



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 3 - Issue 1 - Friday 13 September 2019

Head's Lines



Welcome to my first Newport News of this academic year. I trust that all parents received my welcome letter last week detailing some of our student successes over the summer as well as the names of our new staff and the refurbishments we have made over the summer break. The summer is behind us and we are getting down to what we do best; hard work and supporting others. Our silver Duke of Edinburgh students have already been out in force on an expedition weekend and our Year 12s are looking forward to their forthcoming trip to Liverpool for their social weekend. Having been a part of that last year, I know how much they will gain culturally and socially during this time. Our Heads of Year have also been busy penning a letter to parents of girls in their year group(s) and you should have received these now too. The letters include important reminders about uniform and jewellery/nails in particular. Your support is always appreciated in such matters.

Last Friday saw our Whole School Centenary Photograph - our students were impeccable in their uniform and behaviour. Even when faced with mounting the metal seating frame in windy conditions, they were very sensible and we look forward to sharing the proof and commissioning orders in due course.

Yesterday I had the opportunity to become a geographer for the day and joined the Year 11 day trip to Canary Wharf & The Olympic Park, London. I enjoyed the trip immensely, in spite of the 4am start from my house to get to school in time, and the students were a real credit to the school and their families. A lot of useful data was collated (it's amazing what geographers can find in McDonalds too!) and the data will be used in their GCSE examination. Taking time off work for an hour too the students and staff all tried the orbital slide at the

Olympic park - not for the feint hearted - so well done to the girls who showed great resilience and gave it a go! Back to the geography and Mr Pimm and Mrs Gill provided so much contextual information to the students which enriched the day: I learnt a lot and I know they did too. It was an excellent day.

One of our Year 13s has won an award from Harper Adams university. Eleanor Hansen joined the Gold Crest Award Scheme (where students in the sixth form spend their summer break working alongside researchers at the university in a range of research fields). Eleanor's work ethic, final presentation on her findings and enthusiasm made her the final recipient of the Mark Robinson award for the 'Spirit of CREST.' Three other Year 13s complete their projects too: Shazna, Brodie and Charisma. Another Year 13, Emily Jenkins visited 10 Downing Street over the summer to interview Prime Minister Johnson—more information can be found in this newsletter. Other students have been excelling in mountain climbing, history awards and charity hair cutting - there is such a wide range of achievements in Newport News....read on, read on!

Next week sees the start of our Welcome Evenings for parents in most year groups (Year 12 is first on Monday) and my senior colleagues and I look forward to having the opportunity to say "hello" and to communicate important information about our school, its procedures and key dates this year. Please do make every effort to attend and, if you do need to bring younger children, please ensure that they have an activity to do whilst the meeting is taking place. Finally, please do ensure you park safely with consideration to local residents. There are some important changes to parking regulations in the area and I have provided information on page two of this newsletter at the request of Telford & Wrekin authority.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

Mr M J Scott

Historical Association Winners

Readers from last year will recall that Hetavi, Saira, Romaisa and Daniah (now Year 9) won first place in a national suffrage poster competition. Their poster has now been published in the latest edition of Teaching History (Mrs Seys's favourite magazine!) and they have received individual prizes as well as a year's free membership of the HA.

The girls are pictured receiving their goodie bags with Mrs Seys. Well done girls!



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

WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH

In spite of menacing skies last Friday, the speedy work of our photograph company meant we didn't get wet and the NGHS centenary photograph will soon be available to purchase!

Thank you to everyone for their fabulous behaviour whilst waiting for the photograph.



Information from T&W about Parking Enforcement Changes

Telford & Wrekin Council can confirm it will take control of tackling illegal parking on 13 January 2020, while retaining its free car parks across the borough.

Tackling illegal on-street parking enforcement still lies with West Mercia Police although they often don't have the resources to carry it out.

Earlier this year, the Council applied to the Department for Transport (DfT) for the transfer of powers. The DfT has now confirmed the date of the switch. The first four years of enforcement will be part-funded by a contribution of up to £200,000 from the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner.

