



# NEWPORT NEWS

## A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 3 - Issue 17 - Friday 31 January 2020



Last weekend demonstrated the commitment of NGHS students to excel and achieve beyond the school day. I was delighted to witness the U19 netball team (including players also in Years 10 and 11) compete in six matches against the region's top teams; many of which were from independent boarding schools with 2-3 hours of nightly training. Five of the six matches resulted in narrow defeats (often by one goal), but the team really rallied for a final push and, as the rain teamed down, the final match against Wolverhampton Girls High was a triumph with NGHS winning 11:4! You can read more on page 4 of this week's newsletter. On the music scene, a number of girls competed in the local Rotary Music Competition which is organised annually and we are keen that this is a catalyst to improving participation in school ensembles over the next few weeks.

On Monday morning, I attended a Holocaust Memorial Service with our Year 12 History ambassadors, Tanvi and Edith. Attended by a number of local dignitaries, we heard moving accounts from a survivor of the Rwandan Genocide of 1994 and from Dr Eve Clevenger, a retired GP who heads the Telford Interfaith Group. Her family were survivors of the Holocaust and the whole audience was moved by the atrocities described and a clear message of hope for a united future with the need for education was shared by those present. NGHS is proud to be a Beacon School for Holocaust Education with University College London and we do our best to ensure all students are educated about former and recent atrocities through many subject areas. We had assembled a display of our work for an exhibition, too.

Next Friday (7th) will be a non-uniform day to raise funds for the House Charities. As you know, Austen are supporting the Scoliosis Association, Roddam are favouring local charity Team Cleo and Seacole have chosen the RNLI. The minimum donation is £1. We do seek payment from all students **on the day** and the last few non-uniform days have necessitated an ever-increasing amount of chasing. Students must bring their donation and give it to their tutor on the day itself. If they don't make this payment, the donation will increase to £2 and will be payable at the Finance Office on the Monday. Students may of course wear uniform as normal if they prefer, but we hope that they will support their chosen charities.



U19 NGHS Netball Regional Finalists

This week we have been concerned to learn of a number of Year 8 students accessing inappropriate content on Netflix (rated 18 in some cases) and discussing it in WhatsApp chat groups. They can only do this if they have lied about their age or are using adults' accounts. The legal age to use WhatsApp was also changed in May 2018 to 16 years+. We are obliged to pass on details of students using apps underage. Please therefore discuss this matter with your daughters (if they are below Y10) and take action to review and block inappropriate and disallowed content.

This week's spotlight focus is on our Lower School Head Girl Team who ran a successful options guidance event this week for Year 8-9 girls. Thank you to them.

May I please also issue a reminder that no student should be on site before 7.45am nor later than 5.30pm unless they are involved in an organised school activity. We have had some late stayers recently!

Finally, I am pleased to attach details of Telford & Wrekin's Half Term Activity Brochure. If you're looking for a family activity to fill a day or two, please enjoy a read through the local options that are available.

With best wishes for the weekend.

Mr M J Scott

Newport Girls' High School

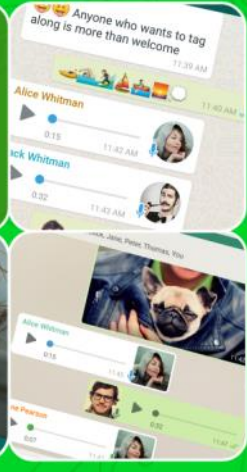
Wellington Road  
Newport, TF10 7HL  
Tel: 01952 797550

Headteacher: M J Scott BA(Hons) Exon PGCE NPQH

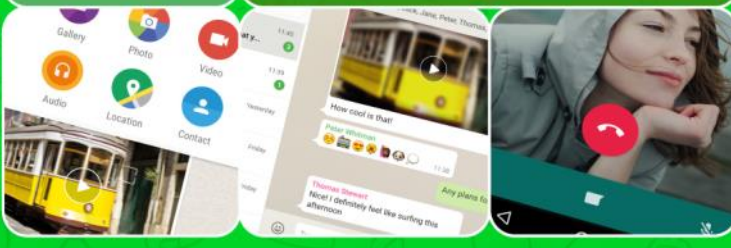
To contact the School about a general enquiry, please use [schooloffice@nghs.org.uk](mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk)



WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an Internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.



AGE RESTRICTION  
**16+**



What parents need to know about



# WhatsApp



**AGE LIMIT CHANGE**  
Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

**SCAM MESSAGES**  
Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters pretending to offer prizes to 'lucky people', encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are duped into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

**FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES**  
WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

**THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING**  
Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

**CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS**  
To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with somebody they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

**LIVE LOCATION SHARING**  
WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.



National Online Safety

## Top Tips for Parents



**CREATE A SAFE PROFILE**  
Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

**EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE**  
If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list - they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.

