



# NEWPORT NEWS

## *A weekly update from NGHS*

Volume 3 - Issue 10 - Friday 29 November 2019



## NEW MINIBUS ARRIVES!



**O**ur new school minibus rolled into town on Monday morning. The Peugeot vehicle is brand new and combines the latest in safety technology (including a lane-exit warning system, sensors and cameras) with the flexibility to carry wheelchair users and greater fuel efficiency. We are working with a leasing partner and the lightweight element of the bus also allows more staff to be able to drive it. I have renewed my minibus driving certificate this week and will be driving Year 11 to Bletchley Park on the inaugural outing today. I'd like to thank the PTA who have contributed towards the running costs in the first year and Mrs Machin our Finance and Facilities Manager for helping to organise the financing, delivery and necessary paperwork. I wish everyone many safe years of motoring and I am sure the girls will enjoy turning up to fixtures and trips in style!

Following our spotlight on app design from the Maths & Tech faculty last week, we are pleased to present some work from the Humanities faculty this week, focusing on a Climate Change project in Year 9 Geography, protest work in History and the psychology of love! Other information in this week's Newport News includes the reward assemblies, a Y13 Physics trip and our recent Biology Live trip for A-level scientists.

Please remember to help supporting us with the TELFORD SMILE campaign. **The deadline has had to be brought forward to next Friday (6th) as they have wrapping duties to attend to.** Please can you support us by bringing in a new, unwrapped gift which can be given to a child or vulnerable adult this Christmas. I hope that we can gather as many gifts as last year and they will be collected straight away so please note the deadline of next Friday. Thank you for your support.

Talking of Friday 6th, I trust that all parents received a letter last week about the end of term arrangements. If you do not wish your daughter to attend our End of Term service at St. Nicholas's Church on the final morning of term, please kindly ensure that the slip on the letter is returned no later than Friday 6 December.

Just a reminder that we have an INSET day on Monday so school will resume at 8.50am on Tuesday. We have had a lot of sickness in school this week. As per my bulletin email, please make sure your daughter stays at home for 48 hours if she succumbs to avoid the spread of germs in school.

Best wishes for the (long) weekend.

**Mr M J Scott**

**Newport Girls' High School**

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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)

# Christmas smile



I am thrilled to confirm we are once again supporting two local causes this Christmas. Last year we donated in excess of 300 toys / presents to the Telford Christmas Smile campaign. This charity provides gifts to **local children and families** living in difficult circumstances. We would love you to consider buying one extra new toy for Christmas for a girl or boy aged 1-16. This should be brought into school reception before **Friday 6 December**.

On Friday 13 December, we will have our Winter Jumper Day. Students are invited to wear a winter jumper with jeans/trousers etc. A **minimum £1 donation is required**. This will be donated to the Newport Foodbank (as last year).

We hope that staff and students will embrace both opportunities this festive season.

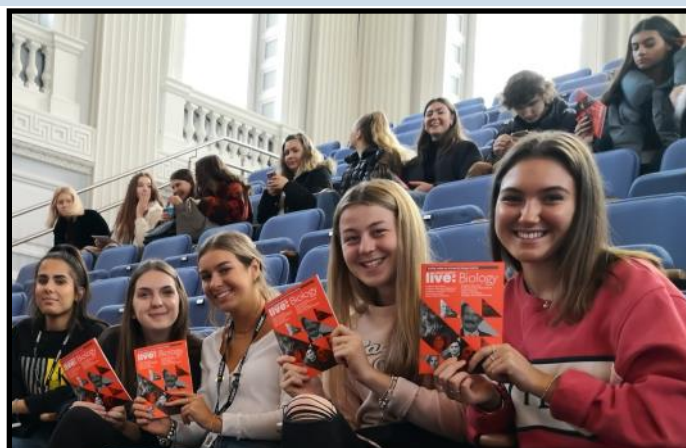
**Mr M J Scott, Headteacher**



On Wednesday 13 November, the Year 12 and 13 biologists travelled to Birmingham Town Hall to attend A Level Biology Live. There were 5 speakers, discussing various disciplines of biology, such as evolution, genetics and neurology, as well as two advice sessions run by a senior examiner regarding technique.

