



Highlands School News

FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2019



Headteacher's News

This week we welcomed students back to school after the half-term break. In the assemblies we held to welcome students back, we spoke to them about our new attendance system. I would like to remind parents and carers that we have now launched our new attendance system. 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.

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.

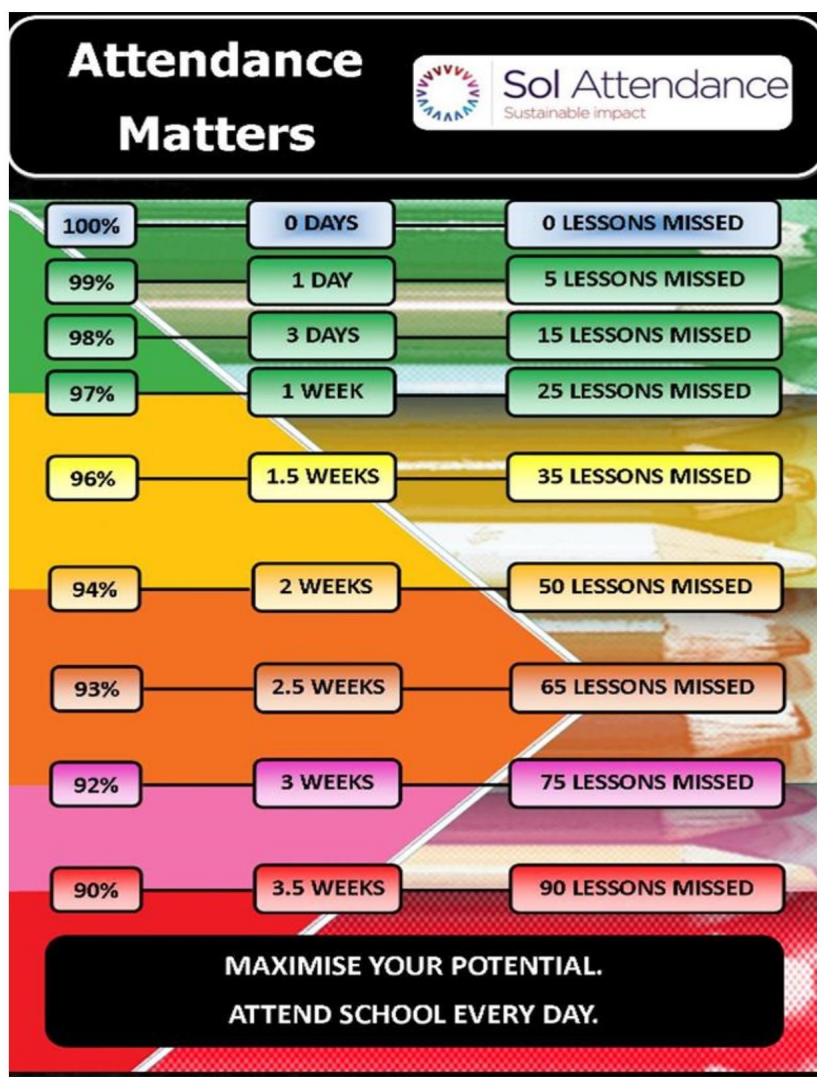


Parents will be sent termly updates of their child's attendance band.

- 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.





HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students:
Luca Boscarelli and Demilade Soyoye



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 have invited you to give your preferred time slot in a letter. This has now been sent home and is available on the school website. 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

Next week is week A

(Week beginning 4.11.19)

Upcoming Events

HPFA AGM

Tuesday 12th November

Academic Review Day

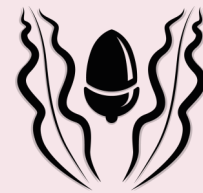
Thursday 14th November

6th Form Open Evening

Wednesday 20th November, 6pm-8pm

Year 13 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 27th November



6th Form Open Evening

Wednesday 20th November

6pm-8pm



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
- 1.11.19 Academic Review Day letter



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

British Sign Language (BSL) Level 1 classes

After school BSL Level 1 classes will not be starting as planned on 31st October. The current group have been delayed and will need further lessons to finish the course content. We will be letting you know of the revised start date very shortly. Please check newsletters and website for updates.