**REPORT SCAM MESSAGES**  
Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam'.

**LEAVE A GROUP**  
If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once, if they leave again, they cannot be added again.

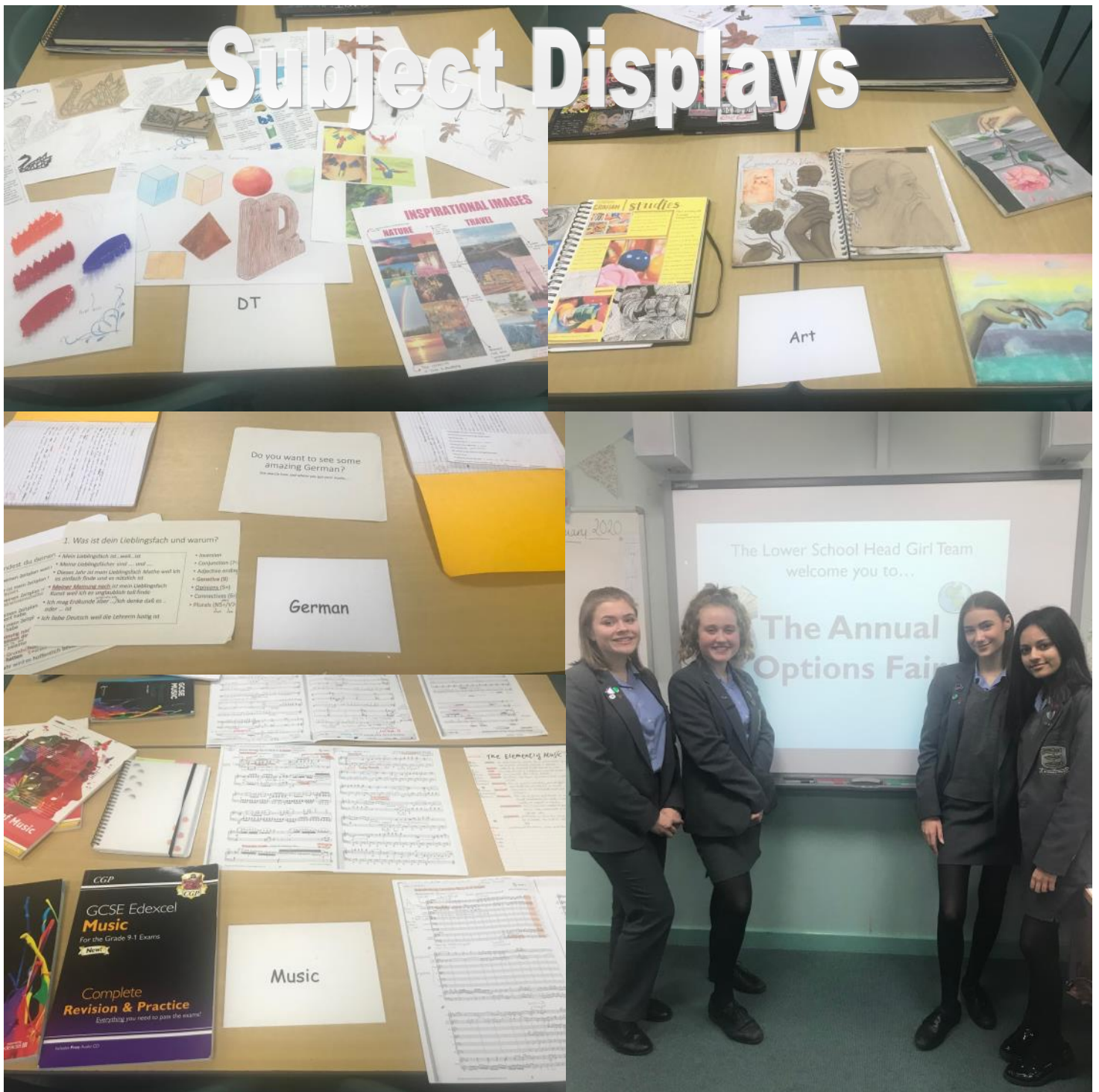
**USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY**  
If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

**DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES**  
If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

**SET TIME LIMITS**  
A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.



SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/comments/free/2018/apr/26/whatsapp-plans-to-ban-under-16s-the-mystery-is-how>, <https://whatsappbrand.com/>, <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/whatsapp-update-latest-india-hoaxes-forward-messages-app-download-ah456011.html>



On Thursday 30 January, we, the Lower School Head Girl Team, hosted the annual Options Fair. Making GCSE option choices can be a daunting thought, and that is why we were keen to highlight the different aspects of each course as well as to show the younger years what each course entails.

