

# Highlands School Newsletter

25 March 2022

## From the Deputy Headteacher

This week we have been celebrating World Autism Acceptance Week. Students have had assemblies to help them further understand autism and year 11 had the privilege of hearing from Mr Martin (one of our media studies teachers) about his experience of raising an autistic son. The assemblies this week highlighted the importance of kindness, respect, equality and understanding towards everyone. These are all qualities and values we hold in high esteem at our school. Approximately 14% of our student population has a special educational need, and we are the school of choice in Enfield for parents of children with an EHCP (Education and Health Care Plan). We are proud to be an inclusive school that supports all students to make excellent progress through our pastoral care and through high quality teaching. Mr McInerney will be writing to parents next week regarding some developments in our SEND department.

Year 10 students held a citizenship campaign this week as part of their GCSE course. Their campaigns focused on reducing youth crime in Enfield and lowering the voting age to 16 years of age. Year 7 and year 8 students visited the campaign stalls and talked to the year 10s about issues relating to crime, voting and political participation. Highlands School has a strong commitment to active citizenship. We teach all students how to make a positive contribution to their community and we give them opportunities to do this at school through student leadership, charitable events, sporting events and extra-curricular programmes such as The Duke of Edinburgh Award. All students study citizenship, which gives them the robust academic basis for becoming informed and active citizens. Well done to all year 10 citizenship students for their efforts this week.

We have been making the final arrangements for our Easter revision school. We will be offering year 10 and year 11 students a range of revision sessions over the Easter break to further support them in feeling confident and prepared for their forthcoming GCSE exams. Parents and carers have been sent a separate communication about these sessions, with a permission form. Please can parents and carers complete and return the form by next Tuesday. We look forward to seeing our year 10 and 11 students at these sessions.

I would like to bring to the attention of parents and carers that we have had complaints from members of the community, raising concerns about the behaviour of a small number of students after school hours. These behaviour concerns are taking place at the shops and bus stops around the Jolly Farmers Pub, on buses, in Sainsbury's and at Boxer's Lake. The behaviours being reported consist of rudeness to members of the public, the use of discriminatory language, pushing and shoving on buses, littering, graffitiing, throwing items on buses, play fighting and serious harm to the wildlife at Boxer's Lake. We know that the vast majority of our students have exemplary behaviour inside and out of school, but hearing that any of our students are behaving in this manner is very upsetting. We have investigated these incidents and students have been sanctioned. Serious behaviour in school or outside school may lead to students losing their place at Highlands School. We are increasing staff presence after school in the areas where the main concerns are taking place. We request that parents and carers remind their children about positive behaviour in the community and not hanging around after school in large groups. The safest option for all students is to make their way home or to their next destination swiftly. All year groups have had assemblies on Friday reinforcing these expectations so we hope that with parent support, we will see an improvement.

After the huge success of our Halloween discos for years 7, 8 and 9, we will be hosting spring discos next week. Please see further on in this newsletter for more information and how to book tickets. The HPFA will be selling refreshments at the disco and all proceeds will be donated to support people suffering from the devastating impact of the war in Ukraine.

Next Friday 1st April is the end of spring term. Students will all attend an assembly and lessons in the morning. Years 8-13 will then be dismissed by 11:50 and year 7 will be dismissed by 12:10.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Ms Phillips  
Deputy Headteacher

### Highlands Parents and Friends Association (HPFA) Easter raffle

Please support this fundraising Easter raffle organised by the HPFA. Full payment details have been emailed out on Friday and the raffle link is <https://app.galabid.com/hpfaeasterraffle>

The deadline is 29th March - winners will be announced next week.

### The Librarian's Easter reads

Some books are already available in the library to read and the rest will be ready to borrow in the summer term.



### Dr Len's STEM announcements

**HIGH**



**STEM**

**MEDIC  
MENTOR**  
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY



**Get Into Medicine conferences are FREE to attend for a limited time only.**

Be sure to make the most of this opportunity register below:

<https://medicmentor.co.uk/get-into-conferences/>

Free spaces are limited, so please register as soon as you can for the following dates:

**Saturday 2nd April**

**Sunday 3rd April**

Dr Siva and Dr Kennedy, who have over 10 years experience in the medical application process, will be covering the following crucial topics:

- CV building
- Getting work experience
- Medical personal statements
- Medical school interviews
- UCAT & BMAT entrance exams
- How to access medical awards, prizes, leadership programmes and scholarships to study medicine at university.

You will also receive a certificate of attendance - a great addition to your UCAS application.

This conference is suitable for students in 10-12 or S3-S5 year groups who are interested in becoming doctors in the future.

This is a student and parent conference - Medic Mentor looks forward to helping parents and students support them on their medical journey and university applications.

Students just need to click the link below to secure their spot:

<https://medicmentor.co.uk/get-into-conferences/>

### **Find out about STEM careers in the Met Police - Watch videos from STEM ambassadors**

A career in the police service is not just about those working on the front line. There are many that are working behind and around the scenes to bring vital information together.

Metropolitan Police STEM Ambassadors have recorded short videos of themselves explaining their job role and career in STEM. Some also focus on what it is like being a woman in STEM.

