



Highlands Sixth Newsletter

March 2026

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM

As we approach the end of another busy term, I want to extend my gratitude and admiration to our phenomenal sixth formers who have built on their strong start to the year and delivered another outstanding term.

So much has been going on for both year 12 and year 13. Mr Tuton and Ms Gunning's year 13s have really "locked in" for their recent mock exams, responding brilliantly to Mr Tuton's '20 Hours' revision campaign. The sight of year 13s collectively revising around our communal whiteboards in the sixth form study suites has been incredibly pleasing.

Our year 12s responded to this standard admirably, completing their first set of mid-years as Highlands sixth formers with distinction. Meanwhile, a range of exciting trips and visits have taken place, most recently with our politics students travelling to Westminster. It was a real point of pride to see our students ask tough questions of some of the most prominent politicians in the country, including Wes Streeting MP, Zack Polanski and Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg.

One area I have been working on particularly closely with my colleagues has been our Oxbridge strategy. There are so many pathways students can explore when they leave us, but we want our sixth formers to be able to access the most aspirational and ambitious options possible. It is for that reason that we are devoting significant energy and thought to our Oxbridge programme. Oxford and Cambridge are two of the best universities in the world and we want even more of our students to go on to study there. March sees the launch of our Oxbridge strategy for year 12 and year 11 students. Thank you to those who have engaged so positively with this so far, and please do reach out to us with any questions as the strategy continues to develop.

We now enter our final push towards the summer series of public examinations, coursework deadlines and end-of-year assessments. I am incredibly excited to see how well our sixth formers will perform.

Mr Marcus
Director of sixth form and
senior assistant headteacher

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Oxbridge programme launch
Trip to Cambridge University
Careers event at Sanofi
Sixth form trip to Barcelona
NHS work experience
International Women's Day
Trip to TATE Britain

