



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 4 - Issue 34 - Friday 18 June 2021



One of the highlights for me each academic year is to visit our new intake of Year 7 pupils at their primary schools and this week I was delighted to be welcomed into a couple of local schools. Together with 5-6 colleagues, we hope to try to visit as many Year 6 pupils as possible prior to their September start. To hear their enthusiasm and reasons for choosing NGHS, as well as calming their nerves about getting lost and having too much homework is all part of growing up and it was great to see happy, smiling faces in spite of ongoing pandemic restrictions.

Talking of the pandemic, we are still continuing on our journey through Covid and the delay to lifting restrictions will see us continuing the status quo until the end of term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers who continue to voice their appreciation to NGHS about all matters pastoral, curricular and pandemic. It is great to see our work is appreciated and I do pass on all comments I receive.

In spite of the restrictions, there are some positive changes - we are permitted to hold a controlled sports day outdoors and will be doing so. This is something lots of students and staff have asked about and we will be keeping year and house bubbles together all day on Friday 9 July to come together as a school community, unless there are any further government announcements to the contrary. All students will be fully briefed on the arrangements in advance. Let's hope for sunshine!

On Tuesday I hosted an online meeting with Mr Hickey (Headmaster at Haberdashers' Adams) and Miss Carter (Principal at Burton Borough) to discuss a more common approach to outside speaker provision and the teaching of Personal Social & Health Education (PSHE) in our schools. As I think you are aware, NGHS was asked by the DFE to become an early-adopter school for the new sex and relationships education programme in 2020 and our meeting showed that each school approaches this subject differently. For example NGHS and BB students have a weekly PSHE period on the timetable, whereas Adams have a form tutor lesson each week. Neither approach is necessarily better, but I have asked that all three schools' PSHE coordinators work together to evaluate the curriculum and to share details of guest speakers so that key messages are delivered to all three schools with greater consistency. I am delighted that both Headteacher colleagues feel this is a positive step for Newport students. Thank you also to the NGHS

students who created two committees this week, one of which is to review the PSHE programme, which is something we do each year. On Tuesday, we welcomed colleagues from University of Birmingham to review two PSHE lessons and they were very impressed. We have also talked to students this week about confidentiality. We were asked why we have to share disclosures with parents. We have made clear that this is something we have to do, except in exceptional circumstances; it is a statutory part of safeguarding in all schools. We also encourage students to approach parents about such matters, but can help them to do this if necessary.

Finally, I have enjoyed planning meetings this week with our building contractor to map out progress over the summer holiday. As well as the building work, we have some internal renovations planned this summer and the roof to finish: It's a busy and exciting time for the School. I also look forward to being able to take a small group of students to visit the building site and the roof before the end of term (don't worry, it is fully risk assessed!)

Enjoy the weekend and stay safe,

Mr M J Scott

Fundraising Success!

Huge congratulations to Darcey Gallacher in Year 7 Seacole who raised £450 towards our Primed for Success campaign. She took to an acrobatic glider and managed 8 unassisted loops! What a fearless student and a great amount towards our new build!! Thank you very much and congratulations Darcey!

