



# NEWPORT NEWS

*A weekly update from NGHS*

Volume 2 - Issue 32 - Friday 12 July 2019

## NATIONAL ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE WINNERS!



### Head's Lines



This week has seen a team of four girls from Year 7 (Ava, Bethany, Charlotte and Hannah) **win** the National Enterprise Challenge at Wembley Stadium. Run as a project in association with Ryman's stationers, the girls had to design a new mascot for the store and were selected to attend the National Finals. They were accompanied by Mrs Gill and Mr Hennessey (on his final school trip before his retirement next week). First class rail tickets to London and a mad dash on the Tube brought them to Wembley Stadium where they had to pitch their concept of 'Ray the Ryman Fox' to business leaders. This went very well and they reached the final round. They then pitched to the CEO of Ryman and their founder Theo Paphitis himself! The group were delighted to learn that they had been crowned **NATIONAL CHAMPIONS** and that Ray is going to be manufactured and displayed in store. Of note is the fact that our friends at Burton Borough were also finalists with the award of Most Enterprising Team being given to them. Out of 250+ schools, two of the finalists were from our town! We congratulate the girls most warmly on their success. More photographs can be found on page two.

On Monday and Tuesday we welcomed our new Year 7 students to NGHS. This year I wanted the girls to have two days with us and the first day was the 'standard induction day' with sample lessons and plenty of opportunities to get to know the school layout and meet new friends. At lunchtime our Lower School Head Girl Team and a stream

of willing volunteers helped the girls to feel welcome and they enjoyed playing on the field in the summery weather. On Tuesday we hosted a completely different day with an Indian theme. The girls worked in different groups in various workshops encompassing geography, art, DT and dance. Parents joined us at 3.00pm to see the print-making T-shirts and dance routine that the year group had worked on. It was a lovely celebration of the important things at NGHS; friendship, academic success and extra-curricular activities. Thank you to the staff who helped to run this day.

Next week is our final week of term and we have our House Drama competition on Wednesday, which is a highlight in the year for many students and staff. On Friday, we will finish at 12.30pm (as previously advertised). Bus timings are on the last page of this newsletter. Please note that I will be unable to authorise any requests for absence at the end of term. I hope to create one final version of the newsletter next week with some exciting plans about developments over the summer break. I am always trying to find ways to make the school environment nicer for everyone at NGHS and I am pleased to have secured some money to make further improvements over the summer. More information to follow.

If you're visiting the Newport Show tomorrow, do venture into the Education Hub to see some of the work that our students have produced for our Centenary celebration.

With best wishes for the weekend,

**Mr M J Scott**

**Newport Girls' High School**

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**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)





**Congratulations to our National Enterprise Award winning team!**





Arriving in the picturesque setting of Stratford-upon-Avon with high hopes for the evening's performance, we all ate our food in the grounds of the RST in the sunshine. After a quick exploration of the statues and sculptures and a whistle stop tour of the grounds by Mr Postle, we briefly visited the gift shop, where there was an abundance of coloured badges and other memorabilia commemorating several of Shakespeare's plays. With little money left in our purses, we then found our seats and eagerly awaited for the performance to commence.

The Royal Shakespeare Company's unorthodox take on Shakespeare's witty comedy featured a gender-swap across the cast: the beautiful Bianca became the fetching Bianco; the young Lucentio became the smitten Lucentia; and the wealthy Gremio became the comedic Gremia, whose seamless gliding across the stage induced fits of laughter amongst the audience – particularly from Mrs Capaldi cackling away beside us. Set in the heavily matriarchal city of

Padua, Katherine is forced to marry the over-bearing Petrucia, who suppresses her husband's shrewd arrogance through persistent starvation and humiliation. The somewhat disturbing atmosphere created by Petrucia's aggressive dominance was skilfully softened by witty one-liners and comical characters such as Grumio, Petruchio's quirky, unpredictable servant. Overall, the production can be described simply as fantastic, with a special mention going to costume designer, Hannah Clark, whose rich designs beautifully reflected the Italian 1590s style. It was certainly more amusing than many of us were expecting from a Shakespeare play, and it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, despite arriving back at 11pm. We are all once again hugely thankful for the opportunity provided to us by the English department, and we would encourage everyone to seize any chance they have to visit Stratford-upon-Avon or watch a theatre production, particularly Shakespeare's plays.  
**O. Bolton and M. Jones (Year 12)**

## YEAR 8 POETRY DAY

While most of the year were on their way to France, the remaining fourteen had a day full of poetry ahead. With the goal of entering Foyle's young poet of the year competition, the small, albeit talented group of us began to write our own poem. We had a range of artefacts for inspiration (these are pictured right). Consisting of sonnets, free verse and different forms of poetry, the final collection of poems were articulate, thought-provoking and enthralling; a true representation of the standards in the year. Even I was amazed at just how incredible all of the poems were, despite having only a few hours to write them. After a day writing, it was a brilliant end to the experience to have everyone read theirs aloud. Earlier in the day we briefly touched on spoken poetry and although each and every poem was great, it was the confidence and conviction with which they were read to the group that made them truly special. The cake at the end was merely an added bonus! Starting the day, I was a little reluctant: I had always thought that poetry was old fashioned and boring, however the work and research we did opened my eyes to the world of creativity and diversity that is poetry. For this, I have to thank Mr Postle and Ms Capaldi who made this day possible. **Lucy M. (Year 8)**



