



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families are keeping well.

Autumn has certainly arrived with darker mornings and wet breaktimes and lunchtimes in school! Please encourage your son/daughter to wear a coat to school given the changeable weather at present. A reminder that this needs to be black please. Further details are available on the uniform pages in the Student Organiser.

On Wednesday of this week, I was delighted to be able to host a visit from George Smith, the Chief Executive Officer of Central England Academy Trust which Higham Lane School joined at the start of this term. I took Mr Smith on a tour of the School during his visit and we popped into classrooms, supervised a lesson changeover and went out on gate duty at the end of the day! I was keen for Mr Smith to see the School in operation. At the end of his visit he told me how impressed he had been by what he had seen and particularly by the students' behaviour. They are a real credit to our school.

Well done to our Year 7s who are continuing to settle in well. This week saw them completing CATS tests to help provide their teachers with further information about their ability across a range of different subjects.

I mentioned in last week's newsletter the role of our Junior Leadership Team and how voting was currently underway to select this year's JLT. From an initial 30 applicants, 14 students were interviewed by Mr Kelly and Mr Ireland and then went on to make short videoclips explaining why students should vote for them. They also took part in a Governors' Conference. The process has now drawn to a close and we've selected our team of students for JLT and from within the team, our two Head Students. This was always going to be a difficult decision as all of the candidates performed so well. Further information about our new JLT will be in next week's newsletter!

We have been particularly impressed with our Year 11 students who are preparing so well for their trial examinations (week beginning 31st October). Over a hundred students attended the Religion and World Views revision session in Chine Hall after school on Monday of this week. All other subjects have been very well attended and many are now offering further sessions as students have been so enthusiastic to begin their revision in good time for their trial examinations. Students have also attended assemblies where revision strategies and managing a study/life balance have been covered and are collecting rewards for attending revision. We are grateful as well to our teachers for offering such a comprehensive range of revision sessions throughout the week for the students. Good luck to all our Year 11s with their revision over the next four weeks.

Over 150 students have signed up for the Memorable Moments Passport through our Able and Ambitious scheme. We are so impressed with students who want to go above and beyond by attending aspirational talks by outside speakers, volunteering time to help others/support the school, take part in charity events and attend extra-curricular clubs. This will really give those taking part 'the edge' and give them valuable opportunities to discuss this in their personal statements in readiness for their next steps beyond Higham Lane School. There is still time for your son/daughter to be involved if this is something s/he is interested in. All students need to do is message us on the Able and Ambitious Google Classroom page by Tuesday before the first meeting after school on Thursday.

A huge thank you to our many students in Years 8 to 11 who have volunteered to act as either a Student Ambassador or Department Helper for the School's annual Open Day next Wednesday 5th October. Without their support and cheerful, enthusiastic disposition Open Day would not be the success it is. A reminder that we will be closing early next Wednesday (at 2.15pm) so that we can prepare the School for Open Day.

We were delighted to receive the news this week that one of our former Higham Lane Sixth Form students, Zaynah Mulla, is one of only fifteen students in the West Midlands to have been selected for a bursary from the OCR exam board to support her studies. We wish Zaynah every success as she begins her studies at the University of Cambridge.

Our most-able female mathematicians in Key Stage 5 took part in the UKMT Mathematical Olympiad for Girls on Wednesday – a competition designed to encourage girls to tackle advanced mathematical opportunities. We look forward to sharing in their successes with them when we receive the results. These competitions are an excellent way of encouraging students to apply mathematical thinking, precision of thought and fluency to use mathematical techniques appropriate to their ability to solve interesting problems. There are a wide range of challenges available and we look forward to hosting the Senior Maths Challenge for our KS5 students on Tuesday 4th October, the Intermediate Maths Challenge for our most able Year 9-11 students on Wednesday 1st February 2023 and the Junior Maths Challenge for our most able KS3 students on Wednesday 26th April 2023.

Last week I shared with you a date for your diary if you have children in Year 11 (Thursday 20th October which is our Sixth Form Open Evening). This week I'd like to give you advance notice of the INSET Day on Friday 21st October when the school will be closed for the day.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,



Acting Headteacher

Dates for your diary

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

YEAR 11

MGTS – Engineering Apprenticeship Open Events

26th October – 10am to 4pm

2nd November – 4pm to 7pm

Drop in sessions – no need to book

Gulson Road, Coventry, CV3 2JG

[More information on attached poster]

GCSE Religion and Worldviews Revision Classes

Christian Beliefs – Monday 26th September

Christian Practices – Monday 3rd October

Islam Beliefs – Monday 10th October

Islam Practices – Monday 17th October

Islam Practices – Monday 31st October

BOA – Stage and Screen Production

An industry-led 16-19 academy, specialising in Film, TV, Online, Live Events and Theatre Production – based in Birmingham
[More information on attached flyer]

College Open Evenings

Higham Lane Sixth Form – Thursday 20th October

KE6 – Thursday 17th November & Saturday 19th November

Etone Sixth Form – Thursday 17th November

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

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Time Traveller and the Tiger By Tania Unsworth

Elsie is not looking forward to the long summer holiday with her creaky, old Uncle John. But then the unimaginable happens as Time unravels and Elsie tumbles back to 1940s India to meet her Uncle John as a young boy on a tiger hunt. Can Elsie stop him from doing what he's already told her is a wrong he can never right?

Elsie, Uncle John and his childhood friend, Mandeep, tread a dangerous path deeper and deeper into the jungle on their quest to save the tiger. Face to face with the mightiest and most majestic predator in the jungle, Elsie is in awe of the tiger's beauty. She's on a mission to have the adventure of a lifetime, save the tiger and change the future.

Strong characters with a thought provoking mix of time travel, adventure and amusing interaction between John and Elsie. The story provides a strong message about the importance of conservation.

More books from Tania Unsworth

