



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 6 - Issue 18 - Friday 10 February 2023



News reports from Turkey and Syria have provided a devastating, sombre backdrop to this week and I start by conveying our thoughts to those who have been directly affected and to those within our own NGHS Family who have relatives in this part of the world. Watching the brave rescue efforts by the authorities from both countries has been a chilling reminder of how things can change so quickly in our lives. Whilst writing, we also send our heartfelt condolences to the students and staff at Epsom College as they come to terms with the sudden and tragic death of their Headteacher, Mrs Emma Pattison, in terrible circumstances. A sad week.

On Monday and Tuesday evening we welcomed parents to our first production in the drama studio. *Alibi* was conceived, written and directed by Mrs Saysell and two sizeable Year 8 casts clearly enjoyed performing this 'who dunnit?' play. The performance had intrigue, deceit, physical theatre and even some dance routines, which I was not expecting! Well done to our Year 8s and it was lovely to use our new drama space for what was truly a 'studio' production. We are all now focusing on *Sister Act* which is being performed from 6-8 March. Have you got your tickets yet? The cast are working hard for this production - just some last-minute line/lyric learning to do over half term!

Last Sunday, Mrs Martin, Mrs Goodall and I spent a great day with our U16 netballers at the regional finals. They won their first game 22-3 but also came up against some of the hard-hitting independent schools.

Bromsgrove School won our age group, but we look forward to training hard for U19s next year with our Year 11s and current Year 12s. The team spirit shown by NGHS on court was fantastic and I must congratulate all of our Year 11 netballers on their resilience, team-work and communication skills. Four Year 8s went to Warwick University with Mr Ley to compete in the Cyberfirst Girls' Regional Finals, on Saturday and finished a fantastic second in the Midlands. See more on page four. Well done to them!

At Monday's governors meeting we discussed your responses to the uniform survey - thank you to all parents who responded. We are not proposing major changes to uniform, but wanted to know more about your views on ordering new uniform and the growth of our Second Hand Uniform shop. Governors also discussed holidays in term time using some recent requests as examples. Governors are keen to uphold the DFE's request to prioritise attendance and they ask again that holidays are not taken in term time. Thank you for your cooperation.

Next week is Charities Week and I have reprinted Mr Pointon's letter on page 3. 'Soak-a-teacher' is already proving a talking point around school!

This will be the last Newport News before half term so it's a bumper issue! Students finish on **Thursday** at 3.45pm and we return on Monday 27th. Our first ski trip for years also departs for Austria next week and we wish them safe travels and even safer skiing!

With best wishes for the weekend, **Mr M J Scott**



Congratulations to the casts of Alibi on their excellent performances!

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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
Outside of school hours: urgent@nghs.org.uk for matters of significant urgency

U16 Regional Finals



Team Talk before a match!



Head Girl Team Highlights...

After last week's Young Enterprise 'Wear it Green' day last Thursday, we are hoping to see the school come together yet again next week for House Charities week. It will be great to see all the crazy footwear choices, the house accessories, and everyone dressing as their favourite subject. The House spirit is rising even more as we approach house dance next Thursday, where finishing touches are being added to the performances. And the enthusiasm among houses is rapidly increasing.

Yesterday, all Year 13s got to experience a Health Day; we learned about student finance ready for the next stage of our future as well as gaining knowledge on car maintenance, health at university and safer driving along with a lovely spread of cakes and drinks to enjoy with friends. It was a winner; thank you to Mrs Griffin and Miss Webster for coordinating this.

Just one more week to go and then we can all rest and recharge ready for the spring term. Hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Nakita & the HGT

Last Sunday, the Under 16 netball team competed in the regional schools tournament. All the teams present had to qualify first or second in their county so the standard was extremely high.

Despite the very tough competition (there were even some England under 17 players there) we placed in the top 8 in the West Midlands. Our team got off to a flying start winning the first game by 19 goals against Lucton School. This was a huge confidence boost and settled our nerves.

Over the course of the day, we played 6 other teams and won 3 games which was amazing and narrowly losing out to St Joseph's College. We even scored more goals against Bromsgrove School, the overall winners of the tournament, than most of the other teams competing. Our defence was on fire preventing the opposition shooters getting into the circle and making it hard for them to receive any passes. Ava gave 100% despite being pushed around and by the end of the day she was covered in bandages. As a team we played so well, and I couldn't be prouder as Captain.

