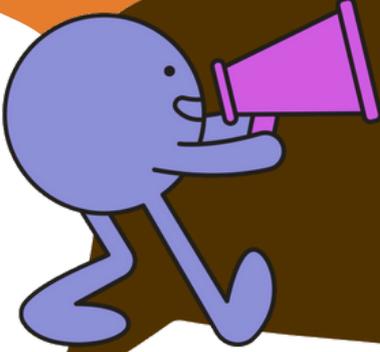


Autumn HT1 2025



SCHOOL NEWS



**Longbenton
HIGH SCHOOL**

Fundraising Week: Show Racism the Red Card

Black History Month

This month, our school community came together to support Show Racism the Red Card — having fun while raising money for a very important cause. Students took part in activities that promoted kindness, respect, and the importance of standing up against discrimination.

As part of Black History Month 2025, themed “Standing Firm in Power and Pride”, our students have been learning about the incredible contributions Black people have made to UK society, past and present. The theme encourages everyone to celebrate heritage, identity, and resilience while recognising that every person’s story and achievements matter. By learning together, we continue to build a school community that values diversity and inclusion — now and for the future.



Led by our fantastic House Captains, students baked cakes, ran competitions such as Guess How many Sweets in the Jar (506), Guess the name of the Rabbit (Ophelia) and completed a Silly Hat Fun Run! Well Done to everyone who took part and raised money for such a good cause.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mon 3 Nov: Back to School
- Mon 10 Nov - Fri 14 Nov : Y11 Mock MFL Speaking Exams
- Mon 10 Nov : Y10/Y11 Parents Revision Session
- Wed 12 Nov : Anti-Bullying Drop Down Day
- Mon 17 - Fri 28 Nov: Y11 Mock Exams
- Mon 17 Nov : Be Safe Workshop
- Wed 19 Nov : Y12 Parents Evening
- Fri 21 Nov : Staff Training Day
- Mon 24 Nov: Be Safe Workshop
- Wed 26 Nov : Be Safe Workshop
- Thurs 6 Dec : Post-16 Open Evening
- Thurs 11 Dec : Y11 Parents Evening



Attendance is gradually improving which is good news - we are due to end the first half term in line with the North East and national averages of 92-93% Regular attendance makes a huge difference to students’ learning and progress. We encourage all families to continue making every effort to ensure children are in school, on time, every day. Together, we can keep building on this great progress and make next half term even stronger.





The English department nominated students who showed ambition in their first few weeks at LHS to take part in an author event. They 'met' Elle McNicoll who is an autistic writer, writing books with autistic characters. One of her books is currently a TV Series on CBBC and has a neurodivergent cast. She told us all about being an author, working in TV and having worked in publishing. They had a brilliant Q&A which could have gone on all day—they had so many questions to ask. Super fan Bea brought in her favourite Elle McNicoll books it was so lovely to see our students so excited by reading and books!



The Careers Fair held on October 14 was a fantastic success, offering students a valuable opportunity to explore a wide range of career paths and connect directly with industry professionals. With a diverse mix of employers, apprenticeship providers and colleges in attendance, students gained first-hand insight into future opportunities and received practical advice to help them plan their next steps.

The atmosphere was buzzing with curiosity and ambition, and the feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive—they found the event informative, inspiring, and helpful in clarifying their career goals. A special shout-out goes to former student Harry V-R, who completed sixth form with us before securing an apprenticeship with BBC Radio Newcastle. He is now employed there full time and returned to the fair to offer guidance, share his journey, and motivate current students.

Thank you, Harry, for your continued support and for being such a brilliant example of what our students can achieve!



SPORT



Our sports calendar is in full swing, with football fixtures well underway and a packed schedule of exciting games. Students across all year groups have been showing incredible effort, ambition, and determination on the pitch, representing the school with pride and teamwork. It's been fantastic to see such high levels of commitment and enthusiasm, both in training and during matches. Netball fixtures are also up and running, with our teams putting in strong performances and demonstrating great skill and sportsmanship. We're looking forward to a busy and successful season ahead for all our teams!



We are incredibly proud of Archie for his outstanding achievements at the WKO World Kickboxing and Karate Championships 2025. Competing on the world stage, Archie secured a gold medal in Sport Sword, officially making him a World Champion! He also earned a silver medal and two bronze medals across the Kick Light and Points Fighting categories. It was a brilliant weekend that showcased Archie's dedication, skill, and determination—an experience that will stay with him for a very long time. Archie has now returned to school, and we couldn't be prouder to welcome him back as a World Champion. Huge congratulations, Archie!

We're really pleased to see a noticeable improvement in uniform standards this term — our students are looking smart and representing the school with pride. Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support in setting such high expectations. Let's keep this positive momentum going into the next half term by maintaining these high standards every day!

inspired

Inspire Clubs have kicked off with fantastic participation so far this year. It's great to see so many embracing these opportunities to develop both personally and academically.



There was a great atmosphere in all of the half term success assemblies - celebrating students' hard work in the first half term. Well done everyone for a successful start to the 25-26 academic year!

House Captains did a brilliant job leading fundraising activities—with a bit of healthy competition to see who could raise the most money! Congratulations to Alnwick House, who came out on top with their hugely successful Sponsored Fun Run.



Year 7 students took part in a special theatre performance from *Smashed Live* as part of their PSHE programme. The engaging and interactive session used drama to explore important topics around underage drinking, peer pressure, and making positive choices. It was a powerful and thought-provoking performance designed to spark discussion and help students develop a deeper understanding of the consequences of risky behaviours.