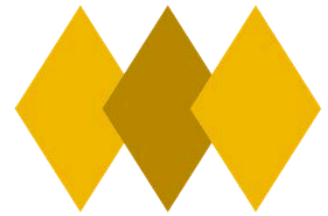


Higham Lane North Academy

NEWSLETTER



Friday 18th September 2026

Whilst the weather is clinging onto the remnants of summer, we are making clear strides now through the Autumn school term, with learning in lessons fully underway and our co-curricular clubs becoming fully established. Year 7s are settling very well into routines and have taken baseline assessments in their stride whilst Year 8s are highly focused on trying to secure the KS3 curriculum this year. I am very impressed with the charm and courtesy of all students so far and this is something that we deliberately focus on and practise as part of our character curriculum, and I know that you will all insist on manners and courtesy at home with your children. It is wonderful to see and hear all our students practise their soft skills of communication and be so polite with both staff and visitors, as you will appreciate that young people need opportunities to practise these skills for life. We tell students that we want to be the 'politest school in Warwickshire!' and judging by our interactions this week with all students, we think we might take this crown..! We also remind students that as part of one of our values, 'we are compassionate', when we are polite and courteous to each other, this also makes our school a calm and kind place to be for everyone.

This week, a thank you for Art highlights from Miss Quigley, Curriculum Leader for Art and Miss Riley, Curriculum Leader for English.

Both subjects are immensely popular with our students – it is always a pleasure to be in English lessons with Miss Riley and Miss Moore, (I am slightly biased perhaps, being an English teacher!), where the focus on vocabulary and reading skill whilst developing core knowledge of literature and communication is exceptional. Guided by our highly skilled English teachers, students are always fully immersed in their learning in this key, core subject. I also take genuine delight in being in Art lessons. Miss Quigley and I as part of our 'curriculum conversations' in both our scheduled meetings and impromptu corridor chats, have talked extensively about the rich history of Art and how our students are entitled to know and understand the 'best of what has been thought, said and drawn' about this creative subject that also relies on discipline, method, logic and focus. We are very pleased with our ambitious Art curriculum. With her extremely calm and supportive demeanour, Miss Quigley is skilled in developing all students' talents in Art, regardless of their starting point. It is particularly satisfying to see students, who begin Higham North saying, 'I can't do Art' be very proud of what they achieve throughout the year. We look forward to another year of exceptional Art work from our students!

Year 7 Highlights

- Year 7 students started with a baseline activity, giving them the opportunity to showcase their drawing skills developed in primary school, we are impressed with the focus and effort put into these tasks.
- For their first homework, students are experimenting with different types of line before using these techniques to create their own unique line artwork. Take a look in their art booklet to see some of their fantastic creations!

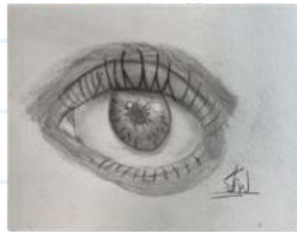
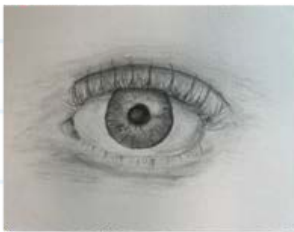


- Year 7 have had an excellent start to their English journey. Students have looked at how language has developed over time and learnt that over half of the words we use today come from Old English and invading Germanic tribes. Ask them about other influences on our language.
- The unit is focused on the epic hero through the character of Beowulf. Students are busy learning some ambitious vocabulary to apply to their own writing. Why not ask them what a patriarchy is or how Beowulf could link to the school values of being conscientious, compassionate and confident.

Year 8 Highlights



- Year 8 students have been studying portraiture and developing their skills by practising realistic eye drawings. It has been wonderful to see the progress they have already made since Year 7, particularly in their ability to draw facial features with accuracy and detail. Up next... drawing noses!



- Pupils have demonstrated their commitment to reading and their love of books through the excellent response to the 'Summer of Reading' challenge and AR quizzes of their summer reading. One student read almost half a million words over the summer!
- Students have started on their half term topic learning about the skills of rhetoric and the art of persuasion. Ask them to share their learning on the use of ethos, logos and pathos and, as the term goes on, about the speeches of famous people we study.



UPDATES FROM THE LIBRARY

- Reading is central to success in all subjects which GCSE papers having a general reading age of 14-15. This is why at HLNA we deliberately instil excellent reading habits from the start of their KS3 journey.
- In Accelerated Reading lessons students are currently undertaking their AR test to help to guide them to appropriate books. We have been thrilled with the enthusiasm Y7 have shown with many students taking out books and getting started on building those good reading habits even before they have had an AR lesson!
- Year 8 have set themselves a challenge to beat last year's reading achievements and many have diligently been quizzing on their summer reading – well done Year 8!
- Last year Roald Dahl was voted the HLNA favourite author of the year – students can learn more about Dahl himself by reading 'Boy' copies are in the library.
- Thank you to all families who have donated good quality books. We have over 2000 books in our library – an impressive haul for just over 300 students so far. We are very passionate about growing our library books even further though, so if you do have any books suitable for reading ages of 8 – 16, they would be very gratefully received.