The support on the sideline from teachers and teammates was unbeatable. I'm very excited for future fixtures and opportunities to play more due to the potential this team has. A special thank you to Mrs Martin and Mrs Goodall for coaching us throughout the day, as well as buying us ice cream on the way home. Also thank you to Mr Scott for coming along to watch and for being there to encourage us; it was very appreciated towards the end of the day when the games were tougher. Overall, we had a lovely time, and it was one of the highlights of the year so far.

Saskia R (Year 11)

CHARITY WEEK IS COMING!



From 13-16 February, Newport Girls' High School will celebrate its annual Charities Week. This is an invaluable opportunity for all of our students to work extremely hard to raise funds for the charities that have been selected by each house. This year Austen will be raising funds and awareness for **The Kinamba Community Project**, Roddam for **Papyrus Prevention of Young Suicide**, and Seacole for **Cancer Research UK**. Each of these charities has significance to our school community and local area, and it is therefore central that all students have the opportunity to contribute in as many ways as they are comfortably able to.

The week will be comprised of three main components:

Each day there will be a different **whole-school theme** for students and staff to partake in.

- 👉 **Monday** - Students and staff will be coming dressed as their favourite subject. This could see you come dressed as a famous historian, an element from the periodic table, or a piece of famous art. The options are endless!
- 👉 **Tuesday** - Students can accessorise in their house colours (including painting their nails which they can keep for the week)
- 👉 **Wednesday** - Students and staff are encouraged to wear alternative footwear of their choice (the funnier the better and there will be various prizes for most alternative). Do be aware of Health & Safety with your choice!
- 👉 **Thursday** – Finally, Thursday is Crazy Hair Day (the bigger the better, and again there will be prizes for the most weird and wonderful).

Students who wish to take part in this will be asked to pay a **minimum of £3 upfront** to their form tutor on the **Monday** and then can partake in all or any aspects of this that they choose. Please however be reminded that choices must be **safe and appropriate for a school environment** - this means that for all students no revealing short or low-cut items should be worn and additionally no midriffs should be seen.

There will also be different **lunch time activities** each day for students to partake in or spectate. Students will need to **make a small donation** to be a part of these, and some will have **limited availability**.

- 👉 **Monday** - Valentines Crafternoon with Miss Walker (£1 to take part) & Market Stalls in the hall selling homemade items, alongside various competitions and raffles.
- 👉 **Tuesday** - Staff vs. Sixth Form University Challenge in the hall (50p to spectate).
- 👉 **Wednesday** – Staff vs. Student Netball on the courts (50p to spectate).
- 👉 **Thursday** - The House Dance competition in the hall (£1 to spectate, max. 200 audience).

It is important that any homemade edible items do however **not contain any form of nuts**, as do have students who have severe nut allergies.

Finally, individual **students and forms groups are welcome to arrange the following events** or those similar to take place prior to or during the week;

- 👉 Hamper Raffle (e.g. Chocolate / Cosmetics)
- 👉 Guess the Number of Sweets
- 👉 Making Homemade Wares (e.g. scrunchies / cake) to be sold on Monday
- 👉 Tombola / Raffle
- 👉 Sponsored Events (which must not take place during the school day)

The senior house team will also be organising a “Pal-entines” charity event that week, to allow you to show some appreciation to your friends and loved ones.

We really hope that this week will be a spectacular opportunity for our school community to pull together to have some fun during the last week of term, whilst also raising much needed funds and awareness of three very important charities.

Mr O Pointon (Associate Senior Leader, i/c Charities Week)

Weekly Maths Challenge

Weekly Maths Problems #15

Years 7 & 8

Sam has eaten three-quarters of the grapes. What is the ratio of the number of grapes that remain to the number Sam has eaten?

Years 9, 10 & 11

Arrange the following in increasing numerical order.

- A $0.6 \times 0.5 + 0.4 \times 0.3$
- B $0.6 + 0.5 \times 0.4 \times 0.3$
- C $0.6 \div 0.5 + 0.4 \times 0.3$
- D $0.6 \times 0.5 \times 0.4 \times 0.3$
- E $0.6 + 0.5 + 0.4 + 0.3$

Years 12 & 13

For how many integer values of k is $\sqrt{200 - \sqrt{k}}$ also an integer?

