Higham Lane North Academy

NEWSLETTER



Friday 3rd october 2025

Our North Stars shine with Compassion!

This week, our North Stars have once again shown just how incredible they are as we continued to celebrate one of our core values — compassion — in meaningful and inspiring ways. On Tuesday, we were proud to welcome Maria from the George Eliot Hospital Charity, who spoke to our students about the vital work the charity does to support patients during their time of need. Her message clearly resonated — our students have voted to make GEH Charity one of the local causes we'll be supporting this year! We're also inviting students to share any other local charities they feel passionate about. Their voices matter, and we're excited to see which causes they choose to champion next.

Staying Safe Day at HLNA!

Yesterday our North Stars took part in an inspiring and informative Staying Safe Day a special event dedicated to helping students understand how to keep themselves and others safe. Throughout the day, they met and learnt from a range of incredible local professionals, including our Police Team, Fire Service, Road Safety Team, and Mental Health & Wellbeing Team. From the dangers of arson and hate crime to the importance of healthy friendships and switching off devices an hour before bed, our students explored vital topics that support both physical and emotional safety. As we had the Road Safety team in, this is also an opportune moment to remind you to keep reinforcing with your child to travel safely to and from school - and in particular to use the crossings along Higham Lane safely always following the instructions to cross carefully. The students engaged so well in every session with these important life lessons to help keep themselves, and others, safe from harm.





Proud of our Year 7 Football team!

We were incredibly proud of our football team on Wednesday as they played their first ever match against Higham Lane. While the result wasn't what we had hoped for, the team showed real determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout. They communicated effectively, supported one another, and most importantly, were gracious in defeat — values we hold in the highest regard. It was wonderful to hear positive comments from parents of both teams, who praised our players for their excellent attitude and respectful behaviour. You've made HLNA proud by representing us so well, and we're excited to see how you grow and develop over the coming year. This is just the beginning — well done, team! We would also like to thank Mr Froome, our History curriculum leader and football coach for giving up his time to coach the team!

A Fantastic Week of Learning at HLNA

This week, Miss Charles and I had the absolute pleasure of visiting a number of lessons across the school — and we were so impressed by what we saw. Students demonstrated exceptional behaviour and a brilliant attitude to learning. In every classroom we visited, it was fantastic to see every student fully engaged, participating with enthusiasm and focus. The learning environment across the school was calm, purposeful, and inspiring. We know that many students have also been completing assessments recently, and it was clear that they have approached these with a growth mindset, showing resilience, perseverance, and a real commitment to doing their best. A particular highlight for me was also when I was looking through students' Beowulf assessments in English. It was wonderful to see the progress they've made and the quality of their work — this is a real testament to their hard work and determination. Well done Year 7s, we are really proud of you!

Google Classroom

Over the next two weeks, pupils will be exploring Google Classroom during their computer science lessons. They'll be learning how to navigate the platform and understand its features.

You may notice messages indicating that assignments have been set — please don't worry. At this stage, there is no expectation for pupils to complete any work from home on Google Classroom.

If you'd like to familiarise yourself with the platform, helpful guidance can be found here: <u>HLNA – Supporting Your Child at Home</u>

Excellent training for our teachers continues this weekend!

As a result of our links with some of the best schools in the country, we are delighted to be able to send two of our teachers to an Exemplary Teaching day on Saturday 4th October.

Miss Riley and Mr Froome will be hearing from international leaders in the teaching profession, Doug Lemov and Tom Bennett, amongst others. We are proud that our staff are so keen to continue with their enthusiasm for professional development this weekend, and look forward to them sharing their training with all staff, and which will ultimately benefit your children in the classroom.

DATES and NOTES for your DIARY!

Thursday 9th October – Open Evening. We welcome all feedback and our SLT coffee morning on 22nd October is one of our many opportunities for you to do this, alongside keeping in touch with us more generally. As we head towards our Open Evening, we would really appreciate any kind words about your experience with us as you are out and about in the community, whether that is in person or online. We all want the school to continue to be successful for your child, and our Open Events over the next couple of weeks give us that opportunity to continue to grow the school successfully. Thank you for your support.

Thursday 22nd October – SLT coffee morning for families. More details to follow soon.

Thursday 23rd October – spooky disco, details coming soon!

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.

Lunchtime Dining – please check what your child is eating!

Students are really enjoying the food at break and lunchtime and most students choose carefully. However, we have noticed that some students are buying perhaps more than what they need – particularly at break time! Please continue to check daily what your child is eating to ensure that it matches what you expect them to purchase. May we also remind you that fizzy cans are also not appropriate for school. Thank you for your support with this.

Lost uniform and kit

We have a number of uniform and sports items that have been found around school – including coats, trousers and socks!Please can you check if your child is missing any item of clothing. These items will be kept at the school office for the next few days. Please may we also kindly ask you/your child to put names on all items of clothing as this helps with easier identification.

On a personal note,

thank you for attending our recent information evening and family review evening. We hope that your son/daughter continues to feel happy and safe at HLNA, and that they are thriving with their learning. Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

Kirstie Robinson.

Headteacher Higham Lane North Academy.

