



Highlands School Newsletter

11 October 2024



Dear parents and carers,

Today and yesterday we held the first two of this year's DARE Days. I was on the World War One trench experience in Kent with half of year 9 on Thursday and the staff there were asking how we manage to take so many students and staff out of school at once. We explained that all of our lessons stop at Highlands for four days a year and all of our students and staff participate in trips or on site activities. This is an unusual approach to trips, but we do it for good reasons. One reason is that we believe that the curriculum is enhanced by wider activities that support the learning students are doing in classrooms. The World War One trench experience is a good example of this, as is the geography field work trip to St Albans, the natural history museum for science and the Tower of London for those studying Macbeth. Other trips build confidence and teambuilding skills, such as Stubbers and Herts Young Mariners. The other reason we put our trips on DARE Days is it allows our trips and activities to be universal; all students participate. If trips are held on normal school days, often with limited numbers of places, it inevitably leads to some students being unable to participate and being left in school. Sometimes those students left at school are those from more disadvantaged backgrounds. All of our students take part in 24 DARE Days from years 7-13 and we subsidise the costs for all students, but particularly for those who require it more. One of our values is 'equality' and our DARE Days are an example of that value in action.

As a headteacher, I am always a little nervous about sending thousands of children off across the south of England to represent the school. However, as every year, you - our parents and carers - should be proud of how well your children behaved and engaged with their activities. Thank you for your support with our DARE Days and thanks to the staff, and particularly Ms Jeynes, for organising them.

Have a great weekend,
Mr McInerney, Headteacher



Key dates for this half term:

- Monday 14th October: early finish for open evening (students leave at 12:40pm)
- Tuesday 15th October: late start following open evening (students arrive at 11:20am)
- Friday 18th October: final day of half term (two week half term holiday commences)

Key dates for this next term:

- Monday 4th November: first day of new half term (students return to school)
- Wednesday 13th November: early finish, sixth form open evening (students leave at 12:40pm)
- Thursday 14th November: late start, sixth form open evening (students arrive at 11:20am)
- Wednesday 20th November: year 13 parents' evening
- Friday 22nd November: HPFA musical bingo night
- Wednesday 11th December: year 9 parents' evening
- Thursday 12th December: winter music concert
- Friday 20th December: final day of term (students dismissed at midday)
- Monday 6th January: first day of new term (students return to school)

DARE Days

Our students had an incredible experience during two action-packed DARE Days, filled with educational trips and enriching activities. They explored iconic locations such as the Tower of London, the Natural History Museum, St Albans Cathedral, Hertfordshire Young Mariners, Stubbers, and Tolmers, gaining both historical insights and adventure. Onsite, students participated in a range of activities including dance sessions, employability workshops, and mock interviews with employers, while also engaging in the Young Enterprise Launchpad. They worked towards achieving their iDEA award, developing digital and entrepreneurial skills, making the two days both inspiring and rewarding. Click here to view our DARE days reel on our [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

Year 7:

Year 7 students had an exhilarating time during their DARE Days trip to Herts Young Mariners, where they immersed themselves in a range of adventurous activities. From kayaking and rock climbing to team-building challenges, the day was filled with laughter, excitement, and most importantly fun. While onsite students took part in a lively dance workshop, culminating in a dynamic performance that showcased their newfound dance skills.



Year 8

Our year 8 students had a fantastic time on their trips, exploring the wonders of the Natural History Museum and the historic St. Albans Cathedral. At the museum, they marvelled at the impressive dinosaur exhibits and fascinating displays from the natural world. While at St. Albans Cathedral, they were captivated by the stunning architecture and rich history, engaging in discussions about its significance.





Year 9

Year 9 students had an enriching experience during their trips to the battlefields, where they gained a deeper understanding of history and its significance. While onsite, they participated in engaging workshops with Young Enterprise Launchpad, where they learned valuable skills in entrepreneurship and teamwork.