Year 7 Information evening – reminder!

The secondary journey – Year 7: Wednesday 23rd September 5pm. Coffee and Chat from 4.30pm in the dining hall.

The evenings includes:

- 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 (SENDSCO) will also be in attendance.

Splashes of brilliance!

Well done to our Year 7 swimmers, Joel, Anna and Sebastian who are members of Nuneaton & Bedworth Swimming Club 'The Dolphins'. We are very proud of you!

At the weekend they swam in the 2026 Junior League Finals held at the Pingles which is a team-based swimming competition for 9-12 year olds. Against strong opposition from around the Midlands, swimmers from HLNA were in action for the Red team and by Saturday had achieved both a third place on the night and third place overall in league this year! On Sunday, our swimmers were back in the pool for Sunday's Sprint Meet. This time they were competing for individual awards in their age category, with a morning and afternoon session offering 9 different races of either 50 or 100m. Whilst medals are always sought after, the real prize is that swimmers continue their development towards a personal best time (PB).

It's wonderful to share that our HLNA swimmers, despite the challenges of competitive swimming throughout the weekend, achieved a successful haul of both shiny medals and lots of those all-important PBs! Well done to Joel, Anna and Seb plus all Dolphin swimmers! We look forward to hearing more from you in the future from the pool!



County Netball success for Ajay!

We are also delighted to share that Ajay in Year 8 has been selected to play Netball for the County! Well done Ajay, we are very proud of you! Last year, alongside our delightful Year 7 Netball team, Ajay developed her attacking game in matches against other schools in the area, and at our highly successful PGA residential weekend. We are looking forward to hearing about your future experiences with County Netball, Ajay and know that you will give it your all!

Once again, we have been asked to host all Nuneaton and Bedworth Netball matches for the league due to our impressive sports facilities. We are very much looking forward to supporting both our Year 7 and Year 8 Netball teams with Coach Rounce. Remember that you can come along to shooting practice with Miss Gallivan and Netball training is open to all after school on Friday for Years 7 and Thursday for Year 8. If you are a keen netballer, there are also many local junior Netball Clubs, please speak to Miss Rounce or Miss Gallivan for details about these if you are interested.



Has your child achieved excellence outside of school?

As you can see, it is wonderful to share news of where our students are achieving so well with their passions outside of school. Please send us any photos and information if you would like us to consider sharing this with our community in our Newsletter.

Open Evening – Wednesday 7th October 2026

As a new school, one of our key challenges is to grow and develop our community as we work towards being full by 2030. Working together sits at the heart of ensuring the very best for your child, and we want to thank you for the calm, constructive way you approach us whenever you have a question or concern.

Our staff are among the most dedicated and committed professionals I have ever worked with. Every day, they come to school with the intention of delivering a world-class, ambitious education for your child, and we are incredibly proud of the offer we provide.

Our Open Evening is a significant moment in our calendar, giving us the chance to meet prospective families and showcase what makes our school a special place to be. Your positive messages within the community make a real difference – they strengthen the reputation of the school your child attends, support them in securing their next steps when they leave us, and help us attract excellent new staff in the year ahead. In turn, this strengthens the quality of education and opportunities we can offer your child.

Thank you for continuing to share such positive experiences of our school. Your support genuinely matters, and we appreciate it very much.



OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 7th October 2026
4.30pm - 7.30pm

Upper Farm Drive, Nuneaton
CV11 6YN

www.hlina.com



WARWICKSHIRE
YOUNG
CARERS



Volunteers needed!

Can you help support Young Carers in Warwickshire?

Are you recently retired from education, or working term time only and have a bit of time to support Young Carers during holidays or after school?

We need volunteers in each district of Warwickshire who can commit 2-3 hours monthly, or during holidays to help facilitate after-school respite groups, school holiday activities, parent coffee mornings, community awareness raising sessions or general admin work. Any hours you could offer are valuable in providing young carers with a break from caring for their loved ones, strengthening family support, connecting Warwickshire Young Carers with local communities or supporting the day-to-day business operations of the charity.

Volunteers make a real difference to the numbers of children and families we can support.

If you can help! Scan the QR code to get more volunteering information from the website, or call or email using the contact details below.



01926 963940



volunteer@warwickshireyoungcarers.org.uk

Protect your child from flu

The School Immunisation Team need your correct contact details

Have your email address or mobile phone number changed within the last year? If so, please get in touch with your team:

Coventry schools:

✉ bewise.immunise@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

☎ 02476 961422

North Warwickshire schools:

✉ NorthImms@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

☎ 02476 321550

South Warwickshire schools:

✉ SouthImms@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

☎ 01926 353899



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE NEWSLETTER



Click to read! ↗