



Issue 45

July 2019



Welcome To Our Outstanding Summer Edition!

DEAR Parents/Carers/Students,
Welcome to our bumper July 2019 edition of HLS Express!

I'm sure you will all enjoy reading about the School's outstanding Ofsted inspection, 80th birthday celebrations, our new Junior Leadership Team,

photographs from the Year 11 Prom, Summer Music Concert, the School production of The Witches, Sponsored Walk, plus a string of achievements by our sporting students!

We wish you a wonderful summer!

PHIL KELLY, Headteacher

OUTSTANDING!



Higham Lane School celebrates its 80th birthday on September 20 this year. Please turn inside to pages 8/9/10/11 for a special four-page trip down memory lane!

1939
—
2019

FOLLOWING a rigorous two-day Ofsted inspection, Higham Lane School was delighted to hear it had been judged as 'Outstanding' — the highest rating possible.

Overall, the inspection team judged that the effectiveness of leadership and management; the quality of teaching, learning and assessment; the personal development, behaviour and welfare of pupils and outcomes for pupils were all outstanding.

During the inspection, on May 1-2, inspectors noted that: 'Leaders and governors, inspired

by the Headteacher, share a powerful commitment to an ambitious vision for all aspects of the School's work. As a result, they have created a culture that enables pupils and staff to excel. Teachers are determined that pupils do well and they have high expectations for pupils' outcomes. Pupils love learning, are resilient to failure and thrive in lessons. They are confident, articulate learners'.

The Ofsted inspectors also identified that:

- Leaders and governors provide inspirational

Please turn to P2



• TOP REPORT! Proud Headteacher, Phil Kelly, and members of the new Junior Leadership Team, celebrate the official news that Higham Lane School is outstanding!



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Councillor offers his congratulations!

HIGHAM Lane School was delighted to receive a visit on July 8 from Councillor Colin Hayfield, who is the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning for Warwickshire County Council.

Councillor Hayfield met Phil Kelly (Headteacher) and Ben Elliott (Director of Corporate Services) to discuss the School's performance and future development plans and took part in a tour of the School.

Councillor Hayfield commented: "I'd like to congratulate the School on its outstanding Ofsted inspection judgement. It is wonderful to see that the School is doing so well".



• **FIRM HANDSHAKE!** Councillor Hayfield is welcomed to Higham Lane School by Headteacher, Phil Kelly.

Outstanding Ofsted inspection!

From P1

leadership which is valued by staff, pupils and parents. They are uncompromising in their ambition for the School and pupils' outcomes. They have a deep and accurate understanding of the School's effectiveness and act quickly to address any underperformance they identify.

• The School has a broad and balanced curriculum that supports pupils' academic and social development extremely well. Leaders' focus on developing the curriculum is strongly rooted in meeting the needs of all pupils. As a result, pupils are very well prepared for the next stage of their education. The very rich range of additional opportunities promotes strong spiritual, moral, social, cultural and emotional development. This is a real strength of the school.

• Pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4 are making sustained and substantial progress in all subjects. The progress made by disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND at least matches, or exceeds, the progress made by other pupils with the same starting points. The provision for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is exceptional. As a result, SEND pupils are making sustained progress across all year groups and subjects.

• Teachers have a deep knowledge and understanding of the subjects they teach. They have high expectations and make academic demands that challenge

pupils. Consequently, pupils make substantial progress in their learning across subjects and in their personal development.

• Behaviour in lessons and around the School is exemplary. Pupils have a mature attitude to each other and to the staff. The School has a strong family atmosphere. The School is a calm, orderly environment. Pupils' impeccable conduct reflects the School's effective strategies to promote high standards of behaviour.

'Where every pupil is valued and cared for in a strong family atmosphere'

• Pupils' excellent attitudes to learning have a positive impact on their progress. Pupils are confident, articulate learners. They are friendly, courteous and respectful of each other and adults. Pupils are proud of their School, value their education and rarely miss a day at School.

• Pupils, parents and staff overwhelmingly praise the help, support and guidance pupils receive when they need it.

• There is a strong culture of safeguarding. Parents, staff and pupils agree that pupils are kept safe in school. Pupils are taught how to manage risks and keep themselves safe.

Inspectors judged Higham Lane's new Sixth Form as solidly good. 'Sixth Form students are highly motivated to achieve. As a result, students make good progress from their starting points in the Sixth Form. The Head of Sixth Form has high expectations for students' outcomes. Teaching, learning and assessment in the post-16 provision are of a high quality'.

Delighted Headteacher Phil Kelly and Chair of Governors, David Buckle, commented: "Everyone connected with Higham Lane School is so proud that Ofsted has recognised the outstanding quality of our School and its wonderful pupils, staff and governors.

"Our success is based on excellent relationships between pupils, staff and parents/carers, fantastic team work by staff at all levels and governors and a determination to do our best, celebrate our successes and address any areas that need improving.

"We always say to our students and staff: 'Be the best you can be!' It is wonderful that the pupils can see that the School is living up to its own high expectations.

"We would also like to thank our parents/carers for their fantastic support and commitment. They are an integral part of the School's success."

“Massive congratulations to HLS gaining an outstanding Ofsted inspection! Thoroughly deserved! It's what we have all known for a long time, but has now been officially confirmed. Working somewhere else has made me appreciate Higham Lane even more; the hard working staff, the excellent policies and procedures and outstanding teaching and learning. I still feel proud that I have worked at Higham and was part of that in some way!”

LAURA BLUNT

(Former Assistant Subject Leader for PE)

“I simply wanted to offer my congratulations on your Ofsted rating of ‘Outstanding’. What a fantastic achievement for the School and students . . . and a real lift to the local community. It is wonderful to see your hard work rewarded and I know that this will give a real boost to everyone locally. On behalf of the County Council — well done and please do pass on my congratulations to the whole team.”

MONICA FOGARTY

(Chief Executive,
Warwickshire County Council)

“We would like to congratulate you and the staff on the recent Outstanding inspection report. It is fantastic to see the hard work and dedication of everyone being fully acknowledged.”

MR & MRS THURMAN (Parents)

“Dear Mr Kelly. I would like to congratulate you on your most recent Ofsted report. You have demonstrated your ability to create and maintain educational excellence and shown your commitment towards delivering the best for the young people who attend your school.”

ANDREW WARREN

(West Midlands Regional Schools Commissioner)

“Dear Mr Kelly. May I take this opportunity to congratulate you and your staff with regards to the outcome of your recent Ofsted inspection. I am delighted that your school is now classed as an outstanding school. This is a major recognition of the school's ethos and approach to teaching, learning and wellbeing. Thank you to you and your colleagues for the commitment, endeavour and professionalism that has brought the school to its current position.”

IAN BUDD

(Assistant Director of
Education Services,
Warwickshire County Council)

“Just wanted to say well done, you did it! Outstanding at last. Congratulations — you must all be so happy. Best wishes. I'm also very happy!”

JAYNE HALES (Former Subject Leader for Mathematics)

“Congratulations. That is great news. The leadership team, teachers and pupils deserve the recognition.”

MRS NELSON (Parent)

“Absolutely fab! Well done! You deserve that outcome!”

NATHAN MORLAND

(Former HLS Assistant
Headteacher)

“My name is James and I'm writing to you today from Renaissance Learning, we provide Higham Lane School's Accelerated Reader and Star Reading programmes. I speak on behalf of all of my colleagues when I say that it is so reassuring and gratifying knowing that we are working with schools who are providing such an incredibly effective education and amazing opportunities to their pupils.”

JAMES WILLATS

(Market Executive,
Renaissance Learning)

“To all staff at Higham Lane School. We are all so pleased for you, what an achievement! Your hard work has paid off and you have made such a difference to so many lives.

Well done to you all.”

THE GEORGE ELIOT SCHOOL

“I would like to send you and your staff and students many congratulations on your superb Ofsted outcome. You must be extremely proud! Thank you for your in partnership with CTE, University of Warwick, in the training and education of our future teachers.”

KATE IRELAND

(Director, Centre for Teacher Education,
University of Warwick)

“Hello. Please pass on my congratulations to Phil Kelly and all the staff.”

MRS PATEL (Parent)

“Dear Mr Kelly. I just want to congratulate you on the outcome of the Ofsted inspection. It's a great achievement, so well done to all involved. Kind regards.”

