



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 4 - Issue 26 - Thursday 1 April 2021



Well, we have made it to the start of the Easter break! I continue to be bowled over by the resolve of my colleagues to not only support me and the plans I put in place, but to offer fantastic support to our students and to keep our curriculum delivery pretty much as normal. Part of the reason this is easier at NGHS than in many other schools is because our students are respectful of the rules and regulations we must all abide by and they are so positive in their approach to school. And rightly so! Every single member of our NGHS family has given their all since returning on 8th March. I must thank everyone for all they have done to test regularly, for abiding by the national and school regulations and for coming to school with a smile. Whilst the in-school testing on w/c 8th & 15th March was tiring, it was also reassuring to see that our students were committed to testing and to keeping themselves and others safe. I know that numbers are creeping up locally and will need to follow track and trace procedures during the first few days of the Easter break. More information about this below....

Home Testing Kits

All students should have received their home testing kits to use during the holiday. I know a couple of students have had invalid tests along the way, because the test has not worked. If students are therefore running short of tests, it's most important that **one is kept to do on Sunday 18 April, prior to the full school return on Monday 19 April. We ask all members of our NGHS family to take a test on 18th and report it in the usual way. A text SMS will be sent on this day to remind families.**

One important U-turn on testing was announced this week. If a positive result is obtained on a lateral flow test, a confirmatory PCR (lab) test is now required (again). I think the number of students nationally consenting to LFT had fallen (although not at NGHS) as parents have been reluctant to trust their validity when a positive result would have meant instant isolation for the household for 10 days. We are back to the situation where a positive LFT means temporary isolation until a confirmatory PCR test can be obtained.

I understand there will be announcements over Easter concerning testing in April/May and information for the return to school on Monday 19 April. I will of course keep you updated.



This week has seen a crane tower over the courtyard. See more on page 2

Society Reopening After Lockdown

We know, understand and all share the frustrations of lockdown 3; Mr Carey and I are looking forward to the day when the barbers re-open! We are all looking forward to a sense of normality returning and obviously the next reopening phase occurs during this holiday. All that we ask is that students continue to act with some caution and, most importantly do not return to school on 19th April if they display any of the classic Covid symptoms or feel generally unwell. Completing the test on 18th will help. We want to avoid students having to isolate and hope the weather will be kind to us and allow some outdoor family gatherings over the Easter break.

Building Work/Over Easter - see above

The steel frame for our extension is now being erected and there have been some huge cranes and trucks in the courtyard this week; please see page 2. Thank you for the ongoing support of parents in signing up to make donations to Primed for Success. Work is still on track and progressing well and I will be keeping an eye on progress during the Easter break. The science laboratory is now ready save for the installation of a fume cupboard and a second coat of paint, which will be finished over Easter. After Easter, Year 7 and Year 8 students will be prioritised for lessons in this laboratory to ensure they can do some practical science again. I have just been presented with the bill for the equipment which is required in this room, which needs to be found from donations alone. Thank you in advance for your support.

On behalf of the governing body and my senior leadership team, thank you for your ongoing support and we wish you a safe, enjoyable and healthy break.

Mr M J Scott

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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



PRIMED FOR SUCCESS

BUILDING UPON A CENTURY OF NGH'S EXCELLENCE

Steel beams flying in!



PRIMED FOR SUCCESS

MISSING YOUR LOCAL RESTAURANT?

We all enjoy meeting up with family and friends and dining out occasionally. We miss it more when it's not actually possible!

Until we can get together again, would you consider donating the cost of a family meal out as a one-off gift to our Primed for Success campaign?

A gift of £50 (with GiftAid if applicable) would go a long way to helping us reach our goal of £75,347.

Visit www.nghs.org.uk/pfs to find out more.



#NGHSfamily
#PrimedForSuccess

The steel frame is starting to take shape. We hope the courtyard will be filled with steel structures in late April!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Updates for Next Half Term



Miss H Clarke: Acting Deputy Headteacher & Lead PE Teacher

From Monday 19th April we will resume two different sports for each year group in PE for students in Years 7 to 11. In line with the arrangements so far this year, we remain in a position where we are unable to allow students to change for PE in school, therefore this will mean that all students (including Y12 PE groups) will continue to come to school in full PE kit on PE days. The curriculum map is shown below and will indicate which activities your child will be taking part in next half term.