### THE LOST WORDS

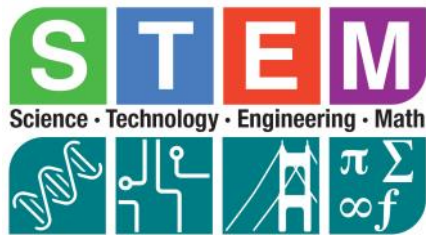
In the English room, visitors were given the opportunity to write a short acrostic poem, inspired by MacFarlane and Morris's illustrated book 'The Lost Words', which recently won the CILIP Kate Greenway Medal. Each poem was constructed using a word that was removed from a popular children's dictionary, with many of these words relating to the natural world. Visitors created poems in order to reclaim and celebrate these words, which are in danger of being lost from children's vocabulary. It was fantastic to see visitors and our student helpers coming together to create beautiful short poems and most importantly, discussing how crucial it is for children learn the words they need to explore the fauna and flora that surrounds them. Many thanks to Sunita, Isobelle N. and Olivia B. for all their help with this activity.

**Mr Postle**





# Year 9 STEM Ambassador Challenge 2019



On 4 July 2019, a team of six year 9 students alongside Miss Wells and Mrs Gill attended the STEM Challenge 2019 at the Marches Centre in Bridgnorth hosted by the Shropshire Star. Our team included Kirsty, Liv, Amelia, Evie, Lucy and Portia. Over the past six months we have worked on creating a product to improve somebody's life whilst being environmentally friendly. Our product design was a water consumption monitoring device using miniaturisation and Bluetooth technology. Over the course of the day, we completed seven different

presentations to seven different judges on seven different aspects of the challenge. These presentations included, best teamwork, business champion, best presentation, best operating model, best entrepreneurial team, mentor recognition and overall winner. The judges asked us a series of questions which allowed us to use our initiative

and express our knowledge regarding the product. We received amazing feedback about our marketable product and its clear use and need within hospitals and care homes. The product could be extended into various other arenas including sport and individual usage. A special thanks to Sam and Martin, from Schneider Electrics as our mentors and the year 12 DT Ambassadors Rosie, Charlotte and Rosheen. We really appreciated all of your support throughout this project.

## MEASLES AWARENESS INFORMATION



- Measles is in the news again. There have been serious outbreaks in Wales and England and the number of children catching measles is rising.
- Measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill.
- Your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination.
- Two doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection.
- If your child is due to have had two doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible.\*
- If you can't remember if your child has had any, one or two doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP.
- If you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have two doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected.

\*In response to a local outbreak then the two doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.

### Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

#### Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

#### When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at three years and four months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with two doses one month apart.

#### Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to six weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the three diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

#### Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles two doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

For more information about measles and MMR go to [www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/)

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# Curriculum Enrichment Week - A Year 12's perspective

# UCAS

Stepping foot inside the UK's second largest UCAS convention, NGHS sixth formers were quickly enticed towards the university stands by the plethora of coloured bags and prospectuses. With a stand for almost every university within the UK present, it was a fabulous opportunity for those, such as myself, who were still clueless as to where they wanted to go or what they wanted to do for higher education, as there were representatives from each university present who were eagerly awaiting any questions we might have had. For those of us who weren't as interested in applying to university, there was a large area with level 4 apprenticeship opportunities, with representatives from Rolls Royce present for example. There were also several informative talks about student finance, Oxbridge admissions and specific seminars on teaching, or nursing and midwifery. Armed with countless tote bags from universities we hadn't previously heard of and an impressive collection of pens, we arrived back at school with our mountains of prospectuses. The school's once neat and organised bookshelf of alphabetically arranged prospectuses was quite literally overflowing onto the floor, and it's safe to say the convention was the perfect start to our UCAS journey.

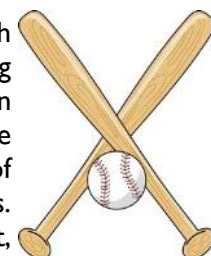
Tuesday began with a presentation on the UCAS procedure, and the daunting, but exciting process of applying for universities began. Despite initially exchanging slightly terrified glances with my friends, the process was broken down into manageable steps and all of us successfully created our UCAS accounts, ready to begin making our course choices. We were then given plenty of time to start narrowing down our university choices, and finding the perfect course for us out of the thousands of courses available.

