

# **Highlands School Newsletter**

05 July 2024



Dear parents and carers,

This week we have a special feature newsletter sharing the results of the Highlands School General Election that was held on the morning of Thursday 4th July. I hope you read it to find out the results, look at photos of the campaigns and read the press releases the parties wrote at the end. Hundreds of our students stood for election and the whole school turned out to vote on election day. I am writing this on Thursday afternoon so the results of the UK General Election are not known yet, but we hope national election day goes as smoothly as our school election did.

Next week we will publish a special feature newsletter on our school show, Matilda!, showing this week at the Millfield Theatre. I am going to watch it on Friday night and am looking forward to it very much.

#### Key dates for this half term:

- Tuesday 9th July: Sports Day
- Thursday 11th July: New year 7 (Sept 24 intake) and current year 7 BBQ (6-8pm)
- Thursday 18th July: Thorpe Park trip for winning house, other houses in-school activity day
- Wednesday 24th July: end of term, students dismissed at midday
- Monday 2nd September: year 7 in school
- Tuesday 3rd September: year 7 and 12 in school
- Wednesday 4th September: other year groups in school for assembly and tutor time
- Thursday 5th September: normal teaching commences for all year groups

Have a great weekend, Mr McInerney, Headteacher



#### **Mock General Election**

Our school held a mock general election this week, featuring the Labour, Conservative, Liberal Democrat, and Green parties. Throughout the week, students from the four parties engaged in an impressive live debate, showcasing their party leaders' oratory skills and the distinctive policies of each party. Campaigns were in full swing, with leaders passionately representing their parties' values and manifestos. The event was a fantastic educational experience, allowing students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the voting system, the importance of political engagement, and the diverse policies each party advocates.

Well done to all of the leaders and campaigners. Read this week's special feature newsletter for more information on how our general election went and watch our Mock General Election reel on Instagram.





# **Transition evening**

Our Transition Evening this week was a great success, providing a wonderful opportunity to meet the families and our new year 7 students starting at Highlands in September. It was heartwarming to see the excitement as students met their form class members and their form tutor for the first time. It was also a great opportunity to speak to our staff and senior leadership team and ask any questions in preparation for September.



# **Year 7 Taster Day**

Our year 7 taster Day was an exciting event where new year 7 students visited our school to experience a day in the life of secondary education. They met their future teachers and classmates, explored the school facilities, and participated in a variety of fun and engaging activities. The day helped ease any anxieties they had about the transition, giving them a glimpse into the vibrant school community they will soon be a part of. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to start building friendships and become familiar with their new environment, making the move to secondary school a smoother and more enjoyable process.



# **Borough Athletics championships**

On Wednesday 3rd July the best athletes from Highlands took part in the borough championships at Lea Valley athletics stadium. Our students had a brilliant day with lots of them coming home with medals. A special mention to Faye in year 8 who retained her title in the 100m and also won a silver in the shot put and a bronze in the relay. George Robinson in year 9 did brilliantly too, winning a silver in the 200m and a silver in the long jump. Finally Stephanie Berko in year 8 came home with three bronze medals in the high jump, 200m and relay.

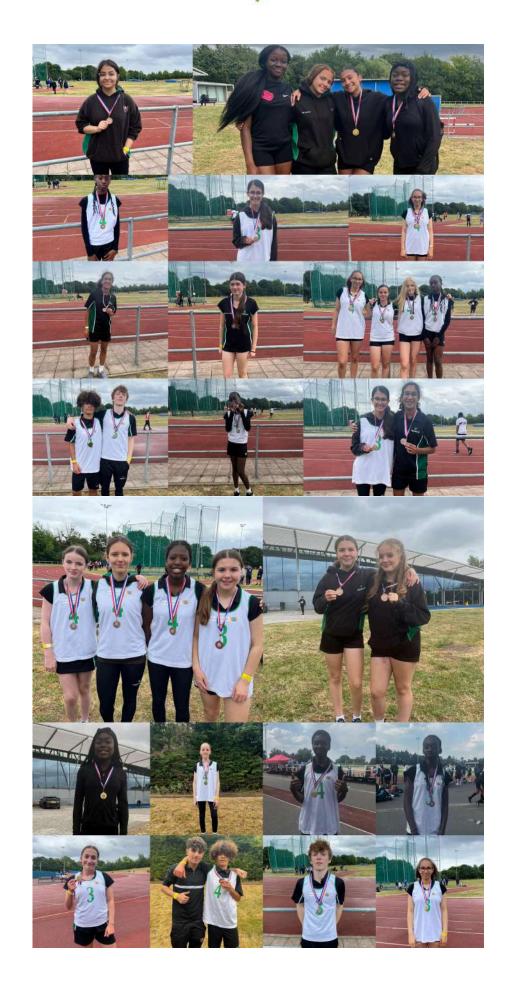
We await the team results. Well done to all our athletes, we are very proud of you all.

