



Highlands School Newsletter

17 January 2025



Photo: KS4 Raising Achievement Evening

Dear parents and carers,

This week at Highlands saw a focus on year 11 students and their upcoming exams. On Tuesday evening we invited all year 11 families to school so that students could receive their GCSE and BTEC mock exam results. Our raising achievement team also shared with parents information on how they can support students in the run up to their exams. Wednesday was year 11 parents' evening, which allowed families to discuss the mock exam results with subject teachers. Next week members of the senior leadership team will meet with year 11 students and their parents online to discuss their post 16 options. With fewer than twenty school weeks left until the start of the summer exams, students should make sure they have a revision plan in place and that they are following it.

I would like to remind parents about our next international expeditions, in partnership with True Adventure, the company who have worked with us on international trips for the past decade. Students in years 9, 10, 11 and 12 are invited to take part in an expedition to Morocco in October 2025. Students in years 8, 9, 10 and 11 are invited to take part in an expedition to Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland) in October 2026. The table below shows which year group is eligible for each expedition:



Current year group					
Trip	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Morocco 2025		Yes (will be in year 10 when trip takes place)	Yes (will in in year 11 when trip takes place)	Yes - must be enrolled in Highlands Sixth Form in September 2025 (will be in year 12)	Yes (will be in year 13 when trip takes place)
Eswatini 2026	Yes (will be in year 10 when trip takes place)	Yes (will be in year 11 when trip takes place)	Yes - must be enrolled in Highlands Sixth Form in September 2026 (will be in year 12)	Yes - must be enrolled in Highlands Sixth Form in September 2026 (will be in year 13)	

True Adventure have run international expeditions in the past with Highlands, including the 2024 expedition to Morocco. Whilst in-country, students will also take on a variety of different roles, including assisting with the cooking, taking part in a trek, leading the team, and managing their group budget. True Adventure aims to provide a holistic and transformative experience for students, empowering them through adventure, fundraising, and personal responsibility. We are very excited about this opportunity as it will give students the chance to do something unique that will make them stand out from the crowd. The adventure experience will provide them with a wealth of new skills which they will find invaluable in school, at university and in the world of work.

If your child is interested in attending either of the trips, we would like to invite you to join us for an information evening, presented by Tom from True Adventure, where you will have the opportunity to hear all about the amazing challenges and opportunities that your child will experience on the trips. **The information evening will be held at the school on Thursday 23rd January at 6pm. If you are planning to attend the information evening please fill [in this form](#) so we can make sure we can seat everybody who attends.**

The cost of the trips will be discussed at the information evening, please note that the school will support students to raise funds to go on the trip and the school can part fund the trips for certain students, too.

We also will discuss payment approaches for families in years 10 and 11 if there is uncertainty around whether students will be at our sixth form.

We hope to see lots of you there.

Have a great weekend,

Mr McNerney,
Headteacher.



Key dates for this half term:

- Wednesday 22nd January: year 8 parents' evening
- Thursday 23rd January: 6pm, Morocco and eSwatini international trips launch meeting
- Wednesday 5th February: year 9 options evening
- Thursday 6th February: late start following year 9 options evening (students at school by 11:20)
- Friday 14th February: final day of half term
- Monday 24th February: students return to school

HPFA news

The HPFA is thrilled to announce that the Christmas raffle raised an incredible £380 profit, thanks to the generosity of everyone who donated prizes or purchased tickets. Additionally, £155 was raised from selling refreshments at the Winter Concert. We are so grateful for the support from our school community. Every penny will go directly towards helping the school and enhancing opportunities for our students.



HPFA Quiz Night on Friday 14th March

The HPFA's next event will be the much awaited quiz night hosted by Mr McInerney! The evening will no doubt prove to be a fun, family-friendly and competitive event! Please put the date in your diary now and start asking around friends and family to join your table.

Tickets are £5.00 and will be on sale via ParentPay. Food, nibbles and drinks will be on sale by the HPFA, You are welcome to bring your own nibbles but any alcohol brought in will be subject to a corkage charge.

Please encourage your family and friends to come along for a fun evening, please note that tables are up to a maximum of 8 people and children need to be over the age of 5 to attend. Further details will follow.

