



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this newsletter finds you well. It has been another eventful week at Higham Lane School and I would like to share some important updates and reflections with you.

Unplanned Fire Alarm:

This week, we experienced an unplanned fire alarm due to a fault in the system. I apologise for any disruption this may have caused to the learning environment. Please be assured that we are actively looking into the matter to prevent any future occurrences. I would like to commend our students for their exemplary behaviour during the fire alarm; they conducted themselves with maturity, following procedures with calmness and composure.

Happy Diwali:

I extend my warm wishes to everyone celebrating Diwali this weekend. May the festival symbolize the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. May your homes be filled with joy and light during this auspicious occasion.

Remembrance Day:

As the 11th November falls on a Saturday this year, today, we held our whole school period of reflection at 11.00 am. The students and staff listened to the 'last post' and observed a two-minute silence. I am immensely proud of our students for their maturity and respect during this solemn occasion.

Maintaining Our Outstanding Ofsted Rating:

We are dedicated to ensuring that Higham Lane School retains its Outstanding Ofsted rating by maintaining high standards, nurturing our students and offering an exceptional educational experience. It is worth noting that recently published data from the Department for Education states that the majority of schools who were previously rated as Outstanding and were inspected in the last academic year have been downgraded. As a heavily oversubscribed, high performing school, we will do all we can to maintain our Ofsted Outstanding grade. Our priority will always be the students and to prepare our students for future challenges and opportunities, enabling them to thrive and make a difference in the world.

Students feeling unwell during the school day - Illness:

If your child feels unwell at school we ask that, unless this is a medical emergency, they stay in lessons until either breaktime or lunchtime and then report to Student Services. Students are not allowed to contact parents/carers directly from their own phone; Student Services will contact parents. This is in line with our school behaviour policy regarding mobile phones and with government guidance that was sent out to all schools in October which clarified that mobile phone use is banned during the school day, including at break and lunch times. A link to the government guidance is below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mobile-phone-use-to-be-banned-in-schools-in-england>

In most cases, when a student feels unwell, they are still able to stay in school and feel better once they have had a drink and some food. Therefore to support us with this, please ensure your child has breakfast or brings some food with them to school along with a drinks bottle.

Punctuality to School - Traffic:

There are a number of temporary traffic lights that have increased the amount of traffic in the local area. If you are driving your child to school and traffic is heavy, please ensure you give extra time to avoid the additional traffic and consider dropping your child off at a safe point away from the school site and allowing them to walk the rest of the journey to school.

Start and end of the school day:

We would like to remind parents/carers and students that the Library is open from 8.00 am, any student arriving from 8.00 am can go to work or read in the Library. Students are not permitted to access the school site before 8.00 am. Higham Lane and Shanklin gates will not open until 8.15 am. Please also remember that the gates will close at 3.25 pm at the end of school; all students in clubs and still on the school site after 3:35 pm will need to leave via the Shanklin Drive exit. A reminder for all drivers that no vehicular access to site will be allowed between 3.10 pm and 3.25 pm; this is to allow students leaving the school site to do so safely. We thank you for your cooperation.

Anti-Bullying - Odd Socks Day:

On Monday 13th November, we will be marking Anti-Bullying Week with Odd Socks Day. While incidents of bullying at Higham Lane are very low, we take a zero-tolerance approach. Any student can report bullying to any member of staff, and rest assured it will be dealt with swiftly and sensitively.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in making Higham Lane School a safe and nurturing environment for our students. Wishing you all a lovely and restful weekend.

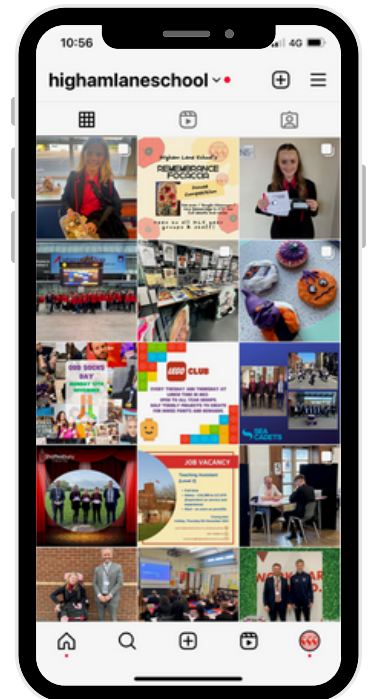
Kind regards



Michael Gannon
Headteacher



**Follow us on social media
to keep up to date on life
at Higham Lane!**



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

Years 7-9:

- 'Screening Newborn Babies' Art & Science competition: to raise awareness of some of the issues connected to newborn babies, there is a competition in which students can win £100 for producing a piece of art based on this topic.

Years 7-13:

- Remembrance Day Competition: in honour of those who have fought and died or been affected by any of the conflicts since the First World War, Mrs Betteridge is running a competition. Students can produce something linked to Remembrance Day for the following subjects: art, English, food technology or music. Prizes to be won.
- Understanding University Life: Keble College (Oxford University) have put on a whole variety of on-line workshops for students of all ages to help them understand what life at university is like.
- Movember: this year, to raise funds and awareness of four key men's health issues (mental health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer), we are again growing moustaches and showing students Movember assemblies. Mr Bliss (Learning Support Assistant) has very kindly agreed to have his hair shaved off by his wife - who also works at the school - if we reach £500. If you'd like to support this very worthy cause, you can follow this link to donate: <https://uk.movember.com/team/2263234>



16,932



18,405



17,271



18TH NOVEMBER 2023
10AM-2PM

NEXTGEN NURSING CAREERS EXPO

Attention Aspiring Nurses!

FREE ENTRY
FREE ENTRY
FREE ENTRY

WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU CAN PURSUE A REWARDING CAREER IN NURSING?

SCAN OR HEAD TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO REGISTER INTEREST!



SCAN

NHS
Coventry and Warwickshire

THE BOX - FARGO VILLAGE
FAR GOSFORD STREET
COVENTRY
CV1 5ED



No booking needed, just show up!

Let's talk!

NHS Primary & Secondary Care Providers

Adult Nursing

Children & Young People's Nursing

Mental Health Nursing

Learning Disabilities Nursing

Midwifery

Coventry University

WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE GROUP

COVENTRY COLLEGE

Are you considering a University degree or an Apprenticeship?

Already working in Healthcare & interested in taking the next step to Nursing?

Come and speak to Nurses, Students, & Apprentices to kick start your journey into Nursing!

FOLLOW US

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Next Generation Nurses
@NextGen_Nurses

Dates for your diary

Thursday 16th November - Student Progress Evening 1 Face to face

Friday 1st December - Years 7 - 11 - FLU Vaccinations

Thursday 7th December - Year 13 Parents Information Evening

Tuesday 12th December - Christmas Carol Service

Monday 18th December - Year 7 to 8 Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 20th December - Christmas Concert

Monday 25th December to Friday 5th January - CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Click for Term Dates

