

Highlands School Newsletter

13 June 2025



Dear parents and carers,

This week we proudly celebrated Cultural and Heritage Day with a vibrant display of diversity and unity. Staff and students came dressed in cultural garments and the colours of their national flags, showcasing the rich variety of backgrounds within our school community. At break time, a cultural bake sale brought everyone together to share traditional foods from around the world, with all proceeds going towards house fundraising. It was a fantastic event, filled with pride, vibrant colours, and connections. It was lovely to see the many different cultures we celebrate at Highlands and to take part in a day that was suggested by our student leaders three years ago and is, now, becoming one of the most eagerly anticipated days in the school calendar each year. .

Read more about the event in this week's special feature newsletter, including highlights from the day and a spotlight on important figures from different cultures

In this week's newsletter we celebrate our girls' sports teams and their success. Our year 9 rounders team were borough champions and our year 8 team came runners up. And, for the first time, we entered the borough girls' under-15 cricket tournament at Winchmore Cricket Club - and won it! Congratulations to these students, and all our students involved in our sports teams.

Have a great weekend,

Mr McInerney, Headteacher.



Key dates for next term:

- Wednesday 18th June: Year 11 leavers' BBQ
- Monday 23rd June: Year 11 Prom
- Tuesday 24th June: Year 13 Prom
- Wednesday 25th June 1pm & 7pm, Thursday 26th June 7pm & Friday 27th June 7pm: Chicago Teen Edition school production
- Week commencing 30th June: Year 12 work experience
- Tuesday 1st July: Year 11/12 Transition Day
- Wednesday 2nd July & Thursday 3rd July: DARE Days
- Tuesday 8th July: Sports Day
- Wednesday 9th July, 5.30pm-8pm: HPFA Welcome Festival for current and new year 7s
- Tuesday 15th July: USA Cuisine Day
- Thursday 17th July: Trip to Thorpe Park for winning house
- Tuesday 22nd July: End of term, half a day

National School Attendance Award

We're proud to share that Highlands School has received the National School Attendance Award, placing us in the top 10% of all FFT secondary schools in England. This fantastic achievement reflects the commitment of our students, staff, and families in promoting strong attendance and a positive school culture.

Well done to everyone!





Cultural and Heritage Day















Enfield borough rounders champions!

On Tuesday the year 9 rounders team played in the borough rounders tournament at Winchmore School. We knew that the first game against Enfield County was going to be tough having lost to them in previous years. They put us in to bat and we began strongly scoring six rounders with nearly all of the team contributing to the score. In reply, Enfield County managed to score only five giving us a strong start.

From there, the girls maintained their high performance levels to beat Lea Valley 7 1/2 - 0, Southgate 6 1/2 - 4 1/2 and St Annes 71/2 - 4 1/2 finishing undefeated and becoming Enfield borough champions!

Well done girls, your performance level, communication and team spirit was second to none and this was thoroughly deserved. I am very proud of you all!

Mrs Walters





Enfield borough rounders runners up

Congratulations to the year 8 rounders team, who won silver medals at the borough rounders tournament on Wednesday afternoon.

After an unfortunate loss in their first game, the girls went from strength to strength throughout the tournament, remaining unbeaten in their next four games. This impressive run of results put them on equal points with Enfield County in 1st place, and the winner was to be decided by rounders scored. Although we scored plenty of great rounders, Enfield County scored three more and took the trophy home.

We are so proud of the way the girls played and must make a special mention to Sophie Fryer, who the team unanimously voted as Player of the Tournament.

Rounders club runs every Tuesday after school.

Miss Berrill





Girls Chance to Shine Cricket Tournament winners!

On Wednesday, Highlands participated for the first time in the U15 Girls Chance to Shine Cricket Tournament at Winchmore Hill Cricket Club. For most of the team, this was the first time they had played competitive cricket matches.

In the first game, St Anne's scored 46, which we chased down in five overs to win by five wickets. We then played Fortismere in a tight game, winning by seven wickets. The final game was against Enfield County. This went to the final over, where some superb bowling by Hannah contributed to us winning by seven runs.

Player of the Tournament was Hannah Cullen, who hit five sixes and took several wickets.

As winners, we are now through to the regional round! Well done, girls - this is a huge achievement!

Mrs Walters





History inter house competition

This term, our year 8 students took part in an exciting and thought-provoking history department competition, linked to their unit: What do sources show us about the ways women were scapegoated as witches during the 16th & 17th century?

