



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 2 - Issue 23 - Friday 5 April 2019

Head's Lines



The past fortnight has been incredibly busy and productive at NGHS. Please accept my apology for the lack of newsletter. There are a plethora of 'spinning plates' in my office and in classrooms around the school as the

Easter break approaches and I didn't get the chance to create my weekly newsletter last week. The week before I was also privileged to spend a week in Germany with fourteen wonderful Year 10 students on the inaugural German exchange. The girls were magnificent in their resilience and managed to cope living with a new family for the week. We are excited to welcome our German friends to NGHS in June.

This week has seen a new staff post come to fruition. On Monday, I was pleased to appoint a new **Wellbeing Officer**. This is a new job at NGHS and the post-holder will support Ms Capaldi, Miss Tomkinson and Miss Clarke with pastoral and wellbeing matters in Years 7-11. It is my hope that we can really strengthen our pastoral provision to the hilt and also offer a different style of support to some of our more vulnerable students. Our new colleague will introduce herself to girls and parents in due course, but joins us from the NHS where she is

currently supporting young people and families with a range of difficulties and experiences. The interview panel unanimously felt that she will be a real asset to our pastoral team. Next week we have a new Chemistry appointment to make as I have also decided to increase A-level contact time in most subjects next September.

This Wednesday was our non-uniform day. The PTA are thrilled and very grateful for the wonderful array of items donated for the Easter Hampers. This is a massive fundraising opportunity for the School. Please see the information and photograph below. If you still have raffle tickets to sell, please do help us. The PTA profits go straight back into providing new resources and equipment for your daughter(s). All schools really need this at present and few schools have such a committed (but small) team of volunteers on its PTA. We really thank you for your support.

Last night's Open Evening was a massive success and we welcomed well over 300 families to the school. Thank you to all the girls who stayed to help out - it is much appreciated by everyone at NGHS.

Next Friday is our last day of term. We will finish at 12.30pm with T&W buses running then and Adams buses at 1.30pm. Full attendance is expected for all students.

With best wishes for the weekend,

Mr M J Scott

HAMPERS GALORE!

Thanks from the PTA

Thank you for the hamper donations brought in on Wednesday. We have a good crop of items to pack into our 30 prize hampers, but further donations are also welcome to make them even better!

Items can be brought into school up to next Wednesday, which is **Hamper Packing night** - we will be meeting from 3.45pm in the school library to make up the hampers and fold all the tickets. This is always a really fun activity, and parent helpers are very welcome. If you are planning to come along, please let us know by emailing PTA@nghs.org.uk.

If you have not sent in your [ticket stubs and money](#), please do so by next Wednesday (10th).

If you need more tickets, you can get them from the school office.

Thank you for your support!



German Exchange Success!

Early last Tuesday morning, a group of 15 pink jumper clad Year 10s met at the Telford Central Train Station, full of excitement. Along with the buzz of anticipation there was an air of nervousness. We were about to embark on NGHS's first ever German Exchange.

The journey to Germany went well, with smoothly timed trains and planes all coordinated to perfection (excluding the time spent standing due to crowded British trains). Within what seemed like no time at all, we were bundled off the train, bouncing heavy suitcases down stairs and then heaving them up some more into the bright German sunshine. In front of us lay the scariest part of the trip, being paired up with our partners and their parents. Soon, we climbed into various cars and found ourselves viewing the surrounding of Bad Honnef, a landscape of vineyards and forests.

Once at our exchange partners' houses, various conversations of mixed languages took place on topics such as the Royal Family, firefighters and of course, Brexit. Many of us were exhausted from travelling so after supper retired to bedrooms which the Germans had prepared for us, some were even kind enough to sleep with other family members in order from us to have our own room.

On the Wednesday, we spent the morning in German lessons with rowdy boys and then attended an official welcome from Hagerhof's Headmaster. In the afternoon, Mrs Goodall led some netball-based games, of which the Germans had never played, before it was their turn to teach us basketball - both sports having varying levels of success.

The following day we met at school before walking down to the tram station for our trip to Bonn, without our partners. Unfortunately, we missed our tram but soon caught the next one and arrived at our first stop, the Haus Der Geschichte. This was a museum of German History of which we were very interested in as we wandered around. Next up was the Haribo shop, where many Haribos were bought before lunch under Bonn's first Beethoven statue. Afterwards, we saw the sights of the city delving into their history with our



friendly tour guide. Sparing enough time for a mooch and ice cream, we happily caught the tram back to Bad Honnef before spending the evening with our exchanges.

On the Friday, all the NGHS girls and their exchange partners caught the double-decker train to Cologne where, upon exit, the Dom (Cathedral) came into view. With towering spires and light shattering windows, we all felt its huge presence. Soon after we'd toured the old city walls and other key sites, we had some time to shop in various outlets. After this was a major highlight of the trip - the Lindt factory. During a guided tour, we tried cocoa beans, cocoa butter and gritty chocolate tasters, followed by a cocoa-bean-shaped chocolate fountain.

