



# NEWPORT NEWS

## *A weekly update from NGHS*

Volume 1 - Issue 8 - Friday 16 March 2018



*Introducing...our new Head Girl Team - Bea Wilkinson (Head Girl, centre), Grace Todd, Ruby Furniss, Alex Mangham and Anke Gey van Pittius (Deputies).*

### Head's Lines



**W**ell done to our new Head Girl Team who are pictured above. After sending in their applications, students were shortlisted and interviewed by our Vice Chair of Governors, Mrs Haycock and myself. All of the interviewees performed strongly and the successful team have received responsibilities from overseeing student wellbeing to promoting careers and from marketing to community awareness plus the charring of committees and school council groups. The new team will commence their duties officially after the Easter break once we have thanked our outgoing Y13 team in the end of term assembly.

This week has been as busy as ever; our KS3 students enjoyed a German language theatre production on Monday, which was both witty and understandable!

Our school swimming team worked hard at the Telford swimming gala, finishing a very respectable second and third and our Year 7 netballers are off to Boreatton Park this weekend to play netball. Enjoy!

After mentioning the planned parents support evening on E-Safety last week, I have included some information for parents about social media apps in this week's newsletter, which I hope will be of interest.

Next week is Sport Relief week and I know the Sports Captains and PE staff have lots of activities planned. We also have Year 7 parents evening on Tuesday, the School Concert on Wednesday and our Looking Ahead Evening for Year 12s and a parent/carer on Thursday. I hope to see you at some of these events.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend, **Mr M J Scott**

### Newport Girls' High School

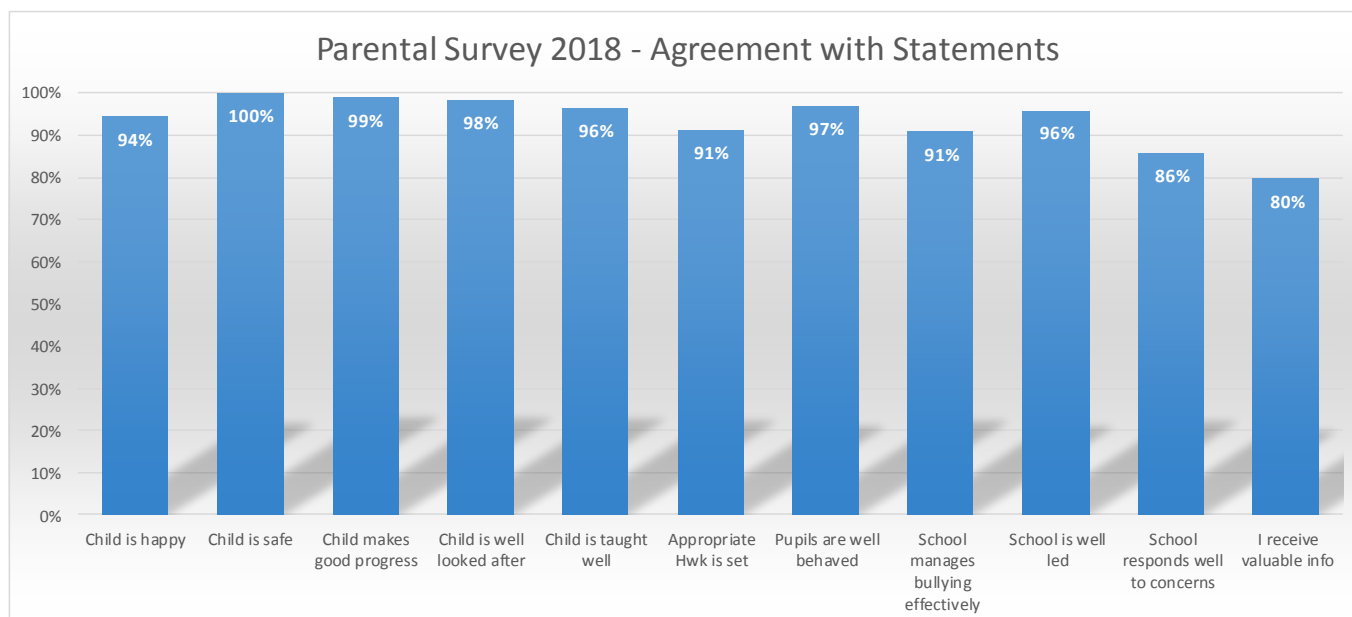
Wellington Road  
Newport, TF10 7HL  
Tel: 01952 797550