In preparation for the change in January, the Council will employ an in house team of five Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers who, in addition to parking enforcement, will have a range of powers at their disposal to deal with a variety of issues such as anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.

Councillor R Overton, Telford & Wrekin Council's Cabinet Member for Enforcement, said: "Later this year we will embark on a high profile educational drive to make people aware that we will be taking over this role from the police. Part of this will involve placing notices on cars illegally parked, warning drivers that, from 13 January we will resort to issuing fines.

"This isn't about issuing fines and making money though. That is why all our council run car parks that are free of charge will remain free.

"We will not employ an outside agency and we will not be setting ticketing targets.

"This is about tackling the issue of bad and illegal parking. During our consultation held earlier this year, the main issues raised were about bad parking around schools and on pavements. This is what we need to address, through a culture of education first and, if necessary, enforcement later. There will be plenty of warnings given before we resort to issuing any parking tickets. Should any money be made after the costs have been covered, it will be reinvested into highways and transport such as helping to improve residential car parking, or investing in sustainable transport including cycling, walking, electric vehicle charging and public transport

John Campion, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner, added: "The public rightly expect their police to focus on the biggest threats, risks and harm within our communities. This change will mean police in Telford & Wrekin can now do that."

"I know how important an issue parking is for communities though. I am very pleased to deliver these new, dedicated resources to improve local parking issues for the district."

(All Headteachers have been asked to share this information with parents. Thank you.)





Over the summer I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend a Downing Street reception with five other Girlguiding Advocates. Prime Minister Johnson made clear that he believed Girls Education to be the most important factor to solving the world's problems, which was fantastic to hear.

Our conversation was firstly about our research, so I (being interested in computing) told him that in 2009 19% of girls 7-10 liked computer science, but last year it rose to 45%. The other girls highlighted how young people had said the most important thing they wanted to happen was for environmental issues to be taken seriously by the government, and that the cabinet should be a leading force in setting standards for combatting plastics and global warming.

Mr Johnson told us that he knew the government either burnt plastic and recycling or shipped it off, and that he wanted to fix this as well as reducing plastic usage in Britain. ("When I was a nipper, we didn't have plastic"). He also said that as Mayor of London he put a lot of funding into youth organisations such as Guides, Cadets and other groups, and that he wanted this to be continued.

In his speech, he said that he considered girls education to be the "Swiss army knife" for the world's problems, and highlighted how in many countries he'd been to there was little literacy or education. He said his main point at the UN conference would be to secure girls twelve years of education. He also went on to say that if you looked at the line up of G7 and the UN conference, they are both full of white men in suits like him, showing how "men in suits hold the power" still in the world, and he believed that as Prime Minister he should make sure the others realise that women's education should be their focus.

Emily Jenkins, Year 13



Year 13 Historians spring into action: Burgage Plot Project

During the summer, four Year 13s were given the rare opportunity to work with an archaeologist and the Newport History Society, investigating the location of medieval burgage plots on Newport High Street. We met the group on the 25th August and the archaeologist explained what we would be doing (measuring the width of buildings in Newport), and so, we donned our high vis jackets and set off into the baking sun. We initially measured the buildings on the high street and were fascinated by how many period buildings there really were, as well as the history behind some of them. For example, Partridge Opticians' bay window is not original to the building and was added at a later date. After a short break for lunch, we continued measuring, with a few odd looks from members of the public as to why two teenage girls were measuring the width of B&M Bargains Store! We wrapped up later that afternoon, returned our high vis jackets and looked forward to what the next week would bring.

The next Sunday, we returned to the high street to complete the work. It was so interesting to measure the buildings we pass every day on our way to school but have never noticed before. I was also pleasantly surprised by the help of the locals as they saw us measuring the width of their houses. We engaged in many discussions with homeowners and this helped us massively; for example, one resident informed us that a terrace we were measuring used to be divided into six homes, and we also learned a little about Castle House School's history.

