



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 21ST MARCH 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a truly remarkable week at Higham Lane School, filled with moments of joy, achievement and insightful planning for the future. I am consistently impressed by the positive atmosphere and the dedication of our students and staff.

The recent spell of beautiful sunshine has been a welcome change, and it was wonderful to see our school field transformed into a hub of activity. Students embraced the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, with spirited games of football and rugby, and engaging conversations under the welcome shade of our mature trees. These moments of leisure and social interaction are essential for the well-rounded development of our students.



Last Friday and Saturday, I had the privilege of attending the ASCL conference in Liverpool. This provided an invaluable opportunity for professional development and networking. I was particularly captivated by Professor Becky Francis's presentation on the forthcoming national curriculum and assessment review, scheduled for Autumn 2025. Her insights will be instrumental in our ongoing efforts to refine and enhance our curriculum, ensuring it aligns with the highest standards and provides our students with an exceptional educational foundation. Furthermore, the ability to listen to Bridget Phillipson, the Education Secretary and Sir Martyn Oliver, the chief of Ofsted, provided very valuable information. Sessions regarding supporting vulnerable students, and increasing attendance were also very informative.

Sixth Form Excellence and Expansion:

The Sixth Form interviews are progressing smoothly, and we are excited to welcome a new cohort of ambitious students. We are immensely proud of our Sixth Form's achievements, with our students consistently exceeding expectations. Our outstanding average grade of B and value-added scores (+0.24) are a testament to their hard work and the dedication of our teaching staff. The high number of students applying shows the value that our community places on our sixth form. We are committed to providing personalized guidance to our Year 11 students, helping them make informed choices that will shape their future success.

Strengthening our SEND Support:

The SEND coffee morning on Thursday was a valuable opportunity for parents to connect with our dedicated SEND team, including Mr Naisbitt and Mrs Taylor. These meetings are crucial for building strong partnerships and ensuring that all our students receive the support they need to thrive.

Sporting Triumphs and Academic Enrichment:

Our Year 7 A Netball team's victory in the Nuneaton Tournament is a source of great pride. Their teamwork and determination were evident throughout the competition. Additionally, World Science Week provided our Year 7 students with engaging opportunities to explore scientific concepts through hands-on activities, such as creating origami adaptations. The Francophonie day allowed the school to celebrate the importance of language.

Updates and Developments:

- I am pleased to provide the link to the BBC breakfast screen recording: https://youtu.be/EcKH_2zzrKY?feature=shared where one of our superstars was recently on BBC Breakfast!
- Regarding the upcoming Ofsted inspection, we are well-prepared and confident in our progress. We understand the importance of this inspection and its impact on our school's reputation and the wider community. We are especially proud of the improvements made to our Sixth Form value-added data which is now +0.24. This was the only area for development from the last inspection in 2019 and it has improved significantly since that inspection.

New Deputy Headteacher

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Bissett as our new Deputy Headteacher who will start in September. Her extensive experience and proven track record will be a tremendous asset to our school.

We are dedicated to continuous improvement and providing our students with the best possible educational experience. Thank you for your unwavering support.

Wishing you a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes



Michael Gannon
Headteacher
Higham Lane School



96,228



90,608



90,898

Year 11 Student Progress Evening - Thursday 27th March 2025. 3pm - 7pm.

These will be online video appointments.

Please see details on how to book appointments in the letter emailed home on Monday 10th March.

Bookings opened: Wednesday 19th March at 6pm. Bookings close: Tuesday 25th March at 12pm

Dates for your diary

27th March 2025 - Year 11 Student Progress Evening

**School will close at 2.15pm on Thursday 27th March 2025 due to
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