Using the second-order concept of evidence, pupils delved into some of the darkest chapters of England's past, investigating historical witch trials through original sources - including pamphlets, which were a key medium for spreading fear and publicising accusations at the time.

The challenge? To create the front page of a historically accurate pamphlet, based on either the Witches of Huntingdon or any other real English witch trial from the 16th or 17th century. Pupils were tasked with capturing the fear, suspicion, and drama of the period, while demonstrating strong historical research and understanding.

Another key focus was using their knowledge of pamphlets as primary sources - not just in content, but in form. Students were expected to include the key characteristics of real pamphlets and a well-researched, evidence-based narrative.

Congratulations to Maisie Allan in 8RJG, who won the competition and earned 4,000 points and a trophy for her house Rowan!

Well done to everyone who entered, your pamphlets truly brought the fears, injustices, and superstitions of Early Modern England to life!

- 1st place (4,000 points): Rowan Maisie Allan
- 2nd place (3,000 points): Beech Eda Cetin
- 3rd place (2,000 points): Willow Klea Kambo
- 4th place (1,000 points): Oak Charlotte Fischer













Gypsy, Roma & Traveller History Month

Gypsy, Roma & Traveller History Month is a time to celebrate the rich cultures, histories, and contributions of Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities in the UK.

Held every June, it aims to raise awareness, challenge stereotypes, and promote inclusion and understanding.

At Highlands School, we recognise the importance of this month in fostering respect and celebrating diversity within our school community.



Indian Cuisine Day

This week, Beech House proudly hosted Indian Cuisine Day, bringing vibrant flavours to the Highlands canteen.

Chartwells served up a delicious choice of chicken tikka rice box or spinach and chickpea daal with rice, accompanied by a sweetcorn salad.

The dishes smelt amazing and tasted just as good. Well done to everyone involved!



Headteacher's award

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's Award is proudly presented to the following students.

- Angelo Georgiou 70MK: Awarded for doing really good work, keeping his hands and feet to himself, to avoid detention. Also working hard in the classroom.
- Selma Tivnann 12BTD: Awarded in recognition for exceptional voluntary service and academic dedication (Giving up their half term to carry out work experience at Chase Farm whilst also having to revise for their mock exams).
- Arnelijus Mankevicius 120AT: Awarded in recognition for exceptional voluntary service and academic dedication (Giving up their half term to carry out work experience at Chase Farm whilst also having to revise for their mock exams).



EcoPark House Grand Opening: Celebrating Sustainability, Student Creativity, and Community Pride

On Tuesday, 10th June 2025, the grand opening of Edmonton's EcoPark House marked a powerful step forward for sustainability and community engagement in North London. Developed by the North London Waste Authority, this impressive off-grid building runs entirely on solar power and ground source heat pumps, setting a bold example of climate-resilient infrastructure. It was a privilege to attend the event, which brought together local leaders, educators, environmental advocates - and most importantly, our inspiring young people.

We are incredibly proud to share that year 7 student Emily Dent was recognised during the evening for her remarkable achievement in the NLWA's Photography Competition, themed Nature's Resilience. Her beautiful photo, Nature's Quiet Triumph, earned second place among entries from students across all boroughs. Emily was presented with a professionally printed copy of her work, which will now be permanently displayed inside EcoPark House — a lasting reminder of how young voices can make a powerful impact.





During the evening, Cllr Ergin Erbil, Leader of Enfield Council, shared his delight in meeting Emily and recognising her achievement. In his words:

"I was also delighted to meet Emily who won an award for raising awareness on tackling litter and rubbish. Emily and all of our wonderful students continue to push for a cleaner Enfield and they have my full support."

Cllr Erbil also spoke of the wider significance of the new centre:

"EcoPark House is more than an educational hub - it's also the new home of the Edmonton Sea Cadets, who now enjoy a fully refurbished space on the banks of the River Lee. It was fantastic to see representatives from the Royal Navy and Royal Marines join the celebration, offering a warm welcome to the Cadets and recognising the importance of their continued presence in our community."

The evening featured environmental activity stalls, engaging tours, refreshments, and inspiring speeches - including from Cllr Clyde Loakes, Chair of the NLWA, whose leadership made this project a reality. A heartfelt thank you to all the hosts and organisers for such a meaningful and forward-looking event.

I encourage all students to take part in opportunities like these - you never know where your creativity, voice, or passion might take you.

Congratulations once again to Emily - your success is a win for both nature and our school community!

