



# NEWPORT NEWS

## A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 3 - Issue 6 - Friday 25 October 2019

# NGHS Ranked TOP (again) in Performance Tables



Last Thursday saw the first round of Performance Tables released for all UK schools. **Once again, NGHS has topped the tables for 2019.**

Progress scores are either positive or negative against the government's expectation for each school and schools are also put into 'averages' brackets by the government. I have included these tables for schools with positive progress scores in Telford & Wrekin and Shropshire and in both cases NGHS is considerably ahead. This is wonderful news - well done again to all the students who sat examinations last summer; your hard work and support from teachers and parents has once again secured our position as the region's top performing school. [For more information about Performance Tables, please click here to search for a school.](#)

I am not yet able to share any details with you of the Ofsted report as I have not yet received the final copy for release. I hope that you received my letter last week where I acknowledged the fantastic support we received from students and families during this period. A particular thank you to the parents who sent in goodwill messages and even goodies for the staff room; this was greatly appreciated by our staff.

The recent Poetry Evening was well attended and you can find a report in this week's newsletter. We also enjoyed a Mental Health Awareness Yellow Disco this week and we have the regular health & wellbeing updates for you to read in this bumper edition.

In the first week back after half term it is Year 10 Parents Evening on the Wednesday so I trust Year 10 students have been making appointments ready for this. Also can I advise you of our forthcoming

T&W School with +ve scores	Score	Category
Newport Girls'	0.74	Well above average
Thomas Telford	0.40	Above average
Hadley Learning C.	0.35	Above average
Holy Trinity	0.27	Average
Haberdashers' Adams	0.24	Average
Madeley Academy	0.14	Average

Shropshire Schools with +ve scores	Score	Category
The Corbet School	0.46	Above average
Bishops' Castle	0.39	Above average
Priory School	0.35	Above average
Oldbury Wells	0.28	Above average

**PTA QUIZ NIGHT**, which is on Friday 22 November. This is always well attended and great fun. For our new parents; this is a family fun night with a fish and chip supper and an interesting and informative quiz. Families can work together in teams and a lot of fun is had - please see the information on page 2 of this week's newsletter.

Finally, do you know what **Sadfishing** is? If not, [click here](#) for parent support information. This behaviour trend is often found online and used as a way to generate sympathy and more online followers. We hope that you find this information useful.

Very best wishes for Half Term. **Mr M J Scott**



# QUIZ NIGHT



## NGHS PTA QUIZ

**FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER, 7.30 – 10PM**

Now that autumn is well and truly here, what better way to unwind on a Friday night than by pitting your wits against friends, family (and teachers if they dare...) at our seventh PTA quiz!

The PTA Quiz gives you a chance to unwind with friends old and new for a family-oriented evening filled with:

- ✓ **Fun** – 10 rounds of questions on a range of topics to challenge us all!
- ✓ **Family & Friends** – pupils, parents, friends and family members are all very welcome
- ✓ **Food and Drink**– take your pick from either fish & chips, sausage & chips or an alternative delicacy from Jones Fish & Chip shop and treat yourself to a drink (soft drinks, beer and wine are all available to buy)

This event is more about Fun rather than Fundraising - a great opportunity to socialise with other parents and to get to know your daughters' friends. Teams can be up to 6 people, but don't worry if you don't have a ready-made team – there will be group tables which you can join on the night. Tickets will be priced at £6 per person, including food.

To book your place, please complete the reply slip below indicating your food choice, and return with payment to the school office, marked for the attention of the PTA Quiz Organiser. We will acknowledge receipt of your food order and payment by text message (your number will only be used for this purpose). You can pay by cash or cheque (payable to NGHS PTA). If you prefer, you can email your completed form to the PTA email address.

We would also like to hold a raffle on the night. If you are able to donate a prize, please email the PTA to let us know.

