

Higham Lane North Academy

NEWSLETTER



Friday 23rd January 2026

Working with school

As a school, we truly value the positive support we receive from our families, and we hope that you also feel supported by us in return.

As part of this partnership, we offer termly opportunities for families to come into school so that we can share aspects of school life and work together to support your child at home.

As a reminder, our **SEND Coffee and Chat** will take place on **Thursday 5th February**, and our **SLT Coffee and Chat** will be held on **Wednesday 25th February**. Further details will be shared in due course.

A new guide which aims to help parents work with schools to address complaints in a positive and respectful way has been published by the DfE, the charity Parentkind, and Ofsted.

If you would like to look at the guide, [it is here](#). You can also find the guide on our website.

Attendance Champions! North Stars Show Up and Shine!

We are delighted to share that we have smashed our school attendance target this week, with HLNA achieving an outstanding 98% attendance. What an achievement for us all as a school community! Thank you for encouraging and supporting your child to be in school every day. As you know, we are happy with tissues being brought in and medicine being kept in the office and we will always call you if we feel your child needs to go home.

Being in school every day is about much more than about hitting targets though. Each day missed from school means five lessons that cannot be repeated, making it harder for students to catch up on lost learning. It also means missed opportunities to spend time with friends and to develop important social skills.

We continue to run a range of initiatives to encourage excellent attendance because we strongly believe that we only get one opportunity to benefit from a great education- one that can shape and impact the rest of our lives. We are so fortunate that you share this belief too and thank you for your continued support with encouraging excellent attendance.

Family support

If you do require any support as a family on a range of issues such as mental health and wellbeing, on the school website you will find information on organisations that offer help, advice and support.

www.hlina.co.uk/families-safeguarding

Assessments update

Thank you for your patience regarding the delay in issuing the first set of Year 7 assessments. Unfortunately, this was due to temporary loss of access to our systems following the recent cyber-attack. We are pleased to confirm that these assessments will be issued next Friday.

Following my letter in the autumn term and our SLT Coffee and Chat sessions, which outlined how assessment and reporting will work, I will also be sharing further guidance to support you in understanding and interpreting the reports.

In addition, during the following week we will issue KS4 target grades. These targets are based on KS2 SATs outcomes and are intended to support students as part of their wider educational journey. While the targets are ambitious, it is important to remember that they are a guide rather than a fixed outcome. Separate guidance will also be provided to explain how these targets are set and used.

Our Co-curricular programme is key to belonging! More clubs added!

We are committed to ensuring that our students can attend as many clubs as possible and pursue their passions beyond lessons as we know that a sense of belonging directly impacts self-esteem. It is wonderful to see students actively engaged in all the different activities and clubs that are on offer; they are with their friends, sometimes they are making new friends, and overall enjoying themselves!

In addition to Dance club and Trampoline Club that have been added this term, we also have our 'Well Wednesday' and 'Fabulous Friday' morning club! From 8am for £1, your child can enjoy a hot chocolate and slice of toast and enjoy a warming start to the day in the Dining Hall – unsurprisingly, this proved to be a very popular and if your child came along, we hope that they enjoyed our 'North Café'! Next week, Yearbook Club will be every Tuesday week A and Knitting club will be every Week B Tuesday until 4pm with Ms Hampton. Please continue to encourage your child to try something new!



A Growth Mindset in North Bridge!

As part of intervention work this week in North Bridge, students have been building on previous sessions focused on developing a growth mindset. Earlier sessions explored what a growth mindset is and how it differs from a fixed mindset.

In this session, students deepened their understanding by exploring the language associated with a growth mindset. They worked collaboratively to select key words and phrases and used these to create a poem, helping to reinforce and embed their understanding of what it truly means to have a growth mindset.



Students in Orion have a spring in their steps this week!

Students in Orion have continued to excel, keeping busy with activities inspired by the arrival of spring.

They have planted daffodil bulbs in the sensory garden and are eager to spend more time exploring the outdoors. After reading the article "Feeding the Birds" by Monty Don, students are excited to create bird food dispensers for the sensory garden. They are looking forward to watching the birds feed and identifying different species in the near future.

The students have also planted a variety of herbs, which are growing beautifully on the windowsill. They have explored a range of recipes that include their own 'homegrown' herbs and are eagerly anticipating some cooking activities. First on the menu: pizza bread made with their very own Orion basil!



Looking ahead...

Next week, we look forward to continuing our lesson visits to celebrate the conscientious approach students show in their learning. We are also pleased to continue working with Pupil Parliament following their consultations with students, where they gathered views on what pupils are enjoying about school and what they would like to see developed further.

In addition, we are delighted to be hosting Vistry Construction, who will be presenting to the year group as part of our Ambitions Pathway Programme.

WE'RE RECRUITING



DATES and NOTES for your DIARY!

