



Highlands School Newsletter

12 September 2024

Dear parents and carers,

It is with great sadness this week that we are writing to inform you that the former headteacher of Highlands School, Bruce Goddard, died suddenly on Tuesday evening of a heart attack.

Mr Goddard became the headteacher at Highlands in September 2006 after our first headteacher left. Mr Goddard improved behaviour, raised standards and was headteacher when Highlands received its two consecutive 'Outstanding' Ofsted grades, in 2011 and 2014. He was also an Ofsted inspector himself. In 2018, as he was retiring, he was awarded the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at the Pearson Teaching Awards (pictured right).



As headteacher for twelve years, Mr Goddard made many friendships with current and former staff. He ran marathons with colleagues to raise money for charity, led staff exchanges with a school in China and was a keen skier. He was a massive Spurs fan and watched them with colleagues at White Hart Lane, Wembley and the London Stadium. He loved all sports and had recently been to Paris to watch the Olympics. Colleagues who knew him are deeply moved and saddened by the news, as are our former students who have been in touch with us.

Mr Goddard cared about the difference he was making to his students' lives during his years as a headteacher. He was never phased by the demands of the job, the stress it put him under or how hard it got. He always gave his all. He believed in overcoming educational disadvantage, building resilience in students and challenging inequality. He oversaw the introduction of our school values: determination, aspiration, respect and equality. Those values live on today at Highlands as a testament to his work.

He had three daughters, grandchildren and had remarried in the past few years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.

We invite members of the school community to add a tribute to Mr Goddard and/or make a donation to [Great Ormond Street Hospital charity via this link](#) - his family would love to hear your stories/memories of him if you are able to share them.



Key dates for this half term

- Thursday 10th October: DARE Day 1
- Friday 11th October: DARE Day 2
- 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)
- Monday 4th November: first day of new half term (students return to school)

Homework club - Years 7 & 8

Below are the details of the homework club that we will be running for year 7 and 8 students at Highlands starting Monday 16th September 2024

Homework club

When: Monday, Tuesday Thursday and Friday

What time: 3.15-4 pm

Where: UC2 - Upstairs computer suite

Led by: The year 7 or 8 behaviour mentor will supervise the sessions

In order to minimise disruption we suggest that if you attend the session you stay for the duration of the time. Although if you have completed all the homework set you will be free to leave school. There will be access to computers in all sessions. A register will be taken every session and the time the students arrive and leave will be recorded.

If for any reason we are unable to staff the homework club due to staff absence ect we will get a message sent home to make you aware that students would be leaving at the normal time of 3.15pm.

Ed-Extra

Our Ed-Extra enrichment starts on Wednesday 18th September. Please check your child's Google Classroom over the weekend as the activity they will be participating in will be shared on this platform along with the location and what clothing they will need to wear on that school day.

EMS lessons/ Music Ed-Extra

EMS music and music department lessons will be released over the weekend. Passes will be issued over the course of w/c 16th September and timetables are now posted on the music board opposite Mrs Miller's room (MM5).

Please be aware, any changes to the timetables will be made on the board or, if informed in advance, sent to parents ahead of time.



Meet our Head Students for 2024 - 2025



We are proud to introduce our newly appointed Head Students for this academic year - Eleanor McHale and Ethan Morgan. They have been selected for their outstanding leadership qualities, dedication, and commitment to making a positive impact on our school community. Throughout the year, they will work tirelessly to represent the student body, ensuring that every voice is heard and that meaningful changes are made. We are confident that their efforts will inspire and lead our school towards continued success.

'Hello Parents, Carers and Students. My name is Eleanor and I am delighted to introduce myself as one of the new head students of Highlands. My journey at Highland began back in 2018 as a year 7 student and I am now studying for A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Spanish. Throughout my time here, I have had the support to achieve my potential academically and the opportunity to get involved in various extracurricular activities such as sports competitions, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and most recently going on a trip to Morocco. Over the last 6 years, I have seen the school's drive for improvement in all areas of the community, especially with the establishment of our House system which enabled me to develop my own leadership skills. As head student, I am excited to contribute to making the school a place where each and every student can flourish both inside and outside the classroom.'

'Hello parents, carers and students. My name is Ethan and I am excited to be working with you as one of the head students of Highlands this year. As an external student with only 1 year worth of experience at Highlands, I can say with confidence that this is a special place, while it might have seemed daunting at first to transition into a new environment, Highlands quickly became a second home for me. It's not just about the academic excellence, but also the emphasis on character, leadership, and mutual respect, as well as the D.A.R.E qualities which we strive to work by everyday.

As one of the head students, I believe communication is a key element to creating the best environment for you, that is why my door will always be open figuratively if you have any worries, concerns or ideas to make your time at Highlands even better. Remember no idea is a bad idea. I'm proud to represent the student body and excited for what we can accomplish together in this academic year.'



