

Word from the Wood

HIGHGATE WOOD SCHOOL PSA NEWSLETTER



The first half term of the year at HWS ended with a bright splash of colour as pupils were invited to wear red to stand up to racism on the last day of school. It followed a month of academic, social and extra-curricular focus on Black Heritage, involving special lunch menus, film clubs and a series of Q&A talks with enterprising and successful professionals from the black community including David Lammy, MP, DC Chloe Wilson and Prof. Heidi Mirza.

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PSA EVENTS

THE FAMOUS HWS PSA QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT RETURNS!

Test yourself with tricky trivia, treat yourself to some delicious curry and down a drink or two. And best of all, meet up with your mates, or make some new ones!

QUIZ TIME

- Doors open at 7.30pm when curry (chicken or veg, plus sides) will be served. Settle in, enjoy your food and get a drink before the quiz starts at 8.15pm prompt. Be sure to get there in good time!
- A full bar selling nibbles will be open throughout the night.
- Enter as a team OR just rock up and join a “pot luck” table.
- All proceeds go directly to HWS PSA.
- Please note this event is not suitable for students/young children.

FRIDAY 11th NOV

7.30-10.30pm

£15 ENTRY

(includes CURRY)

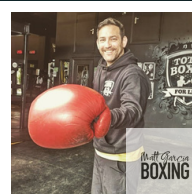
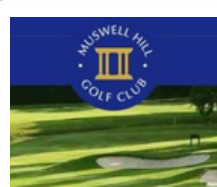
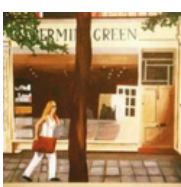
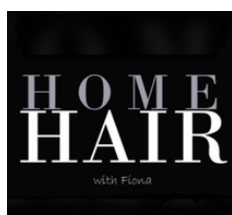
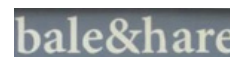
BUY TICKETS



PSA EVENTS

WINTER AUCTION

This year, we have curated an array of some really fantastic, quality items, featuring loads of favourite locals, sought-after independent lifestyle trainers and fitness coaches, acclaimed artists and treats galore.



There really is something for everyone, so get bidding!
Ends at 12 noon on Wednesday 30 November

PSA EVENTS

WINTER AUCTION



[Click here to make your bids](#)

Thanks to all our donors, including:

**Pizza Express, Lucky Voice, Matt Maynard, Bar Esteban
Bale & Hare, Home Hair, The Foot Studio, Audio Gold
Victoria Stakes, Corner Cuts, The Goods Office, Sacred Gin
3Tribes, Crouch End Cellars, Season Cookshop
Crouch End Calligraphy, Banner's, Emma Lacey, Mathnasium
Dugdale Centre, Jessica Stewart at State Yoga, Lorna Doyan
Velasquez and Van Wezel, Bull & Last, The Light Clinic
Wildcard Coffee, The Maynard, Fair Well
Ottolenghi, Rowans, Royal Academy, Courthauld, RFK Architects
No Escape, Floral Hall, Dabbers, Picturehouse
Park Theatre, Beany Facepainting, Small Beer, Virgin Active
Soho House, Peppermint Green, Jo Westhead, Paesan
Nomad Bros, Dunn's, Freeman's, Hampstead Butcher...**

PSA EVENTS

WINTER AUCTION



[Click here to make your bids](#)

...**Jealous Gallery**, Helen Brough, **Rosie Ruddock**, ReWild
Crouch End Studio, Sophy Matthew Mindfulness
Matt Garcia Personal Trainer, Railway Tavern
Singhar Beauty, Ginger & Mint, **Punk Cake**, The Queen's
The Source, Sourdough Sophia, **Petter Pharmacy**, Murray
Eri Perry, One Yoga, **Kate Loeffen**, John Hoare, **Jeremy Chandler** Dominique
Woolf, **Waterstones**, Smythson, **Lizzy Emery**
Oliver Bonas, **Les 2 Garçons**, Little Paris, **Vintiners**
Sunshine Garden Centre, **Crouch End Tiger**, Lee Chan
Beam, Marc Southey, **Sparks Film School**,
Jane Grant, Rachel Oakes, **Bethany Rich**

It's not too late to donate an item - just email
hwoodpsa@gmail.com

PSA EVENTS

STAFF APPRECIATION TEA

Thursday 8 December



You can help by donating cakes (shop bought or home-made) and other Christmassy treats to lift the teachers' spirits towards the end of a long term. It really does mean a lot to the staff! If you're available to help lay out the cakes and serve, please let us know.

**Please drop off any seasonal goodies with reception staff
on Thursday 8 December**

UNIFORM SALE

Friday 9 December from 4.30pm



A chance to revamp your child's school wardrobe, replace outgrown items and reinstate your kids' lost P.E. kits!

Blazers £10

All other items £5

*Exact whereabouts at HWS will be weather-dependent and announced by email

SPECIAL OFFER FROM THE PSA



There'll come a time in many of our lives when we have to think about inheritance planning - writing a will, or making a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) for ourselves or our loved ones.

Hillman Legal Partnerships, established in Crouch End in 2007, specialises in Wills and Probate, including Trusts, LPA, Guardianship and Inheritance Tax.

Hillman Legal Partnerships are very kindly offering HWS PSA a generous donation for every Will and LPA purchased together - just mention 'Highgate Wood School' when instructing them.

Visit www.hillmanlegal.co.uk, or 91 Weston Park, London, N8 9PR



PSA FUNDS

What we raised in 2021-22...

