



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we gather here in the midst of a world facing its fair share of harrowing events, I find myself reflecting on the incredible privilege it is to be a part of such a wonderful and caring community here at Higham Lane School. In a world that sometimes seems to have forgotten the importance of compassion and understanding, I am profoundly grateful to be a part of a school where these values are not only upheld, but cherished.

Our school vision is clear, and it is a beacon that guides us through each day. We envision a place where students work hard, not just for themselves, but for the benefit of their peers and staff. We aspire to be a community where kindness is a cornerstone of our interactions, and where every student follows the rules, recognising that in doing so, they unleash their full potential. It is this vision that makes our school an exceptional place to be.

I'd like to take this moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Governing Body for their time and expertise at the first Full Governing Body meeting of the year, which took place on Monday 9th October 2023. Their guidance and unwavering support are invaluable to our school's continued success. I would also like to welcome our new Chair of the Governing Body, Mrs Elmer. We look forward to working closely with her and tapping into her extensive knowledge and experience.

This week, the unvalidated Progress 8 data for schools was released. Progress 8 is a headline measure for schools, reflecting the progress that students make from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school. I am delighted to share that the provisional data indicates that Higham Lane is on track to achieve the highest Progress 8 score the school has ever reached. This is a testament to the high-quality teaching and learning that takes place every day in our school, and it's a reflection of our commitment to the success of our students.

As we approach the weekend, I want to extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of you. May you find time to rest, rejuvenate, and enjoy the moments that truly matter. Thank you for being a part of this extraordinary community.

Warm regards,

Mr Gannon
Headteacher



Congratulations to Rebecca in Year 8, who has been awarded a British Citizen Youth Award (BCyA) for her exceptional contribution to the community and being an inspiration to others through her butterfly conservation efforts. .

Rebecca will soon attend the Palace of Westminster to receive this prestigious award. We are immensely proud of her achievements. Well done!

Rebecca has also featured in a programme aired this week called 'Save Our Wildlife' on Sky Kids (available on demand) and you can watch it by clicking this link <https://live.firstnews.co.uk/sky-kids-fyi/> Just scroll down to climate crisis and select Monarch Butterflies to watch Rebecca's segment.

This year, Rebecca also featured on the cbbc programme 'One Zoo Three' highlighted for being a conservation hero and discussing her love for butterflies. You can watch this on iPlayer with this link <http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001kk1d>



Monday:

- Year 7 boys football lost 8-5 to Hinckley Academy in the National Cup
- Year 7 girls netball beat Saint Martins 8-4 in their first HLS netball match

Tuesday:

- Year 10 boys football lost 2-1 vs Brooke House College in the Cup
- Year 9 girls netball team beat Nicolas Chamberlaine, The Nuneaton Academy and Ash Green School but lost to Twycross 3-2 in the first round of their league matches
- Year 7 girls football team beat Kings High School, Warwick 8-1 in their first HLS football match

Wednesday:

- Sixth Form netball team came 4th at the County Competition (won 2, drew 1, lost 3) – their highest ranking as a team! Played brilliant netball and got lots of compliments from other schools.
- Sixth Form football team lost 2-0 to John Taylor School in the National Cup
- Year 9 boys football team won 8-2 vs Ash Green in the league
- Year 10 and 11 boys rugby team won all of their games vs St Thomas Moore, Nicholas Chamberlaine and Polesworth.

Please note: details of all these items are on the Able & Ambitious Google Classroom pages and they will also be communicated through Sharepoint where necessary. All competition entrants will be awarded House Points for entering as well as prizes for the winners.

Able & Ambitious

All Years:

- Understanding university life: Keble College in Oxford have provided a series of virtual on-line talks about all aspects of university life for younger students who just want a flavour of what it might be like in the future to older, KS5 students who are in the process of applying.

Years 7, 8 & 9:

- Halloween Cake Decorating Competition: prizes to be won for artistic bakers. Students can bring in their own cakes on October 26th and decorate them in DT6 with a Halloween theme. Miss Mackey and Miss Rowlands will be judging the winners.

Years 7-11:

- Amazing History Competition: teams of 3 students research a historical figure or group of their choice who they think should be commemorated with support from students and staff at Coventry University. Shortlisted teams will develop their proposal into a working interactive sound installation which will actually be built.

Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12:

- The Memorable Moments Passport is going to be re-branded as the Aspire Programme and will be launched to students in October. For those not familiar with this, it is the chance for students to complete 5 tasks (voluntary, charity, extra-curricular, Aspire Talks from an outside speaker, on-line course) over the course of the school year and is a fantastically enriching experience. More details to follow after the launch in assemblies, week beginning 16th October.

Year 11:

- Career in Football: If you are serious about trying to make a living out of football, whilst continuing with your education, there is a fantastic opportunity to study at Etone Sixth Form where you will also receive high quality coaching and be part of the West Bromwich Albion Football Academy.

Years 12 & 13:

- Thinking of Studying History or Medicine? Oxbridge are putting on a series of on-line seminars and workshops.

Online careers days

One day online courses that students can enrol onto at a cost of £69.
Designed for ages 13-18.

If students cannot attend 'live' they have at least 30 days to watch/
complete the tasks and they have a certificate of attendance at the end,
that looks great when applying for jobs and college applications.

Here are their forthcoming events:

Vet work - Saturday 25th November 2023
Dentist work - Saturday 28th October 2023
Law - Saturday 2nd December 2023
Business - Sunday 5th November 2023
Computer Science - Saturday 9th December 2023

Psychology - Saturday 11th November 2023
Architecture - Saturday 18th November 2023
Medicine - Sunday 26th November 2023
Midwifery - Saturday 21st October 2023
Performing Arts - Sunday 12th May 2024

If you are interested please apply using the following link <https://www.careerdays.co.uk/>



Dates for your diary

Monday 16th October - Year 11 Practice Interviews (all week)

Thursday 26th October - Sixth Form Open Evening

Friday 27th October - INSET Day

Monday 30th October - Sunday 5th November - Half Term

Monday 6th November - Student return to school

Click for Term Dates



Higham Lane Sixth Form

OPEN EVENING



Thursday 26th October 2023
6.00pm - 8.30pm

- Take a tour of Higham Lane Sixth Form
- Explore our courses and visit Higher Education Stalls
- Meet our Head of Sixth Form - Presentations at 6pm and 7pm
- Hear from our students about life at the Sixth Form
- Find out how we can give you the EDGE

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