



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 2 - Issue 2 - Friday 14 September 2018

Head's Lines



The term has quickly got underway and in my weekly meeting with our pastoral leaders, it was clear that our new students have made an excellent impression. We appreciate that not every student may feel settled just yet, though, so if you feel you need to contact your daughter's form tutor about this, please do call Reception and let us know.

This week has seen our first **Clubs & Societies Fayre** organised by Ruby, a Deputy Head Girl. It was nice to see students coming to find out more about the extra-curricular options we have this term. A timetable of these is also in the Wider Life section of our website if your daughter seems to not know what is happening. On Wednesday we also had a lot of students staying late to join **Handball Club** and our new **Rugby Club**. I hope that these clubs continue to be popular as we work to further expand our sporting provision at NGHS. This week, our Y11 GCSE Geographers also spent a long, but enjoyable day visiting a number of regeneration sites around London.

Just a reminder that Monday is a **half-day** (as notified in last week's newsletter). School will finish at 12pm

owing to our afternoon Entrance Exam. If you have a younger child sitting the test, I hope that s/he is feeling ready; I appreciate it is just as nerve-wracking for parents, too! We also have our **Open Morning** for Year 5 or 6 families on Wednesday 3 October between 9.30am-12pm if you would like attend.

I have already had several **leave of absence requests** this term and whilst I will continue to authorise individual half-day absences for music/dance exams, county sporting fixtures etc. and other family-related matters such as funerals, I am unable to authorise holiday requests without exceptional circumstances, especially when they adjoin our own holiday periods. Our term dates are on our website well in advance so please do check these carefully.

Finally as the colder weather starts to approach, please ensure that all students wear a **decent winter coat**. A hoodie is not a coat replacement nor is it permitted. Whilst the vast majority of girls wear their uniform well, we are keen to ensure that our policy is applied consistently and particularly with regard to (no) jewellery except a religious symbol/chain and one stud earring in each lower ear for students in Years 7-11. Thank you for your support with this.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend,

Mr M J Scott



Congratulations to our Year 7s who have made a fabulous start to the new school year. It has been lovely to see them settling in so quickly and so happily. Rain didn't dampen their spirits when the new lunchtime play equipment was relocated to the Hall for some giant jenga, Four in a Row and impromptu dance!

Ms Capaldi, Head of Year

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**



I ran a Clubs and Societies Fayre in the Hall on Wednesday of this week. The participation of the younger years was astounding and it was amazing to see the array of opportunities we offer, displayed in one location. We had everything from gymnastic displays and handball activities to gardening club reps and Fujii sensei from Japanese club. Hopefully this has been helpful in increasing awareness and thus, involvement in the clubs that the school provides.

Ruby Furniss, Deputy Head Girl



**CLUBS
AND
ACTIVITIES**

Young Person's Grant Scheme Success



Massive congratulations to **Keira Hughes** and **Megan Lo** (Year 10, pictured left) who have been awarded a Telford & Wrekin Sports Grant after being nominated for excellence in sport by their coaches.

Both girls will be using the money to help fund their training and competition entries. Their families (and the school!) are very proud of the girls who also give a lot of time to helping the PE department to run sports clubs.

X-Country runners sprinting ahead!

Wednesday night saw a fabulous start to our cross-country competitions. All our cross country runners put in a strong performance at the first race at The Telford Park School...What a start to the season- Well done!

Mrs Goodall



DSCHUNGELCAMP!



Was ist das?



Mmmm...lecker!

Year 9 German students went into the 'Dschungel' this week and braved creepy crawly food challenges! Herr Huber, our visiting language assistant also got a 'taste' of language learning at NGHS.



Congratulations!

Congratulations

Hannah Harrison (Year 8) has raised £120 by creating a pop-up Thai restaurant at her home to support the children's orphanage and elephant sanctuary in the Khao Lak region of Thailand, which had been devastated by the 2004 Tsunami. She recently visited this region with her family and together with her friend Anna, they shopped, prepped, cooked and served Thai food to 24 people! A tremendous achievement.



Congratulations!

Lots of our students are achieving great things this week...Why not come and tell Mr Scott more about your wider interests?