Happy Easter
From everyone at Highlands



@Highlands_sch



@Highlandssch



Highlands School Enfield



highlands.enfield.sch.uk

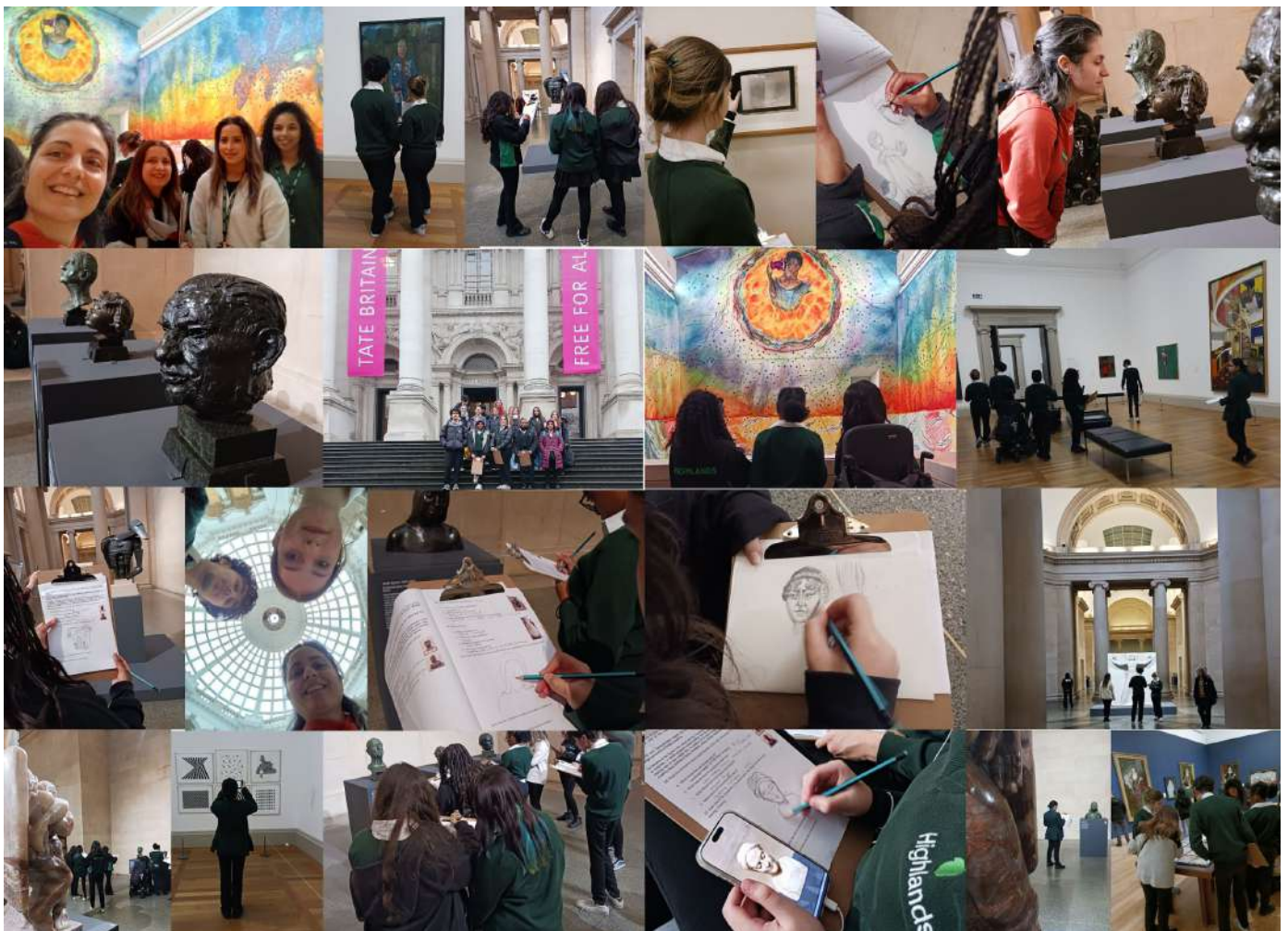
YEAR 10 AND 12 TRIP TO TATE BRITAIN

The year 10 and 12 trip to Tate Britain was an extremely successful and inspiring experience for all involved. Students were impeccably behaved and remained highly engaged throughout the visit, fully immersing themselves in the gallery's rich collection. They explored an exciting range of British art, from the Pre-Raphaelites through to modern and contemporary works, studying artists such as John Everett Millais, John William Waterhouse, John Singer Sargent, David Hockney, Henry Moore, Bridget Riley and Chris Ofili.

The visit sparked creativity and curiosity with students producing some fantastic drawings and gathering valuable research to support their personal projects.

Overall, it was a memorable and enriching day that brought British art to life.

Ms Chrysostomou



OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME LAUNCH

This term, students in years 11 and 12 attended our Oxbridge launch assembly, where they learned about the opportunities, academic approach and realities of studying at Oxford and Cambridge as part of Highlands' ongoing commitment to supporting students in aiming high and accessing the most competitive universities and pathways.

Mr Marcus



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

YEAR 12 & 13 PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

A level photography students in years 12 and 13 visited the V&A Museum 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 12 VISIT TO NEWNHAM COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

On Tuesday, a group of year 12 students had the exciting opportunity to visit Newnham College at the University of Cambridge, a women's college established in 1871 at a time when women were not allowed to attend the university. Co-founded by Dame Millicent Garrett Fawcett, the famous campaigner for women's suffrage, Newnham remains a women's college today. The college combines beautiful historic and contemporary buildings set in stunning gardens, as well as one of the longest indoor corridors in Europe, allowing students to move between buildings without ever stepping outside!

The trip offered a unique insight, including a tour of the historic college grounds and a study skills workshop designed to help students develop effective approaches to independent learning and exam preparation. Students also had the chance to attend talks on course options and the university application process, and to ask questions about academic life, research opportunities and student experiences at Cambridge.

The visit was both inspiring and practical, giving students valuable tools for their studies and helping them to explore the pathways available as they plan their future. We would like to thank Newnham College for welcoming our students so warmly and providing such an informative and engaging experience.



HIGHLANDS STUDENT SECURES KCL DENTISTRY PLACEMENT

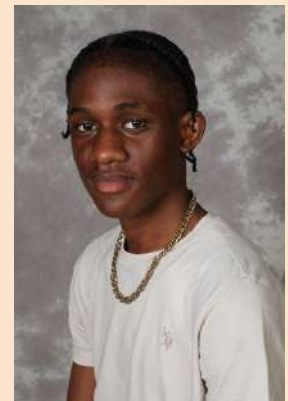
We are delighted to announce that Raphael Asoegwu (12BJT) has successfully secured a place on the highly competitive K+ dentistry programme at King's College London (KCL).

Gaining entry to KCL is a monumental achievement; it is currently ranked as the #1 dental school in the United Kingdom and #4 globally. The competition for the Dentistry pathway is infamously rigorous, with Raphael being one of only 35 students selected from a pool of over 4,000 applicants. Reflecting on his success, Raphael shared the following:



"I am so grateful to have secured a place on the K+ Dentistry programme at King's College London. Knowing the competition was so high - is a huge blessing.

I'm excited to work hard over the next two years and for the £1,000 bursary that comes with successfully completing the programme. I give all the glory to God for this opportunity; as Proverbs 16:3 says, 'Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established'. This is a massive stepping stone toward my dream of becoming a dentist. I can't wait to see where this journey leads!"



Raphael Asoegwu

About the K+ programme

The K+ programme is a flagship two-year initiative designed to prepare high-achieving students for the academic, social and cultural demands of university life. Students are organised into nine distinct pathways based on their career aspirations.

Each year, over 500 of the brightest year 12 students from London and the surrounding areas are selected from thousands of applicants to participate. K+ offers unrivalled support from leading academics, current undergraduates and industry professionals from many of the faculties at the university. The programme ensures students are in the best possible position to succeed through:

- **Academic enrichment:** Taster sessions and study support to bridge the gap between A levels and degree-level study.
- **Career experience:** Direct insight from graduates and businesses to provide a head start in their chosen field.
- **Tailored application help:** Specialist guidance to ensure their UCAS applications are of the highest standard.

In recognition of their hard work, students who successfully complete the K+ programme receive a two-grade reduced offer for the majority of courses at King's College London, alongside a £1,000 bursary during their first year of study.

Please join us in celebrating Raphael's incredible achievement and wishing him every success as he pursues his dream of becoming a dentist.



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 multitask 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



STUDENTS EXPLORE CAREERS IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY WITH SANOFI

Students from years 10 - 12 recently took part in an engaging and informative careers event hosted in collaboration with professionals from Sanofi, one of the world's leading healthcare and pharmaceutical companies. The day at Sanofi headquarters in the UK provided students with valuable insight into the wide range of careers involved in developing and delivering medicines.

The event began with a warm welcome from Felicia Pinto, who introduced the aims of the day and highlighted the many opportunities available within the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors.

