



Highlands School Newsletter

16 January 2026



Dear parents and carers,

This week at school there was a focus on our year 11 and year 10 students who will be taking their GCSE exams this summer (there are only 12 school weeks to go until the start of the summer exam season!). On Tuesday year 11 students and parents came to school to receive their mock exam grades and to receive information about preparing students for their exams. Year 11 parents' evening then took place on Wednesday. Year 10 students had an online event on Tuesday evening. Our number one priority up until the exams begin will be preparing students for their GCSEs and A levels. Interventions will be taking place after school, at some weekends and over the holidays. The main place students can prepare for their exams though is in lessons. Please make sure students are in school, fully equipped, rested and ready to learn. Although the exams are not far off, there is still time to significantly improve performance, if students put in the time and effort.

On page 2 of this week's newsletter you can read about the HPFA (Highlands Parents' and Friends' Association). The HPFA has been a force for good at Highlands for years by raising money for the school. They have made many contributions to Highlands, such as helping us to buy minibuses and paying for the refurbishment of the sixth form study area. If you would like to get involved please read the information on the next page, we would welcome your support!

Mr McInerney,
Headteacher.



Key dates for next half term:

- Monday 19th January: online meetings with Y11 parents about post-16 options
- Wednesday 21st January: year 8 parents' evening
- Wednesday 4th February: options evening for year 8 and 9 parents at school
- Thursday 5th February: late start following options evening
- Friday 13th February: final day of half term

HPFA meeting

Our next meeting will take place next week at 6.30 pm, Thursday 22nd January, on the school premises and all members of the school community are welcome to join us.

At the meeting we will be reviewing HPFA activities for the 2025/2026 year and our ways of working and processes to maximise the benefit that the HPFA delivers to the school.

We will also be looking ahead to our forthcoming events, including our popular quiz night scheduled for March, which will be hosted by Mr McInerney. Watch out for the announcement of tickets going on sale for this fun event.

We would be very pleased to meet parents and friends amongst the school community at next week's meeting, but if you cannot attend do feel free to get in touch and let us know if you would like to support the HPFA in any way.

Support could range from:

- signing up for our event and communication updates;
- attending our fundraising events;
- volunteering some time/resources; or
- providing donations of fundraising gifts or services.

We would love to hear from you or see you at the meeting. Do feel free to contact us via our email address: hpfaeventtickets@gmail.com

HPFA





Year 12 and 13 photography trip

A level photography students in years 12 and 13 visited the V&A Museum on Wednesday as part of an enriching photography trip. The visit began at the Photography Centre, where students explored exhibitions to support their research, before moving around the museum to capture photographs and gather further visual inspiration.

The trip provided a valuable learning experience, allowing students to develop their observational skills and creative practice in a world-class cultural setting.

Ms Homayouni





Year 7 and 8 girls Sportshall Athletics competition

On Monday, the year 7 and 8 girls' Sportshall Athletics teams took part in a competition against other Enfield schools. The event began with a range of field activities, including shot put, standing long jump, standing triple jump and speed bounce.

This was followed by an obstacle race, before the girls competed in individual track events over two, four and six laps. The competition concluded with an eight-lap paarlauf and a four by two-lap relay race.

The year 7 team finished in first place, winning their competition by an impressive 11 points. The year 8 team showed great grit and determination, finishing third overall.

The year 7 team will now go on to compete in the London Youth Games qualifying competition in February.

Well done girls, we are very proud of you.

Mrs Walters & Ms Farmer





Year 9 & 10 futsal tournament

On Thursday 8th January, a mixed year 9 and 10 boys' futsal team travelled to Chace Community School to take part in a futsal tournament. The boys played extremely well and won three out of three games.

- Highlands 1-0 Oasis Hadley
- Highlands 2-0 Chace Community School
- Highlands 2-1 Oasis Enfield

Players of the tournament: Tish Patel, Adem Uca-Batili, Owen Smith and Ernie Batista.

Well done to you all.

Mr Avann



Players of the tournament

Year 10 and 11 basketball

On Tuesday 13th January the year 10 and 11 boys' basketball team travelled to St Ignatius for their fourth match of the season. Despite staying in the game early, the squad of St Ignatius started to take a lead which Highlands couldn't quite keep up with.

Final score: Highlands 35-77 St Ignatius.

