



# NEWPORT NEWS

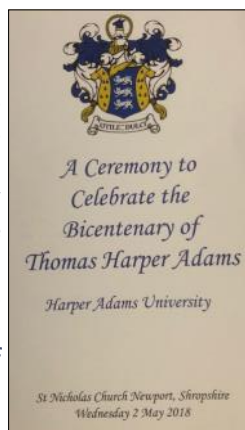
## *A weekly update from NGHS*

Volume 1 - Issue 13 - Friday 4 May 2018

### Head's Lines



**E**dition 13 of our newsletter is anything but unlucky. Today has seen forms grapple with an excellent Star Wars Quiz as it is May 4th, but this has certainly not been the only achievement of the week! On Wednesday, I was honoured to be invited to a Ceremony at St. Nicholas' Church in Newport to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Thomas Harper Adams, a man whose foresight gave rise to what is now Harper Adams University. As well as having the pleasure of being in the company of HRH The Princess Royal, it was also a chance to meet a number of local town and county dignitaries and to discuss some of the excellent student achievements I hear about each day at NGHS.



Last night, I was also delighted to be part of the Young Enterprise Awards at The Park Inn, Telford, along with both teams of Year 12s. There were over 200 students from across Shropshire in attendance. Our two teams both won awards;



Congratulations to **Roam** for winning Best Interview Award (and for giving a slick presentation to the assembled guests about their venture) and to **Trideas**, who accepted two awards; for best Dragon's Den Performance and the Green Award for their eco-friendly products. Young Enterprise is a venture I wholeheartedly support. It allows students the opportunity to form their own legal company, to trade in goods or services and understand the makings of a successful business. Both of our teams made profits this year and both deserve our congratulations.

Finally, well done also to the Year 11s who won my Mindful Colouring competition this week. See page 2 for more information. This was a short activity designed to encourage students to take a break from revision and channel their energies into some therapeutic colouring.

Wishing you all a pleasant bank holiday weekend.

**Mr M J Scott**

### Head Girl Team

# NEWS



**Bea Wilkinson**  
*Head Girl*

This week the team have chaired their first Student Council and received much support and student ideas. Everyone across all the years got involved and the contributions, ideas and queries are definitely going to be addressed in the upcoming weeks (after our exams of course!)

Yesterday was also the first Sixth Form Council meeting. With all the prefects determined to continue the success of our new building, a range of ideas have been put forward in order to maintain its dynamic working space. On the agenda we discussed the installation of our water cooler which was in high demand, laptops in the Atrium, new school merchandise proposals and the induction day for the new Year 12s this coming summer. With a particular focus on parking, the Head Girl Team are hoping to discuss this further with the Town Council.

On Thursday evening, we attended the PTA Pamper Evening. The event offered a range of stalls and activities including biscuit decorating with 'Crumbelle', clothes from 'Sloganfit', haircare and makeup thanks to 'Bougey House', designer handbags, information on therapy from 'Holistic Harmony' and health and well-being items thanks to 'Beautiful Aromas'! There was even a student stall where you could have glitter face paint courtesy of our sixth formers! A yoga taster class and a skincare talk from 'The Body Shop' where the skincare routine was demonstrated on one of the students were popular! In addition, the mocktails proved very popular, no doubt as a result of their stylish names (thanks to the teachers!) It was a great success and we would like to thank everyone for their continuing support for all of our school events.