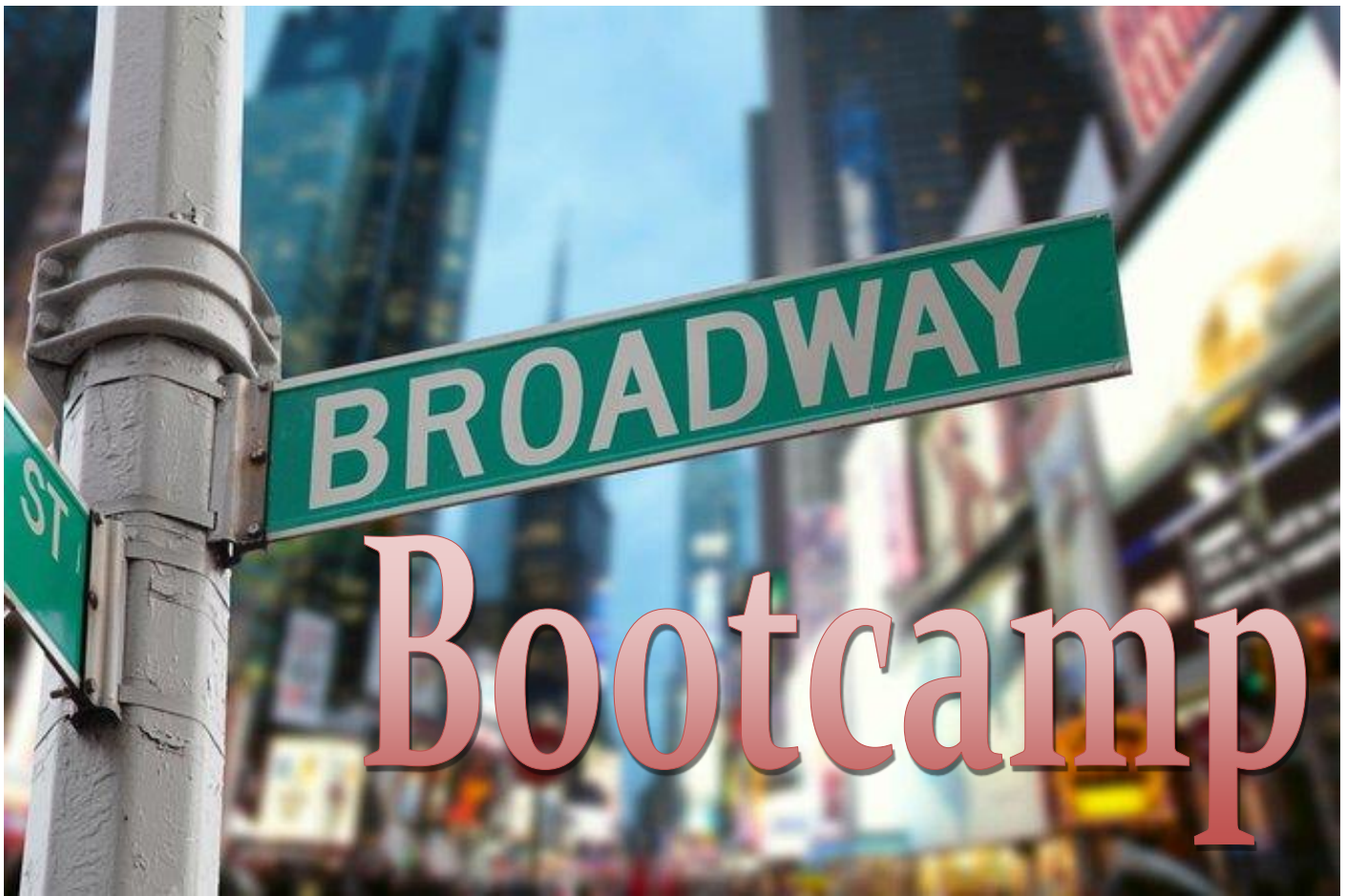


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To contact the School about a general enquiry, please use schooloffice@nghs.org.uk



Bootcamp



This past week, I was lucky enough to attend Kristin Chenoweth's Broadway Bootcamp (KCBBC), a musical theatre summer camp, which usually takes place in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, but, due to the pandemic, was virtual this year. After watching tonnes of

audition entries, the KCBBC team carefully selected 138 students, from over 8 different countries (including Columbia and the Philippines) and 33 US states, to attend the camp, and I was honoured to be accepted as one of these campers.

The week was life-changing; very intense but absolutely incredible. The people I met were insanely talented and memories I made I will treasure forever, not to mention all the pages of knowledge I obtained from the best of the best in the theatre industry. At camp, we started off our mornings with Good Morning Campers, a morning catch-up with a catchy jingle which I knew off by heart by the end of the week. We would then have our 'Light Lessons' with Sierra Boggess, the original Ariel from the Little Mermaid, before having a dance warmup, with people such as Baayork Lee, from a Chorus Line who taught us the original warm-up that the cast would do before every performance of the show, and Madame Olga V, whom some of you may know from Instagram as the hilarious Russian ballet teacher.

After, we'd have a vocal warm-up with the amazing Celeste Simone, one of the most sought after vocal coaches in NYC, who's worked with people such as Chita Rivera. We also had multiple rehearsals

throughout the week for our Sunday show at the Kristi Chenoweth's Broadway Awards ceremony, which was all pre-recorded due to COVID, where worked with two great musical directors – Kevin Stites and Joseph Church, and three awesome choreographers – Kyle Garvin, Mimi Scardulla and Tyler Hanes.

My favourite part of the week had to be the masterclasses and panels, where I got the pleasure of working one to one with Faith Prince on my acting through song, Victoria Shaw on my song writing and got to meet the Broadway cast of SIX The Musical, though I'm most thankful for the kind and talented friends I made during the week.

Now I'm back to school, I'm very tired having had to switch back to UK time from American Central time, but I am ever so grateful to Kristin, John McDaniel and Richard Jay-Alexander for the opportunity they gave me, and to Mr Scott for supporting me in attending the camp. It truly has been the most unbelievable week of my life!

Natasha P (10Z)





PRIMED FOR SUCCESS
BUILDING UPON A CENTURY OF NGHS EXCELLENCE



Last week, the concrete arrived and was poured in. It has now set!



This week has seen more brickwork, cladding, spray coating and lots of action on the first floor (not pictured!)

Equestrian Success

On 13th June, members of the NGHS equestrian team took part in the NSEA show-jumping competition at Beave Hall. The students that took part were Isabelle W on Painted Pink, Holly J on Gweneth Castan, Eva T on Paddy, Connie A on The Ginger Ninja and Jazmine R on Trefnant Black Flyer. As a team they came **FIRST** in both the 60cm and 70cm classes. They all did amazingly well with some clear rounds and some students were individually placed. Isabelle came 4th in the 60cm and 6th in the 70cm, Eva came 2nd in the 60cm and 5th in the 70cm. Holly also came 4th in the 80cm. The team have qualified for Counties and could possibly be going to Hickstead. Well done everyone!



