



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 1 - Issue 21 - Friday 21 July 2018

Head's Lines



The end of term has arrived and looking back at the calendar, it is amazing how many opportunities have been offered to our students since Easter alone. Our Achievement Assemblies yesterday and today recognised over 300 students for their contributions to their work and/or school life and it has been a pleasure to start to get to know more of our students and their families since taking up my post in snowy January. Whilst reflecting on the success of the last academic year, I also look forward to September and the opportunity to be a teaching Headteacher with classes in Year 8 and Year 13.

This week has seen our annual **House Drama** competition with immense amounts of preparation and dedication from our students. This is a sixth-form-led production involving students in all years and the standard was very high. The theme of 'Fantastic Tales' brought fairies, goblins, Donald Trump and silver body-spray onto the stage (the mind boggles!) and well done to **Roddam** who were the eventual winners. Thank you to **Mr Postle** and **Mrs Wallace** who oversee the arrangements for this competition. I am also pleased to announce that we will have some **new House competitions** next year. Previous years have focused on Sport, Music and Drama, but the first event of the new academic year will be **HOUSE BAKE OFF!** More information in September!

We say farewell today to two dedicated members of teaching staff. Firstly to **Miss A Paul** who has been a fantastic teacher of Geography and RE in Years 7 and 8 this academic year. She leaves us to move to Wales with our very best wishes for the future. Secondly, we wish **Mrs J Haycock** every success as she leaves us to join another Shropshire school. Mrs Haycock joined NGHS 'temporarily' in 2005 to cover a maternity leave. Thirteen years on, she has undertaken a number of roles at NGHS, but current students will remember her most for her fabulous support and encouragement in the Sixth Form in particular with their UCAS applications and the Extended Project Qualification. Finally, we wish **Miss H Norton** (PE) every happiness for her wedding on Saturday. She will be Mrs Goodall when we return in September.

Over the summer break, site works are being completed at NGHS including the final stage of the new windows installation. As part of this, I have commissioned new external doors with electronic keypads to improve security around the site. Students will be made aware of access codes in September and all sixth form students will have ID badges and lanyards in line with many local schools and universities.

I am also delighted to say that we have made funds available to **re-tarmac and re-line our sports courts** over the summer and I am sure that the improvements to the sports facilities will benefit all students in September. I would especially like to thank the **PTA** who have made a donation towards these works; as with all PTA donations their support really benefits the majority of students.

The long summer break will give plenty of opportunities for all students to relax and recuperate. This is essential if productive work is going to be undertaken next term. However, particularly for those in Years 10-13, six weeks without any thought of school work can lead to a slower start in the autumn and I would encourage students in these year groups to review their files in the final week of the holiday so that they can come back ready to make a really positive start. Mr Postle has also produced a **reading challenge competition**; details are on page 6.

When we return in September, we will have **new colleagues** to introduce to you including some apprentices who will be joining our staff. I am a great believer in offering opportunities to those who are committed to apprenticeships and am delighted to have recruited keen, enthusiastic people for these roles. I am also finishing our **School Development Plan** for 2018-19, the key features of which I will share with parents in September.

Whilst I hope that the summer break will be enjoyable and safe for all members of our school community, you may have cause to have to contact the school in an emergency. Please remember that you can do this by emailing **urgent@nghs.org.uk** and including your name, telephone number and the reason for your urgent message. A member of the senior leadership team will respond as soon as possible. Finally, I hope to be able to launch our **revised website** during the summer break. Do keep checking **www.nghs.org.uk** and I hope that the new, more informative 'for parents' section will be of particular interest to you. We will continue adding content to the new website in the autumn term.

So, on behalf of the Governing Body and whole school community, may I wish you an enjoyable, safe and happy summer break and thank you for your kind welcome this year. Also a massive thank you to all my colleagues who work tirelessly to ensure that our students benefit from so many opportunities in and outside the classroom. NGHS is a wonderful place to learn and I look forward to taking the School even further forward in the new academic year.

