



Highlands School News

FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER 2019



Headteacher's News

We would like to inform parents and carers that the school is launching a new student attendance system after half term. Good attendance and punctuality are two of the most important factors in students achieving their academic potential and we expect our students to be in school on time every day. Our new attendance system will build on our already strong attendance and it will provide a more structured and timely system for responding to declines in attendance. Please take the time to read the information overleaf on our new attendance system. Highlands is an inclusive school and we support families whose children have health and well-being difficulties that impact on attendance to school. If you have any questions about our new attendance system please contact your child's Head of Year to discuss this further. Thank you for your support.

Wishing you all a restful half term break.

Mr McInerney

Student Attendance System

Guidance for Parents and Carers

At Highlands School we are committed to nurturing and supporting every student. We have an outstanding pastoral team dedicated to ensuring that student behaviour, character and attitudes reflect and support our school's DARE values. Excellent student attendance and punctuality are central to our expectations of our students. Research clearly shows that good attendance and punctuality to school are two of the most important factors in students achieving their full potential in education.

On Monday 28th October 2019 we will launch a new attendance system to ensure that we continue to promote good attendance and punctuality across all year groups. The main features of our new attendance system are as follows;

- Weekly monitoring of every student's attendance since the start of the school year.
- A clear set of actions to respond to any decline in a student's attendance.
- Communication with parents/carers via phone calls, letters and meetings.
- Recognition of students with excellent and/or improved attendance.
- Activities during tutor time to teach pupils the importance of good attendance and punctuality.
- We will also continue with our daily monitoring of students' attendance and contacting home when a student absence has not been reported to us by parents/carers.

How will we monitor attendance?

Attendance Bands

Ideally all pupils should aim for 100% attendance. However, the minimum target attendance figure for all pupils is 97% attendance. Each week your child's attendance score will place them in one of these attendance bands in our attendance diamond.

No Concern

Green Group: 97% - 100% of the time.

Concern

Yellow Group: 95% - 96.9%

Risk of Underachievement

Amber Group: 93% - 94.9% attendance.

Severe Risk of Underachievement

Pink Group: 90% - 92.9% of the time.

Persistently absent: Extreme Risk of Underachievement

Red Group: 0% - 89.9% of the time.

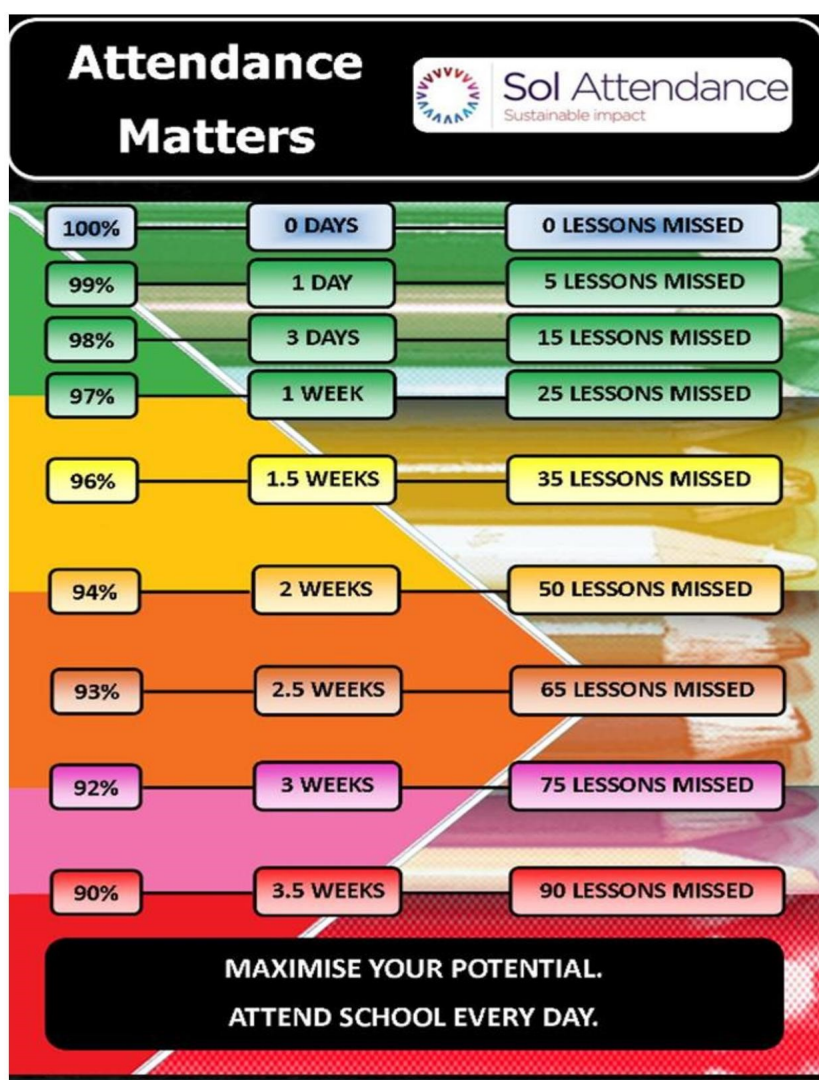


Parents will be sent termly updates of their child's attendance band.