2020-2021	Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		Year 11	
HALF TERM	Games	PE	Games	PE	Games	PE	Games	PE	Games	PE
5	Cricket	Problem Solving	Handball	Athletics	Netball	Danish Longball	Golf	Body Barn	Rounders	Body Barn
Year 12 Football										

Thank you for your support with the wearing of full PE kit on PE days. A reminder that the PE kit forms part of our uniform policy and we expect all students to wear regulation items of PE kit in line with this policy.

For students in Years 10 and 11 one of their planned PE lessons will continue to take place off-site, the school has covered the cost of using this facility in full. Students will be attending the Body Barn for their planned lesson for the whole of next half term. The team at the Body Barn will be leading fitness sessions using their fantastic equipment and site.

Next half term the focus will be on an introduction to weight training and all groups have been briefed on this by Danny at the Body Barn and their PE teacher this week. I can reassure you that two members of staff will accompany each group that visits the Body Barn and that we will supervise the walk including the lane that we take on the way to the facility, if students have a lesson period 5 on this day we will dismiss them from there unless you let us know otherwise. Please email schooloffice@nghs.org.uk if you would prefer your child to walk back to school with their class teacher and we will ensure that this happens.

We will be continuing to offer just outdoor PE during half term 5, therefore there may be occasions in the event of poor weather where classes may be unable to do their outdoor PE lesson. In this situation the class will be taken back to their home room where they will take part in team building and problem-solving activities instead.

AUSTEN

RODDAM

SEACOLE

HOUSE HISTORICAL CASTLE COMPETITION

The annual House Year 7 Castle Challenge was slightly different this year owing to lockdown. Our Year 7 students were given the brief of demonstrating their knowledge of castles (either Motte & Bailey or Stone Keep) in any way they wished, either in text, by making a model, a painting or any other way they deemed fit. Their creativity was superb. It was difficult to judge the competition as the standard was so high. In order to be as impartial as possible, Miss Davies and I were helped with the judging by our two Year 12 History Ambassadors, Aimee and Becky. **Aimee & Becky make the following comments for each class:**

7 Austen

1st place: Daisy R

Runners up: Isla B and Rhen K

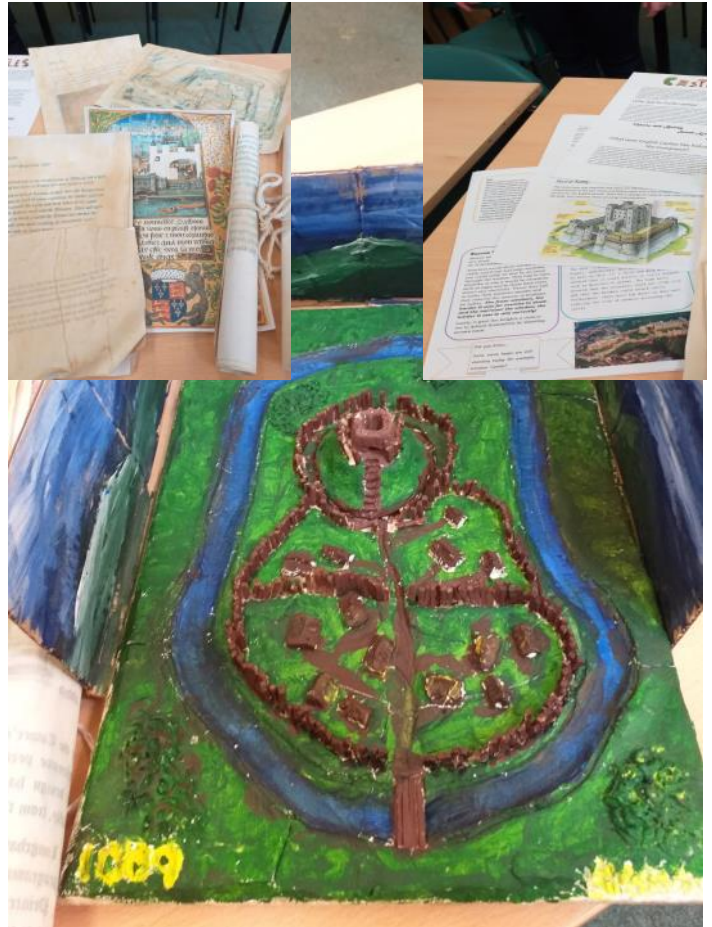
Austen had many PowerPoints which did well to present the information and the one castle that was baked look amazing. As well as the baked castle, some of the drawings and models we saw were astounding. Daisy stood out due to the massive amount of information she had done and the way she had presented it as well. The fact that she'd done both the Motte and Bailey castle as well as the Stone keep castle stood out to us, and the cartoon characters she had drawn were very cute.