After a weekend with partners and a variety of other trips, the whole group were exhausted and ready to return home. Our final trip was to visit a view point, transported up there by an old cog railway. We were joined by an enthusiastic group of travellers from Japan. Lots of photos were taken at the top, and all too soon we heading back to Hagerhof for lunch with our partners. When time for good byes came, a few tears were shed but excitement was already building for the Germans' trip back to England. All the girls on the trip would like to thank Mr Scott and Mrs Goodall for supervising us on this amazing opportunity! We would all definitely recommend it for anyone wanting to improve not only language skill but social skills also.

H Bleackley, Year 10

HOUSE ART & PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION RESULTS



Our first NGHS House Art/Photographic competition was held earlier this half term and the results were very impressive. The judges (Mrs Wallace, Mr Mason and Mrs Benoit) were bowled over by the variety of styles and approaches to the titles that had been set. Here are the results along with some of the winning pieces below. Well done and thank you to everyone who contributed. The winners were **SEACOLE!**

'Torn From Home'

Lower School

First: E Haynes (Seacole)
Second: A Gaddam (Seacole)
Third: E Howe (Roddam)

Upper School

First: Z Bonsall (Seacole)
Second: R Arachchi (Austen)
Third: Jerusha Orakwue (Austen)

Overall Winner

Z Bonsall (Seacole)

'Our House Namesake'

Lower School

First: H Meechan (Roddam)
Second: M Bowen (Austen)
Third: B Williams (Seacole)

Upper School

First: A Humphries (Austen)
Second: L Godfrey (Austen)
Third: E Johnson (Austen)

Overall Winner

H Meechan (Roddam)

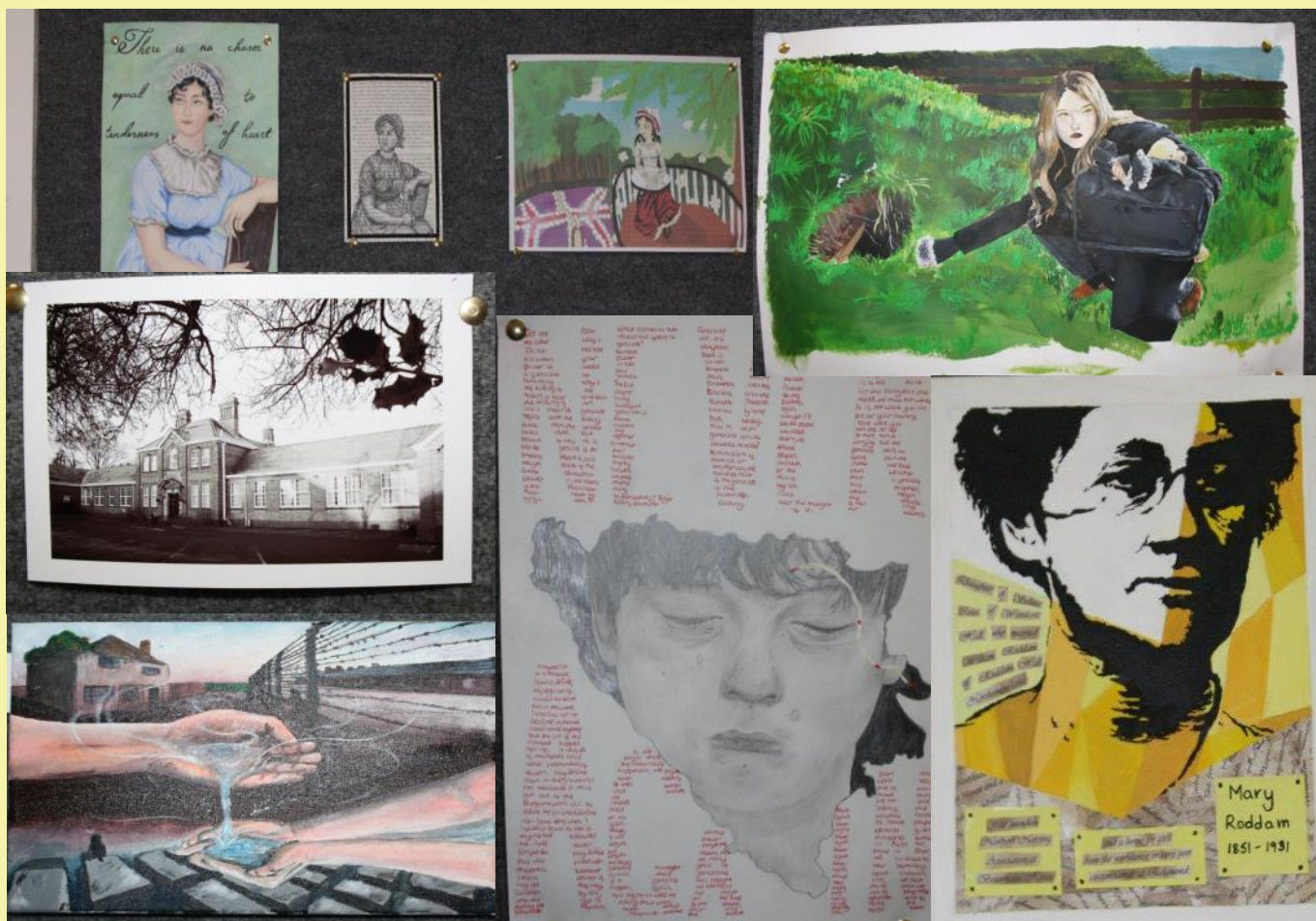
'School's Centenary'