**Headteacher:** M J Scott BA(Hons) Exon PGCE NPQH

To contact the School about a general enquiry, please use [schooloffice@nghs.org.uk](mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk)

Below are the results of the Parental Survey, which had a representative view of about 1/3 of our families. By comparison to other schools, this is a high response rate so thank you for taking the time to let Mr Scott know your views. The highest number of responses were from Years 7,9 and 11.

## SPOTLIGHT ON Parent Survey 2018



Most parents who didn't agree with the last two questions kindly provided further information and Mr Scott has written to these parents separately to respond to their points. In the event that you contact school and do not receive a response in a timely manner, please ring and ask to speak to Mr Scott or Rev. Walters. We will be reviewing reporting next academic year, particularly in Years 7 and 8; year groups that have seen substantial change in reporting practice nationwide.

Top Five Areas of Strength for NGHS
Academic Results
Standards of teaching
Teacher passion/excellence
Ethos/friendly welcome
High standards of behaviour

Top Five Areas to Develop with some initial work undertaken	
Curriculum Variety & More options	Mr Scott has added GCSE PE to Y8 options as an immediate starting point. Take-up has not been as high as anticipated though. Food Technology was mentioned by a few parents but this was withdrawn from the curriculum a few years ago owing to lack of interest and will not be re-started.
Drama & Music provision	Our concert next Wednesday is packed full of performers and Mrs Chapman is doing sterling work in promoting music again. A-level music will feature on the curriculum next year. The Junior Drama production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' is just after Easter. To improve drama, a proper space/studio is required. Mr Scott is considering options!
A wider range of sports	Miss Clarke and Miss Norton run a club every lunchtime. As a small school it is hard to offer as wide a range as other larger schools. However, they would like to hear from students about any clubs they would like. When Football/Rugby was offered last term, take-up was slow. Please encourage your daughter to speak to her PE teacher about her ideas.
Better communication with home	Hopefully 'Newport News' is helping with this. Our website will also be undergoing a transformation later on this academic year and will have a dedicated 'For Parents' section with all the information you should require. Mrs Jones and I will also be launching a new Parent App in place of the antiquated Learning Gateway in the next few weeks.
Canteen / food selection	Since joining NGHS, Mr Scott has shared the concerns of students with regard to the fresh fruit offer, cost of lunch and standard of one menu item in particular. He has met with Catering Academy on three occasions and changes have been reported in Newport News. Next week also sees the first 'Foodie' group with a representative from each year meeting with Catering Academy staff to open better channels of communication from students about the offer, pricing and to improve business. We are pleased that Catering Academy wish to work with us on these matters.

### CONTACTING SCHOOL

There was some uncertainty about who to contact. If your query is possible via email, please contact [schooloffice@nghs.org.uk](mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk) - this mailbox is checked throughout the day and emails are sent to the right person.

If you have a telephone enquiry, please call 01952 797550 and ask your daughter's tutor or Head of Year to call back. If the issue is serious, ask to speak to the Head or Deputy Head.

