



# Highlands School Newsletter

25 February 2022

## From the Headteacher

### Events in Ukraine

I want to start this week by stating that Highlands School joins with so many other people and organisations across the world to express shock and great sadness at recent events in Ukraine. By coincidence, I was teaching my year 9 history class this Thursday and we were learning about relations between the major powers of Eastern Europe at the end of the First World War, including relations between Russia and Ukraine. History shows us that, too often over the past hundred years, countries in Eastern Europe have been subject to invasion and occupation by other more powerful nations. Too often have democracies been undermined by authoritarian regimes. We have many students at our school who come from families with links to Eastern European and the Baltic states and our thoughts are with those who are worried about friends and family in those areas and with the people of Ukraine.

### LGBT+ awareness week

At school this week we continued to celebrate LGBT+ awareness week. We welcomed external speakers from Diversity Role Models who carried out workshops with all of our year 8 classes. The external workshop leaders said that the students at Highlands were amongst the best behaved and positive they had worked with. I am proud of our year 8 students for the mature and inclusive approach they took to these sessions.

### Charity bake sale

This week we also held a charity bake sale on Wednesday in the main hall. Students from across all the year groups brought in cakes and we raised over £600 for charity. Photographs are below.

### Behaviour reminders

I would like to remind parents and students of our expectations around wearing jewellery at school. We have noticed recently that some students are not following this aspect of our behaviour and uniform policy. At Highlands we believe that prevention is much better than sanction and we kindly ask that parents and carers support the school in ensuring their children are following our jewellery expectations:

- Only one stud to be worn in each ear. We allow flexibility as to where in the ear this can be worn.
- No hoops or bars. The earring/s worn must be a stud.
- The only other jewellery that can be worn is a necklace / chain with a religious symbol on it.
- No other types of jewellery can be worn
- Nose and other facial jewellery is not permitted

Students who are not following these rules will be asked by a member of staff to hand in the jewellery item. This will be stored in the office and collected at the end of the day once a detention has been served.

### COVID update

The Government's new 'Living with Covid' guidance issued this week states "Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. After 5 days, they may choose to take a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) followed by another the next day - if both are negative, and they do not have a temperature, they can safely return to their normal routine. Those who test positive should avoid contact with anyone in an at risk group, including if they live in the same household." You will see the full summary to the guidance further down the newsletter.

Though the legal requirement to isolate has now been removed, we ask that our parents, students and staff still do all they can to protect our school community and if someone tests positive or are unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, they stay home as they would always have done if contagious with a cold or flu, to avoid infecting others. After a very difficult two years, we are all keen now to get back to as normal a life as we can, so it is important for all of us that we do all we can to protect each other. I would like to thank you all for your support during the pandemic, as we have adapted to all the changes. Please [click here](#) to view a letter to parents from the Director of Education.

Have a good weekend,

Mr McInerney,  
Headteacher

### Catering audit

Congratulations to our catering team in the canteen - their facilities recently undertook a catering audit - they received 100% outcome and received the following comments from the auditors - *"The entire kitchen, staff and the food was the best I have seen there which is testimony to them all and Marva as the manager."*

### World Book Day

The English faculty and library are inviting all year 8 students to an exciting 'World Book Day' event.

Robert Muchamore, writer of both the 'Robin Hood' and 'Cherub' series will be attending a virtual 'meet the author' event on Wednesday 2nd March from 2.00 - 2.45pm.

As this event takes place out of school hours, please ensure you complete the slip that has been attached to the letter emailed to parents this week and return to Mrs Mehmet in the library.

**Deadline: Friday 26th February.**

Thank you,  
Mrs Selim and Mrs Mehmet

### Selfie Challenge

With 'World Book Day' fast approaching, both the library and English faculty challenge you to take the most interesting selfie of yourself with your favourite book. Upload your selfies to the library google classroom.

**Deadline: 28th February**



### Congratulations

Congratulations to Zunara in year 12 who has been selected as the next First Sea Lord's Cadet for the London Area Sea Cadets. Zunara was selected following an interview and selection process at Sea Cadet Headquarters. Please [click here](#) to see a picture of Zunara at her inauguration event.

## Love is Kind

This week the student council held a hugely successful bake sale to raise money for our chosen charity 'Love is Kind', which supports victims of domestic violence in Enfield. We are so grateful for the incredible generosity of our school community. We had a large amount of delicious and very creative donations! We encouraged students to design their baking goods in a way that shows support for 'Love is Kind' and/or LGBT month. You can see some of the skilled baking and decoration techniques our students used in the photos. The photos don't do the quality or the quantity of the donations justice. Thank you to all of the students, staff, parents and carers for their overwhelming support.

