



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 5 - Issue 18 - Friday 28 January 2022



I start this week with the fantastic news that **five students** have received Oxbridge offers this year. This is particularly commendable in a year where places are still quite limited owing to centre/teacher assessed grades for A-level in 2020 and 2021 and a backlog of undergraduates waiting to start. This point hasn't affected our other students, however, with most now having received all of their offers and making decisions about their next destination. Our medics are still waiting for further confirmation of places and it's a nervous time for them. This week, our Year 13s have taken their mock examinations and our invigilator team have been very positive about their excellent approach; not least as this cohort were unable to sit their GCSEs in 2020 so have had little experience of an exam-hall setting. I know that Year 13 have worked hard for their mocks and we will share their results with them shortly.

Particular congratulations on Oxbridge success to:

- ◆ **Maria Bipin**
Churchill, Cambridge (Mathematics)
- ◆ **Jiaqi Ding**
Magdalen, Oxford (Medicine)
- ◆ **Gabriella Farge**
Newnham, Cambridge (Human, Social, Political Sciences)
- ◆ **Lara Mileham**
St Catherine's, Oxford (English)
- ◆ **Jenny Upton**
Sidney Sussex, Cambridge (Architecture)

The new building has been very well received by students with oohs, aahs and wows. Thank you to parents for the feedback which I have received since sharing photographs in an email with you on Monday. As I mentioned, we have not been able to fund all of the refitting from the Primed for Success campaign, but will keep chipping away when we can financially.

Our new dining room (pictured right) is well visited and the menu range has improved as has the quality of the food with it being cooked directly on site at NGHS. Well done to Leesa Owen and her team for their hard work in the first week of trading. It is important that trade continues at a high level to enable a wider menu and a profitable service, so thank you to all NGHS families and students for their support with this.

This week's edition of Newport News includes our Thank You Friday nominees and information about LawSoc, one of our extra-curricular activities. After each parents evening we ask parents to complete a survey. Responses so far have



been very positive. Areas to improve on are being followed up with families and one frequent request is to add to the trips and sports provision. Clearly Covid has quashed all of the trips and most of the team sport we were able to offer in 2020-21 and our PE teachers have multiple responsibilities (often the way in a smaller school!) I have therefore taken the decision to advertise a new Director of Sport post for September which I hope will meet parent expectations and add to the sport for **all** students at NGHS. This post will involve developing whole-school sport and heading up the PE and PSHE faculty. With regard to educational visits, our staff are beginning to look into visits abroad during for 2022-2023 and we will be in touch about these in due course.

Parents and Carers are asked to read the information on page three about absence from school carefully. It has been a while since we have been able to travel abroad freely and there have been a number of recent requests for absence for music/dance exams, open days and driving tests etc. It is important that our procedures are followed so we can ensure we safeguard students' attendance at school. Thank you for your cooperation.

Years, 8, 9 and 11 are involved in making decisions about GCSEs and A-levels at present. As ever, we are happy to help parents with any questions about the process or potential consequences for decisions that students might make. Please get in touch via schooloffice@nghs.org.uk. Year 8/9 enquiries are directed to Miss Davies in the first instance and A-level queries to Mrs Griffin, our Head of Sixth Form.

I am taking a break from urgent@nghs.org.uk this weekend, but Miss Davies will be overseeing this account if you have a Covid case to report. Thankfully numbers are reducing!

Have a lovely weekend, **Mr M J Scott**

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



New Dining Room

Payment in the Dining Room will be via biometric finger print only (no cash can be accepted). The ACADEMY app (black/yellow icon) can be downloaded to all devices for top up by parents. About 90% of students have signed up, so those who have not should please see the Catering Manager in the new kitchen for biometrics. The new school menu is shown below.

