

NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 3 - Issue 21 - Friday 13 March 2020



of the most testing weeks in my eleven years as a school senior leader and I start this week's newsletter with a wish to put on record my thanks to all our staff and students for

their stoicism and calm approach to the ever-changing situation. I also want to thank parents who have sent messages of support at key times this week and our Chair of Governors, Mr Ed Lewis, who has been a great support to the senior leadership team when talking through the many decisions we have had to take. Special thanks also go to the parent of one of our Y7 students whose company has donated a stock of hand sanitiser, which, I'm sure you know is globally in rather short supply. We have good supplies of soap (and toilet rolls!) in school and if sanitiser stocks dwindle again, soap and water will be advised.

Those who listen to Radio 4 may have heard a Northern Ireland Headteacher this morning talking about the notion that his school is open and one a few miles away in the Republic is not. Political borders, viruses and geography do not mix, but his summation that schools do not **want** to close mirrors our stance educationally, socially and of course financially for parents; we will respond to changes as and when they are announced, otherwise we will carry on as normal.

This week we have made the decision to preventatively postpone any full school assemblies, to encourage students to get plenty of fresh air outside at lunchtime (weather permitting) and to continue to reinforce the importance of good hand hygiene. We have led discussions with other schools about sports fixtures and the need for hosts to offer hand-washing and ball sanitising and handshakes at NGHS are minimised. We have also planned for the way in which we will set work for pupils in the event of school

closure; please see below for this important information.

I hope that you feel that we have been able to keep you informed as best we can this week and this is my aim going forward. I know that many Year II and Year I3 students are worried about the impending exam season. This is understandable, but, again, the whole country is in the same situation and any announcements that are made will be communicated as soon as we receive them. Here is the latest update.

I wish to express considerable regret that our Iceland Trip and German exchange have had to be cancelled at short notice. This is the last thing we wanted and I know the Iceland suitcases were packed and ready. There are upcoming foreign trips in June/July and we will update you on these as/when we know more. The school's Finance Officers and I are working hard to attempt to secure full refunds for both trips and we will be in touch with parents of girls who were on the trips next week.

Finally for now, the planned Knife Angel trip on Monday for Y9 and Y10 has also been cancelled as a preventative measure. All Y9/Y10s will be in school all day on Monday. If you have any urgent general questions, please continue to email schooloffice@nghs.org.uk but please be aware that a response may take a little longer at this time as the number of calls/emails we are receiving has increased. In the event of a significant emergency, do remember that urgent@nghs.org.uk is available at weekends/in the evenings. Thank you.

The latest information from the DFE can be found here.

With best wishes for a happy, safe and healthy weekend. **Mr M J Scott**

In the event of school closure....

Closure information will be posted on www.nghs.org.uk and texts/emails sent to parents
Students should access work via www.nghs.org.uk (scroll to bottom of page). Click on 'Work Login'

Username: student@nghs.org.uk Password: N3wport2020

Work may not be instantly available so students should check back and keep an eye on their NGHS emails too.

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**

Mobile Phone Reminder

We have noticed an increasing number of mobile phones being used in form rooms before school starts.

A reminder that the school policy on this is that "mobile phones that are brought into school should be stored turned off and out of sight. Students are not permitted to use mobile phones at any time during the school day except with the express permission of staff. Students who infringe the rules set out in this document will have their phones confiscated by teachers/support staff." This message is also shared in the student planner.



We refer to the school day as any time that our young people are in the school building, this does not just apply from 8.50am to 3.45pm. We do allow students to use mobile phones in the atrium after school for the purposes of communicating home regarding lifts but not for any other reason. Students should not be on phones in the corridor at the end of the school day.

If in school before form time, the time can be used to talk to other students in your form, update form noticeboards, read a book, do some work etc but not to sit on mobile phones.

Miss H Clarke, Assistant Headteacher



Naturwissenschaft und Sprachen / Les sciences et les langues

Last Wednesday, a group of year ten students travelled to Manchester Grammar School to take part in a competition involving both language and science skills. We were required to design and build a model of a space hotel while using our chosen foreign language. We were also required to give two presentations: one in the foreign language and one in English. The foreign language presentation focused on the marketing aspect of the project, trying to 'sell' the features of our hotel to potential guests. The English presentation focused on the science and engineering behind the structure of the hotel and how it will successfully function. NGHS took two groups to the competition- one French and one German. The French team came second overall in the competition and lssy, from the German team, received special recognition for her excellent linguistic skills.

