



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 5 - Issue 25 - Friday 25 March 2022



Alongside three A-levels, our Year 13 students complete the AQA Extended Project Qualification which helps them gain greater knowledge of the academic research world, how to write a 5000 word essay or create a prized artefact and how to give a formal presentation lasting around 10 minutes. The last couple of weeks have seen the culmination of these projects with some fantastic presentations on a range of topics from heart surgery techniques to the Chernobyl disaster to teenage poetry. Our Year 13s have proven themselves worthy academics and have all gained valuable skills ready for the first year of undergraduate study and/or presentation skills for the world of employment. I really enjoy teaching Year 13 this course and although I have thirteen 5000 word essays and projects to mark over Easter (!) I really do enjoy reading about such a wide range of topics (and always learn some new facts along the way!) Well done to them all.

In line with the rest of the country, Covid numbers have risen at NGHS this week, and we have had some more staff absence. Obtaining high-quality supply teachers has been very difficult and, as ever, I am grateful to staff who have been well enough to teach on Teams from home whilst others have been pretty unwell. We have welcomed back a few staff towards the end of this week, which gives hope that things are getting back to normal. Thank you to all the students who have had lessons affected and have got on well with their cover work this week.

In our recent parent surveys, it has been great to read such positive praise for NGHS. One sticking point however is the question 'the school lets me know what my child is learning'. About 3 years ago, we published, on our website, [learning overviews and curriculum statements for each faculty](#). The overviews are similar to what many other schools are now doing. We highlight these at our Parent Information Evenings in September, but I appreciate not all parents attended these evenings online. **I would appreciate some feedback from parents as to whether these have simply not been viewed or whether they are not meeting the needs of parents.** It would be impractical to provide a week-by-week guide to every subject as changes do occur, but it would be

helpful to know more about what you feel is most helpful to you, as parents. If you feel you can provide some constructive feedback, please offer your thoughts via schooloffice@nghs.org.uk and use the email subject "Curriculum Overview" so we can take into account more parental views on this topic and hopefully provide you with better information ready for next September. There is no point us working on improvements without knowing if they are helpful to you at home. Thank you for your input.

The recent donations for Ukraine have all been sent off—see page two for more information. Thank you in particular to Phoebe E in Year 13 who has organised this collection and also to Moorfield Primary School parents for their generous contributions.

Today almost all students have received a letter about Parent Governor elections (if you have 2+ children at NGHS, the eldest has the letter!) Votes need to be cast by this time next week - voting is not mandatory, but there is an opportunity to decide who will represent the views of parents on our Governing board. Later next week we are welcoming the West Midlands Regional Schools Commissioner to NGHS for a meeting with myself and our Chair of Governors about how well the school is performing and some ambitious projects they would like us to engage with.

Lastly, we have an Exam Performers Concert on Monday at 7pm. It is a relaxed, low-key event lasting about an hour. If you can, do come along and enjoy a mixture of musical genre from our talented musicians.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

Mr M J Scott

UPCOMING SCHOOL CONCERT

Monday 28 March at 7pm

Come and hear a wide range of pieces from our exam year musicians. There is no admission charge but a collection will be taken for the Disaster Emergency Committee (Ukraine)

See you there!



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



UKRAINE DONATIONS DELIVERED

Thank you to everyone that donated and got involved in the 'Fill A Truck' scheme. They have sorted over 23,000 items of donations in total, with more still to sort.

Because of the generous donations from the community, it helped to fill the first lorry, which is ready to go and is off to Poland to be used to care for Ukrainian refugees who have made their way to Poland.

As the scheme has had such incredible support, they are well on their way to filling a second lorry. This lorry is again going to Poland but this time close to the Ukraine border, where donations will be unloaded and transported into Ukraine.

Phoebe (Year 13)



Head Girl Team Highlights...



I'm sure you were all as thrilled as I was to welcome some sun with the onset of spring this week. There has been much going on around school and especially in the sixth form, with approaching EPQ deadlines and the start of revision for A levels, so it was nice to be able to spend some time outside and take a break.

Speaking of the outdoors, Earth Hour is happening this Saturday and aims to encourage people to turn off their lights, for one hour, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., as a symbol of commitment to the planet. The event was started in 2007 by the World Wide Fund for Nature (W.W.F.) and reminds us that even small actions can make a big difference. When we make changes in our own lives to reduce our footprint, we inspire those around us to do the same.

Having heard lots about the environment in the news lately and the importance of caring for those around us, I hope that many of the NGHS community will take part in the hour this year, raising awareness for and appreciating nature. You can find out more information on the WWF website on how to take part and things you can get involved in further than the hour.