Academy Catering Team

MAIN MENU



Monday 31st is week 2

	MEAT MAIN	VEGGIE MAIN	SPECIALS	STARCHY	VEGETABLES
WEEK ONE	Butchers Sausages	Authentic Beef Bolognese	Class Roast Chicken	Traditional Cottage Pie	Take Away Day
	Quorn Sausage	Vegetable Bolognese	Macaroni Cheese	Vegetable Pie	Vegetarian Burger
	Daily Special	Daily Special	Daily Special	Daily Special	Battered Fish
	Mashed Potatoes	Pasta	Roast Potatoes	Choice of Vegetables	Chips
	Choice of Vegetables	Garlic Bread	Vegetables and Gravy	Gravy	Beans
WEEK TWO	Meatballs in a Spicy Italian Sauce	Southern fried chicken wraps	Class Roast Pork and Stuffing with Apple Sauce	Chicken Pasta Pot Day	Take Away Day
	Quorn Chilli	Cheese and Onion Pinwheel	Vegetable Pasty	Vegetarian Pasta Pots	Pizza
	Daily Special	Daily Special	Daily Special	Daily Special	Battered Fish
	Rice	Potato Wedges	Herby New Potatoes	Garlic Bread	Chips
	Choice of Vegetables	Beans	Vegetables and Gravy	Choice of Vegetables	Beans
WEEK THREE	Hunters Chicken Stew	Creamy Chicken Carbonara	Classic Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding	Chicken Madras Curry	Take Away Day
	Quorn Casserole	Vegetable Pasta Bake	Vegetable Crumble	Vegetarian Curry	Vegetarian Burger
	Daily Special	Daily Special	Daily Special	Daily Special	Battered Fish
	New Potatoes	Garlic Bread	Roast Potatoes	Flatbread	Chips
	Choice of Vegetables	Choice of Vegetables	Vegetables and Gravy	Poppadom	Beans

Also Available Daily:
Daily selection of tempting traybakes and delicious desserts

SEASONAL KITCHEN

- Jan Carrots
- Feb Pears
- March Cauliflower
- April Bananas

Food Allergies & Intolerance
If you require information on allergens or suffer from a food intolerance please speak to a team member before you order your food or drinks.

Leave of Absence & Absence Requests

As the government announces the easing of travel restrictions, I understand the desire for families with relatives abroad to want to undertake visits to see them. It is very hard for schools to authorise leave of absence in term time. As Headteacher, I have to consider these requests carefully (in line with our absence policy) and, sometimes, liaise with other schools where siblings may be attending.

We have also seen more recent requests for leave for music exams, open days and driving tests etc.

We have a very clear policy on LOA in term time and this is on our website. However, with the pandemic having not necessitated much absence from school (aside from Covid), it is prudent to remind parents of how we manage these LOA requests at NGHS.

It is quite disrespectful of students to simply disappear from lessons without informing teachers of any known absence in advance. With Teams lessons also being required for those isolating, staff have an additional workload to manage. We therefore make sure that registers are updated with any planned absences before the day in question so staff can plan ahead.

If you wish to request Leave of Absence for a period longer than one full school day: Please download an LOA form from the website (For Parents > Leave of Absence) and ask your child to bring it

Reception **at least a week prior to the proposed absence.** Requests for holiday absence should be known about well in advance.

If you wish to request a half day absence (e.g. Music/Dance Exam, Open Day (Y11/Y13) or Driving Test etc: You don't need a form, but can email schooloffice@nghs.org.uk with the details but **at least 48 hours in advance.** We have seen a number of requests on the day itself and it is not possible to manage this process in a very short timeframe. Equally, parents have recently phoned information through – requests should be in writing. Email is sufficient, but it must be 48+ hours in advance.

Our top priority is to safeguard students. This includes knowing who is on site and the safe sign in/out system. If 48 hours+ notice is not given going forward, we reserve the right to refuse absence from school. This obviously does not apply to emergency situations.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mr M J Scott



Year 11 Taste of Sixth Form Day

The day that for some marked the first taste of the transition towards life after GCSEs began auspiciously with tickets for a free hot drink from the legendary Christine; the hot chocolate coming highly recommended from Mr Scott himself. After a brief assembly about the day's opportunities, we all set off from the Atrium to our first lesson, feeling every ounce the sixth-formers our outfits presented us as. For some, the experience of viewing our favourite subject through the lens of an independent thinker was one of ebullience, while those of us more mathematically inclined may have found it one of utter confusion: who knew it was possible to have numbers in different dimensions? A concept as abstruse as this will certainly prove a challenge in time, but a challenge tackled with relish. Meanwhile, the scientists amongst us were feeling just a little disillusioned, with the stinging sensation of betrayal hovering under the surface after being sold a lie for three years, as they discovered that the electron configuration is not at all what we have been taught thus far, though undoubtedly this was soon forgotten in the rest of the day's excitement. All in all, it was an invaluable, insightful day for everyone, and of course a thankyou must go to both Subject Ambassadors and teachers for giving up their time to make it as successful as it was.