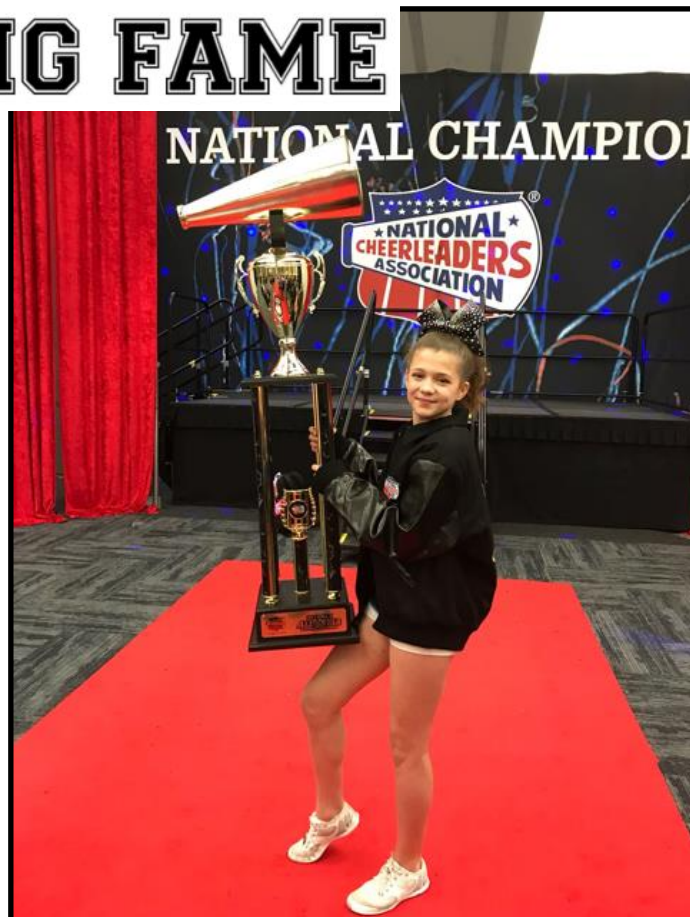
Last week's newsletter detailed a new email address [urgent@nghs.org.uk](mailto:urgent@nghs.org.uk) if you need to contact school at the weekend or in a school holiday about a serious issue concerning a pupil or family. We hope that this information is helpful.

**Thank you again for the time you clearly dedicated to give constructive feedback about NGHS.  
All the ideas raised will be considered in next year's school development plan.**

# CHEERLEADING FAME

**NGHS is very proud of Kirsty Kehler who has recently competed in the NCA National Championship in Texas. This is her story:**

At Texas we performed a total of three times. On the Friday, it was the international showcase where teams, not from America, all showed their routines and supported each other, I found this very helpful since it wasn't a competition and helped to get the nerves out of the way. Saturday was Day 1 and we were the last in our division and I was so excited. We did really well, and were in the lead heading to Day 2. This is already an achievement since we are the first British team to do so! So on Sunday the last time we were ever going to perform our routine and compete as a team together, we went out and had the best time of our lives; the atmosphere was so thrilling when we were on the mat performing. So later that day, came the awards. Sitting on the mat, while they announce the teams one by one is nerve racking. There were 12 in our division, and when we were read out first, winning by only 0.05, it was the best feeling on earth we were all crying with disbelief. It was just amazing; a feeling I will never forget.



**WELL DONE TO KIRSTY AND HER SQUAD.**

## WHAT'S YOUR TALENT? DO WE KNOW ABOUT IT?!

In his first assembly in January, Mr Scott asked students to tell him about any awards they'd won, competitions they'd entered or unusual interests they had. From cheerleading winners to guinea pig breeders, everyone should feel they can celebrate their successes with the rest of the school community.

A handful of students have come forward to do just that, but more are encouraged to do so. If your daughter has a talent or success to share, please encourage them to tell her tutor or see Mr Scott himself.