Mrs Laurenzi

HPFA Welcome Festival for current year 7s and Sept '25 year 7s only

Join us for the current and incoming year 7 HPFA Welcome Festival on Wednesday 9th July from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Highlands School. This fantastic social event is a great opportunity to meet the new year 7 cohort, explore the school grounds, and connect with other parents, carers, and students. Enjoy delicious food including hot dogs, burgers, and sweet treats, plus fun activities like football and tennis, and don't miss the incredible raffle prizes!

Tickets can be purchased here for just £1 (plus 60p booking fee) to guarantee entry. Any unsold tickets may be available on the day. We hope to see you there!





Highlands School proudly presents Chicago Teen Edition

Tickets are now on sale!

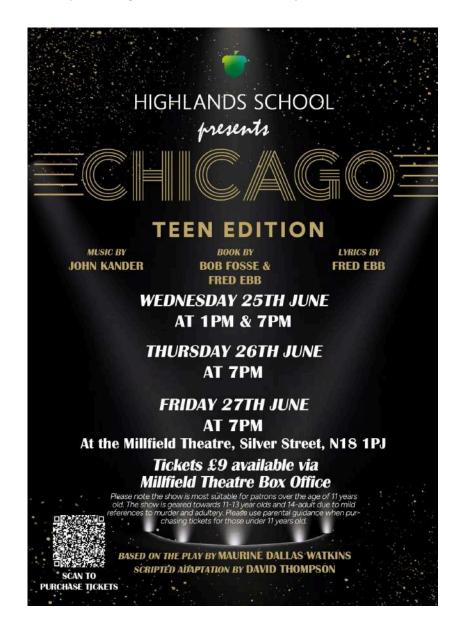
Tickets are priced at £9 and can be purchased via the Millfield Box Office here.

The show is Wednesday 25th June at 1pm and 7pm and Thursday 26th and Friday 27th June at 7pm. The show lasts approximately two hours including a 20 minute interval.

Come and experience a night in a Chicago speakeasy! Immerse yourselves in prohibition America, in a city caught up in the murderous tales of wannabe stars Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly.

Students from all year groups are in the cast, so come along and support them. It promises to be a night full of jazz but maybe not justice!

Please note the show is most suitable for patrons over the age of 11 years old. The show is geared towards 11-13 year olds and 14-adult due to mild references to murder and adultery. Please use parental guidance when purchasing tickets for those under 11 years old.





School announcements

HPFA Year 7 Welcome Festival - raffle prizes needed

On Wednesday 9th July, the Highlands Parents & Friends Association (HPFA) will be running a raffle at our Summer Welcome Festival, an event for our incoming year 7 students and families, as well as current year 7s.

We're now collecting raffle prizes and would be so grateful for your support! Whether it's a bottle of something nice, a gift voucher, a fun experience, or even a cuddly toy, every donation helps us raise valuable funds for the school. Items can be handed in to reception. Thank you in advance.

Lost property

Please click here for a list of lost property received since the start of term.

If your child has lost anything listed, or any other item, please ask them to check with the school office, as things arrive daily. All items being claimed will need to be identified by the student.

Lost items from last term are highlighted in yellow and will be disposed of on Friday 20th June.

Please can we also remind parents/carers to label all uniform and belongings so we can get items back to students as quickly as possible.

School hire bookings - from 1st September 2025

If you are interested in hiring our school facilities from 1st September, please visit School Hire to view available spaces and pricing.

Whether you're planning a sports event, community activity, or private function, our facilities offer flexible options to suit a range of needs. Enquiries and bookings can be made directly through the School Hire website.





DARE Days, Wednesday 2nd & Thursday 3rd July 2025

Please see below for the DARE Days information.

YEAR 7	External activity		Internal activity	
	London Zoo	Beech / Willow - Wednesday Oak / Rowan - Thursday	Platinum	Oak / Rowan - Wednesday Beech / Willow - Thursday

YEAR 8	External activity		Internal activity	
	V&A Museum	Beech / Willow - Wednesday Oak / Rowan - Thursday	STE(A)M	Oak / Rowan - Wednesday Beech / Willow - Thursday

YEAR 9	Internal activity		Internal activity	
	Wise-Up Hub Challenge	Beech / Willow - Wednesday Oak / Rowan - Thursday	DT workshop	Oak / Rowan - Wednesday Beech / Willow - Thursday

YEAR 10	External activity		Internal activity	
	Go Ape	Beech / Willow - Wednesday Oak / Rowan - Thursday	Wise-Up Apprentice	Oak / Rowan - Wednesday Beech / Willow - Thursday



House weekly winners

This week's winner is the house with the highest achievement points minus concern points. Congratulations Willow!