Lucy M (Y11)





Introducing LawSoc

At NGHS we pride ourselves on providing a range of extra-curricular activities that students can take part in. This week we have an update on the work of LawSoc, which is run by two of our Year 12 students:

With science students having the opportunity to attend MedSoc every week in school, we believed it was important to offer those who take humanities something similar. LawSoc aims to not only provide a space for the discussion of legal and ethical issues but also educate pupils on UCAS and law degrees.

This week, we focused on UCAS, getting to grips with the application process, and encouraging students to come up with fascinating and perceptive answers to some tricky law interview questions, some of which included 'what is the meaning of life?' and 'how comfortable is that chair?'.

In previous weeks we have discussed specific cases and their implications challenging students to form their own arguments and counter-arguments. This has entailed researching different cases and areas of law, trying to decode some complex legal jargon, and presenting their side of the debate. We also work with Rights Respecting Schools to deliver sessions on human rights and international law.

Last half-term we focused on LGBT+ rights around the world, looking at Russia and Poland in particular, and assessed the impact of potential solutions and global councils.

LawSoc is open to years 11 and 12 and we would love to see more year 11 attend. In addition, there will be other opportunities for students in the lower years to participate in our upcoming mock trial and interact with a variety of speakers who've worked in the legal industry.

(Anna and Allana, Year 12)



Head Girl Team Highlights...

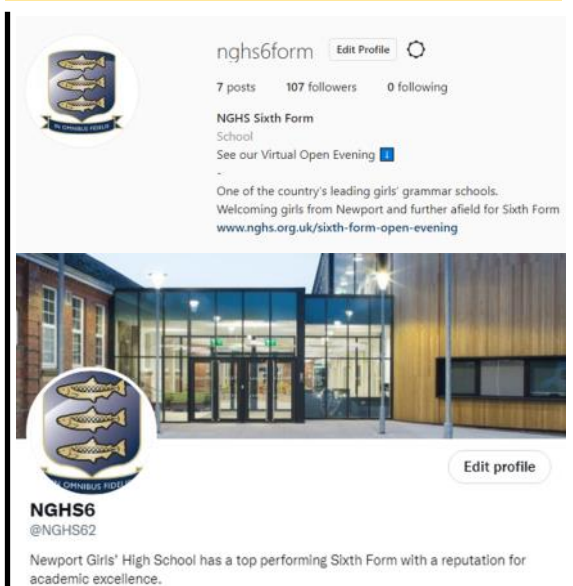
All change! New build!

Finally we have been able to see the opening of our new building and a welcomed goodbye to the mobile classrooms, and I'm sure you're all as happy as we are to see Christine in the new kitchen.

As well as this, a big well done to year 13s for finishing their mocks this week, I know we all look forward to a nice wind down over the weekend. And on behalf of our year group, we also wanted to recognise and thank the staff for their constant hard work and support.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Abi and the HGT



Visit our sixth form social media profiles on Facebook and Instagram

Dear Mr Scott,

Thank You!



Re: Newport Foodbank

Thanks so much for the cheque for £800.00 that you kindly donated to us from Newport Girls' High School. It was extremely generous and will be put to good use, please thank all the staff & pupils on my behalf.

As you know, many people in Newport are struggling to pay for food at this time, we are currently providing food parcels for 25 adults and 13 children, this money will help us to help others. Over the summer of 2021 we provided over 7000 breakfasts to those in receipt of free school meals, support from generous donors like you helps us continue this work.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Winter Jumper Day in December. I have received this letter from the Newport Foodbank to share with you all

Mr Scott



Lady Taveners U15 Indoor Cricket Victory!