Year 10

Year 10 students visited the Tower of London where they immersed themselves in centuries of history, which deepened their understanding of the Tower's rich past. While onsite, students worked towards achieving the Bronze iDEA award. The Inspiring, Digital Excellence Award (iDEA) is an international award winning programme that helps you develop digital, enterprise, and employability skills.





Year 11

Year 11 travelled to Stubbers Adventure Centre, where they enjoyed thrilling outdoor activities like kayaking, rock climbing, and archery. While onsite, they participate in mock interviews with employers, gaining insights into real-world job expectations. These practice sessions help students develop their confidence, improve their communication skills, and receive constructive feedback, all in a supportive environment.



Year 12

During their visit to Tolmers Activity Centre, year 12 students enjoyed the fun and excitement of outdoor challenges like zip-lining and obstacle courses. While onsite, students took part in an employability masterclass workshop. This hands-on session provided expert guidance on essential career skills such as teamwork, leadership, communication, and problem-solving, helping students prepare for the world of work and further education.





Highlands student Mathis - international U16 England success

Mathis Eboue, our talented student, represented the U16 England team in an international football tournament in San Pedro del Pinatar, Spain, where they went unbeaten throughout the competition.

The team triumphed over formidable opponents, including Ukraine, Israel, and France. In a thrilling final match against France, Mathis scored the decisive goal, securing the victory for England.

A huge well done to Mathis for his remarkable achievement and unwavering dedication!

Photos taken from @Theballerzscout





Year 8 inter house football

This week we enjoyed another round of inter house football games with our year 8 cohort. Beech girls were victorious for the second year running, beating Willow 2-0 in the final. Rowan won their competition after beating Oak 1-0. Well done to all of the players and to the winners for earning those vital points for their houses.

Girls: **1st:** Beech, **2nd:** Willow, **3rd:** Oak and **4th:** Rowan



Boys: **1st:** Rowan, **2nd:** Oak , **3rd:** Beech and **4th:** Willow





Year 10 boys football

On Tuesday 8th October, the year 10 boys football team travelled to Bishop Stopford School to play their first round Enfield Cup fixture. The team played some flowing football throughout and finished the game as 5-0 winners. Well done to everyone who played, especially those who made their debuts.

Player of the match: Emin

Goalscorers: Emin x2, Harrison, Alessandro, Emilio.

Well done boys, onto the next round.

Mr Avann



The goal scorers.

Year 7 boys football

On Monday 7th October, the our Year 7 football team played their first ever game together. They were drawn against a strong St Ignatius team in the cup. Despite the score, the play from Highlands was very encouraging and on a different day we may have scored a few goals. Full time result = St Ignatius 7-0 Highlands.

Players of the match: Valentino M (7WEL) and Paul L (7WEL) (pictured right).

Well done to everyone who played and represented the school.

Mr Avann





Celebrating Teacher's Day at Highlands

One of our own Pinnacle staff members, in collaboration with the Chartwells Catering contractors, arranged breakfast for the teachers at Highlands on the occasion of Teacher's Day. Approximately 150 school staff attended the event. This gesture was a token of appreciation for the dedicated efforts of the teachers in shaping the future of the students.

"I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for organising the lovely breakfast for Teacher Appreciation Day. It was such a thoughtful gesture and a great way to start the day. The recognition truly means a lot. Thank you again for your continued support!" - Mrs Laurenzi, Careers leader

"I just wanted to say what a lovely gesture of Pinnacle it was to provide breakfast for the teachers this morning. It was a lovely way to end the week and made me feel appreciated and brought a smile to my face. Thanks." - Mr Xenophontos- maths teacher

"It was indeed a lovely gesture and much appreciated by us all. Thanks to everyone involved." - Mrs Czapich - School manager





School announcements

School immunisations

On Friday 18th October the immunisation team will be at Highlands to give the Flu vaccine to students in years 7-11. The link consent is [here](#). Please complete the form to consent or not consent.

Join Team GB

Here is an amazing opportunity where students can sign themselves up to get involved with Team GB in Olympic and Paralympic events. Team GB wants to find the stars of the future! It takes 5 minutes to sign up. Click [here](#).