Three puzzles this week to keep our mathematicians entertained! Please get your answers to Mrs Roberts via email or post your entry in the box in Room 301 by Thursday at 9am.

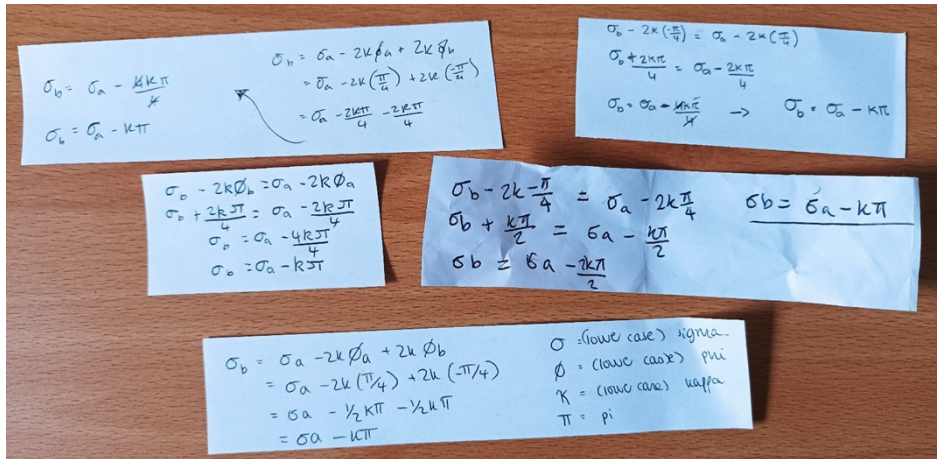
Well done to everyone who submitted an answer to week #14.

Best Solution: K Hossack

Great responses also from:

A Wu, J Guan, L Smith, S Mathew and H Biju.

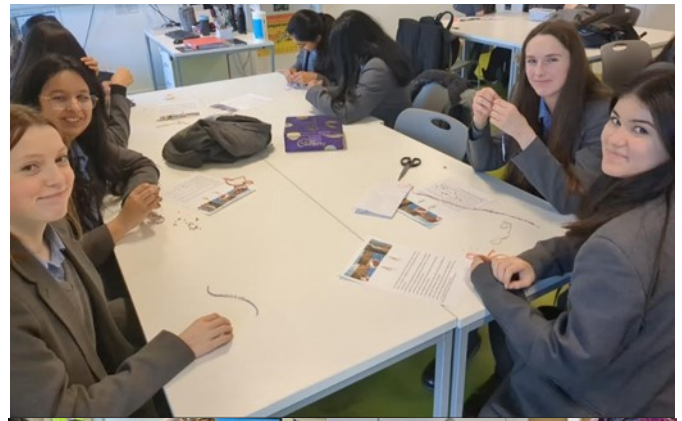
Well done!



**Girls Contest:
NGHS take
second place in
regional comp.!**

We are the CyberPigs, a team of year 8s, who managed to get through to the final round of the Cyberfirst girls' competition 2022/2023. This is a National Cyber Security Competition run by NCSC, which is a branch of GCHQ. The competition final took place at Warwick University, and there were 13 teams including us, who we competed against. It was a tough challenge as we were against the best schools in the West Midlands. We each had a computer to complete as many challenges as possible within the 4 hours we were given. We spent the whole day in the DAC building in the Computer science section of Warwick University and we were provided with amazing stuffed crust pizza (which Mr Ley loved) and plenty of refreshments. We thoroughly enjoyed this experience and had a wonderful day. We think we came **second overall** and received a tote bag, a pen and a notebook, the winners received a goody bag and a mac book. We hope that next year's team will have even better results.

