# **Highlands School News**

23 October 2020



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@Highlands\_sch

@highlandssch

Today is the last day of our first half term. Despite the significant changes at Highlands since September our students, staff and parents and carers have worked together to make the start of term a success. Today I had the pleasure of giving out dozens of awards to year 11 students who had gained the most achievement points this half term. Other members of staff did the same with the other year groups. You can read all about it and see pictures of the students in this week's newsletter. I would like to wish all members of the Highlands School community a well earned break and I look forward to seeing everyone once we return to school on Monday 2nd November.

#### YEAR 10, 11 AND SIXTH FORM INTERVENTION AFTER HALF TERM

When we staggered the start of the school day for this September we deliberately gave years 10-13 the early start and early finish. This was because we knew that we would need time to run intervention, revision and exam preparation sessions with years 10-13 and that doing this from 2:30pm would be better than starting the sessions at 3:35pm. After half term our after school interventions sessions will start running for years 10 and 11 in the lead up to their mock exams, which will take place from Wednesday 18th November to 27th November. Ms Lloyd, the deputy head responsible for curriculum, outlined the approach to mock exams in the newsletter we sent two weeks ago. Today we have shared the mock exam feature newsletter which has information on the mock exam timetables, revision and how you can support your child in preparing for mock exams. Please be aware that after half term we will be asking some students to stay in school for intervention from 2:30pm for an hour to an hour-and-a-half after school. If invited to intervention, attendance will be compulsory.

#### BROMCOM PARENT AND STUDENT INTERFACE LAUNCH

On the next page you can read details of how to access our new parent and student portal, which will give you access to your child's achievement points, behaviour events and timetable. Please follow the instructions so you can get access to this important information about your child.

Vincent McInerney, headteacher

# MY CHILD AT SCHOOL AND STUDENT PORTAL - WEBSITE AND APP



This September we moved to a new information management system called Bromcom and with it a new parent/carer and student portal which allows access to information about your child at school. We launched access to the sites last week and expect that each parent and student will access the information regularly to keep up-to-date with the data we collect about our students.

At the moment this will include attendance, behaviour, the timetable and exam results. In the future we will be able to include assessment data and the ability to communicate with the school.

# For parents & carers

Check your emails for an invitation from the school to join the service. *Subject: MCAS - Redeem Invitation Code*.

Click the link in the email to be taken to the invitation page. Your details should automatically follow you.

If the automated link does not work then click on **<u>Redeem Invitation Code</u>** 

The school ID is **12074.** Use the username and invitation code sent in the welcome email.

You will be asked to verify your email address, please ensure you do this to confirm your profile.

### For students

Students have received an invitation email in their school Gmail account and should follow the instructions to access the student portal.

Once logged in, the home page (dashboard) contains panels with summary information and a menu down the left hand side. To access more detail you can either click on the more button on any panel or select the appropriate tab on the side bar menu. Panels can be moved around on the home page by selecting and dragging them to a new location.

If you have more than one child at the school you can toggle between them by clicking their name next to their photograph, this will open a selection box to swap between children. Clicking on the three line menu icon minimises the menu sidebar. If you cannot see the child's name next to their photograph then the bar is minimised and clicking the three lines will open it up again.

# The behaviour panel

It is particularly important that parents/carers regularly review the behaviour panel and identify the positive and negative behaviour events awarded to students. The positive events have an A code and the negative events a C code. Please refer to the **behaviour policy** available on the website which explains our rewards and sanctions.

After clicking 'more' to expand the behaviour panel parents/carer will see a calendar. Clicking on a red or green date will bring up a list of the positive or negative events awarded on that date.

| September |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S         | М  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |
|           |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6         | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13        | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |

#### **Behaviour Events**

| Date       | Subject  | Event                                     |
|------------|----------|---|
| 25/09/2020 | Business | Excellent contribution to the lesson (A1) |

Students' achievement points are monitored and those with the top 60 achievement points scores will be rewarded each half term with a special end of year achievement celebration. This means we will always be rewarding at least a quarter of each year group (see appendix 3).

Parents/carers are reminded that our new behaviour policy includes the automatic setting of an after school detention on any day that a student receives a C2 or C3 negative behaviour (see appendix 4 in the behaviour policy). Students who receive a C2 or C3 before 1.30pm, will sit their detention on the day the C2 or C3 was allocated. Students who receive a C2 or C3 after 1.30pm will sit the detention on the following school day. Parents will receive a notification email on the afternoon the detention will be sat.

Student concern points are monitored and when they reach triggers set in the policy, specific interventions will be put in place. Parents/carers will be notified when their child's behaviour reaches a trigger point. However, parents/carers can monitor their child's behaviour point score on the calendar view of the behaviour section.

### The attendance panel

The panel shows today's registration marks. Clicking on more shows a calendar with any absences highlighted. The year can be changed to look at historical attendance records.

