

# Higham Lane North Academy

# NEWSLETTER



Friday 4th September 2026

## Welcome to the new academic year!

It has been a genuine pleasure and privilege to welcome all students to school this week. We have been extremely impressed with how well the Year 7s have adapted to their new school in the last two days as they learn the Higham North way for success. Equally, Year 8 students have arrived back at school showing maturity and enthusiasm for the year ahead and we look forward to helping all students to achieve much success this year.

As you are aware, we begin the year with our character curriculum through our established Inauguration programme. House Champions carefully teach our programme to help and support students in learning how to be successful at Higham North and to reassure and give them confidence in all that they do. In our assemblies with both year groups, we also discussed about how we can create strong habits for success, reminding them of the Greek philosopher, Aristotle whose platitude was that excellence is achieved through deliberate action and consistent effort, not by chance or isolated acts.

Next week, we will begin our academic curriculum in earnest where students will begin meeting their subject teachers. Please be reassured that we will support all students particularly over the next couple of weeks as they begin to settle into new routines.

I hope that you find the following information this week useful and thank you once again for your excellent support from home to ensure that all students could enjoy a successful start to the new academic year.

I wish you and your family a peaceful weekend.

Best wishes,

Kirstie Robinson  
Headteacher



## Morning arrival

Please note that our main gate opens at 8.20am where staff are on duty to supervise students before the arrival bell at 8.35am. All students should be on site by 8.35am.

However, we also offer two 8am clubs – one in the Library and one in the Dining Hall (see co-curricular offer).

Students must either arrive at 8am for one of the clubs or at 8.20am for main arrival.

**PE days** – please remember that your child brings their PE kit in their kit bag and gets changed at school for PE. School uniform is worn every day.

## Information evenings

As part of our continued commitment to share information, advice and guidance to support success between home and school, we offer many different opportunities to work together for success.

Our annual information events for each year group are as follows:

**The secondary journey – Year 7: Wednesday 23rd September 5pm – 5.45pm**

**The secondary journey – Year 8: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 5pm – 5.45pm**

Each of the evenings will include:

- Curriculum, learning and achievement – what to expect during the year ahead
- Personal Development of your child during this year – opportunities for growth
- Working together to maximise success – how to support from home

As well as hearing from Mrs Robinson and Miss Charles during the main presentation, you will also have an opportunity to meet Mr Rowe, KS3 Pastoral Manager. Miss Rounce (SENDCO) will also be in attendance.

## **Year 7 Friendship Disco is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 3.15pm – 4.30pm**

All Year 7s welcome! Bring a change of clothes if you wish (must be appropriate for school, e.g. no low-cut tops/midribs or very short shorts) and no more than £4 for small refreshments.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!



## Co-Curricular Clubs

You will have received a link to complete if you would like your child to attend a co-curricular club. All clubs will begin on Monday.

We are incredibly proud of our co-curricular programme and remain committed to ensuring that every child can take part in at least one club or activity where they can pursue their passions, discover new interests, meet new friends and, most importantly, enjoy themselves beyond the classroom. Students can of course attend as many clubs as they wish!

We are particularly fortunate that every member of staff at HLNA offers at least one club or activity. This reflects the passion, dedication and commitment of our staff to providing our students with a rich and varied experience beyond their academic studies. We know that families will appreciate the time and effort our staff invest in creating these opportunities and supporting our children to thrive. Please note the following finish times:

- **Most clubs** finish at **4.00pm**.
- **Sports practices** finish at **4.15pm**.
- **Monday's Drama and Musicals Club** finishes at **4.30pm**.

Please complete the link so that we can monitor participation and review the success of our co-curricular programme. **Please note that the link does not act as a register.** Students and families are responsible for making the necessary arrangements for their child to attend a club if they wish to do so.

On occasion, it may be necessary to **cancel a club at short notice**. This will always be a last resort and will only be due to unforeseen circumstances. We will endeavour to notify families of any cancellation via our app, although unfortunately, this cannot always be guaranteed.

If a club is cancelled, students will be reminded that they can **contact home using their mobile phone at Reception** if they need to be collected at a different time.

If a student needs to remain in school after a club has been cancelled, they can use the **Library, which will remain open until 4.00pm**.

Students are also reminded never to leave the school site if they are unsure of how they are getting home and we know that you will also be providing your child with these messages.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope that our co-curricular programme provides students with a wide range of opportunities to explore their interests, develop new skills and enjoy spending time with others beyond the classroom.



## Reading at HLNA – do you have any good quality and suitable books for donation to the school? All greatly appreciated!

At Higham Lane North Academy we are committed to building a reading culture and the library is central to this. Over the last 12 years we have stocked the library with over 900 brand new books and have over 2000 titles overall for students to enjoy. While most of these books are specifically aimed at lower key stage 3, we also have some donated books aimed at young adults generally which will include older teenagers. We will always try to guide students to books we feel are appropriate for them, but students do have access to the full library stock. If your son/daughter does bring home something which you believe will not suit them, we are more than happy to swap and guide them to something else.

As a growing school, we are always trying to enhance our offer to students and would **welcome any donations of books suitable for the school library**. If you have anything you would like to send in, pupils can drop these off in the library any morning from 8am.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support in promoting reading and the benefits this offers.

Miss Riley  
Curriculum Leader for English



Click to read! 