The examiner's sessions focused on how to be efficient and precise to ensure that the maximum amount of marks can be gained in the exams. One of the key messages was to concentrate on the command words of the question to help students understand what is required in their answers. The other session discussed the skills required across the papers, both technical and mathematical. There was a heavy focus on the importance of clarity of working out for questions where calculations are needed.

One of our favourite speakers was Professor Giles Yeo, who explored the biology behind dieting and gave us his six Yeo truths about eating. His talk was engaging and entertaining- he even brought his own knitted set of intestines! As dieting and weight is such a controversial subject of conversation, Yeo took a very science

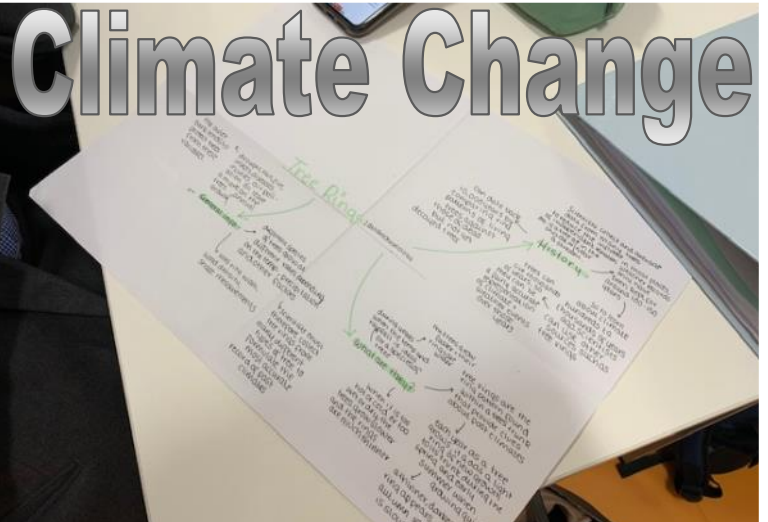
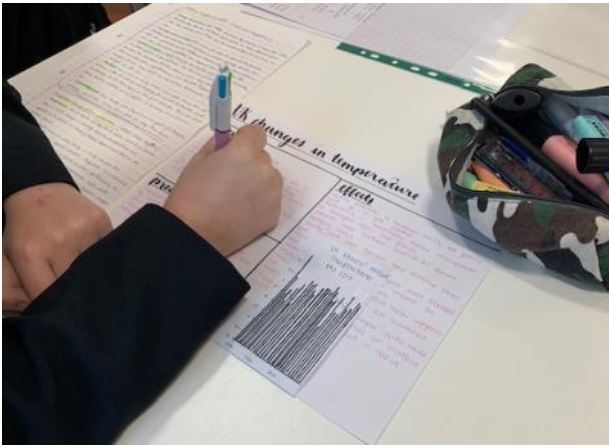


orientated and sensitive approach, providing an insightful look into the topic.

As wider reading is such an integral aspect of success at A level, the lectures not only helped us to develop our approach to the exams, but have also provided examples of reports, documentaries and articles that constitute wider reading, helpfully listed at the back of the programme. One of the speakers, Professor Lord Robert Winston, gave insight into careers in science, specifically scientific resources and how biology A level enables the opening of doors to many different career paths. An eye-opening statement provided by Lord Winston was: 'success doesn't come from competition; it comes from collaboration and cooperation.'

We are thankful to the teachers in the biology department for taking us to such an enriching event and look forward to the trip next year.

Zoe and Caitlin (Year 12)



For our recent geography research task regarding evidence for climate change, we approached the task unlike previous projects. The class was split into seven different groups focusing on one subsection of research with 4 assigned roles- the leader, clarifier, scribe/artist and summariser who gave a brief speech about their group's findings. Teams were given roughly 45 minutes to research and organise their subsection so that in the following lesson the summarisers were ready to present their information. Despite initial panic, everyone was able to complete the work to a high standard on time without too much stress. The assigned roles meant that the work was divided equally and everyone was able to work efficiently. The group method worked well and the class would be happy to do it this way again- it brought fun to a serious but interesting topic.

