



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 1 - Issue 11 - Friday 20 April 2018

Head's Lines



I hope that you all had an enjoyable break and that all of our students managed to balance preparation for the forthcoming examinations with a decent amount of rest and recuperation.

The middle holiday weekend saw our Lake Garda Netball Trip participants board their coach for the long journey to Italy. It would appear that they all had an amazing time with some excellent matches played and plenty of pasta and ice cream to boot. Thank you to Miss Clarke and the team of staff for their hard work in organising the visit and for giving up their holiday.

Whilst on the mention of trips, the next two weeks sees a couple of announcements about new foreign visits. See the lower half of page 3 for the first of these. I am delighted that NGHS is definitely getting even more "on the map" with new links around the world.

This week has seen two visits by the truly excellent **Loudmouth Theatre Company**. The Year 9 day was an extra one I financed this year. It looked at the impact of control in friendships and relationships as well as issues around Child Sexual Exploitation. The presenters came to see me after the workshops to say how pleased they were with the engagement of our Year 9 girls. The Year 9 boys from Adams came to watch this drama production, which they found useful and the messages have been shared across both schools by working together on this project.

Staying with the topic of safety, I have been advised that around **50** families from Adams have asked to attend our Parents Information Evening. I sent a separate letter out this week about the event on May 9th (see below) and

would ask that parents who wish to attend return the reply slip or email the school office to confirm this so we can ensure that sufficient chairs and refreshments are available.

This week I welcomed the Telford and Wrekin Quality Assurance Specialist (and Ofsted inspector) to NGHS as she wanted to visit our English department. She spent time looking at students' work, in particular examples of their extended writing in English and History and she observed some lessons, too. Her report is extremely positive and a credit to the hard work of our English team. Mr Postle (Head of English) has now been invited to share some of our work with other schools at a conference.

Our Year 13 French students had their oral examination on Tuesday and that evening I received a lovely email of thanks and praise from the visiting examiner. The travel company who took the Netball Team to Italy have also written to me praising the girls' excellent conduct. Moments like these make me very proud to be Head of such a caring and hard-working group of young people.

Finally, our very supportive and enthusiastic PTA are running a **stress-busting relaxation/pamper evening** in May. Please try to come along. It is a great opportunity for parents and students to relax and have some fun beyond the stresses of examination preparation. Any **donations of cakes and cookies** to serve on the night would be welcome and it's not too late if any parents want to book a stall! See the last page for information.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend.

Mr M J Scott

Do you know exactly what your daughter is doing online?

Join us on **Wednesday 9 May at 5.30pm** for a presentation from West Mercia Police and Concerco about current teenage online behaviours, how you can help protect your daughter/son, what the law actually states/means, what happens if students share images of themselves or others, what sexting is and how you might wish to consider monitoring internet usage at home. This is a session of practical tips and starts with complementary refreshments from 5.00pm in the NGHS Atrium. The event is geared at parents of students in Years 8-10, but everyone is welcome to attend. Thank you.



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To contact the School about a general enquiry, please use **schooloffice@nghs.org.uk**

SPOTLIGHT ON Netball in Italy



This year our annual netball tour saw us take 44 students to Lake Garda in Italy for the Active 4 Sports Fest. After a 24 hour coach journey students and staff arrived in resort where they were able to check into their apartments and have a restful first evening.

On the second day of the tour students had a morning of netball training and an afternoon in the lakeside town of Bardolino where they got to enjoy some of Italy's greatest ice-cream parlours and have a walk around the town, day 2 finished with a pizza night and a guess the teacher quiz.

The third day consisted of a training session followed by our afternoon in Verona. Despite the wet weather Miss Tomkinson was still able to perform her dramatic reading below Juliet's

balcony. Students were taken on a short walking tour of Verona to see the main sights before being given some time to do some shopping.

The next day was the netball tournament day which saw all 5 teams participate in a competition. U15 (Team 1) came 3rd, U15 (Team 2) came 2nd, U14 (Team 3) came 1st, U14 (Team 4) came 5th and U14 (Team 5) came 6th. Students played some fantastic netball and really enjoyed the experience.

Miss Clarke would like to thank our students for making the trip so enjoyable (even with the long coach journey) and to Miss Norton, Miss Tomkinson, Mrs Haycock & Mr Hennessey for accompanying the group.

