

# Word from the Wood

## HIGHGATE WOOD SCHOOL PSA NEWSLETTER



## BEFORE YOU GO...

We didn't want to go off on hols without a quick look back on the exciting year we've had. It's not been easy, but gradually, with the help of the school, some truly heroic teachers and a lot of parent-power, we've managed to bring the fundraising arm of the PSA back into full-throttle action, and we are GO for more of the same next year!

This brief round-up of recent PSA activities focuses on MADfest and some other highlights of our efforts. Stay tuned for a BANGER edition next term when we will welcome our new Year 7s to the school and report on what we're hoping to achieve and fund in 2022/3.

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# A TOP NIGHT OUT *Musical* BINGO

Any night out that includes a full bar, crazy prizes and nostalgic tunes has got to be a hit - especially with Highgate Wood School parents, it would appear....



On 14 May, we held a very grown-up event in the school hall hosted by a talented Musical Bingo compere and fabulous DJ who hit all the right notes.

There was dancing on the tables. The Macarena was performed. And yes, that is a photo of a Conga. Dear God...



(We also managed to raise the princely sum of £2,390!)





**THE PERFORMERS WIGGLE-WAGGLED, THE MOCKTAILS TRICKLE-TRACKLED (?!) AND THE MONEY JIGGLE-JAGGLED: WHAT A JOY IT WAS TO SEE THE PLAYGROUND TRANSFORMED INTO A FESTIVAL ZONE CROWDED WITH HAPPY FAMILIES, SMILING STUDENTS AND A REAL PARTY ATMOSPHERE.**

**IT'S OFFICIAL - MADFEST 2022: THE COMEBACK WAS A MASSIVE SUCCESS, THANKS TO THE HWS COMMUNITY!**

This was the first MADfest since 2019, and, for those who joined HWS post-2020, there was hot anticipation to see what this legendary calendar highlight was all about. For the PSA, the pressure was on to ensure that the comeback matched expectations. It did!





# IN PICS



## **MADFest - a festival of Music, Art, Drama.** **HWS' much funkier take on the traditional school summer fete.**

Music: on a professionally decked and equipped stage, enterprising students took turns to entertain the crowds with an impressive array of singing, songwriting, dancing and musical talents for almost three hours.

Art: the best artwork and D&T produced by HWS students this year was displayed in the cafeteria.

Drama: the cast of The Wiz performed scenes from the play to an enthusiastic audience, all of whom emerged smiling from the feel-good show.



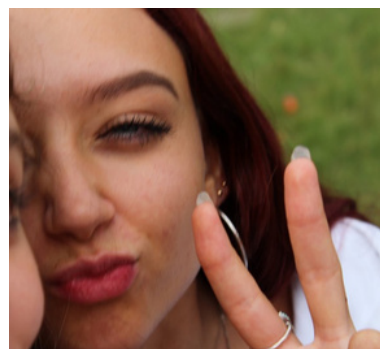




# IN PICS



Contrary to early fears that HWS might have forgotten how to party, MADfest attracted over 1,000 attendees and prompted a last minute scramble for the few remaining hot tickets as the moment grew near. Note to selves – get your tickets early next year to avoid disappointment!





# MAD Fest 2022 IN PICS



If you want to be part of the fabulous team who puts MADfest together next year, register your interest at [hwoodpsa@gmail.com](mailto:hwoodpsa@gmail.com).



# THANKS!

A MASSIVE THANKS TO THE SCHOOL'S MANAGEMENT TEAM, THE TALENTED PERFORMERS, THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED TO RUN THE SHOW, EVERYONE WHO CAME, THE STUDENTS, AND OF COURSE THE STAFF WHO GAVE THEIR TIME.

THANKS ALSO FROM THE PSA TO:

THE GIGGLING PIG

SALVATORE AT CHOCOLATO

FARID DJEBROUNI OF CREPERIE DELLYS

JAMES MAYERS

SAFFRON JOSEPH

FIONA GAUGHAN AT HOME HAIR

JAY AND STAFF AT CROWN SALON, CROUCH END

ANNA MELVILLE-JAMES AT BEANY'S FACEPAINTING

NICK HILL AT THE RAILWAY TAVERN, CROUCH END

AND OUR RAFFLE DONORS, INCLUDING:

TOOTOOMOO, CROUCH END

SURE IS FUNKY

SOURDOUGH SOPHIA, CROUCH END

ANDREW POYNTER AT THE GOODS OFFICE, CROUCH END

DAVE COHEN & HILARY TAYLOR, AUTHORS

BALE & HARE

PERFECTION NAILS

CHANGE OF HEART

MARTIN FROM EMG MEDIA

SPECIAL THANKS TO ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER, TRISTAN ASHMAN:  
AN ABSOLUTE LEGEND AND THE LYNCHPIN WHO BROUGHT IT ALL  
TOGETHER!

AND FINALLY, THANKS TO ALL OF YOU  
FOR HELPING TO RAISE A  
(PROVISIONAL) £6,000!

# STAFF APPRECIATION TEA

LET THEM EAT CAKE (AND FRUIT)!



Who doesn't like to be greeted at the end of a working day with a great big thank you for all your hard work?

