

Issue 2 - Autumn 1, Week 2

The Beacon

We exist to transform the lives of children through education

Dear Families,

After our first full week back in school, I am feeling incredibly positive about the year ahead. Our students have made a strong start in their subject lessons by working hard, showing kindness and demonstrating a real belief that they can improve every day. These are exactly the habits and attitudes that will lay the foundations for long term academic success.



As we move into the next fortnight, our focus will be on ensuring that lessons are purposeful and focused, and that students arrive each day looking smart and ready to prioritise their learning.

I am also very proud of the students you will see celebrated below, who have demonstrated what it means to **“aspire to be a light for others.”** This includes our Jack Petchey Award winners and the recipients of our inaugural Sports Leaders Award, generously sponsored by the Old Camdenians. You can read more about their achievements in the Student Success section below.

We look forward to continuing to celebrate our students’ successes each week and sharing these moments with you.

I hope you have had a similarly positive experience of the first week back. Thank you for all of your support at home in helping your children arrive ready for a successful academic year. As always, if you have any questions or would like further support, please do get in touch.

Mr Collingwoode-Williams,
Head of School



Believe. Belong. Become. *Aspiring to be a light for others.*

Photos and moments of the week



- Piano face off between Hunter Year 8, Jeremiah Year 10 and Zeynep Year 11
- Creation of tutor board in Year 10
- Year 7 Welcome Assembly
- Year 7 Brunch prepared by the catering team

Key Messages

Countdown to Year 11 Mocks

7 weeks to go = 35 school days

5 teaching weeks = 25 school days left

The countdown is on. **Every lesson now matters.**

This is why Year 11 teachers have worked carefully to map out their teaching schedules for the weeks ahead. We need to maximise every minute we have with Year 11, and be disciplined about prioritising the core knowledge and skills students need to be successful, both in their summer examinations and in their upcoming mocks in Weeks 1 and 2 of Autumn 2.



The next five teaching weeks give us a crucial opportunity to close gaps, address misconceptions and build students' confidence. Please continue to be precise about what students need to know and remember, check understanding carefully and make every minute of lesson time count.

There is still significant progress to be made but the time must be used well. We will start sharing this countdown with families by emails to families and Year 11 in assembly.

We are an Allergy Aware school

We now have a student in Year 7, who has a serious nut allergy. Their care plan will be redistributed to his teachers this week. This is an important reminder that Lift Beacon High is an allergy aware school. Staff and students must not bring nuts or nut-based products onto the school site. This includes:

- Peanuts
- Almonds
- Cashews
- Hazelnuts
- Pistachios
- Walnuts
- Brazil nuts
- Nut oils and products containing nuts



Our catering team does not use nuts in food prepared on site, although we cannot guarantee that all products are completely free from traces of nuts. Please do not distribute sweets or food brought in from home, including birthday treats.

All staff should remain vigilant and familiarise themselves with the care plan and the relevant emergency procedures. If you become aware of another student with a known or suspected allergy that has not been reported, please inform the safeguarding or pastoral team immediately.

Lift Beacon High Choir Taster session

Ms S Chan - Head of Music

Ms Chan will be running the first Choir rehearsal this Wednesday lunchtime at 1.05pm in the Music Studio (Classroom). If you love to sing, would love to learn to sing, or would like to have fun making music in a group, please come along! All year groups are welcome for this first taster session before deciding to commit to weekly rehearsals.

If you are interested or have any other questions, please come to speak to Ms Chan in her classroom. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Open Events - Come and See Lift Beacon High

We are excited to welcome prospective families to our upcoming **Open Evening and Open Mornings**.

Our Open Evening will take place on **Tuesday 29 September, 4:30–7:00pm**, giving families the opportunity to meet our staff and students, tour the school and hear more about our vision and ambitions for Lift Beacon High.

**Lift Beacon
High**

*A school with purpose. A
community with ambition.*

Find out more about our school
at one of our open events.

