



# NEWPORT NEWS

*A weekly update from NGHS*

Volume 5 - Issue 2 - Friday 17 September 2021



## ROALD DAHL'S **Matilda** THE MUSICAL JR.



On Monday, the eagerly anticipated news was revealed. It has long been my ambition to provide NGHS students with greater opportunities in theatre and performance, so I am delighted that NGHS is to stage Matilda The Musical in March 2022. There has been a real buzz around the school since the announcement was made with almost 200 students signing up for auditions and production roles. Mrs Saysell, Mr Postle, Mrs Chapman, Mr Bramhall and I look forward to auditions later this half term. Whilst there will obviously be some disappointment, it is lovely to see such enthusiasm for the Arts among students and we hope you will support the production when it is brought to the stage in March. Only a few schools have been granted rights to this production and I am currently arranging a visit to the West End production for some of our students.

This week I have written to our new Year 7 and Year 12 parents about donations to our *Primed for Success* campaign. Last year, we launched this campaign to try to raise £75,347 (a *prime* number) to equip our new building with IT equipment, desks, chairs etc. Some parents have very kindly made monthly donations, others one-off donations but only around a third of NGHS parents have so far committed to a donation. As a school which has not introduced an Annual Fund for a number of years, I would ask parents to consider *any* level of donation to our campaign. We are still not at target and there are important final decisions to be made about classroom furniture with around 8 weeks until

completion. In the summer term, a Governor and I wrote bids to a number of organisations and I am delighted to announce a donation of £25,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation towards the campaign. This helps us get closer to the target, but **we are not there yet**. Our Online Auction also launches soon - if you don't wish to donate, perhaps you could consider supporting this (see page 2). To refresh your memory about the campaign and/or to make a donation, please visit [www.nghs.org.uk/pfs](http://www.nghs.org.uk/pfs) which includes some September 2021 building site photos and updates.

Please remember that there is no school on Monday (20th) and all pupils are working at home to enable Haberdashers' Adams and NGHS to host our Entrance Test for Year 5 students in a safe and secure way. Students should have been set work for Monday's lessons to complete at home. Finally, don't forget to add any comments to our parental [school coach consultation](#) which closes next week.

I hope that you enjoy reading this week's edition of Newport News. Have a nice weekend, **Mr M J Scott**



After 18 months of lockdowns and Covid restrictions we are very excited to welcome the new school year, and with it the opportunity to fundraise for our wonderful school. We desperately need volunteers to help, so please [use this link to join us virtually](#) on 21 September at 7pm to discuss plans for the year ahead.

# Newport Girls' High School Online Auction.



Sneaky Peek!

MORE  
ITEMS  
NEEDED



- Dinner for Two
- Art
- Personal Trainer Sessions
- New Electronics
- Hotel Accommodation
- Gift Certificates
- Car Service
- Soft Play Sessions
- Jewellery
- Listed are ideas, we appreciate any donations you can give
- Brand New Toys or Games
- Beauty Treatments
- Theatre Tickets
- Experience Days
- Cinema Tickets
- Fragrances
- Music Lessons
- Hair Salon Treatments
- Spa days
- Autographed Memorabilia

Can your  
company  
donate an  
auction  
item?

Online Auction goes live  
1<sup>st</sup> October until 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Please let the school office know if you can contribute an auction prize and someone will be in touch.  
Thank you again for all your continued support.

Email: [pfs@nghs.org.uk](mailto:pfs@nghs.org.uk)





**YOUNGMINDS**  
fighting for young people's mental health

**Focus: SELF HARM**



*Head Girl Team Highlights...*

**At NGHS, we aim to inform and support families/parents about some of the difficulties some young people face growing up. This year, we also hope to provide some evening parental online sessions on important topics such as E-Safety, sex and relationships, self-harm and eating. This week we are starting with a focus on self-harm. This work is being led by Mrs Birch (née Miss Clarke) who is our Designated Safeguarding Lead and PSHE Coordinator.**

Self-harm is when a child or young person hurts themselves on purpose as a way of trying to manage distressing or overwhelming feelings and experiences.

