



# NEWPORT NEWS

## A weekly update from NGHS

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### Head's Lines



**T**his week has seen a number of parent meetings and sports fixtures, all of which have been most successful. Monday was our Year 8 Parents Information Evening and important information about the curriculum, assessment and pastoral support was offered along with some helpful messages about E-Safety from Ms Capaldi. Our 'For Parents' section of the website does have a (hopefully) useful 'Help Guides for Parents' section. The term dates for 2020-2021 are also there to be viewed, so please [click here](#) to view.

On Tuesday night our Year 11s and parents attended a Revision Evening with guru Tim Milner. Following last year's resounding success, Tim was back on form and he not only gave the girls a number of tips and tricks for their GCSE revision, he also seemed to capture the interest of our Year 11 parents, as shown by the some of the feedback I received by email later in the week. Thank you to all the Y11 families who gave their time willingly to benefit from Tim's wisdom.

*Tim's session was very useful, entertaining and enjoyable! My daughter got lots of tips and ideas from it (as did I!) and we enjoyed talking and working with others on our table. Tim really was inspiring and such a good speaker. (Y11 Parent)*

*Thank you for organising such an insightful session last night. The best two hours I've spent in a long time! I'm sure all the girls and parents must feel the same (Y11 Parent)*

After a successful Cross Country fixture on Wednesday night, Thursday night saw NGHS take both first and second places in a netball match at Abraham Darby. Back at school, it was our Year 13 Parents Evening; the last one for many of our parents. On the whole, our current Year 13 are making excellent progress and we have been particularly pleased with the maturity and punctuality of the first wave of UCAS applicants as they have completed high

quality early-entry applications ahead of the deadline. We hope that this wave of good fortune continues and our attention turns to supporting the rest of the year group in making their applications in the next few weeks.

This newsletter has information about an event our Health & Wellbeing Committee organised to recognise World Mental Health Day. As a teacher of Year 9 PSHE this year, I appreciate first hand the importance this topic plays in our curriculum and our Year 9s are currently working on collaborative projects raising awareness of organisations who can best support those in need of advice and guidance as well as researching a number of more common mental health conditions. Having given the students considerable scope with these projects, it has been fascinating to see how some have chosen to focus on the genetics and health/science aspect whilst others are looking at charities and ways to support their peers and those they love who are finding things hard. Great work, Y9.

Last weekend I spent Saturday at the Shrewsbury and Telford Sixth Form recruitment fair. Along with two members of our Head Girl Team, it was great to talk to prospective sixth formers and their families about life at NGHS6. After this, I travelled to Conover to spend a couple of hours with our senior netballers who were frantically beating off the stiff competition of teams of girls from all over the UK at a special netball weekend. It was lovely to see such enthusiasm and team spirit among all the teams. More info on page 3.

We have just two weeks left of this half term! The week before half term is the first of three Staff Wellbeing Weeks this academic year. There are no evening events nor meetings at NGHS in this week and I am encouraging my colleagues to leave promptly at the end of the day. Any pre-arranged events (such as the Perf Arts Club, the Ghost Musical trip and fixtures) will continue, but I would appreciate your support in ensuring that your daughter is collected by no later than **5pm** to allow my senior staff the chance to also leave in good time. Thank you for your support.

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

**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](mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk)**



# Year 7 Team Skills Day



We had a fantastic day at Edgmond Hall and learnt lots of new skills. I started off by squeezing into the busy dining room filled with excited year 7s. We couldn't wait to start the day.

After Ms Capaldi had told us our groups that we'd be in, everyone tried to find their partners and jump onto the coach. We were there before we knew it and, as soon as we could, began to start the activities. Over the course of the day, we had lots of fun attempting these challenges:

- ⇒ Creating wonderful pictures with bits of nature (my group made a butterfly out of twigs, leaves, flowers and berries)
- ⇒ Putting together a crazy drama sketch using a different theme
- ⇒ Lunch!
- ⇒ Den building and trying not to get wet and dirty (which, of course, we did)
- ⇒ Solving problems like assault courses, jigsaws and complicated running races using communication and teamwork

I tried my best and had lots of fun. Altogether, I think Edgmond Hall was a complete success because I tried lots of new things and made lots of new friends.

**Written by Alice (R2)**





# Netball II Weekend



Blood. Sweat. Tears. Friday finally came around and 30 netballers from across years 11, 12 and 13 got on the coach. Upon arrival, we unloaded the bags in our rooms then went for dinner. Afterwards we had two hours to take part in various activities, such as laser tag and climbing. We then headed back to the rooms to attempt a good night's sleep ready for a long day of netball to follow. Saturday started -far too early- followed by a speedy breakfast to prepare us for the day. We then headed down to the courts, with 3 teams playing in the Sixth Form competition.