Lotty B, Ellen C, Eva C and Emma J (pictured above with Mr Ley)

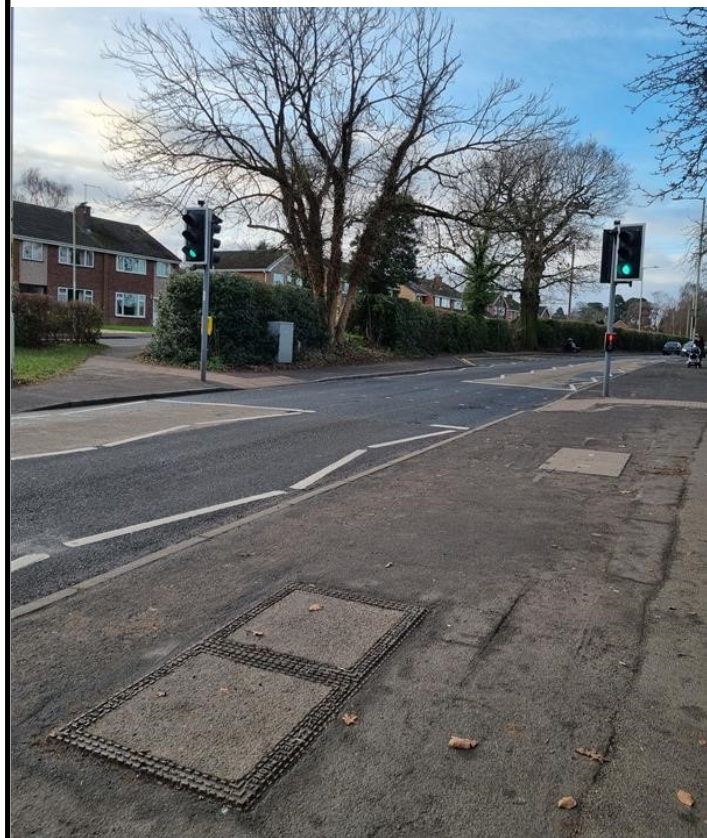


PCSO Wills was out last week conducting Safer Outside School patrols outside Newport Girls' High School. Unfortunately there will be many drivers being dealt with for allowing children to exit vehicles while they are on the zig zag lines. If the lights are on red and you are waiting in traffic it does not make it acceptable.

Further to this a number of vehicles were noted using the bus stops to allow children out of vehicles. Again this should not be happening and drivers will be dealt with.

Finally I was extremely concerned about the number of drivers going through last minute on amber to red lights. Please have some thought when approaching the lights. Do not speed up because you might get caught at the red lights. STOP.

The team along with neighbourhood enforcement officers will continue to monitor this location and deal with offences.
Neighbourhood Policing Team



This week is Children's Mental Health Week with the theme of 'Let's Connect'. This was something myself and the form representatives discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Committee meeting earlier this term as something we would like to promote in school. We decided to arrange an activity each lunchtime for a different year group as a way for everyone to relax and have some fun.

Earlier this week, we organised friendship bracelet making for Year 10, Year 11, and Sixth Form. After ordering 50 shades of embroidery thread, beads, and alphabet letters, we had plenty of material for everyone to get creative in designing a bracelet for themselves and their friends.

We also had other activities earlier this week, such as Board Games for Year 9. We ended up with a wide range of games and a room full of people. The old favourites came out including Jenga, Connect 4 and Monopoly – which proved very popular.

I would like to thank the Health and Wellbeing representatives who helped organise these activities.

Liv Augustus
Deputy Head Girl (i/c Well-being)

HUMANITIES COMPETITION

ORDINARY PEOPLE DOING EXTRAORDINARY THINGS

The theme for this year's Holocaust Memorial Day is 'Ordinary People'. Inspired by this, the Humanities Faculty and the Genocide and Human Rights Awareness club are running a writing competition with the theme of ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

KEY INFORMATION

Deadline: Friday 10th March

Any of these projects should be kept to one side of A4

CREATIVE WRITING

For the creative writing task, you can write a short story, creating a character who has done an extraordinary thing.

RESEARCH PROJECT

For the research project we would like to you select either someone from our list, or another ordinary person who has taken extraordinary action about a cause that matters. You should research their work and its impact on the world as well as their reasons for getting involved in this cause.

You can choose to present your research in a number of ways: this can be creative. You can also write an informative document (such as a newspaper article etc.) on someone of your choosing.

Prizes will be awarded by the Humanities Faculty (representing History, Geography, Religion and World Views, Politics, Psychology, Economics).

There will be prizes for each key stage as well as the obvious benefits of being able to cite success in this competition in support of any future applications for courses in these subjects or those related to them such as Law or Journalism.

