

WELCOME MESSAGE

Happy New Year to our Highgate Wood School community! The past half term was, yet again, an extremely busy one. On the cultural front, we had the privilege of watching our exceptionally talented students perform in the school production – High School Musical Jr. – and the Winter Concert. Congratulations to students and staff from the Drama and Music departments for putting tremendous planning and practice into the rehearsals. It has resulted in some truly outstanding performances!

We had our final Open Event for the year - the Sixth Form Open Evening. This event was, as always, well attended and it was encouraging to see how many prospective students from the surrounding areas are recognising our Sixth Form as their desired destination to further their studies.

There have been many highlights from the past few weeks. In this edition of the Insight we delve into the following:

- BHM Dragon's Den Competition
- Careers Fair
- 6th Form Open Evening
- Y13 History Trip to Auschwitz
- News from 6th Form
- Winter Concert
- School Production – High School Musical Jr.
- Food Bank Collection
- Sports News



Both students and staff certainly earned the much-needed break and we look forward to what 2025 has in store for us!

BLACK HERITAGE MONTH DRAGON'S DEN COMPETITION

We are thrilled to share the incredible success of this year's Black Heritage Month Dragon's Den competition! With over 25 student groups from Key Stage 3 and 4 participating, the event truly showcased the creativity, passion, and entrepreneurial spirit of our students.

The competition wasn't just about pitching business ideas; it was about fostering important life skills such as public speaking, teamwork, and project planning, all in line with our school's core values of Cooperation, Consideration, Contribution, and Courtesy. Every student who took part demonstrated these values brilliantly, and we couldn't be prouder of their hard work and dedication.

After a rigorous evaluation process, the decision was a tough one for our panel of judges: Mr Cozier, Ms Kingston, Ms Coley, and Mx Varrone. There were so many outstanding ideas, but the winners truly stood out. Khalid and Elmira impressed the panel with their innovative hair care brand. What set them apart was not only the quality of their product but their undeniable passion for making a positive change.

They aimed to make hair care more accessible for everyone, and it was clear that this passion resonated deeply with the judges.

As well as the prestigious recognition, the winners received a £100 Amazon voucher, and the runners-up, Malaak and Ledia, were awarded a £50 Amazon voucher. Every participant will be given a certificate of achievement to celebrate their dedication and creative thinking.

We are incredibly excited about the success of this competition and look forward to making next year's event even bigger and better. Well done again to all the participants – your enthusiasm and innovation are truly inspiring! We can't wait to see what you come up with next year!

- Ms Coley



CAREERS FAIR AT HWS

In early November Highgate Wood hosted the annual Careers Fair for students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13. The fair saw 30 visiting organisations make themselves available to students including a number of 6th Form Colleges for students in Years 10 and 11 as well as organisations promoting Apprenticeships and a number of Universities. Visitors were impressed with the way that students approached the event and the questions that they asked. Students used the event to reflect on their future options and on the pathway available once they have finished at Highgate Wood at either aged 16 or 18.

- Mr Charlesworth



6TH FORM OPEN EVENING

We had a wonderful time hosting prospective students and their families for a Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 14th November. This event was aimed at year 11 students, from HWS and other schools, in order to provide them with an opportunity to explore what Highgate Wood School has to offer at 6th Form level. As always, it was particularly pleasing to see many familiar faces from local Haringey schools and the surrounding area.

Apart from meeting the Headteacher and Director of Sixth Form through a presentation in the Main Hall, the prospective students also got to meet some of our current A level students and some staff members. There were a few hundred attendees, which was incredible to see, and we would like to thank all of them for joining us for the event.

The Sixth Form application process to join us in September 2025 is currently open until the deadline of 31st January 2025. Applications can be submitted using the following link:

<https://hws.applicaa.com/year12>



YEAR 13 HISTORY TRIP TO AUSCHWITZ

Thirty History A Level students went to Poland to visit the Auschwitz memorial and other Holocaust-related sites in Krakow.

In an emotionally and physically exhausting three days, the students visited the concentration and extermination camp at Auschwitz/Birkenau and the Galician Jewish Museum.