Data Science & Artificial Intelligence Summer Experience with The Alan Turing Institute

Our Highlands STEM programme in conjunction with The Brilliant Club were able to help two of our A level students Lorena Kransniqi and Hasan Kiymaz be successfully chosen to be a part of the prestigious Alan Turing Summer Experience that was held at the Alan Turing Institute the UK's national institute for data science and artificial intelligence.



Here is what Lorena had to say about the experience.

'During the summer of 2024, I participated in The Turing Summer Experience. This was run by The Alan Turing Institute, which is the UK's National Institute for Data Science and AI. They worked in partnership with The Brilliant Club. The week gave me a broad understanding of the role of a data scientist and other roles available in the sector. I collaborated with others through using GitHub and debated ethical issues surrounding the use of AI models in schools, including benefits and harm. I also took part in using Arduino microcontrollers to brute force entry into a safe. I participated in a cryptology challenge and learnt about cyphers and codes to scramble messages so that they would not be read by unintended audiences. The challenge enabled me to work with a small group to solve data-based problems and present back to members of the sector through a STEM-style poster presentation. Throughout the week, I met researchers and other professionals, making the most of these networking opportunities.'

Well done to Lorena and Hasan for being successfully chosen to attend this competitive programme and gaining this invaluable work experience.

If you would like to get a chance to apply for experiences like this keep your eye out for opportunities that Dr Len posts on your STEM google classroom.



Happy STEMing!

Dr Len





Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award



Last weekend the year 11 Duke of Edinburgh participants completed their assessed expedition in the Chelmsford area. They set off on Saturday morning with full rucksacks and a positive mindset to navigate a route that they had planned to the campsite. Despite challenges on the way they all safely made it to camp where they showed the assessors their campcraft skills by putting their tents up and cooking their dinner on a Trangia stove. The mood in the camp was positive as they settled down for the night in their tents. Despite the thunder and lightning in Enfield we enjoyed a fairly storm free night!

On Sunday all groups were up by 6am in the rain to cook their breakfast and pack their rucksacks ready for the second leg of their journey. All groups were walking by 8.30am and showed great perseverance, determination and teamwork to navigate to the finish point and pass the expedition section of the Duke of Edinburgh's award.

Well done year 11, what a great achievement. These students must now ensure that they complete the skills, volunteering and physical sections and get a report completed by the assessor for each section in order to receive their certificate.



The Duke of Edinburgh's award will be launched for year 10 just before October half term.

Mrs Walters



A visit from Deaf Health charity SignHealth

We were excited to welcome SignHealth, the Deaf Health Charity, to visit our Deaf Base students for an important session on healthy relationships. SignHealth's Children and Young People Team, dedicated to supporting deaf children and young people, provided essential guidance on staying safe, looking after their wellbeing, and understanding changes in their bodies.

Their visit empowered our students by creating a safe learning environment where they gained the knowledge and confidence to navigate relationships and personal health with a greater understanding.



**THE DEAF HEALTH
CHARITY
SIGNHEALTH**

Weekly Careers newsletter

In addition to our school weekly newsletter, students are being sent a weekly careers newsletter with valuable information, featuring exciting opportunities to apply to. Whether they are looking to explore future paths or looking for guidance, the newsletter includes resources to help plan next steps, employer and uni spotlights, job of the week and much more.

Stay informed and take advantage of these exclusive invites! Read this week's newsletter via the link below.

[Careers newsletter - Edition 2](#)





HPFA Meet and Greet - Thursday 19 September '24

Please join the Highlands Parents and Friends Association (HPFA) for a meet and greet on Thursday 19th September from 6.30pm until 8pm in the school hall. It will be a good opportunity for parents/carers of new year 7s to learn how they can get involved! Refreshments and nibbles will be available. We look forward to meeting you. To find out more about the HPFA, please visit the school website.

north central london TRAINING HUB

Whittington Health

Worried about your child becoming breathless?

How confident are you with handling an asthma attack?

Fed up of being in A&E?

Scan me to join

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE ASTHMA?

JOIN OUR 1-HOUR **FREE** ONLINE ASTHMA EVENT

TUESDAY 17TH SEPT, 2024

WE HAVE TWO SESSIONS

1130 - 1230

1930 - 2030

DON'T WORRY IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT, YOU CAN WATCH THE RECORDING WHENEVER YOU LIKE

FOLLOW THE QR CODE TO JOIN US .. SEE YOU THERE



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://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk) or alternatively scan the QR code below.

More information is on our [website](https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk) 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](https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline)) 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 |
| South West London | Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest | 0300 555 1000 |
| | 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 |

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)

Urgent and other support available

childline

ONLINE, 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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