Congratulations

Victoria Robley on her recent selection to compete for Wasps at the 2018 School Games at Loughborough University. See Victoria in action below!



Congratulations

Becky Tichford, Amy Hill and Chloe Partridge on their selection to the England Handball West Midlands Regional Academy. Congratulations from the whole of the Shropshire Handball Club!



Congratulations

Caitlin Smith-Murphy (Year 11) on achieving her Bronze Lambda medal over the summer.

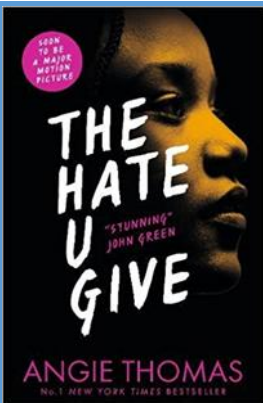


Book Reviews

Over the summer holidays, students were given a reading list that was curated by the English Department and we also ran a book review competition. It was great to receive reviews from students, parents and members of staff – a testament to the fact that reading is part of the fabric of our school community. Year 7 students were given a book recommendation postcard from a current Year 8 student on the Year 6 induction day in the summer term and we are pleased that so many students within school swap book recommendations with each other on a regular basis. In addition to this, the Scholastic Book Fair was also very popular and the proceeds will help to boost the stock of books in the school library. Student with a passion for reading and writing are welcome to attend the NGHS Literary Society at 1pm on Wednesdays in Room 203.

NGHS students spend one morning form period each week completing independent wider reading of fiction or non-fiction, but we would encourage all students to read every day. Even just 20 minutes before bed can have a positive impact on literacy, cultural knowledge and general knowledge. The Reading Agency launched a scheme this year to promote the positive impact reading can have on our mental health. As well as advising people to read fiction to relax, they have also produced an excellent leaflet called 'Reading Well' with reading resources related to health and wellbeing and most public libraries now have a section dedicated to this scheme. The leaflet can be downloaded [here](#). We hope you enjoy reading some of the submitted reviews below and prizes will be awarded shortly!

Mr Postle



I was really hooked to this book, because it wakes us up to the inequality that people face because of their skin colour. It is a brilliant book that is really worth reading. I can guarantee that you won't regret it. It would be impossible to categorise because it has the perfect mix of tragedy and hope, danger and sadness and is a brilliant book for anyone in secondary school and above.

Georgia E. (Year 8)

To be honest, I think that Adam Baron's imagination is amazing. He wrote a great book to just sit down and read for fun.

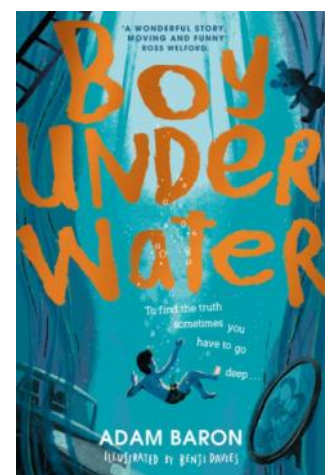
This plucky character Cymbeline who has no dad, can not swim and has a mum who has gone psycho tries to solve the mystery with his fellow friends about his dad. Many clues are scattered along the journey including the biggest clue of all, the painting of Mr Fluffy. Strong bonds are formed with his enemy, which leads to hilarious jokes and fun in this novel.

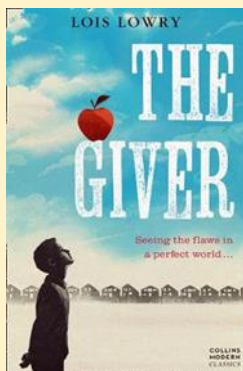
What is so amazing about it, you ask? Adam includes a range of emotions and imagery to scenes that are needed, to get the right atmosphere in the room, like when the most

embarrassing thing happens to poor Cymbeline. He also includes sudden information that gives you the urge to keep reading to find out why it has happened-this includes a lot of drama and tension. But in the end everything becomes clear, so all the questions you ask get answered.