Highlands Parents and Friends Association (HPFA)





House assemblies

Our amazing house captains and strand leads took centre stage this week to present this term's house assemblies. All of the houses were updated with their current positions in the house competition.

They spoke about what went well last half term and what areas could be worked on in order to accumulate more points. The captains also shared the fantastic events that are coming up this term.

There is so much to look forward to, who will be crowned house champions 2024-25?



Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening

Year 11 KS4 Raising Achievement Evening was a resounding success, with a fantastic turnout of parents, carers, and students.

The event highlighted the importance of raising achievement, providing practical guidance on how families can support their child's academic journey. Key topics included pastoral and wellbeing support, the critical role of attendance, and a focus on core subjects.

Attendees also received an overview of important dates and milestones for the year ahead. Parents and students left feeling more informed and prepared to tackle the challenges of year 11 with confidence and determination.





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.

- **Taylan Djafer 11RNC:** Awarded for his continuous generosity to his classmates. Taylan has lent other students whiteboard pens in the lesson since the beginning of the year.
- **Paula Shehu 11BJC, Eva Chrysostomou 11BNI, Sakura Daley 11OKK, Parla Ghanipour 11OAB, Kevin Zdanuk 11RGA, Nick Agyeman-Duah 11RNC, Tibet Kara 11RNC, Deniz Guccuk 11WTH and Eray Guzel 11WTH:** Awarded for their excellent contribution in The Great Debate event at school.
- **Mya Pericleous 7WEL, Fedor Nikolaitsev 7WEL, Cameron Brodie 7WEL and Layla Orchant 7WEL:** Awarded for outstanding dramatic and vocal interpretation of classical literature.



Dancers of the week

Our dancers of the week are Hurrye Solomon and Anna Maia Skiri for their great work in their ballet class.





Year 11 The Great Debate event

Following the success of the year 10 great debate event before half term, the year 11s also took the opportunity to discuss and lead on a debate about the controversial topic of the *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill*. Year 11 students led the debate, presenting both sides of the issue to hear the main arguments for and against the proposition, rigorously testing these arguments, and allowing students to vote on the issue. The debate began with four students delivering prepared speeches, each outlining key points for and against the bill. After each speech, speakers had the opportunity to issue rebuttals, challenging the validity of the previous arguments. Well done to all of the students who took part.



Rowan half term champions rewards celebration

Rowan were treated to a break time reward after finishing first last term in the house competition. Well done Rowan, keep up the good work.





School announcements

Year 9 student vaccinations

The vaccination team will be at Highlands on Friday 24th January to deliver the year 9 senior booster programme. The link has been sent to year 9 parents, we have extended the consent window. Please complete the link in the email to consent or not consent by **Monday 20th January**.

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.

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.

Parking

Please can parents refrain from parking on the zig zag lines near the school crossing and on the double yellow lines on the roundabout between Highlands and Grange Park schools.



House weekly winners

This week's winner is the house with the highest achievement points minus concerns points.
Congratulations **Rowan**!

	Beech	Oak	Rowan	Willow
Positive Points	10,012	9,301	9,968	8,794
Negative points	-441	-254	-334	-418
Points overall	9,571	9,047	9,634	8,376

Top students in year 7

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Skye	Hawkins	7RAC	R	65
Sienna	Calcutt	7RAC	R	64
Daiana	Aybar Ortega	7RAC	R	63
Helin	Yaman	7RAC	R	63
Isobel	Butcher	7BAS	B	60
Morgan	Nash	7RAC	R	60
Lewis	Price	7RAC	R	60
Thomas	Severn	7RAC	R	59
Joseph	McHale	7RAC	R	59
Emily	Dent	7RAC	R	57
Isabella	Kasamias	7RAC	R	57

Top students in year 8:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Niam	Kataria	8RJG	R	51
Betsy	Coneywood	8OJT	O	50
Ariella	Elkabbas	8RJG	R	48
Isabella	Mene	8OJT	O	46
Diana	Hristeva	8RJG	R	46
Evie	Howlett	8WSW	W	46
Ben	Clitherow	8RJG	R	45
Ailis	Hoxha	8RJG	R	44
Hannah	Khan	8RJG	R	44
Guney	Comak	8RJG	R	44
Michael	Seyidov	8WSW	W	44
Klea	Kambo	8WSW	W	44