Best wishes for the summer, **Mr M J Scott, Headteacher**

Newport Girls' High School

Wellington Road
Newport, TF10 7HL
Tel: 01952 797 550

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

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

As per our **existing** uniform policy, we would like to remind you of the following school expectations regarding jewellery that is permitted to be worn in school:

- **Jewellery is not permitted**; however, a lightweight gold or silver necklace chain with a small religious symbol is permissible.
- **One single small stud in each ear is permitted**; the stud must be worn in the lower part of the earlobe and should be removed for PE and games; students wearing studs in their ears, other than in their lobes, will be expected to remove them.
- **Other body piercings and tattoos are not permitted.**

We have noticed an increased number of students attending school in **bracelets, rings and hoop earrings** which are not permitted. Some of these items are also branded goods which are expensive to buy. **The school will take no responsibility should these items be lost by the student during the school day.**

If students are wearing items of jewellery that is not permitted, they will be asked to remove them and this will be logged on our school behaviour management system as inappropriate uniform. This will be monitored regularly by Form Tutors and overseen by Heads of Year. Should this become a persistent issue the School will follow the behaviour policy and sanctions will be incurred by students as a result.

Could you please support us with sending your child to school wearing only jewellery that is in line with what is described above. Thank you for your assistance.



Year 7-11 Students

Reminder for September

TOWN COUNCIL ADDRESS

Whilst the rest of the country was settling down to watch England-Croatia, Mr Scott and two members of the Head Girl team attended a Town Council meeting. Alex and Bea gave a thorough presentation about the ways that NGHS students support the town and how the town supports us. Both spoke confidently and to wide appreciation from the Council members present. We hope that this is the start of a stronger bond and link with the town of Newport as there are many ways that we can work together for mutual benefit. We would like to thank the Council for inviting us.



Cllr. Tim Nelson welcomes us to the Guild Hall, Newport

Forthcoming Dates...



**Term Starts for all students on
Wednesday 5 September at 8.50am**

There will be an **Information Evening** for most year groups next half term. Full details will be issued when we return, but save the date!

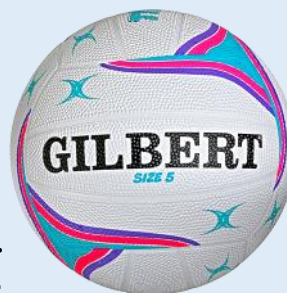
Thursday 13 September new Year 9
Monday 17 September new Year 12
Thursday 20 September new Year 10
Thursday 27 September new Year 7
Monday 1 October new Year 8
Thursday 11 October Year 13 Parents Evening
A revision help session for parents of Y11 will also feature - date to be confirmed.

Congratulations to

All the girls who competed in the Tibberton Satellite Netball League on Friday evenings.

N e w p o r t

Thunder won the Y7 competition on goal difference. In Years 8-10, it was **Newport Lightning** who were victorious but only by one goal!



Attendance Matters

Since January we have launched a whole school initiative focusing on improving attendance, we have set a challenging whole school attendance target of 97%. In order to encourage this we have introduced a form competition since January. The aim is to have the highest number of students in each form with an attendance percentage of above 97% for that month. A box of Celebrations is presented to the form in each age category who has the highest total number of students above 97% for that month.

We have been impressed by the students' response to this and the number of students we see checking the board to see how their form are getting on. It has been pleasing to see that out of 21 forms, we have had 16 different winners over the 6 months we have been doing this for:

	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18
Year 7 and 8	R1	R1	R1	S2	R1	A2 / S1
Year 9 and 10	R4	S3	A4	R3	R3	A3
Year 11	S5	S5	S5	A5	-	-
Year 12 and 13	R7	R6	A7 / S7	A7	S7	A6

It has also been impressive to see our whole school attendance percentage figure rise by 4% over this 6 months. **Well done to the whole school on this fantastic achievement.**

We will be continuing to work on promoting good attendance in the next academic year and will be linking this success into our new rewards scheme. More details will follow in the first Newport News in September.





Ich bin ein Berliner

I'd been looking forward to our trip to Berlin ever since the first letter ever came out. I'd always wanted to go as Berlin is such a unique and culturally rich city that there was no way I could pass up the opportunity of visiting it. And then of course there was the added bonus of the brilliant itinerary- somehow we managed to see Alexanderplatz, the Berlin Wall, the Brandenburger Tor, the Hard Rock Cafe and the Reichstag Dome, all in one day! (Suffice to say, my feet were quite sore after all that walking around.)

Berlin is one of those places that everybody wants to experience in their lifetime. After our long weekend, I think I can safely say that I now realise exactly why: Berlin is unlike any other city I've ever been to. I'm not sure exactly what makes it such a spectacular place to see; it could've been the roads, or the buildings, or the people. Mind you, I think I'd be friendly too if confronted with a group of forty teenage girls!

