

Higham Lane North Academy NEWSLETTER



Friday 10th October 2025

We are Conscientious

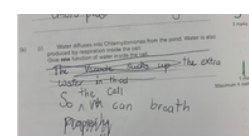
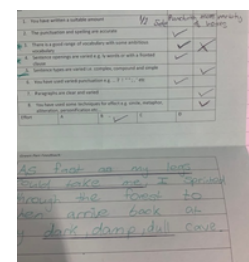
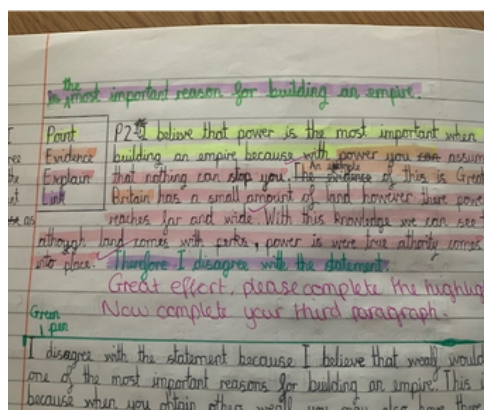
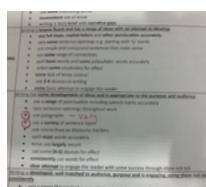
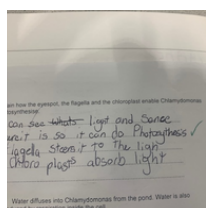
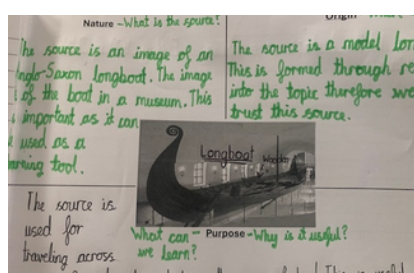
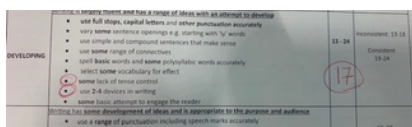
This week students have continued to display how conscientious they are in lessons. We continue to pop in and out of lessons to hear and see what the students are learning about and it is always a pleasure to see how focused and engaged they all are. One aspect that all of our teachers agree on, is how enthusiastic they always are in lessons, which is a credit to them, and to you all as families.

As you will see in their exercise books, students have now received feedback in various ways from their teachers. Please do have a look through their exercise books and knowledge booklets with them to check if they have any written answers that could be more developed and detailed, or if they need to uplevel a response. You will see from green pen responses where they have self-corrected or improved work – this for them is their next steps and what they need to focus on to improve their progress. So it is always worth having a supportive discussion around the use of the 'green pen for growth' work.

Assessments and Reporting

In some lessons, feedback has begun to be more formal and you will see that some work is being assessed against our KS3 criteria in each subject area. The criteria is in place throughout the whole of key stage 3, from Years 7 – 9. Students will work through the criteria to assess how well they learn the curriculum, from 'emerging', 'developing', 'secure', to 'excelling' and 'mastery'. Please be reassured that the skills at this stage in Year 7 against a final target at the end of Year 9 are most likely to be 'emerging/developing' although some students may already be 'securing' some knowledge and skills in some assessments. It is always worth having discussions around assessments and focusing on how your child can celebrate what went well, and to also use the feedback sheets and 'green pen work' to make further gains and close any gaps in learning.

In January, you will receive a progress report for your child that will show you how well they are learning the curriculum using the KS3 criteria. You will also receive final KS4 GCSE targets for subjects. These are based on KS2 SATS results and are generated by us being ambitious as a school and challenging students to perform within the top 5% of schools in the country. Please be reassured that these are 'targets' – some students will exceed these, and we will always use the targets in a supportive manner. However, this is not a main priority with our Year 7 students at present – what matters most for their progress overall, and their final performance at GCSE, is that they all focus on securing, mastering and excelling the KS3 curriculum, as they work through their learning in Year 7 and beyond. We are always here to challenge and support in equal measure and will continue to do so to ensure that all students make excellent progress, regardless of their starting points.



Looking ahead – November assessments

Teachers are beginning to look ahead to our November assessments which will assess learning from September to November. After half-term, in all lessons we will be showing students what and how to revise and providing them with help and support to organise revision at home ahead of the assessments, which take place from Monday 17th November in lessons. We know that you are all keen to support your child to do as well as they possibly can, and we thank you ahead for working in partnership with us.

We are Confident – Open Evening was a huge success!

Wow! Our Open Evening was a huge success last night and we were delighted with both how busy we were and the positive feedback that we received. Almost 100 Year 7s represented and served the school! This is a phenomenal number of volunteers from just one year's intake and shows what a wonderful group of students they are! Their pride and charm was exceptional, handling discussions with adults and children with such ease, warmth and confidence. We have all lost count of how many times visitors commented on how polite and helpful all students were. Thank you for supporting the school and your children are a credit to you all. Everyone who gave up their time will be receiving a well-earned reward next week!

Spotlight on Attendance

1 day of absence = 5 lessons missed.

Thank you once again for your support with ensuring that your child attends school every day. We are looking forward to launching our 98% club and 100% attendance membership clubs over the next couple of weeks with students.

Please remember that if your child is feeling under the weather, you can write a note in their planner, send them in with medication such as throat sweets and pain relief, pack extra tissues, and also be assured that we will contact you if we feel that they are too unwell to continue being in school. Attendance really does matter, one day lost of learning is 5 lessons at HLNA which means it can become difficult to catch up on work missed. Thank you very much for your continued support with attendance.

DATES and NOTES for your DIARY!

Thursday 22nd October – SLT coffee and chat 10am – 11am. Drop into school to discuss any issues or ask any questions about life at HLNA for your child with Mrs Robinson and Miss Charles.

Thursday 23rd October – Spooky Disco! Details in the Weekly Review!

Friday 24th October – Staff INSET day. Students do not attend school.

Monday 27th – Friday 31st October – Half-term. Students return to school on Monday 3rd November.

17th – 27th November – November Assessments

Friday 28th November – Wellbeing day for students after assessments. Students do not attend school. (Staff INSET day)

On a personal note,

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend – only 9 more days of school until half-term, we know that the students will make a super-effort to be here every day and get through!

Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes,

Best wishes,



Kirstie Robinson.

Headteacher
Higham Lane North Academy.