

Heartlands Highlights December 1st 2025



This week students have started their quest for a golden ticket! How it works:

- Near perfect attendance for the next 3 weeks
- 20 Merits for 100% attendance each week and text home
- Weekly year group draw to win a skip the queue pass

Over the coming weeks we have key assessments and monitoring points for all students and it is vital they are in school!

Key dates

- 16th December Culture Day
- 19th December: end of term students released from 12pm
- 5th January 2026 PLD Day: no school for students
- 6th January: schools opens at 8.10am for all!

<u>HERE</u> are the published term dates for 2024/2025 The 2025/26 dates are shown on the same page if you scroll down.

Mobile Phone thoughts

Public Health Haringey have asked us to reach out to any parents who would like to take part in a focus group around secondary school aged children and mobile phone use! Please email the office@ email address to let us know if you are interested!

Year 11!

The GCSE mock exams will begin on Friday 9th January and finish on Friday 23rd January 2026. During the exam window, Year 11 lessons will not take place; students will either be sitting an exam or revising at home.

The full mock exam timetable and subject-specific revision resources can be found on the school website under:

Students \rightarrow Examinations \rightarrow Year 11. To help your child prepare effectively for their upcoming mocks, we kindly ask that you encourage them to:

- Create a structured revision routine:
- Provide a calm, organised study space:
- Encourage regular breaks, sleep, and healthy habits:
- Stay engaged and positive:
- Use school resources and ask for support

Jack Petchey Winners

Congratulations to our three Jack Petchey Award winners!

Each student has received £300 to put towards projects that will enhance the school experience for their peers.

This award is particularly meaningful as it is entirely student-led our students had the opportunity to vote for the winners.



Music Home Learning

We are pleased to inform you that the Music Department has introduced a new online home learning system called Focus on Sound. This is an interactive music learning website that provides short activities, listening tasks and quizzes to help students strengthen their understanding of key musical concepts.

Home learning tasks are now posted weekly on both the DPR (to notify students) and on Google Classroom, where the direct link to the website can also be found. A video tutorial is also available on the DPR to guide students through how to log in and access their home learning. Students have additionally been shown how to use Focus on Sound during their Music lessons, so they should be familiar with the system.

Key information:

- Platform: Focus on Sound
- When it is set: Every Wednesday
- Time required: A maximum of 30 minutes
- **How it is marked:** Students should aim to achieve at least 80% on each task for it to be marked as complete

We appreciate your support in encouraging your child to stay up to date with their Music home learning and to achieve their best.



The Big Heartlands Winter Concert 2025

The Music Department is delighted to invite you to the Heartlands High School Winter Concert, where our students will showcase their hard work and musical talent to celebrate the festive season.

The concert will take place on Thursday 11th December, starting at 4:30pm and finishing at 6:00pm. We look forward to welcoming you for an afternoon of wonderful performances and holiday cheer!





Christmas Dinner!

Christmas dinner will be served in school on Friday the 12th and Monday the 15th. Students are not required to sign up to do anything in advance. More details to follow.

Those who bring a packed lunch or prefer to purchase a sandwich are still able to do so on these days.



Mock exams: support and guidance

Well done for getting this far yr11!!!

We know that you are looking forward to your exams and this can be a stressful period. We have attached a Place2Be guide to exam stress. In addition to this you can access the following services for support -

- Kooth
- Text P2B TO 85258 for free to speak to Shout
- Call 0800 1111 to speak to Childline or visit childline.org.uk for their free online chat
- Attend the wellbeing room in N3.6

Feel free to contact me, Ms Dzikunu or the school counsellor Jacqueline on

jacqueline.leon@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk should you have any additional concerns.

Hardship fund

We have a small hardship fund to support families in need. This is created from fundraising throughout the year. As we approach the Christmas period if you are in need of help please do reach out to our support team using this form HERE

We are also here to help you with Free School Meals, advise you on preloved uniform availability, where to apply for uniform grants and to sign post you to other organisations which will be able to help and support you over the winter period and beyond. Last year we helped over 50 families to get the support they needed. Please reach out!

If you are fortunate enough to be able to spare a donation to the Hardship fund no matter how small please do so here: https://i.paydit.to/set-hhs-hardship

Please scroll down for help with feeding your family.



Life as a parent/carer often means balancing many demands; work, childcare, health and wellbeing of children, budgeting, school costs, etc. When finances tighten (rising bills, unexpected costs, illness), food-banks can provide an important safety-net. In Haringey, local services emphasise that food banks are there for crisis situations, short-term relief, helping you carry on and plan next steps.



As a parent/carer, this relief can ease immediate pressure so you can focus on your children's well-being (meals, school readiness, emotional security) rather than just trying to keep going.

If you're struggling to afford food or essentials, local food banks can offer short-term support for you and your family. Please see a list of the local food banks.

1. Haringey Foodbank

- P Selby Centre, Selby Road, N17 8JL
- Tues 2-4 pm | Thurs 4:30-6:30 pm | Sat 11 am-1 pm
- **** 07460 519019

Provides 3-day emergency food parcels and essential items. Referrals may be needed.

https://theharingeyfoodbank.wordpress.com/

2. Holy Trinity Foodbank (Stroud Green)

- Holy Trinity Church, Stapleton Hall Rd, N4 4RR
- ¹⁷ Sundays 1:30–3:30 pm

Offers emergency food and support for local families.

https://www.holytrinityfoodbank.org.uk/

3. Hornsey Foodbank

- ↑ Union Church, Weston Park, N8 9PX
- Thursdays 10 am-12 pm

Community-run foodbank supporting over 1,000 people weekly.

https://www.hornseyfoodbank.com/

4. Gospel Centre Foodbank

Wightman Rd, N8 0LT

Fridays 2–4 pm

Free food parcels, toiletries, and welfare advice.

https://www.gospelcentre.co.uk/foodbank.html

5. Haringey Community Food Network (HCFN)

Coordinates community kitchens, foodbanks, and growers across the borough.

https://www.hcfn.org.uk/

How to Access Food Bank Support

- 1. Recognise the need: If you're struggling to afford food or essentials, you're eligible to seek help.
- 2. Check details: Look up your nearest food bank's opening times, location, and whether a voucher or referral is needed.
- 3. Bring what's needed: Some services may ask for proof of address; others won't.
- 4. Ask for family items: Mention if you need baby food, milk, nappies, or toiletries.
- 5. Plan ahead: Combine food bank help with benefit checks, free school meal applications, or budgeting advice.
- 6. No stigma: Food banks exist to support families—help is given with respect and understanding.