The day after landing we spent the morning at the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp memorial and museum. I know that for me it was maybe one of the hardest mornings I've ever had on a school trip because the camp had been preserved and left just as it would have looked in the midst of World War Two. It's difficult to describe how standing just where all those people suffered made me feel and I don't really think there's a word for it. I know I was upset, guilty and even angry at the perpetrators who could ever do this to another human being. The coach ride from Sachsenhausen was very quiet.

Later that day we also visited the Stasi Museum and the Hohenschönhausen Stasi Prison. Hopefully, all the

information I learnt about the Stasi and the people's attitudes towards them will aid me in our upcoming history topic on the Cold War. However, these trips also made me realise that some parts of history aren't quite long lost or all hundreds of years ago. Many of the workers at the museum had been 'monitored' by the Stasi even and some of the tour guides at the Prison were in fact prisoners there less than thirty years ago.

On the coach or in between site-seeing a common question that went around the students was "Do you think you'd ever live in Berlin?" Most said yes, of course, mainly because Berlin has fewer of the negative aspects of living in a city. For example, it was quiet. Well, as quiet as the capital city of Germany can get. As well as that, the area we stayed in was amazingly clean and the pavements were easily wide enough for our large group of students to walk along comfortably. (However, that might've been partly due to Mr Postle's traffic-warden-like hand gestures and authoritative manner.) The architecture had a lack of skyscrapers, and some of the other buildings were almost Parisian with their low roofs and white brickwork. Another thing I noticed was that Berlin's population was very diverse in its ethnicity, this being especially prominent when we stumbled across a mass viewing of the World Cup Final at the Brandenburg Gate. So yes, I think I would like to live in Berlin, architecture, traffic wardens and all.

In conclusion, the Berlin trip was a truly amazing experience. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say that we came home far too early, and that I wish I could experience the whole thing all over again. A big thank you to all the staff involved!

Isabella Blackburn, Year 9



NGHS HOUSE DRAMA 2018



FANTASTIC TALES

The theme of this year's competition was 'fantastic tales' and this really allowed students to let their imaginations run wild. There were talking unicorns, witches and parallel universes aplenty! All three performances were visually striking and there was a great balance of humour and pathos across the course of the afternoon.

Roddam's play combined satire and fantasy, imagining that Donald Trump and Theresa May were inhabitants of a parallel universe. It was clear that Phedra (Y12) relished the opportunity to dress up as the POTUS! The judges felt the sharp humour and one liners were particular strong points of the performance.

Up next were Seacole, with a menacing performance from Rebecca T. (Y10) as a young, misogynistic and tyrannical king. Seacole were praised for the quality of the acting and their strong use of visuals, including Maisy S.'s (Y10) character gradually turning silver

