



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful, albeit hot, week it has been! We sincerely hope that our decision to allow students to wear PE kits on the two warmest days helped keep them a bit cooler and more comfortable. Looking ahead, the forecast for Sunday indicates a significant drop in temperature, with Monday's highs expected to be around 18 or 19°C, therefore, please ensure students are back in full school uniform on Monday.

Celebrating Our Ofsted Outstanding Judgement

Following our recent Ofsted inspection, we were delighted to welcome our local MP, Jodie Gosling to school this Monday. Ms Gosling congratulated us on achieving an Ofsted Outstanding rating, and it was a fantastic opportunity for our students to meet with her. They asked insightful questions about her role as an MP and discussed various local issues. Ms Gosling also shared some exciting plans for Nuneaton, particularly regarding the town centre. Our students truly did themselves proud with their engagement and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the interaction. This visit was a wonderful way for the school to celebrate our outstanding judgement with the MP for our town, and we are incredibly proud to be the only Ofsted Outstanding secondary school in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

The Ofsted Inspection Report from our visit on 13th and 14th May 2025 is now live! You can access it directly via the Ofsted website: <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/23/137767> or through our school website: <https://www.highamlaneschool.co.uk/ofstedreport>.



Well Done to Years 11 and 13!

We want to extend a massive well done to our incredible Year 11 and Year 13 students for their exceptional hard work, conduct and attitude throughout their GCSE and A-level examinations, respectively. The exams have gone very well, and we eagerly await celebrating their successes when results are released in August. Well done everyone, we are incredibly proud of you!

Stellar Examination Arrangements Inspection

On Wednesday 18th June, the school underwent an inspection by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) to ensure that we are conducting GCSE and A-level examinations correctly. I am thrilled to report that the inspection gave the school flying colours with no areas for improvement! This is a testament to the meticulous planning and execution by our dedicated staff.

Year 13 Leavers' Day

Wednesday 18th June also marked Year 13 Leavers' Day. While we were sad to see our Y13 students go, it was a truly lovely day celebrating their achievements. They had a fantastic time in the glorious sunshine, enjoying ice creams from the ice cream van, bouncing on the bouncy castle, and even trying out the inflatable sumo outfits! We also shared many laughs looking at photos from their baby and young childhood years, comparing them to the wonderful young men and women they have now become.

We wish them all the very best of luck with their examination results in the summer and extend our best wishes for their future endeavours, whether that be at university, an apprenticeship or employment. We are immensely proud as a school that we continue to buck the national trend of increasing numbers of students who leave school as NEETs (Not in Education, Employment, or Training). Year after year, we achieve zero NEETs, thanks to the exceptional support and guidance we provide to ensure every student has a clear plan for their future.



National Thank a Teacher Day (and Beyond!)

Wednesday was also National Thank a Teacher Day. At Higham Lane School however, we view all our teaching and support staff as equally valuable colleagues. To show our appreciation, we celebrated at break time with myself serving teas and coffees to staff, along with a few tasty treats. This was a small gesture to say a huge thank you to all our staff who go above and beyond daily to support our wonderful students.

A Week of Successes and Student Voice

- Music Summer Showcase: A huge well done to all the talented musicians who performed on Thursday evening at the music event in Chine Hall! A big thank you to our Music department for putting this together and to our parents and carers who attended in sweltering heat to support our young musicians. It was a lovely and entertaining albeit hot evening!
- Successful Trips: Congratulations to all the students and staff involved in both the music trip and the geography trip to Norfolk this week. These experiences are invaluable for our students' learning and development.

Updates

Our recent Student Council meeting brought forth some excellent suggestions from our students:

- Students requested that sanitary products be placed in a different location within the toilets, and we have already actioned this.
- A Sports Day was requested and has now been calendared for 14th July.
- Similarly, a Culture Day was discussed, and this will now take place on 3rd July.
- Feedback on the food and prices for the canteen was also a hot topic, and we will update you on our grand plans regarding this shortly.

We are pleased to report that every year group has now participated in the VR knife crime

sessions. The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, and the Ofsted inspection team also thought these sessions were fantastic. As a school, we are determined to do all we can to keep our young people safe when they are in the local community.

- Oracy workshops for Year 10 took place on Wednesday. They will also be participating in some practice interview sessions soon, further preparing them for their futures.
- Enrichment Day is scheduled for 25th June, more details will follow directly to students.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

The HAF programme, funded by the Department for Education, supports school-aged children in full-time education from Reception to Year 11 (inclusive) who receive benefits-related free school meals. This programme offers valuable support to families on lower incomes, providing young people with access to activities and healthy meals during the main school holidays at Christmas, Easter, and Summer.

For our upcoming Summer provision over the school summer holidays, each eligible young person with a Warwickshire HAF code can access a maximum of 16 funded sessions, all of which include a meal. If your family receives benefits-related free school meals, you can request a HAF code (unique booking code) online directly at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/haf.

Thank you for your continued support as parents and carers; it is only by working together that we can provide the best possible care for our young people.

Yours faithfully,



Michael Gannon
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 25th June 2025 – Enrichment Day
Tuesday 2nd July – Friday 4th July 2025 – School Production – Matilda
Thursday 3rd July – HLS Culture Day
Monday 14th July 2025 – Sports Day
Friday 18th July 2025 – End Of Term
Monday 21st July 2025 – Inset Day



132,303



125,679



125,497