7 Roddam

1st place: Yuthika G

Runners up: Alanah M (Caerphilly castle) and Aleeza A

Roddam had made many models and the features of the castles were well labelled. One project was particularly creative as it had been made out of snow and looked great however we thought that Yuthika's project stood out the most due to the amount of information and the lovely way she had presented it with the colours and the diagrams. The fact that she had focused on three types of castles and written sufficiently about them all was particularly great.



7 Seacole

1st place: Phoebe F

Runners up: Samuella B and Lily E

Seacole had a high standard of castles and many girls did individual castles, such as Dover and Alnwick, which we found very interesting to read. There were many Minecraft castles which we found very creative and entertaining.

We found Phoebe's project especially amazing as she put in a great amount of effort and the way she presented information through reports and diary entries was superb. This project was the only one we had in this design and so it stood out a great deal to us. Phoebe, the Seacole winner said "Year 7 were set a history competition about castles and this year our submissions could be any format we chose. Our task was to create a piece of work which demonstrated the structure of castles from 1066- 1700 and the progress made in construction techniques and the developments in weaponry and the castles' defences during that period. I chose to focus my project on the Tower Of London as I have a passion for its history. I created a box of letters and newspapers as if they were written from 1066 until 1700 about the developments of the building. This contest was great fun and educational."





THANK YOU FRIDAY

Congratulations to this fortnight's winners...

To: Student	From: Teacher
L Brown (7S)	Miss A Rosbach
O Cass (9S)	Ms J Clarke
A Chakkravarthy (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
A Corkhill (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
M Delves (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
G Ekhuemelo (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
A Faisal (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
L Green (12H)	Miss A-M Davies
T Hardiman (11X)	Ms D Branson
A Hekant (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
L Keen (10X)	Mr D Postle
N L B Swami (8R)	Mrs Fujii & Miss Rosbach

To: Student	From: Teacher
B McCloy (7S)	Miss A Rosbach
I Muthuhewa (9A)	Mrs J Chandler
O Needham (12N)	Mr D Postle
M Padkin (11Y)	Mrs Fujii & Mrs Wallace
S Rai (12S)	Miss A-M Davies
M Salem (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
R Shah (9A)	Ms D Branson
C Smith (11Y)	Mrs T Fujii
C Thomas (8R)	Miss A Rosbach
E Trippier (7A)	Mrs T Fujii
P Williams (8R)	Mrs T Fujii

Naval Selection Board Success!

NGHS student, Daisy Kynaston (Year 13) is delighted to be successful in her Naval Selection Board interview. A ten-minute presentation and a forty minute interview led to an amazing 100% pass rate in the selection process and a guaranteed place on graduation with a funded university degree and a naval wage to boot. Daisy is looking forward to joining Birmingham City University to study Adult Nursing in September. She approached the application for selection entirely independently and this has been a long-held ambition held for her since joining the Army Cadets at the age of 12. Only twelve candidates were successful this year.

We are delighted and congratulate Daisy wholeheartedly on this accolade.



**Virtually Boccia
National Leader board**



Position	Region	County	School Name	Total
1	Central	Buckinghamshire	Giles Brook School	287.57
2	East Anglia	Suffolk	Gorseland Primary School	275
3	South East	Kent	Greenlands Primary School	254.03
4	South East	Kent	West Borough Primary	234.81
5	South East	Kent	Meadowfield School	226.67
6	West Midlands	Shropshire	Longlands Primary School	219.1
7	West Midlands	Shropshire	Newport Girls' High School	215.17

Over lockdown, the PE department delivered a virtual boccia lesson (via Teams) to all of our classes, years 7-12 in that week. We collated the results and Mrs Goodall sent them off to be entered into a regional competition. After round one, NGHS are currently second in the West Midlands and seventh nationally!

Virtually

Boccia Ranking





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 YOUNGMINDS

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