Along with other people in the year, we showcased folders and coursework from each option subject for the Year 8s to see, as well as giving them the opportunity to speak with current GCSE students. The atmosphere was lively and many pupils attended.

Here are some comments made by Year 8 students who attended the fair:

1. The fair has helped me to understand the different expectations at GCSE, such as using folders. (Hannah)
2. It has been really informative and I have enjoyed looking at the different standard of work. (Maya)
3. It showed me the work that I will be doing at GCSE level and I was impressed! (Sahana)
4. I enjoyed looking at how the work was presented, especially the art, because it showed a lot of skill! (Jasmine)

We hope this event has provided an insight into each option subject and has assisted the decisions the Year 8s will make in the coming weeks. We have thoroughly enjoyed hosting the fair as we were also able to advise and support the students, and it was an enjoyable experience for us to get to know the younger years. A special thank you must go to all who attended, it was a great success!

**The Lower School Head Girl Team**

This week we have been remembering the victims of genocide throughout the world with special assemblies and a display at Monday's Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations in Telford. January 27 marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau 75 years ago this year and it is the Nazi regime which we most associate with genocide. Their industrialised murder of millions of Jewish men, women and children and their systematic persecution of hundreds of thousands of minority groups must never be forgotten. But this year also marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rwandan genocide, when, during a hundred days in 1994, a million people were killed, mostly by hand, mostly by their neighbours. It was shocking and sobering to hear accounts of both of these from Dr Eve Clevenger, a descendent of a holocaust survivor, and



## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 27/1

Rehma Muguyeneza from the Ishami Foundation for Rwandan genocide survivors.

Holocaust Memorial Day reminds us that genocide has happened many times in many places. The persecution of the Rohingya Muslim minority in Myanmar is ongoing. The theme for this year is 'stand together' and we have a collective responsibility to do just that, not simply to bear witness to the horrors of the past, but to try to make sure they don't happen again. Genocide doesn't start with killing, it begins quietly with discrimination and polarisation. As we stood in silence at the Telford event that was the most sobering thought of all.

**E Charlesworth** (History Subject Ambassador)

# Under 19 Netball Match Report

On Sunday 26 January, nine students from year 10, 11 and 12 headed to Bromsgrove school for the U19 regional netball competition which we qualified for by coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the county school's competition. It was an early start from school at 7am and took an hour to get to Bromsgrove on the school minibus. Once registered, we had some warm-up time on the courts which was a great start to the morning. We then had a long wait till our first match which was at 10:20 which was against Hereford 6<sup>th</sup> form. This was a good match to start with and the team fought well however we unfortunately lost 6-7. Next, we played Bishop Vesey, and again this was a very tight match, and unfortunately, we lost by one goal again with the final score being 8-9. After this, we played Worcester this was our toughest match of the day with the final score being 13-3. However, the team played well and kept calm throughout the match. Our fourth match of the day was against Rugby school, the first half was very close with the half time score being 2-1 to Rugby however, in the second half had a good rhythm and the final score was 6-1. The fifth match of the day was against St Josephs the team's spirit was still on form and we went in positive to this match. Again, it was a close match, but the final score was unfortunately 8-6 to St Josephs. Finally, we had the last match of the day against Wolverhampton Girls' high, the rain had been light but persistent all day, but we kept spirits high for a final match! As the match started, so did the heaviest rain we had seen all day and the teams both played well in the conditions and the half time score was 3-3. With it all to play for in the final 7 minutes of netball that day, the second half started. It



was a tough match, but we got into a great rhythm as a team and the match ended on a 11-4 win for us! It was a lovely way to end the day and showed our teams persistence throughout the matches and weather conditions.

To finish off the day the girls travelling back on the minibus got to stop off at McDonald's and were treated by Mr Scott, which were all very grateful for and was definitely one of the highlights of the day along with our winning match! We would finally all like to thank Miss Clarke and Mr Scott for giving up their Sunday to accompany us to the tournament and we also wish Mrs Goodall a speedy recovery and thank her for all her organisation prior to the tournament! **H Davis (Y12)**

# Oxbridge Talk for Year 11 and Year 12

During Monday lunchtime, year 11 and year 12 had the opportunity to listen to a talk given by Gaia Lambert from St John's College Cambridge. She informed us about university life and provided a more in-depth look into the top universities like Oxford and Cambridge. We learned what the competitive application process is like as well as how the college system works. She re-iterated the ideas that to be successful at these world class universities you need to stand out, be hard working and driven.