With my trustworthy opinion, I would recommend Adam Baron to slow everything down slightly, so he could build up the meaning to make the story more smoother and less aggressive. There are also some scenarios in the novel that are not that believable, which confuses me. However, it is fiction, so what can you do about it?

Believe me or not, when you get into the book it will truly engross you. You will never put it down. I will definitely recommend this book to all those adventure seeking bookworms. If you are a person who likes a more realistic story then this one may not be the book for you. **Amy Wu, Year 8**





If you are a fan of The Hunger Games this is the book for you. Written by Lois Lowry, The Giver is a dystopian speculative fiction novel; however the community Jonas (an 11 year old boy) lives in is

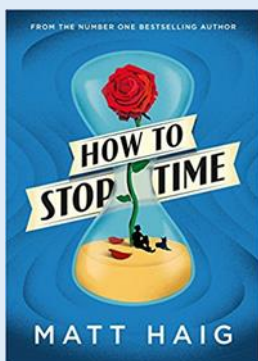
unlike any other I have ever come across - in reality or books. On first impression, the community is a utopia; its citizens equal, a town with no poverty, racism, prejudice or discrimination - a dream world. The people that live there have no memory of war, pain or suffering with everything easily available to them inside the bubble of the town. From the first sentence, there is a sense that all is not as it seems in this perfect world, from the fear when something unplanned happened, to the complete faith and trust in the elders and the speaker and the mysterious 'release' that has caused

many rumours amongst children, but is never spoken about by adults. I was gripped from the start. As the reader, we follow Jonas meeting his 'family unit' and friends as he prepares for the monumental ceremony of twelve (the last birthday that is celebrated) and the start of adulthood. All of the eleven year - olds receive the jobs they will become apprenticed in and do for the rest of their lives. The elders are trusted to make the decision as to who does which job and once selected, you cannot change jobs. Jonas is selected to be the next receiver of memory, the first after a failure ten years ago - which led to the death of a twelve year - old girl ,who had been selected like Jonas. This is an important job for which Jonas was selected, having being seen to have integrity, courage, intelligence, wisdom and a rare quality that can only be described as the capacity to see beyond. Jonas receives his new job, along with a new set of rules that break every rule he has had to follow all his life.

Jonas begins his work with a mysterious character who is part of the council of elders but resents them for reasons unknown. Through Jonas' work you learn, with him, about the past before 'sameness' that robs the world of colour, seasons and individuality for the sake of human ease. Jonas begins to learn the dark secrets that haunt the community, endangering a baby that has become part of Jonas' family - threatening it with release. Jonas disagrees with the community he now sees through new eyes. To make a change he must venture out of the only home he knows.

I loved this book and have read it many times but it never ceases to grip me from beginning to end. I think the meaning of this book is this: many people are terrified of change and what it may bring and will do anything to stay in control, however it is better to use the lessons you have learnt throughout life and your free will to create change for the better.

By Beth W. (Y9 S3)



Matt Haig is a master of emotion and cleverly contemplates how longevity would affect someone's personality in 'How to Stop Time'. The main character,

Tom Hazard, has lived through 4 centuries but appears as if he is in his early forties. He 'suffers' from a condition that means he does not age, so as people around him grow old and pass away he outlives them. Born in March 1581 this book follows his life, darting backwards and forwards through time, but all the while focussing on his interaction with other people. To ensure he is not recognised and his secret exposed, once he outgrows (or outlives) his current situation a 'friend', Hendrich, helps him to move on and creates a new life for him somewhere else. Tom falls foul of medieval witchcraft practices, lives through the plague, meets William Shakespeare and plays piano in a Paris jazz bar before ending up as a history teacher back in the area of London he grew up in. The problem he finds with moving on is that each time he moves he has to leave behind someone or a

situation that he may not want to and specifically falling in love is not an easy thing to cope with. However, moving, Hendrich tells him, is the only way to stay alive and not be turned into a medical pin cushion. He learns that he is not the only one with the condition and is sent by Hendrich to find them. As he travels he attempts to find his daughter, who also inherited the same gene but who he had to leave behind earlier in his life. His journey takes him to a great number of places and he gets more and more desperate to find his daughter. He believes Hendrich is trying to help him, however this turns out not to be the case and Hendrich's betrayal is the straw that breaks the camel's back and encourages him to be honest about his condition and finally feel free to fall in love again.

