



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 1ST MAY 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. As you know, I have been trialling podcasts and feedback from parents and carers has been very positive. We are trying different methods to make it easier and more practical for busy parents and carers to be updated with life at their child's school. Our long-term objective is to transition producing short-form video content enhanced with on-screen text. However, we are still in the process of developing the necessary technical capabilities to achieve this. My office is being used for interviews today, so without my usual equipment I'll revert to a written newsletter this week.

I am delighted to begin this week's update by celebrating a fantastic sporting achievement. Congratulations to our Year 7 football team, who were crowned Nuneaton and District Cup Winners after an impressive 5-0 victory over Kingsbury in the final. We are incredibly fortunate to enjoy such strong sporting success at Higham Lane School, and I would like to personally thank our outstanding PE department for their time, the dedication and enthusiasm they bring to offering our students such a broad range of opportunities beyond the curriculum.



On that note, I would encourage all students to take full advantage of our enrichment programme. In addition to sports, we offer a diverse selection of clubs, ranging from Board Games, Pride, and Musical Theatre clubs to our very own Taylor Swift club! These opportunities play a vital role in enriching students' school experience beyond the normal curriculum and helping them develop new skills and lasting friendships.

Monday was a staff training day, and I hope our students enjoyed the long weekend. Staff made excellent use of this time, engaging in professional development and strategic planning as we continue to strengthen provision for the year ahead.

It was a pleasure to welcome Year 7 parents and carers into school this Thursday for the Student Progress Evening. Meeting face-to-face hopefully allowed us to begin building that crucial home-school partnership, ensuring we can work together to support your child in reaching their full potential during their time at Higham Lane School.

On Friday morning, we conducted a planned fire drill to ensure the continued safety of all students and staff. I am pleased to report that students behaved impeccably, and we were fortunate to have dry, sunny weather while the drill took place.

We are also excited to launch our very first Higham Lane School Battle of the Bands. We are inviting bands and ensembles of all styles to take part. Auditions will take place in the week commencing 8th June, with finalists performing live on Friday 26th June as part of our CEAT Music Day. Students should sign up outside MU2 by 15th May. We look forward to seeing the incredible talent our students have to offer!

A reminder to parents and carers of the importance of checking ClassCharts regularly—ideally each day. This is our primary method of communication with parents and carers, especially regarding behaviour and pastoral matters. With over 1,500 students, this system allows us to share information efficiently and ensures you can access updates at any time, as it is available 24/7, 365 days a year. We are delighted with the continued popularity of our Sixth Form, with strong applications from both our current Year 11 students and external candidates. A reminder that Year 11 HLS students who meet the minimum entry requirements are guaranteed a place. Similarly, we remain heavily oversubscribed for Year 7 places, which reflects the strength of our school community. We have written to all incoming Year 7 students, and staff will soon be visiting local primary schools to meet them— we look forward to welcoming them in September.

We would greatly appreciate students taking the time to complete the CEAT student survey, as their feedback is invaluable in helping us enhance the experience we provide.

A reminder that Monday 4th May is a bank holiday, and the school will be closed to all students and staff.

We also look forward to the Year 12 Student Progress Evening on Thursday 14th May. Please note this event will take place online.

Finally, I would like to thank you, as always, for your continued and invaluable support. It makes a significant difference to the success of our school and our students.

I wish all our incredible students, and our supportive parents and carers, a wonderful weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Michael Gannon
Headteacher
Higham Lane School



95,620



95,278



90,142