Players of the match: Caleb Kintu-Miller and Dane Adon.

Mr Avann

Sponsored by Central office supplies



Players of the match





Inspiring dentistry talk

A selection of year 11 and year 12 students were privileged to attend a talk by Dr Bhavisha Patel, a practising dentist, who shared her career journey and valuable insights into the world of dentistry.

Dr Patel highlighted the qualities needed for a successful dental career, including attention to detail, strong communication skills, teamwork and the ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment. She also discussed the educational pathways into dentistry, the importance of foundational knowledge in biology, anatomy, pharmacology and materials science, as well as emerging technologies such as digital scanning and 3D imaging.

Students learned about the rewarding aspects of dentistry, including building long-term patient relationships, personal fulfilment and tangible results from their work. Dr Patel also offered guidance on lifelong learning, managing patient expectations and the challenges of dealing with complaints and unpredictability in the profession.

The session inspired students to think carefully about their career choices, showing them the skills, dedication, and mindset required to succeed in dentistry.

We are very grateful to Dr Bhavisha Patel for giving her time to support our students.

Mrs Laurenzi





Black History Month 2025 design competition

Thank you to all students who entered the Black History Month 2025 poster and pin design competition. This year's theme was "Standing Firm in Power and Pride."

Congratulations to our winners:

- Poster design winner: Candace Asoegwu - year 7
- Pin design winners: Nathan Henry - year 7, and Maya Mueller - year 8

The winning designs will be used on Black History Month promotional materials. Commemorative pins will be created and handed out to all students who participated in the competition.

Well done to everyone involved.

Ms Maple



Dancers of the week

Our dancers of the week are Fyffe Kelly and Daniel Lemonious who both performed very well in their choreography assessment, well done!

Miss Brown





House assemblies

This week, we held our house assemblies led by our amazing house captains and strand leads, who did a fantastic job guiding and motivating their houses. They shared updates on how each house is performing now that we are halfway through the year, alongside information about upcoming events, wellbeing initiatives, environmental performance and key points from recent house council meetings.

It was inspiring to see the captains and strand leads confidently leading their houses, building team spirit and encouraging everyone to push for success in the race to win the overall competition.

Well done to all of the students who presented, you all did an outstanding job.



Scottish and Irish Cuisine Day

Beech house hosted a Scottish and Irish cuisine day at Highlands this week, giving staff and students the chance to enjoy a delicious themed menu.

Dishes included sausage with mashed potato, spinach and chickpea rice and carrots, followed by a warming apple and peach crumble served with custard for dessert.





Show Racism the Red Card

This year marks our fourth consecutive entry into Show Racism the Red Card and we are incredibly proud of our success to date, having won the competition three years in a row. Last year, we achieved outstanding recognition by winning the *Year 10+ Art & Creative Writing category*, the prestigious *Jo Cox Memorial Award*, and being selected as the *overall competition winner*. Our winning student, Neriah, was invited to the Palace of Westminster, met Keir Starmer, and performed her poem at 10 Downing Street. We hope this inspires everyone to get involved again this year and continue this incredible legacy.



What is the competition?

- The Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC) school competition is free to enter and open to young people of all ages and abilities.
- We want to encourage participants to think about racism and produce their own work about this serious issue.
- This is a unique opportunity for schools to proactively demonstrate their commitment to equality and tackling racism by taking part in the UK's largest equalities themed school competition

How is it judged?

- An independent panel of judges select the winning entries and winners are invited to a special awards ceremony at a Premier League stadium.
- Prizes are presented by special guests including current and former professional footballers.

The categories:

- Everyone is welcome to produce work in any medium: **artwork, creative writing, song, film, music, t-shirt or football boot designs.**
- If it's about racism, we want to see it!

The **design a boot** and **t-shirt** categories is a creative task. The templates can be downloaded [here](#).

The music category: encourages students to use sounds, rhythm and lyrics as powerful tools to express their understanding of racism. Students can choose to write an original song, create a rap, compose instruments or reinterpret an existing piece to communicate a strong sense of equality and inclusion.