We were also given the opportunity to talk to students who are studying languages and/or science at university and ask them any questions we had. To finish the day, we took part in a Russian 'taster session' where we learnt some basic Russian greetings and phrases, as Russia have famously played a large role in the development of space travel. We all really enjoyed this insight into a different language as many of us are looking to pursue languages at a higher level. We all had a great time and learnt a lot of new skills throughout all areas of the day.

Megan & Olivia (Year 10)



Swimming Victory



Following 5 days of competing at the Shropshire County Swimming Championships, in all 18 events competing including qualifying to enter all 9 final events. A Corkhill was presented with her trophy on Friday 28 February at a presentation evening held at Shrewsbury Town Football Club. Aimee accumulated enough points and medals to be awarded 2nd Top Girl age 13 in Shropshire County.

John Beswick Awards

Tuesday saw four of our school's top sports women received awards for competing in national sport. Photographed are our three Handball award winners: C Partridge, T Sherratt and R Tichford who have all been selected for to represent GB in either UI7 or UI9 Handball teams. Additionally, H Raiyat also received her 3rd consecutive John Beswick Award for GB Fencing. We are extremely proud of the commitment and achievement these students have made within their sports!



Sat 7 March Fencing Foil

Shrewsbury School 7 NGHS 2 S Li, I Bates, E Jenkins

Sabre

Shrewsbury Sch. 44 NGHS 24 G Clarke, P Adamson, F Scholes-Pryce (guest)

Coaches' comment:

Really proud of them, not phased by the occasion!

Mon 9 March U15 County Netball

Ist - Shrewsbury High

2nd – Wrekin College

3rd – William Brookes

4th - NGHS

5th - Oldbury Wells

6th - TTS

7th - BBS

8th - Morton Hall

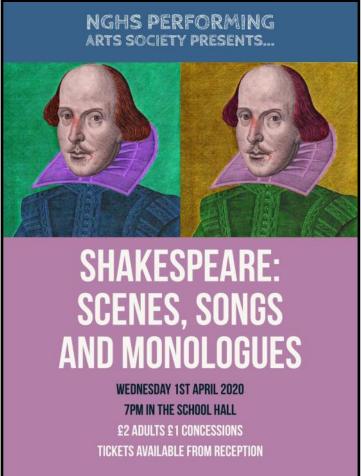
Telford & Wrekin Schools Swimming Gala

All our swimmers had a fantastic afternoon competing at the Telford and Wrekin Swimming gala hosted by Wrekin College. The highlights from the day were: E Sambhi winning her Junior Breast stroke race, A Corkhill winning her Junior Front crawl race, B Williams coming second in her Intermediate Front crawl race, K Hughes coming third in her Senior Backstroke, C Blanks coming third in her Senior Breast stroke race and finally our Junior Girls Team winning the overall competition! Well done to







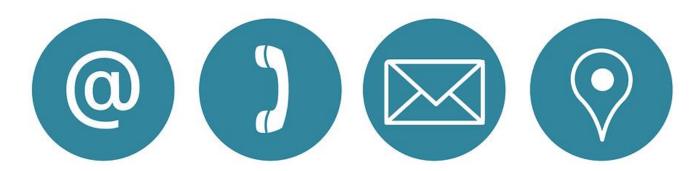


Covoid-19 Coronavirus Update

Remember to check the latest guidance online by clicking here.



All events here are subject to change - emails will be sent if changes are to be made.



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



EXAMINATION INVIGILATORS SOUGHT!

Please visit our website for more information.

Click here for a direct link to the recruitment page.

Closing date is 23 March 2020

Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Wed 18th	House Art/Photo comp. deadline	All
Thu 19th	Parents Evening & Film Night (Y7/8)	Y7
Mon 23rd	English Mock examination	YII
Tue 24th	Oxbridge Conference	YI2
	Chemistry Lecture, Birmingham	Y12/13
Wed 25th	Non-Uniform Day (PTA)	All

Changes to the above may be made!

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.