"Our resort team has been full of praise for both the Students and Staff, who all had a positive attitude and ensured that the tour ran well"

Letter to Mr Scott from Activ4 School Tours



Italy...A Student's Account

On Sunday, 44 excited girls arrived at school ready for our netball tour to Italy. After, piling all of our bags on the coach we left school...24 hours later we arrived at Gasparina Village. The long journey with limited sleep had all five of our teams desperate to get some rest. Tuesday morning saw the first of our coaching sessions, focusing on our defensive pressure throughout the entire court. The afternoon consisted of us travelling to the lakeside town of Bardolino and after several hours of shopping, we completed the day with a pizza night and an incredibly informative quiz about the teachers.

After having a 'good' night of sleep, we started Wednesday with the second of our training sessions, however this time focusing on attack and using the space. Similarly to the day before, after lunch at the hotel and a swim in the pool, we drove to Verona, visited sites such as the Collosium and Juliet's house and once again, spent many hours shopping. We finished the day with a round of bowling and travelled back to Gasparina, ready for the netball tournament coming our way tomorrow.

Thursday morning came, and our U16 teams played in their tournament, with our Year 10 team coming third and our mixed Year 9&10 came fourth. Meanwhile, our other 3 U14 teams were visiting another lakeside town called Lazise. In the afternoon, the U16 teams drove to Lazise while our other 3 teams were competing in their tournament. The Year 9 team won the U14 tournament, and the Year 8 'A' and 'B' teams came 5th and 6th respectively.

To end the trip we attended a disco; renamed 'Miss Tomkinson's Birthday Bash ft. Ella'. Friday was our last day and we finished packing all of our things, checked out four rooms and either went to the pool or walked down to the lake. With all of our bags on the coach, we left the hotel ready for the 1,037 mile journey home. Finally, after a long ride we arrived back at school.

A massive thank you to Miss Tomkinson, Mrs Haycock and Mr Hennessy for coming with us and to Miss Clarke and Miss Norton for organising the trip.

Megan, Year 9

German Exchange Partnership



Mr Scott is delighted to announce that NGHS has a **new German exchange partner school**. The School is called Schloss Hagerhof (Hagerhof Castle School) and is located near the former West German capital of Bonn in a town called Bad Honnef. The nearest airport is 30 minutes away near Cologne.

The school is a mixed sex grammar school of similar size to NGHS. It has two specialisms, both of which place it at the top of the German leagues; the first is in Basketball where students from across Europe and Russia come to Hagerhof, study, train and sleep because the school also has a boarding section, although not all students are boarders. The second specialism is in performing arts. The school has a huge tradition in preparing young people for the professional stage and many former students have progressed to the West End equivalent in Germany. Students at Hagerhof study English as their first foreign language and French, Latin and/or Spanish as additional languages. The pupils are very friendly and very keen to have the opportunity to visit England.

Mr Scott actually knows the school well as he worked at Schloss Hagerhof as an English and Music teacher in the early 2000s. His former colleague and Head of English, Mr Olaf Dörr will be coordinating the German school's involvement in our new partnership. We therefore look forward to taking a small exchange group of GCSE Germanists to Hagerhof next academic year to begin our exchange partnership. There is also the possibility of some funding for the exchange, which Mr Scott has been researching. Any students who are interested should await further details at the very start of next term. When we visit Hagerhof, we would anticipate day visits to Bonn and Cologne as well as participation in lessons/project work and homestays to practise German language skills with considerate, welcoming host families. If you speak a little German, you can get more information about the school from the school's website: www.hagerhof.de. Viel Spaß!



On Wednesday 18 April, we were visited by the Loudmouth team to inform us about dangers such as sexual exploitation and grooming. We watched a performance about a 14 year old girl, Kaz, and her 20 year old boyfriend, Marcus, who became increasingly controlling and manipulative, rewarding Kaz with gifts when she 'behaved' and punishing her when she disobeyed him. At the end of the performance, we had a chance to think about and discuss what Kaz could have done in the situation by asking questions to the character.



