

Highlands School News



23rd April 2021



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Headteacher's introduction

This week we welcomed our students back to school following the Easter break. Over the holiday we had hundreds of our students in years 10, 11 and 13 on site to take part in our Easter revision school. I was in school during the first week with the chair of our governing body, Matt Miller, and we were enormously impressed at the high levels of attendance, focus and engagement that we witnessed. Thank you to the students who attended and many thanks to the staff who gave up their time over the Easter holiday to teach the classes.

Next week is the final week of revision for students in years 10, 11 and 13 before their end of year assessments. We will be writing to parents and carers of students in those year groups soon with information about arrangements for the end of the assessment period.

Today Highlands says goodbye to Paul O'Brian, our IT strategy manager. Paul has been with us for over a decade and we thank him and wish him all the best in his new role in South London.

Finally, I would like to remind parents and carers that they should not come to school to drop off items to be given to students during the school day. As part of our COVID-19 risk assessment we do not accept items brought to school unless it is an emergency.

I hope everyone has a restful weekend and gets the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine.

Mr McInerney Headteacher, Highlands School

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Twitter: @Highlands sch

Instagram: @highlandssch



Library Announcements

A huge congratulations to the winners from the World Book Day competition held on the 4th March 2021. They were presented with a certificate and a book voucher from the Headteacher.





What an amazing achievement!

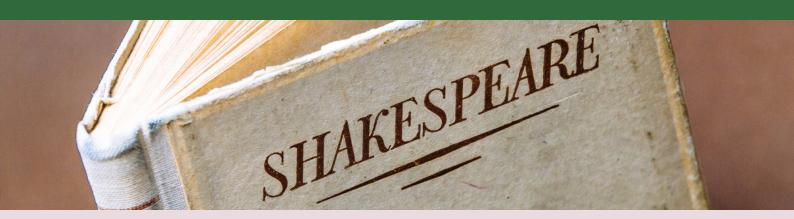
Library Recommended Reads

Why not have a go at reading some or even all of the books? The library has many of them in stock and you can let your English teacher know how you get on. Good Luck!

Here is the shortlist for the Carnegie Medal 2021. You can pick up a copy from the library or from any book retailers.

- Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo (Hot Key Books)
- The Girl Who Speaks Bear by Sophie Anderson, illustrated by Kathrin Honesta (Usborne)
- The Girl Who Became A Tree by Joseph Coelho, illustrated by Kate Milner (Otter-Barry Books)
- On Midnight Beach by Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick (Faber)
- Run, Rebel by Manjeet Mann (Penguin Random House Children's)
- Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds (Knights Of)
- The Fountains Of Silence by Ruta Sepetys (Penguin Random House Children's)
- Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk (Penguin Random House Children's)

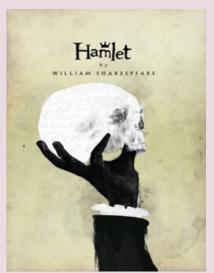




Shakespeare is known as one of the greatest English writers, creating at least 38 plays and over 150 poems. The library and the English Faculty have collaborated and produced a competition celebrating Shakespeare's birthday on Friday 23rd April, which has a £10 book voucher as a prize!

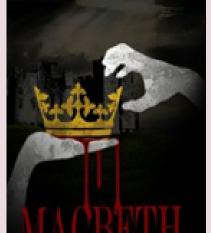
Fun Fact: Shakespeare died on his birthday 52 years later in 1616!

COMPETITION DETAILS: You are to create Shakespeare's next masterpiece! Make up a title, design the front cover and write a brief synopsis for his brand new play. Let's look at some examples to get you started:



The ghost of the King of Denmark tells his son Hamlet to avenge his murder by killing the new king, Hamlet's uncle. Hamlet feigns madness, contemplates life and death, and seeks revenge. His uncle, fearing for his life, also devises plots to kill Hamlet.





A brave Scottish general named Macbeth receives a prophecy from a trio of witches that one day he will become King of Scotland. Consumed by ambition and spurred to action by his wife, Macbeth murders King Duncan and takes the Scottish throne for himself. He is then wracked with guilt and paranoia.

Looking forward to picking the winners!



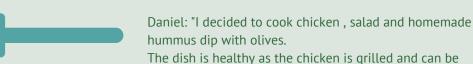
Student work: Year 10 food technology practical exam

Here are some of the highlights from year 10's practical exam for food technology. The students have been focusing on different elements that contribute towards a delicious dish; from seasoning, to spices and texture. Here are some examples of students work:

Rebecca: "I selected this dish because it was an Asian cuisine with different ingredients that gave my dish colour, taste and texture."







served with bread."

Amelia: "For my dish I decided to make blueberry with white chocolate butter cream. My dish is well presented and makes an excellent dessert or cake at tea time."







The music department would like to remind Parents / Carers that music lessons are due to start from w/c 26th April 2021, and the different categories of lessons will be taught as follows this term:

Individual = 10 x Individual 20 or 30 minute lessons given weekly Paired = 5 x individual 30 minute lessons given fortnightly Group = 5 x individual 20 minute lessons given fortnightly

Tutoring Schedules

Ms Ayren (Piano/ Keyboard Tutor) Thursdays

Mr Hawkins (Band and Guitar Tutor) Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays

Mr Turpin (Cello Tutor) Thursdays

Mr Thomas (Woodwind Tutor) Wednesdays

Mr Queally (Guitar Tutor) Thursdays tbc



Covid-19 arrangements

There have not been any updates to music-related guidance that affect the EMS risk assessment for tuition since last term, however these will be refreshed this week and will be available **here.**









REMINDERS, NOTICES & CONTACTS





CHILDLINE

Childline is a free, private and confidential service where you can talk about anything.

Important update: Childline is working a little differently because of Coronavirus. However, you can still speak to a counsellor every day from 9am to 3:30pm.

Visit www.childline.org.uk

SHOUT

Shout is a 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help.

Text SHOUT to 85258





LGBT+ SWITCHBOARD

The LGBT+ helpline provides a safe space for individuals to discuss anything they like, including; sexuality, gender identity, sexual health and emotional well-being.

Their mission is to ensure LGBT+ people are informed and empowered.

Call 0300 330 0630 or visit www.switchboard.lgbt

STUDENT EQUIPMENT

From 19th April 2021 whiteboard pens will become a part of student equipment that will need replacing at their expense, in the same way as other pens and pencils. Mini whiteboards have quickly become part of our classroom routines and are a fantastic way for teachers to assess learning and spot any misconceptions. They are especially useful whilst COVID-19 measures are in place, but we will be continuing their use once things return to normal and into the next school year. Multi-packs of whiteboard (dry erase) pens can be bought at an affordable price from Amazon, most supermarkets and stationery stores. For any student who has lost a mini whiteboard, we will be selling replacements from the school office from 19th April 2021, with the cost still to be determined.