



Highlands School News

3 FEBRUARY 2020



Headteacher's News

Last Monday Highlands School submitted data to the Department for Education for the first term of this year (September 2019 – December 2019). All schools submit data three times a year, at the end of each term. Two of the areas we submitted data on were exclusions and attendance. This has allowed us to review the impact of the changes we have made to attendance at Highlands and to assess the impact of the focus we have had over the last year on behaviour, particularly during social time.

Attendance

In September 2019 the school launched new attendance policies and procedures, appointed an attendance officer and has used assemblies, tutor time and parental contact to promote good attendance. I am pleased to say that our attendance for the first term this year has improved on last year. Overall school attendance is measured by two metrics, overall absence and persistent absence (PA). A student is persistently absent if their absence figure is above 10%. As you will see from the table below our overall attendance has improved. Our PA figure is significantly improved compared to this time last year and much better than national. I would like to thank all students, parents and staff (particularly the pastoral team) for bringing about this improvement.

	Term 1 2018	Term 1 2019	National
Overall absence	4.88%	4.24%	5.50%
Persistent absence	12.03%	9.69%	13.90%

Continued overleaf

Behaviour and exclusions

We have taken incremental steps since September 2018 to improve school behaviour during social time. Following the mobile phone ban in September 2018 we used CCTV to hold to account students who were littering and leaving their plates and dishes in the canteen, as a result the corridors and canteens are much tidier than they were. This year we increased the lunchtime supervision responsibilities of the senior leadership team and we also restructured the school day so that years 8-11 were at lunch together so they could be supervised more easily. From January this year we closed off certain parts of the building during break and lunch to further aid close supervision of students. These measures, along with a focus on behaviour standards in assemblies and in conversations with students and parents has seen a marked reduction in our exclusion figures. Overall, exclusions over the past 12 months (January 2019 - January 2020) were 36% lower than the preceding 12 months (January 2018 - January 2019). Making sure students understand our expectations and that there are consequences if they do not meet them helps secure good behaviour in schools and we will continue to promote positive behaviour at Highlands. I would like to thank parents, carers, students and staff for supporting the systems. Although our exclusions figures are improved and behaviour at break and lunches is better, we can still make further improvements to behaviour at Highlands. The launch of our new behaviour policy later this year will help us do this.

Year 8 Options Evening Wednesday 5th February

A reminder that Year 8 Options Evening is on Wednesday 5th February. This evening is being held to make sure that the GCSE options process is clear to parents, carers and students and to give students the opportunity to discuss GCSE options subject with the staff delivering them. Parents, carers and students should arrive at 6pm The evening will end at 7:30pm.

Year 8 Parents' Evening Wednesday 12th February

Year 8 parents' evening is on Wednesday 12th February. This will be the point at which GCSE option preferences will be submitted to staff. All year 8 parents should attend.

Message from GCSE Citizenship students

Shoe Box Campaign

We are running a 'Shoe Box' campaign for our Citizenship Action Project to help raise awareness for the homeless in London. In the boxes we ask for you to include anything you feel will help support the daily necessities for a homelessness person. This is open for all to anyone who would like to help and donate please. We look forward to receiving your goods to help make a difference. Please hand in all shoe boxes and items to the school office. Deadline to donate is by Thursday 6th February. Thank You.

Bake Sale

Citizenship 'Bake Sale' to help raise money for Centrepont (homeless charity)

Tuesday 4th February

In the main hall

At break time (plus lunch time if treats don't sell)

Treats are just 50p and £1

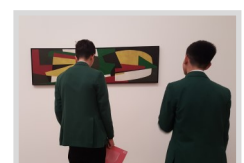
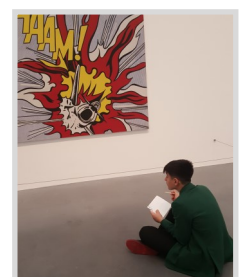
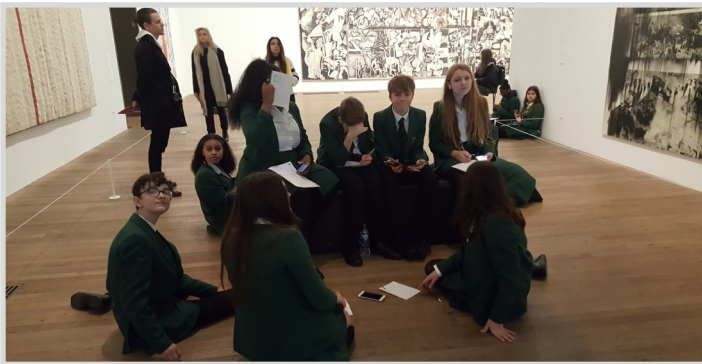
Mr McInerney



Art Trip to Tate Modern

Well done to Year 9, 10, 12 and 13 Art students who recently attended an art trip to Tate Modern. They represented the school extremely well, with excellent behaviour and produced some lovely work.

Mrs Chrysostomou





Economics in practice - Students learn the important role that the Bank of England has in all of our lives.

On Wednesday 29th January, as part of the Highlands Pathways Programme, we were fortunate to have a visit from Jill May, Member of the Prudential Regulation Committee at The Bank of England to talk about her executive career and about the challenges and future of the financial world in the years to come.

A select group of 6th Form students studying Economics and Business Studies were chosen to attend an enlightening hour and it was great for students to have an insight into the workings, priorities and future of such a significant and prestigious institution.