I enjoyed reading this book, not least because it put colour into historical events that I'd never really thought about before, but also because as the story continued I got caught up in Tom's dilemma and empathised with some of the hard decisions he had to make during his life.

H. Jones (Parent of a Y11 student and PTA member)

Two views on one book!

I fell in love with this book from the offset and I was gripped all the way through. What I really liked most about this book, was the historical and emotional journey you entered alongside the main character, Tom Hazard, an almost 400 year old man. A man who has lived several lives and one who still hasn't figured out all the answers. This book highlights beautifully the transient nature of the lives we lead and makes you think about the impact you can have on someone else's life, no matter how short the time we have with these people.

Mrs Wallace (Maths Department)



Forthcoming Dates...



EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Telford & Wrekin have launched a new emotional health & wellbeing service (Bee U). It includes signposting to self help resources and access to Kooth online counselling. Children & Young People have been involved in its design. Please visit: <https://beeu.org.uk>

BUSES ON MONDAY

Last week we published arrangements for Adams buses on Monday. In addition, we have been advised that the T&W buses to Tibberton, Sambrook, Lilleshall and Muxton will be outside NGHS at 12.00 for a 12.05pm departure.

BATTLEFIELDS TRIP

Just a reminder that we leave at 7am on Friday 21 September – remember your passports! All EHICs should now be handed in to Mrs Payne. Any changes to medical or dietary requirements should already have been passed on to Miss Davies – please do so **urgently** if you haven't yet!

We are due to return by 9pm approximately on Monday 24 September. Please show some consideration to our neighbours when dropping off and collecting students to/from the trip. Thank you!

CROSS COUNTRY VENUE CHANGE!

The Cross Country race on Wednesday 10 October has moved from Adams Grammar School to Chetwynd Deer Park (TF10 8EU) between 3.45pm-5.30pm.

SAVE THE DATE - MOVIE NIGHT!

The PTA are planning a movie night for Year 7 and Year 8 students on Tuesday 2 October. These are popular events and last from 4pm-6pm. The movie, popcorn and drink for £2...what a bargain! Look out for the posters next week.

NO NUTS!!!

We have a number of students in school with severe nut allergies. Any exposure to nuts or food items containing nuts (for example pesto, humus or almond croissants etc.) may cause a life threatening allergic reaction that requires emergency medical treatment.



To reduce the chance of this occurring, **we are asking that you do not send any nuts or products containing nuts to school with your child as part of a packed lunch or home baked item.** Your support for this arrangement is much appreciated.

Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 17 Sep	Entrance Test (see information on page 1) Information Evening, 7pm	Y6 Y12
Thu 20 Sep	Information Evening, 7pm	Y10
Fri 21 Sep	Battlefields Trip Departs until Monday	Y9-10
Mon 24 Sep	Assessment Week in Lessons	Y13
Thu 27 Sep	Information Evening, 7pm House Bake Off Competition	Y7 All
Fri 28 Sep	Macmillan Coffee Morning Liverpool Residential Trip DofE Silver (Weekend)	All Y12 Y10+11
Mon 1 Oct	Information Evening, 7pm	Y8
Tue 2 Oct	PTA Movie Night, 4pm	Y7 + 8
Wed 3 Oct	Additional Open Morning 9.30-12pm	Y6
Thu 4 Oct	Jodrell Bank Physics Trip National Poetry Day	Y13 All
Fri 5 Oct	Induction Day for new Y7s at Edgmond Hall DofE Silver Expedition	Y7 Y10-11
Thu 11 Oct	Parents Evening	Y13

Youth Café

St John's Church, Muxton

Every Friday 4-6pm

(During term time - School Yrs 7-9)

Happy Birthday

sub:Zero!

To members and leaders old and new. We would like to invite you to join us in celebrating **sub:Zero's 10th anniversary** on **Friday 14th September at 4pm.**

Do you need to contact School?

Please email schooloffice@nghs.org.uk or call 01952 797550.

If it is an emergency at a weekend or in the holidays, please email urgent@nghs.org.uk