GAYNOR REYNOLDS (Parent)



• **SPECIAL GUEST!** The High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Simon Miesegaes, meets with members of the Junior Leadership Team, Year Ambassadors and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors during his visit to Higham Lane School.

High praise from County Sheriff!



HIGHAM Lane School welcomed a special guest this term when the High Sheriff of Warwickshire for 2019-20, Simon Miesegaes, paid a visit.

After being welcomed to the School by Headteacher, Mr Kelly, the High Sheriff hosted the morning's Year 9 assembly and enjoyed a tour of the site in the company of students Darcy and Lara. In addition, he also talked with members of the Junior Leadership Team, Year Ambassadors and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors about their roles in the School.

So impressed was he by his visit, Mr Miesegaes posted a glowing Tweet afterwards which said it was a day he would never forget!

One of the things that most impressed Mr Miesegaes was the School's collaborative work with Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service.

In addition to no less than 41 planned visits to Secondary Schools across Warwickshire during his year in office, the County High Sheriff is also lending his support to people involved in promoting law and order, the Judiciary and local charities.

The High Sheriff of Warwickshire is appointed by Her Majesty The Queen as her representative in the County on matters relating to law and order.

Despite his busy diary, Inverness-born Mr Miesegaes is also a Reservist with 4624 Squadron at RAF Brize Norton.



• **SUITABLY IMPRESSED!** Mr Miesegaes' favourable Tweets following his morning at the School.



• **WELCOME!** Headteacher, Mr Kelly, greets the High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Simon Miesegaes, to the School.



• **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER!** The County High Sheriff hosting the Year 9 assembly.



• **ABOVE:** Simon Miesegaes meets with Year 9 students after their assembly.

• **RIGHT:** The High Sheriff with his Year 8 tour guides, Lara and Darcy.



Staff farewells and new arrivals!

SARAH Davies joined HLS in 1995 as a teacher of PE. She has excelled in that position and made a fantastic contribution as an amazing netball coach, leading HLS teams to the national finals on no fewer than 14 occasions. It was no surprise that she was awarded with the coveted national Netball Coach of the Year Award. Current players idolise her and former players keep in touch with her and see her as a life-long role model. More recently, Sarah has been a highly-effective Progress Leader. Both in her teaching and pastoral roles, Sarah has displayed the highest expectations, warmth, compassion, a unique personal touch and a healthy competitive spirit, befitting of a top sports person! The old cliché of 'You'll never hear a bad word spoken about her by anyone' definitely applies to Sarah! We wish her a happy and peaceful retirement and we know she will cherish having time with her grandchild.

Keith Todd joined HLS in 2006 as Subject Leader for Design and Technology. Keith totally modernised the Department in terms of its approaches to teaching and learning and the use of innovative and engaging resources. He was skilled at arguing his case to the School, purchasing particular pieces of equipment to enhance students' skill development and opportunities. He also co-delivered A-level D&T with St Thomas More School, long before the days of the Higham Lane Sixth Form. Keith has overseen the successful move to new GCSE specifications in D&T and was a strong advocate for the introduction of Engineering from next September. We wish Keith every success in his new middle leader role in Coventry.

Chris Guy has been an effective teacher of Design and Technology, specialising in Resistant Materials, Product Design and the new Design and Technology Timbers course. Chris has displayed strong subject knowledge. Chris has also contributed as a Sixth Form tutor and coached Key Stage 3 cricket. We wish Chris every success in his new teaching post.

Rashmi Chohan has been an effective, conscientious teacher of Maths with strong subject knowledge. We are grateful for her teaching at Key Stages 3 and 4 and her work as a form tutor. We wish her every happiness as she takes a break from teaching.

Sade Singh has made a significant impact in her short time with us at HLS! Specialising in the teaching of Business and Economics, Sade has displayed a very high standard of teaching and taken pride in offering excellent marking and feedback. As a form tutor, Sade has been exceptionally caring and really valued this important aspect of her role. We wish Sade every happiness as she travels abroad and brings her teaching skills to students in other parts of the world.

Helen Allred, Careers and Work Experience Coordinator, is leaving us for a well-deserved retirement. Helen joined us back in January 2011 but we have known her at the School even before this through her work here with Connexions. She

is looking forward to holidays with her husband and has some exciting trips planned already!

Carly Jones has done an excellent job in her temporary contract in the Art and Photography Department. We wish her continued success in her next position.

Georgia Breeze has done an exceptional job in covering a temporary contract in the Modern Languages Department, as well as teaching a range of other subjects when called upon to do so. We wish her every happiness and success as she moves to the West Country.

We would like to thank **Charlotte Kane**, **Aravinder Pamandi**, **Gladys Afuh** and **Tim Allen** for their work in covering short-term temporary contracts.

Neil Wetton is hanging up his boots, or more accurately, his brush and duster as he retires from his post as a cleaner. I will miss our regular chats regarding the successes or otherwise of Chelsea FC. We wish Neil a happy and healthy retirement.

Chris Cart, another member of our cleaning team, left us during the summer term and we wish her well for the future.

Louisa Bird, Midday Supervisor, is leaving us at the end of the summer term. We wish her every happiness for the future.

Next term we welcome **Judith Dixon**, Subject Leader for Computing and Whole-School ICT Coordinator, **Daniel Fox**, Assistant Subject Leader in Maths, **Katie Meeks** (Maths), **Jenny Neale** (Maths), **Sarah Ivens** (Art and Photography), **Jack Coughlin** (Geography), **Harriet Littlewood** (Science), **Chloe Routley** (PE), **Jenny Steele** (Business), **Adrian Moreton** (Design & Technology) and **Kay Smethills** (Design & Technology). **Margaret Smith** will be joining us as a Learning Support Assistant and **Bev Skirrow** as an In-Class Support Worker.

Lydia Easterlow will be heading off on maternity leave around mid-September. **Kelly Chater** will be covering for Lydia during this time.

We would like to thank **Paula Moore** for her excellent work as Assistant Head of Sixth Form. **Hayley Doyne-Ditmas** will take up this position in September. We are delighted that Paula is remaining with us as a teacher of Psychology.

We congratulate **Nicole Hemmings** on her appointment as permanent, full-time Progress Leader, having done the job in a part-time capacity.

We are delighted that **Annie Mackey** is taking up the position of Acting Subject Leader for Design and Technology and **Madeline Mesias** is taking up the Acting Assistant Subject Leader role in this Department.

We would like to thank **Bex Wood** and **Sarah Hiett-Jones** for their work as Acting Co-Subject Leaders for Computing and ICT and **Andy Wood** for his work as Acting Assistant Subject Leader in Maths.

MR KELLY, Headteacher

Former student Chloe crowned Nuneaton Carnival Queen

CONGRATULATIONS to former Higham Lane School student, **Chloe Reubens**, who was crowned 2019 Nuneaton Carnival Queen.

Chloe, who left the School in 2017, has been carrying out a string of engagements in the local community since her appointment. However, the highlight of her

year-long reign was taking centre stage at Nuneaton Carnival on June 16.

Despite the parade getting underway in monsoon conditions, the skies eventually cleared and — showing true Nuneaton spirit — Chloe didn't let the weather dampen the big occasion!

• **NUNEATON CARNIVAL QUEEN** — *Former Higham Lane School student, Chloe Reubens.*



Photograph courtesy of the Nuneaton News.

Winter night shelter volunteer Muaaz helps feed the homeless

AT ONE of Nuneaton's night shelters, I got the opportunity to help the less fortunate over the winter period.

After asking their requirements, several other volunteers and myself provided food and drinks to the homeless at the Community Centre in Edward Street.

A 8 o'clock it was time to prepare the meals so we entered the kitchen, took out the food and handed it out on plastic plates, along with a range of drinks.

After finishing eating, the plates were cleared up and at 9.30pm the lights were turned off in the sleeping area.

The volunteers were then able to order their own food to eat for helping people less fortunate than ourselves.

I really enjoyed helping to look after the homeless and I'm looking forward to attending the night shelter again in December.