**Lucy, Amelia & Frankie (Year 9)**



Next week is CHARITIES WEEK and as usual we have a range of fabulous extra-curricular activities to suit everyone! From guest lectures by sixth form students to the infamous 'I'm a Teacher, Get me out of here' there is something for everyone and we encourage students to bring in loose change and to contribute to their House Charities. Thank you to Mrs Goodall and the House Charity Reps for organising an action-packed week.



Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Quantum Physics (E Challinor)	Origin of Humanity (J Lonsdale)	
I'm a NGHS Teacher Get Me Out Of Here: Teacher 50p to attend	Open Mic 50p to sign up People sign up day before 20p to attend	Disco 20p  10p Jukebox	Treasure Hunt Raffle tickets and prizes 20p to play
Beat the goalie 20p	Netball shootout 20p	Bake sale with Emily (Y13)	Staff v Sixth Form Dodgeball
Christmas cookie decorations, 50p for a digestive, £1 for a shortbread	Origami, 50p to attend	Bob Ross Tutorial Painting	Colouring In with Leah (Y13)

All activities are open to all students and take place at **lunchtime** each day.

All monies raised go to our nominated House Charities.

We hope that students will enjoy attending and/or taking part in these events.

The Movie 'Elf' will be shown after school on Friday, too.

## The Psychology of Relationships

This term year 13 have been studying the science behind romantic relationships. This began with an in-depth examination of why certain features and behaviours are deemed to be attractive and how this, and the cosmetics and fashion industry, has been shaped by thousands of years of evolution. Students have investigated the various factors which determine whether two individuals will form a romantic relationship, including self-disclosing personal information and how physical attractiveness can create an illusion of being intelligent, kind and successful (and the dangers for society which come with this).

Students are now embarking on a journey into how the maintenance of relationships occurs through a balance of rewards and cost, and also the role of making significant physical and emotional investments. Finally, students will be delving into the reason why relationships break down and the stages through which this occurs, followed by a final examination of celebrity stalker obsessions and how technology has changed the face of dating and relationships.



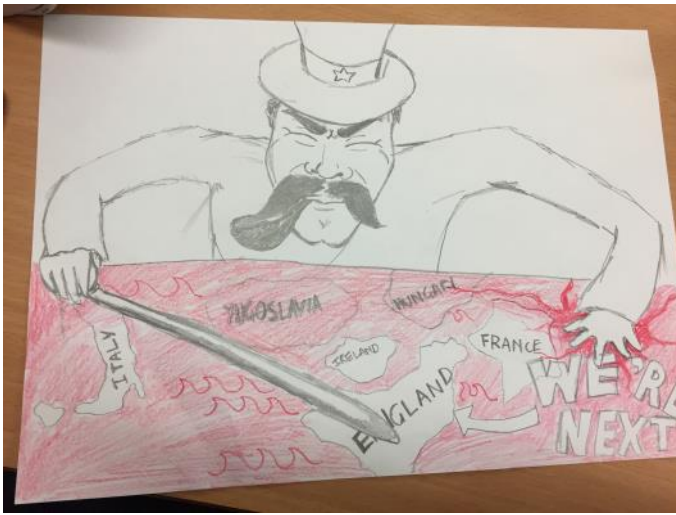
## Y13 Physicists visit Jodrell Bank

The morning started with a case of missing people and the magical disappearing bus but after everyone was accounted for, we set off on our long and treacherous journey. Despite the delays we arrived at Jodrell Bank in time for our talk about telescopes. We learnt about how different telescopes which detect different parts of the electromagnetic (EM) spectrum have to be placed in different positions due to the opacity of the atmosphere. For example, x-ray telescopes have to be placed in space as x-rays from the sun are, mercifully for us, absorbed by the ozone layer. You may be wondering then, why is it important to have so many different types of telescope? Well, stars emit radiation on all parts of the EM spectrum and looking at galaxies in the lens of different spectra gives different views and makes different parts of them stand out which is important for studying them. We then worked out the mass of a galaxy from its gravitational pull and found out that this mass is actually much higher than the total visible mass. This is due to dark matter which no one really understands but is still quite exciting.