AS PE SUMMER OF SEMINARS

#BEINSPIRED

Richard Kerr



The AS PE class have been fortunate enough to be joined by Richard Kerr in our latest summer seminar. Richard is a PE teacher of many years as well as being a Rugby referee and managing the rugby referee development scheme in Ulster, Northern Ireland.

During the session, we developed our understanding of the sports psychology section of the course by discussing the different theory which suggest the relationship between arousal and personality-Drive theory, Inverted U-theory and Catastrophe theory. All three theories are important for coaches and players to understand how arousal affects the performance of an individual-negatively and positively.

The session started by looking at an exam question which we were unable to answer with our current level of knowledge and by the end of the session we all felt confident enough to be able to answer the 10 marker and subsequently have now answered the question with a great depth of knowledge. He constantly engaged with us, allowing us to ask questions and we were giving us the opportunity to discuss our own arousal and performance relationship link within our own sport and how each of the theories fit different types of skills/sports.

Richard's explanations of the theory were second-to-none and all of us were privileged to be able to have had a lesson from a highly knowledgeable sportsman.

This was our most recent seminar, and we are looking forward to him joining us again for another seminar later this term as well as continuing our engagement with a range of highly-skilled sports people to aid our understanding of both sports psychology and athletes training and nutrition.

Jasmyn, Year 12



Head Girl Team Highlights...

As the Head Girl Team, we feel it is of paramount importance to promote the diversity within school this Pride month.

Every June celebrations take place to recognise the positive impact LGBTQI+ people have had on this world, but also to educate the population on the history of discrimination this community has faced, in the hope of promoting an equal society.


We are fortunate here at NGHS to have incredible pastoral support, and to be part of a community that embraces all of our differences. As a Head Girl Team we have plans in the upcoming year to build upon this, and develop inclusion so all students feel comfortable and understood. Collectively as a team we aim to achieve this through:

- 👉 Educating others through our social media accounts, for example the HGT Instagram (@nghshgt)
- 👉 Making additions to our PSHE curriculum to ensure it accommodates to the students needs and suggestions.
- 👉 Holding regular meetings with the wellbeing and PSHE committees.

From September, a sixth form drop in will become available for students who wish to talk to an older student. Our main message is to encourage students to support, and spread positivity across our NGHS family. #LOVEISLOVE

For any additional support outside of school, please click on the logos:





County Selection

We offer huge congratulations to Shruti Mathew in Year 9 (Seacole) who has been selected to represent the Shropshire County U15 Girls Cricket Team. This is a fantastic achievement and Shruti played her first match this week against Stafford U15 Girls Team.



Seacole House Captains

Following last week's introduction to Roddam House Captains, this week we introduce you to Keira, who is Seacole's House Captain for 2021-22. She writes:



Throughout my time at NGHS, the house system has been a central part of school life. I have been in Seacole since year 7 and I am now proud to lead the house as House Captain. The Seacole family provides students with a pride for their house, bringing pupils from all year groups together, united by their desire for Seacole to be the winning team!

One element of Seacole I have always loved is how supportive and motivating the whole house is and we always encourage all students to get involved. After a tough year with house events not going ahead as usual, I am excited to reignite the house spirit for the return of events such as Sports Day.

Mary Jane Seacole is best known for her role in the Crimean war as a nurse, setting up the 'British Hotel' behind the lines. She is looked upon as a strong role model who challenged social standards. Our house embodies the resilience, determination and passion which Mary Seacole displayed. Throughout my time in Seacole I have seen the passion and drive everyone has to represent their house and to give everything that they have to help Seacole win.



Find out all about Austen's team next week!

Building a Flexible Working Culture

Just a quick reminder if you are a teacher or governor in a West Midlands school that our introductory webinar to building a flexible working culture is taking place on Monday (21 June) from 2pm-3pm. Please visit www.nghs.org.uk/fwas to sign up.

NSPCC-RUN HELPLINE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE IN SCHOOLS

0800 136 663

Department for Education

A new dedicated helpline has been set up by the NSPCC to help victims of sexual harassment and abuse in schools, both recent or historically, it launches today 1st April for:

- children & young people involved or witness to any incidents
- adults in regards to non-recent abuse
- professionals who require support

It can provide support and advice, including how to contact the police and report crimes.

NSPCC
Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP

Newport Girls' High School
A DFE Flexible Working Ambassador School

BUILDING A FLEXIBLE WORKING CULTURE
A free webinar for Trust & School Leaders across the West Midlands

With short presentations from local primary, secondary and special school leaders about how Flexible Working could work for you and your staff

21 JUNE
2pm-3pm

Visit our website to find out more and sign up for our introductory Microsoft Teams webinar on 21 June. We hope that you will join us to discover more about flexible working culture within our region as well as how your school or Trust can gain free, bespoke support to develop flexible working or strengthen your existing practice. We hope to see you online on 21 June at 2pm.

Department for Education

WWW.NGHS.ORG.UK / FWAS



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