The morning continued with a series of expert talks from professionals working across different areas of the company. Walaa Mostafa, Chief Financial Officer for UK & Ireland, opened the presentations with an overview of the role finance plays within a global healthcare organisation.

Students then heard from Tanisha Patel, who provided a quality overview and explained how strict standards and processes ensure medicines are safe and effective. John Forni followed with a medical overview, discussing how scientific research and clinical expertise contribute to the development of new treatments.

Further insight was given by Hadjer Ameur, who introduced pharmacovigilance and the vital work involved in monitoring the safety of medicines once they are in use. Ciaran Campbell then delivered a commercial overview, explaining how medicines are brought to market and reach healthcare providers and patients. This was followed by Deepika Malhotra, who spoke about medicines communication and the importance of sharing clear, accurate information about treatments.

After lunch, students attended a session on regulatory affairs led by Prathyusha Kancharla and Francesca Pipkin, who explained how medicines are carefully assessed and approved before they can be used by patients.

In the afternoon, students took part in interactive sessions tailored to their year groups. Year 10 and year 11 students participated in "colourful connections," an engaging workshop led by Dan Winfield that focused on teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills. Meanwhile, year 12 students attended "pathway to progress", a session exploring regulatory affairs, student placements and possible career pathways within the pharmaceutical industry.

The event concluded with closing remarks from Prathyusha Kancharla, who encouraged students to continue exploring opportunities within science, healthcare and industry.

The day provided a fantastic opportunity for students to learn directly from industry professionals and gain a deeper understanding of the many career pathways available within the pharmaceutical sector. We are extremely grateful to the team at Sanofi for sharing their expertise and inspiring the next generation of scientists and healthcare professionals.

Dr Len & Ms Laurenzi

The Sanofi logo is displayed in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters 's', 'o', and 'i' are black, while the 'a' and 'n' are white with a black outline. There are two small purple dots above the 'i' and one small purple dot to the left of the 's'.

STUDENTS EXPLORE CAREERS IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY WITH SANOFI

'I was surprised to find that several of the employees at Sanofi had not begun their career journey with the intention of working in pharmaceuticals. Hearing the various life paths was reassurance that the future does not need to be decided. I most enjoyed listening to all the talks from the various Heads of the departments. It was incredibly interesting to learn about their paths into pharmaceuticals and how passionate they all felt about their jobs. It gave me some very valuable and much appreciated insight into careers in science - particularly biology and chemistry.' - Sakura Daley, year 12

'I thoroughly enjoyed the day, particularly the opportunity to be mentored by current placement students. As a year 12 student, having that bridge between sixth form and senior faculty was invaluable; being only a few years ahead of us, the students made the career path feel relatable and achievable. It was also inspiring to see previous placement students now thriving in senior roles. The day was exceptionally well-structured and highly informative. A particular highlight was Francesca Pipkin's session. Her communication was outstanding: she was engaging, articulate and moved beyond a purely didactic style to truly captivate the room. Her year 12 workshop will stay with me for life and answered many of my questions before I even had to ask them. I would love to receive her slides and have the opportunity to ask her further questions. I also found the talks by the CFO and Felicia Pinto very helpful as they felt collaborative rather than just a lecture.' - Raphael Asoegwu, year 12



DAVIDSON INVENTORS CHALLENGE (CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY)

Our Highlands teams - *EcoSisters*, *Urban Collective* and *Leaf Logic* have worked incredibly hard to produce outstanding invention proposals.

Their work forms part of the Davidson Inventors Challenge, a prestigious initiative hosted by the Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology in collaboration with the Association of Science, Technology & Innovation and supported by the Institution of Chemical Engineers. The challenge inspires young people to design cost-effective, sustainable solutions to global issues aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including climate action, clean water and sanitation.

They have received fantastic feedback from their Cambridge University mentors - Graham Dransfield, Daniel Akinrefon, Arya Sunkara, Francesca van Tartwijk and Peter Jackson - which all teams will now use to further refine and strengthen their proposals.

We are extremely proud of their dedication, creativity and innovation. Good luck to all teams, and we hope to see your inspiring ideas recognised and rewarded.

Dr Len



FINANCE AND TECH WORK EXPERIENCE AT LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE GROUP (LSEG)

Two of our year 12 students, Ozgenaz Ozsoy and Anthony Andreou, were selected for the London Stock Exchange Group work experience programme in London, out of hundreds of applicants. LSEG is a leading global financial markets infrastructure and data provider with a purpose built on driving financial stability, empowering economies and enabling sustainable growth. Over four days, they explored finance, technology and data, took part in workshops including a foreign exchange trading simulator, learned about markets, engineering and risk intelligence, and even had a mock interview.

The programme also offers year 12 students mentoring from LSEG employees, giving them a head start in launching their careers. We are proud of our students' engagement and professionalism throughout the week.

We would like to thank Young Enterprise for the opportunity to apply and LSEG for providing this fantastic placement.



LSEG

Ozgenaz Ozsoy
(pictured right)

Anthony Andreou
(Pictured below)



SIXTH FORM TRIP TO BARCELONA

We swapped our classrooms for the streets of Barcelona on the recent A level Spanish, art and photography trip, as we spent four days exploring the city, sightseeing, taking photos and experiencing Spanish culture first-hand.

Our days were filled with a mixture of organised activities and time to explore the city. On our first day, we visited the Mercat de Sant Josep de La Boqueria, which was packed with great food to see and try, although the swarms of pigeons caused a bit of chaos. Later we took a walk through the Gothic Quarter down to Barceloneta and Port Vell where the narrow streets were lined with shops and the beautiful houses adorned with plants.