### The exam panel

This shows exam results and will also be updated to show entries and exam timetables. Please note that we have not yet uploaded all results from this summer or entries for the October and November exams.

#### Student and contact details

Please check the details we hold for the student and the contacts. If any information is incorrect you can update these and submit the changes to the school for processing.

We hope to release further features of the portals in due course. If you wish to read a full user guide it is available on our website **HERE**. Please note that the communication section is not yet functional and if you have any questions about the service please contact the school postbox@highlands.enfield.sch.uk.

| Question   | Response   |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Log in details<br>incorrect/not<br>working                     | Some issues can be solved by the user by requesting new details. If you are having difficulty with your log in details please email <u>itstudent@highlearn.uk</u> .  |  |  |
| l can only see one of<br>my children or they<br>are not linked | You may have received two separate accounts one for each child. This is not expected behaviour and may be because the student contact (your details) has been duplicated when your second child joined. Please email <u>postbox@highlands.enfield.sch.uk</u> |  |  |
| l did not receive the<br>welcome email last<br>week            | Please check your spam box and then contact the postbox email above if you can not find the email  |  |  |
| Incorrect exam grade   | Please email Mrs Bell with the details of exam grades you believe are incorrectly recorded.<br>This may be as a result of an appeal that changed the original grade. <u>bellc@highlearn.uk</u>   |  |  |
| Missing exam grade   | At the moment we do not have the full set of results for 2020 in the new system. Some previous BTEC results will not show.   |  |  |

# FAQ's for my child at school

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### NEWSLETTER



# DARE AWARDS

The staff at Highlands School have been so impressed with the way our students have adapted to our new routines since the start of the school year. They have demonstrated a great deal of resilience and determination in coming back to school after the period of school closure. To recognise the significant efforts of our students staff have been issuing students with achievement points for exceptional attitudes to learning and for demonstrating our DARE values. A large number of students with the highest totals in each year group have been identified for their incredible efforts over the past half term through a variety of awards. Up to 60 students in each year group have been given awards including bronze, silver, gold and platinum certificates. Students who receive the gold and platinum awards are also entered into the gold and platinum prize draws, which will take place during the breakfast with the headteacher event they will be invited to attend after the half term holiday. Please join us in congratulating all of these students.

#### The following students are the platinum award winners:



#### OCTOBER 2020 23



### **YEAR 11**

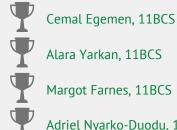


Naomi Rawding, 11BCS

Tanya Qusham, 11BCS

Natasha Nicholas, 11WAJ

Nikola Jestromska, 11RCT



Alara Yarkan, 11BCS

Margot Farnes, 11BCS

Adriel Nyarko-Duodu, 11BCS



Isabella O'Donovan, 11BJB

Nicholas Andreou, 11RKA



Mia Eleni Costi, 11BCS

Trinity Williams, 11BJB











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Rianna Biswas, 130DC





# THE ENGLISH FACULTY NEEDS YOU!



Can you design a silver certificate for the Highlands' Reading **Olympiad?** 

It needs to state: you have now read 5 books and completed 6 reading challenges.

Deadline: 23rd October. Scan your entry in and email to Mrs Selim.

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# NOTICES



### STAY SAFE

We are always here to support our students whenever they need it. If students feel like they need any kind of support, please speak to a member of staff on the school premises so we can help.



Alternatively, when off school premises or if you would like to speak to someone anonymously, you can also call or chat online with trained professionals at Childline. www.childline.org.uk



# YEAR 11 HIGHLANDS SIXTH FORM

We are aware that you are now considering your options post 16.

I would like to invite you to take a look at the offer we currently have at Highlands sixth form. Please go to our <u>virtual sixth form induction site</u> which was produced during lockdown. Have a look through this site and spend time looking at the information and videos provided by staff and students. An updated version of this site will be made available for the open evening on the 18th November.

After you have had a look through this site, please complete the survey **<u>HERE</u>**. This would be much appreciated.

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH COMPETITION

As a celebration of Black History Month in partnership with Jack Petchey, Highlands School is launching a writing competition to mark our contribution to Black History Month 2020. We would like to invite you to write an essay on any of the two BHM subjects below. All participants must be prepared to present their essay if needed to. Winners will receive £100 for first prize, £50 for second prize and £20 for third prize of Love2Shop vouchers.

Please choose from one of the two topics and send your response in by 26th October at 5:00pm to be considered for the prize. Send your essays by email as an MS Word document to Mrs D Maple (MapleD@highlearn.uk).



We will shortlist the top 3 essays will be added to the school newsletter and attached to the school website.

