

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families have had a good week.

Following last week's excellent Knife Crime presentations to Years 8 – 10, this week our Year 9s have again been focussing on their own Personal Development, taking part in sessions organised by Mrs Mitchell with our local PCSOs who explored the dangers of hate crime and the importance of self-control and respect as a citizen. This really helps to ensure that students are aware of both the dangers, and can also take steps to keep themselves, and others, safe. We are really grateful to our PCSOs who gave us their time.

On Wednesday our Year 11 students created their 'WIG' – this is their 'Wildly Important Goal' in a session with Mrs Robinson. Students were encouraged to think about what they can control over the next few weeks in terms of their revision and looking after themselves by creating a WIG that relates to their subjects with really clear actions that will support them to be successful. As we remind them, they are in training now for their exams, so they must look after themselves with their diet, exercise, sleep and downtime so that they are of an optimum when they focus on their revision with discipline and perseverance. On Thursday is the final Year 11 Student Progress Evening – we know that parents/carers will take this opportunity to speak to teachers about what their child can do now to make a difference in these final few weeks. Please do make appointments if you haven't already done so.

This week a number of students in Year 8 had an excellent opportunity to visit Coventry University to take part in a STEM day. Not only did the students behave brilliantly, but ambition and aspiration were at the heart of the day as students were able to see for themselves the opportunities that a higher education can bring. All students expressed what an enjoyable day it had been and we are really grateful to Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Green for helping to organise this visit.

With our final week approaching, we are really looking forward to our first ever Cultural Day, where students are able to wear clothes that represent and celebrate their way of life. A separate letter has been sent to you about this and we hope that we will be able to raise lots of money for the students chosen charities.

Please may I ask for your support in ensuring that your son/daughter has a pencil case with all the correct equipment to learn effectively, (blue, black and purple pens, pencils, a rubber, a pencil sharpener, a ruler, a Scientific calculator, a protractor and a set of compasses). Having the right equipment demonstrates the type of attitude a student has towards their learning, and as we say to students, if you played football, you wouldn't turn up to football practice without your boots, so why would we turn up to school to learn, without our equipment?!

This week we were delighted to receive news that one of our former students, Gabriella Watts, has won the University of Nottingham's Bar Society Civil Advocacy Competition, which was operated by Rope Walk Chambers in Nottingham. Well done to Gabriella. We'd also be delighted to receive news of other former students and what they've gone on to achieve. Please email us at contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk.



In sports news, the Year 7A netball team performed incredibly well in the County tournament coming 2nd and only losing to Kings High. They won 5 games out of 6 and were the only state school there. We are very proud of them! The Year 9a netball team also performed superbly in winning the district tournament! We are still awaiting confirmation of where the B team game! The Year 8a and Year 8b netball team came 4th and 5th at the district tournament. The Year 7a netball team won the district league, the Year 7b team came third and the Year 7c team came 6th. The Year 10 football team won 2-0 v George Eliot but unfortunately lost 2-1 v Polesworth. The Year 7 football team won 4-2 v St Thomas More but sadly lost 4-2 to George Eliot. Our Year 9 rugby team won 50-10 against Nicolas Chamberlaine. Well done to all of our sports teams.

If you have any concerns which you wish to discuss with your son/daughter's subject teacher, please don't feel that you have to wait until Student Progress Evening to raise these. Please telephone the school (02476 388123) or email contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk and mark your message for the relevant member of staff. This also applies to pastoral matters, which in the first instance should be directed to your son/daughter's form tutor. Our staff will always get back to you within 3 working days (possibly slightly longer for part time staff) in line with our Communications Policy.

Finally, term ends next Friday (31st March) with lessons finishing at 3.15pm as normal. Students will return to school after the Easter break on at 8.35am on Monday 17th April.

I hope that you and your family have a good weekend.

Kind regards,

Acting Headteacher

Please note: details of all these items are on the Able & Ambitious Google Classroom pages and they will also be communicated through Sharepoint where necessary.

All competition entrants will be awarded House Points for entering as well as prizes for the winners.

All Years:

- Historical fiction writing competition for those with an interest in ancient history and writing. £100 to be won!
- French and Spanish fiction writing competition. Another £100 to be won!!
- Mr Goldstraw ex-Higham Lane teacher gave an amazing and genuinely inspirational talk as part of the Able & Ambitious lecture programme. He spoke about life in the army, his near-death experience and how it's given him a sense of perspective and the lessons our students can learn.

Years 8-13:

 Memorable Moments Passport (MMP) students: details of how to log into your Unifrog account are on Google Classroom in the Unifrog PowerPoint. Please begin to explore the site, fill in the sections Mr. Ladha suggested and upload all of your evidence for your Memorable Moments Passport.



CHALLENGE & POTENTIAL

Able & Ambitious

This week at HLS

Year 8 trip to Coventry University

On Wednesday we ran a trip to Coventry University for some of our Year 8 students. The event was STEM focused. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths and the idea about the event was that students find out more about careers in these subjects, routes to higher and further education from school, what degrees in STEM look like and how further education establishments, like Coventry University, can assist them in making decisions about potential careers in these areas. We visited the engineering section of the university seeing the Harrier Jump Jet, its simulation areas and students working on designs to improve areas of the plane. We also went to the health and social care section, where we saw student paramedics using their training ambulance and the University Hospital training centre in action, including operating theatres and medical assessment areas. Finally we took part in a CSI Cop workshop, which taught us all about cookies in IT, the dangers and what to look out for with spy wear on our computers.