PEOPLE WE SUGGEST

- Greta Thunberg
- Sara Mardini
- Amal Clooney
- Marcel Hoffman
- Nury Turkel
- Nadia Murad



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST**

Run by Genocide and Human Rights Awareness Club

Activity 1:

Online experiences

In this activity learners will reflect on their own and their peers' online experiences. Line learners up and ask them to take a step forward every time one of the following statements relates to them:

Take a step if...

- You scrolled through social media before you got out of bed this morning.
- Your average screen time is above 5 hours per day.
- You would choose Instagram over TikTok.
- You listen to music online every day.
- You've sent a message in a group chat today.
- You have reported something online.
- You charge your phone next to your bed at night.
- You've shared a photo online in the last week.

Ask learners to return to the original straight line and nominate a learner to ask their own statements to the group. You could challenge the learner to say things which they have not experienced online but which will get their peers to take a step forward.

Activity 2:

What online issues matter to you?

In this activity, learners will get the opportunity to discuss which online issues matter to them the most.

Make a copy of the graph using the mini example provided.

Next, ask learners to choose where to place each of the online issues. For example, how harmful is online bullying to children/young people? How frequently are young people experiencing it? Use the following list of issues or provide your own examples. Give learners the opportunity to come up with their own or adapt those provided.

Catfishing

Data sharing with tech companies

Edited or filtered online lives

Fake news and misinformation

Online bullying

Online hate targeting particular groups

Online sexual harassment (e.g. unwanted sexual approaches/conduct online)

Peer to peer nudes

Phishing and scams

Pornography

Trolling

Upsetting news stories

Tech on display

Most of the time learners are told not to use their personal tech in educational settings but this activity encourages the opposite. Invite learners to get out their devices and explain that you will be reading out things for them to find on their phone or online. You may choose to make this into a race.

First person to....

- Find their screen time settings.
- Find a reporting page on social media.
- Find a positive news story.
- Find #AD on an influencer's post.
- Find a viral video.
- Find the song at number one in the charts this week.
- Find someone online who is campaigning for change.

Would you rather?

Read out the following choices, asking learners to pick one of the two options. Get them to vote and ask for their reasons.

- Work for Apple or Work for Google.
- Teach an older member of the family a dance from TikTok or Stream on Twitch
- Get hate online for being yourself or Praise when you aren't yourself
- Netflix or Amazon Prime
- Create a successful social media app or Create a successful game
- Lifelong free subscription to Spotify or Apple Music
- Buy something online or Go out shopping for it
- Your phone battery is always full or You always have signal

Tuesday 7 February was **Safer Internet Day** – this aim of this campaign is to raise awareness of the importance of staying safe online. The theme for this year was together for a better internet and the aims of the day were to raise awareness of how to make the internet a safer and better place for all, but especially for children and young people.



On Tuesday we used the Time Out Tuesday form time activity to focus on this area and each form worked through a number of activities to help with this aim. Some of the slides are shown above so you can see the activities that were completed.

We have received some information in school this week about use of WhatsApp by students in lower school and therefore I felt it would be useful to provide an update about the use of this app and its safety for children.

We know that WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, it allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. What's app allows you to talk to people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. The age rating for what's app is 16+ but we are aware that students in school are using this app and it is important that parents are aware of this and are ensuring that students are safe when they are using this.



Features of WhatsApp

WhatsApp uses your phone's address book and automatically suggests these as WhatsApp contacts. When you are using WhatsApp, certain information is shared with your contacts:

- Status – profile updates, text, photo, video, disappears after 24 hours
- Last seen – what time you last used the app
- Online – if you are currently using the app
- Read receipts – allows others to see if the message has been sent, delivered, and read

As young people are added to groups by other users we know that sometimes students are in groups with others that may not be in their contact list. This shows their telephone number within the group so other users will have access to this information. Therefore it is important that you are aware of the groups that young people are in and who each individual is within the group.