The Year 13 team had 6 matches in their pool, which were all incredibly tough. At the end of the day, we were in 6<sup>th</sup> place overall and headed into Sunday having gotten our hands on second place in the plate competition. Our Year 12 team also had a very tough day, with lots of bodies hitting the floor, but celebrations of a Newport goal were second to none. The team placed sixth going into Sunday. Finally, on Saturday morning, our new mixed Year 11 and 12 team started the first game on unsure footing, but soon got into the rhythm of play. With 5 out of 6 wins, including a 12-0 win over Mrs Goodall's Year 12 team, we finished 2<sup>nd</sup>. Once the sixth form comp had finished there was a much-needed break in play and we headed to the hall for lunch. A surprise visit from Mr Scott meant that our Year 11 team had to impress. The netball resumed and our Year 11s had a tough start against the team that would later go on to win the tournament. A win, a loss and a draw later, we finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

We went back to the rooms to rest up after a set of tough matches. With the majority of the Year 13s having to be woken up, we were ready for a night of laughs. A disco and some frankly indescribable dance moves under our belts, we headed to bed and hit the sack. A slightly more reasonable 7:00 am came around and we went down for breakfast. The Year 11s were up first; they played with high intensity, brutal in their defence and clinical in attack. In the end, our team just missed out on a spot in the semis. Ready for another gruelling session of netball, our Sixth form teams warmed up and started playing. All 3 teams kicked the morning off with a win. The Year 13s came away with a win and a loss on the final day. The Year 12s finished with a fight when their Captain slipped on the court and was unwillingly dragged off with possible concussion.

Finally, our mixed team ended up just missing out on a spot in the final, after having been defeated in a very evenly-matched game, that was decided by just one goal (and some questionable umpiring). Congratulations to all four teams on an impressive weekend of sport. A massive thanks must go to Mrs Goodall and Miss Clarke for coaching and organising the trip, and to Mrs Wallace and Miss McCleary for coming along.





# WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY



In order to raise awareness for World Mental Health Day this year the Health and Wellbeing Committee decided to run a positivity stones session where students painted and wrote inspirational messages onto pebbles which were then placed in the school garden.

This activity encouraged students to get creative in our fight for a future where all young minds are supported and empowered, whatever the challenges.

**Mrs Martin, Wellbeing Officer**

## U19 Hub Selection

Congratulations to two students; Victoria R (Y12) and Ella J (Y10) who have been selected to be part of Walsall Wasps U19 hub for 2019/20,

Ella has been selected for the first time and Victoria for the third. This involves playing against other hubs within the franchise and sets up a pathway into the official squads that compete at NPL (netball performance league) each summer.

It is a particularly great achievement for Ella at such a young age. Both girls play Goal Defence and Goal Keeper and we wish them both every success in their training and matches. Well done!



# Attendance Heroes

We have now completed the first month of school and it is at this point that we begin to monitor attendance more closely. Our school attendance target is 97%; we do monitor attendance when it drops below 95% and we will follow our Attendance Policy to ensure it is addressed. 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. In September the overall school attendance figure was 97.41% 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 September 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 in assembly with a box of Heroes to say well done.

**This month our winners were: A1, A4, R4, A5, S5.** All of the students that did achieve 97%+ attendance have also received a House Point too.

The competition is restarted in October 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 11 and Mrs D Martin: Sixth Form) for additional advice and support.



## Concert at Adams for Proton Beam Therapy

Next Thursday, 17 October, we are putting on a concert in aid of an Adams' parent, who needs to raise nearly £60,000 to have Proton Beam Therapy to treat a brain tumour. The Haves family are very involved with music at Adams and are hugely supportive of the Music Department. We now want to support them in return and a large number of our talented students and staff have offered to help us do this. Our concert, 'Helping Haves', will feature a wide variety of music of all types from vocal to instrumental, soloists and ensemble performances, and hopefully even a staff band.

Tickets cost £5.00 and they are now available from the Music Department at Haberdashers' Adams (01952 953838 or [amanda.coomer@adamsgs.uk](mailto:amanda.coomer@adamsgs.uk)). A bar will be available on the evening, thanks to help from Adams' FM, friends of music at Haberdashers' Adams. All proceeds from this concert will go towards the cost of Mr Haves' treatment. The concert takes place in Hamilton Hall starting at 7.30pm.

**Do come along and help us support this worthy cause.**



## Random Acts of Kindness for this week

Date	Option 1	Option 2
Friday	Write a letter to a woman who has made a difference in your life	Publicly acknowledge the accomplishment of someone that deserves more recognition.
Saturday	Teach a child or teenager techniques to be financially responsible	Leave a positive comment on a social media post you enjoyed
Sunday	Draw a picture for a friend	Free day - how can you build a new relationship?
Monday	Clip coupons and put them next to corresponding items at a supermarket	Acknowledge someone when they walk into the room with a smile or warm greeting
Tuesday	Make a donation at your local charity shop	Look someone in the eye and say 'you make my job easier'
Wednesday	Write a poem for your parent(s)/guardian(s)	Write and place a note of appreciation on someone's desk today
Thursday	Make care bags to give to homeless people	Make an effort to start every conversation you have today on a positive note.



## 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



*Worth a thought...*

*Don't limit your  
challenges, challenge your  
limits (A5)*

## Forthcoming Dates...



Date	Event	Year(s)
Tue 15th	Year Group Assembly, 9.00am Early UCAS application deadline Chemistry Lecture, Birmingham	Y13 Y13 Y12-13
Wed 16th	House Quiz (lunchtime)	All
Thu 17th	Open Morning, 9.30-12 PTA Film Night Duke of Edinburgh Parents Mtg Poetry Evening	Y4-5 Y7-8 Bronze All
Fri 18th	Whole School Assembly (9am) Telford Elim Community Church visit (15 students)	All Y8
Thu 24th	Non-Uniform Day Ghost the Musical Trip	All Y9-13
Fri 25th	Half Term begins at 3.45pm	All
Mon 4th	Term restarts at 8.50am	All