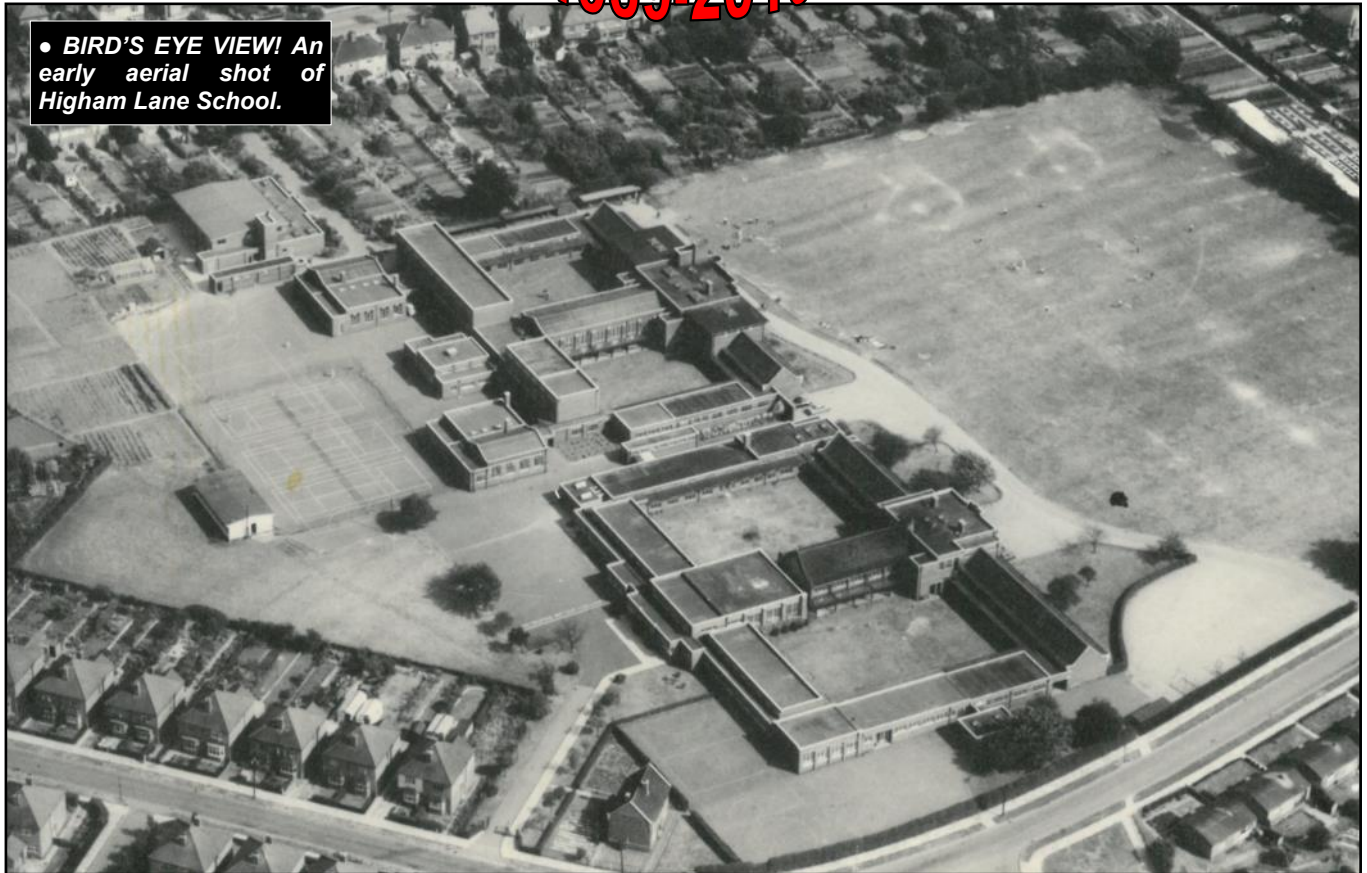
For me it was an amazing experience and I enjoyed it very much.

MUAZ, 7S3



1939-2019

• **BIRD'S EYE VIEW!** An early aerial shot of Higham Lane School.



HAPPY 80th!

NEXT term, Higham Lane School is looking forward to reaching its milestone 80th birthday — traditionally celebrated with oak.

Following turbulent beginnings, less than three weeks after the outbreak of World War II hostilities, the School has undergone numerous changes over eight decades and today has prospered into one of the country's leading secondary schools.

The latest Progress 8 score of 0.46 places Higham Lane among the top 15% of schools in the country and eighth out of 55 schools with similar intakes nationally.

The School initially opened its doors on September 20, 1939. However, as Britain had declared war against Germany 17 days earlier, on September 3, the official ceremony was postponed until the following year — May 23, 1940.

Special guest at the opening was Percy Lyon, Headmaster of Rugby School (1931-48), who was accompanied by a string of civic dignitaries, including the Mayor of Nuneaton, Councillor J. Bates.

The School, which cost around £52,000 to construct, was originally divided into two sections — the Senior block and Junior/Infants/Nursery block.

The first Headteacher of the Senior School was Charles Streather, who had previously been Principal Assistant at Nuneaton's Arbury School (now St Thomas More), while Miss E. Sidwell, formerly of Fitton Street Council School, was appointed Head of the Junior School.

During the Second World War (1939-45), eight air raid shelters were constructed at the School — four along the rear garden boundaries on Brookdale Road (for the Infants and Juniors) and four at the back of houses on Higham Lane (for the Seniors).

In its 80-year existence, Higham Lane School has seen several major changes and witnessed dramatic development, including the construction of a new Science block, Sports Hall and Sixth Form Centre.

The Junior section was phased out when the School acquired secondary status in the early 1970s and, since then, has flourished into an outstanding modern day academic establishment.

During the 1970s and '80s, the School became famous for its farm, established by teacher and author John Terry, who penned several critically-acclaimed books based on the smallholding.

In December 1994, Queen Elizabeth II, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, paid a Royal visit to Higham Lane School where she presented a calf to the farm and officially opened the new state-of-the-art Science building.

There have been a total of six Headteachers at Higham Lane School (not including the Junior section). First was the aforementioned 'Charlie' Streather, who was succeeded by Mr Bickerstaff and Mr Campbell respectively. Alan Breed, who sadly passed away in 2015, was next into the hot seat until retirement in 1989, followed by Dr Ramsey Tetlow and the current Head, Phil Kelly, who was appointed in January 2006.

On January 1, 2013, Higham Lane officially gained Academy status, allowing the School to acquire greater control over its decisions and budget.

The latest major phase in the Higham Lane story was the opening of a specialist Sixth Form Centre in September 2016, which saw the School offering further education to students aged 16-18 for the first time in its 80-year history.

• *For more Higham Lane School 80th birthday coverage please see P9/10/11.*

1939-2019

Official description of original buildings and premises in 1939

“ THE School has been built on a site of about nine acres lying between Shanklin Drive and Higham Lane, of which about five acres have been laid out as a playing field.

The main entrance is in Shanklin Drive and there is a subsidiary entrance from Higham Lane.

A caretaker's lodge is in the course of erection at the north-west corner of the site fronting on Brookdale Road.

The School has been built in two blocks, one for senior pupils and one for junior pupils: the brickwork consists of hard facing bricks and reinforced window heads and sills which form light stone bands, thus giving a horizontal architectural motif.

The Senior School contains accommodation for 320 children and the Junior School for 368 children.

In each case the building has been so arranged that the accommodation can ultimately be doubled if necessary by the addition of classrooms on the north side.

The scheme anticipates the possibility at a later date of building a gymnasium at the rear of the Senior School hall; also of dividing the Junior School and Infant departments, in which case another assembly hall would be built at the rear of the existing Junior School hall.

The Senior School is provided with

special rooms for handicraft, domestic science, general science, art and geography. There are also rooms for library and medical purposes.

The Senior School is provided with a stage and is also equipped for showing films.

At the rear of the hall are changing rooms and showers: these are placed so as to serve as retiring rooms from the stage: at a later date it is intended to build a gymnasium next to the changing rooms.

The Junior School is provided with a nursery suite for children under five

years of age with modern equipment for the young children.

The schools have been built by Messrs W. R. Lane & Son Ltd, Coventry, at a cost of approximately £52,000, the principal sub-contractors being: Messrs Brightside, Birmingham — Heating; Messrs Wathes, Leicester — Electrical work; En Tout Cas, Leicester — Playgrounds and field.

The architectural work has been done by Mr M. A. Shute, F.R.I.B.A., of the Borough Surveyor's Architectural Staff. The Clerk of Works was Mr A. J. O'Shea.