Afterwards we went to the planetary pavilion where we answered questions and got side tracked by a mobile of the solar system, we're very much adults. We then had lunch and the café had the best rocky road bar I've ever had. Then afterwards we went to the stellar pavilion where we found out through an infrared camera who definitely had the coldest hands. We also learnt about the dimensions and how a fourth dimension probably exists but we can't perceive it.



Then we had our second talk of the day on pulsars. First we learnt about stellar evolution and how stars of different stellar masses have different ends to their lifespans. One of these ends is a neutron star a particularly fast spinning neutron stars are called pulsars. These emit EM waves with a constant frequency which can be detected from Earth. We tried to identify neutron stars from data and our group did not do particularly well, perhaps no Nobel Prize nominations this year... After our photo in front of the telescope we returned home with a detour to Telford for reasons unknown. All in all, it was a great day out and I would definitely recommend it. Jess L (Y13)



## 'HISTORICAL' CONFLICTS RULE!

The last few weeks have seen conflict and protest taking centre stage in NGHS history classrooms. Year 7 have been learning about 1066 and the conflict over the English throne, culminating in William of Normandy's victory at the Battle of Hastings. After running their own campaigns to persuade people to fight for one of the claimants - our political parties could learn a thing or two about campaigning from them! - year 7 are now creating cartoons about the key events that led to William becoming King.

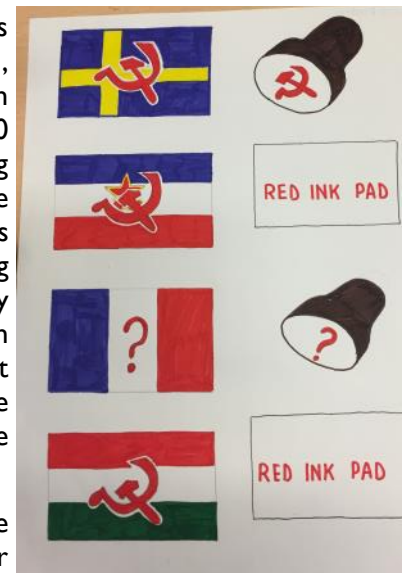
Year 8 have also been developing their knowledge of democracy through learning about how people have protested and persuaded parliament to change the law through a study of the campaign to abolish the Transatlantic slave trade. Students have researched the key campaigners, arguments and methods of the abolitionists and have produced their own outstanding campaign presentations based on their research. We have been wowed by their moving and persuasive speeches, creative logos and superb teamwork.

GCSE students in year 9 have moved on from learning about the exciting changes of the 1920s in the USA to start focussing on the more negative aspects of life at this time in the form of intolerance towards minority

groups such as Communists, immigrants and African Americans. Year 10 have been learning about the origins of the Cold War, and this week have been putting theory into practice by producing their own political cartoons about the reasons for the divisions between the East and West.

Year 11 deserve huge congratulations for surviving their mock exams last week! We have tested their knowledge in a more fun way this week through a Kahoot team challenge - well done Alice and Saphia on your victory! Finally, our year 13 A Level students have been busily engaged in writing their coursework essays on the Golden Age of Spain whilst year 12 have been learning about Henry V [and his 'interesting' pudding bowl hairstyle!] as well as the Russian Tsar Alexander III who reputedly was able to bend an iron bar with his bare hands and who lifted the roof off a train to save his family from a train crash.

As ever, we have been so impressed with all the commitment and creativity of our history students this term. Well done all!  
Your History Staff



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS. ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

During our rewards celebrations this week we have also celebrated our attendance heroes and they have been presented with their Cadbury's Heroes chocolates as a well done. A reminder that our school attendance target is 97%, and we do monitor attendance when it drops below 95% and we will follow our attendance policy about how this is dealt with. We know that good school attendance has a direct link to academic performance and therefore we want to work with

students and families to ensure that regular attendance to school is achieved. During October the overall school attendance percentage was 97.23% so well done to all of the students that were above 97% attendance for their contribution towards this fantastic figure.

