



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing week it has been at HLS! We have enjoyed wonderful weather, with students making the most of the glorious sunshine. Whether playing on the field in front of the Sixth Form Centre or using the new netball, basketballs, and tennis nets on the courts by the Science block, it's been fantastic to see everyone so active and engaged.

## **School Closure -Tuesday, 18th June 2024**

I want to apologise for the inconvenience caused by the unexpected school closure. Unfortunately, a critical IT failure impacted our fire alarm system, door security and essential registers and timetable systems. This meant we could not ensure the safety and security of our site, so we had no choice but to close. We are taking all necessary steps to prevent such occurrences in the future. The safety of our students and staff remains our highest priority.

## **National Thank a Teacher Day**

Thursday marked "National Thank a Teacher Day." At HLS, we expanded this to "National Thank You Day for All School Staff," acknowledging the invaluable contributions of both teaching and non-teaching staff. Their hard work, commitment and dedication significantly impact our students' lives. I am deeply grateful to all the amazing staff at HLS. Our students created an incredible video thanking them, which you can watch on our school website.

## **Year 9 Student Progress Evening**

Thank you to all staff and parents who participated in the Year 9 Student Progress Evening this Wednesday. We hope you found the discussions beneficial in supporting your child to reach their full potential.

## **Year 7 Personal Development Day**

Wednesday also featured a Personal Development Day for Year 7, focusing on careers. An external company helped deliver activities designed to inspire our students and open their minds to potential future careers. It was an amazing day, filled with excitement and learning.

## **Prison Me No Way**

Friday's personal development day for Year 9, titled "Prison Me No Way," provided an eye-opening experience for our students. It was an impactful day that left a lasting impression.

## Spirited Arts Poster Competition

Congratulations to the winners of our Spirited Arts Poster Competition:

- 1st place: Ella in Year 8, who wins a £10.00 WHSmith voucher.
- 2nd place: Saleeha in Year 9, who wins a £5.00 WHSmith voucher.
- 3rd place: Valentina, who wins a large Toblerone.

Well done to everyone who participated; the entries were absolutely amazing!

## Alumni Success

We received a lovely email from an ex-HLS student who left in 2020. She has just completed her Chemical Engineering master's degree at the University of Birmingham, achieving a first! She has secured a graduate job in a design consultancy working with pharmaceutical clients. She expressed her gratitude to her Science teachers for their support and guidance. We are incredibly proud of her achievements and encourage you to share any news about our former students and their successes.

## Summer Showcase Music Event

Wednesday's Summer Showcase was a phenomenal success! The showcase featured 24 performances, including the school orchestra and choir, soloists, duets, ensembles and the musical theatre group, which delivered a rousing rendition of "Ex-Wives" from the musical Six. The talent on display was extraordinary, and we thank Mrs Davenport, Mrs Watson and Mrs Hood for their direction and expertise.



## Cycling Safety

A reminder: If your child cycles to school, they must wear a helmet as part of our school agreement. Failure to comply will result in the withdrawal of cycling privileges and the bicycle being retained on school premises. This measure is for the safety of all students, and we appreciate your support in this matter. Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mr Gannon".

Mr Gannon  
Headteacher

# Dates for your diary

**Wednesday 26 June** Year 12 Work Experience (3-days)

**Monday 1 July** Year 12 Experience Day, French Theatre performance  
& Year 9 and 12 Tate Gallery - Trip - All Day

**Tuesday 2 July** Year 12 A-level Geography trip - Burnham Deepdale, Norfolk

**Tuesday - Thursday 2-4 July** School Production

**Wednesday 17 July** Wake-a-thon & Rewards Trip

**Thursday - Friday 18-19 July** Cultural Capital Day

**Monday 22 July** SUMMER HOLIDAY BEGINS



**61,715**



**63,307**



**60,608**