The PE department.

#### Here are the winners:

- Diana Tangestani Y9 Discus bronze
- Orla Dimery Y7 shot put silver
- Sibora Myftari Y7 long jump silver
- Elis Cristovao Y9 high jump bronze
- Lily Howard Y9 1500m bronze
- Darcy Dundridge Y10 javelin bronze
- Grace Caddle Y11 triple jump gold
- Erin Eastwood Y7 800m gold
- Israel Nortey Y7 high jump gold
- Stephanie Berko Y8 high jump bronze, Y8 200m bronze, Y8 relay bronze
- Millie Huetson-Varnava Y9 800m gold
- Emilio Harris Vital Y9 800m bronze
- George Robinson Y9 long jump silver, Y9 200m silver
- Faye Etuazim Y8 100m gold, Y8 shot put silver, Y8 relay bronze
- Annika Trivedi Y8 discus silver
- Anaiya Dhaliwal Y8 300m silver
- Bea Findlay Y8 long jump bronze
- Mia Ioannou Y8 relay bronze
- Leah Evans Y8 relay bronze
- Ella Mohan Y11 400m gold







# **Catering college success**

Congratulations to the following students who have been offered places to study at the Westminster Kingsway Catering College in Victoria. They will be joining many world-famous alumni including Jamie Oliver, Ainsley Harriott and Anthony Worral Thompson and Ms Simons! Well done and good luck.

Ailbe Ridge and Harvey Hunte: Westminster Kingsway College with professional chef diploma

Elisabeth Castells: Level 3 Extended Diploma in Hospitality at Westminster Kingsway College.







# **U18 National football champion!**

A massive congratulations to Connie Wakeford who won the ACES Nationals tournament with the Haringey U18s team. She scored two goals and got several assists during the day.

This is a fantastic achievement which Highlands School are extremely proud of. Well done Connie!

#### Mrs Hutchinson





# **Interfaith day at Highlands**

As part of our core RE curriculum for year 10, students took part in an Interfaith panel on Wednesday 3rd July. Students had the opportunity to hear from four guest speakers, representing the religions of Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Buddhism. The speakers shared how their religion impacts their life as well as what religious beliefs and practices are important to them. It was a great chance to reflect on our DARE values of respect and equality.

Students had the opportunity to ask questions to the panel, hearing their answers to a range of philosophical and ethical issues, such as healing, pilgrimage, science and creation. It was a chance to deepen students' understanding of different faiths and foster an atmosphere of respect, empathy and unity. The panel discussed the similarities and differences between the religions and reflected on how 'we have more in common than that which divides us' (Jo Cox MP).

We are really grateful to our guest speakers Mother Mitzi James from Clay Hill parish, Ms Sheikh from Highlands School, Syd Braham from the Board of Jewish Deputies and Taramalini from the London Buddhist Centre. The day provided an excellent opportunity for students to learn about the lived experiences of people from different faith communities.

#### Mrs Shah





# **Argentinian school visit**

We were delighted to welcome staff and students from Centro Britanico, an Argentinian school in Rosario to Highlands for an enriching cultural exchange. During their visit, they shared insights into Argentina's vibrant culture. The Argentinian students made brief presentations in English and Spanish about their country's culture, including a presentation of the typical Argentinian drinks and food that our students had the opportunity to try. They conversed in both languages during their stay and saw how people live in another culture.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed learning from their peers and deepening their understanding of global cultures.

#### Ms Bonfanti





# **London Hockey Youth Games**

Orla Dimery from 70DM represented Enfield in the London Hockey Youth Games on Sunday at Lee Valley Hockey Centre.

Orla was a key contributor to the team's attacking play as a forward, she was energetic, determined and tenacious. Throughout the year, she plays for Winchmore Hill and Enfield Hockey Club.