2nd February- 6th Feb Story Telling Week
5th February - SEND coffee morning for families
12th February - Pancake Canbake Club

16th-20th February - Half Term

25th February - SLT Coffee Morning
2nd March - 6th March Reading week events
5th March - World Book day
5th March - New Year Transition Family Evening
19th March - Year 7 Pupil Progress Evening
23rd March-27th March - Shakespeare Week
24th March - Inspiration Day
26th March - Easter Rewards Celebration

30th March-10th April - Easter Holiday

On a personal note,

Once again, thank you for your continued support, and we wish you a peaceful weekend.

Best wishes,

Kirstie Robinson.
Headteacher
Higham Lane North Academy.

Missed out on your Bikeability at school? Just learnt to ride? Want to improve your skills?

NW Active are running Level 2 Bikeability at The Pingles Athletics Stadium over February Half Term!

WHAT IS BIKEABILITY? Bikeability is the national cycle training programme supported and funded by the Department for Transport. The course builds the skills and confidence of children who can already ride. Bikeability can not only make children better cyclists - potentially for the rest of their lives - but can help with general confidence and independent thinking. All of our Bikeability training is delivered by qualified, professional, DBS checked National Standard Instructors. Visit www.bikeability.org.uk for more information



Level 1 takes place in an off road environment and teaches riders how to control and master their bikes



Level 2 gives participants on-road experience in residential traffic to help them prepare to make short journeys by bicycle



Level 3 teaches individuals the skills to ride effectively on more complex roads and in further challenging traffic situations



COURSE INFORMATION	WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD NEED?
<p>Bikeability Level (s) – Level 2 – ROAD Based Training Date – Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th <u>OR</u> Thursday 19th February Choose ONE day when prompted in the consent process Time – 9am-4pm Year group/s– School Years 5 and above Cost: FREE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A complete consent form (Scan QR Code or follow URL) • A roadworthy bike without stabilisers (see checklist) • A helmet • Suitable clothing for the weather conditions • FREE Bike Lights for participants*

*Free lights can only be given to participants using their own cycle.

TO BOOK PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE or FOLLOW THE URL: <https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/wave-gave-angry>



Please note: We can provide a limited number of cycles and helmets for pupils to complete the course on. If your child has access to a cycle please ensure they bring it for the course. Only request to borrow one if you do not have a suitable cycle.

Please read our term and conditions below before signing up online.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Please read the following information before completing the online consent form. I understand that:

1. I agree to my son/daughter taking part in cycle training
2. My son/daughter can already ride (may be refused if not)
3. The instructors may refuse to train my child if they deem his/her bicycle to be unroadworthy
4. It remains my responsibility to ensure my child does not ride an unroadworthy bike and if I am in doubt as to whether a cycle is roadworthy I should seek the advice of a professional mechanic
5. Instructors may at any time refuse to continue to train my child if his/her behaviour or cycling ability is deemed unsuitable
6. Northern Warwickshire Active will not be responsible for any injury or liable for any loss or damage to participant's cycles and other belongings.'
7. I agree for my child to wear a helmet, which I will provide.
8. I consent to the Bikeability instructor 'adjusting' my child's helmet if required, however I confirm they are not responsible for the physical condition or appropriate fitting of the helmet
9. I understand that pupil data collected will be used to support the delivery and monitoring of training sessions/courses. See bikeability.org.uk/privacy-statement/ for further details.
10. I agree to encourage my child to practice after the completion of training.



www.bikeability.org.uk

Pre-course bike safety check

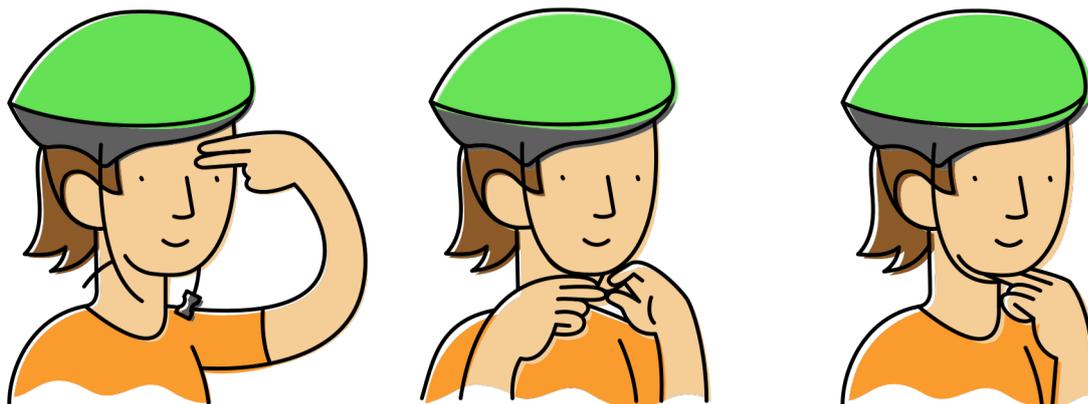
Visit Halfords online safety check www.halfords.com/cycling/bike-maintenance/care-plans/free-bike-check



Helmet Check

Your helmet should sit on top of your head comfortably, (not too tight or too loose), with the peak sitting about two fingers width from your eyebrows.

The side adjusters should sit just below your ears forming a nice V on the side of your head, and the chin strap should allow for two fingers to fit between it and your chin.



www.bikeability.org.uk