Through these insights you will hear from Crime Scene Examiners, Laboratory Technicians and a Reporting Scientist amongst others.

All videos will be available until the end of March and can be viewed as many times as you want, so can be shown in different classes and to different year groups. They cannot be downloaded so you will need access to an internet connection for them to be shown.

To receive access to the videos please click the link below to complete a short form, providing your school details and the year groups you wish to share the videos with. This is so we can capture data for the Met and the hub, which will help with future activities.

The link will be sent within two working days of your request being received by the hub.

[\*\*REGISTER HERE\*\*](#)

## New basketball hoops



The school recently purchased 4 new basketball hoops for outside use. They seem to be very well received by the students in keeping them occupied during break and lunch times, particularly now that the weather is improving.

## Extra-curricular clubs

The deadline to sign your child up to any summer term extra-curricular activity is Sunday 27th March, 6pm. An email was sent out on the week commencing 7th March to give parents the opportunity and time to sign their child up to a club.

Here is the timetable of extra-curricular clubs for the first half of the summer term (Tuesday 19th April to Friday 27th May). Clubs are based on a first come first serve basis, except for clubs where the teacher may invite specific pupils.

MONDAY					
Club	Year	Staff	Time	Venue	Maximum Capacity
Tennis	8-11	Mr Johnston	3:15 - 4:30	Playground	36
MFL Singing Club (Chante Avec Moi!)	7-11	Ms Sahraoui	3:15 - 3:50	L8	10
Anime/Manga Club	8-10	Ms Charles	3:15 - 4:15	E3	20
Debating Club	7-13	Mr Islam	3:30 - 4:30	H6	30
Art Attack	7-8	Mrs Yiangou	3:15 - 4:30	A6	15
GCSE Art Catch Up	10-11	Mrs Chrysostomou / Mrs McCalmont	3:15 - 4:30	A7	25
Music (GCSE support sessions)	Invite only	Mrs Miller	3:15 - 4:15	MM5	

TUESDAY					
Club	Year	Staff	Time	Venue	Maximum Capacity
Athletics	7-10	Mr Joseph	3:15 - 4:30	Field	32
Rounders	7-11	Ms Walters/Ms Berrill/Ms Hutchinson	3:15 - 4:30	Field	50
Lego Club	7 & 8 Invitation only	Mr Martin	3:15 - 4:30	MM15	12

THURSDAY					
Club	Year	Staff	Time	Venue	Maximum Capacity
GCSE PE Theory Club (for GCSE PE students sitting their exams this summer)		Mr Avann	3:15 - 4:00	PE4	30
Animation	7-9	Mr Martin	3:15 - 4:30	MM7	14
Music (Rock Choir)	7-11	Mrs Miller / Ms Maple	3:15 - 4:00	MM5	Unlimited
GCSE Art Catch Up	10-11	Mrs Chrysostomou / Mrs McCalmont	3:15 - 4:30	A7	25
Christian Faith Club	7-13	Miss Chinnery	3:15 - 4:30	H3	Unlimited

FRIDAY					
Club	Year	Staff	Time	Venue	Maximum Capacity
Basketball (Girls)	7-10	Ms Casimir-West	3:15 - 4:30	Sports Hall	25
Music (Orchestra)	Grade 1+ Orchestral instrument only	Mr Brunori	3:15 - 4:15	MM5	35

### Spring discos

Following the success of our Halloween discos in the autumn term, we will be hosting our spring discos next week, as follows:

**Year 9: Tuesday 29th March (5-7pm)**

**Year 8: Wednesday 30th March (5-7pm)**

**Year 7: Thursday 31st March (5-7pm)**

Tickets are now available to purchase through Parentpay.

### Medical room

As the weather is getting warmer, please ensure all pupils bring in a refillable water bottle into school each day. There is time at break and lunch time to refill their bottles in the canteen.

### Covid update

Below are the latest positive cases of covid. Please do not send your child to school if they have any Covid symptoms or if they test positive.

	No. of cases
Year 7	1
Year 8	2
Year 9	3
Year 10	4
Year 11	3
Year 12	3
Year 13	1
Staff	4

### Safeguarding contacts

If there is a concern about a Highlands School student, please contact the school on 020 8370 1100 or email the DSL at [staysafe@highlearn.uk](mailto:staysafe@highlearn.uk).

If the school cannot be contacted, please contact Enfield Children's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 020 8379 5555.

If a student is in immediate danger, call the police on 999 straight away.

### Helpful numbers and websites

**Childline:** 0800 1111

**NSPCC help line:** 0808 800 5000

**The police:** (if you are in danger): 999

**LGBT switchboard:** 0300 330 0630

**Kooth:** ([www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)) support service for students wellbeing

**Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub:** 0300 500 80 90

**Barnardos:** 0800 008 7005

Talk to someone:

- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel sad, anxious or unable to cope
- if someone has hurt you physically, emotionally or mentally
- if you feel worried about someone at home
- if you are being threatened or forced to do things
- if someone has done something to you without your consent
- if you feel unsafe in school, at home or on the streets
- about anything else worrying you
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