



IS THIS A SCIENCE LAB?

Once finished, this will be (another) state of the art science laboratory for all NGHS girls to learn in.

Lab equipment and furniture cannot be included in our bid. Can you help us reach our dream of raising over £75,000? We need your help.

Visit www.nghs.org.uk/PFS for more information.



#NGHSfamily
#PrimedForSuccess

*This was the scene in Room 22 earlier this month. **The laboratory is now nearly finished and will open after Easter.** However it cannot open without Bunsen burners, stools, a fume cupboard and other laboratory glassware/equipment. The cost of the equipment is over £5,000. This forms part of our goal of £75,347 for the new building furniture. If **every NGHS family** donated around **£7 a month** for 12 months we would reach our goal. Would you like to make a donation this weekend? Please [click here](#) to find out more. The best way to donate is to pay directly into our Friends bank account. Details on the website linked above and please Gift Aid if you are eligible. Some schools request ongoing monthly donations. PFS is a 12 month project. THANK YOU.*



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 4 - Issue 24 - Friday 19 March 2021



This week marks twelve months since the closing of schools on 20 March 2020. The impact of the pandemic has been far-reaching and is of course still not over. Each and every decision has been painstaking and of course public opinion always differs. Perhaps one day I will write a book! Many Headteachers are sadly leaving the profession or retiring early. There will be time to reflect fully on what we can learn and make good use of going forward as not every new aspect of the pandemic has been negative. Attendance is at an all-time high and it is so lovely to see the school busy once again. A huge thank you to parents for logging on to the testing portal to record home testing results. I must admit I logged in with trepidation on Thursday, but was confronted with hundreds of logs by staff, parents and sixth form students. **Don't forget the next test is due to be completed on Sunday with the result in the database for Monday.** If you have any problems, please contact us via covidreturn@nghs.org.uk.

Students picked up their home test kits this week. Thank you to Mrs Davenport and her team for their sterling work in distributing them in a controlled manner. Students have been supplied with six tests (Year 13 just received 3 as the delivery was short but the next batch have arrived today. Year 13 should collect a second box from Reception on Monday.) Students in Y7-12 have enough to last until into the Easter break and testing and recording should continue throughout. More tests will arrive by then. I need to remain on call for the first six days to contact trace any positive tests and will share information about how to contact me during this first week of the holiday in due course.

Year 13 have sat a second mock exam paper this week in each subject. Once again their conduct and approach has been nothing short of outstanding and my colleagues will be spending the next week marking their work. We are still awaiting final guidance from Ofqual concerning the grading of students for GCSE and A-level. We have a draft plan, which we will formalise and share with students and families once we have verified this against the final guidance. There is much speculation in the media and, whilst this clearly leads to anxiety and concern, I would reiterate that we are committed to working to the **final** guidance alone to avoid ambiguity and our professional, meticulous approach was regularly cited as excellent by last year's students. We do not intend to fall short of this in 2021.

Below I share exciting news about a project NGHS is going to be leading across the region. Also, if you live locally, you may have seen that the local press has picked up on our staff's sterling work in supporting MIND and there's more information on page four.

Our fundraising team of parents/governors have asked me to share information about our nearly-finished science lab on page 1. I understand that some families may not be in a position to support our campaign, but I am hopeful that many can and will be willing to do this. I want to avoid having to share equipment between laboratories to maximise practical science and we ask for your support in making 12 monthly donations to our campaign by direct debit or a one-off donation (if you have not considered this already).

Have a nice—and safe—weekend, **Mr M J Scott**

FLEXIBLE WORKING AMBASSADOR STATUS

I'm delighted to confirm that NGHS has been chosen as one of only eight schools across the UK to lead a project for the Department for Education around flexible working. We have a large number of part-time staff at NGHS and consider requests for part-time working carefully as well as timetabling prudently to avoid splitting classes to accommodate part-time working. NGHS will receive a grant to produce training materials for other schools and to host a variety of virtual and face-to-face events (next year) to raise awareness of ways to accommodate more face-to-face learning. Examples include staggered retirements, child-care friendly hours, job-sharing, staff working different hours on different days etc. This is one of the reasons why NGHS is able to retain such dedicated and experienced staff and ultimately this benefits our students. The FWAS project will be led by Mr Scott with help from other senior leaders and lasts until 2023. If you are a leader working within a West Midlands school and would like to receive more information in due course, please email me via headteacher@nghs.org.uk with your contact details.



NEWPORT GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL
A Flexible Working Ambassador School

Newport Girls' High School
Wellington Road
Newport, TF10 7HL
Tel: 01952 797550

Headteacher: Mr M J Scott BA(Hons) Exon PGCertEd NPQH FRSA
To contact the School about a general enquiry, please use schooloffice@nghs.org.uk

WHERE'S THE ROOF?



PRIMED FOR SUCCESS
BUILDING UPON A CENTURY OF NGHs EXCELLENCE



This week has focused on completing the science lab and making sure the foundations are in place for the steel work which arrives on 29 March. The roof in room 24 has had to be removed to install steel columns. Deep holes, piles, frames and concrete have been poured into the ground and we hope that the steel structure will be installed over the Easter holiday so we will really see the building start to take shape when we return.

Our Catering Team will shortly begin to work with groups of students about the launch of our new Dining Room service including menu choices and offers. Exciting times indeed!



Our Miles For Your Minds Almost £4000 raised!