The rules

SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD

RULES

- **Artwork** must not exceed **A3 size** (297 x 420mm)
- **Music entries** must not exceed **5 minutes** & must be playable in **MP3 or MP4 format**
- **Film entries** must not exceed **6 minutes** & must be playable in **Windows Media Player**
- **Group entries** are permitted but limited to a **maximum number of 6 young people per group**
- **Please do not send more than one entry, per category, per school**

How to enter

All entries to be handed in or sent to [Ms Maple](#) by **17th February 2026**.

Please write the following information on the back of each entry:

- **Name of entrant**
- **Year group**
- **Name of school**

Paper templates of the boot and t-shirt can be found in Ms Maples office or [here](#).





Headteacher 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.

- **Gracie-Mae Ticehurst 13OES:** Awarded for all her hard work of research and interviews, she has secured a job in America.
- **Baran Byndor 12WTA:** Awarded for showing resilience in the first term and settling in really well into sixth form.
- **Megan Faulkner 12OMA:** Awarded for settling really well into sixth form and studying hard/making revision cards as if she is going to sit the exam tomorrow.
- **Lucas Rossini 13WDS:** Awarded in recognition of his exceptional creative writing.
- **Elis Cristovao 11WCM:** Awarded in recognition of her consistent dedication and enthusiasm across a wide range of activities.
- **Kamilah Abib 12RCW:** Awarded for her outstanding initiative and determination in securing a work experience placement.
- **Perri Djemal 11ODC:** Awarded for his resilience, enterprise and maturity.





School announcements

Calling all employers - Help shape a future!

We're always looking to expand our employer connections and provide year 12 students with valuable work experience opportunities. If you are able to support a student with a placement, please get in touch by emailing careers@highlearn.uk

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 items 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.

Notifying the school of student appointments

If your child has an appointment scheduled during school hours, please ensure you notify us promptly by emailing postbox@highlearn.uk for years 7-11 and sixthform@highlearn.uk for years 12-13 or by phoning us on the day of the appointment.

Your notification must include the date of the appointment and the exact time the student needs to leave school. Where possible, please also attach or provide proof of the appointment to the email.

To ensure your child is released smoothly from their lesson, please write a clear note on the appropriate day of your child's student planner, indicating the time they need to leave class. Students must show this planner note to their teacher to be excused from the lesson. They will then proceed to the school reception to officially sign out before being released to meet you at your pre-arranged location. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

School lettings

School Hire and Functions Ltd manage all our bookings for hiring of the astro, sports hall, field, main hall, dance and drama rooms and general classroom hire. We have had new floodlights installed on the astro meaning we can now take bookings in the evenings during the winter months.

For all booking enquiries, please contact **Jo Bukin, Director**, at **07855 042027** or email:

school.hire@yahoo.co.uk. You can also find more details at www.school-hire.com

Highlands School
148 Worlds End Lane, London, N21 1QQ
Modern and spacious facilities to hire for community events, sports groups, dance and drama classes, language school, tutoring services...and more!

4G Astro pitch
Drama studios
Sports hall
Mirrored dance studio
Classrooms
Outside spaces

CONTACT TODAY
07855042027



House weekly winners

The winning house is the house of the student who received the most achievement points this week. Congratulations to Sophie in year 7 and to **Beech** house.

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Sophie	Winter-Taylor	7BJC	Beech	72
Rheo	Ahmet	7BJC	Beech	71
Jialin	Wei	7OPH	Oak	68
Naiya	Shah	7WDD	Willow	68
Aisel	Koxha	7BJC	Beech	65

Top students in year 7

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Sophie	Winter-Taylor	7BJC	B	72
Rheo	Ahmet	7BJC	B	71
Jialin	Wei	7OPH	O	68
Naiya	Shah	7WDD	W	68
Aisel	Koxha	7BJC	B	65
Mia	March	7BJC	B	65
Nathan	Henry	7BJC	B	65
Isabella	Constantinou	7OPH	O	64
Amber	Jarvis	7WDD	W	64

Top students in year 8:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Helin	Aslaner	8RKM	R	54
Vitaliia	Zakharchuk	8RAC	R	53
Abdullah	Collins	8RKM	R	51
Jack	Mallyon	8RKM	R	50
Eren	Mistiki	8RAC	R	49
Arley	Alla	8RAC	R	46
Lexie	Shengaris	8RAC	R	46
Muhammed	Parlak	8RAC	R	46
Joseph	McHale	8RAC	R	46
Aifha	Gambo	8RKM	R	46