At the camps, we had the poignant experience of witnessing the sites where 1.3 million were murdered in less than four years. Doubtless, we will all carry these thought-provoking memories for life.



At the museum, we had the privilege of hearing a powerful talk by Holocaust survivor Monika Goldwasser. The talk concluded with two students, Zelar Sigincli and Ayla Jacobsberg, doing very moving readings of some of Marsha's writings.

We also did a walking tour of Kazimierz, the city's old Jewish quarter, to get a flavour of what was once a thriving Jewish community before the Nazi occupation.

Thanks go to Ms Georgiades and Mr Padfield for all their hard work and brilliant organisation.

Well done to their students for their maturity in dealing not only with flight delays and diversions and terrible weather, but also with a challenging but extremely worthwhile trip.

- Mr Holmes



NEWS FROM 6TH FORM

We have had a fantastic term in the 6th Form with incredible student achievements across both year groups. Year 13 UCAS applications are complete and the offers continue to roll in, alongside interviews across all disciplines including Oxbridge, Medicine, Performing Arts and Languages. A larger number of students this year are also applying for Apprenticeships and Degree Apprenticeships in Real Estate, Finance, Sports and Engineering. I am already excited about reporting on the successful progression of these Year 13 students, next summer.

On 8th January we will be welcoming our alumni back to collect exam certificates. Over the years we have enjoyed staying in touch with our past students and using their skills and experiences to engage and advise future students in the 6th form. We will be planning some alumni events over the next few months. Please note the 6th form prom this year is on Tuesday 24th June at our usual venue, Patch St Pauls.

Year 12 have been equally impressive, settling in and embracing the range of opportunities both academic and extracurricular. We have seen 9 post 16 trips including the Old Bailey, COP 29 and Auschwitz. Next up is the Art and Photography trip to Berlin. Congratulations to Aaliyah O'Brien who won The Brokerage WCIB Essay competition with a monetary prize for the school - a very prestigious award. Students continue the reading buddy programme each Thursday and the Student Newspaper is due for publication - watch this space. Well done also to the delegates in our latest MUN, all of whom have been selected to represent the school at The US School West London Model UN in February.

Year 13 PPEs start on 20th January and run for two weeks. Year 12 PPE are the first two weeks back after the Easter break. Access arrangements have been reviewed and training provided on how to use these effectively. Exam skills sessions will be focusing on Study Skills, revision and target setting. The Spring Term is short and busy - potentially one of the most important in terms of learning and we look forward to challenging our students to achieve their absolute best.

A reminder that any Pastoral or Academic concerns should be directed to the 6th form team.

Happy 2025 to everyone from us all.

- Ms Julian

WINTER CONCERT

At the end of the Autumn Term our musical senses were tickled as we witnessed yet another successful annual Winter Concert. The event celebrated the abundance of talent and variety of music at Highgate Wood School. The concert was very well attended and audiences were able to choose from watching one of two identical performances on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th December. We are most grateful for the support shown at the concert as any proceeds that were made from this event will be used to maintain and upgrade instruments in the music department.

Headteacher Mr Cozier writes: "A big thank you and congratulations must go out to Mr Ekstrom and the music team for another fantastic Winter Concert. The performances of the students were amazing as always, and the way things were brought together was a clear indication of the tremendous hard work of the staff who facilitated the whole production. A brilliant and enjoyable success!"

SCHOOL PRODUCTION - HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR.

The performance of High School Musical Jr has now come to a close, and I am filled with gratitude for the incredible experience of working with such a talented and dedicated cast.

A huge thank you to all the parents, friends, and families who came to support the students throughout this journey. Your encouragement has meant the world to us, and we are so thankful for your presence. Extra thanks go to all of you who have generously entrusted us with your fabulous children over the past few months. I hope you agreed that they were a truly talented and committed group, and I couldn't be prouder of all they've achieved.

