



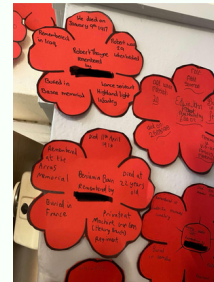
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an amazing week here at Higham Lane School, and I am delighted to share some highlights with you.

Armistice Day Commemoration: We commemorated Armistice Day on Monday with a special session delivered by our staff on the importance of remembering. At 11.00 am, the entire school observed a two-minute silence, which was immaculately respected by both students and staff. Lest we forget. We will remember them.



Police Screening:

On Wednesday, as per our recent notification, the police conducted a screening operation at our school. To avoid any unconscious bias, we used a predetermined system in consultation with the police. Every nth student arriving at school was searched, and later in the day, a random sample of classes from different year groups was also searched. Students and their possessions were checked by police and school staff using wands, with no physical contact or removal of clothing other than outer garments such as coats or blazers. We are pleased to report that no weapons were found. It is crucial to continue discussing knife crime with our students to ensure their safety. Our students were cooperative, polite and behaved brilliantly, earning high praise from the police for their conduct during Operation Sceptre. We did find one banned item, a vape, and this was confiscated and the student has received a suitable sanction.



VR headsets:

Throughout the week, various classes from different year groups engaged with the police using VR headsets to learn about knife crime. The feedback from both students and staff has been excellent. This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to ensure the safety and well-being of our students by educating them on important societal issues.

Y10 Football Success:

Our Year 10 football team played in the 3rd round of the National Cup in Nottingham on Thursday and won 5-3! This victory reflects their hard work, dedication and teamwork, we are very proud of their achievement. Well done everyone who played and contributed to the success!

Open Day Rewards:

On Thursday, students who helped as ambassadors during the recent Open Evening event received treats as a token of appreciation for their time and hard work. Their contributions are invaluable in showcasing our school to prospective students and their families.



Year 13 SPE:

We also had our Year 13 Subject Performance Evening (SPE) on Thursday, which went very well. Thank you to all the staff, parents and carers who made the evening so useful and informative. We hope our wonderful Year 13 students found it beneficial in preparing for their A Level exams this summer. Year 11 SPE is approaching on Thursday 12th December and will be held online.

Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need:

Friday's Non-Uniform Day raised nearly two thousand pounds for Children in Need! This generosity will help many young people who are less fortunate. Please ensure that students are appropriately dressed for future non-uniform days. We had very few issues today, but a small number of female students had midriffs showing, which is not permitted. Thank you for your support.

Trial Exams:

Well done to our Year 11 and Year 13 students who recently completed their trial exams. This process is invaluable in identifying both strengths and areas needing improvement, allowing ample time to address them before the summer exams.

Gates in the morning:

This week, we operated with only one gate (Brookdale) open in the morning. This facilitated the police operation and allowed us to greet every student more efficiently, check uniforms, and ensure students on bikes were wearing helmets. With more staff available, we could focus on one gate rather than three.

Bicycle Safety:

If your child comes to school by bike, please ensure they wear a helmet. This is required as part of our HLS bicycle permit. Following conversations and a letter home to parents of students without helmets, any student arriving on Monday by bicycle or scooter without a helmet will be issued a Step 2 for breaking school rules. The safety and well-being of our students is our top priority.

School Sanctions:

A reminder that schools have the legal right to issue sanctions in line with their behaviour policy, with or without parental consent. We expect all parents and carers to support the school and work with us. Please do not tell your child they will not serve a sanction; this sends mixed signals and is unhelpful, we thank you for your cooperation. In line with our whole school vision, we expect all students to aim to be the best that they can be by working hard, being kind, and taking responsibility; sanctions are issued to address behaviours that do not meet these high expectations and it is vital that school and home work hand in hand and have a united front to support our young people with improving their behaviour where it is needed.

Praise - we are also delighted to see so many of our students at our Reward Shop Kiosk exchanging their hard-earned House Points for real rewards! Jump the lunch queue passes have been very popular this week! Sweets and pens have also been desirable rewards!

Road Safety:

Please discuss road safety with your child. Remind them to stop, look, and listen carefully before crossing roads. It is also important to remove earphones or AirPods to hear oncoming traffic. The safety of our students is our top priority and we will reinforce these messages at school. Your support in reiterating them at home will help keep our students safe on their journeys to and from school and when they are out in the community. If you drive and drop off your child, please park considerately and please do not park on the zig-zag lines outside of school.

House Competitions:

Our house competitions are in full swing, fostering a spirit of camaraderie and healthy competition among students. We encourage all students to participate and contribute to their house's success and get involved in some of the wide range of extra-curricular activities available here at HLS!

We look forward to another week of learning, growth and success. Have a wonderful and relaxing weekend with family and friends.

Best regards,



Michael Gannon
Headteacher

Following our 'Be Kind' motto, Higham Lane School are collecting donations for both the Nuneaton Food Bank and Doorway.

Both organisations provide support to those in our local community who are in need or may be struggling. Kindly see below a list of items which both charities would be grateful to receive. Please only donate what you can afford - this is not a compulsory donation. Any items brought in will need to be placed in Chine Hall. As a school, we will be taking the donations to the two charities in December. Please ensure all items are brought into school by 2nd December 2024.

Thank you for your support.

Possible donations:

- Tinned food
 - Long-life/dried food
 - Crisps
 - Biscuits/chocolate (no nuts)
 - Squash
 - Cereal bars
 - Tooth brushes and toothpaste
 - Deodorant
 - Toilet roll
 - Sanitary products
- (Please note that perishable food items cannot be accepted.)

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

All donations, big or small, are appreciated and will be delivered to Doorway or Nuneaton Food Bank. Only donate what you can afford.

WHAT CAN YOU DONATE?



- Tinned food
- Long-life / dried food
- Crisps
- Biscuits / chocolate
- Squash
- Cereal bars
- Tooth brushes & paste
- Deodorant
- Toilet roll
- Sanitary products

Please do not bring in any food that is perishable.

Dates for your diary

- Wednesday 4th December - Year 13 Information Evening
- Thursday 12th December - Year 11 Student Progress Evening
- Tuesday 17th December - Christmas Concert
- Monday 23rd December - Christmas Holidays Start
- Friday 3rd January - Christmas Holidays End
- Monday 6th January - Inset Day



36,713



34,525



34,578