A person who is self-harming might be dealing with lots of intense thoughts and feelings, and hurting themselves may feel like the only way to cope. Or, they might feel numb and hurt themselves in order to feel something.

If your child is self-harming, or you're concerned they might be, it can be incredibly worrying and upsetting for you as their parent. The important thing to remember is that you and your child are not alone - lots of young people go through this and come out the other side with different ways of coping with their feelings. (Information taken from [Young Minds.](#))

If a young person is self-harming then their behaviour and emotional wellbeing may well have changed. Other signs to look out for are:

- ⇒ Changes in eating or sleeping habits
- ⇒ Increased isolation from family or friends
- ⇒ An increase in negative self-talk
- ⇒ Frequent injuries with suspicious explanations
- ⇒ Covering up their body (even in warmer weather)
- ⇒ Discovery of tools used for self-injury (broken disposable razors, lighters, un-bent paperclips)

There are a number of useful organisations who can support you and your child, these are available on the [self-help guides on the school website.](#)

## Welcome Back!

This week was very busy with meetings and activities going on all around school which I hope you have all had the chance to get involved in.

I had the pleasure of running the Sixth Form Council on Thursday and hearing everyone's ideas about the forms and integration within year 12 and 13 was really useful. As the Head Girl team, we always love to receive feedback and any member of our team would be happy to chat to you.

With the unveiling of this year's (new!!) school musical and opportunities to get involved in clubs and councils we really hope you utilise the chance to contribute your opinions and talents to the School's ongoing successes and I look forward to seeing great things!

We hope your first few weeks back have been both challenging and fun and wish you a lovely weekend!

Jenny, Deputy Head Girl (Academic)



### WELLINGTON ROAD SURGERY

The local Doctors' surgery have asked me to remind parents that their car park cannot be used as a drop/off or collection point for parent cars. Please use the Town Centre Car Parks.

Thank you.

# NEW FACES

**Welcome to the  
remaining four new  
members of staff  
who joined us  
in September!**



**Miss P Regester**  
*PE & Sport Apprentice*

I am the new PE & Sport Apprentice. I have recently finished college after studying a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport. I am excited to be joining the team here at NGHS and gaining more experience in the working world. So far I have loved my time here and loved getting involved and assisting in lessons. I'm looking forward to see what the next chapter holds.



**Mr M Bramhall**  
*Teacher of Music*

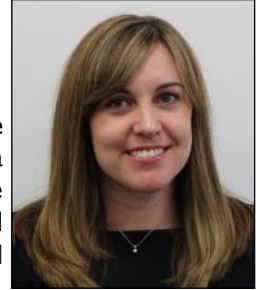
As an experienced teacher, I am fortunate to have worked in several outstanding schools, where I have been given the opportunity to share my passion to enthuse and develop the skills of young musicians. My career began at Pineapple Studios, London, as pianist to British ballet dancer Wayne Sleep and later, Arlene Phillips who introduced me to the world of Musical Theatre. For many years, I worked as a conductor, pianist and Musical Director on many musicals including Wicked, Beauty and The Beast, The Producers and Grease. I have toured extensively around the U.K with Petula Clark and worked in the West End of London as an audition and rehearsal pianist. I also manage a large group of community choirs around the U.K which continue to grow. I am absolutely delighted to be joining the NGHS family as a teacher of music. I am so excited to help shape our students' own musical aspirations and I am particularly looking forward to working on our brand new school production.

**Mrs N Saysell**

*Teacher of Drama & English*

I am delighted to be joining the NGHS family as Teacher of Drama and English. I previously held the position of Head of Drama at a local outstanding school where I worked for seven years.

To be able to launch Drama as a subject at NGHS is an opportunity that excites me greatly- particularly as I will be directing the whole school musical of 'Matilda'. I am passionate about the Arts and hope that through my lessons and extra-curricular provision, I not only promote academic success, but prepare students for life beyond school.