Well done Orla!



# Year 12 students shine during work experience

We are thrilled to share that our year 12 students recently completed a successful work experience programme, receiving glowing feedback from their host employers. Over the past two weeks, students had the opportunity to explore various career fields, gaining valuable insights and practical skills in real-world settings, including the NHS, TFL, law, dentistry, media, engineering, leisure centres, hospitality, floristry, charity, finance, construction, real estate, education, youth work, hairdressing and many more!



Employers praised our students for their professionalism, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn. Many commented on their impressive work ethic and ability to quickly adapt to new environments. This experience not only provided our students with a taste of their potential future careers but also helped them develop important soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the businesses and organisations that hosted our students and provided such enriching experiences. Your support and mentorship have been invaluable in shaping the futures of our young people.

Congratulations to our year 12 students for their hard work and for representing our school with excellence. We look forward to seeing the positive impact of this experience on their future

Mrs Laurenzi



# **Employer insight day at Lumon**

A group of our year 12 students recently had the exciting opportunity to participate in the Lumon Finance Insight Day, and their experience was nothing short of inspiring. Hosted by Lumon, a leading FX financial services company, the event provided an in-depth look into the world of finance and the various career paths it offers, including marketing, IT and compliance.

Throughout the day, students engaged in interactive sessions, panel discussions, and hands-on activities designed to give them a comprehensive understanding of a corporate company, team building challenges, ethical debates, brand development, CV writing and mock interviews

Students were also treated with lunch, a goody bag gift to take away with them and also had a tree planted in their name as part of Lumon's ongoing sustainability for business policy.

Our students were particularly impressed by the networking opportunities, as they connected with industry professionals and gained firsthand insights into the skills and qualifications needed to succeed in finance. The enthusiasm and curiosity shown by our students did not go unnoticed, with Lumon representatives commending their eagerness to learn and thoughtful questions.

We are incredibly proud of our students for making the most of this opportunity and for representing our school with such distinction. Special thanks to the employees of Lumon and to Future First for organising this insightful and engaging event.

Estella Yilmaz, Hasan Kiymaz, Rohat Gok, Hannah Bernasconi, Elyaas Uddin and Mohamed Osman.





# **Deaf Aspiration Day**

Our deaf students attended a Deaf Aspirations Day at Heathcote School, where they participated in sport activities and an inspiring deaf identity workshop led by Ollie Monksfield. Marios Costi spoke about his career as a deaf footballer, being the coach of the deaf women's futsal national team and as a tv presenter.

The day provided a valuable opportunity for our students to explore and celebrate their deaf identity, fostering a sense of pride and community.





# September 2024 new year 7 intake and current year 7 BBQ - 11th July

The HPFA would like to invite our current year 7s to join them for a summer BBQ event - full details are below. Tickets are free for year 7s but all students must be accompanied by an adult. The new year 7s who are due to join us in September have also been invited to attend, so it should be a fun event. Please click on this <u>link</u> to book your tickets. We would be grateful if anyone would be able to help on the night or donate prizes for our raffle. We will also be running a second hand uniform stall that night.

For those who are coming to the year 7 BBQ on **Thursday 11th July**, please remember to bring your ticket which you can show on your phone at the entrance. Doors will open at 6pm and the event will finish at 8pm. Please use the entrance which will be signposted on the day (towards the school tennis courts).

There will be food stalls selling a range of bbq style food (hot dogs and burgers) and vegetarian options. There will also be an ice cream van and candy floss stall. The HPFA will be running a drinks stall where soft drinks, wine, beer and Pimms can be purchased. Although card machines will be available, we would appreciate it if you could try to bring cash as it can be quicker!





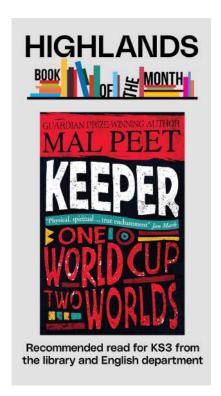
# Highlands book of the month - July

#### Recommended reads from the library and English department:

#### KS3:Keeper by Mal Peet

In the South American jungle a young boy meets and is coached by a mysterious, ghostly footballer. In time, he becomes a famous professional goalkeeper known as 'El Gato' - 'The Cat' - and wins the World Cup. In a newspaper office, Paul Faustino, South America's top football writer, sits opposite the man they call El Gato. On the table between them stands the World Cup. In the hours that follow, El Gato tells his incredible life story, how he, a poor logger's son, learns to become a World Cup winning goalkeeper so good he is almost unbeatable. And the most remarkable part of this story is the man who teaches him - the mysterious keeper, who haunts a football pitch at the heart of the claustrophobic forest. extraordinary, gripping tale pulses with the rhythms of football and the rainforest.

