

## **NEWPORT NEWS**

### A weekly update from NGHS

ots to share this week from NGHS and Newport News is jam-packed!! Firstly, last weekend saw our Year 7 Netball trip. Thank you to all the staff who gave up their weekend. Our Year 7s

really enjoyed the residential and NGHS came third overall - a great achievement. Please see page 8.

On Monday we enjoyed an Exam Performers' Concert in the Atrium. Thank you to all who attended and I am sure they, like me, were very impressed with the excellent standard of performance. Students from Y9-I3 entertained us with a repertoire embracing pretty much every genre! Mrs Chapman, Mr Bramhall and I were delighted to provide accompaniments to those who needed them and we also raised £292 for the DEC (Ukraine) Appeal in lieu of ticket money.

On Wednesday we opened our new Reading, Relaxation and Research room. Please see page 3 for more information and a massive thank you to all who donated high-quality fiction books for our new resource. The room is already busy at break and lunchtime and the beanbags are very comfortable. Thank you to Cap Gemini for donating stools and round tables, too!

Also on Wednesday we **launched our Coach Services** for September with any parents who had expressed interest. Thank you to Lakeside Coaches (our tendered provider) and a group of governors for their work with this. <u>Please see the coach letter accompanying Newport News</u>. If you would like to find out more about the routes or wish to sign up, please do so ASAP as spaces are in high demand.

This week I have also appointed a **new Head Girl Team** who start officially after Easter. Mrs Griffin and I were joined by a governor for the difficult task of conducting interviews. There was so much potential and so many excellent presentations; it was a difficult choice, but I introduce our new team on page 2!

The government's White Paper on the future of education in the UK came out this week. The ambition for schools to be part of a 'family of schools' (known as a Multi-Academy Trust) is clear and we are cautiously optimistic about this. On Thursday, the Deputy Regional Schools Commissioner visited NGHS and was very impressed with all she saw. Since

#### Volume 5 - Issue 26 - Friday 1 April 2022

becoming Headteacher here in 2018, I have been keen to showcase the talents of our staff and students and to offer support to other schools. More to follow over the coming months, but rest assured our governors and senior leaders have our students' and staff's best interests at heart as we look to the future in a nationally more collaborative family school system.

Talking of governors, thank you to everyone who voted in the Parent Governor election. I am delighted to confirm that **Victoria Allinson** and **Craig Hayward** have been elected. Thank you to the other candidates who stood for election. It is great to know that there are plenty of parents willing to volunteer.

Last week I asked for some feedback on the curriculum information on our website as this was the least praised question in our parent surveys. I have yet to receive much feedback on this - as we have not hit the mark, it is very important to get some feedback on how we could improve the information that is shared with parents, so do drop a line to schooloffice@nghs.org.uk (subject: Curriculum Overview) with any requests/advice. Thank you.

A reminder that **Monday is a non-uniform day** to support our upcoming PTA Raffle. In return for wearing appropriate non-uniform, pupils are asked to bring in <u>one item</u> for the Hamper Raffle. See page 2 for a reminder about what each year is asked to bring.

Next Friday marks the start of our Easter break. We close at 12.30pm. Adams and T&W buses will depart at 12.40pm (Adams' buses to Telford from NGHS at 1.05pm) Any student who cannot get home at 12.30pm must be pre-registered by **4pm on Monday** (via schooloffice@nghs.org.uk). There are some more exciting site developments afoot over Easter as I am delighted to have **secured £20,000 funding** for a new PE changing room, which is much needed!

Tomorrow marks the start of Ramadan. We wish those who are fasting peace and resolve in the month ahead. We have detailed in NN this week how we can support students who are fasting in school.

Finally, we have our **School Open Evening** on Thursday 12 May - please help us to publicise this to any Year 5 families who may be interested in attending.

What a busy week! Have a good weekend, Mr Scott

**Newport Girls' High School** 

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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** 

# **New Head Girl Team!**



Congratulations to our new Head Girl Team who will start their roles officially after the Easter break. Thank you to the outgoing team for their hard work and commitment to their roles over the past twelve months.

Our new team comprises a Head Girl and five Deputies:

Olivia Todd **Head Girl** Melissa Hall **DHG: Transition & Integration DHG: Participation & Inclusion** Nakita Johal **DHG: Community & Careers Emily Spencer** Anvita Ciras **DHG: Academic Chair** Olivia Augustus **DHG: Health & Wellbeing** 

Congratulations to them all and good luck in their new roles!

