



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families are keeping well.

Today saw the School commemorate Armistice Day with a 2 minute silence at 11am. Assemblies this week have focussed on why remembrance is important and what remembrance means to our students along with why the poppy is the symbol of remembrance. A number of our students took part in the annual Armistice Day parade in Bedworth through their cadet units and will also be involved in Remembrance parades this Sunday. As a school, we believe that it is important to remember those who gave their lives for our freedom.

I was delighted to host a visit on Tuesday this week from Hilary Ward, Chair of the Board of Trustees from Central England Academy Trust which Higham Lane School joined at the start of this term. As part of this visit, I took Mrs Ward on a tour of the School and we popped into classrooms and supervised a lesson changeover. Following the visit Mrs Ward emailed me to tell me how impressed she had been by what she had seen in lessons and particularly by the students' behaviour.

Thank you to those parents and carers who have subscribed to Class Charts. If you haven't subscribed so far, we would strongly advise you to do so. Class Charts is really easy to access, simply log in via the website www.classcharts.com or via their app, which is available via the Apple app store or Google Play store. For log in details please refer to the email sent to you on Friday 28th October. Any questions or issues, please don't hesitate to contact the School.

Well done to our Year 11 students who have now finished their trial exams. Hopefully as a trial run for the real exams next summer, things have gone well for the students concerned and where they haven't gone so well, the feedback from their teachers will help them to address any areas of weakness.

We were delighted to welcome back former student Dan Cross for this week's talk as part of the Memorable Moments Passport scheme. Dan is an engineer with McLaren motorsports and works with both McLaren's Formula 1 and Formula E teams as well as developing different technologies for all aspects of their automotive business. Dan spoke engagingly about the life lessons he's learnt along the way and how these can be related to the students' lives so they can benefit from his experiences. One of the key messages he promoted was going beyond just getting good grades so students have a well-rounded CV to improve their future prospects. A thoroughly fascinating and insightful presentation that the students got a lot out of.

Mr Ladha, our Assistant Headteacher in charge of Higham Lane Sixth Form, has asked me to remind parents and carers of students in Year 11 to submit their online sixth form application form. The application form can be found here <https://www.highamlaneschool.co.uk/sf-apply>

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Acting Headteacher



Today the whole school fell silent at 11am for Remembrance. Leading up to the two minute silence, students watched a very informative and thought provoking assembly prepared by Mrs Doyne Ditmas which reminded students of why it is important that we continue to remember the people across the Commonwealth who made such huge sacrifices for freedom and democracy. All students across the school observed the silence most respectfully, as you would expect, and then listened to The Last Post to cement their own thoughts on this important day for the countries and people across the world who fought for our freedom.

Bulletin board

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme – 2022/23 Academic Year:

The Department for Education (DfE) has made funds available to every Local Authority in England to co-ordinate free holiday provision, including healthy food and enriching activities. The HAF programme provides activities at Christmas, Easter & Summer school holidays, with funding available for children who receive benefits-related free school meals (Reception to Year 11).

HAF Entitlement:

Eligible children can access funded sessions during main school holidays, with a breakdown provided below.

- A maximum of 4 sessions in the school Christmas holidays.
- A maximum of 4 sessions in the school Easter holidays.
- A maximum of 16 sessions during the school Summer holidays.

A session is normally a minimum of four hours inclusive of a food provision, but activity times/duration vary with each HAF provider.

What to do next:

- You will need to apply for your child's HAF Code by completing a brief online form. This form only takes a few minutes to complete, with a separate form required for each eligible young person. This is to ensure we have the correct contact details and your preferred method of how the HAF code is sent. We also require you to read and agree to our terms & conditions of the HAF programme. This form can be located from <https://searchout.warwickshire.gov.uk/holidays-activities-food-haf>
- Once your HAF codes are processed and sent, your child's unique code will last the academic year 2022-23 so there is no need for new codes to be re-issued for each holiday period. The code will be valid for Christmas, Easter & Summer holidays so please keep it safe. (We can always re-send it if it gets misplaced.)