It was incredibly exciting to be back at The Dome, playing some indoor cricket with some regular faces from Shropshire Cricket as well as other Telford and Wrekin schools such as Charlton and Ercall Wood.

The standard was incredibly high and although there were some nail biting moments with 2 balls to go and 3 runs still needed, our U15 team managed to get the job done and win all 4 of their games comfortably.

Well done to the team and also to Keira P (Year 12) for coaching.....Now onto Counties!

Mrs H Goodall
PE Department



THANK YOU FRIDAY

Congratulations to this fortnight's winners...

Each fortnight we recognise students who have gone the extra mile to help a member of staff. Parents will receive recognition of the child's success through a postcard home and publication in Newport News.

To: Student	From: Teacher
S Abel-Lawson (11Aus)	Mrs K Griffin
S Baah (8Sea)	Ms D Branson
C Charlery (7S)	Mrs K Wallace
A Corkhill (9Rod)	Mrs T Fujii
A Din (R7)	Mrs K Griffin
C Fairhead (7S)	Mrs K Wallace
C Fewtrell (9Sea)	Mrs T Fujii
A Gaddam (7N)	Mrs K Griffin
A Gaddam (S7)	Ms J Clarke
T Hardiman (A7)	Mrs K Griffin
E Hassell (9Aus)	Miss A-M Davies
A Hekant (R8)	Mrs L Payne
I Hurst (7N)	Mrs T Fujii
M Kandepalli (7S)	Mrs K Wallace
S Lyall (A8)	Mrs L Payne

To: Student	From: Teacher
L Male (10Sea)	Ms J Capaldi
H-A Manu (9Aus)	Mrs K Gill
H Mustansir (10Sea)	Mrs J Barker
L Myatt (11Aus)	Mrs K Griffin
C Norris (11Aus)	Mrs K Wallace, Mrs K Griffin
B Palmer (7S)	Mrs K Wallace
C Phillips (A6)	Mrs K Griffin
M Salem (9Rod)	Mrs K Jones
M Sheridan (7G)	Mrs T Fujii
E Spencer (R8)	Mrs K Griffin
M Turner (11Aus)	Mrs K Griffin
N Viswanathan (10Rod)	Mrs J Barker
O Wade (A6)	Mrs J Barker
C Wilkinson (R8)	Miss A-M Davies
P Williams (9Rod)	Mrs C Reeves

Netball Trip Opportunity—Sunday 6 Feb

Today Mrs Birch has sent out a letter to all parents about an exciting trip to attend Resorts World in Birmingham to watch some live Super League netball.

The trip will involve watching five FIVE professional netball games over the course of the day.

- ⇒ Leeds Rhinos v L'borough Lightning
- ⇒ Wasps v Strathclyde Sirens
- ⇒ London Pulse v Team Bath
- ⇒ Celtic Dragons v Saracens Mavericks
- ⇒ Severn Stars v Manchester Thunder

As mentioned in the letter it is a quick turnaround to get this organised and so if you would like your child to attend this trip please **register your interest this weekend** so I can make further arrangements on Monday.

Mrs H Birch, Assistant Head



Shropshire YOUNG HEALTH CHAMPIONS



We are launching a competition for students to create logos for 2 new projects that we will be introducing to the school and the surrounding areas.