Micro shin pads in PE

It has recently come to my attention that some students have been wearing 'micro' shin pads when playing competitive football for the school. As a PE department we strongly advise against wearing micro shin pads as they do not provide sufficient protection to students' shins. We want all students to be as safe as possible when playing football for the school and reduce their risk of any injuries occurring.

Therefore, we kindly ask that students do not wear micro shin pads when playing for the school football teams. Instead students should wear more protective shin pads that cover their entire shins. If a student decides to bring micro shin pads to a competitive football game then they will not be able to play. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Avann

Parking

Please can parents, who are dropping off or picking up their child from school, park well away from the school site. We have had several incidents of cars blocking access to the school, parking on the roundabout area, on zig zag lines or pavement outside of school near to the zebra crossing. In particular some cars are stopping on the zebra crossing to drop off students there, which is unsafe and endangers the lives of students from Highlands, Merryhills and Grange Park schools all of whom use that area at the beginning and end of the school days.

Persistent offenders will have their registration numbers reported to the local traffic enforcement team and police. Please help keep these areas clear at all times.



smiLE interaction with our Deaf Base students

A group of our year 10 students who attend the Deaf Resource Base are taking part in a block of Speech and Language Therapy called smiLE (which stands for strategies and measurable interaction in Live English). smiLE is a functional therapy that helps students learn effective communication and social skills to use in everyday situations both in school and out of school. The therapy also aims to help our deaf students to develop their confidence, independence and life skills.

Our current focus is supporting the students to independently order a drink or a snack when out and about. To put this into action, the students, teacher of the Deaf, Communication support worker and Speech and language therapist took a trip over to Scoffi Coffee, the coffee pod based at Grange Park School (next door to Highlands). The staff at Scoffi Coffee were extremely kind, patient and generous with our students as they practised ordering drinks and snacks. We will definitely be going back and would highly recommend it!

Over the course of the group therapy sessions, the students will be supported to develop their ordering and clarification skills through role play practice and by giving each other constructive feedback. They will look back at videos of themselves pre- and post-therapy to evaluate their skills and see their progress.

For more information about smiLE therapy, please visit: www.smile-interaction.com

Ms Kimmons





Thank you Scoffi Coffee!

Scoffi is a vibrant new coffee spot that has quickly become a beloved stop in the local school community. Opened just under a year ago by John Dervish, it's uniquely located in Grange Park Primary School, offering staff, teachers, parents and students a cosy space to enjoy freshly brewed organic coffee, pastries, and light snacks.

Scoffi was very welcoming to our Deaf Base students when practising for their speech and language therapy smiLE. Thank you so much!

Scoffi is moving into its new larger Kiosk after the October half term. Please stop by and sample their exciting new breakfast and lunch menu.

Year 7 artistic talent

Our year 7 students enthusiastically embraced their art project, creating vibrant title pages centred around the theme "All About Me." Each page burst with colour and creativity, showcasing their unique personalities and artistic talents. Here are some of their wonderful designs.





Black History Month

This week, students took centre stage in assemblies dedicated to Black History Month, passionately exploring this year's theme of *Reclaiming Narratives*. *Reclaiming Narratives* aims to recognise and correct the narratives of Black history and culture. It emphasises the importance of telling Black stories authentically, accurately and fully, and highlights the power of storytelling for empowerment, education and resistance.

They delivered insightful presentations that highlighted the importance of recognising and amplifying underrepresented voices throughout history. Well done to you all.





Black History Month - *Reclaiming Narratives*

We invite you to reclaim the narratives through research into a key black individual who has pioneered the way for empowerment, education and resistance. **Deadline: 4th November 2024.** This needs to be emailed electronically to Miss Farr: farre@highlearn.uk

Criteria

- Choose one key black individual in history. This can be historical or recent. This can also be someone from your family or who has significance to you individually.
- Create a profile on this person
- Include their narrative and make sure to include the whole scope of their life and work.

Make sure to complete an in depth study to cover this person's narrative in as much detail as possible.

Ms Farr

Matilda production on sale now!