Things that you can do to keep your child safe on WhatsApp

1. Check privacy settings – there are 4 settings that can be used to help control who can see information.
2. Everyone—My contacts—My contacts except—Nobody. WhatsApp's default setting is **everyone**.
3. Show your child how to block ad report other users of the app or inappropriate content
4. Talk to your child about what they should and shouldn't share with others on WhatsApp
5. Set rules about location sharing

Attendance Heroes



Our school attendance target is 97% attendance. At the end of every month we review attendance by all students as part of our rewards system. For any students who had attendance above 97% for the month of January, each individual has received a S point and sticker for this. We also have a form competition, this works by

counting the number of students in each form that have attendance above 97% with the winning form in each age band being recognised in their House assembly and receiving a box of Heroes chocolates to share between them.

Our January winners were:

Year 7/8: A3 + R3

Year 9: 9A and 9R

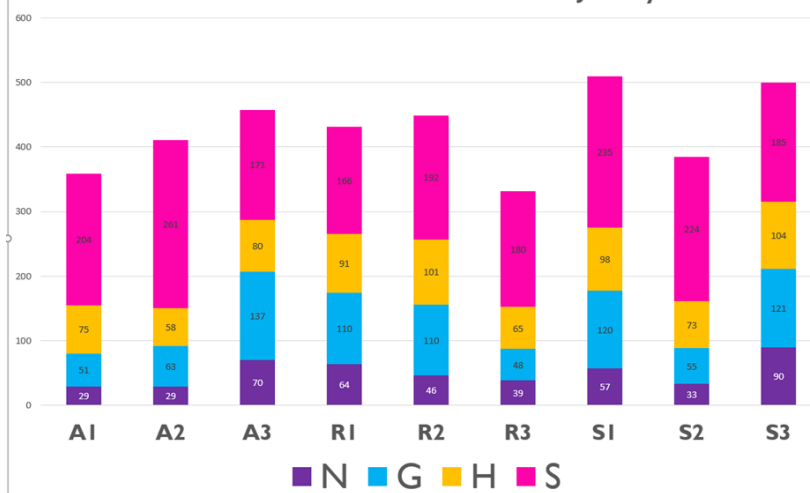
Year 10: 10R

Year 11: 11R

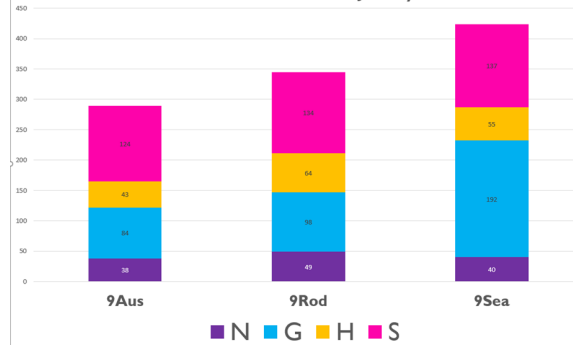
Sixth Form: 6A3



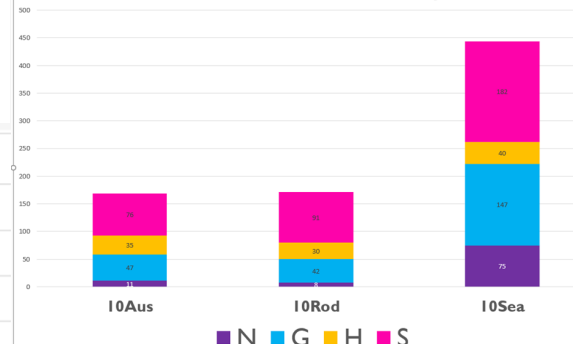
Year 7 and Year 8 Reward Stickers Issued - January 2023



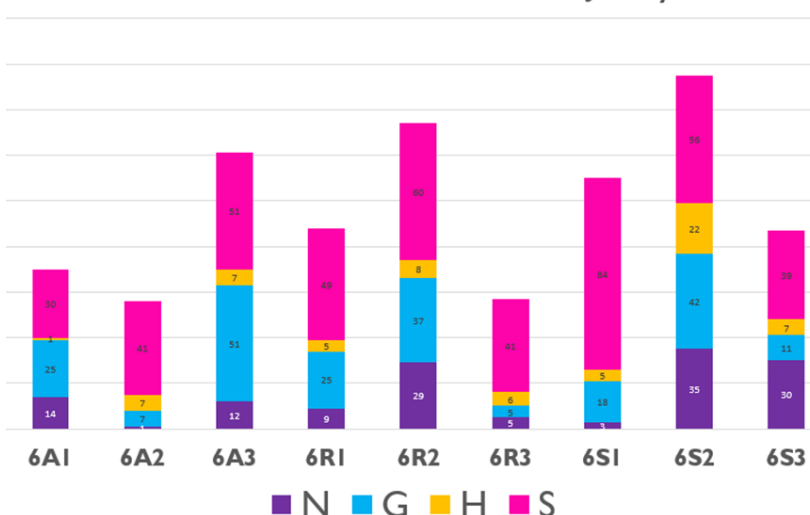
Year 9 Reward Stickers Issued - January 2023