NOTE: Winner of the Branford Boase Award 2004.





#### KS4: Two Can Keep a Secret by Karen M McManus

Echo Ridge is reeling. This picturesque town, nestled near the Canadian border, experienced its first tragic loss in 1995 when high-school senior Sarah Corcoran vanished while walking home from the library. Then five years ago, homecoming queen Lacey Kilduff was found dead in the aptly named Murderland Halloween park. Now, the killer claims to be back.

A small town that keeps losing its homecoming queens. Two murders, still unsolved. Echo Ridge is not a good place to be popular.

NOTE: Contains strong language and sexual references. NOTE: Shortlisted for the Children's Book Award 2020



#### Headteacher awards

It is with immense pride and joy that we celebrate the exceptional achievements of our students as we honour the recipients of this week's prestigious headteacher award. An award that is presented to nominated students who exemplify dedication, hard work and excellence.

This week, the headteacher award is proudly presented to the following students.

- Elisia Huetson Varnava 10WDD, Millie Huetson Varnava 9BYC and Lily Howard 9RTC: Awarded for becoming national champions in the UK for Haringey Girls football team.
- Candice Grossman 12RCW: Awarded for working really hard and going above and beyond in her media lesson. Candice did exceptionally well in her work experience week.
- Erin Eastwood 70DM: Awarded for her hard work and enthusiasm to learn during the Ed-Extra BSL club sessions.
- Kevin Koroni 10RCB and Jordan Abagre 10RCB: Awarded for his outstanding contribution and effort in his PE GCSE lessons and overall helpfulness in his PE core lessons.
- Parla Ghanipour 100AB: Awarded for demonstrating excellent leadership skills during the DARE day employability masterclass. Parla took on the role of interviewer and interviewed the facilitator; her questioning was exemplary and Parla demonstrated fantastic leadership skills.
- Ralph Bishop 8RBW, Zulaikha Chaudhry 8RBW, Shanaya Herman 8RBW, Kaylem O'Dea 8RBW, Sophia Smith 8RBW, Thomas West 8RBW, Elias Xenophontos 8RBW, Tianyou Xu 8RBW, Eren Yener 8RBW, Nicholas Tsekouras 8RBW, Ioanna Bello 8RBW and Lewis Tyler 8RBW: Awarded for their impressive team working skills during the Wise-Up DARE Day.
- Ikram Mohamed 9BLM, Christina Hajilambi 9WCM, Mackenzie Wright 9OSM and Dino Mason 90DC: Awarded for their excellent achievement in the end of year 9 Design and technology
- Estelle Shopova 9BLM: Awarded for their excellent achievement and scoring 96% in the end of year 9 Design and technology exam.
- Danielle Montez-Lopez 120DS: Awarded for her outstanding work experience trip to Ethiopia.
- Brij Mahtani 10RNC: Awarded for being an exceptional role model and representative of Highlands school during recent school trip activities.
- **Sakura Daley 100KK:** Awarded for showing great consideration and kindness when a student was injured during the DARE day activity. She sat with the student to comfort her when she had been hurt and was able to give a member of staff a detailed and helpful report about what had happened.













www.enfield.gov.uk/services/children-and-education/ holiday-activity-and-food-programmes#haf-programme





# FREE SCHOOL MEALS

# Get Active & Tuck In **Holiday Camps**

Trips available subject to availability - Top Golf, Bubble Planet, LDN Gravi

Enfield Council Youth Development Service are providing fantastic free activities and hot meals for young people in receipt of free school meals during the 4 week summer break. There are 3 holiday camps running.

The summer camps will be packed with a range of activities to choose from such as Drama, Music, Art & Craft, Sport and many more.