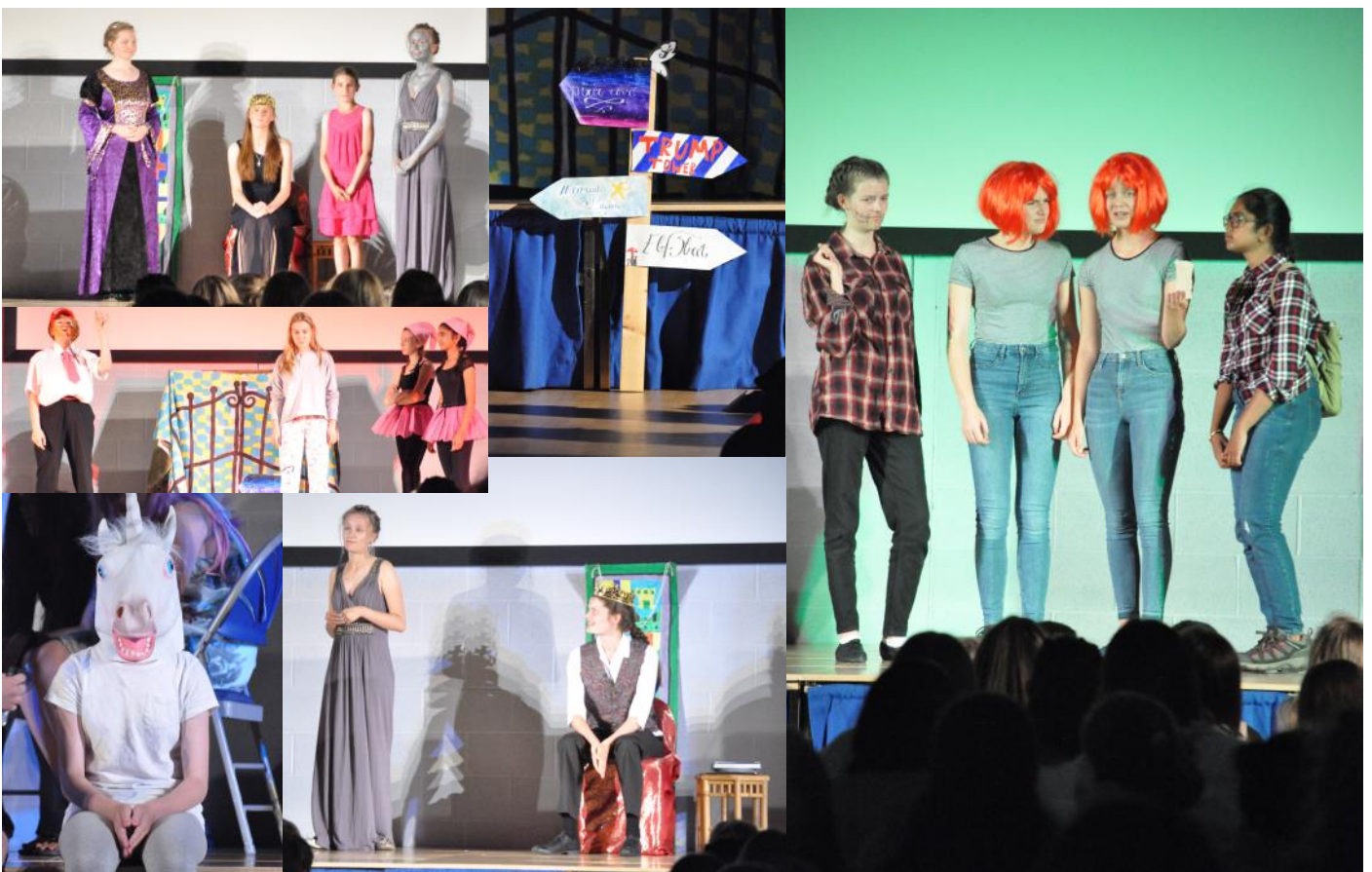
throughout the course of the play.

The final performance of the afternoon came from Austen and their play sought inspiration from *Alice in Wonderland*. The coordination between Lizzy F. and Abigail L. (both Y10) was an impressive sight to behold and again there were some visually stunning moments, such as the pub scene and the clever use of lighting to distinguish the two different worlds.

Whilst Roddam ended the afternoon victorious, it was an incredibly tough decision for the judges to make, who requested some extra time whilst deliberating. All three performances were superb and it was a very enjoyable afternoon.

House Drama 2018 served as a testament to the theatrical talent within the school. Well done to all of those involved!

Mr Postle





NGHS SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS 2018

Review Your Summer Reading

Write a review of one of the suggested books and email it to Mr Postle by Friday 7th September 2018. Each review should be a maximum of 500 words.

At the bottom of your review you should write 'I confirm that this review is my own work', followed by your initials and the date. Please take care not to accidentally plagiarise!



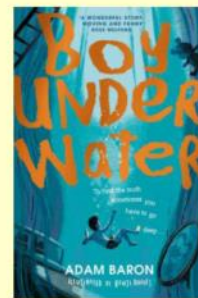
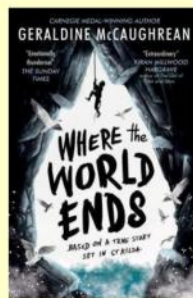
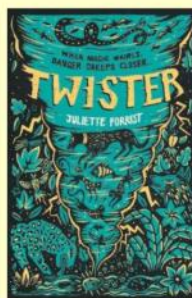
The summer holidays are the perfect time to catch up on reading. Not only is it a great way to relax during the holidays, a good book is also an excellent companion during long journeys. Reading widely will open you up to new experiences, ideas, and vocabulary.

Please Note:

Although these books are generally aimed at your age group, if you are in any doubt please discuss your summer reading with a parent/guardian. The KS4 books are generally from the Young Adult genre, so some explore challenging and difficult issues. You will be able to find out more online.

