



Friday 24th April 2026

Grit is the word!

This week, we have been working with students on the importance of developing 'grit for success.' Through discussions and a TED Talk, students have explored the idea that success is a marathon, not a sprint, and that building learning stamina is essential for long-term achievement.

We shared inspiring examples of individuals who achieved great success despite facing setbacks and failures. These messages are central to fostering a growth mindset, helping students understand that perseverance and effort are key to turning their aspirations into reality.

Looking ahead, our Assessment Weeks will take place from Monday 11th May to Friday 22nd May. In preparation, the next two weeks will be dedicated to RAP (Revise and Practice) sessions. During this time, students will be guided on what to revise and how to revise effectively for each subject. Our last assessment cycle was in November and our May cycle will be similar.

As part of their home learning, students are expected to complete at least three 20-minute revision sessions per subject. To support this, they will receive a revision support booklet on Monday, and dedicated House time will be used to help them plan and organise their revision at home. We remind students that success is '1% talent and 99% hard work' (Albert Einstein) and all we can ask of everyone is that they try their best!

We greatly appreciate your support in helping your child establish strong learning habits and build the stamina needed for success. By embedding these skills early in their secondary journey, together we can ensure they are well-prepared for future challenges, including GCSEs.

Sporting Success from our founding Netballers!

This week saw our domestic netball season draw to a close with a tournament taking place between 12 schools at The Nuneaton Academy.

A close contest in the first game in our pool saw us narrowly beaten 5-4. The girls rallied together and put in an exceptional performance in the second game to win 5-0 and progress into the next round of the competition. Two further games followed against Polesworth and St Thomas Moore, both ending in wins for HLNA. These results meant that in our first season we finished 4th overall in the tournament. A fantastic evening of netball, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It gave the girls such a boost in confidence to see so many parents watching on the sidelines. Thank you for your support.

The girls have had a brilliant first netball season and have made so much progress in all areas of the court. We are very much looking forward to seeing how they progress in year 8 and beyond. Whilst the domestic season may be over, we have one more netball tournament to look forward to at PGL next weekend and we wish the girls the very best of luck.

Miss Rounce



Sports Leaders

Well done to our Sports Leaders who have been running sports activities with younger pupils from local primary schools. Their initiative to take a lead, demonstrating how to play well, alongside providing encouragement and motivation to younger pupils was impressive and Sports Games leaders were impressed with your maturity! Well done and we look forward to our next round of Sports Games, as secondary school host. Thank you to Miss Rounce for giving our students these opportunities.



Sports co-curricular clubs – our North Star Guarantee

We have added Rounders, Tennis, Volleyball, Cricket, Table Tennis and morning Basketball/Netball shooting practice to our wide offer of co-curricular activities. Please encourage your child to try something new. Whilst we play competitive sports at HLNA, we also strongly believe that sport is for everyone, and research shows the many benefits of exercise.



UK Junior Maths Trust Challenge – Wednesday 29th April

We are delighted to be entering all Year 7 students into the UK Maths Trust Challenge. As part of our commitment that HLNA is a school where 'everyone is included and everyone belongs', we want every child to have the opportunity to test out their maths skills with this fun challenge! The challenge encourages mathematical reasoning and precision of thought and fluency to make students think. It is both accessible and will still challenge those with more experience. We look forward to seeing if any of our students perform exceptionally well against other schools that enter for further rewards and recognition!



Celebrating Earth Day – 'Our Power, Our Planet' – apply for the Blue Peter Green Badge!



On Wednesday, students explored the importance of Earth Day. This year's theme, 'Our Power, Our Planet,' has encouraged us all to think more deeply about how we can care for our planet and the role we each play in protecting it. This learning also links closely to students' Geography and Science lessons, where they have been developing their understanding of environmental issues and sustainability. Students have been considering how our individual and collective actions can make a real difference to the world around us.

During house time, students explored five pledges they could commit to this year to support the environment. They have been set the challenge of creating a creative 'pledge hand,' and we are very much looking forward to seeing the range of creativity and thoughtful ideas students produce.

This work will form part of a series of activities over the coming weeks, giving students the **exciting opportunity to apply for their Blue Peter Green Badge!** Full details of the small tasks will be shared via the Year 7 Google Classroom.

As an added incentive, holders of the Green Badge can enjoy free entry to a wide range of attractions across the country, making it a fantastic opportunity to combine environmental action with some exciting summer holiday experiences:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/attractions>

Mrs Clempson and Mrs Hacklett



Pupil Parliament – students, have your say! Friday 10th July – summer experience.

We have enjoyed hearing what students would like for trips and visits. As part of this feedback, we have organised our summer trip which will be a day of engaging and enjoyable Team Building activities in school. Please ensure that you have given consent for the trip alongside payment of £20 on ParentPay if you wish for your child to participate in the day.

Finally,


Thank you for your continued support. I hope that you and your families enjoy a peaceful weekend, hopefully with some sunshine!

Best wishes,



Kirstie Robinson.
Headteacher
Higham Lane North Academy.



Click to read! 

DATES and NOTES for your DIARY!

- 21st May – CEAT Day of Cultural Diversity
- 11th – 22nd May Assessment Weeks
- 25th May – Half-Term
- 4th June – SEND Coffee & Communication for Families 4pm
- 10th June – SLT Coffee & Communication for Families 4pm
- 12th June – Student Wellbeing Day – students do not attend school. Staff INSET.
- 1st July – Summer Fayre
- 3rd July – Sports Day
- 10th July – Year 7 Rewards Day
- 14th – 16th July – French Trip
- 15th July – Wellbeing Rewards Afternoon
- 17th July – Rewards Assembly and last day of term