Did you know?

THE three diamonds on Higham Lane School's logo symbolise the coal mining industry that once thrived in north Warwickshire, while the wavy lines denote the River Anker which runs through the centre of Nuneaton.



• HORIZONTAL ARCHITECTURAL MOTIF — A photograph of Higham Lane School in the 1950s.

1939-2019



• **RIGHT ROYAL OCCASION!** Celebrations in Chine Hall to mark the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.



• **OH BROTHER!** John and Tony Loades donned fancy dress for the Queen's Coronation.



• **MUSIC MAESTRO PLEASE!** Higham Lane Infant School Percussion Band played at the Nuneaton Festival of Arts in 1959.



• **WET, WET, WET!** Fun and games at the official opening of the School swimming pool, which only survived a few years.



• **LAMBING SEASON** — The School farm gained worldwide fame in the 1980s and '90s.



• **TROPHIES APLENTY!** Higham Lane School has achieved continued sporting success during its 80 years.



• **WE'LL MEET AGAIN!** Class of '67 reunion in 1992.



• **25th ANNIVERSARY MILESTONE!** Flashback 55 years to Higham Lane School's quarter century celebrations in 1964 when a special ceremony was held at the Chase Hotel, Nuneaton. Left to right: Ivy Ratcliffe, Ivy Pratt, Mr Ratcliffe, Charlie Streather (Headteacher), Miss Fisher, Beryl Hextall and George Tomes.



• **FOURTH HEADTEACHER** — Alan Breed, who sadly passed away in 2015.



• **SPECIAL GUESTS** — Headteacher from 1989 until 2006, Dr Ramsey Tetlow, escorts Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh around the School during the Royal visit in December 1994. (A special feature showcasing the Queen's visit will be published in the next edition of HLS Express, due out in December).



• **TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE!** Present day Headteacher, Phil Kelly, talks with former Head, Alan Breed, during Higham Lane School's 75th birthday celebrations five years ago.



• **THE STORY CONTINUES!** Proud Headteacher, Phil Kelly, and the latest major phase in Higham Lane School's 80-year history — the specialist Sixth Form Centre which opened in 2016.

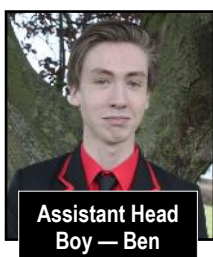
Esther and Will at the helm of HLS Junior Leadership Team for 2019-20

Esther (10L3)	Head Girl
Will (10L1)	Head Boy
Tia (10H1)	Assistant Head Girl
Izzy (10L3)	Assistant Head Girl
Ben (10S3)	Assistant Head Boy
Evie (10S1)	Assistant Head Girl
Daisy (10S3)	Assistant Head Girl
Kimberley (10H1)	Assistant Head Girl

ONCE again, so exceptional was the calibre of applications from Year 10 students, that the relatively easy decision was made to retain an eight-strong Junior Leadership Team for a third consecutive year in 2019-20.



Assistant Head Girl — Daisy



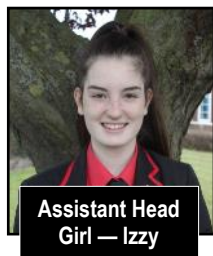
Assistant Head Boy — Ben



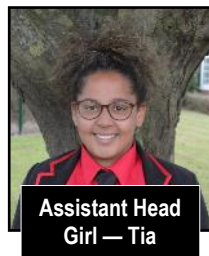
Assistant Head Girl — Kimberley



Assistant Head Girl — Evie



Assistant Head Girl — Izzy



Assistant Head Girl — Tia

Warm congratulations are extended to the new Head Girl, Esther (10L3), and Will (10L1), who has been appointed Head Boy. The roles of Assistants are maintained at six positions. These having been awarded to Izzy (10L3), Daisy (10S3), Ben (10S3), Evie (10S1), Kimberley (10H1) and Tia (10H1).

Supporting JLT will be a five-strong Senior Prefect team, whose roles have developed over the years to offer more students extra responsibility and the ideal opportunity to make a telling difference in school.

Senior Prefects now lead Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and evening events, some will be Curriculum Ambassadors for a range of subjects, while others ensure the 24 Prefects are fulfilling their roles and responsibilities.

All the candidates faced a daunting task during the JLT selection process, which included a group task researching and delivering presentations on mental health conditions such as anxiety, stress, eating disorders and depression, plus an interview with a panel made up of Year 10 Progress Leader Mr Davies, Assistant Headteacher Mrs Domigan, Headteacher Mr Kelly and Student Leadership Co-ordinator, Miss Arshad.

The students also prepared scripts outlining what they could offer the School as a member of JLT, which was filmed prior to all fellow Higham Lane students and members of staff being given the opportunity to cast votes for their favourite candidates.

In the second half of the summer term, teams of Prefects have carried out break and lunchtime duties under the supervision of Senior Prefects.

Each Prefect team also works together at school events, such as Student Progress Evenings, and meets once a fortnight with their designated member of JLT to raise any concerns or suggest improvements to help the School operate more efficiently.

MISS ARSHAD, Student Leadership Co-ordinator

Senior Prefects and Prefects

SENIOR PREFECTS

Abigail (10L2)
Hannah (10H2)
Eve (10H3)

Lily (10H1)
Gabriella (10H1)

PREFECTS

Sophie (10L2)
Freya (10L3)
Lily (10L3)
Hermione (10L3)
Katie (10H3)
Elizabeth (10H2)
Grace (10H2)
Madeline (10L3)
Harvey (10S3)
Alicia (10H2)
Maisie (10L2)
Molly (10H1)

Calli (10S2)
Lace (10L3)
Sampreet (10S1)
Emre (10S1)
Nicole (10H3)
Saarah (10S2)
Ben (10H1)
Owen (10L1)
Jack (10L1)
Ivy (10H1)
Finlay (10S3)
Lukas (10S2)



• HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL FOR 2019-20 — Will and Esther.



• **HIGHAM Lane School's Junior Leadership Team for 2019-20.** Back row (left to right) Will and Esther (Head Boy and Head Girl). Front: Kimberley, Daisy, Evie, Ben, Izzy and Tia (Assistant Head Boy and Girls).



• **SENIOR PREFECTS AND PREFECTS 2019-20.**

2014-2019



Goodbye to Year 11s!

AFTER five years together, Year 11s bid a fond farewell to Higham Lane School when the 2019 GCSEs drew to a close on June 14.

Exams done and dusted for the majority, the cohort eagerly signed each others' shirts before gathering in Coombe Hall during Period 3 for an emotionally-charged final assembly, organised and hosted by Year 11 Progress Leader, Mr Morris.

During the assembly, successful tutor groups and individual students were presented with various rewards for outstanding effort and behaviour.

In addition, musical entertainment was provided by Year 11 students Jean-Pierre, Jack and the TAGS

Band, along with Mr Morris and Mr Banks.

Celebrations over, students bade their last tearful goodbyes before departing into the big, wide world, harbouring precious memories of their time together at Higham Lane.

However, the link with the School will continue for several students in September when they return for Key Stage 5 education at the Sixth Form Centre.

• *More photographs can be found on the HLS website!*







Tuneful end to the school year!

THE academic year finished on a high note for the School's talented musicians when they entertained family and friends at the sensational Summer Musical Showcase!

Having been welcomed front of house by members of the new Junior Leadership Team, the 85-strong audience gathered in Chine Hall and listened to a wide range of pulsating performances by the School's tremendously-talented Music students.

At their first-ever gig, the compères — new Head Girl, Esther, and Head Boy, Will — introduced each performance with great composure and clarity.

With seemingly consummate ease, the evening's soloists, duets, trios, ensembles, School Orchestra and School Choir

skillfully performed a variety of musical genres, ranging from Shostakovich to Green Day.

Many thanks also to JLT and Mrs Campbell for serving up refreshments at the break, kindly provided by Miss Mackey.

To all the students who participated in the Summer Musical Showcase — thank you and congratulations to you all. Celebrating your hard work and talent is what the evening was all about, providing a wonderful end to the school year.

Have a super summer and perhaps bring a friend along when rehearsals begin again in September!

MRS DAVENPORT, Subject Leader for Music

• More Summer Music Concert photographs can be found on the HLS website!

