



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 3 - Issue 19 - Friday 28 February 2020



Our thoughts this week are with a number of NGHS families who are experiencing some of the worst flooding ever seen in Ironbridge and Shrewsbury. The pictures on the news and accounts from colleagues who live in these towns are very troubling and we hope that those affected will see receding waters in the next few days. The cost of such a difficult time will be high, financially and emotionally, and we encourage families affected to liaise with our Wellbeing Team if any support is needed for their daughters on their return to school.

Elsewhere in the world, we are no doubt all monitoring the outbreak of Coronavirus. The school is receiving regular updates from Whitehall; a summary of current advice is shown opposite. The school will remain open unless directed otherwise and students should continue to attend school as normal unless they display symptoms and particularly if they have travelled to areas which have high numbers of cases. There is a lot of scaremongering on websites, social media etc. at present. If the situation changes, parents will be informed by email and/or text message. A recent message to parents in Telford about bus services during the flooding sent back a number of 'expired email' alerts; please ensure we have the right contact details by checking on the SIMS Parent App or giving our data team a call in school on 01952 797550.

We are in the midst of many sporting fixtures with some girls out 2-3 nights a week competing against other schools. Their commitment and camaraderie is outstanding and I particularly enjoyed last night's Y10 Netball matches at HLC. In assembly this morning, I spoke to students about the impending expansion of the school and showed them some of the initial drawings for our new extension which is at the rear of the school. It was lovely to see Year 9 parents last night at our Parents Evening and please remember that Year 8 Parents Evening is now next Monday (postponed from before the half term owing to wintery weather). The PTA have announced that the **Film Night** that was postponed will be on the same evening as Year 7 parents evening (Thursday 19 March). This will hopefully enable students to be 'entertained' whilst parents chat to teachers - the event is of course open to Year 8 too.

With best wishes for the weekend. **Mr M J Scott**

Coronavirus: Information to Schools

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it
with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it
by washing
your hands with
soap & water or
hand sanitiser

You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks
& sport
activities



Before
cooking
& eating



On arrival at
any childcare
or educational
setting



After using
the toilet



Before
leaving
home

For more NHS information,
please click [HERE](#)

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

Youth Speaks District Final

After winning the local heat, Lucy E., Caitlin S-M. and Edith C. competed in the district final of this prestigious debating competition on Wednesday evening. All six teams had already won one round of the competition, so the standard was incredibly high. After much deliberation, the NGHS team was awarded second place. Congratulations to all involved!

We would like to thank the local Rotary Club for providing students with this fantastic opportunity

Mr D Postle



What is History all about at NGHS?

Last year the history department was centrally involved in the Centenary celebrations, with 'remembering' events organised and involvement of the wider community of Newport and beyond in the celebration day in June 2019. A hands-on approach to history is what this school is all about. From year 7 creating stone keep and motte and bailey castles, to year 8 making suffragette banners at the Manchester People's History Museum, to year 9 commemorating the Holocaust with an exhibition displayed at the Holocaust Memorial Day in Telford, GCSE students planning their imminent visit to Berlin to Sixth Form visits to Belsen and Auschwitz, to name a few. It's been a busy year for the department, but these events and activities have brought history tangibly close. And of course, the department is best summed up by the Medieval 'Extravaganza' weekend – serious fun.

The list goes on, with an upcoming trip to Russia too... History is not an easy subject, and those choosing their options currently may feel daunted by the amount of content, especially at GCSE. It is often overlooked – not STEM, not core. However, it is highly regarded by universities and gives you skills to use in all other subjects. It requires you to think as rigorously as any science, it requires you to analyse sources in great detail, it requires you to be evaluative and argue your point of view. With the outstanding support of the department, these skills are easily accessible. Perhaps most importantly in this subject though, is that it makes you think about and empathise with other people and better understand their thoughts and actions in the past. Ultimately everything is history. And that's what makes history everything!

E.Charlesworth & T.Uppal, History Ambassadors

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

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

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



**APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 5th APRIL 2020**

Enquiries:
applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-synching and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK



MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are lighthearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-synching and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips For Parents

TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.



LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



NEW FOR 2020 FAMILY SAFETY MODE

TikTok Family Safety Mode allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's. It's a great way to oversee your child's digital wellbeing by giving you direct control over their safety settings and being able to remotely turn features on and off. This includes managing screen time, the ability to send and receive direct messages (and with whom) and the ability to restrict the appearance of content that might not be age appropriate.



SOURCES: www.tiktok.com

SPORTS

ROUND UP

Another week of action...

