



# NEWPORT NEWS

## *A weekly update from NGHS*

Volume 3 - Issue 14 - Friday 10 January 2020



**A** very Happy New Year to all our parents and families. I trust that you all enjoyed a break during the holiday period and that those who celebrated Christmas, Hanukkah or indeed any other festival had an enjoyable and peaceful time. It was a pleasure to welcome our students back on Monday and whilst it's been a quiet week in terms of special activities in school, it's been good to see students quickly get back into the rhythm of school life. Last night saw our Year 11 Parents Evening; an important time for the students in this year group now that the mock examinations are over and we look forward to supporting them in the coming weeks in making their A-level choices. Equally, our Year 8s will be reaching important decisions this half term in relation to their GCSE choices and more information will come to parents and students on Monday 20 January.

The Carol Services last term are a fairly distant memory now, but I would like to thank the 60 or so students who participated and made both the evening services and the last day services very enjoyable. Thank you also to all the parents who took time to email in positive comments during last term on a range of matters; this is always appreciated by staff. At the end of term, I received a lovely email from a careers consultant who worked with Year 10. She commented that the ideas they had shared were of real benefit to her company's understanding of how to attract a workforce in the future and she had really enjoyed her time at NGHS.

With the new year come some new opportunities. The first came home yesterday in a letter. Mr Carey joined the Chemistry department last September after over twenty years leading the department at Wolverhampton Grammar School. In his interview, he made a generous offer to re-start a school ski trip. He has run a trip to Austria for many years and has used his contacts to source a wonderful opportunity for skiers (advanced and novice) in 2021. As with all foreign trips, I appreciate the demands that costs can put on families and that not all families are in a position to apply for a place on a foreign trip such as this. However, I am always happy to talk to parents about ways to spread costs and I can assure you that we work hard to bring the costs down to the best value possible. We also run other more inexpensive visits locally, nationally and

internationally to balance the more expensive opportunities that are still in demand.

This week has seen relatively warm temperatures for January. This may change over the next few weeks. Students and parents are reminded of the arrangements for school closure, which can be found [HERE](#) on our website. The website is definitely the best source of information and we will always aim to publish any school closures around 7-7.15am on the day in question. This area of the country can have heavy snowfall and therefore it is important to pay close attention to the website. In the event of a school closure during the day, which is always a last resort, it is important that students all know the best option to get to a place of safety. We will never let students leave school without parental consent, so please make sure your daughter knows how she can get hold of you to agree a method of getting home in the event of poor weather setting in.

On that point, please also make sure you keep us updated with up-to-date contact numbers. The pastoral team and I have called three parents this week at work to find they no longer work at that particular place. We have around 600 girls on site and must be able to contact you in the event of medical emergency. The SIMS Parent app is the best place to make any changes or please speak to our helpful Data Manager, Mrs Jones, if you are unable to do these changes online. Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

Finally, I have included this term's extra-curricular activities programme as an attachment as well as a letter from the local Police concerning parking around schools. This has been distributed to all schools locally. Parents and sixth form drivers need to be aware of the changes to enforcement that come in to place shortly (this information was also advised back in the autumn term). I am told that the council are planning to be very proactive in monitoring their new powers. Whilst I appreciate the weather is not always pleasant in the morning, dropping students in town or collecting them there in the afternoon is an option to consider and sixth formers must park with consideration and within the law/highway code. The school remains supportive, but impartial and passes this information on at the request of the Police.

With best wishes for the weekend.

**Mr M J Scott**

**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](mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk)

# Pupil Attitudes to Self and School



Last term the majority of students completed a national online questionnaire concerning their approach and 'attitude' to school and themselves. The data has been returned to the school and has provided a helpful insight into the views of our student body on a range of topics from 'liking tests' to 'being bored at school' to 'needing help' to 'trying their best in lessons'. We will use the findings, a summary of which are shared below to feed into our development plan as we always strive to meet the needs and challenges that our pupils face. Thank you to them for their honest feedback.

Areas of Strength NGHS (high levels of agreement)	Areas for Development NGHS (lower levels of agreement)
This school is a friendly place I think problem solving is fun I can read well I behave well in class I like using my brain I am happy when I am in school (very high % in Years 7-9) I like having problems to solve I feel safe when I am in school I like my teachers	When given new work to do, I don't feel confident I can do it I worry about getting my work right Specific to certain Year Groups: The work we do in lessons is sometimes too easy (Year 7) I feel lonely at times in school (Year 10)

## HOUSE DANCE



Last term saw our Year 7 to Year 10 students engage in our annual House Dance competition in PE lessons. As usual, the standard of participation and teamwork was pleasing to see with most groups achieving good scores. The final placings are shown right with Roddam victorious owing to points total scoring. It pays to be a regular second too!!

<b>Y7</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Seacole	21
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Roddam	16
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Austen	8
<b>Y8</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Seacole	20
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Roddam	18
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Austen	7
<b>Y9</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Austen	18.5
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Roddam	17
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Seacole	9.5
<b>Y10</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Roddam	23
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Austen	14
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Seacole	8



## Who to contact?

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

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



### News Update from SustainNGHS

Since September we have been working towards our bronze Eco-schools award and we have recently been able to apply for it. Next, we hope to start working for our silver before achieving our green flag award to become an Eco-school.

We are also looking into Plastic Free Schools, which aims to reduce our school's plastic use and bringing awareness of sustainability issues to the government and companies.

We hope you've had a sustainable Christmas and continue this in the new year.

Liv & Katie (Y10 SustainNGHS Committee)

### Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 13th	Assessment Week in lessons	Y12
Tue 14th	Chemistry Lecture, Birmingham	Y12-13
Thu 16th	RAF Teambuilding Day Onatti Theatre Production at Burton Borough School (pm) PTA meeting, 7pm	Y8 Y7 Parents
Mon 20th	Poetry Live, Birmingham (all day) Art: Life Model painting session	Y11 Y12-13
Mon 27th	Mock Examination Week	Y13
Tue 28th	Chemistry Lecture, Birmingham	Y12-13
Mo 3 Feb	Governors Meetings, 6pm/7pm	Govs
Wed 5th	GCSE Science Live, Birmingham	Y10+11
Fri 7th	Non Uniform Day (House Charity)	All
Fri 14th	INSET DAY - school closed	All

**Don't forget to drop off any unwanted books, CDs, DVDs etc. to Reception for our Gardening Club Second Hand Fundraiser on 24th January. Thank you.**