**Top students in year 9:**

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Samuel	Malaj	9ORD	O	60
Warren	Kelly	9OAC	O	58
Anais	Edwards-Anyanwu	9OAC	O	57
Dennis	Erdogan	9OAC	O	56
Emily	Newton	9RBW	R	54
Yani	Tziovas	9ORD	O	53
Ruby	Knight	9RCX	R	53
April	Clydesdale	9RBW	R	52
Stefano	Keliris	9RCX	R	50

Top students in year 10:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
James	Cooper-Dobson	10BYC	B	60
Gabrielle	Russell	10BYC	B	53
Bana	Tahsen	10BLM	B	52
Nicole	Kozinos	10RTC	R	52
Omyur	Karadzhova	10BLM	B	51
Louie	Lynch	10RTC	R	51
Amelia	Marrison-Claffey	10BLM	B	49
Alessandro	Rosiello	10RTC	R	49
George	Baker	10BYC	B	47
Arda	Surmez	10OSM	O	47

Top students in year 11:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Nataniel	De Almeida	11WDD	W	61
Roshan	Awudu	11BNI	B	60
Daniel	Malaj	11BJC	B	53
Muhammad	Iqbal	11BNI	B	53
Evie	Whitbread	11WDD	W	49
Liam	O'Connor	11WDD	W	49
Maxim	Volkov	11OKK	O	47
Jayden	Soopramanien	11BNI	B	46
Parla	Ghanipour	11OAB	O	45
Ivan	Markovets	11WDD	W	45

**Top students in year 12:**

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Elias	Osafo	12BAS	B	29
Shay	Patel	12BAS	B	28
Haoxi	Chen	12BAS	B	28
Wunfai Alex	Lo	12BTD	B	28
Jason	Oladeji	12RJB	R	28
Toprak	Palali	12WDS	W	28
Rhea	Mehta	12RJB	R	27
Jasmine	Desai	12OAT	O	26
Raya	Gotseva	12OES	O	26
Fortune	Agbugba	12RJB	R	26
Canel	Aygin	12RJB	R	26
Alessandro	Georgiou	12WAD	W	26

Top students in year 13:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Elyaas	Uddin	13WTA	W	26
Jannaya	Jiagge-Takyi	13WTA	W	26
Caden	O'Brien	13WTA	W	26
Alexia	Chrysostomou	13OMA	O	25
Katie	Brookman	13RSL	R	25
Ledia	Xhetani	13RSL	R	25
Charlie	Mills	13WTA	W	25
Aleksander	Zogu	13BJT	B	24
Tyler	Macdonald	13BJT	B	24



Family Based Solutions

Moving Forward Together

Join Our Free Online Parent Support Workshops! **Once a week for 4 weeks**

Welcome to our virtual Parent Support Group!



Join us every week for a month to connect with other parents, share experiences, and gain valuable insights. This online group is designed to provide a safe space for parents to discuss challenges, seek advice, and build a supportive community. Suitable for parents/carers/grandparents looking for ways to improve their current situation when faced with conflict and challenging behaviours. Let's navigate the ups and downs of parenting together!

Sign up now for this 4-week journey!

EMAIL OR CALL TO BOOK:

admin@familybasedsolutions.org.uk

Tel: 020 8363 6262

MORNING WORKSHOPS

11:00 - 12:30pm GMT

Once a week for 4 weeks

Tuesday, February 3

Tuesday, February 10

Tuesday, February 24

Tuesday, March 3

EVENING WORKSHOPS

6:30 - 8pm GMT

Once a week for 4 weeks

Tuesday, January 28

Tuesday, February 4

Tuesday, February 11

Tuesday, February 25

www.familybasedsolutions.org.uk

www.facebook.com/familybasedsolutions

Family Based Solutions (FBS) Charity No. 1149383



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 *





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

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

Childline confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem
Call: 0800 1111 anytime or [online chat with a counsellor](#)

Urgent and other support available

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

Follow Highlands School on:

 [X@Highlands_sch](https://twitter.com/X@Highlands_sch)

 Instagram [@highlandssch](https://www.instagram.com/highlandssch)

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

 Threads [@Highlandssch](https://www.threads.net/@Highlandssch)

 Facebook [Highlands School](https://www.facebook.com/Highlands_School)