Sorry for any inconvenience,

Anita Biswas/Tina Kemp



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

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
- Stationery (pens / pencils)
- Toothpaste / toothbrushes

DEADLINE: 3rd November (all items to be sent to the English Office). Thank you for your support,

Mrs Selim



Sat **16** Nov
2019

HPFA

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.



Sponsored by

Be with
BELVOIR!

Lettings & Sales

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

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

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



A Level Geography Trip to Barcelona

Before half term, 19 A Level Geography students flew to Barcelona for six days for a field trip based by the coast in chic Sitges. It was a fantastic opportunity to explore new surroundings as a group and to experience a different culture, as well as get some excellent first-hand geography case study knowledge.

We were lucky enough to miss the Independence protests by 2 days. Day 1 we took the train in central Barcelona to study El Raval- just off the famous Ramblas - to learn about its poverty-stricken history and regeneration into the vibrant neighbourhood that it is today. Day 2 and 4 involved Coasts themes. Firstly studying sand dunes at three separate sites along the Barcelona coastline where we measured transects to see the vegetation successions and learnt about the formation and management of dunes. The final day looked at beach and coastal management in Sitges in some uncharacteristic drizzle in the morning. On Day 3, we were back to the city of Barcelona to see how it has become a sustainable city and to learn about the Olympic legacy, tying in with our Changing Places and Contemporary Urban Environments units.

The field trip was a very enjoyable experience that allowed our geography classes to form a closer bond and, educationally, will better support our case study knowledge going into our exams.

Samantha Malyon





Foodbank Collection

Join the fight against poverty in Enfield this Christmas and support the North London Foodbank.

Highlands School are proud to be supporting the North London Foodbank again this year and we will be collecting non-perishable food items, new toys and toiletries for them.

Many families this year will find it hard to make ends meet over the winter and some people struggle every week to provide nutritional food for their family. Please donate items for the Foodbank by sending them into school with your child, where there will be a drop-off point outside the main hall every morning from 11th November to 19th December.

New toys are also welcome as the Foodbank help to provide gifts for children who are being brought up by families where finding money to buy presents can be a challenge. Please provide new and unwrapped toys, so the Foodbank can easily sort through them and allocate them.

A list of items which can be donated are listed below. Let's make 2019 the year we make our biggest collection and contribution to help those in need in our local community. For more information about this collection, or how you can help, contact Miss Brown via the school email or directly at browna@highlands.enfield.sch.uk.

Please donate any of the following in new and unused condition:

- * New toys
- * Toilet roll
- * Shampoo/conditioner/any soap
- * Female sanitary items
- * Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- * Deodorant
- * Canned goods, especially tinned vegetables, fish and meat products (e.g. canned chilli or curry, tuna)
- * Rice or pasta
- * Boxes of breakfast cereal
- * Bottles of squash/tea/coffee/hot chocolate
- * Crisps/chocolate/biscuits
- * Cat and dog food

Any contribution, no matter how small, will be greatly appreciated.

Miss Brown



PE News

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

Boys Football League and Cup Results

Year 7

5-1 win v Grammar

7-4 win v Kingsmead

Year 8

V Finchley Catholic 2-2 won 4-3 on penalties
Middlesex Cup

V Latymer Won 2-0 Enfield Cup

V Ed county won 3-1

V Winchmore won 4-0

V Lea Valley won 2-0

V Gladsmore lost 3-1 Middlesex Cup

Year 9

Enfield Grammar 2-9 Highlands School

Highlands 3-0 Winchmore (Winchmore conceded via email)

Highlands School 4-1 Kingsmead

Year 10

7-2 win v Southgate

2-5 lost v Latymer

4-1 win Kingsmead

Seniors

V Ashmole lost 2-1 Middlesex Cup

Mr Johnston



Netball Club

Netball club for girls of all ages will now be running on Wednesdays from 2:30pm – 3:30pm.

Mrs Hutchinson
Head of Year 11 and PE teacher