Overall, the experience was very unique, and one that we will take with us to discuss as we progress to higher education. We hope to follow up the work by helping the Newport History Society collate the data and our findings from these interesting days spent in the local town.



ACCESS TO SCHOOL SITE

We allow pupils onto the school site from 7.45am (no earlier please). If students arrive at 7.45am, they should be in the Centenary Hall until 8.15am where they can read or complete school work. After school, students may stay to complete work. The

ATRIUM is the location they should be in (nowhere else unless attending a club) and they must have left the school site by 5.30pm prompt. Both areas are remotely supervised (i.e. staff are around but not in direct supervision). Parents who are dropping early or collecting late should be aware of this.

Students must be engaged in school work if they are staying late and mobile phone usage should be kept to a minimum, please.

With thanks, Mr Scott (Headteacher)

KILIMANJARO



Year 11 & Family Reach the Heights of Kilimanjaro!

The School offers huge congratulations to Ameeshi (Year 11) and her family, who together spent the summer reaching the top of Mount Kilimanjaro despite huge odds and hardships. They were all novice climbers and set themselves the challenge with a few months of preparation. In spite of mountain sickness, fever and ridiculous freezing temperatures, not to mention a lack of sleep and physical and mental exhaustion, the family climbed 5895m and reached the summit after an exhausting 10-12 hours of steep climbing in the dark.

This is truly amazing and we were delighted to receive pictures on our return to school in September! Well done to all the family.



Little Princess Trust Hair Cut

One of our Year 9 students, Natasha kindly donated her hair during the summer holiday to the Little Princess Trust, which provides real hair wigs, free of charge to children and young adults who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and illness. This lovely gesture attracted donations from friends and family - Natasha is almost at her goal, so if you wish, [please use this link](#) to help her reach £250.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Do you have a story about a community or charity project you have been involved in? Mr Scott is always thrilled to learn of students' successes both in and outside of school. Please feel free to contact schooloffice@nghs.org.uk and we will help celebrate this type of news among our school community.



Who to contact?

Please remember to use the **schooloffice@nghs.org.uk** to contact school in the first instance.

Routine Query?	Will be answered by our Reception team or your daughter's form tutor
Pastoral matter?	Form tutor or Head of Year (Ms Capaldi, Miss Tomkinson, Miss Clarke, Mrs Griffin)
Wellbeing issue?	Mrs Danby (Y7-11) or Mrs Martin (Sixth Form) or Mrs Davenport (medical)
SEND issue?	Mrs Benoit (our Special Needs & Disabilities Coordinator, SENDCO)
Subject issue?	Class teacher in first instance or Head of Faculty (via schooloffice@nghs.org.uk)
More serious issue?	The Senior Leadership Team (Mr Scott, Rev. Walters, Miss Clarke, Miss Davies) Safeguarding Team: Miss Clarke, Mr Scott, Mrs Davenport, Mrs Danby
Very urgent issue?	Email urgent@nghs.org.uk (outside of school hours) in case of emergency



Please see this term's Clubs & Activities booklet which has been produced for this week. [A copy can be found here.](#)

If students are looking for a quiet space, Room 12 is available for quiet reading. Students are expected to get some fresh air from 1.15-1.35pm on fine days (a bell will sound at 1.15pm).

Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 16th	EARLY FINISH at 12.00pm Entrance Test Parents Information Evening, 7pm	All Y6 Y12
Tue 17th	Assembly—NCS	Y12
Wed 18th	Trip to Shrewsbury 7.30pm	Y13
Thu 19th	Netball Trip Info Evening 6pm Parents Information Evening, 7pm	Y11-13 Y9
Fri 20th	Silver DofE Trip	Y11
Mon 23rd	ASSESSMENT WEEK	Y13
Tue 24th	Japanese Cultural Day at NGHS	Y5
Thu 26th	House Bake off competition	ALL
Fri 27th	Macmillan Coffee Morning—Break Liverpool residential departs 12.35	All Y12

REMINDER THAT SCHOOL FINISHES AT 12pm ON MONDAY for the Entrance Test. Food will be available at breaktime but not at 12pm.