Emma Rigby who leads 'Love is Kind' came to visit the event and was blown away by the support for the charity. The school would like to make a special mention to the following members of the student council and prefect team who helped make this event such a success.

- Shidaa Quartey
- Ann Siby
- Daisy Webb
- Eniola Showunmi
- Lucy Lord
- Emma Lord
- Timur Raif
- Luke Elborn
- Abigail Minden
- Matilda Gant
- Megan Faulkner
- Rain Kurt
- Lola Matthews
- Sheryce Crow







### International Women's Day

Please [click here](#) to view details from the library about International Women's Day.

### Messages from the Music Department



### From the PE department

Year 8 Enfield Cup Football result - Highlands 2-0 Enfield Grammar

Year 10 Highlands Basketball Team = League Winners!

Congratulations to everyone who represented the teams.

Mr Avann

## Education Extra classes

### Rock Choir Club

Club: Rock Choir

Venue: MM5

Day and Time: Thursday after school, 3:15 - 4:00

Years: 7-11

There are an unlimited number of spaces at this club. To attend you need to fill in the parental consent form which was sent out via email to all parents/carers before the half term break, to guarantee your place at this club.

### Samba Club

Club: Samba Club

Room: MM5

Day and Time: Tuesday's after school, 3:15 - 4:00

Year groups: 7-11

If anyone wants to join the samba club and learn to play samba instruments then this is a fantastic club to start your musical journey with. To sign up for the samba club simply fill in the parental consent form that was sent out before the half term break, check your inbox.

## Education Extra Timetable

The cut off date for signing up to Ed-extra classes this term is Wednesday 23rd February, 3:15pm.

Here is the timetable of extra curricular activities taking place from Monday 21st February to Friday 1st April.

To attend these clubs, a parental consent form must be completed.

<b><u>Monday</u></b>					
<b>Club</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Maximum Capacity</b>
GCSE PE Practical Club	<b>10-11</b>	Mr Avann, Mr Johnston	3:15 - 4:30	Sports Hall	
Netball	7-11	Mrs Walters / Mrs Hutchinson, Miss Berrill	3:15 - 4:30	Playground	40
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)	<b><u>Invite only</u></b>	Mrs Miller	3:15 - 4:15	MM5	
Music (Vocals and Instrumental)	<b><u>By request</u></b>	Ms Maple	3:15 - 4:15	Practice Rooms	

<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>					
Club	Year	Staff	Time	Venue	Maximum Capacity
Basketball (Boys)	9-13	Mr Daludado/Mr Joseph	3:15 - 4:30	Sports Hall	30
Football (Girls)	7-11	Mrs Walters, Mrs Hutchinson	3:15 - 4:30	Astro	60
Lego Club	<b><u>7 &amp; 8 Invitation only</u></b>	Mr Martin	3:15 - 4:30	MM15	12
Music (Samba)	7-11	Mr Johnston	3:15 - 4:00	MM5	15

<b><u>Thursday</u></b>					
Club	Year	Staff	Time	Venue	Maximum Capacity
Football (Boys)	7-9	Mr Joseph/ Mr Saviddes	3:15 - 4:30	Field	60
Trampoline	<b><u>(GCSE PE invite only)</u></b>	Mr Avann	<b>3:15 - 4:45</b>	Sports Hall	
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

<b><u>Friday</u></b>					
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
Music (Guitar Groups)	<b><u>(Invite only)</u></b>	Mr Hawkins	3:15 - 4:15	Music Corridor	20

### COVID-19 update

This week the positive cases of covid reported to us were as follows:

Year 7	1
Year 8	2
Year 9	1
Year 10	-
Year 11	2
Year 12	-
Year 13	-
Staff	-

Further to the Prime Minister's Living with Covid announcement on Monday, below is a summary of the new guidance:

#### **From 21 February the Government is:**

- Removing the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing.

#### **From 24 February the Government will:**

- Remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.
- No longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.
- End self-isolation support payments, national funding for practical support and the medicine delivery service will no longer be available.
- End routine contact tracing. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests.
- End the legal obligation for individuals to tell their employers when they are required to self-isolate.
- Revoke The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 3) Regulations.

#### **From 24 March, the Government will:**

- Remove the COVID-19 provisions within the Statutory Sick Pay and Employment and Support Allowance regulations.

#### **From 1 April, the Government will:**

- Remove the current guidance on voluntary COVID-status certification in domestic settings and no longer recommend that certain venues use the NHS COVID Pass.
- Update guidance setting out the ongoing steps that people with COVID-19 should take to minimise contact with other people. This will align with the changes to testing.