The July production of *Matilda* is now available to purchase for £7 on ParentPay, with two viewing dates to choose from (4th and 5th July). The deadline for all video purchases is **Friday 15th November**.

Don't miss the chance to enjoy this fantastic performance and keep the memories!



Highlands book of the month - October

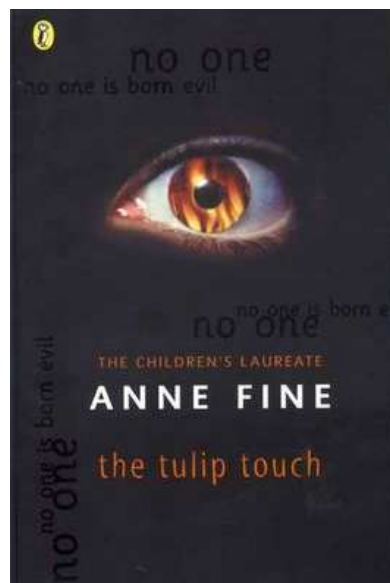


Recommended read for KS3

The Tulip Touch by Anne Fine

None of this matters to Natalie who finds Tulip exciting. At first she doesn't care that other people are so upset and unnerved by Tulip's bizarre games, but as the games become increasingly sinister and dangerous, Natalie realises that Tulip is going far, much too far.

Natalie could try to change things. But deep inside she knows that, once crossed, Tulip won't rest until she's won the most dangerous game of all.



Recommended read for KS4

The Sun is also a Star by Nicola Yoon

Natasha: I'm a girl who believes in science and facts. Not fate. Not destiny. Or dreams that will never come true. I'm definitely not the kind of girl who meets a cute boy on a crowded New York City street and falls in love with him. Not when my family is twelve hours away from being deported to Jamaica. Falling in love with him won't be my story.

Daniel: I've always been the good son, the good student, living up to my parents' high expectations. Never the poet. Or the dreamer. But when I see her, I forget about all that. Something about Natasha makes me think that fate has something much more extraordinary in store - for both of us.

The Universe: Every moment in our lives has brought us to this single moment. A million futures lie before us. Which one will come true?



 Pinnacle Group

Children in Need - 15th November 2024

Where Oh Where is Pudsey Bear?



North London Schools are challenging you to find Pudsey Bear!

We are raising funds for Children in Need and need to locate Pudsey before 15th November (Children in Need Day).

All you need to do is donate £5 to locate Pudsey before 15th November by scanning the link below.

When you donate, please ensure you type in the location of where you guess Pudsey is.

The winner (or closest guess) will win a Fortnum & Mason Hamper worth £300 kindly donated to North London Schools in support of our fundraising campaign.

The facts established thus far...

Pudsey Bear appeared in 1985, and instantly transformed the Children in Need brand. Thus making Pudsey 39 Years old.

Pudsey Bear left the West Yorkshire Town of Pudsey to head to Scotland to buy a new tartan eye patch. We know he met up with his girlfriend who has a love of Musicals. Pudsey has an interest in historical buildings and Harry Potter. Pudsey's lucky number is 7.

Scan to submit your guess and donate!



pinnaclegroup.co.uk

TEAM ENFIELD LONDON YOUTH GAMES CROSS COUNTRY

**SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2024
PARLIAMENT HILL**

REGISTER NOW

AGE CATEGORIES & DISTANCES:
UNDER 11'S: 1500M
UNDER 13'S: 2000M
UNDER 15'S: GIRLS 2000M, BOYS 3000M
UNDER 17'S: GIRLS 3000M, BOYS 4500M

Registration Deadline:
12pm, Wednesday 30th October 2024

To Register:
Attend a Parkrun (or alternative run)
Complete registration form online

To run for Enfield you must live in or attend school in the Borough of Enfield

www.activeenfield.uk sport@enfield.gov.uk 


RUGBY CLUB

QUALIFIED RUGBY COACH

THURSDAYS 3:15pm - 4:30pm

SIXTH FORM

TAG WITH THE POTENTIAL TO DO CONTACT
IF PLAYING CONTACT, YOU MUST HAVE A
GUMSHIELD
WEAR YOUR SPORTS KIT AND BRING ANY MEDICAL
DEVICES WITH YOU.
PLEASE INFORM PARENTS AND CARERS OF YOUR
ATTENDANCE




ALL YEARS BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL

TUESDAY | 3:15PM - 4:30PM

AFTER SCHOOL | SPORTS HALL

BRING YOUR PE KIT TO GET
CHANGED INTO AFTER SCHOOL IN
THE PE CHANGING ROOMS.