**Mrs K Bramford-Hale**  
*Science Technician*

I am delighted to be joining NGHS, supporting the science department as a Science Technician. This will be my first time working in a secondary school, although I have previously worked in university laboratories.

I've been involved in science from a postgraduate level, from the practical aspects to working with rare disease patients in the NHS. I am really looking forward starting a new chapter in this different environment, especially with the reputation NGHS has as a school.

As a family we have lived in Newport for 10 years and are all quite involved in the local community, from Scouting to family membership of Newport Cycling Club. Our weekends are spent at cycle races or doing some longer distance rides solo or with the Club.



## Teaching & Learning Update

We continue to be committed to ensuring outstanding classroom practice at NGHS. This year, we are focusing on developing a culture of research-based innovation, and teaching staff are actively involved in honing their teaching practice further to support the learning of our students. An understanding of the learning process is central to this, and in particular how we can support student move knowledge into their long-term memory and effectively recall this in time when it is needed. However, this isn't something we can just do in the classroom. Outside of lessons, students can help themselves and so we will continue to share ideas with you that may support your child with their learning and their revision. Why not try the following idea at home over the next week?

**Ask your child for a list of key vocabulary they have learnt in their lessons today. Tomorrow, or in a few days revisit the list and ask them to use each word in a sentence. This allows them to re-activate their recently acquired knowledge making retrieval easier in the future.**

**Miss Webster (Deputy Headteacher)**





# NGHS Students Achieve Third Place at Hickstead Championship Competition

48 hours to go and Team NGHS were getting very excited but Team NGHS support crew were quietly panicking with 2 ponies lame and down to only one lorry available! The gods were smiling on us however and on a Tuesday lunchtime in August, 2 lorries set off loaded with 5 sound ponies on the long drive down to Hickstead. All ponies, girls and support team arrived safe and sound and once the ponies were exercised and settled in the girls wandered down to the show ground for an explore.

Wednesday morning arrived and out came the shampoo, grooming kits, plaiting bands and tack cleaner and before long they were ready for the first class. Connie & Rosie, Eva & Paddy, Jaz & Pete and Izzy & Miami all rode beautifully in the 60cm class and all the hard work paid off when they were awarded a fabulous team THIRD place.

A short time later and all 5 girls were tacked up again and headed down for the 70cm class. Connie & Rosie, Eva & Paddy, Jaz & Pete, Holly & Stan and Izzy & Miami rode their hearts out and although did not manage a team placing their families could not have been prouder of them. They supported and took care of each other and, best of all, relished the opportunity to represent NGHS and ride round a course at the famous Hickstead! A nice surprise at the prize giving was an individual 7<sup>th</sup> place for Izzy & Miami having ridden a fabulous fast clear round.

All ponies, girls and parents arrived home very late on Wednesday but safe and well with memories we will never forget!

**Mrs H Goodall**







## 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
L Bills (8Aus)	Miss Holmes
C Bowen (8Sea)	Mrs Reeves
J Clegg (A7)	Mrs Furnival
M Danby (R8)	Mrs Griffin
N Fr-Evans (A7)	Mrs Griffin
M Hall (8Aus)	Miss Holmes
E Haynes (S8)	Mrs Danby
L Jones (S8)	Ms Clarke
R Kwafokoto (R7)	Mrs Griffin
G Leeper (10Sea)	Mrs Payne

To: Student	From: Teacher
S Lyall (A8)	Mrs Tomkinson
B McCloy (11Sea)	Miss Davies
O Needham (A7)	Mrs Payne
L Patrick (11Aus)	Miss Davies/Mrs Payne
S Rodrigues (10Sea)	Ms Clarke
P Saiprasad (11Sea)	Miss Davies
A Skeate (11Rod)	Miss Davies
E Trippier (8Aus)	Miss Holmes
L Upton (11Aus)	Mrs Payne
I Williams (8Aus)	Miss Holmes

### GB HANDBALL SQUAD!



Congratulations to Amy Wu & Kezia Tichford (both Y11) who have been selected for the GB Women U17 Handball Team!