Our second day took us around the breathtaking Park Güell, where we were able to see Gaudí's colourful architecture while enjoying views across the city. Later on, the 4D Gaudí Experience gave us a deeper insight into his work and his creative process, before a guided tour of La Sagrada Familia allowed us to fully appreciate the immense detail and history of the iconic building. We ended the day at El Poble Espanyol, a model Spanish town, exploring the architecture from the country's different regions.

Although our visit to the Camp Nou Barça stadium was cut short because it was match day, we still got to shop at the merch store, which was well worth the visit. We also had several hours to explore and shop around La Rambla and the Gothic Quarter, giving us time to pick up souvenirs, explore the city at our own pace, and enjoy the atmosphere of some of Barcelona's most famous areas.

Visiting the Picasso Museum on our fourth and final day was a fascinating way to round off the trip, as we explored his sketches, paintings and early experiments while learning about his life and impact on art and culture. After soaking up the museum, it was time to head to the airport, saying goodbye to Barcelona and making our way back home. As an A level Spanish student, it was great to practice my Spanish (and some Catalan) in real-life situations, from making reservations and ordering food to chatting with locals about football. Even small conversations felt rewarding, and it made the trip feel not just like a holiday, but a real opportunity to experience another culture and improve our language skills at the same time.

As with any school trip, there were plenty of funny and memorable moments along the way, like someone losing their phone at the airport less than half an hour after we landed. For me, the highlights were definitely the visit to Park Güell and enjoying time with new friends, making memories that will stick long after the trip.

We all want to say a huge thank you to Mr Perlumiere and Ms McCalmont for organising the trip and taking care of us in Barcelona. Their time, effort and patience made the experience possible, and we are extremely grateful.

Overall, it was a trip that we will all remember and one that will have a lasting impact on our studies.

Joseph Brooks, year 13

You can view highlights from the trip on our [socials](#).



SIXTH FORM TRIP TO BARCELONA



POLITICS CONFERENCE

Our A level politics students recently attended a national conference at Westminster's Central Hall, joining over 1,000 students from schools across the country.

They heard directly from leading figures across the political spectrum, including Zack Polanski (Green Party Leader), Alastair Campbell (Co-host, The Rest is Politics), Wes Streeting (Labour Health Secretary), Jacob Rees Mogg (Former Conservative MP) and Laila Cunningham (Representing Reform).

Students listened to contrasting viewpoints on major national issues, observed moments of sharp political disagreement, and saw how experienced politicians defend their ideas under scrutiny. Crucially, they were able to ask their own questions and engage directly with the speakers.

The day was energetic and thought-provoking, bringing political debate to life. Experiences like this reinforce why studying politics matters, it builds confidence, sharpens analysis and encourages young people to take an active interest in the democratic process.

Mr Islam



STUDENTS SHINE AT BETT CONFERENCE

Belkisa Cota in year 12 and Saira Akdam in year 13 spoke at this year’s BETT Conference, sharing their experiences of using AI as students at Highlands School.

Both students were confident, composed and highly knowledgeable, representing the school exceptionally well and showcasing Highlands in the best possible light.



FUNDRAISING AT HIGHLANDS

So far this year, we have proudly taken part in a number of meaningful fundraising initiatives, supporting causes including Leukaemia UK, the Damilola Taylor Trust, Hurricane Melissa relief efforts and the Nightingale Cancer Support Centre.



£706.30 for Leukemia UK



£259.00 for the Nightingale Cancer Support Centre



£463.48 for Hurricane Melissa Relief



£156.17 for Damilola Taylor Trust

YEAR 12 BLACKROCK FINANCE TALK



Year 12 students recently had the privilege of attending an engaging careers talk hosted at school and delivered by Brian Hallissey, project manager at BlackRock.

BlackRock is one of the world's preeminent asset management firms and a premier provider of investment management, advisory and risk management solutions, working with institutions and individuals across the globe.

During the session, Brian introduced students to the world of finance and asset management, explaining how organisations like BlackRock manage investments and support clients such as pension funds, banks and insurance companies. Students gained valuable insight into how global financial markets operate and the important role the industry plays in economies around the world.

Brian also shared his career journey in financial markets and spoke about the wide range of opportunities available within the sector. He highlighted different pathways into financial services, including apprenticeships, internships and graduate roles, helping students understand the variety of routes available after sixth form and university.

The session concluded with an engaging Q&A, where students asked thoughtful questions about careers in finance, working in the City and globally and the skills needed to succeed in the industry.

This was a fantastic opportunity for our students and we are especially grateful that Highlands School was one of the first schools BlackRock has delivered this talk to.

A huge thank you to Brian from BlackRock for giving his time to inspire and inform our students.



YEAR 12 STUDENTS GAIN HANDS-ON INSIGHT AT DENTAL CLINIC

Year 12 students, Roni Koker and Warzan Sadiq recently attended an insight day at a local dental clinic, where they gained valuable first-hand experience of working in a dental setting after successfully securing the placement.

During the visit, they were shown how dental impressions are taken in preparation for crowns, as well as how modern 3D scanning technology is used to create digital impressions of the mouth. They also had the opportunity to interact with patients and observe how dental professionals communicate and build rapport in a clinical environment.

In addition, they observed a range of dental treatments, including root canal procedures, routine cleanings and dental implants. The day provided an excellent overview of both the clinical and patient-focused aspects of dentistry and offered a realistic insight into the profession. Both students are aspiring dentists and found the experience particularly valuable in supporting their future career ambitions.