**BE PROUD AND SHOUT LOUD!**

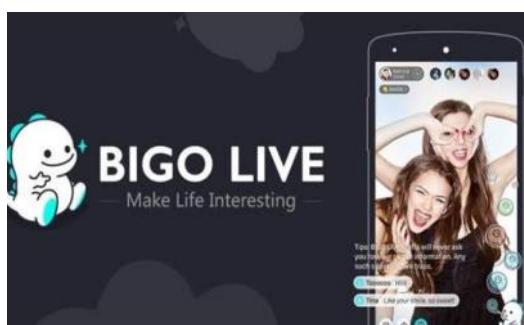


## DO YOU HAVE A SPARE CHESS SET?

Two Year 10 students would like to start a Chess Club at lunchtime for Years 7-10. This is a great opportunity for students and one we wish to encourage. So, if you have a spare, complete(!) chess set gathering dust at home, would you consider donating it to the school? Please ask your daughter to drop this off at Reception. Once we have enough sets, details of the lunchtime club will be given! Thank you.



# E-Safety Information & Dangers



An app called 'Bigo Live Stream' has recently come to the attention of our girls' school network. Some schools are reporting issues with pupils using this app and receiving contact encouraging them to engage in inappropriate behaviours online.

Bigo - Live Stream is a free app that lets users make video blogs or livestream their activities with the object of monetizing their videos.

Streamers receive live commentary from other users, and the app lets you search for nearby users. Bigo is a free app available to download on Apple or Android. Profiles include users' names, gender, age, and location.

User-generated content can include bad language, violence, and nudity. Though it's rated "Teen" on the Google Play store, iTunes rates it 17+. We encourage parents to monitor their child's social media and mobile phone content to be aware of what they may have access to. Parents can set parental controls on devices and restrict online access to age appropriate, safe content using a variety of tools.



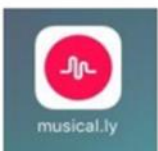
**Kik messenger** is a free app that allows users to chat, exchange photos and videos with friends and other users in the UK and worldwide. It is particularly popular with teenage users as anyone can sign up from the age of 13, and it allows user accounts to be set up without formal phone numbers/identification/age verification. This allows older users to create accounts where they can pose as younger people to allow them to engage with younger members. There's a lack of parental controls, records and chats are easily deleted.



**OoVoo** is a free app that allows picture exchanging, video chat and instant messaging from devices or through Facebook. You can group video chat with up to 12 people at a time. It also allows groups to watch YouTube clips together and comment on them. Users can add 'friends' in a similar way to Facebook, they can search for other users through email, name or can search by location. In the UK, it is against the T&C's to sign up under the age of 13 but not illegal. To block a user requires keeping them on your 'friends' list, removing them doesn't stop them from contacting you directly.



**Chatroulette** is a website which lets you talk to another person anywhere in the world. When you go onto the site, Chatroulette connects you to someone at random. You can talk to people via video or text. Registration only requires your date of birth, you can move a conversation on but can't guarantee that person won't be able to talk to you again. There are limited and very basic privacy settings and the site has access to your webcam and mic settings.



**musical.ly** is a video community that allows you to create, share, and discover short music videos. Videos can be up to 15 seconds and users can sing, dance, or lip sync along to music. Users upload their own material which bypasses vetting. There is also a search function which can bring up inappropriate material from a seemingly innocent search phrase. Users can have a 'fan list' of people who rate their videos and they can ask others to rate their material.



**Live.ly** is a live video streaming platform created by musical.ly. It is live video streaming in a social networking app and allows users to broadcast live videos to online friends. Users log in with their musical.ly, Facebook or Twitter account. Live.ly gives users free reign on what they want to share with fans and allows users to communicate in real time, picking from a variety of categories, including makeup, life, sing, dance, etc., to tag in their live videos. Privacy settings are there but have to be proactively sought out and are easy to switch off. There is also a location feature, indicating to other users where you are streaming from.



**Whisper** is a social 'confessional app' that allows users to post whatever is on their minds along with an image. A way to anonymously share feelings with pictures and words, and if so desired, connect with individuals through a messaging option. The app's appeal is based on anonymity, however user's locations are revealed. There is no filter on subjects that can be discussed and the messages that can be sent between users.

Here are some more apps which can have a darker side to be aware of.

More next week!