Afterwards, we did a workshop, which offered another chance to express our thoughts and interact with the actors. We found it useful to be able to talk about this as it's not something that's usually spoken about by young people but is something that's very current in today's society. It was very informative and helped us understand the dangers and where we could go for help if it was to affect us in the future.

Orlanda, Sophie & Millie (Year 9)

Congratulations to...



- ☺ **Bethan Williams** (Y8) who achieved two personal bests in 100m freestyle in 1min7sec and 50m freestyle (30.3 seconds) at the Weston Super Mare Swimming Competition. She came home tired, but happy!
- ☺ **Ruby Howells** (Y11) who has achieved the Laura Marco Prize for the highest mark in the UK in her Grade 8 flute exam. Also well done for achieving Grade 8 piano this week!

First Aid

This week has seen an unprecedented number of students attending the Medical Room, mostly during lesson time. A couple have informed Mrs Davenport that they have been sick at home and have still come to school. This is something we cannot allow as vomiting bugs spread rapidly. Others have a "bit of a headache" or feel a bit "under the weather".

I have asked students in assembly today to consider on each occasion whether they need to visit the Medical Room and whether this is of benefit. Quite often, after a glass of water, they go back to class. If they are visiting with a minor ailment, this should be at break or lunchtime only.

In the first instance, students who feel a bit under the weather should ensure they have tried to have a snack and are hydrated and then seek help later if their symptoms continue.

Obviously any student who is injured or very unwell should let a member of staff know and report to the Medical Room.

To be clear, we won't ever refuse to see a student who arrives at the Medical Room, but ask for a more resilient approach to minor ailments. Please can you discuss this at home?

Thank you.

Mr Scott & Mrs Davenport



BUS UPDATES

Haberdashers' Adams have two CPD days on Friday 18 May and Monday 4 June. However, as these are exam days, the school buses will RUN AS NORMAL.

However, on Wednesday 18 July all Adams pupils are off site. In the morning, only the Market Drayton bus will run. In the afternoon, there will be **no** buses running from Adams at the end of the school day.

Please ensure students can get to and from school safely on this day. Please also remind students that food and drink is not to be consumed on school buses in line with letter issued by Adams today.

NGHS JUNIOR DRAMA PRESENTS...



THURSDAY
26TH
APRIL
2018

7PM IN THE
SCHOOL HALL
£3 ADULTS
£1 CONCESSIONS
TICKETS
AVAILABLE
FROM RECEPTION



FENCING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Phoebe Haslegrave who finished 20th in the BRITISH SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS, held in London on 15 April 2018. A tremendous achievement. Also to Phoebe and to Hannah Shakespeare who finished 9th and 42nd respectively at the Birmingham Internal Fencing Women's Sabre.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Next week's performance is at 7pm on Thursday. The cast need to be ready in the Hall at 6.20pm. Please use the side driveway and park behind the netball courts if the main car park is full. There are still tickets available at Reception and the performance will finish around 8.45pm.

HISTORY UPDATES

Just a few revision sessions remain before Study Leave. Please see Miss Davies / Mrs Seys for details.
Year 8 Parents: please ensure payment has been sent for the People's History Museum trip in June by the end of next week at the latest. Thank you.

U16 FOOTBALL TEAM

Well done to the U16 Football Team who were placed first in the TWSSA Tournament: E Micklewright, J Davis, L Warner, L Holmes, C Webb, E Tracey, R Tichford. Miss Norton

NGHS PTA Presents...



Chillax & Pamper Evening

3rd May 7-9pm

Stalls and demos include:

- Beauty / skincare
- Hair & make-up
- Jewellery
- Fashion
- Crafty cookies
- Yoga taster session
- PTA 'mocktail' bar



£3 adults (includes free
drink), under-18s free

Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 23rd	GCSE German Orals Y7/8 Book Club, 1pm U15 County Netball match, 12.35	Y11 Y8 Y9
Tue 24th	Y13 & Sports Team Photos Chemistry Lecture, Birmingham	All Y12/13
Wed 25th	Open Day & Open Evening	All
Thu 26th	"Wicked" at Hippodrome 7pm-Midsummer Night's Dream	Y9/10 All
Fri 27th	Politics Revision Day at NGHS	Y13
Mon 30th	GCSE French Orals	Y11
Thu 3rd	Sixth Form Council Meeting Pamper Evening	Y12/13 All