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.

Highlands School Enfield

📍 Winchmore Hill, London

£3,565.00 raised

96 supporters

Sign up and support this cause

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

GET STARTED

How to support Highlands School Enfield

- 1** Sign up
Provide us with a few details to set up your profile with easyfundraising.
- 2** Download our browser extension
Our Donation Reminder plug-in pops up automatically when you shop to let you know when a donation is available.
- 3** Track your donations
You'll be able to see how much you've raised in your account and we'll send updates on when Highlands School Enfield gets paid.

**Support us through
easyfundraising**



Highlands School Alumni

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](https://highlands.school.alumni) or alternatively scan the QR code below.

More information is on our [website](https://highlands.school) and if you have any questions please contact our Alumni Programme Manager at Future First: Tara Human – tara.human@futurefirst.org.uk

#HighlandsAlumni



Former student?


Return to Highlands School to inform our current students about what life beyond school is really like.

Sign up to our former student network to receive news, updates and invites to events.

Once you're signed up there is no obligation to volunteer, you can get involved around your availability.



Scan the QR code to join the Alumni network




12:58 5G

www.futurefirsthub.org.uk

Highlands School & Sixth Form

Highlands School

Powered by  Future First

Join your network

First name *

Last name *

Email address *





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.

Urgent mental health support - 24/7 crisis lines

Every mental health trust in London has put in place a **24/7 crisis line** for people of all ages - children, young people and adults. The lines which are free to call can provide advice to those in a crisis. These crisis lines are supported by trained mental health advisors 365 days a year.

You can find the 24/7 crisis line numbers using the NHS Service Finder (link below) but the table provides all of the telephone numbers in London.

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline>

Area	Boroughs covered	24/7 crisis line number
North West London	Brent, Hillingdon, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster	0800 0234 650
	Ealing, Hounslow and Hammersmith & Fulham	0800 328 4444
North Central London	Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington	0800 151 0023
North East London	City & Hackney	0800 073 0006
	Newham	0800 073 0066
	Tower Hamlets	0800 073 0003
	Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest	0300 555 1000
South West London	Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth	0800 028 8000
South East London	Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark	0800 731 2864
	Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich	0800 330 8590

Urgent and other support available

shout 85258
Shout offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required
Text "SHOUT" to 85258 or [visit Shout Crisis Text Line](#)

SAMARITANS
Samaritans 24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support
Call: 116 123 or email: jo@samaritans.org

Crisis Tools
Crisis Tools helps professionals support young people in crisis - short accessible video guides and text resources
Sign up for free resources [here](#)

PAPYRUS
Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person
Call: 0800 068 41 41 or Text: 07860 039967 (opening hours 9am to midnight - 365 days a year)

childline
SHOUT, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
Childline confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem
Call: 0800 1111 anytime or [online chat with a counsellor](#)

Good Thinking
Good Thinking is London's digital wellbeing service and provides a range of resources for young people to help improve mental wellbeing including free NHS-approved apps

THE MIX
The Mix provides free, confidential support for young people under 25
Call: 0808 808 4994 (11am - 11pm every day) or [Email](#)

Beat
Beat provide support to help young people who may be struggling with an eating problem or an eating disorder
Call the Youthline (under 18's) 0808 801 0711 or Studentline 0808 801 0811 (9am - 8pm during the week and 4pm - 8pm on weekends and bank holidays)

kooth
Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community including live chat with the team, discussion boards, magazine with helpful articles and a daily journal a magazine



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

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 YouTube [Highlands School Enfield](https://www.youtube.com/Highlands_School_Enfield)

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