Roni and Warzan, year 12

Mrs Laurenzi

INSPIRING MEDICAL WORK EXPERIENCE AT THE ROYAL FREE

Year 12 student Parla Ghanipour completed an outstanding work experience placement in the Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Department at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. Working alongside junior doctors, she observed real clinical practice in the hand clinic and gained first-hand exposure to complex injuries.

Parla was made to feel genuinely welcomed and part of the team throughout her placement. We are extremely grateful to the Royal Free for this invaluable opportunity, and a huge well done to Parla for her courage, ambition and determination in pursuing a future in medicine.

Mrs Laurenzi



Royal Free London
NHS Foundation Trust



Parla, year 12



NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK - CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

At Highlands, we proudly celebrated National Careers Week, a nationwide initiative dedicated to supporting young people in exploring future pathways and making informed career decisions. Throughout the week, all students were provided with a range of engaging resources and activities from interactive career quizzes and virtual employer encounters to exploring university courses, apprenticeships and labour market information.

In conjunction with National Careers Week, some of our year 12 students successfully secured and completed highly competitive and prestigious work experience placements. We are incredibly proud of their initiative, professionalism and ambition in gaining these opportunities.

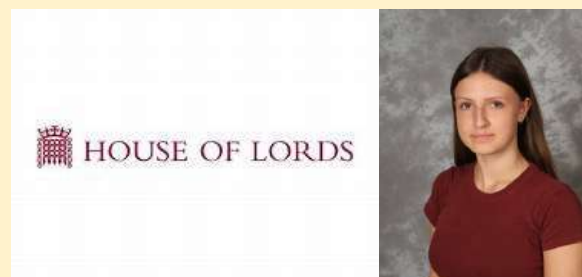
Belkisa Cota - 3DReid

Belkisa completed her placement at this award-winning UK-based architectural, interior and master planning design practice. She gained valuable insight into the design process, collaborative project work and the realities of working within the built environment sector.



Julia Zysko – House of Lords

Julia had the remarkable opportunity to undertake work experience with the House of Lords, developing her understanding of the legislative process, public policy and the workings of government at the highest level.



Tailizandra Blana - Reed Smith

Tailizandra spent her placement at this dynamic international law firm, where she was exposed to commercial legal practice, professional client engagement and the fast-paced nature of corporate law.



NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK - CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

Joshlyn Robinson – PwC – “Females of the Future” Event

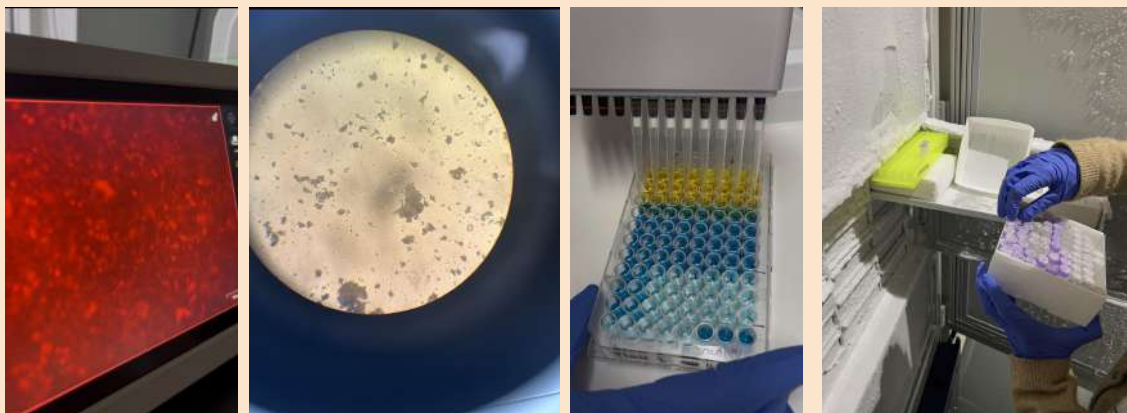
Joshlyn attended PwC’s inspiring “Females of the Future” event, which focused on empowering young women to explore careers in business, finance and leadership. The event provided networking opportunities, workshops and insight into future career pathways within professional services.

**Ereni Zaki – Basildon University Hospital**

Ereni completed her work experience placement at Basildon University Hospital, where she gained first-hand insight into the healthcare environment. She observed clinical practice, developed her understanding of patient care and explored the wide range of professional roles within an NHS setting. This experience further strengthened her interest in pursuing a career in healthcare.

**George Kapas - Bioarchitech**

George undertook an exciting placement at Bioarchitech, a biotechnology company focused on developing innovative cancer therapies. During his placement, he carried out an ELISA test to investigate how effective a virus would be at destroying cancer cells at different concentrations. This hands-on laboratory experience allowed George to apply his scientific knowledge in a real-world research setting and deepened his understanding of biotechnology and medical innovation.



NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK - CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

These outstanding experiences not only enhance our students' CVs and personal statements but, more importantly, help them to make confident and informed decisions about their futures. We look forward to sharing more of their reflections in future editions.

You too can apply for similar roles and gain valuable industry experience. We strongly encourage all students to continue reading the weekly Careers Newsletter and to regularly check the opportunities posted on Google Classroom. Taking initiative, applying early and staying informed are key steps towards securing exciting and competitive placements.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH - BRONZE AND SILVER AWARDS

A huge congratulations to our year 11 students who have successfully achieved their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award challenges students to develop new skills, take part in physical activities, volunteer in their communities and complete an expedition, building resilience, teamwork and independence along the way. We are also incredibly proud of our sixth form students who have been awarded their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Well done to all of you - we are extremely proud of your fantastic achievements.