- We will monitor your child's attendance on a daily basis. We will contact you via text message whenever your child is absent and you have not notified us.
- If a pupil is late for school they will receive a 20 minute detention on the same day after school.
- Each week we will monitor the attendance of all pupils using a centralised tracking system. Pupils are placed in one of the five attendance groups above based on their cumulative attendance each week.
- If a pupil's attendance decreases for one week then the form tutor will have an initial conversation with the pupil to find out why and to set them goals for improving their attendance. If the decrease continues then the school will take various steps such as: writing to parents/carers, inviting parents and carers in for a meeting and placing the pupil on attendance report. When attendance is becoming a cause for concern or has fallen to below 90% the pupil will be referred to our Education Welfare Officer.

What can parents and carers do to support good attendance?

- Ensure your child attends school every day, on time (by 8.40am), equipped and ready to learn.
- Do not let your child take time off for a cold, headache, cough or minor complaint.
- Ensure the school has up-to-date addresses and telephone numbers for parents/carers and an emergency contact.
- Respond to letters or telephone calls regarding attendance and punctuality.
- If your child is ill, contact the school for each day of absence to explain the absence.
- You may be asked for evidence authorising your child's absence. This is to ensure that student absence is clearly accounted for, so please support the school if you receive this request.
- Ensure that medical appointments are made outside of school time (we understand that hospital and specialist appointments may have to occur during school time).
- Students should not be taken out of school for holidays. If a leave of absence during term time is unavoidable due to family emergency then parents and carers should send a written request to the Headteacher. A penalty notice will be issued for parents who take their child on an unauthorised leave of absence.
- Contact your child's Head of Year if you require support in getting your child to attend school on time every day and punctually.
- Parents/carers are legally required to ensure that their child attends school on a regular basis.



Academic Review Day 2019

Our annual Academic Review Day will be held on Thursday 14 November. This is an opportunity for parents/carers and students to meet with the form tutor to discuss progress made so far this school year and to identify how we can best work together to support learning at school and home. Year 11 students will also focus in their meeting on options for post 16 education and the sixth form.

Appointments are made with the form tutor throughout the school day and we will invite you to give your preferred time slot in a letter that will be sent home after the half-term break. Please note that students are only required to attend school for their appointment slot on Academic Review Day and no other lessons will run on this day.

Mr Tuton, Deputy Headteacher

Don't forget
Academic
Review Day!



The poster features a dark blue background with a brick wall pattern. At the top, 'Sat 16 Nov 2019' is written in green and pink. Below this, 'HIGHLANDS' is in large green block letters, and 'Quiz Night' is in large, stylized pink and blue neon script. A large green arrow on the left points down and contains the letters 'H P F A'. Various colorful icons are scattered around the text, including a paw print, headphones, musical notes, a cassette tape, a sandwich, a television, a percentage sign, a question mark, and laboratory glassware. At the bottom, there are sections for ticket information, event details, and sponsors.

Sat 16 Nov 2019

HIGHLANDS

Quiz Night

£10 per ticket (over 16's)
Maximum 10 people per table.

Ticket Includes a Light Supper.

Please purchase tickets in advance only via Parentpay.

Tickets can be booked as individual seats or tables.

Doors will open at 7.00pm
for a prompt start at 7.30pm
Finishing approx. 10.00pm.

Well stocked bar will be available on the night at affordable prices.
Please DO NOT bring your own food & drinks.

Sponsored by

Be with BELVOIR!
Lettings & Sales

If you require further information please contact HPFAEventTickets@gmail.com

Year 10 Trip to Knitting and Stitching Show

On Thursday 10th October, the GCSE Textiles students went on an educational trip to the Knit and Stitch show at Alexandra Palace. Our class primarily went there to try and find materials for our GCSE coursework. However, we also found an impressive collection of galleries, filled with beautiful pieces of artists' and post-graduate students' textiles work. There were also a variety of workshops available, demonstrating multiple techniques. One of the highlights of the trip was looking at all of the different materials for sale. There were also fashion shows throughout the day, where designers showed off their stunning pieces of clothing. In the 4 hours that we were there, many of us successfully purchased suitable materials and components to include in our coursework. Some of us were shopping to the very end! Some of us enjoyed it so much that we would definitely go there again on our own!



By Elisa Saturnino, Hannah Griffith, Sophia Themistocleous and Tvisha Gupta

YEAR 12



Please be reminded that you should have started contacting potential employers for your Work Experience placement.

Use the half-term week wisely to continue this process by confirming your placements and return the agreed form.

Mrs Laurenzi
Careers leader



Safe Drive Stay Alive

On Tuesday 15th October we took all of the Year 12 students to the Millfield Theatre for a performance of 'Safe Drive Stay Alive'. This is a series of live educational performances featuring a sequence of films and speakers. It is aimed at new or pre-drivers and passengers, to educate them about the importance of being safe on the road.

Thank you to all staff and students who took part in the event.