Throughout February, NGHS staff came together to raise almost £4000 for MIND. At a time when the mental health of our young people has never been so prevalent, the team of over 20 staff joined forces mentally to challenge themselves to run, walk and/or cycle over 2895 miles cumulatively (from Newport to Gibraltar!) to promote the positive effects physical activity can have on our mental health. Early mornings, evenings and weekends were taken up with physical exercise in the vicinity of colleague's homes. The challenge was pioneered by Danielle Martin, NGHS's Wellbeing Officer for Year 11-13 students who commented: "The staff at NGHS are a tight-knit community. Being a smaller school, colleagues from both teaching and support sectors all know and support each other and this has been particularly important over the past twelve months. It has been a pleasure to provide a weekly update in the Headteacher's newsletter about our progress and it has been lovely to see so many staff get involved". NGHS's Headteacher Michael Scott commented: "Throughout the pandemic, our staff have acted with great sympathy and understanding of the difficulties that students and families have faced in lockdown at home. The pandemic has taught us all that we are stronger together and our students love to discover more about what staff do outside of work! I am very proud of all my colleagues for being first-class role-models for our students at this difficult time."



The staff enjoyed some incredible mental and financial support from friends, families, students and parents along the way, not to mention from Liverpool Football Club and MIND's very own ambassador Duke Mackenzie MBE, who sent messages of encouragement to the group on social media. (Press release)





THANK YOU FRIDAY

Congratulations to this fortnight's winners...

To: Student	From: Teacher
O Augustus (11X)	Miss A-M Davies
A Bhatnagar (10Z)	Mrs J Barker
C Biggs (10Z)	Mrs H Furnival
H Bone (8A)	Mrs A Seys
V Cass (9A)	Mrs K Gill
L Chilcott (10Z)	Mrs K Gill
E Esslemont-Hill (11Y)	Mrs K Gill
I Harvey-Ewusi (12H)	Miss E Heyes
C Hegarty (10X)	Mrs J Barker
A Jackson (10Z)	Mrs A Seys
A Jones (12N)	Miss A-M Davies
C Kemp (12N)	Mrs K Gill

To: Student	From: Teacher
B McCloy (7S)	Mrs K Gill
E Micklewright (A7)	Mrs K Gill
R Morgan (12N)	Miss A-M Davies
A Morris (7R)	Miss A Rosbach
O Needham (12N)	Mrs A Seys
E Owen (12G)	Mrs K Griffin
N Parker (10Z)	Mrs J Barker
A Pattar (11Y)	Mrs K Gill
M Salem (10Z)	Mrs H Furnival
A Skeate (10Z)	Mrs H Furnival
L Skidmore (10Z)	Mrs H Furnival
E Spencer (11X)	Mrs H Furnival

Headlice Awareness



Headlice infection is a problem of the whole community, not just schools. It is common in holiday time and during lockdown as well as during the term.

Parents may worry more when their children return to school, however most infections are caught from close family members and friends. It is not just children who have them, adults get Headlice too!

Headlice are a problem in many communities and do not reflect poor hygiene or social status.

Please could we ask you do your part to prevent any spread of this condition, by checking your children's hair on a regular basis? Tying hair back is recommended. Students in Year 7 and Year 8 are most often affected.

If you discover a case of Headlice, it is helpful if you could let the school know. The information you give will be treated in confidence.

There is no requirement for a student to be kept off school. If you need further information (such as how best to treat this condition), please contact the Community School Nurse Team on 0333 358 3328

Or visit [Head Lice and Nits](#) – NHS.uk or NHS Choices.

Thank you for your support

Mrs F Davenport
Pastoral & Safeguarding Administrator
i/c Medication



NGHS PASTORAL TEAM - WHO'S WHO?

At NGHS, the safety of students, staff and visitors is our top priority.

Students can speak to ANY member of staff about their concerns, but there are certain colleagues with additional training to support you in pastoral and safeguarding matters.

SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Miss H Clarke
Assistant Head & Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mr M J Scott
Headteacher
& Deputy DSL



Mrs F Davenport
Pastoral & Safeguarding
Administrator & DDSL



Mrs K Danby
Y7-10 Wellbeing
Officer & DDSL

PASTORAL LEADERS



Mrs K Griffin
Head of Sixth Form



Mrs D Martin
Y11-13
Wellbeing Officer



Miss S Tomkinson
Head of Year 11



Mrs H Goodall
Head of Year 10



Mrs A Seys
Head of Year 9



Ms J Capaldi
Head of Years 7&8

Questions to ask your child in lockdown **YOUNG MINDS**

What could help you to complete your school work at home? Where would you like to work at home?

Is there anything you want to talk about?

When was the last time you were very happy?

What makes you feel calm?

How can you keep in touch with friends and family at the moment? e.g. Facetime, Whatsapp

What things would you like to do in the future?

What difficulties are you facing now?

What can I do to help?

Where is a place you feel safe?

Would it be helpful if we planned each day together?

Do you have any worries about the coronavirus?

Where in our home do you feel like you can have your own space?

What have you enjoyed about today?

What are you worried about when you lie in bed and can't sleep?

Can you think of anything fun that we can do at home?

How do you feel about things changing?

How do you feel about staying at home?

Click on the image to get more assistance and information

To urgently contact a member of the senior leadership team outside school hours, please use urgent@nghs.org.uk
Please include your phone number and name of your daughter