> Bell Lane Youth Centre - SEND Specific Every Monday & Tuesday

DATE: 29 July - 20 August

TIME: 11am-4pm AGE: 11-19 (up to 25 for SEND)

Every Monday - Thursday

DATE: 29 July - 22 August 11am-4pm AGE: 11-16

Craig Park Youth Centre Every Monday - Thursday

DATE: 29 July - 22 August TIME: 11am-4pm AGE: 11-16

@Youth\_Enfield #supportingyoungenfield

Email: SUregistration@enfield.gov.uk Register now: www.youthenfield.taptub.co.uk/summeruni24





# Help us fund raise for our school

Did you know when you sign up to easyfundraising.org.uk and purchase goods from shops on the website or app, Highlands School will earn a commission from the sale?

All you have to do is search for **Highlands School Enfield** and select us as your chosen charity and shop as usual.



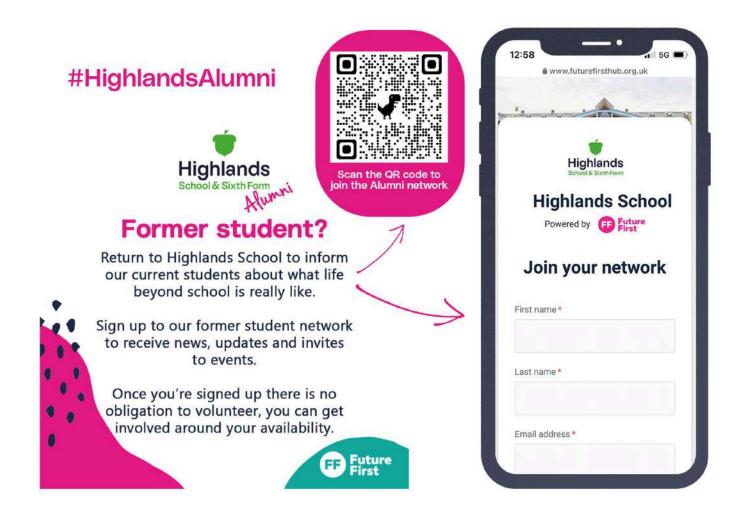




As a school, we want to reconnect with our former students so that we can keep in touch and let them know about volunteering opportunities that will benefit our current students. We want to show them the variety of pathways available to them after leaving Highlands School, and who better to showcase this information, than former students!

We are working with education charity Future First to set this up, and all you need to do to get involved is sign up here: Highlands School Alumni or alternatively scan the QR code below.

More information is on our website and if you have any questions please contact our Alumni Programme Manager at Future First: Tara Human – tara.human@futurefirst.org.uk





#### Student medical needs

If your child needs to take regular medication in school, please fill out the following Medicines Consent Form to give the school consent to administer medication to your child. All medications that are kept in school must be stored in the medical room. We recently sent out a medical and allergy survey to all parents - thank you to all those who have completed this - if you haven't already done so, please can this be completed as soon as possible so we can update our records.

#### Mental health

We are continuously working hard to improve our understanding as a community of mental health, to enable us to provide the best possible outcomes for the young people in our lives. If you are ever concerned that your child is at risk due to very poor mental health please inform the school. You can also contact one of these numbers to seek support from a specialist. The Crisis line is there to offer guidance if your child may be having suicidal thoughts and is possibly in immediate danger. If you do ever find yourself in a position where you need to use these resources for your child, please make the school aware so we can provide appropriate support within school for your child.





# Safeguarding contacts

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing or the wellbeing of any other student at Highlands School, please contact the school on 020 8370 1100 or email the DSL at staysafe@highlearn.uk. This email address can also be used for students, parents and carers to share any safeguarding concerns or to request support.

If you are concerned that a child has been harmed or is at risk of being harmed and school cannot be contacted, please contact Enfield Children's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 020 8379 5555, and all the police on 999 straight away.

# Helpful numbers and websites

Childline: 0800 1111

NSPCC helpline: 0808 800 5000 The police: (if you are in danger): 999 **LGBT switchboard**: 0300 330 0630

Kooth: www.kooth.com - support service for students wellbeing

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub: 0300 500 80 90

Barnardos: 0800 008 7005

Sign Health: <a href="https://signhealth.org.uk/contact/">https://signhealth.org.uk/contact/</a>

Deaf young people: https://signhealth.org.uk/with-deaf-people/supporting-young-people/

#### Talk to someone....

- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel anxious or unable to cope
- if someone has hurt you physically, emotionally or mentally
- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- 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

#### Follow Highlands School on:

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