



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 3 - Issue 11 - Friday 6 December 2019



December has arrived and the term is racing by. One of the highlights is always our House Music event. About half the school were involved this year and the rest were willing audience members, even in spite of a whole afternoon sat on the floor of the Hall. Seacole were the eventual winners so well done to them and it was great to see all Houses willing to give their all. Reflections on this year's event can be read in this week's edition.



Our staff work flat out at NGHS and it was great to be able to 'flatten out' some of their clothes this week during our staff wellbeing week. We invited Gleaming Services Ltd of Telford to offer an ironing day to with the costs being met by the School and my office was turned into an ironing parlour with lots of steam and the smell of freshly laundered shirts etc. This is just one of the ways we are working to try to balance our staff's very busy work and home lives and the team at Gleaming Services worked flat out (pardon the pun again) to finish the job.

I had the pleasure of accompanying Year 11 to Bletchley Park last Friday. The day was fabulous, very well organised and very informative. The girls learnt a lot about the work that was carried out there in WW2 as well as the role of women (who made up much of the workforce) and they even cracked some of the trickiest ciphers possible. I was particularly impressed with their cross-curricular knowledge; maths, computing, history and geography were all tested in the workshop and an enjoyable day was had by all. Thanks to the Maths & Technology Faculty for organising.



Thank you VERY much to everyone who contributed toys and presents to the Christmas Smile campaign. I am sorry for the short notice this year, but delighted to be able to once again donate so many gifts to a local charity. Next Friday is our Winter Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch. Students and staff are encouraged to wear a jumper to school with jeans or other 'appropriate lower garments'. This isn't an excuse to wear jewellery, excessive make up etc and it doesn't have to be a festive/Christmas jumper! A minimum £1 donation will be collected on the day and ideally a little more would be appreciated with all proceeds going to our local Newport Foodbank this Christmas.

If you are having a clear-out over the Christmas break, please try to collate any books, CDs, DVDs etc. and bring them in to school. Our gardening club are trying to find new ways to raise money so all donations are welcome! There will be a second-hand sale in January.

This week's newsletter features a range of recent trips along with a feature on the Modern Languages Faculty. At a time when the nation is considering its future in Europe and numbers taking languages at A-level (and to some extent GCSE) are in a serious decline, it is great that languages are enjoyable and successful at NGHS.

Finally, we are again hosting the Sing4Fun Choir Christmas Concert on Friday 13 November; details in the newsletter. Also, if you are attending the Carol Service on Tuesday 17 December at 7pm at St Nicholas's Church, please do ask your daughter to pick up free tickets from Reception next week.

With best wishes for the weekend.

Mr M J Scott

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To contact the School about a general enquiry, please use schooloffice@nghs.org.uk

House Music 2019



Of all the annual house events on offer at NGHS, House Music is one of the most anticipated and enjoyed and this year was no exception. The theme was **ROCK THE WORLD** and this brought some incredible ensemble and choir arrangements, varied and (as always) talented soloists and interesting showstopper acts, which were particularly worthy of the Most Memorable Act award.

As always, the days leading up to the event were somewhat stressful for the House teams, but the standard of performance by everybody involved was so incredible and it was no doubt extremely difficult for our judge to decide winners in each category.

Some notable mentions must be made to Seacole House Ensemble and Ruby's amazing arrangements for 25 instruments. Austen House Showstopper was very entertaining and a fun rendition of various High School Musical songs, completed with designated characters and basketballs. And finally, Romaisa who sang beautifully and entirely unaccompanied.

Overall, House Music was another success and it was so lovely to be reminded of the incredible talent in music and teamwork at NGHS. Here's to next year!
Leonie, Year 12



The Results

Junior instrumentalist	S Li
Senior instrumentalist	L Bottomley
Junior vocalist	R Awan
Senior vocalist	A Laycock
Ensemble winner	SEACOLE HOUSE
Choir winner	AUSTEN HOUSE
Most memorable act	Austen Showstopper
OVERALL WINNER	SEACOLE HOUSE

It was my first time experiencing an NGHS House music competition, and it was great fun! I really enjoyed immersing myself in the team spirit and not just from my own house, the healthy competition between competitors set me up for a very exciting and interesting day. The comradery and support shown by the audience during the performances lifted the spirits of all the performers and helped bring a sense of belonging to me as a newer member of the school. And what was especially pleasing was that not only did the other pupils get involved, the teachers threw themselves in as well!
Harriet E, Year 7





INVESTIGATING GERMAN MODAL VERBS



Our recent German lessons have focused on learning how to use modal verbs. After making some notes in our exercise books, we were assigned a group project to consolidate our learning and to allow us to communicate with our peers. Groups varied in sizes – from 2 people to 5 people – and the task was to create new school rules for our school! The wide range of ideas not only allowed us to practise writing and speaking with modal verbs but also to expand our vocabulary relating to our topics. Despite the initial, long list of potential rules, we were able to choose between 5 and 10 rules to include in our posters. We implemented the use of colour and images to make our poster visually appealing so as to encourage to learn and understand modal verbs.



We presented our information on A3 posters and then spoke to the class about our rules.

The time spent on this topic benefitted our understanding of modal verbs whilst enjoying ourselves und **es war spannend!**

S Thakur, Year 9





Congratulations to our Thank You Friday nominees this last fortnight.