DEAF HISTORY SESSIONS

Our Deaf provision has been busy launching *Deaf history sessions* for Deaf students and BSL users, with three sessions delivered and pupils from year 7 to year 13 taking part. This marked the first of five lessons, beginning with *Introduction to Deaf History*.

The sessions are led by Dr Barnaby Lamb, who holds a PhD in Deaf Studies and Linguistics from the University of Wolverhampton. It was a great start to the programme, students were highly engaged and showed strong interest while learning about oralism, including the techniques used to teach Deaf students to mimic sounds through vibrations and vocal cord movement.



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY - 27TH JANUARY

At Highlands, we commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day, marked annually on 27th January, with a series of thoughtful and reflective assemblies led by our wonderful head students Elena and Luke alongside Ms Pavlou.

Holocaust Memorial Day is a time to remember the six million Jewish people murdered in the Holocaust, as well as the millions of others subject to Nazi persecution and in subsequent genocides. The assemblies encouraged students to reflect on the importance of remembrance, tolerance and standing against hatred in all its forms.



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1



YEAR 12 BLACKROCK FINANCE TALK

“I didn’t realise how many different roles and opportunities there are in a company like BlackRock, it made the industry feel much more accessible.”

“The Q&A was really helpful because we could ask questions about careers and what skills employers are looking for.”

“The session helped me understand how finance, technology and global markets are connected.”

“It was inspiring to hear directly from someone working in the industry and learn about the different pathways into finance.”

LIVE MUSIC ASSEMBLIES

Our live music assemblies brought an incredible start to each day, showcasing the truly outstanding talent of our students. From beautiful solo piano performances to energetic rock band sets, the range and quality of music on display was exceptional.

These performances created a positive, feel-good atmosphere across the school and were a fantastic reminder of the creativity and confidence our students continue to develop in their music lessons.



'MOVE IT' DANCE TRIP

On Friday 20th March, the year 11 and year 12 dance students went to London's ExCeL Centre for the world's biggest dance exhibition. Whilst at the exhibition, they were able to take part in workshops led by world-class dance educators and providers such as Performers College, Addicts Dance Academy, OHC, Wilkes Academy, and the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts (AMDA). A level students were also given the opportunity to work with the UK's oldest contemporary dance company, Rambert, which they study in year 12 and year 13 for their A level exam.

Highlands students took part in a range of workshops across genres including hip hop, jazz and contemporary. They also watched performances by leading musical theatre providers such as Bird College, gaining valuable insight into further study opportunities.

I am extremely proud of how well the Highlands students performed in the classes, demonstrating excellent fitness, agility and stage presence.

Highlands School would like to thank the Jack Petchey Foundation for sponsoring this trip, covering 70% of the costs and enabling all students to access this event.

Miss Brown



UK ECONOMICS OLYMPIAD

Two of our exceptional year 12 economics students, Francisco and Hamza demonstrated outstanding performance in the initial round of the UK Economics Olympiad. They qualified for the regional round after placing within the top 25% of all participants.

The regional competition took place at SOAS University in Central London, where the students spent the day completing two rigorous and challenging assessments designed to test their economic knowledge.

Beyond the competition, the students enjoyed an invaluable opportunity to explore the world of university economics. They learned about the courses available and gained valuable insights into what studying the subject at a higher level is truly like. A particular highlight was a taster lecture delivered by Dr Fernando Rugitsky on the Economics of the Environment. He explained complex concepts, drawing mainly on the research of Nobel laureate economist Nordhaus. Overall, the day was a fantastic experience of academic enrichment for both students.

Ms Ryoo



SOFTWARE ENGINEERING DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP AT GOLDMAN SACHS

We are proud to announce that Adrian Tumanya in year 13 has successfully secured a software engineering degree apprenticeship with Goldman Sachs, one of the most highly sought-after programmes in the UK.

The Goldman Sachs Degree Apprenticeship is an innovative four-year pathway that allows participants to earn a salary, gain hands-on experience, and complete a fully funded undergraduate degree, all while working at one of the world's most prestigious banks. Goldman Sachs is a global leader in investment banking, securities, and financial services, connecting people and capital with ideas to solve complex challenges worldwide. Their engineering teams are at the heart of the business, building scalable software systems, architecting low-latency infrastructure, and leveraging cutting-edge technologies like machine learning to transform finance.

Adrian's journey to this opportunity was highly competitive. He successfully navigated four rigorous rounds, culminating in the Goldman Sachs Superday, a high-pressure assessment centre designed to test candidates through teamwork assessments and 2-5 rounds of face-to-face interviews. The Superday measures qualities including: leadership, creativity, communication skills, analytical thinking, problem-solving and personal initiative.

This apprenticeship offers Adrian the chance to work on real responsibilities alongside experienced professionals, receive tailored training, and be fully immersed in a dynamic, fast-paced environment where innovation and problem-solving are central.

We are thrilled for Adrian and can't wait to see the impact he'll make in the world of technology and finance.

Ms Laurenzi



Goldman Sachs

ENGLAND DEAF KARTING LEAGUE CHAMPION!

We are incredibly proud to share that Andrei Stoian in year 12 recently competed in the England Deaf Karting League (EDKL), achieving an outstanding 1st place in the 'B' Final. This marks a special milestone as the first Deaf Highlands student to take part in this competition, making it a proud moment for the whole school, and particularly for our Deaf base. Starting in 7th position, Andrei showed determination and skill to fight through the field and finish in 1st place - an exceptional achievement, go Andrei!



BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE LEVEL 2 SUCCESS!

A huge congratulations to Ayse, Bana, Omyur, Liya, Lilah, Giulia, Harrison, Christina and Suleyman, who have successfully achieved Level 2 in British Sign Language (BSL).

This is a fantastic accomplishment and they are the first pupils at Highlands to reach this level. Their dedication and commitment to developing such an important and valuable skill is something we are incredibly proud of.

Well done to all involved on this outstanding achievement.



BATTLE OF THE BANDS WINNERS' TRIP

The Battle of the Bands 2025 Winners' Trip took place on Friday 6th March. The winners from last year's Battle of the Bands event visited Miloco Studios, where they had the opportunity to record their songs in Livingston Studio 1.

During the visit, students recorded their music, performed their tracks and toured the studio to learn how professional recording spaces operate.

The trip was an amazing and memorable experience for everyone involved, giving students a unique opportunity to step into a professional studio setting and bring their music to life.



YEAR 12 RELIGIOUS STUDIES TRIP TO BLOOMSBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Year 12 religious studies students recently visited Bloomsbury Baptist Church for an insightful and thought-provoking talk from renowned ethicist Dr Peter Vardy.

The session provided a valuable opportunity for students to explore complex ethical theories and real-world moral dilemmas, deepening their understanding of key topics within their studies.

It was an engaging experience that challenged students to think critically and broaden their perspectives.



SPEAK TO LEAD

Speak to Lead is Highlands School's equalities club, launching on **Tuesday 14th April, every week B from 3:20pm - 4pm in the conference room, all year groups are welcome.**

The club is run by our sixth form students Sahara and Isaac.

Speak to Lead is a club that advocates for equal rights and opportunities between males and females. We are here to speak about the issues and lead the change.

If you are interested in joining, complete the following [sign up form](#).

SPEAK to Lead

FEMALE EQUALITY CLUB

Join our welcome session
On Tuesday 14th April
At 3:20pm - 4:00pm
In the conference room

Join via the sign up form on Google Classroom.

SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED!

SPEAK TO LEAD EQUALITIES CLUB



CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT HIGHLANDS

This term we marked International Women's Day through a series of assemblies presented by our fantastic sixth form students Sakura, Isaac and Sahara. During the assemblies, they explored the importance of International Women's Day, why it is celebrated, how far progress has come over the years and the areas where work still needs to continue to achieve true equality.

We have also featuring a special newsletter on International Women's Day which can read [here](#).