Mrs Norton
Sixth Form



Chefs of the Week

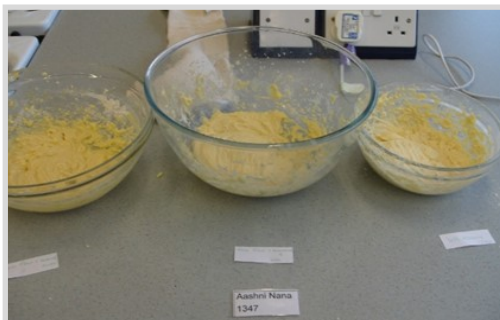
Pictured below are pizzas made by year 8 chefs, Calum, Channa and Alex from 8 Beech. Followed by some examples of work from my recent year 10 practical.

Mrs Southern



Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Experimental Work

Chemical Raising Agents



Tenderising and Marinading Meat



Exam Timetable November 2019

Date	Start	Duration	Board	Comp Code	Component Title	Level
Mon 4 Nov	09:00	01:45	EDEXL/GCSE	1EN0 01	English: Fiction & Imaginative Writing	GCSE
Tue 5 Nov	09:00	01:30	EDEXL/GCSE	1MA1 1F	Maths: Non Calculator (F)	GCSE
Tue 5 Nov	09:00	01:30	EDEXL/GCSE	1MA1 1H	Maths: Non Calculator (H)	GCSE
Wed 6 Nov	09:00	02:05	EDEXL/GCSE	1EN0 02	English: Non-Fiction & Transactional Writing	GCSE
Thu 7 Nov	09:00	01:30	EDEXL/GCSE	1MA1 2F	Maths: Calculator (F)	GCSE
Thu 7 Nov	09:00	01:30	EDEXL/GCSE	1MA1 2H	Maths: Calculator (H)	GCSE
Fri 8 Nov	09:00	02:00	NCFE	V Cert	Health & Fitness	Lev 2
Mon 11 Nov	13:20	01:30	EDEXL/GCSE	1MA1 3F	Maths: Calculator (F)	GCSE
Mon 11 Nov	13:20	01:30	EDEXL/GCSE	1MA1 3H	Maths: Calculator (H)	GCSE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Highlands Parents & Friends Association

The Highlands Parents & Friends Association will be holding their AGM on Tuesday 12th November at 7pm in the main hall. Elections will take place for all positions on the committee, so please come along and learn of all the great work carried out and maybe get involved! This is a fantastic opportunity to help raise much needed funds for the school.

Nibbles served from 6.45pm.

Tony Smith



News from the Dance Department

Enfield Dance Festival 2020

Highlands School Dance Department are delighted to announce that, for the first time since 2009, we will be entering the Enfield Dance Festival. This event will be held at the Millfield Theatre in March 2020.

Highlands School first entered this annual festival in 2003. The festival is a fantastic performance opportunity for young dancers in Enfield schools to showcase their work, talents and passion for dance. We will endeavour to put together a strong group of dancers to create a truly challenging and inspiring piece of choreography to take to the festival. Further updates can be found in future newsletters and from speaking to Miss Brown.

Year 10 GCSE Dance meeting

If your child is currently in Year 10 and studying GCSE Dance, please come along to our information evening on Tuesday 12th November at 6:30pm. where Miss Brown will host the meeting in the Drama/Dance area. The informal information session will be an opportunity for you to ask questions about the course and deadlines, to hear all about the expectations concerning the GCSE Dance course, to look at example performance pieces and choreography, take a look at the theory paper and get a list of useful websites for revision.

You are also welcome to contact myself via email browna@highlands.enfield.sch.uk at anytime with regards to the evening and I am also happy to reply with a detailed update about your child's progress.

Many thanks and I hope to see you there,
Miss Brown



HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students:

Jakub Warnawski
Melisa Cambaz
Du Xiaoxia Hardyman-Rice
Charlie Northrop

Messages from the School Office

Letters Home: Whole year/whole school letters sent home can usually be located on the 'letters home' page of the school website. Recent letters sent or emailed home include the following:

- 17.10.19 6th Form Open Evening



Week B

(Week beginning 28.10.19)

Upcoming Events



Half Term

Monday 21st - Friday 25th October

Students return to school on Monday 28th
October (Week B)

Academic Review Day
Thursday 14th November

6th Form Open Evening
Wednesday 20th November 6pm-8pm



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

With under 3 months to go, we are starting to organise Christmas shoe boxes to be sent to underprivileged children across the world.

Please help us by sending in:

- Empty shoe boxes
- Wrapping paper
- Stationary (pens / pencils)
- Toothpaste / toothbrushes



Thank you for your support,
Mrs Selim



(All items to be sent to the English Office).

DEADLINE: 3rd November 2019.



PE News

You can get up-to-date information through our Instagram ([pehighlands](#)) and twitter ([highlandspe](#)) accounts.

Year 9 Football

On Thursday 10th October, Highlands' year 9 football team continued their fine league form into a tricky home fixture against Kingsmead School. After a very nervy first half, Highlands found themselves 0-1 down at the break. After a rejuvenated half time team talk and dust-down, the boys responded with four second half goals. This was a big win for the team and they now have maximum points in the league, heading into the half term break.

Mr Avann