Tue

Mon

Thurs

Fri

Year 9 Hate Crime Talks

We ran Hate Crime workshops with our Community Support Officer, Carly, on Tuesday for all Year 9 students. Our aim is to highlight to our students the importance of respecting, tolerating and accepting all people. They learn that Hate Crime is an offence and that it is against the law to target a person because of their race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or transgender identity.

The police use a true account of a hate crime against Sophie Lancaster who was attacked by a gang of 5 youths after trying to help her boyfriend who was originally being attacked by them. She was attacked and killed because of the way she looked. When he sentenced the gang, the judge, Anthony Russell QC, said: 'This was a hate crime against completely harmless people who were targeted because their appearance was different.' Sophie Lancaster did not die because of her race, religion or sexuality. She died because she was a goth. The talks are funded in conjunction with Warwickshire Police and The Sophie Lancaster Foundation.

Year 9 Health Questionnaires

Year 9 also completed their Health Needs questionnaire on Monday this week. These are national surveys, delivered by the school nurse team, to explore your child's physical, mental and social health needs. Results will come back directly to the local school nurses who will process the surveys. We, as a school, will also get a copy of the overall results, helping us to plan for future personal development opportunities to support our students health & well being.

Link with Birmingham University

The school was approached by Birmingham University to help with a study around students views on Youth Engagement with Race & Faith in schools. Year 10 students completed this survey on Thursday and we await the results from the University.

Year 10 & 12 Work Experience

We have been really pleased with the take up of places by Year 10 & 12 students for work experience, however, we still have students without a placement. Please can I encourage you to assist your child in finding a place for this important activity, it really does help them in the future if they have experience of a work placement, even if it is a world away from what they actually end up doing. Use your personal and employment networks to secure a placement for your child. Please contact Mrs Green or Mrs Mitchell at the school for any additional support.

New Junior Leadership Team

This week students have had the opportunity to vote for our new Junior Leadership Team. The School's democratic process enables all students to choose who they would like to represent them in these important roles. The video presentations created by our Year 10 candidates for JLT have been so impressive - their confidence and articulation has shone through. We wish all the Year 10 students good luck with their interviews next week. And whatever happens, they have already shown great promise as young leaders for the future with their application process so far.

Bulletin board

WHOLE SCHOOL:

Lost Property

Student Services have a number of coats and PE kits which have been misplaced. Further descriptions of the PE bags can be found on Sharepoint. If your child has lost any of these items please ask them to come and see the Student Services staff.

Year 11 Student Progress Evening

Year 11 Student Parents Progress Evening will take place on Thursday 30th March; therefore, the school will close to students at 2.15pm.

YEAR 11:

Year 11 Student Progress Evening:

Reminder to book appointments for the teachers you wish to speak to on Progress Evening as soon as possible.

Religion and World Views Revision Session:

The Religion and World Views revision session will take place after school on Monday 27th March in both Chine and Coombe Halls.

How to Revise for GCSE - Study Skills & Revision Planner - CGP:

During CPHSE, all of Year 11 have been given a copy of 'How to Revise for GCSE – Study Skills and revision Planner – CGP'. This includes access to an online edition and 'how to' videos. These resources will help to reinforce the revision and time planning messages Year 11 have received this year. They can use this information to refer back to if they are unsure of how to best plan their time, check a revision strategy or set themselves manageable targets in order to stay on track. Students may also wish to use the information to remind themselves how to stay relaxed and well rested during the exam period.

We hope the students find it useful in the run up to their GCSEs.

Mrs J. Ayliff Learning Mentor

KE6 Open Event on Wednesday 29 March 2023 - 4:30-7:30pm

KE6 are holding a further Open Event on Wednesday 29 March. This is to allow those students who may be interested in studying at Level 3, who did not attend the Open Events last November, an opportunity to find out about KE6 in general, get details about each individual subject/course, and have a wander around the College.

The booking system is for the Principal's Presentation only via our website, you can access this by following this link: <u>https://ke6n.ac.uk/open-event-2023/</u> Please book a place for each individual attending the presentation. Presentation times are 5:15pm and 6:00pm.

Applications are open, please visit the website to apply directly- <u>www.ke6n.ac.uk/Apply</u> Should you have any queries regarding the events please contact the Admissions Team on 024 7632 8231 or admissions@ke6n.ac.uk.

Dates for your diary

30th March – Year 11 Student Progress Evening 31st March – End of Spring Term



YEARS 7 AND 8:

NWActive are once again running their Easter holiday Super Multi Activity Sports Holiday (SMASH) camp at the Pingles Stadium for ages 5–13.

Eligible pupils (FSM/most PP/vulnerable pupils) can access 4 days of activity for free over the 2 weeks, with lunch included and free fruit all day! Pupils should only be able to access 4 hours however they are accepting full days for no additional cost. Parents should have received their HAF code directly from WCC. In addition, given the current economic situation, we have frozen our prices for pupils not eligible for HAF at just £15 per day or £2.50 an hour!!

To book visit www.thepinglesstadium.com > select book online dropdown > holiday camps > SMASH #23 HAF booking



Don't forget - all of our Careers and Apprenticeship information can be found on our website! <u>Click here</u> to view more information on a variety of exciting opportunities!