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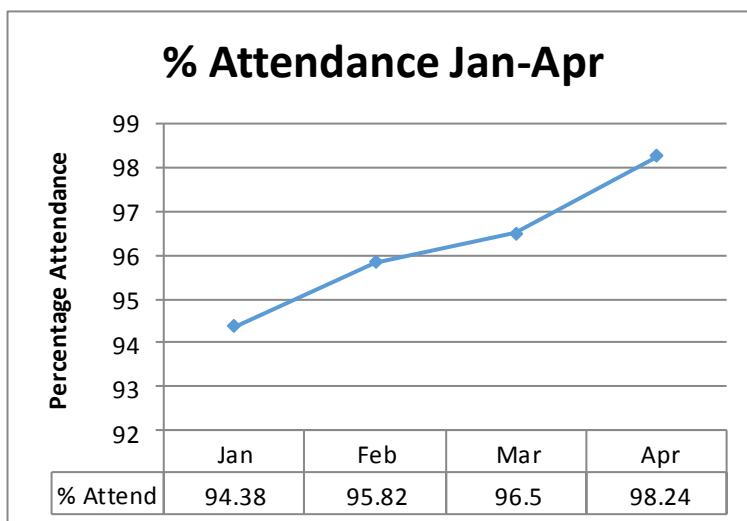


## SPOTLIGHT ON *Rising Attendance*



When I arrived at NGHS, I was concerned that attendance figures for the autumn term had fallen too low. I therefore introduced a couple of initiatives including form prizes, parent meetings and a higher target of 97%. With your support, this has seen a marked increase from 94.3% in January to 98% in April, which is now above our target. Attendance will be reported on the end of year school reports and can be checked on the parents website/new app. Our form winners each month are shown below, too. Thank you to parents, students and tutors for helping to improve attendance at NGHS.

	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18
<b>Y7 &amp; 8</b>	R1	R1	R1	S2
<b>Y9 &amp; 10</b>	R4	S3	A4	R3
<b>Y11</b>	S5	S5	S5	A5
<b>Y12 &amp; Y13</b>	R7	R6	A7 / S7	A7



**Well done to our Year 11  
mindful colouring  
competition winners:**

**Olivia Bolton, Ellie Watts,  
Molly McGregor, Beth Paget,  
Lucy Hireson and  
Rosheen Arachchi.**







## *An Unforgettable Night*

When I was invited by a friend to audition for the junior drama production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, I never expected to have as much fun as I did. For the entirety of the six months we all poured into it, the cast and leaders developed a strong bond, akin to that of a family. Regardless of how many lunchtimes we spent practising the dance, or running through scripts, I enjoyed every single minute of it.

VIVA LAS  
VEGAS!

I have thoroughly enjoyed overseeing this year's junior drama production and the mid-century Las Vegas setting worked really well. A huge thank you and well done to everyone involved. **Mr Postle**

In retrospect, I am delighted that I took the chance to audition, because it has reminded me of my passion for acting and has inspired me to continue to participate in other drama opportunities within school.

**Gabrielle F./ Oberon (Y9)**

The night of the production is something I will never forget. From the unorthodox hairstyles to the comedic one-liners, all those in the spotlight flourished, and the feedback we received was spectacular. On behalf of the cast, I would like to thank the sixth form drama team for keeping us all organised and for encouraging us throughout the rehearsals.





PTA



**The Mr To-Tolley  
Tropical & Mrs  
Tutti Frujii  
mocktails were  
a real hit!**

Many thanks to all who came to the PTA's Chillax and Pamper Evening last night.

The atrium was filled with a selection of varied, interesting stalls from local businesses, with students and parents enjoying a range of activities from Indian head massage, makeovers, skincare consultations, silver-smithing, cookie decorating and nail design, as well as a yoga taster session (room 102 looks very different when you are lying on your back with your arms and legs stretched out in opposite directions!).

We also had some great shop-opportunities including handbags, scented melts and athleisure / yoga tops, not to mention the PTA sweet shop and tombola. All the stallholders donated prizes for the raffle which definitely raised the quality bar on our usual raffles! School-themed mocktails were a big success, with two teachers enjoying their drink-namesakes... All in all it was a lovely, informal atmosphere and something we will do again.



Last Friday, forty Year 12 biologists headed to Malham Tarn Field Centre in the Yorkshire Dales for the annual biology field trip. Malham Tarn is a glacial lake, and one of only eight upland alkaline lakes in Europe, making it the perfect place to study ecology. Malham Cove was also used as a location in the sixth Harry Potter film!