# What does Black History Month mean to you?

1

Guide note: Your essay (no longer than 800 words) should articulate views about its importance and significance from your perspective. 2

What great black British person or event do you feel is unheralded or unappreciated? Guide note: Your essay (no longer than 800 words) can be about a Black individual or significant event related to Black people in 20th/21st century history that you feel has not got the respect that they/it deserves.

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# NOTICES



# MULTICULTURAL MENU IN CANTEEN

To celebrate the upcoming cultural celebrations, our school canteen will be serving food from different countries once a week until the end of the year.





Italian: 12/11/2020 Main: Spaghetti bolognese Vegetarian: Vegetable bolognese Dessert: Lemon pudding



Japanese: 3/12/2020 Main: Teriyaki chicken with noodles Vegetarian: Macaroni and cheese Dessert: Vanilla sponge served with custard

Sri Lankan: 5/11/2020 Main: Rice and chicken curry Vegetarian: Aubergine curry Dessert: Ice cream and jelly



English: 19/11/2020 Main: Roast beef with roast potatoes Vegetarian: Bubble and squeak Dessert: Apple pie with custard



Main: Thai beef and coconut Vegetarian: Thai yellow vegetable curry Dessert: Carrot cake served with custard





Chinese: 26/11/2020 Main: Sweet and sour pork with noodles Vegetarian: Wok tossed oriental vegetables Dessert: Chocolate cake served with custard



Greek: 17/12/2020 Main: Lamb moussaka Vegetarian: Vegetable moussaka Dessert: Olive oil cake served with custard



# CAREER OF THE WEEK



### Firefighter

Although the title may suggest otherwise, firefighters aren't always fighting fires. They tackle a wide range of emergency situations where problem-solving and initiative is vital to resolve incidents quickly and calmly. These situations vary from tackling fires, searching, rescuing and protecting people and animals, by sustaining/preserving their life to protecting life and the environment from the effects of fire, natural and human disasters and hazardous materials (e.g. chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives).

They also respond to incidents involving planes, trains, road traffic collisions and marine emergencies. Firefighters also engage with the community to provide information, advice and guidance to individuals and groups around health, safety and wellbeing. Hours of work are unsociable, including nights, weekends and public holidays.

You can get into this job through a college course, an apprenticeship, applying directly to a fire service training course. You will usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 – 4. As part of the application you will need a test to assess your mechanical reasoning and fitness. Find out more **HERE**.

# Consider joining the fire cadets

If you're aged between 14-17 and are looking for a fun, challenging, exciting way to gain new skills, and develop your skill and confidence, why not join the Fire Cadets.





# MOOC (massive online open courses) of the week

### Food and Mood: Improving Mental Health Through Diet and Nutrition

Research has shown that students are able to learn better when they're well nourished, and eating healthy meals has been linked to higher grades, better memory and alertness, and faster information processing.

Learn how healthy dietary choices can improve your mental and brain health, why it matters and how to work towards positive food changes, including the role of our immune system and gut microbiome. For more information click **HERE**.

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# VIRTUAL CRAWLEY STEMFEST

We're excited to announce that the Virtual Crawley STEMfest will be taking place between the 12th and 21st November! **Tickets** are **FREE**!

#### CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE EVENT FROM THE 12TH TO THE 21ST NOV

Throughout the week, you'll have the flexibility to timetable a variety of virtual STEM careers activities and practical workshops. Activities include:



An interactive careers fair featuring pre-recorded content from STEM employers.

What's My Job? & Desert Island STEM Ambassadors careers games, designed to illustrate the variety of STEM careers and enable safe and light hearted engagement with STEM professionals.



Practical workshop activities, enabling students to try practical activities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

All activities are supported with downloadable worksheets and designed to take 45mins to complete.

Enjoy our half term STEM fest!

Dr Alice Len STEM Leader



#### VIRTUAL CAREERS EXHIBITION YR7 - YR12 (45 MINS)

A variety of employer stands to select and visual prompts to click to reveal pre-recorded content from employers about jobs and career pathways. Includes downloadable worksheet to write down notes and STEM labour market facts hidden on each stand.

#### WHAT IS MY JOB? YR6 - YR12 (40 MINS)

An employer engagement activity. Students guess people's jobs using clues provided in a series of pre-recorded film clips. They use a downloadable work sheet to make notes and write down their guesses when prompted. Students can securely send questions and will receive monitored responses as soon as possible.

#### DESERT ISLAND RISK YR6- YR12 (30 MINS)

Students watch a selection of employers describing their skills and tools used in their job. Then they decide who they want in their desert island team and complete a downloadable worksheet to explain their choices.

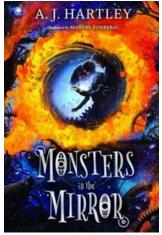
# STEM ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES (30 TO 45MINS EACH)

Conveniently categorised into STEM subjects. These inspiring employer and educator led practical activities will include: Edible geology with headline sponsors CGG, Journey to Mars with Atkins, sound engineer testing with the Institute of Acoustics, Coding with Crawley College and the math of carpentry with Crawley College.

