



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the first edition of our weekly newsletter for the 22-23 academic year!

I am delighted that the vast majority of students have maintained the excellent start they made last week in terms of punctuality, uniform, behaviour and work ethic. They are a real credit to you, their parents/carers.

Thank you to those parents/carers who attended the Year 9, 11 and 8 Parents' Information Evenings this week. Your support for these events is always greatly appreciated and I hope that you found the event useful in terms of how to support your child this academic year. Thank you for the feedback we've received so far. All slides from the evening will be available on the website shortly along with a chance to offer further feedback on the evenings.

For many parents and carers, this week's Parents' Information Evenings have been your first opportunity to visit the School since before the pandemic and in the case of parents/carers in Year 8, possibly your first time ever visiting the School. I hope that you found it an enjoyable experience. Three further Parents' Information Evenings are taking place next week; Year 10 on Tuesday 20th September, Year 12 on Wednesday 21st September and Year 7 on Thursday 22nd September. We look forward to welcoming parents/carers with children in these year groups next week.

The recent death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II reminded many of us of her visit to the School in December 1994, which some parents/carers who were students at Higham Lane School the time may recall. The School will be closed on Monday 19th September for the State Funeral.

One of the themes of our recent Parents' Information Evenings has been e-safety. The internet brings a range of benefits, however, it also has its downsides. The next page of this newsletter outlines some of the concerns we deal with daily in school. Unkind comments and pictures that are shared on social media can then lead to a range of difficult and upsetting situations for students and families. Please monitor your child's phone and regularly discuss their online activity. Remind them to be kind.

Issues arising from inappropriate comments and images made and/or shared on social media out of school time must be referred to the Police. As a school we will not investigate these. Any issues arising in school will continue to be investigated and students sanctioned accordingly. Appropriate use of social media is a theme we will be exploring with students over the coming weeks and one which I will return to in a future newsletter. Thank you for your support with this.

A date for your diary if you have children in Year 6 is Wednesday 5th October which is our School Open Evening. We are delighted that this is returning as an 'in person' event having been online for the past two years due to Covid-19 restrictions. Please note that School will be finishing early for all students at 2.15pm that day to allow us to prepare for the Open Evening.

The School is currently looking for Exam Invigilators and Lunchtime Supervisors. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please visit the Job Vacancies section of the School website.

We are continuing to follow Warwickshire Local Authority's guidance regarding isolation due to Covid-19. If your son/daughter tests positive then they should isolate for a further 3 days (day 0 is the day of the positive test). There is no requirement to re-test until they test negative. Students can return to school on day 4. Please inform the school in the normal way if your child is absent.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr P Banks  
Acting Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

### **Tuesday 20th September**

Parents' Information Evening for Year 10

### **Wednesday 21st September**

Parents' Information Evening for Year 12

### **Thursday 22nd September**

Parents' Information Evening for Year 7

### **Wednesday 5th October**

Higham Lane School Open Evening

### **Thursday 20th October**

Higham Lane Sixth Form Open Evening

### **Friday 21st October**

INSET Day

### **Monday 24th October to**

### **Friday 28th October**

HALF TERM HOLIDAYS

# Bulletin board

## WHOLE SCHOOL

### The Library

The Library is open for all students to use before and after school every day. We are open at 8.00am every morning and remain open after school until 4.00pm (3.30pm on Wednesdays).

Students can also use the Library at breaktime and lunchtime every day.

Students are welcome to use the Library to read for pleasure, complete homework, print off work and help is available from Mrs Turner and Mrs Gunn.

## YEAR 11

### College Open Evenings

Higham Lane Sixth Form – Thursday 20th October  
KE6 – Thursday 17th November & Saturday 19th November  
Etone Sixth Form – TBC  
St Thomas More Sixth Form – Thursday 17th November  
NWSLC (Nuneaton Campus) – Thursday 6th October  
NWSLC (Hinckley Campus) – Monday 3rd October  
NWSLC (Harrowbrook Campus) – Thursday 6th October  
The Hinckley Sixth Form – Thursday 10th November

### GCSE Religion and World Views Revision Classes

Monday 26th September – Christian Beliefs  
Monday 3rd October – Christian Practices  
Monday 10th October – Islam Beliefs  
Monday 17th October – Islam Practices  
Monday 31st October – Islam Practices

## Online Safety

GREAT... BUT...serious concerns –

MAKE TIME TO:

- Huge 'groups' on Whatsapp
- Tiktok
- Instagram posts
- Second phones
- Using other people's phones
- Sharing passwords
- On-line bullying. Comments, threats, suicide demands, fights.
- Inappropriate pictures
- Insults to staff
- This leads to:
- Issues at social times and lessons
- Students not feeling safe
- Peer pressure
- Parental involvement
- Wasted time for staff and students.
- Staff/Student relationships difficulties

1. Read the advice on the HLS website and use WARWICKSHIRE e-SAFETY ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS
2. Check and monitor your child's phone
3. Discuss their on-line activity with them
4. Check they are not on devices at bedtime
5. Remind your child that social media is a privilege – not an essential.
6. Be prepared to remove the privilege.
7. Be prepared to contact the police if you are concerned about your child. School is not the place to deal with social media issues which occur out of school.



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.

# Able & Ambitious

CHALLENGE & POTENTIAL

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

## All years:

- World Class Schools Essay Writing Competition on 'Friendship' with some excellent prizes.
- We have a full programme of events planned throughout the year so please encourage students to continually check the A&A Google Classroom page.

## Year 7:

- Welcome to parents and carers of Year 7 students. All details of Able & Ambitious opportunities will be communicated via this weekly newsletter, the A&A Google Classroom page and Sharepoint so please encourage students to keep checking these platforms so they don't miss out on loads of exciting initiatives and competitions.
- There is a welcome note and explanation about Able & Ambitious on Google Classroom now.

## Years 8-13:

- A really exciting and unique opportunity for ALL students in Years 8-13 to **join the Able & Ambitious Group and complete the Memorable Moments Passport** over the course of the school year. Lots more details and information will be coming out to both students and parents/carers via assemblies, Google Classroom and virtual assemblies, but sign-up sheets are up now outside LA1, the gym and the sports hall so please encourage students to get their names down now so they don't miss out.
- Opportunity for Warwickshire County Cricket trials.
- All A&A summer projects are still available via Google Classroom.

## Years 12 & 13:

- STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) opportunities for females.

## BOOK OF THE WEEK

### The Mummy's Curse By M A Bennett

Would you risk the future to change the past?  
Greenwich, London, 1894.

Luna, Konstantin and Aidan are time-travelling thieves, stealing artefacts from the future to bring progress forward. And they are about to venture on their most treacherous mission.

For The Butterfly Club have their eyes on a shiny new prize. In Egypt's Valley of the Kings a man named Howard Carter will stumble upon an unimaginable treasure - Tutankhamen's mummy: the greatest archaeological discovery of all time. The three children are given an impossible task: travel to 1922 and uncover the mummy first.

But when the time-thieves disturb Tutankhamun's long sleep they wake something else too - a deadly and ancient curse. And now they must face the terrifying consequences of their actions...



More books on Ancient Egypt