### **Hamper Donation Items**

In return for wearing non-uniform on Monday, students are asked to bring one item into school for the Hamper draw. Students in Year 7-11 should take this to form rooms on Monday. Students in Years 12-13 should bring their donation directly to RECEPTION.

Please also remember to bring your sold raffle ticket stubs and money in an envelope to Reception on Monday.

The draw takes place on Wednesday morning next week.

Year 7	Chocolate (Easter Egg / Sharing bar of choc)	
Year 8	Snacks (packet of biscuits, crackers, crisps share bag)	
Year 9	Tea, coffee, fruit tea, filter coffee pack etc.	
Year 10	Tins/Jars/Chutneys/Table Sauce	

Year II Toiletries/Shower Gel/Shampoo/Foam Bath Sixth Form Bottle of drink (wine, spirits, squash, J20 pack etc.)

Thanks for supporting the PTA with their Hamper Draw.



### Happy Friday everyone!

I hope you've all enjoyed the quick week of spring we had! It has been lovely to see everyone back outside on the field and I've really seen myself how motivating it can be to get some work done in the fresh air so I'd definitely encourage you to try it!

Easter is fast approaching and this week the new Head Girl Team has been announced so we also want to pass our congratulations onto them! Whilst it does feel strange to say we will be handing over the reigns soon, we can't wait to meet with the new team and hear all about their plans!

Our latest Well-being Wednesday included a presentation on the importance of sleep which I felt was particularly important to highlight at this point in the term! I know for Year 13 these past couple of weeks seem to have been 'crunch time' in terms of deadlines and for the rest of the school exams are on the horizon so it is more important than ever to ensure sleep is something you are really prioritising, as hard as that may be!

#### Laura & the HGT



As part of our Staff Well-being Week last week, Mr Scott's office was turned into an ironing workshop when our friends at Steam Clean came to do our staff's ironing!



No, not Reading, Writing and A...., but Reading, Relaxation and Research! I promised our NGHS Family that I would sort out the Library (of old) and we are slowly getting there. We have sorted, shifted, scanned, stacked and shelved (!) some of our existing fiction section (with the archaic well-leafed books heading to charity shops or recycling) and we are now filling the remaining shelves with reference (non-fiction) books which still have relevant information in them. Following significant investment in the 1990s, the School Library has not seen reinvestment on the scale necessary since (budgets have not allowed) and much of our reference section is out of date. Nonetheless, thanks to the donations from NGHS families and a small pot of money in school, we have turned one of our larger classrooms into a sixth form teaching room with the RRR section for breaks/lunchtime. It's warm, bright, cosy and a perfect place to chill out with a book. We think it's pretty special and the feedback from students has been very positive. Thank you to Mr Summers, our ace painting caretaker, for his hard work and the Year 10 DT students who assembled all the bookshelves which Miss Walker and I went to buy in Ikea! Mr M J Scott

Year 10s go
flat-pack
crazy in DT!

Our Year 10 DT students, together with Miss Wells and Miss Walker, were on hand to build all the bookcases for our RRR room. It was an opportunity for them to learn more about flat-pack furniture and to see their handiwork in the new room. Thanks to all them for their help and hard work!



## Ramadan - Fasting and Physical Education

NGHS recognises that we will have a number of students who will be fasting during the next month. Students will be able to decide during Ramadan about whether, with reasonable adjustments, they wish to take part in Physical Education lessons.

The PE department appreciate that during fasting, normal energy resources may become depleted, and the risk of dehydration is increased. If students would like to participate in PE lessons over the next month, the PE staff will ensure that intensity levels in activities are lowered to a point where fasting students will continue to participate safely,

and we will remain responsive to students' needs during Ramadan.

We would appreciate being made aware of parents' / students' wishes and thoughts on this through a parental note in the planner to make PE staff aware of whether your child is fasting and whether you would like them to participate in reduced intensity PE lessons or not at this time.

We will respect the wishes of you and your child.

Mrs H Birch Assistant Headteacher / Lead PE Teacher

## **Student Sporting Success**



Marin Hall (Year 8) has competed in the PUMA Northern TaeKwon-Do Championships. She competed in both Patterns and Sparring. Unfortunately, in Patterns, she came up against the eventual Silver Medalist in the 1st round and was eliminated. She was more successful in Sparring, winning her first heat but losing in the final by a split decision from the judges.

Marin has competed quite frequently in the past, although this has been curtailed over the last two year owing to the pandemic. She is due to grade for her Black Belt in May.