How to book activities:

For the upcoming Christmas holidays, we will have the bulk of our HAF programme in place from Monday 19th December to Thursday 22nd December. There might be a few activities that run outside on these dates. All HAF information is available at <https://searchout.warwickshire.gov.uk/holidays-activities-food-haf> with activity listings being available from Monday 21st November. You can then book sessions directly with your chosen provider using your unique HAF code, you will need to show this either at the time of booking or at your child's first session.

Further Information:

For any queries regarding the HAF programme please email hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk or contact us through the Family Information Service helpline on 01926 742 274.

Kind regards – Warwickshire HAF Team

Dates for your diary

Monday 14th November

A Christmas Carol theatre trip English Literature Year 11

Wednesday 16th November

Year 11 Personal Development Day

Tuesday 22nd November

GOTTA Dance 2022 – PE department

Thursday 1st December

Year 13 Progress Evening

Tuesday 6th December

Carol Service at St Nicolas Church

Post 16 Fair

Thursday 8th December

Year 11 Progress Evening

Wednesday 14th December

Christmas Concert

Friday 16th December

End of term

Monday 19th December to Monday 2nd

January 2023 (Inclusive)

Christmas holidays

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Students return to School

NEWS FROM THE PE DEPARTMENT

In this week's sports fixtures, the Y7A netball team beat Twycross 20 – 8. The Year 7 and Year 9 football teams represented the school excellently and played well in the National Schools cup but were unfortunately both knocked out of the competition.

Congratulations to Ameerah in Year 8 who became GU13s British Junior Champion at The British Junior Squash Championships during half term! Ameerah also did very well in the Danish Junior Open 2022 winning the GU15 category and in The Nordic Junior Open 2022 where she went on to win the GU13 category. Ameerah is currently the European No1 in the GU13 category and the British No1 in GU13. Well done Ameerah. We're very proud of your achievements.

Don't forget – all of our **Careers and Apprenticeship** information can be found on our website!
[Click here](#) to view more information on a variety of exciting opportunities!

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:

- The lectures we had on film making by Raveena Rai and on engineering by Dan Cross were a great success and both were attended by over 90 students. Raveena talked about pre- and post-production film making techniques and also very kindly offered to give a free 4 hour workshop to our older students at the Birmingham Film School – more details to follow. Dan imparted some excellent advice on the lessons he’s learned through his engineering experiences and how these relate to our students’ own lives.
- We have another lecture being delivered by Paula Inglis on Thursday 24th November on business and law and this is open to both the Memorable Moments Passport students as well as anyone else who wishes to attend. This lecture will be in Coombe Hall straight after school.
- Tom Baker, from the company Destination 219, came in to give a fascinating talk to our students and some parents on gaining sports scholarships to the USA. All details are on Google Classroom for anyone interested.

Years 7-9:

- Mrs Hiett-Jones has set the BEBRAS Computer Science Challenge in which students compete for prizes by answering computing and logic questions on-line.

Year 7:

- Teams are currently being organised for the Year 7 Maths Olympics, run by Mr James and his team of mathematicians. This involves fun Maths challenges carried out by each form group who are competing against each other for prizes and will run in Chine Hall after school on November 30th. It should last between 45-60 minutes.

Year 10:

- Python Computer Science Challenges: these are set every week so students who have downloaded the relevant software (see Computer Science Google Classroom page) can take part to earn House Points and win prizes.

Year 13:

- Anyone wishing to apply for Oxford or Cambridge can attend the on-line webinars organised by Oxford University.



Not an Able & Ambitious item this one, but it’s for a great cause so I’m sure you’ll forgive me! Higham Lane’s Movember team, the Mo Laners, are supporting Movember this year with 8 members of staff taking part. For those of you who don’t know, Movember is a movement to support and improve men’s health, with a focus on both physical health and mental health. Here’s a link for a full explanation of the amazing work they do:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ioeG9EApNoU&t=2s>. This year, as an added incentive to raise funds for this incredible charity, I’ve said that if, as a school, we raise £500 or more, I’ll have my hair shaved off! So, if you’d like to donate to this great cause, you can either log onto www.movember.com and search ‘Mo Laners’, or you can follow this link: <https://uk.movember.com/donate/details?teamId=2263234>. All donations very gratefully received.

Mr Bottrill