One of the initiatives we use to focus on raising attendance is our monthly form competition. This is a competition that views attendance for just that month, so for October we had a look at how many students in each form achieved 97% attendance or better. The form with the most students that achieve this are rewarded as our attendance heroes for October. This month our winners were:

Years 7 and 8: R1  
Year 11: R5

Years 9 and 10: A4 and R4  
Years 12 and 13: A6

All of the students that did achieve 97% attendance or more have also received a house point too.

The competition is restarted in November and we hope to see a continued high attendance during this month. Thank you for your support with maintaining high levels of attendance, if you do have any absence concerns then please contact the school wellbeing officers (Mrs K Danby: Years 7 to 10 and Mrs D Martin: Year 11 and Sixth Form) for additional advice and support.

## REWARDS ASSEMBLIES

### Sixth Form Rewards Assembly

On Tuesday 19 November Mrs Griffin led the 6<sup>th</sup> form Rewards Assembly. As usual this was a lovely, well received event which allowed our students to celebrate their successes from the previous half term. It was especially nice to recognise the achievements of Year 12 after they have settled into A level study so well.

There is a healthy competition between the different tutor groups with regards to House point totals, and congratulations go to R7 who were victors for this half term. They were presented with chocolates and the house point cup.

We also celebrated individual achievements for those who had achieved the most house points. The winners in Year 12 were N. Patnaik (Gold), C. Smith-Murphy (Silver) and H. Davis (Bronze). The winners in Year 13 were R. Clayton (Gold), R. Arachchi (Silver) and I. Dale, H. Blanks and I. Holt as joint Bronze winners.

In the sixth form the students are each presented with one raffle ticket per 10 house points they gain, and then there is one lucky winner of a prize per half term. The winner this half term was C. Smith Murphy, who won the very popular gift voucher for Costa.

### Year 7 to 11 Rewards Celebration

This term our Heads of Year have had to go into each form to share the rewards that have been achieved during the first half term.

The first prize that was awarded was for the form cup, this is awarded to the form who have accrued the highest number of housepoints during that half term, our winners of these awards were:

Years 7 and 8 – S2 with 672 house points in total  
Years 9 and 10 – S3 with 429 house points in total  
Year 11 – R5 with 521 house points in total

We then awarded awards to students in each year group who received the highest total number of house points, our winners this term were:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Year 7	H. Enefer	P. Finan	C. Bickerton
Year 8	H. Mustansir	S. Mathew, A. Mangham	Q. O'Howell, C. Toogood
Year 9	A. Hawkins	P. Joyce, M. Turner, B. McCloy, K. Hossack	V. Jayasuriya, G. Steele, A. Lynas
Year 10	F. Ejaz	A. Bickerton	A. Srinivasan, A. Hekant, P. Rangan
Year 11	J. Upton	H. Bleackley, A. Hill	M. Lo

The final award is a lucky dip. For every 10 housepoints students receive they are given one ticket in the draw.

The winners of this half term's prizes were:  
Years 7 and 8: C. Fewtrell, L. Rawson, S. Reddington  
Years 9 and 10: A. Bickerton, B. Eade, A. Reid  
Year 11: C. Mahy, A. Mitchell, E. Owen



## 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



## SHOOTING SUCCESS

Well done to Katie Markworth in Year 8 who has won the Junior Individual West Midlands and North West Shooting Championships. Katie now moves onto the National Championships in January. This is a tremendous accolade and we congratulate Katie wholeheartedly.

## Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Mon 2nd	INSET DAY— School Closed	All
Tue 3rd	Chemistry Lecture (evening)	Y12-13
Fri 6th	Cheshire Oaks Shopping Trip (evening)	Y11-13
Fri 13th	Winter Jumper Day (for Newport Foodbank) + Christmas Lunch	All
Tue 17th	Carol Service at St Nicholas, 7pm	All
Wed 18th	Pantomime Trip (during day)	Y7
Fri 20th	End of Term 12.30pm	All

### *Worth a thought...*

“My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary.”

(Martin Luther)