On Wednesday, after a thorough explanation of the fantastic research sources available to us on JSTOR from Mr Postle, we began writing the first draft of our personal statements. If you had told us that the most difficult part of the week would be writing 47 lines about ourselves and the course we were extremely passionate about, I'm sure we wouldn't have believed you. However, an hour into our time for writing our personal statements, whilst the vast majority had already surpassed the word limit, there were a few of us who were simply lost for words for the first time in our high school careers. Thankfully, Mrs Griffin, Mrs Bailey and several other teachers were on hand to help, and we were all soon well on the way to completing our first drafts.

On Thursday morning, Dr Rebecca Nash from the University of Southampton delivered a detailed and insightful lecture on the EPQ: specifically the way in which we can arrive upon a more precise question. She also spoke about the necessity of engaging with our research rather than simply describing its main arguments, and how important it is to undertake a literature review. With an introduction to the systematic search strategy and the ways in which we can be more effective when note taking, her talk was an incredibly valuable opportunity that we are all very thankful for.



During the afternoon, the whole Sixth Form ventured outside into the blazing heat to compete in the Common Room Cup – a fiercely competitive rounders competition between all of the sixth formers within our houses. Eight teams competed in the event, with three teams for each house (except Seacole, which had two). The rounders balls were soaring across the field as the competitors with powerful swings came to bat. Supporting the houses and one another is what everyone does best, with all of the houses bringing out their house flags and banners to cheer the teams on during the matches. It also provided us with an opportunity to begin scouting out our main competition for sports day the following week. As the afternoon went on, the sun continued to blaze, and we all thoroughly enjoyed playing our matches. Finally, after all of the matches were complete and the results were in, suspense was high as we all circled around Mrs Goodall waiting for the announcement of the winner... The individual team winner of the tournament was Seacole Team 2, and the overall house winner was also Seacole. It was a great triumph for the Seacole sixth formers and an amazing win for their Sports Captain Sophie Lewis.



On Friday, we once again departed the school to visit the University of Birmingham. With its enormous library and modern accommodation, we gained an insight into a fabulous university; perfect for those wanting to go somewhere a little closer to home. We all finished the week with a stronger idea regarding our future aspirations, and the UCAS week was therefore invaluable for both cementing our pre-existing interest in specific courses, whilst also opening our eyes to the abundance of opportunities available to us.



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



## Last Day Bus Arrangements

On Friday, the following arrangements have been made for the transportation of girls at lunchtime. It is envisaged that the school building will be closed to students from 1.00pm. If this is a problem, please contact [schooloffice@nghs.org.uk](mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk) no later than Tuesday at 4pm to make arrangements. The buses will operate as follows:

### Adams to Wolverhampton & Market Drayton

A shuttle service will depart at 12.35pm PROMPT from NGHS

### Adams to Telford North/South

The coaches will depart from NGHS at 12.40pm (having been to Adams first)

### Muxton & Lilleshall

The coach will depart from NGHS at 12.45pm

### Tibberton & Sambrook

Mrs Davenport will confirm arrangements with the girls affected next week



## MFL FASHION SHOW

Last Saturday, at our centenary celebrations (see right), the MFL department held a German and French fashion show, where 'models' (students that volunteered) would wear clothes and go down the catwalk whilst another student would say what they were wearing in French or German. There were four fashion shows, and they were all equally fun and entertaining. It was a great way to show the visitors and ex-pupils how the MFL teaches languages in ways that help stick in people's minds! Overall, it was great fun, and made us all proud to be students of NGHS.

Xia (Year 9)



## CLEAR YOUR LOCKERS!

All lockers must be emptied by 19 July 2019 as they will all be cleaned in the summer holiday. If the same locker has been purchased for September, the key can be kept, otherwise please return locker keys to the green box in Reception before the end of term. Thank you

ILS



## Forthcoming Dates...

Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 15th	H&VB Meeting	Reps
Tues 16th	Brooke Workshop	Y9/Y10
Wed 17th	HPV vaccinations	Y8
Thu 18th	Achievement Assembly, 9am	All
Fri 19th	End of School Year, 12.30pm	All

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Charlotte Toogood in Year 7, who has been awarded third prize in the Ironbridge Gorge Story Writing Competition. There were 270 entries this year from a number of local schools, so this is a very impressive achievement.





**Discount prices!! We are wrapping up our YE business, so offering our boxes at discount rates. If you would still like a box this is your last chance!!** **Simply email us on planetboxye@gmail.com and we'll be able to deliver a box to your child.**

PlanetBox is a Young Enterprise company that sells environmentally friendly gift boxes, aimed at starting/ continuing your sustainable lifestyle through fashionable products that replace single-use ones or by providing a preferable biodegradable option.



### **Our PlanetBox: £12**

Includes: a bamboo travel mug, 3 metal straws and a cleaner, 3 recycled pencils, a recycled notebook, a bamboo toothbrush and some peppermint tea.

### **Our Lifestyle box: £8**

Includes: a bamboo travel mug, 3 metal straws and a cleaner, a bamboo toothbrush and some peppermint tea.

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