



November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Able and Ambitious Lecture Programme, Autumn 2019

As Coordinator for Able and Ambitious students, I am excited to write to you about a new opportunity available to your son/daughter. To help them to adopt an ambitious, positive and curious approach to learning, I am trialling the introduction of a new Enrichment Lecture Programme in the run up to Christmas for GCSE students who want to not only broaden their study skills but widen their knowledge and understanding of the world they live in beyond the main school curriculum.

Lectures will be conducted by a number of staff from within school, but also guests from local universities. ***Students who wish to participate in the programme must attend all of the lectures in the series:***

Date	Session Overview
Friday 15 th November 3.25-4.00pm	Miss Gibbs: Higher Level Notetaking introduction and mini lecture on ' <i>Inside the mind of a master procrastinator.</i> '
Wednesday 20 th November 3.10-3.45pm	Dr Simon Baker, Birmingham University " <i>Pure Mathematics: What it is good for and why it makes me happy.</i> "
Thursday 28 th November 3.25-4.15pm	Mrs Mesias: <i>Dirty fashion and its future?</i>
Thursday 5 th December 3.25-4.15pm	Mr Goldstraw: <i>The real story behind the Christmas Truce of 1914; what does it reveal about the Great War?</i>
Thursday 12 th December 2.20pm-2.45pm	Miss Gibbs: Programme review and what have we learned?

All students who participate will be provided with a notetaking journal and the first session will explore different methods of meaningful notetaking for students, which can be applied to their future studies. This is not a revision programme, but it is an opportunity for students to be curious, ask questions and develop as critical thinkers and problem solvers.

Should the programme be successful, I will look to extend the number of lectures after Christmas and will notify you of the programme. Students will be asked for feedback to ensure that the programme evolves to meet student needs. Certificates of participation will also be provided for students upon attendance

This is an inclusive enrichment programme available to any students who demonstrate flair or passion for learning. Presenting 'more able' capabilities relies heavily upon attitude to learning, commitment to curiosity and a willingness to apply new experiences to learning; attainment is simply the result of such an attitude. We look to provide a 'no glass ceiling' approach to learning, and consequently believe that all students are capable of high achievement with the correct attitude and support.

If you would like your son/daughter to participate in the lecture programme please complete and return the reply slip tomorrow, Wednesday 13th November. Students must be available to attend all lecture sessions in the run up to Christmas. There are only 30 spaces available to students.



Higham Lane School

Helping Learners Succeed

Headteacher: Phil Kelly BA MBA NPQH

Students will be notified on Thursday 14th November via SharePoint if they have been successful, and notified of the location of the first lecture. Where there are a surplus of students, prior behaviour record will be taken into consideration and names will be drawn at random. Please note that that there are only 30 spaces for students across the whole of years 9, 10 and 11.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at School either by telephone or contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk and mark the email for the attention of Miss Gibbs.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Gibbs
Able and Ambitious Coordinator

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Student name:

Tutor group:

I give permission for my son/daughter to attend the lectures

my son/daughter will be able to attend all 5 lectures

Parent/Carer signature:

Date:

Kindly return the reply slip to Miss Gibbs or Student Services by 3.30pm on Wednesday 13th November

(GS-AA) Able and Ambitious Lecture Programme, Autumn 2019 - November 2019