Well done, Marin!



£1 per ticket

Tickets will be sent home with students on Monday 28th March, to be returned by 4th April

Non-uniform day is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April
Please bring in your hamper donations
in return for wearing your own clothes!

The raffle is organised by the NGHS PTA. All money raised goes directly towards funding resources and intiatives that the students will be able to take advantage of during their time at NGHS.

Thank you for your continued support.



CentreStage, Shifnal is excited to announce our next production – the Lionel Bart musical – Oliver!

We have audition opportunities for all ages from school year 3 onwards to join our ensemble and principal cast.

Adults are very welcome as well as young people, it would be amazing to welcome you.

We are pleased to invite you to a launch event:

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022 from 2pm - 4pm St Andrew's Church, Shifnal

Info about auditions and roles, crew and production volunteers as well as front of house volunteers and everything in between.

For more info email

<u>Info@centrestageshifnal.org.uk</u> or speak with

Gavin Real

## HOLI FESTIVAL

Holi is a festival celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Buddhists and Sikhs. It is celebrated in the Hindu month of Phalguna, which usually come in February/March. It is the festival of spring and colours. It signifies the triumph of good over



evil. There are many traditional stories associated with Holi, but the most well-known story is the story of Vishnu and Prahlad. On this day, Lord Vishnu saved Prahlad from being burnt alive by Holika, a demoness, hence Holi is the name given to this festival. The Holika bonfire and Holi signifies the celebration of good over evil, victory of Prahlad's devotion to Vishnu over Holika's abuse of power. The festival of Holi is celebrated all around the world. Celebrations start the night before where a bonfire is lit and foods such as grains, dates and coconuts are offered to it. The coconut is often then given out as prasadam (holy food). On the following day, dhuleti is celebrated. This is where people and communities come together to play with coloured powder and water. Colours represent the flowers which bloom in spring. This year, Shri Radha Krishna Mandir Telford celebrated Holi and bought many families together to sing, dance and R Shah, Year 10 play dhuleti.

We would love to hear about the diverse range of festivals our students participate in. Do let Mrs Gill or Mr Scott know if you would like to write an information piece for our newsletter!



### K YOU FRI

### 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.

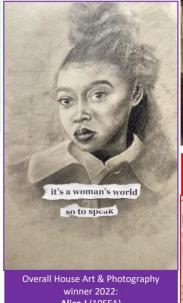
To: Student	From: Teacher
O Adetoro (8Rod)	Miss Regester, Mrs Birch
A Agarwal (9Rod)	Mrs T Fujii
G Beff (9Aus)	Mrs K Taylor
G Clarke (7G)	Miss A Rosbach
A Corkhill (9Rod)	Mrs K Gill
E Dunn (7N)	Mrs T Fujii
G Graysmark (7G)	Miss A Rosbach
B Harris (7N)	Mrs T Fujii
B Hayes (7G)	Miss A Rosbach
E Haynes (S8)	Mrs B Dugdale
S Karthik (7N)	Mrs T Fujii
R Kwafo-Akoto (R7)	Mrs J Barker
E Ma (8Aus)	Mrs K Gill
L McCartney (A7)	Mrs J Barker
J Mooney (11)	Mrs K Gill

To: Student	From: Teacher
O Needham (A7)	Mrs J Barker, Miss AM Davies
l Nicklin (S6)	Mrs K Griffin
E Nixon (9Aus)	Mrs K Taylor
C Nock (R7)	Miss AM Davies
C Norris (I I Aus)	Miss D Branson
L Patrick (I I Aus)	Miss AM Davies
A Pattar (S7)	Mrs H Birch
E Phillips (7N)	Mrs T Fujii
S Rodrigues (10Sea)	Mrs K Gill
M Royce (8Sea)	Mrs K Taylor
S Sidhu (11Sea)	Mr M Ley
A Skeate (11Rod)	Miss AM Davies
A Stephen (8Aus)	Mrs K Gill
E Wilkinson (A8)	Miss AM Davies

## **House Art & Photography Competition 2022**







Alice J (10SEA)









A huge thank you to everyone who entered the House Art & Photography 2022 competition.

Mr Pointon, Miss Walker and I were utterly thrilled with the amount of beautiful entries which we were asked to judge.

The theme this year was inspired by International Women's Day and Female's who 'break the bias'! Please make sure to look at all of the fantastic entries in the corridor by room 7. Well done to our winner Alice J (10SEA) and our wonderful runners up.