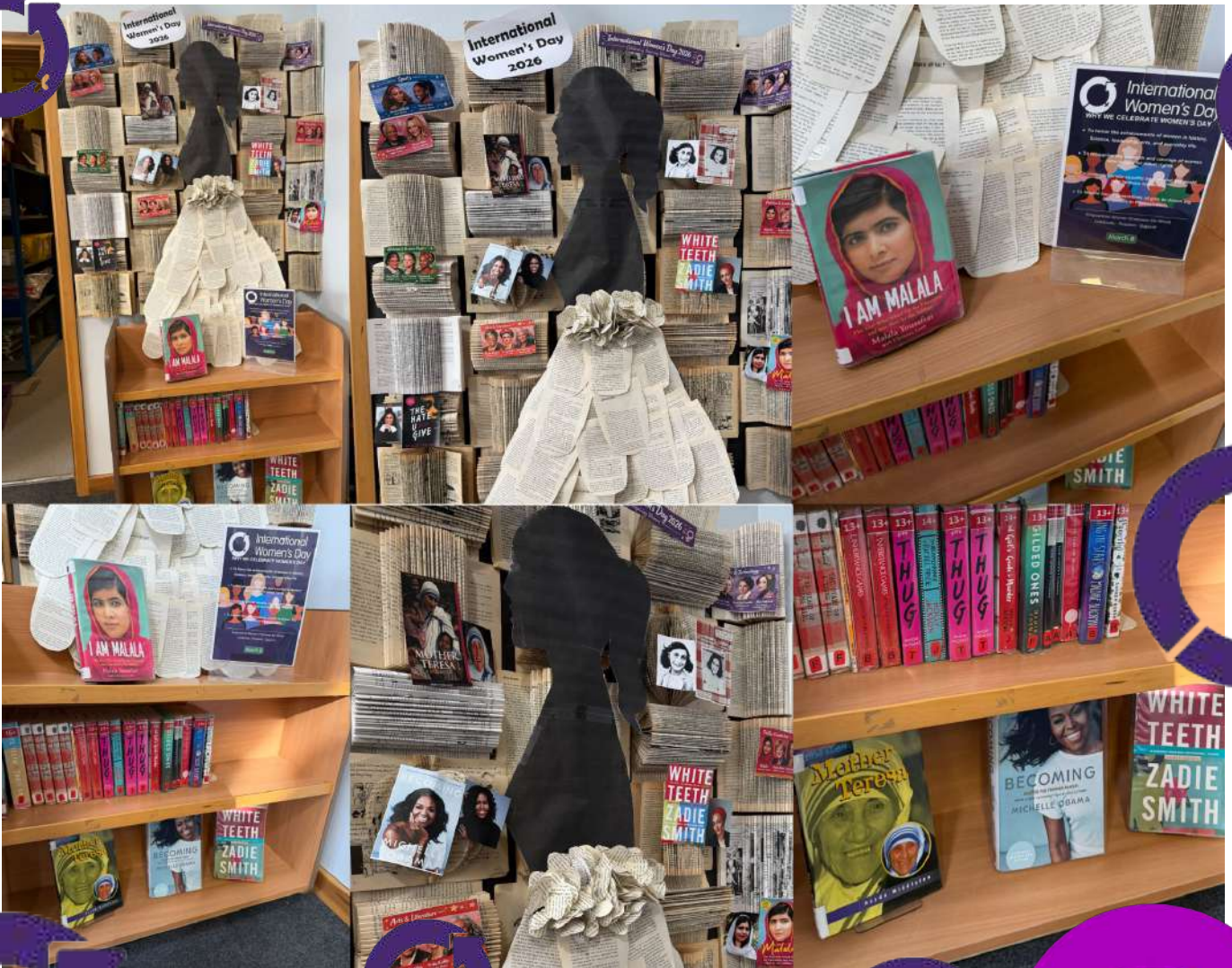


International Women's Day



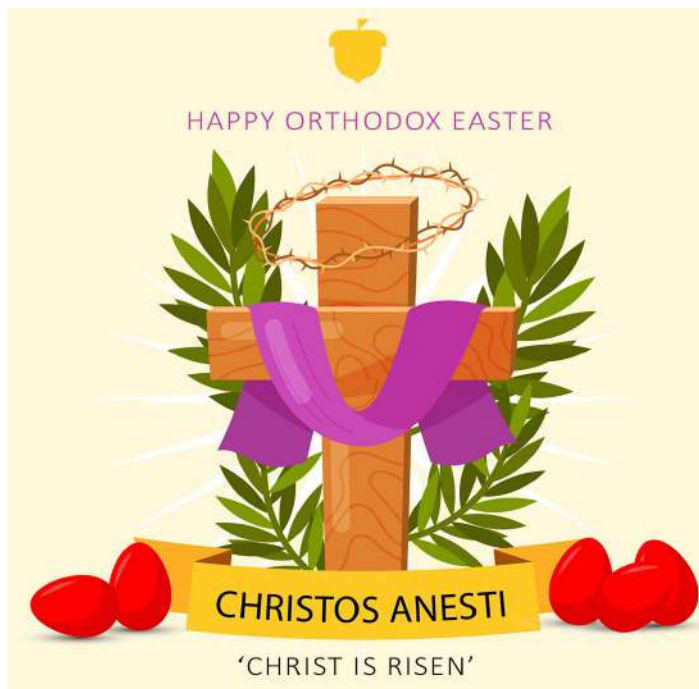
CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT HIGHLANDS

As always, our library enjoyed marking the occasion with a special themed display. This week, the book corner celebrated International Women's Day by showcasing inspirational female writers and a selection of books that explore the stories, achievements and independence of women throughout history. It was a wonderful way to highlight powerful voices in literature and encourage students to discover books that celebrate the strength, resilience and contributions of women.



EASTER, ORTHODOX EASTER AND PASSOVER

Happy Easter, Orthodox Easter and Passover to everyone celebrating! May this special time bring you joy, peace and togetherness. To our Orthodox community, Christos Anesti - Christ is risen! From everyone at Highlands, we wish you a wonderful celebration.



CELEBRATING WORLD BOOK DAY AT HIGHLANDS

Dearest gentle readers, this term we celebrated World Book Day at Highlands. Following on from student feedback, this year students also had the opportunity to dress up as characters from their favourite books, and what fantastic costumes we saw - from Alice in Wonderland to Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. It was wonderful to see so many students and staff embracing the spirit of the day and celebrating the stories and characters they love.

World Book Day is a great reminder of the importance of reading and here at Highlands we are passionate about encouraging a lifelong love of books and reading in all of our students.



CELEBRATING WORLD BOOK DAY AT HIGHLANDS



WORLD BOOK DAY ASSEMBLIES

At Highlands we held assemblies to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. Students explored why we mark the day, the many benefits of reading and some surprising facts, including books that have been banned in other countries.

We also shared a range of exciting recommendations from our library to inspire everyone to pick up a new book and enjoy reading.



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](#) 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: Tara Human – tara.human@futurefirst.org.uk

#HighlandsAlumni



Scan the QR code to
join the Alumni network

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.

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 *



@Highlands_sch



@Highlandssch



Highlands School Enfield



highlands.enfield.sch.uk

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't forget

If you take part in any of the opportunities posted onto Google Classroom including virtual events and any other career-related information emailed to you, you must inform Ms Laurenzi to complete the relevant form.

Sixth form key dates

University and Apprenticeship Fair (year 12):
Friday 19th June 2026

Year 12 work experience:
Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July 2026

Year 13 celebratory pizza party:
Friday 8th May 2026

Year 13 prom:
Monday 29th June 2026

Year 13 leavers hoodies:
Delivered week commencing 20th April 2026

A level /BTEC results day:
Thursday 13th August 2026

GCSE results day:
Thursday 20th August 2026

Year 12 work experience - *action needed!*

Well done to those who have already secured work experience!
Please **log your placement on [Unifrog](#) ASAP.**

For everyone else, complete this [short form](#) to tell Ms Laurenzi which industry you're looking for. This will allow her to contact you if future opportunities arise.

Work experience starts Monday 29th June. Use the Easter break to make contact with employers, **email, phone or visit in person.** If your first choice isn't possible, aim for the next best option.

Remember, transferable skills and initiative matter!