Music exam successes

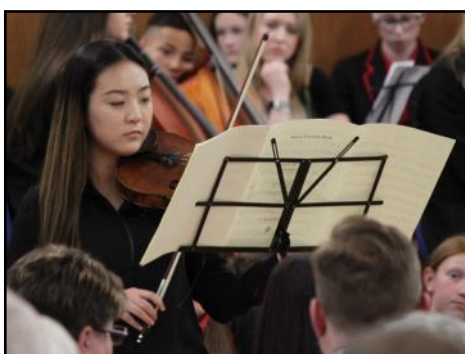
CONGRATULATIONS to the following HLS Music students who have passed their Associated Board Examinations.

<u>Grade 5</u>		
Lucy (9L3)	Violin	Merit
Megan (9S3)	Flute	Merit
Bethany (9S2)	Flute	Pass
Alicia (10H2)	Clarinet	Pass
<u>Grade 4</u>		
Alice (8S2)	Musical Theatre	Distinction
Stanley (7H2)	Drums	Merit
Stanley (7H2)	Violin	Merit
<u>Grade 3</u>		
Milee (9H1)	Piano	Distinction
Simon (9H2)	Piano	Merit
Maicie (11S1)	Alto Sax	Pass
Chloe (8H1)	Alto Sax	Pass
<u>Grade 2</u>		
May (8S3)	Piano	Distinction
Afeeni (9S2)	Flute	Distinction
Benedict (7H2)	Drums	Distinction
Mylo (8H1)	Clarinet	Merit
Maisie (8L3)	Flute	Merit
Scarlett (9L1)	Flute	Merit
Adam (7S3)	Clarinet	Pass
<u>Grade 1</u>		
Benedict (7H2)	Piano	Distinction





News from the Music Department



Year 11 Prom 2019



Having a ball at the Year 11 Prom!

COOMBE Abbey once again provided a breath-taking backdrop for this year's Year 11 Prom.

In glorious summer sunshine, slick-suited young men and glamorously dressed young ladies arrived at the Coventry venue aboard a wide array of transport, ranging from a tractor and trailer to Rolls-Royce.

Once inside the venue, bedecked in balloons and decorations, the party-goers enjoyed a sit-down meal before

spending the remainder of the evening posing for photographs and demonstrating their latest moves on the dance floor.

As always, the Year 11 Prom proved to be a memorable occasion for the Year 11 students and a fitting finalé to their five years together at Higham Lane School.

• *More photographs can be found on the HLS website!*



Year 11 Prom 2019



Year 11 Prom 2019



Year 11 Prom 2019

HLS EXPRESS July 2019 21





• **WELCOME BACK!** Former HL6 student, Jack (centre) hosts a question and answer session.

Busy time for Sixth Form students!



• **ROLE MODEL** — Charlotte (standing) talks with a group of girls.



• **BIG DRAW!** Students chat with a cartoonist and illustrator at the 'Networking' event.

THE summer term has drawn to a close for hard-working Higham Lane Sixth Form students with a host of events and celebrations!

In the final week of June, all Year 12 students participated in a two-day Post 18 Conference, which included a trip to the UCAS Exhibition at the NEC.

Speakers and workshops included; Student Finance England (Warwick University); UCAS process and personal statements (Coventry University); finding out more about apprenticeships (ASK — Apprenticeship, Support and Knowledge) and registering on UCAS.

Higham Lane Sixth Form strongly believes in offering quality CEIAG (Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance) so that young adults can make informed choices for their Post 18 pathways.

Two former students — Jack and Charlotte — were invited to return and speak to students, while a 'Networking' event was also held, students being offered the chance to quiz various business personnel about the pathways into their respective businesses. This activity also provided invaluable experience of future inter-action with prospective employers.

On Thursday, June 27, a farewell to Year 13s was held in the Conference Room where, following a musical introduction by Nuneaton singer/guitarist, Tom King, speeches were made by Headteacher, Mr Kelly; Head of Sixth Form, Mr Ladha; outgoing Sixth Form President, Hamza, and Jack, Head of the Students' Union.

The following Monday, Year 12 and 13, along with prospective new students, were invited to enjoy a feast of fun activities on the front field, which included a mechanical rodeo bull, bouncy castle, football and rounders.

The School is very proud of the departing Year 13s and wish them all the very best as they move on to the next chapter in their lives.

• More photographs can be found on the Higham Lane School website!



• **HUGE SUCCESS!** The above four photographs show students enjoying the 'Networking' event with four of the specially invited guests who spoke about their professions.



• **CELEBRATION TIME!** Year 12 and 13 are joined by prospective HL6 students at the end of term celebration day.



News from the History Department



Titanic project goes down well with Year 7 History students!

IT HAS been a creative time for Year 7 historians who have completed their first independent project in History.

The topic was the ill-fated liner, RMS Titanic, which sank on her maiden voyage in 1912.

Some of the innovation, effort and imagination has been a treat to read, and I can honestly say that some of the work is the best I have ever seen.

A selection of work is featured in the images, and five of the star historians met Mr Kelly to showcase their work.

There were wonderful models — some with working lights and smoke coming out of the funnels. There were also great diaries based upon the lives of real Titanic crew or

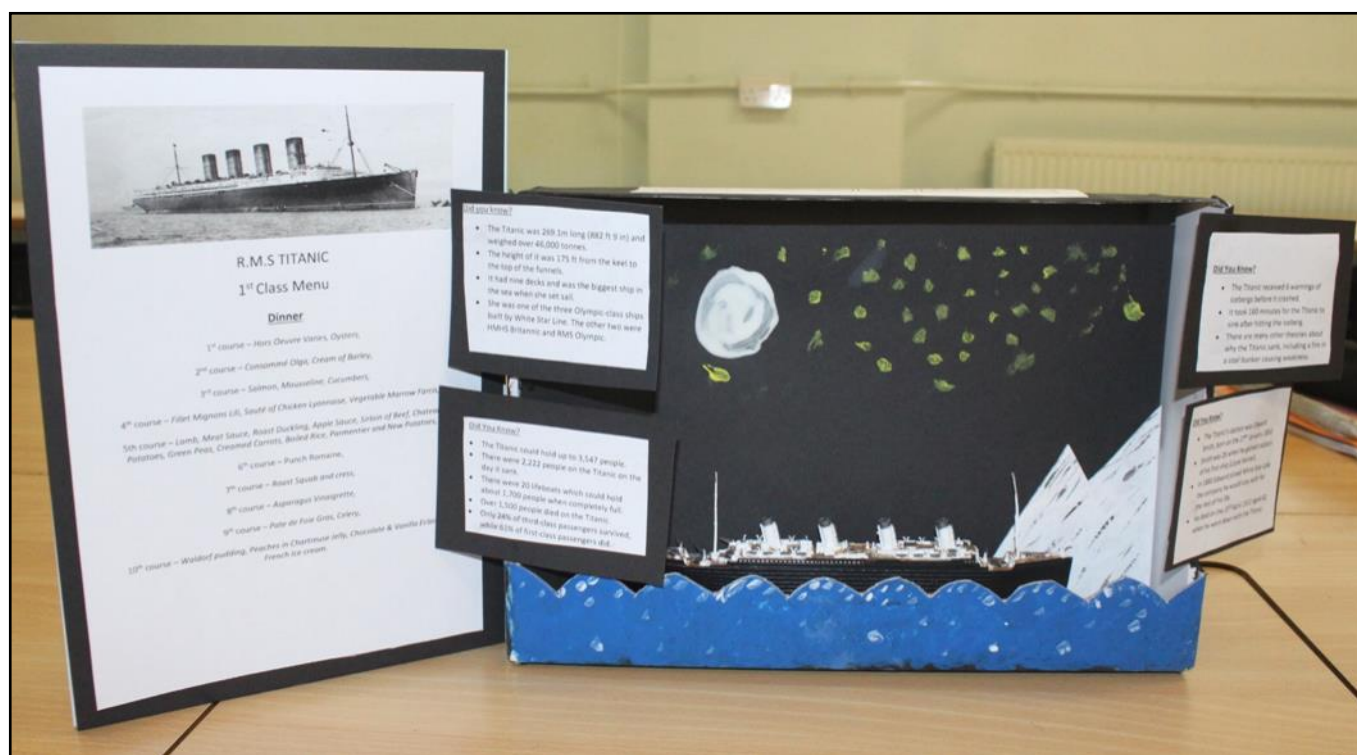
passengers such as Captain Smith and 'the Unsinkable' Molly Brown.

