellent individual and team performances:-

**Year 7 Boys — Winners; Year 7 Girls — 2nd; Year 8 Boys — 3rd; Year 8 Girls — 2nd Year 9 Boys — 2nd; Year 9 Girls — 2nd; Year 10 Boys — Winners; Year 10 Girls — 2nd.**

Warwickshire Combined Events:-

**Year 7 Girls: Freya (7L2) 13th, Charlie (7L2) 27th, Hannah (7L2) 30th (7th overall).**

**Year 7 Boys: Sam (7H1) 4th, Joe (7S2) 21st, Sanjit (7L1) 25th (5th overall).**

**Year 8 Girls: Lilly (8H1) 28th, Lily (8H3) 34th, Prapti (8S3) 35th (11th overall).**

**Year 9 Boys: Ciaran (9L3) 10th, Jack (9L1) 15th, Jake (9H3) 22nd (4th overall).**

**Year 10 Boys: Aaron (10H3) 11th, Ethan (10H2) 14th, Aston (10S3) 28th (3rd overall).**

**Year 10 Girls: Asmita (10L1) 2nd, Hannah (10L1) 10th, Morgan (10L3) 14th, Megan (10H3) 1st overall.**

Following the District competitions, an amazing 20 students were selected to represent the District in the County Championships:-

**Ethan (10H2) 400m, Nick (10L2) 400m, Joe (10L2) 800m, Brad (10L3) 800m, Aston (10S3) 100m Hurdles, Aaron (10S3) High Jump, Josh (10S1) Triple Jump, George (10H2) Javelin and Shot, Jack (10L1) Discus, Hannah (10L1) 300m and Javelin, Morgan (10L3) 80m Hurdles and High Jump, Asmita (10L1) Long Jump and Javelin, Harriet (10L2) Shot, Megan (10H3) 1500m, Jacob (9S2) 100m and 80m Hurdles, Josh (9L1) 800m, Lucas (9S3) Javelin, Rosie (9H3) 75m Hurdles, Molly (9S2) Discus, Amelia (9S2) Javelin.**

A special mention must go to Jacob (9S2) who has been selected to represent the County in the English School in the 80m hurdles.

This is an amazing achievement and we wish him good luck in the event!

## Fantastic all-round skills



CONGRATULATIONS are extended to the Year 7 Rounders team, who comfortably won their tournament after combining fantastic batting skills with outstanding fielding. Highlight of the season was defeating George Eliot 15½-3 and Queen Elizabeth 8½-1.

**MRS DAVIES**  
**PE Department**

**MR WILSON, Subject Leader for PE**



# HLS Express Sport

# HEARTBREAK AT THE DOUBLE!

Dominance in  
two finals fails to  
earn silverware



• **NARROWLY DEFEATED** — The Year 10 football squad who lost 2-1 in the County Cup final.



• **PENALTY HEARTBREAK** — The Year 10 District Cup football squad.

COMMISERATIONS go to Higham Lane School's Year 10 football squad who, heartbreakingly, lost two cup finals in two days!

In the County Cup, they progressed through by beating Princethorpe 5-0, Stratford 3-0 and Polesworth 2-1.

In the final, held at The Oval, the home of Bedworth United Football Club, they faced North Leamington School who they had lost to in the Year 8 County Cup final 3-0.

With many Higham Lane students making the short train journey across to Bedworth to support the players, the atmosphere was fantastic.

The whole team played extremely well and deservedly went ahead in the first half, playing some excellent football.

Nevertheless, against the run of play, North Leamington equalised and, despite Higham Lane's best efforts, they could not find a winning goal in normal time.

Throughout extra time, Higham continued to dominate but found the opposition goalkeeper in amazing form, stopping every effort that Higham fired at him.

In the last few seconds of extra time North Leam cleared the ball up-field and scored with a low shot into the corner.

A fantastic effort by all the players, who were obviously disappointed, but had played the better football and did not deserve to lose.

In the District Cup, the squad progressed through by beating Etone 4-0, Polesworth 2-1 and Queen Elizabeth 3-0.

In the final, once again held on the synthetic pitch at The Oval, they faced Twycross House, just 48 hours after losing the County Cup final!

The same loyal Year 10 supporters had made the train journey to Bedworth to hopefully see the team achieve success this time.

Unfortunately, things did not go to plan and, despite

showing glimpses of good attacking football, mistakes were made and too many chances went begging.

Higham Lane went ahead in the first half, but Twycross equalised and then went ahead, much against the run of play.

Higham Lane created numerous goal-scoring chances but luck seemed against them.

However, they eventually managed to equalise and the final again entered extra time.

Twycross again went ahead, but Higham did not give up and scored an equaliser in the final

few minutes. The cup would therefore be decided on penalties and, with both goalkeepers making some fine saves from very nervous looking players, it was eventually Twycross who came out winners.

Thank you to all the players for their hard work and effort, and to all the supporters who enthusiastically cheered on the school.

**MR WILSON**

**Subject Leader for PE**

• *Photographic action from the two cup finals can be found on P26-29 and also on the HLS website.*



• **MAGNIFICENT!** — Higham Lane supporters.