# FRENCH DISTRACTION WORDS

**Year 9 and above, note and learn these French 'distractors' as they could give you the opposite answers in a listening or reading exam if you miss them!**

À peine - hardly  
Arrêter de - to stop  
Au lieu de - instead of  
Hors question - it's out of the question  
Peu - not very  
Sans - without  
Sauf - except  
Douter - to doubt  
Empêcher - to prevent  
Éviter - to avoid  
Nier - to deny  
Oublier - to forget

## NEGATIVES

Ne ... pas - not  
Ne ... plus - not any more/no longer  
Ne ... jamais - not ever/never  
Ne ... rien - not anything/nothing  
Ne ... personne - not anyone/no-one  
Ne ... que - only  
Ne ... aucun(e) - not a (at all)  
Ne ... nulle part - nowhere

On Monday this week, we welcomed two German native speakers from the Onatti Theatre Group to perform a comedy for our Year 7 and 8 pupils. The play was called "Hausarrest" and was highly entertaining, charting the antics and mishaps of a young German teenager called Fin after he had been "grounded" by his mother. Particularly hilarious were the impromptu walk-on roles taken on by three of our Year 8s: Olivia (Fin's friend Angela), Emmeline (his other friend, Merkel) and Ella (his long suffering sister). We hope to have the Onatti Group back to perform a French play for us next time.

**The MFL Dept.**



The Looking Ahead event (Thursday 22nd March 7-9pm) aims to give Year 12 Parents an insight into the UCAS process and alternatives to University and follows hot on the heels of a successful trip to Manchester where many students commented that they were now aware of so many more options.

There will be a key presentation by the Outreach team from Keele University and optional talks about Medical/Dentistry/Veterinary applications, alternatives to Higher Education and general advice. We look forward to welcoming everyone. Please join us via our new Reception area.

## YEAR 12 PARENTS

EPQ has finished for Year 13 ...and now starts with Year 12. With Friday 16th March the last day for Year 13 to give in their completed projects it seemed like a good idea (at the time!) to launch to Year 12 and start all over again. If you would like to know more about what EPQ is and why all Year 12s complete this valuable additional course, you may be interested in the following links.

[Birmingham University - EPQ benefits](#)  
[Which University - Why EPQ?](#)

**Mrs Haycock, Head of Sixth Form**

## 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 Concero 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.







1. *The Tale of Angelino Brown* by **David Almond** – illustrated by Alex T. Smith (Walker Books)
2. *The Hypnotist* by **Laurence Anholt** (Penguin Random House)
3. *Overheard in a Tower Block* **Joseph Coelho** – illustrated by Kate Milner (Otter-Barry Books)
4. *Wed Wabbit* by **Lissa Evans** (David Fickling Books)
5. *The Island at the End of Everything* by **Kiran Millwood Hargrave** (Chicken House)
6. *The Song from Somewhere Else* by **A.F. Harrold** – illustrated by **Levi Pinfold** (Bloomsbury)
7. *After the Fire* by **Will Hill** (Usborne)
8. *Welcome to Nowhere* by **Elizabeth Laird** (Macmillan)
9. *Out of Heart* by **Irfan Master** (Bonnier Zaffre)
10. *A Berlin Love Song* by **Sarah Matthias** (Troika Books)
11. *Where the World Ends* by **Geraldine McCaughrean** (Usborne)
12. *Rook* by **Anthony McGowan** (Barrington Stoke)
13. *Release* by **Patrick Ness** (Walker Books)
14. *The Call* by **Peadar O'Guilin** (David Fickling Books)
15. *Black Light Express* by **Philip Reeve** (Oxford University Press)
16. *The Explorer* by **Katherine Rundell** – illustrated by Hannah Horn (Bloomsbury)
17. *Saint Death* by **Marcus Sedgwick** (Hachette)
18. *The Hate U Give* by **Angie Thomas** (Walker Books)
19. *Encounters* by **Jason Wallace** (Andersen Press)
20. *Beyond the Bright Sea* by **Lauren Wolk** (Penguin Random House)