Every term, the PSA puts on a staff appreciation tea party, where cakes and other snacks are donated by parents and laid out for the teachers.

The most recent staff appreciation tea fell on a very hot day, with everyone in need of a pick-me-up. So along with a smorgasbord of cakes and cookies, some kind parents donated cold soft drinks, Prosecco and ice-cold beers; others sent in crisps and cut summer fruit.

The teachers were delighted. It's a small gesture, but it goes a long way.

**If you would like to contribute or otherwise be involved in staff appreciation teas, please get in touch at [hwoodpsa@gmail.com](mailto:hwoodpsa@gmail.com).**

## UNIFORM SALE

WE SIFTED THROUGH A MASSIVE AMOUNT OF SECOND HAND UNIFORM DONATED OVER THE COURSE OF 2022, AND SOLD IT AT A SCHOOL UNIFORM EVENT WHERE INCOMING YEAR 7'S CAME ALONG TO TRY ON SIZES, PICK UP SOME PRE-LOVED BARGAINS AND HAVE A SOCIABLE DRINK WITH OTHER PARENTS. AND WE RAISED £1,245 IN THE PROCESS!

THE UNIFORM CUPBOARD BEFORE.....



...AND AFTER!





# School News

## Year 12 Work Experience - one week in July

Gabriel Bailey and Briseis Peters went to ICMA, a bond market trade association in the City of London. Speaking about his time there, Gabriel said: *"This experience has opened my eyes to the working world and given me new confidence. I have a better sense of direction as to what career I would find interesting in the future".*



Meanwhile, Crouch End's ArtHouse cinema tweeted:

We've had Daisy from  
@highgatewood  
doing work experience & she's been a ☆!  
She did an amazing A Board for the incredible  
#primafacieplay  
from @estreetprods



**If you are able to offer a year 12 student work experience in 2023,  
please contact [hwoodpsa@gmail.com](mailto:hwoodpsa@gmail.com).**

# School News

## Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show



Lottie Allison (Year 9) and Daisy Dennis (Year 12) have both had their work selected from 21,000 submissions for this year's Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show. Lottie will have her print featured in the exhibition space at the Royal Academy this summer as well as online, and Daisy will have her work in the online show.

## Design Future London

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, set a design challenge, the aim of which is to inspire young Londoners to develop an interest in designing beautiful, affordable and sustainable places to live, work and visit. Naturally, HWS sent along a top team to City Hall to present their ideas for what our city could be in the future.

One of the organisers  
tweeted:  
@highgatewood you should be  
so proud of your team  
presenting today at the  
#designfuturelondon awards!  
@LDN\_planning





# Out of the Woods...

Our regular catch-up with a 'Wooder

**Nicola Emms, class of 1986**



**Favourite subject?** English and Medieval History.

**Best memory of school?** The teachers - there was a brilliant teacher called Mrs Gallili who wore flowery dresses and taught us country dancing! And Mr Merryweather - he was really kind and inspiring. He used to call me 'Socks' because my long socks were always falling down. And of course the science teacher who took Bob Marley's death particularly badly, wearing a black armband and blasting his music during the lessons. I made some great friends at HWS, many of whom I'm still friends with today.

**What have you been doing since?** Lots of things...right now, I work as a Teaching Assistant and Emotional Literacy Support Assistant at Coleridge. Next year, I'm in charge of the 'Nature Hub' which I'm very excited about.

**Plans for the future?** Less work...and more time for stuff I like doing, like working at my allotment.

**Any advice for your younger self?** Work harder at school!

# AND FINALLY....

## How can you help?

### JOIN THE PSA

If you are interested in joining the PSA, or if you want to be added to our volunteer list for events, please email us at [hwoodpsa@gmail.com](mailto:hwoodpsa@gmail.com).

### HELP US FUNDRAISE

Join the HWS Lottery for £1/month. For details, email [HWSLott2020@hotmail.com](mailto:HWSLott2020@hotmail.com).

Use easyfundraising ([www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)) and Amazon Smile ([smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk)).

If you have any good ideas for fundraising events that we could run, please email us at [hwoodpsa@gmail.com](mailto:hwoodpsa@gmail.com).

### ENRICHMENT

The school is always looking to enhance cultural enrichment, and connect with practitioners, teachers and expert enthusiasts. From mindfulness to bee-keeping, origami to hula-hooping, manga drawing to parkour...if you can help, or know someone who can, please email us at [hwoodpsa@gmail.com](mailto:hwoodpsa@gmail.com).

### FEEDBACK

To give feedback on this newsletter, please email us at [wordfromthewood@gmail.com](mailto:wordfromthewood@gmail.com).

#### SIGN UP TO RECEIVE OUR PSA UPDATES

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: @HWS\_PSA

#### JOIN US ON FACEBOOK:

- [HIGHGATE WOOD PARENTS](#)
- [HIGHGATE WOOD PSA](#)
- [HIGHGATE WOOD PARENTS BUY SELL SWAP](#)
- [NEW YEAR 7 \(2022 INTAKE\) VIRTUAL MEETING PLACE](#)

Did you know? Lost property at HWS is kept in the uniform cupboard - useful to know when your kid comes home without their PE kit - again...