All Year Groups

First: J Ding (Seacole)
Second: A Lewis (Seacole)
Third: I Link (Roddam)

FINAL SCORES

FIRST Seacole (62 points)
SECOND Austen (46 points)
THIRD Roddam (27 points)



Y7 Netball Weekend



As we arrived, we were all so excited as we watched the looming mansion ahead of us. As soon as we got into our dorms we squealed with excitement of the weekend to come - netball and amazing activities! What could be better than that?

Later on in the evening we got into our teams and did a photo challenge where we had activities to do and at the end we took a photo of our group. It was really fun! Later that night we collapsed into our beds exhausted from the long day and fell asleep almost instantly, getting our well earned sleep ready for the next day.

On Saturday we had some time before our first games so our team went to do the trapeze which was so scary but fun as we leapt to catch a bar high in the air with our trust in our friend's hands. Later, we had some matches which we (Team 1) were so happy to win all of. We had the whole afternoon off so we did many

activities that were nerve-racking but amazingly fun! This included abseiling, archery, climbing, zip-wire and my favourite: the giant swing! Lifted up high in the air by our friends pulling us up we were suddenly let go, screaming and laughing until we stopped.

On Sunday we had matches for most of the day whereas other teams had none as they had done them all the day before. Just before we went home there was a presentation and I'm proud to say that our team came second in our pool, and one of the other teams (Team 4) came third in their pool! Also, our school got team of the tournament for showing respect, determination and fair play. We even got presented with a certificate and a special PGL netball!

Overall, we had an amazing weekend full of excitement, and I hope we can go again sometime soon.

A Jarrett, Y7



'A Taste of High School'

Last week we welcomed a group of Year 5 girls from Lilleshall Primary School to visit NGHS. Their day started with a ride in our school minibus and when they arrived a full timetable of activities awaited them. During an English lesson they learnt about Edwardian schools and then produced a plan for a school for 2119. Many schools in their design involved a hot tub and robot teachers who pressed remote controls from their beds! They produced a watercolour letterform inspired by nature looking at the designer William Morris in Art and D and T and in German they marched around the field learning about numbers (especially 100). A memorable day was had by all and we look forward to working with more of our local schools to run similar events in the future. Please see the photographs below.

Mrs A Benoit



NGHS PERFORMING
ARTS SOCIETY PRESENTS...

CENTENARY
REVUE

SCHOOL THROUGH THE
AGES

THURSDAY 11TH APRIL 2019

7PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL

£3 ADULTS

£1 CONCESSIONS

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM RECEPTION

Want to be on TV? Love baking?

Mr Scott has received a request from a TV Production Company for students to sign up for the next series of Junior Bake Off. If you are interested, please see below. Do let us know if you sign up and are invited along!

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S
BEST YOUNG BAKERS
AGED 9 - 15

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



APPLICATIONS CLOSE
MONDAY 6th MAY 2019

Enquiries:
applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk



World Freestyle Championships

Cara Bentley (Year 10) has been promoted to **Championship Level** in the World Freestyle Championships to be held in June 2019. This is a tremendous achievement and we congratulate her and wish her every success as she competes against girls from around the world in Blackpool!

Forthcoming Dates...

Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 8th	RAF Careers Talk, 12.45pm	All
Tue 9th	GCSE Art Exam until Thursday	Y11
Wed 10th	Deadline for Easter Raffle Tickets	All
	Easter hamper packing, 5pm	Parents
Thu 11th	Legal/HR Careers Talk 12.45pm	All
Fri 12th	End of Term at 12.30pm	All

Congratulations!

Hannah Shakespeare, Emily Jenkins, Caitlin House & Issy Knight competed as a team in the NGHS vs Moreton Hall Sabre Match (the first ever held at NGHS) with a draw of 8-8.



Health & Wellbeing Top Tip

Get creative - picking up a paintbrush, putting pen to paper or playing an instrument manages stress, provides relaxation and makes you happy!