**All of the above will be available to check out from the school library from Monday!**

## Thoughts on the Longlist by Emily Jenkins & Rosie Clayton (Senior Student Librarians)

The Carnegie Medal longlist has recently been announced and between us recognise a number of the established authors, such as Patrick Ness and Peadar O'Guilin, but there are a number of unfamiliar names on the list as well. The longlist covers a wide variety of themes and genres – there is a book for everyone here! We are both big fans of Patrick Ness and we are really looking forward to reading *Release*, which has received rave reviews. *The Hate U Give* is also a topical favourite that takes its inspiration from the #blacklivesmatter movement. We hope that students enjoy reading these novels over the coming months.

**Please remember to ensure they are correctly checked out of the library and that they are returned on time, so that other readers may borrow them!**

# NOTICES

## Y12 LOOKING AHEAD EVENING

Parents are warmly invited to attend our Year 12 Looking Ahead Evening at school on **Thursday 22 March, starting at 7pm**. This event will present important and helpful information about applying to university and/or apprenticeships.

## HISTORY UPDATES

- History GCSE revision sessions are running on most Tuesdays and Thursdays from this week (see the posters in form rooms for exact dates) until study leave begins in May. Sessions will be held in room 2 with Miss Davies supervising, from 3.55-4.25pm. Why not take the opportunity to do some timed exam practice questions or quiet revision in a supportive environment?
- History A-level revision sessions are being run every Wednesday in room 2 from 1pm for 35 mins, alternating between Russia and the Wars of the Roses topics. Be there!!
- The Medieval Extravaganza weekend to Leicester and Warwick Castle with Miss Davies and Mrs Seys (in their medieval style dresses!!) is happening on Sunday 25-Monday 26 March, 2018. There is still one place available for a keen historian in Y10-13! Please see Miss Davies ASAP!



## PE ANNOUNCEMENTS & DATES

Congratulations to our Junior and Inter swimming teams (above) who competed in the Telford schools swimming gala on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March. The Year 7 and 8 team finished in third place and the Year 9 and 10 team came second overall.

**Tuesday 20 March** – U12 County Netball tournament & HA Netball League presentation evening  
**Thursday 22 March** – U16 Regional Badminton Finals and Year 7 County School Games Netball tournament  
**Monday 26 March** – Lake Garda Parents Meeting

## SPORT RELIEF

We have launched Sport Relief today and it will run all throughout next week (19-23 March). Please look out for posters around school promoting the range of activities we have on offer over the week, all in order to raise money for a great cause!



## Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 19th	House Team interviews begin Full Governors Meeting	12 —
Tue 20th	Oxford & Cambridge Conference Parents' Evening, 4pm-7pm Chemistry Lecture (evening)	12 7 12
Wed 21st	Psychology Conference, London School Concert, 7pm	12 All
Thu 22nd	NCS Assembly U16 Regional Badminton Final Looking Ahead Evening	11 Team 12
Tue 27th	Healthy Eating Workshop	10
Wed 28th	Year 14 Reunion, 2pm in Atrium	Alumnae
Thu 29th	Last Day—school closes at 12.35pm	All



**BRANCHES**  
listening, supporting recovery

### Branches in the Park

A Mental Health Awareness Festival

Activities and events for all the family

**Telford 50** 1968-2018

**SAVANNAH**

Headlining main stage:  
**Savannah**

Support acts:  
Ska Burst - The Remedy - Last October - Steel Monkey

- Bouncy Castle - Rides - Arts and Crafts Activities -  
- Mindfulness and Mental Health First Aid Tent - Wrekin Open Mic Tent -  
- Food Stalls -

**Telford Town Park Arena**  
May 6th 2018  
11am to 6pm

**Telford and Wrekin COUNCIL**

**NHS**  
Telford and Wrekin  
Clinical Commissioning Group