After navigating some very windy roads, we arrived at the centre and were handed waterproofs that can only be described as 'fisherman-chic.' Our instructor Alex taught us about methods used to survey plants before we headed out onto the scree slope to collect some data of our own. Upon returning to the centre, we were taught how to carry out statistical analysis on our data, something that will prove incredibly useful in our exams.

On Saturday morning, we walked down to the river, so we could collect some invertebrates, in order to explore energy transfer within an ecosystem. In the afternoon, we aimed to investigate the impact of grazing on the grassland areas around Malham Tarn. In reality, we spent most of the time trying to escape the huge swarm of flies that took an interest in our group!

On Sunday, we visited the small mammal traps that we had left out the night before, to see if we had caught any

## Ecology FIELDTRIP



mice or voles. Whilst my group were unsuccessful, the other group caught Matilda the mouse and Vixen the vole, who decided to chew its way out of the bag and made a swift break for the trees. We spent the rest of the morning carrying out our own individual investigations into the impact of an abiotic factor on a named species. After collecting our data, we bid farewell to the centre's staff and headed home.

This weekend has been a fantastic opportunity to learn biological skills that would be impossible to develop in the classroom. Malham Tarn is a great location, with excellent views of the lake and the Dales. A big thank you must go to Mrs Dainty, Mrs Han and Mr Tolley for organising the course and making it such a useful trip.

Caitlin Hopkins, Year 12





## GOOD LUCK FENCERS!

This weekend, a team of six students will be competing in The British Youth Championships for Fencing at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield. We wish them all the best...

Emily Jenkins, Phoebe Haslegrave, Natalia Toms, Hannah Shakespeare, Hannah Lewis-Tighe and Henna Raiyat (not pictured).



### ADVANCED NOTICE—BERLIN TRIP

There will be a brief PARENTS MEETING on Wednesday 13 June from 5.30pm-6pm. Please bring EHICs to the meeting. Important trip information will be given then. Passports should already have been handed to Mrs Lane.

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH—YEAR 9

i) Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May year 9 DofE bronze training day – students should bring in any kit they are planning to use and dress appropriately.

ii) A reminder that the full amount for DofE should have been paid by now unless a instalment plan had been agreed with Mr Hennessey – in that case, the money needs to be paid before the training day. A key part of DofE is to make students more responsible, so students should address any queries directly to Mr Hennessey themselves.

### BADMINTON CLUB

No more badminton club until the public exams finish in June

### HISTORY NOTICES

The last GCSE revision session is on Tuesday 8 May in Room 2 from 3.55pm.

## Fanfare Competition Update

*You will recall we sent our congratulations to Abi Billingham and Sophie Gormley for their tremendous success in winning the Royal Opera House Fanfare Competition. As part of their prize, they recently had the opportunity to visit London to work on orchestrating their fanfare.....*

As part of the Royal Opera House Fanfare Competition, we both had the opportunity to visit London and work with the famous conductor Antonio Pappano. With the help of Alex, our mentor who was a student at the Royal College of Music, we worked on our composition to adapt and rescore it for a full orchestra. Whilst in London, we had the opportunity to see the vast range of instruments we could work with and hear the timbre of each instrument played by professional musicians. Our piece was recorded and will now be played around 50 times throughout the concert season. We have also been invited to watch an opera or ballet at The Royal Opera House in order to hear our piece being played. It was a really exciting experience hearing our piece being played live by such an amazing orchestra.

Abi & Sophie



## Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Tue 8th	Exam Briefing (Hall)	Y13
Wed 9th	E-Safety Evening for Parents	All
Thu 10th	Salters Chemistry Festival Leavers Assembly (whole school)	Y8 Y13 lead
Fri 11th	End of formal teaching/Study Leave German orals	Y11 & 13 Y13
Mon 14th	Governors' Meetings, 6pm/7pm Exam Week starts External Exams Start	— Y7-10+12 Y11&13