We've worked tirelessly together to create a fun and uplifting show, and it has been an absolute joy to watch these students shine. It's been a pleasure getting to know them outside of lessons and seeing them flourish as performers. I truly hope they've enjoyed the process—and the laughs—just as much as I have! - Ms Nicolaides



FOOD BANK COLLECTION

It was heart-warming to see the huge effort that was made by our school community with the annual Hornsey Food Bank Collection this year. In fact, we received so many donations that we had to do two trips to deliver the food and toiletries to Hornsey Food Bank!

As you probably know, Consideration is one of our key 4C values at HWS. This was a tremendous effort that formed part of our Consideration Focus at the end of the term. The generosity of our students and families contributed greatly to helping those in need during the festive season.

We would like to thank everyone that was able to donate to this amazing cause. Special thanks must also go to the staff that were involved in organising the logistics behind this (in particular Ms Egan and Mr Nairn for delivering the food).



SPORTS NEWS...POSTS FROM THE P.E. PAGE

For more updates from the sports department, such as the posts below, follow the P.E. Instagram page by scanning the QR code:



highgatewoodschoolpe

highgatewoodschoolpe ✨ FITNESS CLUB WITH MR ISMAEL ✨


Fitness club has well and truly commenced again with Mr Ismael. He is SUPER proud of this amazing group of students who have been working weekly on their boxing & fitness skills 🥊🥊

All new members WELCOME. 🙌

- Thursdays 3-4pm 📅
- Change in the Windrush changing rooms 📍
- School gym 📍

8 w

49 likes
8 November 2024



highgatewoodschoolpe

highgatewoodschoolpe ✨ LTA PRIME VIDEO GIRLS COURSE ✨ ✨

Our fabulous year 7 & 8 girls have been working really hard on their tennis skills & drills with coaches Toby and Rob from Highgate Tennis.

The girls have done 6 weeks of their course in total and have now been awarded their own tennis rackets and tennis balls to carry on their own development outside of school.

This course or the resources wouldn't have been possible if it wasn't for the help of both the school and the HWS PSA who helped fund the course.


The aim was to target students who were new to tennis and new to our school to try to encourage and develop that lifelong love of sport. These students have definitely achieved that!! Well done everyone 🍌🍌

4 more weeks left of the course so make sure you have your full PE kit every Monday!!!

Edited - 7 w

35 likes
12 November 2024

SPORTS NEWS...POSTS FROM THE P.E. PAGE



highgatewoodschoolepe

highgatewoodschoolepe 🏆🏆 WIN 🏆🏆

Onto the next round of the Rachel Yankee U15 CUP. A great performance yesterday with a nice early goal from one of our fantastic strikers. This kept our opposing team chasing. Both sides contributed at such a high standard yesterday. The football was intense and exciting especially with a few nice goals from free kicks from both sides.


Thank you Haydon school for the game and travelling to us. Best of luck in your next games 🍀🍀

Next game for HWS girls:
U15 LEAGUE 1st GAME V HEARTLANDS - MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2PM KO
U13 LEAGUE 1st GAME V HEARTLANDS- THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER 3PM KO

👍👍👍👍👍👍

7 w

51 likes
13 November 2024



highgatewoodschoolepe

highgatewoodschoolepe 🏆🏆 WIN 🏆🏆

Well done to the U13s who played a great game against Heartlands today and also getting the win!