	Beech	Oak	Rowan	Willow
Positive Points	4418	4650	5657	5938
Negative points	-227	-289	-213	-215
Points overall	4191	4361	5444	5723

Top students in year 7

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Arya	Arablou	7WEL	W	41
Levi	Xhetani	7RAC	R	37
Qamil	Neza	7OSB	0	36
Theoclis	Chrysanthou	7OSB	0	35
Natalie	Nicolaou	7OSB	0	35
Alexia	Symeou	7WEL	W	35
Isadora	Da Silva	7WEL	W	34
Shamaya	Gitu	7OSB	0	33
Cameron	Brodie	7WEL	W	32
Paul	Lambrou	7WEL	W	32

Top students in year 8:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Marianne	Smith	8WSW	W	63
Katrina	Awatar	8WSW	W	57
Syerah	Islam	8WSW	W	55
Klea	Kambo	8WSW	W	54
Ariella	Elkabbas	8RJG	R	53
Florence	Holyomes	8WSW	W	53
Aariah	Udahemuka	8WSW	W	53
Kimora	Hall	8WSW	W	51
Shaan	Seetul	8WSW	W	51
Ciara	Moore-McGowan	8WSW	W	49



Top students in year 9:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Owen	Smith	9WNK	W	63
Nea	Petritaj	9WNK	W	61
Sindi	Shaban	9WNK	W	61
Annika	Trivedi	9WNK	W	61
Aalycia	Udahemuka	9WNK	W	61
Anthony	Angeli	9WNK	W	57
Anaiya	Dhaliwal	9WNK	W	57
Michail	Katsoulis	9WNK	W	57
Sena	Oguz	9WNK	W	57
Nnaemeka	Onukaogu	9WNK	W	57
Azat	Secgin	9WNK	W	57

Top students in year 10:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Madiha	Yahya	100SM	0	48
Emil	Skogen	100SM	0	46
Sophia	Stavrinides	10BLM	В	46
Erkan	Varlik	10WJQ	W	45
Alexander	Antoniou	100SM	0	44
Sofia	Karaolis	100SM	0	44
Sakina	Putwa	10WJQ	W	44
Avril	Brown	10RTC	R	41
Beatrice	Afhim	100SM	0	40
Kingston	Barrow	100SM	0	40
Jack	Kennedy	10BLM	В	40
Ermioni	Tsantikou	100SM	0	40
Owen	White	100SM	0	40

Top students in year 12:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Mea	Branco	12WAD	W	4
Elisa	Cattarossi	12RJB	R	4
Ekin	Dogus	12BAS	В	4
Rhea	Mehta	12RJB	R	4
Sami	Osmanli	12BTD	В	4
Isabel	Paine	120AT	0	4
Giulio	Pappalardo	120AT	0	4
Maria	Salamanca	12WAD	W	4



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.



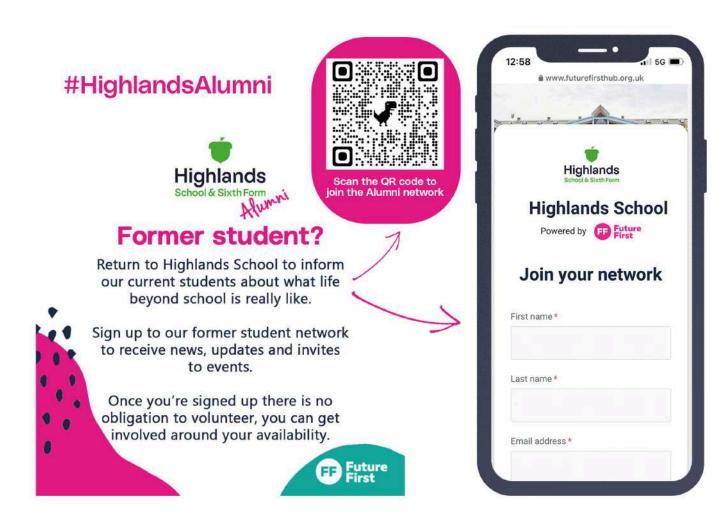




As a school, we want to reconnect with our former students so that we can keep in touch and let them know about volunteering opportunities that will benefit our current students. We want to show them the variety of pathways available to them after leaving Highlands School, and who better to showcase 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: Faithia Garffus - faithia.garffus@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.

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: https://signhealth.org.uk/contact/

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:

- X@Highlands_sch
- YouTube <u>Highlands School Enfield</u>
- Threads <u>@Highlandssch</u>
- Facebook Highlands School