



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November, 2025 | Developing Good People



Half Term One flew by at Heath Lane Academy, and it was packed with energy, achievement, and community spirit. From the excitement of our recent school trip to Caythorpe Park, the buzz of the bake sale, memorable moments have filled every corner of school life. Year 7s and Year 10s have embraced learning with brand-new Chromebooks, while our outdoor spaces are set to be transformed with the installation of a new Astroturf pitch.

An update from our Principal

It has been an excellent start to the school year, and we have built on the positive momentum from our Ofsted Inspection last year, our strong Year 11 results, and investment in our new Theatre and new Astroturf pitch has created further positive energy.

We thank you for your support with attendance at the start of the school year, and we want to be clear that any challenge we provide to families comes from a place of care and support for all of our pupils. We link Attendance to future aspirations with the phrase 'Be Here to Get There' as there is a strong correlation between high attendance and high attainment.

During Half Term One, we gave out a record number of rewards, including our very popular Golden Tickets. At my last Proud Principal event, I gave out 140 Golden Tickets and bars of chocolate in one lunchtime. We have even doubled the budget for rewards this year to celebrate and recognise as many pupils as possible.

It was such a privilege to see students' wonderful work in their books across all years and subjects being recognised. I encourage you to look at our rewards boxes in Reception when you next visit Heath Lane. The rewards have created a real buzz!

I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and I look forward to seeing you when you next visit.





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New Astroturf Pitch

We're excited to share that a brand-new Astroturf pitch is being installed at Heath Lane Academy, a fantastic upgrade for PE lessons, after-school clubs, and wider community sport. This new space will offer pupils more opportunities to stay active, play together, and enjoy outdoor learning in all seasons. We've included an example photo from our contractor to give you a preview of what's to come! If you are interested in hiring the pitch or our new theatre, please contact us.

Adventure at Caythorpe Park

Year 7 and 8 students headed off to PGL Caythorpe Park for a residential trip packed with challenge, teamwork, and unforgettable fun. Set in the Lincolnshire countryside, Caythorpe offers over 65 acres of adventure, and our pupils made the most of it! Activities included axe throwing, canoeing, the giant swing, quick jump, disc golf, and the ever-popular "All Aboard" high ropes challenge. Evenings were filled with disco dancing and campfire stories, bringing everyone together in true PGL spirit. It was a brilliant opportunity for pupils to build confidence, try new experiences, and make lasting memories.



New Chrome books

During Half Term One, pupils in Year 7 and Year 10 received Chromebooks as part of our commitment to digital learning. These devices are already making a difference - supporting independent study, classroom collaboration, and access to a wide range of learning tools. We're excited to see how this technology continues to empower learning across the curriculum.

Baking for a Cause

Last term, our school community came together for a Macmillan Bake Sale! From brownies to iced cupcakes, pupils, staff, and families baked, bought, and donated with generosity and heart. Thanks to everyone's support, we raised **£396.06** for Macmillan Cancer Support, helping fund vital care and services for those affected by cancer. A huge thank you to all our bakers, buyers, and volunteers who made it such a sweet success.



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Taster day - Pembroke College, University of Cambridge

A group of our pupils recently enjoyed an inspiring taster day at Pembroke College, University of Cambridge, where they took part in engaging History and Geography seminars. The visit offered a fantastic opportunity to experience life as a university student - exploring the dorms, visiting the library, and even enjoying lunch alongside current Cambridge students. It was a memorable day that gave our pupils a real insight into studying at one of the world's leading universities.

The Heath Lane Herald

Half term one marked the launch of the very first issue of The Heath Lane Herald, our brand-new student newspaper. Created and written by pupils, the Herald gives students a voice to share their views, report on school events, and celebrate achievements across our community. We're incredibly proud of the team's hard work in bringing this exciting new publication to life and can't wait to see how it develops in future editions. Miss Scrivens, our English and Performing Arts teacher who leads the project, shared her inspiration behind the initiative: "Before embarking on my career as an English teacher, I trained to be a journalist due to my love of writing and current events. When I was at school, I fondly remember being part of our year 6 newspaper group and wanted to emulate that here at Heath Lane Academy to inspire the love of reading, writing, and unity that being a part of the club fostered." We're incredibly proud of the student editorial team for bringing this exciting new publication to life and can't wait to see how it develops in future editions.

Coming up

There's plenty more to look forward to in Half Term Two:

- **Christmas Showcase Performance** - Rehearsals are well underway for our Christmas Showcase, where pupils will take to the stage to share their musical, dramatic, and creative talents. Families and friends are warmly invited to join us for this festive celebration.
- **SEND Coffee Morning** - Parents and carers are invited to join us for a welcoming coffee morning, Tuesday December 2nd at 11:30am, to connect with staff, ask questions, and share experiences.
- **New Astroturf** - Our new Astroturf is under way! Pupils can't wait to enjoy the upgraded facilities for PE lessons and extra-curricular sports.

It's been wonderful to see students continuing to engage so positively with school life. We're excited for the opportunities and events still to come this term.