Many thanks, the PTA

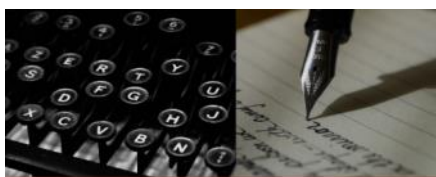
Email address: [pta@nghs.org.uk](mailto:pta@nghs.org.uk)



PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION:					
Name:		Phone:			
		(for any queries)			
Student's Name:		Year Group:			
TICKETS	Quantity	Cost			
Tickets @£6 each		£			
FOOD ORDER		Fish & chips	Sausage & chips	Just chips	Greek salad pitta (V)
Enter quantity					
Please state any special requirements e.g. Jones's can offer gluten free chips and fish. We will contact you in case of query.					

Word document version is attached to the email with Newport News

# Poetry Evening: A great success!



NGHS ENGLISH  
& SUSTAINABLE  
NGHS  
PRESENTS:  
**AN EVENING  
OF POETRY**

**Thursday  
17th October  
7pm  
The Atrium**

On Thursday 17 October the NGHS Literary Society and Sustainable NGHS combined forces, resulting in an eclectic evening of original and published poetry.

The theme for this year's event was the climate crisis, a topic which students are incredibly passionate about. There were also a number of poems were unrelated to the theme, allowing students to express their thoughts on a varied range of topics. Fourteen students from across the year groups performed their own original poetry along with published poems and there were also performances from five members of staff from the English, Geography and Maths departments: Miss Tomkinson, Mrs Capaldi, Mrs Gill, Rev Walters and Mr Postle.



The first half of the evening began with a poem by J. Lonsdale (Y13) called 'Poetry that Doesn't Rhyme'. The poem explored the process of

constructing a poem and it even included an embedded sonnet! Next, we moved on to original poetry on the theme of the climate crisis by students from across the year groups. There were also some moments of humour in the first half, with O. Needham's (Y11) poem on the challenges of handing your homework in on time resulting in many chuckles from the audience!



During the interval there was an opportunity for members of the audience to purchase refreshments and find out more about Sustainable NGHS, Sustainable Newport and the reusable Newport Cup. In the second half, there were more powerful poems about the climate emergency, a comic poem inspired by Halloween, a poem inspired by a character from a novel one of the students is currently writing and even a poem relating to an infamous card game!

Mrs Gill performed a powerful self-penned poem that drew inspiration from an open Geography text book and talked to audience about the work of the Sustainable NGHS group. Mrs Gill also read a poem by her own daughter and Rev Walters shared work from his daughter's university graduation show, a beautifully illustrated poem in the form of a children's book called 'Our Planet'. This really was a community event.

All in all, it was astounding to see the creative talents of students from Year 7 to Year 13 on full display and the audience were very moved by the readings. Many thanks to all the students and staff who were involved and to the PTA for providing the refreshments. This included four Year 12 English Literature students, who helped with the refreshments and running front of house. We would also like to thank Sustainable Newport for allowing us to sell their reusable coffee cups.



**Mr D Postle (Head of English & Arts Faculty)**

# YELLOW DISCO!

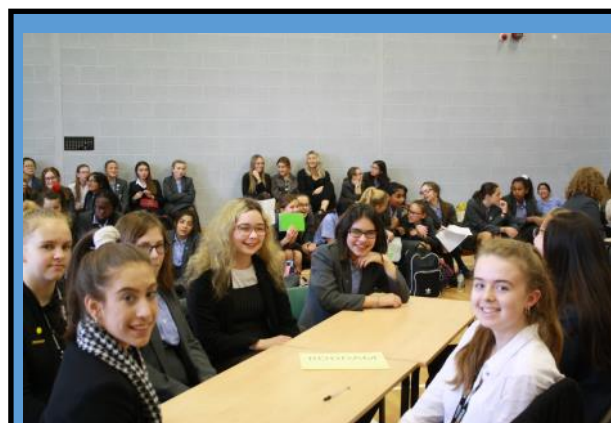


YOUNGMINDS



On Tuesday 22 October we held a glow sticks disco in order to demonstrate the link between exercise and positive mental health, whilst also raising money and awareness for the YoungMinds charity. Altogether we raised a total of £51.28 which is fantastic so a huge thank you to everyone who came along and donated.