Some researched the blame for the disaster and others produced newspaper articles.

This has been a privilege to mark. Some of the many superstars are Ollie (7H1), Niamh (7H3), Lily (7S1), Chloe (7L1), Scarlett (7S3), Marshall (7S3), Matthew (7L3), Benedict (7H2), Daisy (7L3) and James (7L2).

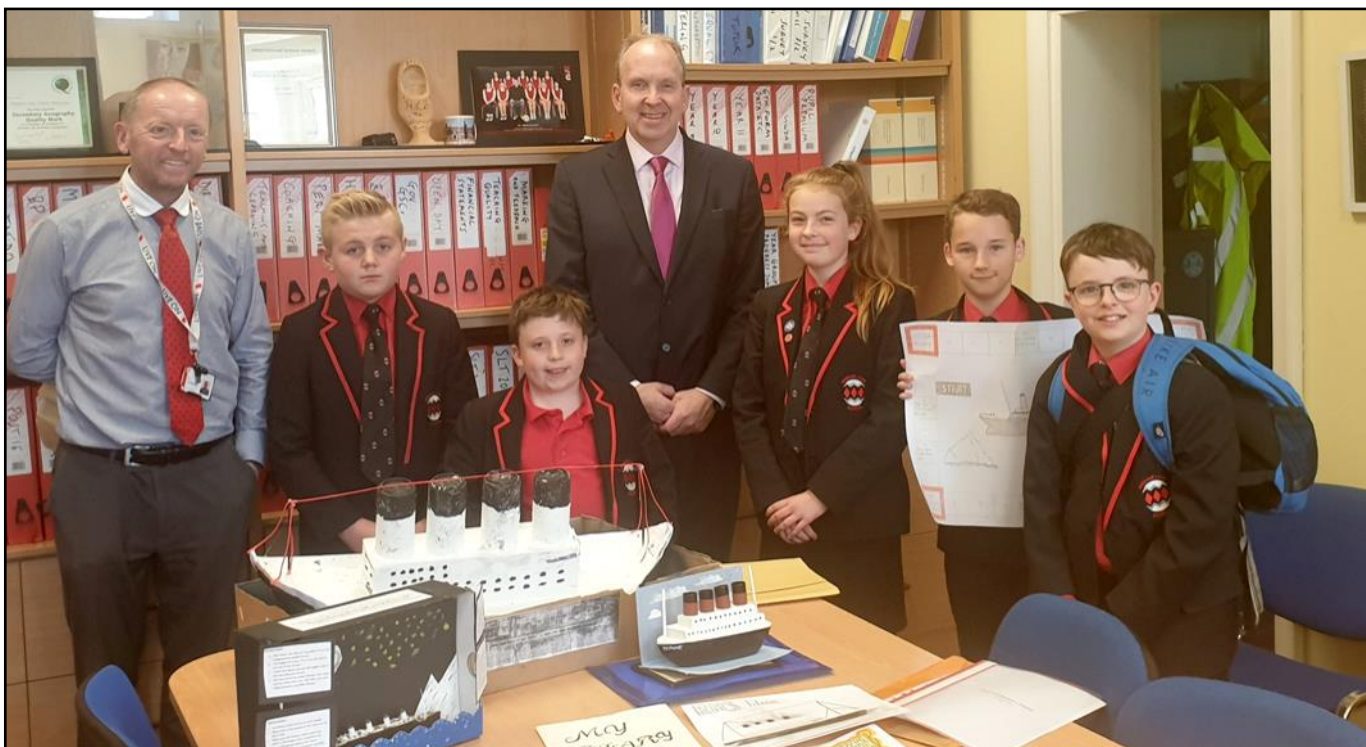
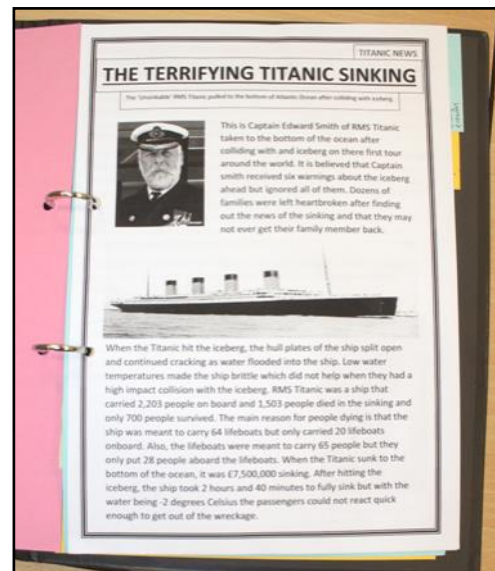
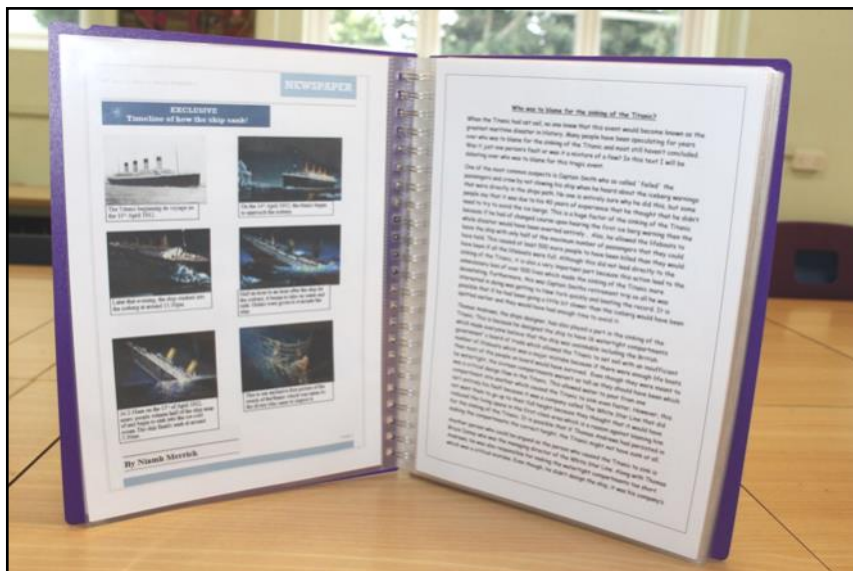
To be honest, I could have named 40 other students. Well done Year 7!

MR GOLDSTRAW
History Department





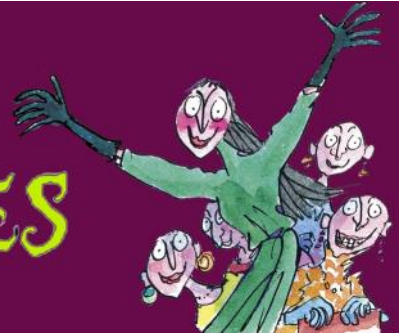
News from the History Department



● **TOP JOB!** Headteacher, Mr Kelly congratulates five of Mr Goldstraw's Year 7 History students for the fantastic work and effort put into their Titanic projects.

Spellbinding production of Dahl's classic!

THE WITCHES

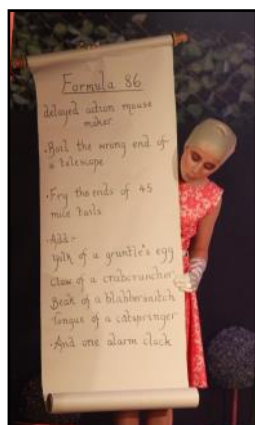


THIS year's School production was the first for Helen White, who took over as Subject Leader for Drama in September.

In contrast to last year's ambitious production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', the director's choice for 2019 was Roald Dahl's 'The Witches', which Mrs White described as "something colourful, fun, exaggerated and perhaps a little bit silly!"

Good audience numbers were recorded at both evening performances, everyone enjoying the students' amazing acting skills and the production crew's handling of Dahl's spellbinding story.

• More photographs can be found on the HLS website!







Stepping out in the sun!

PHEW, what a scorcher! For a seventh successive year, Higham Lane's Sponsored Walk took place in glorious sunny weather.

As in recent times, the ever-popular annual event was held at Ambleside Fields, where sponsorship of the students from family and friends helped raise valuable funds to make improvements to the School.