Miss Holmes

House Art & Photography 2022

## SEND NATIONAL FIGURES

S E

An article published in <u>January by Gov.uk</u> summarised Special Educational Needs in England for the academic year 2020-

2021. This publication combines information from the school census, school level annual school census, general hospital school census and alternative provision census on pupils with special educational needs (SEN).

The publication includes breakdowns by type of SEN provision (either SEN support or EHC plan), type of SEN, age, national curriculum year group, gender, ethnicity, English as a first language and free school meal eligibility. While schools were only open for vulnerable children and the children of key workers on census day, schools were asked to record pupils on roll as if in normal circumstances.

The key findings of this report are:

- The percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan has increased to 3.7%, continuing a trend of increases since 2017.
- The percentage of pupils with SEN but no EHC plan (SEN support) has increased slightly, from 12.1% to 12.2%, continuing an increasing trend.
- The most common type of need for those with an EHC plan is Autistic Spectrum Disorders and for those with SEN support, Speech, Language and Communication needs.

It is important to understand and educate others about the challenges that people with special educational needs and disabilities face every day. By raising awareness of these issues, we can help create a more inclusive society for everyone; a society which accepts the different characteristics which make us unique. By raising awareness, people are educated and communities develop so barriers and insecurities are broken down – that it becomes like a game of 'spot the difference' – we are one and we don't focus on everybody's differences but we embrace them and work in a way that meets the needs of all our learners.

Last Friday we held a Whole School Assembly on raising awareness of autism in our school community.

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



# **Sixth Formers Offer Study Skills Support**

As we approach the school's internal exam week after Easter, one of our Sixth Formers has kindly offered to run some sessions to help with preparation for this week.

These sessions are optional and can be attended by students in any year group who may require some additional support.

The sessions will focus on revision techniques, stress management and subject specific revision for STEM as well as Languages and Humanities.

Sessions will take place at Ipm on the dates shown below. The rooms these will take place in for next week are shown below, too.

In the revision technique sessions, you will learn about different revision materials and how each method can be used to make revision as efficient as possible, as well as covering how to ensure information stays in the long-term memory. This includes methods of factual recall, and using exam questions and their mark schemes to enhance revision. I hope that this will provide students with the techniques to be able to explore what works for them in preparation for exam week.

In the subject specific revision sessions, you will learn about revision for each subject and useful resources and websites that can aid this. These sessions will be supported by subject ambassadors to give their preferred methods of successful revision in each subject area.

In the stress management session you will learn how to reduce exam anxiety. In addition, you will learn about maintain balance in your lives and ensuring you take breaks when studying.

Mon 4 April – Revision Techniques **Room 101** Wed 6 April – Revision Techniques **Room 201** Thu 7 April - Subject Specific STEM **Room 101** 

Mon 25 April – Subject Specific MFL & Hums Thu 28 April – Stress Management Fri 29 April – Stress Management

Mrs H Birch

### **Netball Weekend Success!**

The Netball Weekend was one of the best residentials I've experienced.

The place we were staying at (PGL) had brilliant facilities as well as great activities. The activities we could do while off the courts were extremely fun, and some of them were, giant swings, trapeze, archery, abseiling, and a personal favourite, zipline.

The tuck shop had lots of sweets and sugary snacks and the canteen served lovely food. Many of my peers who attended this weekend agree with me and they all have said that it is an experience that they would love to do again.

Layla B, Year 7















Ava Dealtry (Year 9) trains at Lilleshall several times a week and performed at the British Gymnastics Championships last Friday. The competition was held at the M&S Bank Arena in Liverpool and was televised and live streamed. Ava competed in the Women's Artistic Junior Group Competition which is for girls up to the age of 16. This is the first year that she has been old enough to enter this category and she was competing with other girls her age and older. She completed four routines on the beam, vault, floor and uneven bars. Ava finished 43rd overall which she was really pleased with. Her family weren't sure if she was going to make the competition after recently falling and suffering from concussion but she managed to put in a brave performance. The competition was a fantastic opportunity for Ava to compete alongside Great Britain's very best adult gymnasts who also compete internationally. Ava also recently competed at the English Championships in Essex. Congratulations Ava - it's great to see your continued success.

Mr M J Scott

### **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



Mrs A Seys Head of Year 10

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Mrs S Tomkinson Head of Year 11



Mrs K Griffin Head of Sixth Form



Mrs D Martin Wellbeing Officer