**Health & Wellbeing Committee**



This year's competition was well attended by spectators ready to watch Seacole battle to regain their title as House Quiz winners. The qualifying round had been tough, however, as a result the teams for all three Houses were strong. It was going to be a close competition!

There were 6 rounds varying from logic puzzles, subject knowledge questions, general knowledge and tasked activities such as picture, sport and dingbat rounds. Roddam and Austen started strong in the questioning rounds, whilst Seacole were quietly racking up the points in the tasked activities. The final scores were incredibly close with only 3 points between first and third place!

The overall results were as followed:

<b>1<sup>st</sup>- Roddam</b>	<b>56 points</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup>- Seacole</b>	<b>55 points</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup>- Austen</b>	<b>53 points</b>

## HOUSE QUIZ

### Random Acts of Kindness for this week

Date	Option 1	Option 2
Friday	Send thank you notes to three customers or clients today.	Paint positive messages on pumpkins.
Saturday	Write a letter by hand to someone who's made a difference in your life.	Accomplish one task on your bucket list.
Sunday	Surprise someone with a thoughtful, inexpensive gift.	Donate old Halloween costumes to a children's hospital.
Monday	Send an email to three people on your team letting them know they are doing a great job.	Make homemade play-doh to donate to a nursery.
Tuesday	Ask thoughtful questions to your team and listen with an open mind to their responses.	Volunteer to help out a local charity.
Wednesday	Share a funny picture, video or article with a co-worker.	Make monster sock puppets to give to children.
Thursday	Buy a lottery scratch ticket for someone and leave it on their desk.	Compliment as many Halloween costumes as you can.

## Black History Month Exhibition

Recently, fifteen-year eight students were privileged to visit an exhibition regarding Black History Month, an important month which celebrates the significant events in Africa's development. The event was first recognized in America but is now celebrated in Canada, the UK, Germany and the Netherlands.

During our visit, we got to experience different cultures and acknowledge Africa's history before the Slave Trade as well as the contributions of people of African origin to modern music, science and culture. The people running this event were volunteers from TAARC who wanted to share their culture so we could understand Black History month from another perspective.

Our involvement included a demonstration of traditional African clothing and headdresses and gaming activities that African children used. Through this, we gained a better understanding of life in Africa and appreciate more the horrendous impact the Slave Trade brought on many civilizations. Everyone of us enjoyed this opportunity, learned a lot and we are very thankful for this experience.

By E Caudle



## DOUBLE MUSIC TRIUMPH!

Birmingham Music Festival Trophy      Return to National Youth Orchestra



Congratulations to Vinuki Hikkaduwege in Year 8 who has triumphed at the Birmingham Music Festival. She played *Toccata in E flat minor* by Aram Khachaturian in the Open Category and *The Little Ballerina* by Christian Hartmann, which led to her winning the Class Trophy. It is great to hear that Vinuki's confidence is growing with her piano playing and we congratulate her on this success.



Ruby Howells (Year 13) has retained her place in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. This is an exceptional achievement as she is just one of four newer members of the orchestra who have been asked to return. Ruby is currently applying to study music at a number of conservatoires and hopes to be able to return to the Royal Albert Hall to play in the NYO Proms concert in 2020.



Every fortnight staff nominate students for Thank You Friday awards. These nominations are given by staff to any student in school who has demonstrated any of the ethos and values statements or gone above and beyond to help and support with events that are happening in school. Winners of these awards receive a Thank You Friday house point as well as receiving a postcard home to say well done.

