

Dear Higham Lane Parents and Carers,

I trust this message finds you well and I extend a warm welcome back to all our students and their families as we embark on the exciting journey of the Spring Term. It has been a wonderful first week, I am immensely proud of the positive and enthusiastic start our students have made. Today I met with a Year 9 student who showed such bravery to present an amazing new business idea in a 'Dragons' Den' style pitch to a large audience at a venue in central London. Wow! Our students really are amazing!

New Additions to the Higham Lane Team

I am delighted to welcome the following new members of staff to the Higham Lane family:

- Mr Heath, Teacher of Maths
- Mr McCarthy, Teacher of History
- Miss Quigley, Teacher of Art & Photography
- Mr Mark Lewis, Teacher and Subject Leader for ICT & Computer Science

Their expertise and dedication are valuable additions to our school and we look forward to the positive impact they will undoubtedly have on our students.

Parking Considerations

A gentle reminder to our parents when parking in the local community, especially during pick-up times at the end of the school day, please be considerate. Ensuring smooth traffic flow and the safety of all our students and residents is of utmost importance. Please be considerate when parking and please do not park on double yellow lines or block the driveways of local residents. Thank you for your cooperation; it is very much appreciated as we want to have an excellent relationship with our neighbours.

Walking Home Etiquette

To our students, please be mindful of your surroundings when walking home. Stand in locations that do not disrupt or cause concerns for our local residents.



Exams Update

Congratulations to our Year 13 students for their excellent conduct during the recent trial exams. Best of luck to them in the upcoming exams next week.

For Year 11, trial exams are on the horizon (beginning a week on Monday). Please do emphasize the importance of revising and cultivating good study habits. A dedicated effort now will contribute significantly to their success and we thank you in advance for your support. Please ensure that when they are revising, they do not have mobile phones, tablets or TVs and are revising in bitesize chunks and focusing their revision on the subjects that need the most work not just the subjects that they like the most.

School Site Timings and Safety Reminders

A small number of students have attempted to enter the school site before it officially opens which poses safety concerns, please note the following timings and safety guidelines:

Higham Lane Gate and the inner gate by Reception open from 8:15am to 8:39am.

Students entering the site at 8:15 am for library access should use Brookdale Gate. No students should be on school site before 8:15am.

Toilets by resources open from 8:30am.

Gates (Higham Lane, inner vehicle gate by Reception, and Student Services vehicle gate) open at 3:15pm to 3:25pm.

No vehicular access between 3:10pm and 3:25pm. Barriers will be in place from 3:10pm and removed at 3:25pm.

These measures are in place to ensure the safety and well-being of our students.

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing everyone a successful and positive Spring Term.

Warm regards,

Michael Gannon Headteacher



Work Experience Deadline

A reminder that the deadline for completing your work experience placement form is fast approaching! Deadline - **Wednesday 31st January** .

There are still placement opportunities at both Weddington Primary School and Race Leys Junior School, please come and see myself or Mrs Mitchell regarding these.

Thank you Mrs Green

Homework Club

The Support For Learning room (S4L2) is now available to use at lunchtimes as a homework club for students – students may still eat their lunch (cold food only) in here as long as they are also completing any homework that they may have.

Lunchtime Homework Club in S4L2 will run on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays for Years 7,8 and 9 only, and on Thursdays and Fridays for Years 10 and 11 only.



The British Army Apprenticeships and Scholarships webinar - Register Now!

Have you ever wondered what a career in the Army would look like for your child? Do you have any burning questions about what a career could look like within this industry?

Careers

On the 16th of January 2024 the Success at School Team are holding an interactive webinar tailored to parents on the educational and career opportunities available within the British Army.

Anyone attending the webinar will be entered into a prize draw for a chance to win a £50 Amazon voucher!

Sign up now by clicking <u>HERE</u>

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 17th January - Year 12 - The Bodleian Library exhibition and workshops, University of Oxford Monday 15th January - Year 13 Trial Exams Week / Year 7 & 8 Assessment Week 1 / Year 11 speaking trial exams in French and German Thursday 18th January - Year 9 Talking Heads Monday 22nd January - Year 12 Careers Interviews begin Monday 22nd January - Year 11 Trial Exams Start Tuesday 6th February - Year 8 Job Taster Day Thursday 8th February - Year 8 Student Progress Evening - online Friday 9th February - Last day of school Monday 12th February - HALF TERM HOLIDAY BEGINS Friday 16th February - HALF TERM HOLIDAY ENDS