Awarded to:	Awarded by:
M Bowen (A1)	Mrs T Fujii
E Challinor (S6)	Mr D Postle
N Dhariwal (S1)	Miss A-M Davies
L Dover (R6)	Mrs K Wallace
A Hill (R5)	Mrs H Goodall
J Lonsdale (A7)	Mr D Postle
C Morris (S3)	Miss A-M Davies
S Sulake (A3)	Miss A-M Davies
D Thomas (S4)	Miss A-M Davies
C Tunnicliffe (R4)	Mrs A Benoit
E Turner (R6)	Mrs K Wallace

Breaking the Code at Bletchley Park

Bletchley Park was home to Britain's top codebreakers (made up of mathematicians, linguists, cryptographers to name a few) in the Second World War. Last Friday, almost all of Year 11 attended a trip there to learn more about the legacy of the people involved and how they managed to crack the Enigma code, something that was thought to be impossible. It was interesting learning about the impact this had on the war and how it dramatically reduced the number of yearly casualties without the general public even knowing about it.

The activities for the day included an independent tour of the buildings used during wartime, all fully fitted with contemporary equipment that would have been used at the time, as well as a guided tour, where our guide taught us in detail about the use and suitability of Bletchley Park, as well as the type of people that commonly worked there – young educated women. We were also able to take part in a codebreaking workshop where we could utilise one of the only remaining Enigma machines (see right) open to the public.

Overall the day was extremely interesting and helped us understand the importance of the impact their work had on our country, and I am very pleased I had the opportunity to attend.

G Farge, Year 11



Regional Maths Challenge

Last week, two Y12s and two Y13s travelled to Stafford to take part in the Regional Senior Maths Challenge, where we competed against 18 other teams from across the West Midlands.



We were apprehensive as to what we'd signed up for – I was convinced I was going to be taking part in a high-pressure, buzzers-at-the-ready fast paced maths quiz, fighting directly against an opposing team, having assumed all Mathematics Competitions were based on Mean Girls. Thankfully, the day was far from it! We turned up to chocolate cookies, badges and some practice maths questions, and began to seize up our competition.

The first round lasted 40 minutes, and was, rather simply, a list of 10 questions that we had to solve. Scoring 8/10 shot us up to joint 4th, giving us a boost of confidence as we entered the second round: a number crossword. The twist was that we had to split our team into pairs – with each pair having half the clues, and many clues relying on answers we had got for previous ones. Teamwork, mathematical skill and some more cookies helped us get through with only 7 of 65 points lost. By that point, we were ready to face our final challenge, one that led to panicked shouting, banging heads and plenty of frantic scribbles as we attempted to solve 4 rounds of 4 questions with only 8 minutes per round. As each question relied on the answer to the one before, it was certainly a test of pressure and trust, and I am proud to say that we ended the day in 8th place!

The afternoon was, for me, an entertaining and crazy eye-opener into how a stereotypically 'individual' subject can be livened up with the help of fun problems, new challenges, and, of course, team spirit!

E Jenkins Year 13

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 this opportunity to support the Foodbank.

Mr M J Scott, Headteacher



Having a Christmas Clear Out?

We are running a second-hand book, CD and DVD sale now on **Friday the 22th of January**, in aid of gardening club to fundraise for our upcoming pond and outdoor learning area projects. Therefore, it'd be great if you could please bring in and donate any unwanted books, CDs or DVDs into school and put them in Room 19. Many thanks, gardening club.



Buses on Friday 20 December

School finishes at 12.30pm on the last day of term. The Muxton, Lilleshall, Tibberton & Sambrook services will depart at 12.35pm. Students must be outside promptly.

Adams Grammar buses will not run on this day (to or from school) as they finish on Thursday 19 December. Full attendance for all NGHS students is expected on the final morning of term.



SING 4 FUN

Christmas Charity Concert

Friday 13th December 2019 at
7.15pm

(Doors open at 6.45pm)
Newport Girls High School,
Wellington Road, Newport, TF10 7HL

Prize Draw and Buffet (bring own drinks)

Tickets only £5
from Hey Jude's at 3
Stafford Street,
Newport

In aid of Newport X-Ray Machine



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



BUYING YOUR CHILD A SMARTPHONE THIS CHRISTMAS?

The National Online Safety team have put together a factsheet about setting up new mobile phones safely.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to access it.

Vomiting Bug Reminder

Just a reminder that anyone who has experienced vomiting or diarrhea must not return to school until **48 hours** after their symptoms have stopped. Thanks.

Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Tue 10th	NGHS Election poll in Registration Birmingham Art Gallery Trip	All Y10-13
Thu 12th	GCSE German mocks (Friday too)	Y11
Fri 13th	Winter Jumper Day (for Newport Foodbank) + Christmas Lunch	All
Tue 17th	Mock exam results issued Carol Service at St Nicholas, 7pm	Y11 All
Wed 18th	Pantomime Trip (during day)	Y7
Thu 19th	Alumnae Reunion (Year 14)	Y14
Fri 20th	End of Term 12.30pm. No Adams buses running. Carol services am.	All
Mon 6th	Term restarts at 8.50am	All



St Nicholas Day: (Sankt Nikolaus) is remembered today on 6th December. St Nicholas is a Saint who sold all his possessions to give money to the poor. Remembered across the world, celebrations vary. Traditionally most children receive sweets in their shoes (or coal and twigs if they are naughty!)