Register **<u>HERE</u>** to receive latest information about the event.







### Monsters in the mirror

On Thursday 22nd October, a group of year 7 students, who were nominated for working above and beyond in their English lessons, attended an exclusive virtual LIVE read of the book Monsters in the Mirror by the award winning author, Andrew James Hartley. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions to A J Hartley after the LIVE read. This was then followed by a session of evaluation activities in the school library.

Thank you to all those who supported this event, including Mrs Selim and the English teachers, Mrs Mehmet LRC Assistant, Mr Annunziato and of course the amazing year 7 students who took part.

















### Under 18 and want to wise up about money?

WYZ (pronounced wise) Money is a free online financial literacy course sponsored by Open Palm Charity group. WYZ Money teaches teenagers how to manage personal finances and invest for the future; a key skill that will serve well in life and can lead to social mobility.

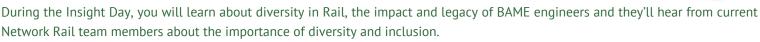
The programme also offers insights from qualified financial professionals about why this skill is important and how they use it in their day jobs. This will enable participants to see how the skill works in practice and learn more about the financial industry. If you are aged 13 - 17, you can register <u>HERE</u>.

# Pearson College London 'undergraduate open day designed by industry' Saturday 24th October 2020 - 10:30 a.m. online

The Business School offers degrees in Accounting, Business Management, Law and Marketing. These have all been designed alongside industry partners including Direct Line Group, IBM and L'Oreal. Students will learn in the heart of a FTSE100 company and gain skills to help get ahead in the increasingly competitive graduate job market. If you are aged 15 - 18, you can join the next Virtual Open Day <u>HERE</u>.

# Network Rail Insight Day - 29th October 2020

Every day, 4.8 million people use network rail. Keeping Britain moving and building a better railway for the future is full of challenges - but also tremendous opportunities. Network Rail has a huge range of careers across numerous business areas including: operations, maintenance, engineering and professional services.



You will also be set a rail engineering activity to complete. The Insight Day involves two live workshops - one at 1pm and another at 3pm. Students can participate live or watch them on-demand at a time that fits their schedule.

You must be aged between 14 and 18 years old to take part. Click <u>HERE</u> to register.

# UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair

Join the free UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair, open to students in Year 11, 12 and 13, on Wednesday 4th November, from 12pm - 6 pm. Designed to feel exactly like a Careers Fair, you'll be able to visit a virtual Exhibition Hall full of over 90 universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers and scroll through their colourful and informative stands and chat directly to representatives. There is also a virtual Auditorium where webinars will be taking place throughout the day led by university representatives and apprenticeship providers and packed with advice.

Russell Group, red brick, modern and specialist universities will be attending, including Southampton, Kent, Essex, Brighton, Birmingham, Hertfordshire, York, Liverpool, Cardiff, Goldsmiths.

Click <u>HERE</u> to register.





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# How to link your hobbies and interests to skills

Students often ask me how they can find a part-time job to gain work experience. My advice is before approaching companies and being offered a work placement, you will need a well-written CV (short for the Latin phrase curriculum vitae, which literally means "course of life"). A CV is an opportunity to show a potential employer your skills, educational achievements and experience.

Writing a CV can be difficult, but it can be even more challenging if you don't have relevant experience. Here are some skills and attributes that you may have gained from your different subjects and hobbies so you can write about them in your CV.











#### ART

Creativity, eye for detail, techniques, passion, patience, idea

#### DANCE

Creativity, dedication, resilience, confidence, perseverance, motivation, discipline, self-belief.

#### GAMING

Communication skills, analytical, resourcefulness and adaptability, technical skills and problem solving.

#### MUSIC

Dedication, creativity, teamwork (if in a band/orchestra), perseverance, memory, listening, collaboration, and confidence.

#### SPORTS/FITNESS

Motivation, communication, passion, dedication, teamwork, leadership, time-management and competitiveness.

In the next newsletter we will share what to include in a CV.

Please email me if you sign up to any of the featured opportunities. Thank you, Mrs Laurenzi, <u>laurenzs@highlearn.uk</u>











#### COOKING

Creativity, attention to detail, patience, self-expression, multitasking, decision making.

#### DRAMA

Confidence, self-awareness, presentation skills, dedication, resilience, teamwork, communication skills, creativity

#### MAKEUP & FASHION

Creativity, following trends, research techniques, interpersonal skills, confidence, attention to detail.

#### READING

Imagination, empathy, creativity, and attentiveness.

#### **VOLENTEER WORK**

Motivation, passion, personal values, dedication, communication, interpersonal skills, networking, sense of community and empathy.