 Lift
Schools

Open evening:
Tuesday 29th September: 16:30 - 19:00

Open mornings 09:00-10:00
Tuesday 19th September
Wednesday 23rd September
Thursday 1st October
Friday 9th October
Monday 12th October






LiftBeaconHigh.org

We are incredibly proud of our school and the journey ahead. **If you know a family with a child currently in Year 6 or Year 5, please encourage them to come and visit us.** There is no better way to understand our school than to see it in action, meet our community and experience the warm, ambitious environment we are building together.

PSHCE Topics this week

Ms F Begum - Head of PSHE/RE

Week 3 - Beginning 14th September

Year	PSHCE Topic
7	Why do we learn PSHCE? What are secondary school expectations?
8	Why do we learn PSHCE? How can we talk about our mental health
9	Why do we learn PSHCE? Self regulation techniques
10	Healthy and unhealthy coping strategies
11	Balancing everyday pressures and opportunities

Our collective focus as families and staff

Reminders for Week 3	The week after (Week 4)
We wear our uniform with pride - Ties: Clip on ties only. - Skirts: They need to be knee length. Families will be notified if their child has not followed this more than twice. The third time will mean that they will only be able to wear trousers until the half term break. We transition with pace and purpose - Students are given 3 mins to get to lesson. - A truancy is logged if a student is out of lesson for more than 10 minutes. We work hard - To work hard, we will speak to students about the importance of sitting up straight and good posture. Students will be told the expected work that needs to be completed and support them to reach that expectations. Students will be expected to try their best, and work hard and respectfully.	We will complete a full equipment check to ensure that students have the material they need. Please check the equipment list so you know what your child needs.

Information from our community

Islington Active Girls Club

Girls can come along and take part in a free multi sports and other sports and games coached by Access to Sports. The club is every Wednesday in term time, 4.30-6pm London Metropolitan University, 166-220 Holloway Road, N7 8DB.

For further information contact
Denise.Lake@islington.gov.uk



Message from the Mayor of London for parents (Universal Free School Meals)

Please click [this link](#) to find the attached letter to families reassuring families of the continuation of the Mayor of London's Universal Free School meals. It also reiterates the changes to the national Government's FSM scheme and the importance of registering.

Student Success

Jack Petchey Award Winners

Mr B Wood - Primary Liaison/PE Teacher

Our first six Jack Petchey Achievement Award winners for 2026 have been announced.

Rayaan, Andrew, Melisa, Elvin, Silver and Lester Year 11 have been rewarded following nominations from various staff members for a variety of reasons.

They will be formally recognised at the borough's presentation evening at the Islington Assembly Hall in January, usually attended by the Mayor of Islington.

Well done and congratulations to each of them. The final three winners for this year will be confirmed at the end of November.



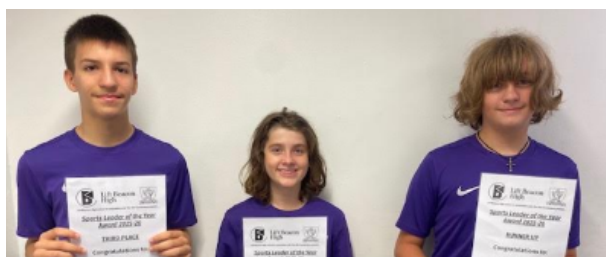
Sports Leader of the Year

Mr B Wood - Primary Liaison/PE Teacher

Congratulations to Jet, Adriel and Andrew who placed first, second and third respectively in the inaugural Sports Leader league table for the academic year 2025-26.

They supported 13 primary events; competitions, festivals, sports days and transition day and gained points primarily for the shout outs they received from accompanying staff and event organisers but also for their conduct, enthusiasm and rapport with the children they worked with.

They each received a certificate and a £50 gift from our sponsors the Old Camdenians for their fantastic efforts and aptitude throughout the year.



