



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 14TH MARCH 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful week at Higham Lane and our students have been absolutely amazing this week; I have been showing a number of visitors around the school in the last week and I have been filled with pride as I have seen our staff teaching such fantastic lessons and our students working so hard, being kind to one another and taking responsibility for their learning.

During assemblies this week, we reminded students just how fortunate they are to attend such a fantastic school, one that achieves outstanding GCSE and A-Level results every year. We also discussed the key steps they need to take to reach their full potential and they have certainly showed it this week.

Celebrating Success! A huge congratulations to Ameerah I, winning international squash tournaments is an incredible achievement, but she has now added another accolade to her list being named Junior Sports Personality 2024 for Nuneaton and Bedworth! We are so proud of you, Ameerah!



Well done also to Year 9 student, Rebecca B who was on BBC breakfast taking about the amazing conservation work she does with Butterflies! Wow, we have such talented students!

Ensuring a Safe School Environment - The Senior Leadership Team met students on the gate on Monday this week, to meet and greet students and as part of our commitment to keeping our school a safe and secure place for all, we conducted random screenings at the Higham Lane Gate using a wand. Students were chosen based on a set numerical system to ensure fairness and prevent unconscious bias. We are delighted to report that no prohibited items were found.

Year 11 Virtual Reality Workshops will be taking place next week. Year 11 will take part in VR workshops, run by the police on anti-social behaviour, gangs, coercion and knife crime. The workshops will help educate our students to make the right choices when they are out in our local community, how to help them in risky situations and the consequences of poor decisions. This initiative is being delivered across all year groups at Higham Lane School throughout the academic year and also across all Nuneaton & Bedworth schools.

International Women's Day, 7th March – On Saturday, we celebrated International Women's Day, and I want to take this opportunity to thank our incredible female staff members who give so much to our school community. I am incredibly fortunate to be supported in my senior leadership team by five fantastic female colleagues, alongside three equally brilliant male colleagues. As Headteacher, I have appointed more female staff than male, and I take great pride in the outstanding contributions of our entire team. I would also like to recognise the role our school plays in inspiring the next generation of young women to pursue their ambitions, particularly in traditionally male-dominated fields. Thank you to all staff who serve as role models for our students, helping them to believe in their limitless potential.

Day of Reflection – Marking Five Years Since the Start of the Pandemic – On Sunday, the UK marked a national day of reflection, recognising that 2025 will be five years since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was such a challenging time for many families, and we continue to feel the effects today. Now, more than ever, we must look after one another. This is why **Be Kind** is one of our three core values, alongside **Work Hard** and **Take Responsibility**.

Bringing Corridors to Life – Year 7 & 8 Reading Door Challenge! A massive thank you to all Year 7 and 8 form tutors who have encouraged their tutor groups to take part in our Reading Door Challenge! The corridors have never been more colourful! It has been wonderful to hear students discussing their favourite designs and engaging in conversations about books.



A special congratulations to 7H2, whose door, decorated with The Hunger Games, was voted the best by our student book club, The Chapters Collective! Well done to Mrs Smethills and her students for their fantastic work, the drawing of Katniss and the tissue paper fire were truly eye-catching!

Reminders:

Year 9 only – Gentle reminder, the deadline for completion of GCSE options choices is 4.00 pm on Monday 17th March. Thank you to those who have completed the form so far.

Cyclists and Scooter Riders: If your child comes to school by bicycle or scooter, they must wear a helmet for their safety.

Comic Relief – Non-Uniform Day (Friday 21st March):

There will be a non-uniform day to raise money for Comic Relief.

A letter with further details will be sent to parents.

Please support the school and ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the school day.



ASCL Conference for Headteachers, Liverpool - This Friday and Saturday, I have the privilege of attending the ASCL (Association of School and College Leaders) conference in Liverpool. I am particularly looking forward to hearing a keynote speech from leading educationalist Becky Francis, as well as attending sessions on AI in education and supporting our most vulnerable students.

Thank you for your omnipresent support. It is only by working together that school and home can provide the optimal support to our young people to enable them to flourish. Thank you!

Best wishes



Michael Gannon  
Headteacher  
Higham Lane School

## Dates for your diary

27th March 2025 - Year 11 Student Progress Evening

10th April 2025 - Year 10 Student Progress Evening

14th - 25th April - Easter Holidays

28th April 2025 - Inset Day

1st May 2025 - Year 7 Student Progress Evening

5th May 2025 - Bank Holiday - School Closed



**90,847**



**85,837**



**86,227**