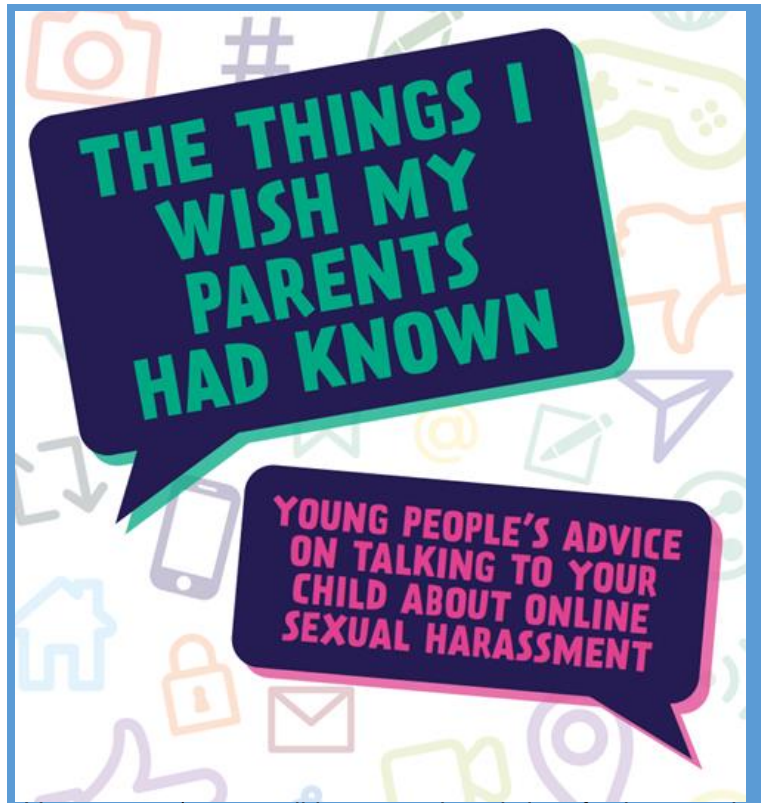
The first project is called Together and it is focused on keeping in touch with people who may have been isolated from others during Covid-19. This especially includes residents of care homes and elderly people who have not been able to have friends and family visit them during the pandemic due to restrictions.

The second project is called The Red Cycle and it is raise awareness about period stigma and period poverty. The Red Cycle will distribute posters, leaflets and sanitary products within the school and other schools in Newport.

You can enter logo designs into both projects as many times as you like. Your logo must include the name of the project you are creating it for. Your logo can be digital or hand drawn. It must be handed into Mrs Birch or emailed to her by breaktime on Monday 7 February.

There will be prizes for the winners! Thank you and good luck!

Mrs H Birch



Most parents / carers will have some knowledge of online sexual harassment from the Information Evenings in September led by Mrs Birch and Miss Webster. The Children's Commissioner for England has released a new guide to support parents and carers in this area. This guide is called "the things I wish my parents had known". To read the full PDF please follow [this link](#).

kooth

LGBT+ History Month
1st of February - 28th of February

Explore Kooth for **free, safe** and **anonymous** mental wellbeing support.

Sign up at kooth.com

Every month I provide an update from Kooth. A reminder that Kooth is an online mental wellbeing community that is there for any students who would like free, safe and anonymous support. There are some new resources available on the website around LGBT History Month, Children's Mental Health Week and Exam Stress. This month there are also some Live Forums for young people to access as follows:

- Ø **Wednesday 2 February** – Resilience - How do we build it?
- Ø **Monday 7 February** – Relationships - Spotting a healthy one
- Ø **Friday 18 February** – Learning - Styles and difficulties
- Ø **Wednesday 23 February** – Let's Talk About - Rare diseases and conditions

kooth

Children's Mental Health Week
7th - 13th of February

We'll be by your side.

Find **free, safe** and **anonymous** mental wellbeing support by joining [Kooth.com](https://kooth.com) today.

Tackling Fake News

We have been made aware of some resources to support parents / carers to tackle the issue of fake news. Please follow [the link](#) to learn more.



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 any concerns, but there are certain colleagues with additional training to support you in pastoral and safeguarding matters.



Mrs H Birch
Assistant Head
Designated SL



Mr M J Scott
Headteacher



Mrs H Goodall
Head of Year 7



Mrs F Davenport
Pastoral Support



Miss S Webster
Deputy Head



Mrs A Chapman
Head of Year 9



Ms J Capaldi
Head of Year 8



Mrs K Danby
Wellbeing Officer

Safeguarding

Years 7-10



Mrs A Seys
Head of Year 10

Years 11-13



Mrs S Tomkinson
Head of Year 11



Mrs K Griffin
Head of Sixth Form



Mrs D Martin
Wellbeing Officer

Please use schooloffice@nghs.org.uk for routine correspondence.
To urgently contact a member of the senior leadership team
outside school hours, please use urgent@nghs.org.uk