



Friday 26th September 2025

'We are Conscientious'

This week students have continued to settle in superbly to HLNA. They are getting used to learning routines, both within the classroom, and as they manage homework that is being set for them. We are continuing to talk to the students about being well planned and organised – when is the best time for you to complete homework, is it as soon as you get in from school (after a short break of course!), or is it later in the evening after dinner? Everyone is different, but as part of 'we are conscientious', pupils understand that it is important to begin building learning habits for success. Next week, students will take their topic test in maths during one of their lessons – please reassure your child that all we ask for is 100% effort, these tests are simply a way of working out what their strengths are in maths, and what our next steps for learning will be.

Reading Matters!

We have also been busy celebrating reading this week! Our BookFair was very popular with students and we would like to thank Mrs Riley, our English curriculum and Literacy lead, for organising this event. Students have also begun Accelerated Reading in earnest, as part of the English curriculum and we are looking forward to seeing who will be our first word millionaires! Whatever stage your child is at with reading, it is 100% effort that will make the difference and lead to literacy improvements, which in turn will help them with academic success. All we ask is for 100% effort!

Merci Beaucoup!



Learning a language can bring many different benefits from enhancing communication skills and improving memory and focus to providing career opportunities, cultural understanding and increased confidence and this week French has been centre of the week's learning. It has genuinely been uplifting to hear the students singing the French alphabet, not just in lessons but at break and lunchtime too! We were pleased to celebrate European Day of Languages and it was such a delight to see our Dining Hall resemble a Parisian café this week – we would like to say merci beaucoup to Ms Hampton who brought French music and bunting alongside helping the students to order their food in French! Our dining hall staff served French fayre and also practised their linguistic skills with the students!

'We are Compassionate'

Sadly, many of us know someone, or have been personally affected, by a cancer diagnosis. That's why we're proud to support such a meaningful and important cause. The cake sale was a huge success today! From lemon drizzle and chocolate cake to Victoria sponge and carrot cake, every slice was popular! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who got involved – whether you baked, bought, or donated, we are very grateful for your support. We will let you know next week how much we raised for this worthy cause.

‘We are Confident’

We are so impressed that almost 80% of the year group have volunteered to help us showcase the school on our Open Evening! This is an incredible response and shows how proud your children are of attending Higham North that they want to share their school, and transition story, with others across the community. We will meet these students next week to share their role for the evening and provide training for success during the Open Evening. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to build their ‘social capital’ – practising their interpersonal skills with others, a skill that we know as adults will help them ensure success for their futures.

We are also delighted with the response for student leadership roles! This week students have begun training with Miss Charles, learning how to work as part of a team and developing their communication skills – again, key skills for success in life, and ones that these roles will enable them to develop whilst still at school.

Spotlight on Safeguarding

At Higham Lane North Academy the safety and wellbeing of every pupil is our highest priority. We are committed to providing a secure, supportive environment in which every child belongs and is included. Safeguarding is at the heart of all that we do, and we take seriously our responsibility to protect pupils from harm, promote their welfare, and ensure that they feel safe both in school and beyond. As part of our commitment to safeguarding, we have been educating pupils on:

- how to handle conflict with their peers,
- recognising the difference between bullying and banter, and
- understanding online safety.

Should you wish to continue these conversations at home, our Care and Support Curriculum booklet and our Computer Science Knowledge booklet contain the content we have been covering.

Students can contact the Safeguarding Team at any point in the school day, and posters displayed around the school regularly remind them who our Designated Safeguarding Leads are.

If you have concerns about the safety of one of our students outside of school hours, please email **hello@hlina.co.uk** with the subject line: **FAO: The Designated Safeguarding Team**. This will go directly to our safeguarding team who will act promptly to ensure the child receives the appropriate support. In addition, we would like to draw your attention to the **Think You Know** website (<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/>) created by the police for parents. It contains useful information about:

- what children are doing online,
- how to talk to children about what they are doing online,
- the risks your child might face, and
- what tools are available to help them stay safe.

The site also includes a Parents’ Guide to E-Safety and a collection of booklets to help parents and carers explore and monitor their children’s online activities.

A recent study by Ofcom indicates that among children aged 8–17 who experience bullying, 84 % of those cases occur via a screen (i.e. online) rather than face-to-face. Therefore, it is especially important that we continue ongoing conversations with our children about staying safe online and that we regularly monitor their phone and device usage.

DATES and NOTES for your DIARY!

Tuesday 30th September – SEND coffee morning for families. Please see separate email for details.

Thursday 2nd October – Family Review Evening. Please see separate email for details

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.



OPEN DAY

Thursday 9th October 2025 4.30pm - 7.30pm

Higham Lane North Academy
We are proud because we do what is right



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www.hlina.com