U13 Cricket ↓



Arriving at Wrekin College the girls were met by Darrell Corfield, the Youth Programme Manager for Shropshire Cricket. Darrell led the girls in a coaching session placing an emphasis on bowling. The girls' technique and confidence grew in the hour and they were ready to take on their opposition. The girls played a great game against Charlton, displaying great bowling and bating skills, tactical awareness and communication. The girls won with a convincing score of 78-38 and will now progress to the County finals on the 13th March. (Mrs Martin)

U14/U15 Netball →

U14 and U15 netball friendly against Ellesmere College - Once again, these matches were organised with the aim to challenge and improve our netball teams. The results of these matches were as followed:

U14- NGHS 41 – 13 EC
U15- NGHS 15 – 8 ECb

U15 Handball County Finals

Our U15 Handball team were invited to represent the Burton Borough area at the School Games finals on Thursday. The team played some fantastic games of Handball and won all of their games except drawing to Idsall their biggest competitors! Sadly, due to goal difference, Idsall were victorious and NGHS finished in 2nd, but with their heads held high!

Wrekin Friendlies

Organised to challenge and improve teams. Results were as follows:

U12: NGHS 5 - 17 Wrekin
U13: NGHS 12 - 24 Wrekin
U15: NGHS 7 - 18 Wrekin

U13 Handball county finals →

Our U13 Handball team (right) were invited to represent the Burton Borough area at the School Games finals on Wednesday. The team had to play three matches against Belvedere, Oswestry School and Idsall. They played some fantastic games of Handball and won the tournament. They have now qualified to represent Shropshire county in the regional stage of this competition. This is a fantastic achievement and we are very proud of the team.



Harper Adams League Netball

Sharks 27
Harper 4ths 13

Jaguars 14
Ninjas 25



The PE team would also like to give a special mention to our Y13 netballers for their commitment to the League over the past four years (pictured above).



Forgotten PE Kit?

Recently, there has been an increase in lost PE kits for lessons and as a result we wanted to clarify the process for this in school. To confirm things from Monday, **students will be expected to take full responsibility for their own PE kits.** All students who would like one are given the opportunity to have a locker and these should be used for the storing of PE kits. If students are using pegs around school for their PE kit bags and these are misplaced then students can use their time before school, during break, lunchtimes and after school to look for it.

If students come to their timetabled PE lesson without their kit they will be expected to borrow spare kit from the school supply, however a record for the number of incidents will be kept and monitored by the PE department.

In line with the school behaviour policy, the following sanctions will be given:

First time - warning

Second time - behaviour point issued for lack of equipment and sticker in student planner

Third time - behaviour point issued for lack of equipment, sticker in student planner and a breaktime detention.

Fourth time - behaviour point issued for lack of equipment, sticker in student planner and a lunch time detention.

Fifth time - behaviour point issued for lack of equipment and a letter sent home to parents/guardians.

Your support in this matter will be greatly appreciated

The PE Department

KNIFE CRIME AWARENESS

Just a reminder that we will be taking all our Y9 and Y10 students (who are not in Iceland) to Telford on Monday 16 March to see a performance from Loudmouth Theatre Company about the dangers of knife crime. Students will also see the Knife Angel installation in Southwater. Parents have been informed already about this. PC Walker Shale, our School Police Liaison Officer is also running a series of workshops on Knife Crime on Tuesday 28 April. These will take one hour per year group from Y8 upwards. Materials have been coordinated nationally by Police Forces across the country.

Miss H Clarke, Assistant Head (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Gardening Club Booksale

Thank you so much to everyone who brought in donations and bought books, DVDs, or CDs! We really appreciate everyone's help to raise an amazing **£216.49** from the sale, all proceeds of which will go directly to funding an outdoor learning area at school



Also, we are excited to announce we've achieved the **RHS Schools Gardening Award Level 4** and have received £100 worth of seeds in reward for this!

Many thanks, Gardening Club!



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



SustainNGhs update

SUSTAINNGHS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Teracycle: Around school, there are boxes for your old stationery to be recycled, (e.g. pens, glue sticks, etc), it would be a big help if students could bring in any of these items they have to be recycled.

Community links: An important step in attaining our silver Eco Schools award is develop our involvement within the wider community. One way in which we hope to do this is visiting primary schools to educate and spread awareness about sustainability. If any parents have links to local primary schools, it would be a great help to us if we could take advantages of these. Please contact Ms Gill at k.gill@nghs.org.uk.

SUSTAINABILITY TIP OF THE WEEK: remember to bring re-useable bags when you next go shopping.

Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 2nd	Parents Evening, 4pm-7pm	Y8
Wed 4th	Options Deadline	Y8+9
Thu 5th	World Book Day	All
Mon 9th	Full Governors Meeting, 7pm	Govs
Tue 10th	Chemistry Lecture, 4pm	Y12-13
Fri 13th	Netball Weekend until Sunday	Y7
Fri 13th	Iceland Trip departs	Y9-10
Wed 18th	House Art/Photo comp. deadline	All
Thu 19th	Parents Evening & Film Night (Y7/8)	Y7

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 dates from Telford & Wrekin to fit in with primary schools. We also have scheduled the full 190 statutory school days and 5 training days.