



Friday 17th October 2025

This week the students have continued to impress not just our staff, but also our visitors!

On Tuesday, as part of the school's Quality Assurance programme, the Trust leadership team visited us to see what we are doing daily. They visited all lessons and spoke to students both within the classroom and during their break time. This is what they said about your children in lessons at HLNA –

'In all lessons, pupils were fully engaged in their learning. There was a strong, positive climate for learning, underpinned by warm and respectful relationships between staff and pupils. It was clear that pupils feel safe, valued, and confident to participate within their classroom environment.'

'Many commented that lessons are more challenging, yet they feel well supported and recognise the progress they are making as a result. Overall, pupils demonstrate high levels of engagement, enjoyment, and resilience.'

'Strong, positive relationships between staff and pupils underpin a safe and supportive learning environment. Pupils are developing independence and taking responsibility for their progress, while recognising the support available to them.'

Well done to all our superb students and thank you to our staff who work so hard to ensure that your children enjoy their learning and make excellent progress.

This work forms part of our ongoing quality assurance programme, which ensures we maintain the highest standards in your child's education. As part of this commitment, our Governors regularly engage with pupils to better understand their experiences in school. Next week, our Governor for Safeguarding will be visiting to speak with children, and after half-term, our Chair of Governors will also spend the day with us, taking part in similar activities to those carried out by our Trust colleagues.

In addition, I am proud to be working in a School Improvement Partnership with a highly experienced Headteacher from Bedfordshire, who successfully led an outstanding school for many years. We very much value these collaborative partnerships, which help us to continually reflect, refine, and improve, to ensure that your children receive the very best education possible.

North Star Football Breakthrough!

Match report from Mr Froome

"The games kicked off and proved to be a close affair for the first ten minutes, but our B team managed to break through and secure a first goal. This was followed by a quick-fire second, with the news travelling to our A team who then broke the deadlock themselves. The B team added a third shortly before half time, which sent the substitutes wild! The A team were pegged back to 1-1, but found the team spirit to go ahead 2-1 before being pecked back yet again. Harry V took the initiative and added a vital third for a 3-2 victory for the A team, whilst the B team were pulled back to 3-3. They showed great courage and determination to secure a 5-3 win. As manager, I am extremely proud of all the students and we look forward to our future fixtures and building on this success."

A historic event at Higham Lane North Academy as we hosted and played our first netball league games as a school!

Match report from Miss Rounce

"We had two teams entered into the league, both playing three matches each throughout the night. For some of our girls these were the first netball matches they had ever played, and I could not be prouder of how they performed together throughout each match.

Both teams showed significant improvements in their performances each match and there were glimpses of what is to come in future matches. Some excellent mid court play, moving the ball quickly into the shooting circle proved very effective for the A team, with Rosie rarely missing the net when she had her opportunity. This enabled the A team to build scores quickly resulting in two wins on the night. Whilst scoring with confidence at one end of the court the defensive duo of Annie and Abigail at times were proving unbeatable, frustrating teams with their marking and clearing of the ball on each rebound. A similar story for the B team with both Lyra and Olivia proving very effective in defence, shutting down attacking options for the opposition throughout the night. Bonnie at centre proved very effective in turning defence quickly into attack, moving the ball through the court.

There is a lot to celebrate following our first round of matches, our girls demonstrated excellent sportsmanship throughout showcasing our three core values of being conscientious, confident and compassionate at all times. I am excited to see how they develop in the coming weeks and months and we look forward to hosting the second round of league matches."

DATES and NOTES for your DIARY!

Wednesday 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.

Monday 17th – Thursday 27th November – November Assessments

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

Tuesday 12th December – Oh Yes We Are – Aladdin Pantomime. Please see letter for more details, deadline Monday 9am.