These include new facilities and equipment which can be enjoyed for many years to come.

In addition to students, a number of staff also opted to walk the course in the name of fitness!

• *More Sponsored Walk photographs can be found on the HLS website!*







News from the Physical Education Department

Year 7s crowned Nuneaton & Bedworth rounders champions!

CONGRATULATIONS to Higham Lane School's Year 7 rounders team who finished first in the Nuneaton & Bedworth Tournament.

After finishing runners-up in their group, the girls progressed to the semi-final where they defeated Polesworth 6½-3.

In the final, Higham found themselves up against a strong Ash Green School outfit, however, following excellent all-round team work, the girls triumphed 7½-3.

MISS CHINN, Subject Leader for PE

• **CHAMPIONS!** The Year 7 rounders team. Back row (left to right): Lexi, Amelia, Evie, Katie, Aimee and Alex. Front: Ebbie, Bryony (captain) and Eleanor.



• **YOUNG LIONESSE!** Higham Lane School Year 12 student, Asmita, has been selected for England's 2019 UEFA Women's Under-19 Championship squad.

Asmita called up for Euros!



HIGHAM Lane School's hot-shot international football star, Asmita, is over the moon following her selection for England's 2019 UEFA Women's Under-19 Championship squad!

The Year 12 student, who has already established herself as an England regular in recent years, travelled to Scotland for the prestigious competition earlier this month.

The Championship kicked-off on July 16 and will culminate with the final on the 28th.

England are drawn in Group B, alongside Belgium, Spain and Germany, while Group A consists of the host nation, the Netherlands, Norway and France.

A full report and photos will be published in the next edition of HLS Express!



News from the Physical Education Department



• **MAKING HISTORY!** This year is the first time Higham Lane has had two teams representing the Northern area in the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire School Games.

Sensational season for Year 9 rounders teams!

HIGHAM Lane's two Year 9 rounders teams have enjoyed a sensational season!

In the Nuneaton & District tournament, the A team remained undefeated, beating Polesworth 12-1½, Nicholas Chamberlaine 5½-3, Etone 7½-½ and the HLS B team 3½-1.

This was the only game the B team lost in the tournament, with victories over Polesworth 6½-3½, Nicholas Chamberlaine 8½-3 and Etone 5-0.

As a result, both teams qualified for the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire School Games, hosted by Warwick University.

Facing all their matches against A team opposition, the B team did really well and finished fourth in section.

However, the A team were victorious in all their five section fixtures, beating Tudor Grange 6½-2½, Stratford Grammar 8½-1½, Whitley Academy 10½-1, Finham Park 6½-1½ and Myton 4½-2½.

In the semi-final, the girls narrowly defeated Solihull

2½-2 following a nail-biting finish to the game. The very last ball was a backward hit from the opposition, but a tremendous throw by the Higham backstop to second base proved to be a match-winner!

In the final, the A team faced

a strong Southam College outfit and, following fantastic fielding and brilliant batting, secured the title 3½-2½.

They were undoubtedly the best team on the day, both skilfully and tactically, listening and acting on every coaching point.

This is the first time Higham has had an A and B team representing the Northern area of this competition.

They are a hugely talented group of girls and the School is very proud of you all!

MRS DAVIES
PE Department



• **COVENTRY, SOLIHULL & WARWICKSHIRE CHAMPIONS!** The jubilant Year 9 A team squad.



News from the Physical Education Department

Excellent individual and team performances from athletes

CONGRATULATIONS to all the athletes who took part in the District competitions this season, which provided several excellent individual and team performances.

ATHLETICS TEAM RESULTS

Year 7 Boys: Third in the District Competition.

Year 7 Girls: Second in the District Competition.

Year 8 Boys: Third in the District Competition.

Year 8 Girls: Second in the District Competition.

Year 9 Boys: Winners of the District Competition.

Year 9 Girls: Winners of the District Competition.

Year 10 Boys: Third in the District Competition.

Year 10 Girls: Third in the District Competition.

A fantastic performance by our Year 9 athletes in their District Competition with the boys and girls winning the overall competition (see back page for full story and photos).

Here are some of the excellent individual results achieved by our athletes:-

Year 7 Boys: Luke, 2nd, 600m; James, 3rd, 600m; Tom, 3rd, Shot; Tom, 1st, Discus; Alfie, 1st, Javelin; 4x100m Relay, 1st.

Year 7 Girls: Macy, 2nd, 600m; Anisa, 1st, 1200m; Sienna, 1st, Shot; Aimee, 1st, Javelin; Erin, 3rd, Long Jump; 4x100m Relay, 3rd.

Year 8 Boys: George, 2nd, 300m; Jack, 2nd, Discus; Byron, 2nd, Javelin; Rocco, 3rd, Javelin; Ben, 1st, Long Jump; Daniel, 2nd, Long Jump.

Year 8 Girls: Lily, 2nd, 100m; Ruby, 2nd, 200m; Bethany, 1st, 1500m; Katie, 2nd, Hurdles; Millie, 3rd, Hurdles; Gracie, 3rd, Discus; Darcy, 2nd, Javelin; Madison, 3rd, Javelin; Alice, 3rd, Long Jump; 4x100m Relay, 2nd.

Year 10 Boys: Shaun, 3rd, 200m; Harry, 2nd, Discus; Stephen, 1st, High Jump; 4x100m Relay, 3rd.

Year 10 Girls: Ivy, 2nd, 200m; Alice, 3rd, 300m; Lily, 3rd, 800m; Eve, 1st, 1500m; Eve, 2nd, Hurdles; Esther, 3rd, Hurdles; Hannah, 1st, Shot; Daisy, 3rd, Shot; Ivy, 3rd, High Jump; Leah, 2nd, Triple Jump; Phoebe, 3rd, Triple Jump.

WARWICKSHIRE SCHOOLS' CHAMPIONSHIPS

Many Higham Lane students were then selected to represent the District in the County Championships, held on a very wet Saturday morning at the Pingles. They produced some amazing performances and were a credit to the School:-

Stephen, 1st, High Jump, 1.65m; Harry, 4th, Discus, 20.9m; Alice, 3rd, 300m, 56.9s; Eve, 3rd, 1500m, 6m34s; Eve, 6th, 80m Hurdles, 17.4s; Daisy, 3rd, Shot, 7.53m; Marco, 7th, 100m, 12.5s; Joe, 1st, 200m, 24.8s; Marco, 2nd, 200m, 25.3s; Sam, 3rd, 300m, 42.2s; Sam, 2nd, 1500m, 4m42s; Joe, 3rd, 80m Hurdles, 13.2s; Lee, 5th, Long Jump, 4.66m; Matt, 7th, Triple Jump, 8.84m; Sam, 1st, Discus, 26.94m; Charlie, 7th, Discus, 15.37m; David, 7th, Javelin, 27.15m; Vienna, 2nd, Discus, 21.03m; Millie, 3rd, Shot, 8.34m; Abigail, 8th, Shot, 5.99m.

MASON TROPHY FINALS

Following the County Championships, six students were then selected to represent Warwickshire in the Mason Trophy, held at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham.

This is a massive competition with hundreds of talented athletes taking part.

Higham's students again performed superbly well with many achieving personal bests in their events. Well done to them all: Jacob, 1st, 200m, 22.55s; Stephen, 5th, High Jump, 1.70m; Joe, 8th, 200m, 24.96s; Sam, 16th, 1500m, 4m40s; Sam, 4th, Discus, 29.72m; Vienna, 9th, Discus, 19.78m; Jacob and Stephen, 4th, Relay, 44.8s.

WARWICKSHIRE COMBINED EVENTS

Four boys from Year 10 participated in the two-day Warwickshire Combined Events at the Pingles.

They had to compete in eight events, including javelin, discus, shot, hurdles, 400m, 1500m, high jump and long jump.

The team finished third from all the schools in Warwickshire with Stephen finishing third, Owen 12th, Daniel 13th and Harry 14th.

Stephen therefore qualified for the Midlands finals where he finished in a fantastic fifth position. This means he has qualified for the National finals which are being held in Exeter in September. Good luck Stephen!

The girls who took part in the Combined Events also competed over two days and finished a very impressive second overall in all the schools in Warwickshire.

Ivy finished in sixth place, Eve 12th, Lily 16th and Esther 18th.

Jacob sprints to the Nationals again!