Dates for your diary

Two weeks look ahead

Monday 14th September	- Year 7 English GL Assessment (P1 & 2) - Year 8 Maths GL Assessment (P3 & 4)
Tuesday 15th September	- Open Morning 0900 - 1000 (AHR) - Year 9 English GL Assessment (P3 & 4) - Year 10 Maths GL Assessment (P1 & 2)
Wednesday 16th September	- Year 8 English GL Assessment (P1 & 2) - Year 7 Maths GL Assessment (P3 & 4)
Thursday 17th September	- Year 10 English GL Assessment (P3 & 4) - Year 9 Maths GL Assessment (P1 & 2)
Friday 18th September	NGRT Catch Up (P1 - P4)

Monday 21st September	English GL Catch Up (P1 - P4)
Tuesday 22nd September	Maths GL Catch Up (P1 - P4)
Wednesday 23rd September	- Open Morning 0900 - 1000 (AHR) - NGRT/GL Cath Up (P1 - P4)
Thursday 24th September	NGRT/GL Cath Up (P1 - P4)
Friday 25th September	

Key Dates

Autumn 1

Tuesday 15th September: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Wednesday 23rd September: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Tuesday 29th September: Open Evening 1530 - 1930 (for Year 5, 6 and current Year 7s)

Thursday 1st October: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Friday 1st October: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Half Term: Monday 21st December - Sunday 1st November

Autumn 2

Wednesday 2nd December: Year 11 Parents' Evening 1600 - 1800

Thursday 3rd December: INSET Day

Thursday 4th December: INSET Day

Friday 18th December: Celebration Assemblies and Last day of term

Half Term: Monday 19th October - Sunday 3rd January

Spring 1

Monday 4th January: INSET Day

Tuesday 5th January: INSET Day

Wednesday 6th January: First day of School

Weekly reminders

Uniform Weekly reminder: Clarity on Shoes, PE Uniform and Equipment

Shoes

After speaking with some parents and carers on Friday, I wanted to clarify our expectations around footwear.

Students in **Years 7-10 should wear school shoes rather than trainers**. As there have been some mixed messages, families will have until **after Christmas** to make this change.

Please note that trainers may affect a student's ability to represent the school at some visits or events where full uniform is required.

Year 11 students may continue to wear trainers this academic year.

Acceptable	Unacceptable
    	     × Black Nike Air Force 1s × Vans or trainer-style school shoes

Equipment

2x Black or blue pen 2x green pen 2 x pencil 2 x highlighters 1 x pencil sharpener 1 x rubber	1x 15cm or 30cm ruler 1x Casio FX-83GTCW scientific calculator 1x Yondr pouch Pencil case Water bottle Black school bag**
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**The school bag must be black from after the October half term

The black school bag (backpack) will be important as students will now take their books home. Handbags and side bags will not be allowed from after the half term.



PE Uniform

This approach provides a phased introduction of branded PE uniform, while maintaining a consistent, practical and affordable core PE kit across Years 7–11.

Year Group	PE T-Shirt	Long-Sleeve Top	Shorts	Sports Trousers
Year 7	Branded polo T-shirt	Branded quarter-zip fleece***	Plain black sports shorts	Plain black jogging bottoms
Years 8–9	Plain black until Christmas; branded polo T-shirt from Spring Term	Plain black until Christmas; branded black quarter-zip fleece*** from Spring Term		
Years 10–11	Plain black T-shirt	Plain black, no hood		

***The black quarter-zip fleece is optional

- Hoodies are not permitted to be worn during PE lessons.
- Cycling shorts and leggings are not permitted
- For health and safety reasons, students may be required to remove jewellery during PE lessons where the activity presents a particular risk.

Useful Links and Emails

ParentPay: www.parentpay.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@liftbeaconhigh.org.

NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children): nspcc.org.uk

Childline: childline.org.uk Contact: 0800 1111

Contact

Tel: 020 7607 5885

Email: postbox@liftbeaconhigh.org

Address: Hildrop Rd, London N7 0JG