Jill talked about the history and role of the Bank of England in financial services, how bank notes are printed and circulated - that the highest denomination of a non-circulating bank note is of £100,000,000 referred to as the Titan, and most topical - how climate change can create financial risk.

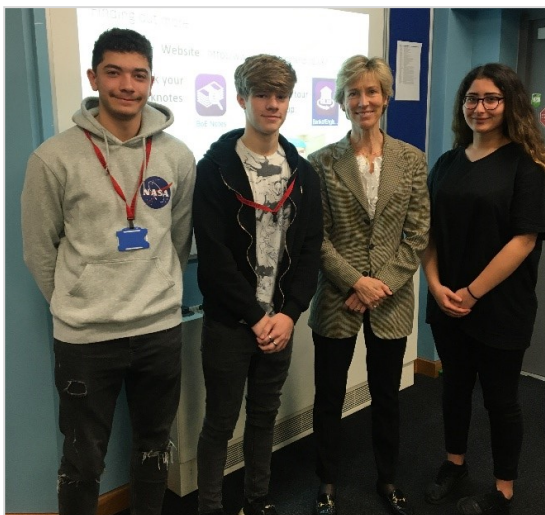
The highlight of the session was when the students got to take away shredded £20 note BBQ briquettes! When notes come out of circulation, they are shredded and then turned into reusable products – each briquette contains nearly a £1000. Some students had the idea of trying to piece them all back together – good luck with that!



The talk was followed with a Q&A session, allowing students to have a conversation around issues important to them such as the state of the UK's economy, future jobs and how Brexit might impact the country.

Our thanks go out to Jill May and the Bank of England for investing in our young people.

Mrs Laurenzi – Careers Leader





HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students:
Luke Gillmore-White, Christina Georgiou,
Georgina Zacharia, Bako Saman and
Amaya Edwards-Nassa.



Chefs of the Week

Below are some photos of my Year 10 GCSE first assessed practical products. Well done to Cruz, Aashni, Ketsia and Narissa.

Mrs Southern



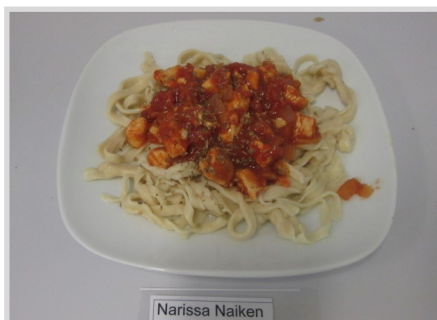
Aashni Nana



Cruz Ozan



Ketsia Mayudi



Narissa Naiken

Week B

(Week beginning 3.2.20)

Upcoming Events

Years 8/10 Options Evening
Wednesday 5 February

Year 8 Parents Evening
Wednesday 12 February.

Half Term
Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February
Students return to school on
Monday 24 February and follow Week B.

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:

- 23.1.20 Year 11 Prom
- 24.1.20 Options Evening Invite
- 28.1.20 Year 12 North London HE Fair Trip
- 30.1.20 Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 31.1.20 Measles letter



Year 7 Dance News

Year 7 have been learning a routine to 'I Just Can't Wait to be King' from the Disney musical, The Lion King. Each class have now completed their routines and can practise these at home. Please feel free to ask them to give you a performance of their work! They have been working really well, looking at accuracy of movements, building confidence up and working on their timing skills as well. After half term we will film the performances.



Miss Brown



Important note from the Safeguarding Team:

Please could you let us know for Safeguarding and Exam purposes, any changes in home circumstances as soon as possible, i.e. phone numbers, addresses or if your child is being temporarily cared for by a friend or relative.

Thank you, Safeguarding Team

PE News

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

Cross Country

Well done to all of the Highlands students who took part in the Cross Country on Thursday 23rd January. We saw some great performances from everyone, with Mia finishing 3rd and Selma finishing 14th in Middlesex for the juniors. Oscar finished 19th for the under 15's, smashing a new PB. All students who attended represented the school exceptionally well.

If your child wants to get involved next year, please advise them to join a local club such as Trent Park Running Club and express their interest when performing Cross Country at the start of the term.

Thanks,

Mr Joseph and Mr Johnston



London Virgin Mini Marathon Entry Process Enfield 2020

If you are a keen runner and run regularly for a club please see the PE Department if you wish to enter the London Mini Marathon.

Mr Johnston

London Marathon 2020

When 5 years ago Mr Johnson spoke to myself, Mr Goddard, our Headteacher at the time, and other staff including Mr Manel, Miss Constantas, Mr Larter and Ms Norton about the possibility of running the London Marathon in 2016 for the NSPCC, I never imagined that in 2020 I would still be training – albeit now for my 5th London marathon in a row.

In previous years I have represented Highlands School, helping raise money for the NSPCC, Mind, Teenage Cancer Trust and the Alzheimer's Society. This year money donated is going to Save the Children. If you would like to help the school raise money for this fantastic charity please sponsor me by going to www.virginmoneygiving.com and search **Team Highlands** and donate any amount – it all helps.

Thanks for your support.

Miss Brown



PE Clubs Jan – Apr 2020

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Lunchtime 1.35 – 2.10	GCSE intervention	Badminton	Volleyball		Basketball All years Sports Hall
After school 3.20 -4.45	Fixtures A-level/NCFE Intervention	GCSE Trampolining Girls football Fixtures	School Ed Extra programme 7-11 Staff CPD	Senior Basketball GCSE Intervention Club Fixtures	Netball Fixtures