Reminder: Ensure everyone is at Squad training tomorrow 3-4pm 🕒

Next game: Thursday 12th December V Woodside 🕒

🏆🏆🏆

5 w

46 likes
25 November 2024

SPORTS NEWS...POSTS FROM THE P.E. PAGE



highgatewoodschoolepe

highgatewoodschoolepe 🌟🌟 WIN 🌟🌟

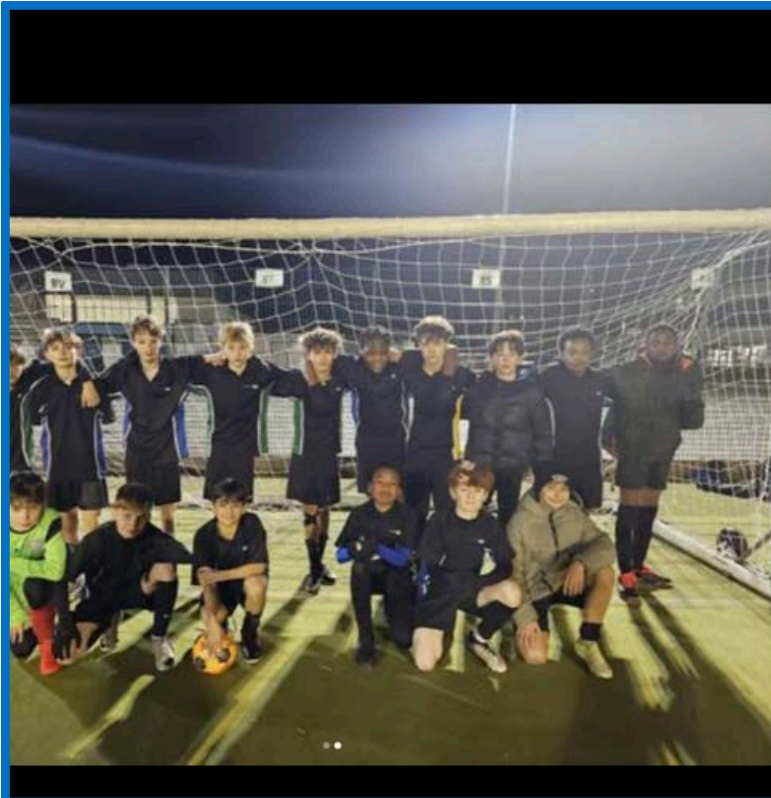
Our year 7 boys along with our u15 girls and 6th form boys have reached the quarter finals of their entered cups. The quarter finals will be played after Christmas for ALL teams but just to note - this is the furthest level we have reached in the Middlesex cups with so many year groups in YEARS! Well done HWS... 🌟🌟🌟

Also worth noting that next time the KS3 boys play - they will be in their lovely new kits... 🧥

🌟🌟 well done everyone 🌟🌟

4 w

37 likes
2 December 2024



highgatewoodschoolepe

highgatewoodschoolepe 🌟🌟 YEAR 8 BOYS FOOTBALL 🌟🌟


Our year 8 boys training hard practising some set plays after a lovely win against Dukes last week... a nice win for the Haringey league! Well done year 8s.

🌟🌟 keep up the commitment and dedication 🌟🌟

4 w

40 likes
2 December 2024

SPORTS NEWS...POSTS FROM THE P.E. PAGE



highgatewoodschoolpe

highgatewoodschoolpe 🌟🌟 U15 GIRLS 🌟🌟


These girls are going from strength to strength at the minute with their football. After today's win that leaves us top of the league. We also have the Quarter Final of the Middlesex cup to look forward to on Tuesday 7th January against JFS.

Well done girls. Keep up the good work... you are real role models at HWS!

Next fixture: U13 girls V Woodside on Thursday (A) 🌐

🌟🌟🌟
3 w

57 likes
9 December 2024



highgatewoodschoolpe

highgatewoodschoolpe 🌟🌟 U18 BOYS - UNBEATEN 🌟🌟

Massive shout out to this squad for their hard work and dedication this year so far. Also a shout out to Mr Trattou who has put endless effort into this squad. After numerous games - they remain undefeated in both their league and cup campaigns so a huge well done to them.

The boys however were lucky tonight to get through to the quarter finals after a full time draw then winning on penalties! Onto the next one... 🌐

🌟🌟🌟
2 w

42 likes
16 December 2024

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6th January	Students Return for Start of Term
Monday 6th January	Year 11 Pre-Public Examinations Start
Tuesday 7th January	Year 9 Options Evening
Thursday 16th January	Learning Review Day
Monday 20th January	Year 13 Pre-Public Examinations Start
Friday 24th January	Post 16 Taster Day
Saturday 8th February - Saturday 15th February	Year 9 Ski Trip
Tuesday 11th February	Year 7 Parents Evening
Thursday 13th February - Sunday 16th February	Year 12 & 13 Art Trip to Berlin
Monday 17th February	Half Term Starts