## Here are some of the top tips we learned:

- The application process is competitive- you need to be passionate about your subject and show off the skills you have. Even when you are commenting on your extra -curricular activities you need to relate your skills back to your degree choice or college choice.
- Just apply - Even if you think the chances of you getting into a top university are slim apply anyways, you have a chance of getting in if you apply, you have a 0% chance getting in if you don't. You may as well take a risk because you may get an unexpected outcome.
- Do something you enjoy- If you're going to do a degree in a subject, make sure you enjoy it. This will take lots of research, and the options available are bountiful. You will be spending three years (or more) studying it as well as a lot of independent study, so enjoying your degree of choice is very important. Don't feel pressured to do something you feel you "should" do, always do something you want to do.

Gaia was really inspiring to listen to, especially as she was once a girl in a rural grammar school too.

**A Hill, Year 11**



Awarded to:	Awarded by:
A Agarwal (R1)	Mrs K Wallace
E Archer (S5)	Mrs L Roberts
O Armstrong (A5)	Mrs A Benoit
A Ash (A1)	Ms J Capaldi
M Bipin (A5)	Mrs K Wallace
R Briggs (S2)	Mrs R Narasimhan
E Charlesworth (A7)	Mrs A Seys
G Clarke (A1)	Mrs A Seys
K Cox (S6)	Mr D Postle
S Cox (S5)	Mrs L Roberts
H Davis (R7)	Mr M J Scott
L Edwards (S6)	Mrs A Seys
C Hamilton (R7)	Miss A Rosbach
T Hardiman (A3)	Mrs L Payne
A Hekant (R2)	Mrs A Seys
A Hill (R5)	Mrs Gill/Mrs Griffin
S Hose (A3)	Mrs A Chapman

Congratulations to this fortnight's Thank You Friday nominees

Awarded to:	Awarded by:
L Hyde (S7)	Mrs K Griffin
E Jackson (S3)	Mr A Mason
A Jenkins (S2)	Mrs A Seys
E Johnson (A6)	Mr D Postle
L Jones (S5)	Mrs A Chapman
L Lo (R4)	Mrs H Furnival
H-A Manu (A1)	Miss A Rosbach
E Moffat (S6)	Mrs A Seys
S Nawaid (A7)	Mr D Postle
Q O'Howell (S2)	Miss S McCleary
I Royce (S1)	Miss A Rosbach
I Russell (R1)	Mrs J Chandler
R Tagg (A2)	Miss A Rosbach
F Tilyard (S2)	Mrs T Fujii
C Toogood (A2)	Mrs T Fujii
T Uppal (R7)	Mrs A Seys
E Wilkinson (A5)	Miss H Clarke



## 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



## SustainNGhs update

Since SustainNGHS' start, we have put in place many schemes including the purple recycling bins and teracycle to recycle used plastic stationary and these schemes have been very well received by students resulting in a high level of our waste being reduced. Remember to keep on recycling your bottles, cutlery and other plastic items from the canteen as well as placing you used stationary in the Teracycle boxes around school.

We have recently been encouraging more members of the school to become actively involved within the group and in improving our school's sustainability.

We regularly meet on Tuesdays at 1pm in room 103 and would love to see new faces and ideas within the group. We are interested to hear suggestions and ideas from both parents and students, so please don't hesitate to get in touch!

If parents would like to get in touch, please email Mrs Gill at [k.gill@nghs.org.uk](mailto:k.gill@nghs.org.uk) with any ideas.

**SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK:**  
Try to eat a vegetarian meal at least once this week.

## Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mo 3 Feb	SEND Students Review Week Governors Meetings, 6pm/7pm	Students Govs
Wed 5th	GCSE Science Live, Birmingham Health & Safety Audit (all day)	Y10+11 Staff
Thu 6th	RAF Teambuilding Event	Y8
Fri 7th	Non Uniform Day (House Charity)	All
Mon 10th	Art Life Model in School PTA Film Night—Centenary Hall Parents Evening, 4pm-7pm	Y12-13 Y7-8 Y8
Tue 11th	Cosford Visit (Historians) Chemistry Lecture, Birmingham	Y10 Y12-13
Thu 13th	Half Term begins at 3.45pm	Students
Fri 14th	INSET DAY - school closed	All

## TERM DATES UP TO 2023

Term dates for 2021-22 and 2022-23 are on our website (for Parents section). Unlike all local academies, we are keen to keep to the suggested dates from Telford & Wrekin to fit in with primary schools. We also have scheduled the full 190 statutory school days and 5 training days.