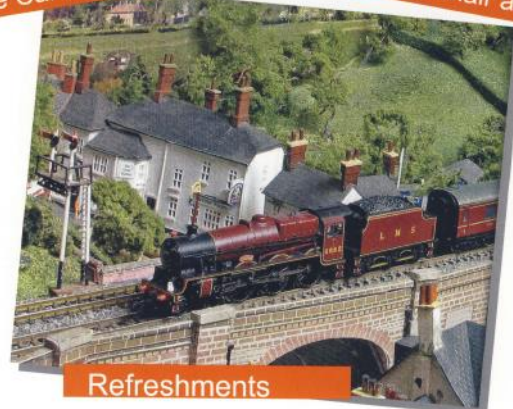
## Model Railway Exhibition

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 10am to 4pm

### TELFORD RAILWAY MODELLERS GROUP

Free Car Parking

Wheelchair access



Refreshments

**VENUE:**  
Charlton School,  
Apley Avenue  
Wellington  
TF1 3FA

**20+ layouts**  
**Trade stands**  
**\*\*PLUS\*\***  
**Thomas 00**  
**For the kids**

**Admission: Adult £5 Child £2 Family 2+2 £12**



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Just a reminder of the wealth of Extra-Curricular clubs and activities that are running. This week has seen over 50 students joining Lower School Choir, a procession of Year 7s heading across the field to Gardening Club and about 40 students heading to the Hall for Japanese Club, and lots more besides. We are particularly grateful to our Sixth Formers who have offered to run yet more activities. Please see below—new clubs are shown in pink!

	LUNCHTIME	AFTER SCHOOL	
MONDAY	Sixth Form Netball Year 7 Board Game Club Physics Clinic (Y12-13) Show Rehearsals (all years) Week A - Rights Respecting Schools steering group (all years) Week B - Genocide & Human Rights awareness (all years)	Art Club (Year 7) Maths Clinic (Y13) Biology Clinic (all years)	School Production Rehearsals Sixth Form Punch (Body Barn) - Y13
TUESDAY	Netball Club (year 7) Physics Clinic (Y7-11) Senior Choir (Y10-13) KS3 Maths Club (Y7-8) Week A - NEA/History Clinic (Y13) Week B - Cold War Revision (Y11) Japanese Language & Culture Club (all) SustainGHS/EcoSchools/Gardening Club (all)	Biology Clinic (all years) Chemistry Clinic (Y11) Wellbeing Quiet Space (all) Maths clinic (Y12) Sign Language (all)	Harper Netball Fixtures
WEDNESDAY	AS PE group (Y13) French Club (Y11) Physics Clinic (Y7-11) Animation Club (Y7 sign up only) GCSE Geography support (Y11) Lower School Choir (Y7-8) Medsoc (Y12 interested in medicine/dentistry) Chemistry Clinic (Y13) Maths Clinic (Y7-8)	Chess Club (all)	Karate Club (all years) - external coach
THURSDAY	Team Trials Team Netball practice Coding Club (Y8 and above) Geography Revision (Y13) Music GCSE Clinic Drama club (Y9-11) English clinic (all years + special Y11 group) DIG schools archaeology investigation (Y7-8, sign up)	Just Dance (all) Ukulele Club (all) Chemistry Clinic (Y12) Maths Clinic (Y9-10) Maths support (Y11) Wellbeing Quiet Space (all)	Fencing Club (all) - external coach Winter League Netball Fixtures
FRIDAY	Netball (Y11) Revision Club (Y11) - Week A Orchestra Literary Society Week B - Debating Society (Y12/13)		Sixth Form Punch (Body Barn) - Y12 Netball Club - external coach (all years)

# 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](mailto: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](mailto:urgent@nghs.org.uk)