Awarded to:	Awarded by:
F Jones-Smyth (R6)	Mrs J Barker
S Brown (S7)	Mrs A Seys
C Cui (S3)	Mrs K Wallace Miss T Wells
E Esslemont-Hill (S4)	Miss A-M Davies
X Fujii (S4)	Miss A-M Davies
A Hill (R5)	Mrs K Wallace
S Hose (A3)	Mrs L Payne
K Hossack (A3)	Mrs L Payne
R Howells (S7)	Mrs A Seys
K Hughes (S5)	Mrs K Gill Mrs H Goodall
R Jones (S4)	Miss A-M Davies
K Lemmon (A6)	Mrs K Griffin
J Lonsdale (A7)	Mr D Postle
B McCloy (S3)	Miss T Wells
O McLaughlin (S4)	Miss A-M Davies
E Mickelwright (A7)	Mrs K Wallace
O O'Bryne (A6)	Mrs K Griffin
J Orakwue (A5)	Mrs S Dainty
N Patnaik (S7)	Mrs A Seys
A Reid (S3)	Miss T Wells
E Rowley (R7)	Mrs H Furnival
O Shepherd (R7)	Mrs H Furnival
I Smith (S4)	Miss H Clarke
M Smith (S3)	Miss T Wells
A Srinivasan (S3)	Miss T Wells
B Tibble (A1)	Mrs T Fujii
E Watts (R7)	Mrs K Griffin
A Williams (R3)	Mrs H Furnival
B Williams (S3)	Miss T Wells

## TIM MILNER REVISION EVENING

On Tuesday 8 October almost all of the Y11 pupils and parents spent a very productive couple of hours involved in an interactive workshop on revision with Tim Milner, an education specialist. Tim's style of presenting was really engaging,



amusing and enjoyable and he had some fantastic tips, techniques and advice to help us make the most of our revision sessions. Many of his key points are definitely things I will take on board.

Tim showed us some great ways to get organised and plan revision and explained the science behind why 25-minute bursts, with a five-minute break, is the best way to maximise your time. Essentially, you've only just started, full of enthusiasm and before that feeling wears off, you're heading to the end of the session, so you stay engaged throughout. Top tip!

Tim explained the importance of keeping it 'simple' and 'personal' and 'memorable' (pictures and even emojis can be a great memory aid) and we had the opportunity to put what we were learning into practise the whole way through. He also showed how 'revisiting' revision 3 times works and how combining testing yourself often along the way really helps you retain information.

Tim has got loads of resources for us to mix it up, keep it 'varied' so keeping it interesting. His advice was 'just to get going'. Make a start. He also made us consider what he calls 'exam commands' to make sure you focus on what's actually being asked of you in an exam question, so you answer in the right way.

All Tim's ideas are relevant to all students in all year groups and fifteen minutes on his web site would be time well spent for all girls (from where all the relevant resources can be downloaded for free too!). [timmilner.info](http://timmilner.info) and search 'exam'.

Overall, a very worthwhile session.

**Eliza (Year 11)**



## Who to contact?

Please remember to use the [schooloffice@nghs.org.uk](mailto: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 <a href="mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk">schooloffice@nghs.org.uk</a> )
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 <a href="mailto:urgent@nghs.org.uk">urgent@nghs.org.uk</a> (outside of school hours) in case of emergency

### STUD EARRINGS

Just a reminder that **ONLY** one set of single **STUD** earrings are permitted at **NGHS**. As well as being a long-standing part of our uniform code, larger earrings are also a health & safety concern.



### FENCING SUCCESS

Congratulations to **Tilly Watkin** (Y10) who has finished second overall in the Youth Series Foil. The Wrekin Sword Fencing Club are very proud of her success (as are we!)

### Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 4th	Term restarts at 8.50am	All
Tue 5th	Sixth Form Launch Assembly	Y11
Wed 6th	Parents Evening, 4pm-7pm	Y10
Fri 8th	Remembrance Assembly	All
Mon 11th	Governor Committee Meetings	Govs
Tue 12th	Sixth Form Open Morning & Open Evening (4pm-7pm)	Y11
Wed 13th	Biology Live Trip	Y12-13
Thu 14th	Mock Art Exam	Y11
Fri 15th	<b>STAFF INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>All</b>

*Worth a thought...*

*Believe you can and you're half way there (R5)*