£20,355



Last academic year, the PSA raised over £20,000 for the school from events, and a further substantial amount thanks to your generous donations

... and how we raised it



MADFest: £5,500



Musical Bingo: £2,390



Winter Auction: £7,520



Quiz & curry: £2,485



Raffle: £700



Uniform sales: £1,760

PSA FUNDS

What do our funds go towards?

On top of sponsoring big projects such as site improvements, the PSA contributes towards recurring expenses that enhance pupils' education, such as the annual hardship fund for pupil premium and an enrichment fund. It also pays for the Sixth Form trip to Auschwitz (pictured right), and PHSE sessions such as the Comedy School Anti-Knife Crime programme.



HWS sixth-formers gather around the Auschwitz memorial



Students on the Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition 2022, for which the PSA was able to fund new hiking boots

The PSA also regularly approves smaller applications to cover one-off expenses, from relationships with external support service organisations, such as the ADHD Foundation (whose colourful Neurodiversity Umbrellas hang from the ceiling in the school canteen area), to buying walking boots for the Duke of Edinburgh expedition (pictured left).

We also put on staff appreciation teas, allocate funding to transition days for new joiners, contribute to the Years 13 and 11 yearbook and Year 7 Hallowe'en disco, and fund the Model UN, to name but a few of our causes.



Pupils taking part in the Model UN conference



GCSE results day 2022, with students receiving their Yr 11 yearbooks



The Yr 11 yearbooks, funded by the PSA

What are we fundraising for now?

Some projects that were under consideration have been derailed, inevitably, by Covid-19, but the school has a number of areas that they want to invest in, and parents, carers and pupils as well as staff and governors will be encouraged to have their say in selecting which area they'd like to see prioritised. More on this to come in the next newsletter, we hope!

RECENT INVESTMENTS



The annual team-building day for the incoming Yr7s (funded by the PSA), held at the beginning of the school term, consisted of a series of team-based activities and challenges which required partner cooperation and coordination. It's a great way to kick off the new school year and get the kids working together.

RECENT INVESTMENTS



The PSA was delighted to provide disco lighting for the dress-up disco that took place before half-term. It was the first post-Covid Hallowe'en disco and the first taste for the new Year 7s of how the school can party when it wants to. Teachers and kids alike donned their most ghoulish get-ups and celebrated a successful first six weeks as secondary school students.

In other news...



THE SCHOOL GETS ITS VOICE BACK

Having lain dormant whilst the school coped with the impact of Covid, the HWS newspaper, *Insight*, was resurrected at the end of summer term with a jumbo launch issue covering all the latest news from HWS.

Now that the school has its own mouthpiece to report on news and school events, *Word*

from the Wood will be focusing more exclusively on PSA-related matters so that the two information sources complement each other. You may see a bit less school news, and a little more fundraising focus.

Insight is the product of a collaborative effort between staff and pupil reporters, and Mr Ashman hopes to produce one issue at the end of every school term.

OUT OF THE WOOD

Catch-up with a 'Wooder



Joe Watts, Class of 2005

Joe as he is now, far left, and dressed up for the National Record of Achievement Leavers' Party at the end of Yr11, inset.

I left HWS after sixth form in 2005.

My memories of school are that it was tough in Years 7 through to 9, being in a big scary secondary school, but from then onwards I just remember making great friends who I still call my besties to this day. English was my favourite subject, and I had a favourite teacher called Mr Astrop, who I think is still there. My sister Jasmine also went to Highgate Wood School, later on.

After I left school, I went to work for my uncle in The Salisbury pub in Haringey for a year. After that, I went to Buckinghamshire University and then Florida to complete my private pilot's licence which was great fun. Now I run a pub in Dalston called The Prince George for the same company as The Salisbury. My daughter Lily now also goes to Highgate Wood and is in Year 9.

My advice to younger self would be enjoy being young and don't try to be an adult/grow up too quickly. Enjoy being young while you can!

Did you know...?

Mr Timms now runs a school orchestra every Monday at 3pm. All years are welcome; just bring your instrument and join in!

MAKE US STRONGER

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a state school in possession of an insufficient government-funded fortune must be in want of a PSA to raise the extra money required. In short: every school needs its PSA!

HWS, like all state schools, would love to be able to give its pupils the enhanced educational experience they deserve, but budgets are limited, and **going above and beyond is only possible with outside help**. That's where the PSA comes in.

Our funding support system gives HWS the ability to increase the school's impact on pupils' lives, improve wellbeing and raise standards. To do this well, **we need good people on board** who can help us join the dots between school and home. The more people who **engage with us** - even just by reading our emails, attending our events and telling their friends, the greater our impact. **We are always looking for people to join our committee** - it's fun, rewarding, and we won't put too much pressure on your time. We know how busy life is and we are all fitting in what we can around full-time jobs. We would especially love to hear from those who can **bring diversity of thought to our numbers**, so that we may more accurately represent the social demographics of the school.

To **find out more about joining the PSA**, or if you want to be added to our volunteer list for events, please send us a no-commitment email at hwoodpsa@gmail.com.

HELP US FUNDRAISE FROM YOUR DESK

- Join the HWS Lottery for £1/month. For details, email HWSLott2020@hotmail.com.
- Use easyfundraising (www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.co.uk).

If you have any good ideas for fundraising events that we could run, please email us at hwoodpsa@gmail.com

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[Yr7 2022 intake virtual meeting place](#)

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We welcome your feedback on this newsletter! Please email us at wordfromthewood@gmail.com with your comments and suggestions.