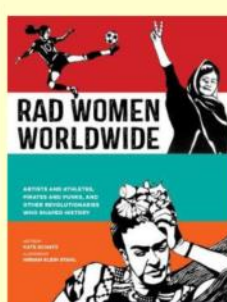
Key Stage 3

Wed Wabbit by Lissa Evans
Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk
Where the World Ends by Geraldine McCaughrean
Twister by Juliette Forrester
Boy Under Water by Adam Baron
The Swish of the Curtain by Pamela Brown
The Boy Who Biked the World... by Alastair Humphreys



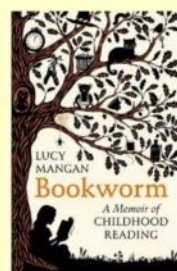
Key Stage 4

Release by Patrick Ness
England: Poems from A School edited by Kate Clanchy
Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi
Leah on the Offbeat by Becky Albertalli
The Giver by Lois Lowry
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
Rad Women Worldwide by Kate Stahl



Key Stage 5, Staff and Parents/Guardians

How to Stop Time by Matt Haig
Notes on a Nervous Planet by Matt Haig
Bookworm: A Memoir of Childhood Reading by Lucy Mangan
Ma'am Darling: 99 Glimpses of Princess Margaret by Craig Brown
The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan
This is Going to Hurt (Secret Diaries of a Junior Doctor) by Adam Kay
Girl with Dove: A Life Built by Books By Sally Bayley



Useful Websites and Online Reading Lists

<http://www.goodreads.com/> - A wonderful website for when you are deciding what to read next.
<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/jul/09/only-read-one-book-this-summer-shortlist> - summer reading.
<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/archive-full-list.php> - Full list of Carnegie Medal winning novels

2018 Fordhall Summer Events & Activities

Play at
Fordhall
Organic Farm

JUL
7/8
Sat/Sun

Bio Blitz

Become a wildlife explorer for a day and discover what's living right on your doorstep
FREE

AUG
14
Tues

Pond Pirates

Join us to go pond dipping - Fordhall Style. Come dressed as a pirate, make a sword and your own pirate ship
£5 per child, Age: 3+

AUG
15
Wed

Three Little Pigs Skills Workshop

Huff & puff and involve yourself in the construction of Fordhall's brand new strawbale bunkhouse!
£10 per child, Age: 11+

AUG
18
Sat

Clay Oven Building

With plenty of opportunities to get mucky, you will then build an oven from scratch.
£65 per person

AUG
21
Tues

Clay Play

Create bugs and other creatures of your imagination. 2 hour session.
£4 per child, Age: 3+

AUG
22
Wed

Three Little Pigs Skills Workshop

Huff & puff and involve yourself in the construction of Fordhall's brand new strawbale bunkhouse!
£10 per child, Age: 11+

AUG
26
Sun

The Science Circus

Huff & puff and involve yourself in the construction of Fordhall's brand new strawbale bunkhouse!
£4 per entry, Under 5's FREE

AUG
28
Tues

Teddy Bears Picnic

Bring your favourite teddy, a picnic and enjoy stories on our heritage site. 2 hour session.
£4 per child, Age: 2+

May to August
Our special Summer trail is now open!

AUG
29
Wed

Skills Workshop

Involve yourself in the construction of Fordhall's brand new strawbale bunkhouse!
£10 per child, Age: 11+

SEP
22
Sat

Autumn Foraging Walk and Meal

A 2 hour foraging walk led by a medical herbalist followed by a culinary treat of foraged delights
£35 per person

SEP
30
Sun

Bread making

Bake your own bread from scratch and learn techniques for different breads - price includes lunch
£80 per person

OCT
28
Sun

Magic & Mystery

A traditional Shropshire Halloween which is magical not scary. Suitable for all ages.

£5 per child. £3 per adult
Family (2+2) £15
Under 4s, FREE

30
Sun

Hogitats

Come and build your own Hogitat to take home and put in your own garden - for hedgehogs!
£5 per child, Age: 6+

NOV
4
Sun

Gluten Free Bread making

Learn the art of making gluten free bread for the home - price includes lunch
£80 per person

DEC
2
Sun

Christmas at Fordhall

Join us for Father Christmas and carols around the tree. Perfect to get into the Christmas spirit.

All funds raised go towards Fordhall's education programme
www.fordhallfarm.com