Enjoy the sunshine and we hope you have a great weekend,

Jenny & the HGT



Celebrating Neurodiversity

Neurodiversity is a term used to describe a variation in normal human evolution which means some people think differently to others. Neurodiversity conditions include autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), dyslexia, dyspraxia, Tourette syndrome and complex tic disorders.

Neurodiversity rejects the idea that autism and other neurological differences should be cured. Instead it advocates celebrating the strengths that come with neurological differences, such as:

- ⇒ Honesty
- ⇒ Attention to detail
- ⇒ Unique ability to focus on special interests
- ⇒ Problem solving
- ⇒ Seeing things from a different perspective
- ⇒ Logical thinking

It suggests that people with neurological differences do not need to change, they just need help and acceptance from those around them. The concept of neurodiversity can be very supportive for young people, as it provides a way of thinking about challenges as differences, rather than as deficits. Celebrating differences is important:

'It seems that for success in science a dash of autism is essential' (Hans Asperger)

A comic book has been created called, 'The Umbrella Gang' and it tells the adventures about a gang of friends who are 'neurodivergent'. [Take a look!](#)

Today we shared an assembly about World Autism Acceptance Week - if you would like to do more research on this or find out more, then [click here](#) for ideas.

Please be reminded that I am here to support SEND matters in school each day as well as my colleague, Mrs Georgina Roycroft, who is covering Mrs Benoit's maternity leave as SENDCO. Should you have any concerns or queries relating to SEND, please use the following email address and we will endeavour to get back to you as quickly as we can: SEND@nghs.org.uk Many thanks and wishing you all a lovely weekend! **Mrs B Dugdale**

Swimmers Win Telford Championships!

This week our Junior Swimming Team competed in the Telford Schools Championships. The girls all swam their strongest strokes in the individual races and came together for the 4x25 Freestyle and the 4x25 Medley relays.



Our swimmers were up against some of the strongest schools in the area, but showed incredible talent and speed, securing first place in all of their races, becoming Telford Junior Schools Swim Champions!

A huge congratulations to the team - Hermione, Eve, Grace and Sarah.

Mrs D Martin (PE)



Paris Fashion Week Celebrated at NGHS

Year 7 French lessons this week featured students strutting, sashaying and even skateboarding down the mini classroom catwalk; showcasing style and language as they described their outfits. Formidable! **Mrs T Fujii**



Dance for NGHS

Following the success of our dance performance at the Theatre Severn in March. I have entered us into another dance show in June. This time we will be performing two pieces of dance and we are looking for students who are interested to join us for auditions next week.

Dance auditions will take place on Wednesday 30 March 2022 at lunchtime in the hall. I have put a sign-up sheet on the noticeboard by the hall to register interest in auditioning. You will be taught a short phrase of dance which you will perform. The audition will be the full hour of lunch, please bring a packed lunch with you to eat during lunch.

The auditions are open to everyone but this is a selection process and not everyone will be chosen to represent the school in this performance. There is a



limit on the number of dancers that we can take and the decision will be made based on performance in the audition next week.

If you audition, it is essential:

- That you are available to attend all Wednesday lunchtime practices. Failure to attend may result in your place in the performance group being lost.
- That you are available to perform on stage on Monday 20th June

Mrs H Birch (PE Faculty)

THINK U KNOW

I would like advice on...

Home Get advice Concerned about your child? How to get help Family activities #AskTheAwkward

Concerned about your child?

If you're concerned about your child and need information or further help and support, you're in the right place.

- I am worried that my child is being sexually abused**
 - Sexual abuse
 - Grooming
 - Nude images

> View advice about abuse and exploitation
- I am worried about my child, sex and relationships**
 - Online relationships
 - Unhealthy relationships
 - Harmful and risky behaviour

> View advice about abuse and exploitation
- I am worried about the way my child uses the internet**
 - Exposure to sexual content
 - Online activity
 - Sharing information online

> View advice about online behaviour

Online Safety Reminders

In recent weeks we have been made aware of incidents in school about online safety. It is important to have regular conversations with your child about their life online to ensure that they remain safe.

The 'think u know' website has a wealth of information that is helpful for parents and carers in this area, particularly if you have any concerns.

They also have an article about privacy settings which may be a useful reminder <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/a-parents-guide-to-privacy-settings/>

You can also contact us in school if you have any concerns or need some advice, please contact the relevant Head of Year or Wellbeing Officer or any member of the safeguarding team. See the final page of the newsletter if you need to know who best to contact.

Mrs H Birch (Assistant Head) Designated Safeguarding Lead

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 F Davenport
Pastoral Support



Miss S Webster
Deputy Head



Mrs K Danby
Wellbeing Officer



Mrs H Goodall
Head of Year 7



Ms J Capaldi
Head of Year 8



Mrs A Chapman
Head of Year 9



Mrs A Seys
Head of Year 10

Safeguarding

Years 7-10

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