



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 23RD MAY 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a truly wonderful week here at Higham Lane School, and I'm delighted to share some of the highlights with you.

## **Exams and Academic Progress**

Our GCSE and A-Level exams have gone exceptionally well; our students have been incredibly focused, and the feedback I've received from them indicates they felt thoroughly prepared and are eagerly anticipating their results this summer. The latest data inputted by our teaching staff suggests that our Year 11 and Year 13 students are on track for some outstanding achievements, and we wish them the very best of luck as they await their outcomes.

A big well done and good luck also to our Year 7, 8, and 9 students who are currently undertaking their internal exams. We wish them all the best with the remainder of their assessments when we return after half term.

## **Year 10 Work Experience**

We hope our Year 10 students found their work experience placements both useful and enjoyable. Stepping into the "real world" can be a crucial experience, helping young people understand that the high expectations we set at Higham Lane mirror those in the professional world. In any workplace, employees are expected to work hard, be kind to others, take responsibility for their actions, and always strive to do the right thing. We have been contacted by numerous companies to say how amazing our students have been whilst working with them and in one case, the employer wants to offer a HLS student a job as they were so impressed!

## **Community Events and Student Enrichment**

Armed Forces Day:

On the 28<sup>th</sup> June, there will be an Armed Forces event held at the Pump Room Gardens in Leamington. This day aims to provide families with a low-cost or free day out, which we know is particularly appreciated given the current cost of living pressures. There will be free activities for children, including bouncy castles, trampolines and a variety of educational stands. These include a mobile wartime museum and military vehicles, such as the impressive Challenger 1, we are also excited about a flyover at 1:44 PM by a Lancaster bomber. To top it off, there will be free hot dogs and ice creams available for a limited period until stocks run out!

## **Duke of Edinburgh Award:**

A huge congratulations to all the students who recently participated in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition. They performed brilliantly, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. Good luck to the students taking part in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh practice in the first week back after half term.

## **Workshops:**

My sincere thanks go to all the staff who organised the impactful knife crime workshops, the VR headset sessions on gangs and peer pressure, and the Loudmouth Theatre productions on consent and sexual harassment. Thank you also to our amazing students who attended these vital sessions with such maturity and engagement.

## **Year 7 SEND Coffee Morning**

It was truly lovely to see some of our Year 7 SEND parents and carers at Thursday morning's coffee morning. These events underline the importance of our home-school partnership, and we are so grateful for your attendance. We've hosted a series of coffee mornings for parents and carers of SEND students, as well as opportunities to meet with senior staff and members of the Central England Academy Trust (CEAT). It has been wonderful to talk with you and get to know you better, thank you to everyone who has attended. We are committed to continuing these opportunities for parents and carers to visit our school and meet with key staff, as we fully understand that a strong home-school relationship is paramount for our students to thrive.

## **Supporting Our Students' Well-being**

I had the privilege of attending a presentation earlier this week at Ambleside Sports Club by an external speaker, Graham Chatterley, focusing on the importance of staff using emotion coaching to support students who have experienced past trauma. At Higham Lane School at the start of the current academic year in September, all our staff received comprehensive Trauma-Informed Attachment Awareness Schools (TIAAS) training and on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); this training ensures our staff are even better equipped to support our most vulnerable students. The recent presentation reinforced the vital work we are doing in this area and confirmed that we are very much on the right track.

## **Celebrating Higham Lane Superstars**

You may have noticed our new Higham Lane Superstars wall located outside my office if you have been in school or heard your child talk about it. This display features pictures and accolades from a variety of our amazing students. While we are incredibly proud of our fantastic GCSE and A-Level results, our school is about so much more than just examinations. We celebrate successes in many different forms, and we are immensely proud of the students who have already earned a spot on the wall for their incredible achievements beyond the classroom. We hope to expand this display over time as more and more of our students achieve remarkable things, both in and outside of school, that we can celebrate with pride.



## Charity Skydive

Finally, we would like to wish the Sixth Form students who are participating in the charity skydive in the first week back after half term the very best of luck. Thank you for all your hard work in raising funds for those who are less fortunate.

## Half Term Break

It has been a very short but tiring, and ultimately fantastic half term, which, of course, included the recent visit from Ofsted; we will of course let you know when the report is published by Ofsted.

I wish all our parents, carers, students and staff a wonderful half term break. Please remember that school will be closed for the week commencing Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May and will reopen on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

Enjoy the break!

Best wishes,



Mr Gannon - Headteacher

## Online Safety for Parents -

We are excited to announce an upcoming online parent workshop focused on internet safety. This is provided by Safeline who are committed to providing valuable insights and advice on how to keep young people safe online. This 1-hour workshop will be delivered via Zoom on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The session will begin promptly at 5:00pm and conclude at 6:00pm.

This workshop will address the prevalence and widespread issue of online sexual risks, equip parents with essential knowledge about social media apps/games, explore critical privacy considerations, and raise awareness about online grooming tactics being used to target young people. We will also cover support available.

Please confirm your attendance to this email address: [PEI@safeline.org.uk](mailto:PEI@safeline.org.uk)

## Dates for your diary

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Half Term Holiday



121,174



115,334



114,574