Top students in year 9:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Hannah	Bauluck	9ORD	O	53
Seray	Halil	9ORD	O	46
Ali	Varli	9RGA	R	44
Alara	Kilic	9RGA	R	43
Chloe	Williams	9ORD	O	41
Dylan	Makani	9ODM	O	40
Benjamin	Taheny	9ORD	O	40
Alexa	Nicolau	9RGA	R	39
Alexandra	Koneva	9RGA	R	38
Lucy	Pishiris	9ORD	O	37
Latif	Defreitas	9ORD	O	37

Top students in year 10:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Sena	Oguz	10WNK	W	58
Aalycia	Udahemuka	10WNK	W	54
Nea	Petritaj	10WNK	W	48
Amalia	Lamarca	10WMP	W	47
Abel	Kalaj	10WMP	W	47
Faye	Etuazim	10WNK	W	46
Marcus	Marfici	10WMP	W	45
Beatrice	Findlay	10BAM	B	44
Kaelyn	Beisty	10WNK	W	44
Annika	Trivedi	10WNK	W	44

Top students in year 11:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Harrison	Willer	11RJC	R	40
Samuel	Taheny	11ODC	O	31
Zehra	Besler	11WJQ	W	31
Constantinos	Socratous	11ODC	O	30
Ermioni	Tsantikou	11OSM	O	30
Lucy	Kyriacou	11RCG	R	30
Elliz	Arkin	11RJC	R	30
Jorja	Hodge	11RJC	R	30



Top students in year 12:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Evie	Ferguson	12WTA	W	26
Alexandra	Drikou	12ODS	O	23
Junaid	Ejaz	12RCW	R	22
Shaniyah	Areh	12OMA	O	21
Eren	Nalbantoglu	12RCW	R	20
Zaynab	Baig	12RSL	R	18
Sahara	Cakir	12BJT	B	16
Matthew	Guest	12RSL	R	16
Jessica	Smyth	12WTA	W	16

Top students in year 13:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Jakub	Warnawski	13OES	O	7
Taylan	Ucar	13OAL	O	6
Jasmine	Desai	13OAL	O	6
Yasmin	Farhadi	13OAL	O	6
Jaimin	Shah	13RHK	R	6
Andrew	Pishiris	13RHK	R	6
Andrew	Joannou	13RHK	R	6
Ryan	Rhatigan	13WAD	W	6
Kyri	Antoniou	13WDS	W	6
Athanas	Topoviti	13WDS	W	6



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](#) and if you have any questions please contact our Alumni Programme Manager at Future First: Faithia Garffus – faithia.garffus@futurefirst.org.uk

#HighlandsAlumni

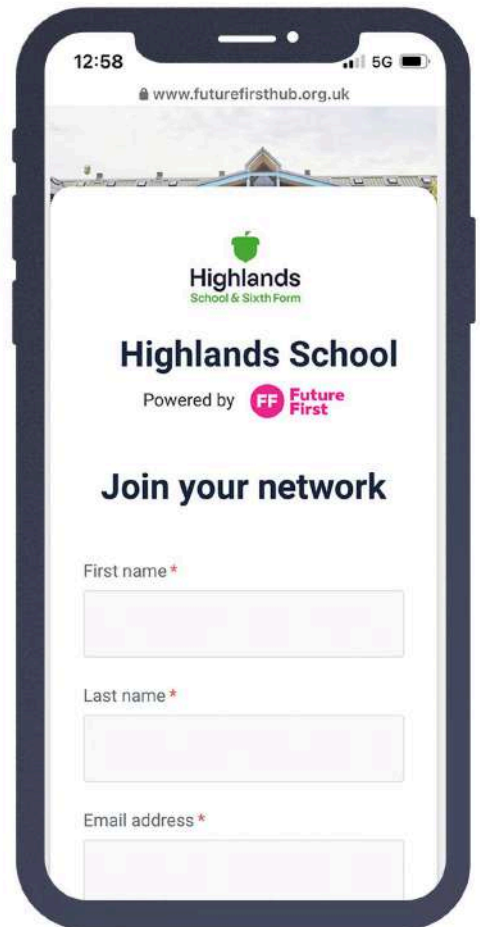


Former student?

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.





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.

Urgent mental health support - 24/7 crisis lines

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

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>

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
SOMEONE 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 call 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 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/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)

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