



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another eventful and rewarding week here at Higham Lane School! There's always so much happening, and it's fantastic to see both staff and students embracing all the opportunities available to them. I am delighted to share some of the highlights from the past week, along with a few important reminders for the weeks ahead.

Sixth Form Open Evening - Thursday 24th October 2024

We are excited to be hosting our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 24th October from 5.30 pm until 8.00 pm. As always, we anticipate a large turnout from students and families keen to explore the many fantastic post-16 opportunities we offer.

To support this event and ensure staff have time to prepare, the whole school will follow SPE timings on this day, meaning school will finish at 2:15 pm. We take the well-being and work-life balance of our staff very seriously, and this adjustment will give staff the time they need to set up and enjoy a well-earned meal before the event starts. Staff will be on-site until after 8.00 pm, so this earlier finish is crucial in allowing them to be fully prepared for a successful Open Evening. Achieve, Believe and Succeed!

House Points Update - Honestas Leading the Way!

A huge congratulations to Honestas, who are leading the House Points table with a whopping 22,000 issued in the first seven weeks of the term! This is an incredible achievement, and it is clear that students across all year groups are living out our school values of Work Hard, Be Kind and Take Responsibility.

House Points can be exchanged for rewards at our HLS Praise and Rewards Shop, so please encourage your child to keep working hard and making positive contributions. The competition is fierce, and it's wonderful to see how motivated our students are to excel both academically and personally.

Assemblies on the Dangers of Vaping

This week, all year groups took part in assemblies focused on the dangers of vaping, a very important issue affecting young people today. As a school, we are committed to keeping our students safe and well-informed, and these assemblies provided vital information on the risks associated with vaping, both physically and mentally.

It would be extremely helpful if you could have a conversation with your child to reinforce these messages. Open dialogue at home can make a huge difference in ensuring that young people fully understand the dangers and make informed choices.

Toilet Breaks During Lessons

We have noticed an increasing number of students leaving lessons to go to the toilet, often missing key learning time. While we understand that sometimes this is necessary, I would like to remind parents and carers to discuss with their children the importance of staying in lessons unless absolutely necessary.

If your child has a medical issue that requires frequent toilet breaks, please make sure they have a toilet pass. Otherwise, unless it's urgent, we kindly ask that students use break or lunch times for this purpose. We have also observed some students loitering around the toilet areas and engaging in disruptive behaviour, your support in addressing this with your child will be greatly appreciated.

Anti-Bullying Measures - Speak Up!

At Higham Lane School, we are deeply committed to creating a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all students. As a reminder, we have an anti-bullying email address, speakup@highamlaneschool.co.uk, which is available to any student who feels they need to report bullying or seek help.

In addition to this, we have trained anti-bullying ambassadors who are always available to offer support and advice to their peers. There is also an anti-bullying box located outside of Student Services, where students can leave notes if they prefer to seek help in this way. Please do encourage your child to make use of these resources if they ever need them.

Celebrating Success - Student Achievements

I am thrilled to announce that Ellie in Year 7 has won our House Poster Competition! Her fantastic poster, showcasing the values of her house, is now proudly displayed in the canteen. Well done, Ellie!

Another fantastic achievement comes from Bobbin in Year 9, who recently won a gold medal at the England Wadokai International Open Kata Championships. This is an amazing accomplishment, and we are so proud to have such talented students at Higham Lane School. Bobbin's success is a wonderful example of the dedication and hard work that our students put into their interests outside of school.



Upcoming Competitions and Activities

We are always looking for ways to engage our students in new and exciting challenges. Next week, we will be hosting our very first House Table Tennis Competition, where students will have the opportunity to compete using our brand-new table tennis tables. This event has generated a lot of excitement, and we can't wait to see who comes out on top.

Please also encourage your child to enter our Computer Science competition, focused on online safety, and our English Spooky Story competition, which invites students to submit short stories about supernatural or haunted themes. Both competitions offer a fantastic chance for students to showcase their creativity and technical skills, so we're looking forward to seeing their entries.

Sports News - Year 8 Football Team Victories

A special mention goes to our Year 8 football team, who achieved two brilliant victories this week. They won 6-0 against Polesworth School and followed it up with a 2-0 win against Nicholas Chamberlaine. It is always wonderful to see our students representing Higham Lane School with such pride and determination, well done to everyone involved! And we got to beat our local rivals!! 😊

Word of the Week - "Intrusive"

Our Word of the Week is "intrusive." It's a great word to use in conversation with your child to expand their vocabulary. Why not challenge them to use it in a sentence this weekend?

Pastoral Stars of the Week

Finally, I would like to extend my congratulations to our Pastoral Stars of the Week. These students have demonstrated exceptional behaviour, kindness and resilience, and I am so proud of their achievements. Keep up the great work!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are proud to have such a dedicated school community, and I wish you all a wonderful weekend!

Kind regards,



Michael Gannon
Headteacher, Higham Lane School

All Years - Injectable Flu Clinic Vaccine

Flu Vaccinations (nasal) are taking place on Wednesday 6th November in school for years 7 to 11. If you haven't already done so, please complete the consent form which was emailed out on 10/10/24 on behalf of the School-aged Immunization Team. Please note that if you have already completed the form, there is no need to do it again.



Higham Lane Sixth Form

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 24th October 2024
5.30pm - 8.00pm

- Take a tour of Higham Lane Sixth Form
- Explore our courses and visit Higher Education Stalls
- Presentations from our Head of Sixth Form at 6.00pm and 7.00pm
- Hear from our students about life at the Sixth Form

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Dates for your diary

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



24,745



22,784



23,375