A SPECIAL mention to Year 11 student, Jacob, who was once again selected to represent the County in the English Schools' Championships.

The 2019 competition took place at Birmingham's Alexander Stadium on Friday and Saturday, July 12/13.

Jacob qualified for the 200m event after winning his race at the County Championship and Mason Trophy Midlands Finals.

This is the third year Jacob has been selected for the Championships, which is an amazing achievement!

MR WILSON
Assistant Subject
Leader for PE



MR WILSON, Assistant Subject Leader for PE



News from the Physical Education Department



• **YEAR 7 GIRLS' JAVELIN** — Aimee, 1st.



• **YEAR 7 BOYS' DISCUS** — Tom, 1st.



• **YEAR 7 BOYS' JAVELIN** — Alfie, 1st.



• **YEAR 7 GIRLS' RELAY TEAM** — Aimee, Millie, Kayleigh and Libby, 3rd.



• **YEAR 7 GIRLS' 600m** — Macy, 2nd.



• **YEAR 7 BOYS' 600m** — Luke, 2nd.



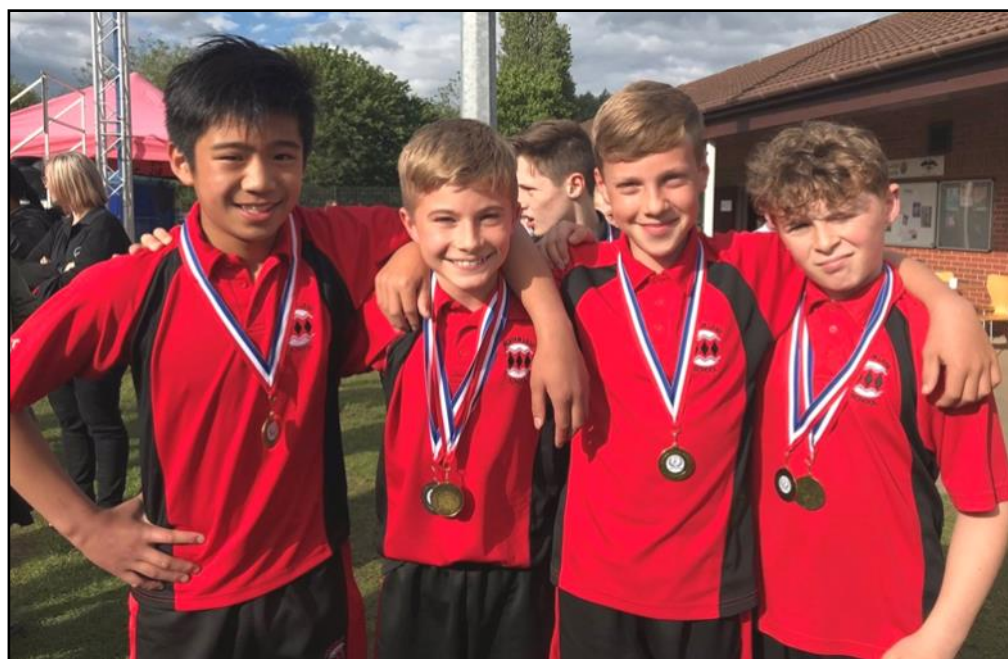
• **YEAR 7 BOYS' 600m** — James, 3rd.



• **YEAR 7 GIRLS' Long Jump** — Erin, 3rd.



• **YEAR 7 GIRLS' 1200m** — Anisa, 1st.



• **YEAR 7 BOYS' RELAY TEAM** — Ryan, Luke, Harry and Alfie, 1st.





News from the Physical Education Department



• YEAR 9 GIRLS' SHOT — Millie 1st and Abi 2nd.



• YEAR 9 GIRLS' 800m — Charlie, 3rd.



• YEAR 9 GIRLS' DISCUS — Vienna 1st and Emma 2nd.



• YEAR 9 RELAY TEAMS — Boys' team (Joe, Marco, Eddie and Kweku) finished first while the girls (Freya, Keira, Ellie and Abi) took the runners-up spot.



News from the Physical Education Department

Footballers beaten in final



• **BEATEN WARWICKSHIRE CUP FINALISTS** — *Higham Lane School's Year 11 football squad.*

AFTER winning the Nuneaton & District league, the Year 11 football team qualified for the cup final against Polesworth. A great performance resulted in a 6-0 victory, which qualified Higham for a County Cup semi-final place against Aylesford. Another excellent team display and 3-1 win saw Higham progress through to the County Cup final against Myton, held at Leamington FC.

Despite a tremendous effort, the boys suffered a 5-1 defeat to a very well drilled and skilful Myton outfit, who returned home with the Roger Jacques Trophy.

Nevertheless, it was a great achievement for Higham to reach the final, and the team were gracious in defeat.

Well done boys!

MR WILSON, Assistant Subject Leader for PE

Super 6 tops for attitude and sportsmanship!



• **SUPER 6 ATHLETES** — *Back: Ty and Harry. Front: James, Luke, Ben and Ryan.*

THE Year 7 boys' athletics teams took part in the Super 6 competition at the University of Warwick on Thursday, July 4.

The competition involved six students in each team competing in one track, one field and one relay event. The events include 100m, 200m, 800m, long jump, javelin and shot putt.

The boys — Ryan, Ben, Luke, James, Harry and Ty — produced some impressive individual performances and an excellent run in the 4x100m relay to finish third.

Points are awarded for each time and distance the athletes achieve and are then totalled up to see which team comes top overall.

The Higham team finished a very impressive sixth in the whole of Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire and also won the 'Values Award' for their attitude and sportsmanship throughout the day. Well done boys!

MR WILSON, Assistant Subject Leader for PE

HLS Express Sport

RUNAWAY WINNERS!



• **ACE ATHLETES!** The jubilant Year 9 boys' and girls' athletics teams who both finished first in this year's Nuneaton & District competition.

HIGHAM Lane School's Year 9 boys and girls produced an outstanding performance to win the Nuneaton & District Athletics Competition, held at the Pingles Stadium.

There were many fantastic individual displays (*listed opposite*) which led to several students being selected to represent the District at the County Championships.

The overall effort and team work shown by the whole squad meant students scored points in every event (*individual results can be found on P32*).

The girls eventually won by a solitary point over last year's winners, Polesworth, while the boys beat all-comers by a massive 25 points.

This meant the Higham Lane team won the overall competition to be crowned District champions. Well done to all the students who took part!

MR WILSON

Assistant Subject Leader for PE

• *More photographs and news of further HLS athletics successes can be found on P32/33/34/35.*

• OUTSTANDING PERFORMERS —

The successful Higham Lane athletes who went on to represent the District in the County Championships.



YEAR 9 NUNEATON & DISTRICT ATHLETICS COMPETITION

BOYS: Marco, 1st, 100m; Eddie, 4th, 100m; Joe, 1st, 200m; Kweku, 3rd, 200m; Lee, 5th, 300m; Harry, 8th, 300m; Josh, 3rd, 800m; David, 7th, 800m; Sam, 1st, 1500m; Will, 7th, 1500m; Joe, 1st, Hurdles; Eddie, 3rd, Hurdles; Sam, 1st, Shot; Harry, 5th, Shot; Sam, 1st Discus; Charlie, 2nd, Discus; David, 2nd, Javelin; Harry, 3rd, Javelin; Matthew, 9th, High Jump; Will, 10th, High Jump; Lee, 2nd, Long Jump; Sam, 3rd, Long Jump; Matthew, 2nd, Triple Jump; Harry, 6th, Triple Jump; 4x100m Relay, 1st.

GIRLS: Ellie, 6th, 100m; Kiera, 10th, 100m; Freya, 3rd, 200m; Abi, 4th, 200m; Charlie, 3rd, 800m; Eva, 8th, 800m; Olivia, 3rd, 1500m; Amber, 7th, 1500m; Hannah, 3rd, Hurdles; Olivia, 9th, Hurdles; Millie, 1st, Shot; Abi, 2nd, Shot; Vienna, 1st, Discus; Emma, 2nd, Discus; Keira, 5th, Javelin; Sienna, 7th, Javelin; Hannah, 4th, High Jump; Freya, 5th, High Jump; Charlie, 3rd, Long Jump; Ellie, 4th, Long Jump; 4x100m Relay, 2nd.