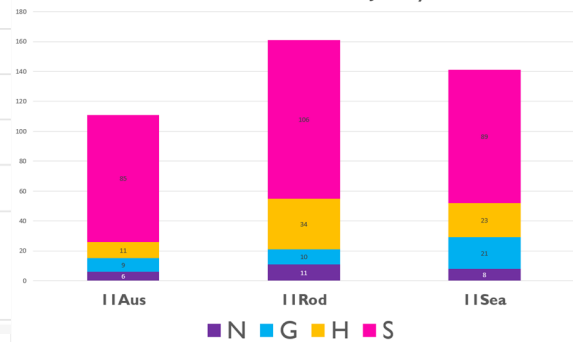
Year 10 Reward Stickers Issued - January 2023



Year 12 and Year 13 Reward Stickers Issued - January 2023



Year 11 Reward Stickers Issued - January 2023



Here you can see the number of N, G, H, S stickers awarded during January by form.



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
N Adkins (6A3)	Miss S Webster
S Baah (9Sea)	M. C Audouin
H Bone (10Aus)	Mrs T Fujii
L Chilcott (6R1)	Miss S Webster
LR Corcoran (6A3)	Mrs N Saysell
G Evans (6A2)	Miss S Webster
E Farrell (S2)	Miss A Rosbach
H Fisher (S1)	Mrs T Fujii
M Gill (R2)	Mrs T Fujii
G Graysmark (R2)	Mrs T Fujii
M Hall (6A1)	Miss S Webster
T Hayman (R3)	Miss A Rosbach
J Hill (6S2)	Miss S Webster
K Hossack (6A2)	Miss S Webster
C Hurst (6S3)	Mrs N Saysell
L Jbara (6A2)	Miss S Webster
A Khan (9Rod)	Mrs T Fujii
H Makwana (6A1)	Dr S Catalan
L Male (11Sea)	Miss AM Davies
J Millis (S2)	Mrs T Fujii

To: Student	From: Teacher
M Munnely (6S2)	Miss S Webster
N Parker (6A2)	Mrs N Saysell
E Raymond-Martin (6S1)	M. C Audouin
B Rees (6R1)	Miss S Webster
P Saiprasad (6S2)	M. C Audouin
A Sharma (6S3)	Miss R Crevis & Mrs L Payne
A Srivastava (6R2)	M. C Audouin
K Steele (10Sea)	Mrs S Tomkinson
A Sutcliffe (S3)	Miss A Rosbach
A Tahora (A3)	Miss A Rosbach
L Thompson (6S1)	Mrs N Saysell
O Todd (6S1)	Miss S Webster
C Tunnicliffe (6R2)	Dr S Catalan
E Udoudo (A3)	Mrs T Fujii
H Uppal (9Rod)	Mrs T Fujii
L Upton (6A2)	Mrs L Payne
L Ward (S1)	Mrs T Fujii
G Wilson (6S1)	Dr S Catalan
G Worrall (10Sea)	Mrs K Moore

IRONBRIDGE

Valley of Invention

Here at Ironbridge Gorge Museums, we have some fantastic events coming up this February half term.

https://www.ironbridge.org.uk/events/family-events/february-half-term-2023/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=es-feb&utm_id=feb

As well as the amazing events we have on we are also offering Kids Eat Free at many of our sites.

<https://www.ironbridge.org.uk/events/family-events/kids-eat-free-this-february/>

NGHS PASTORAL WHO'S WHO 2022-23

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 Lead



Mr M J Scott
Headteacher



Mrs H Goodall
Head of Year 7



Mrs F Davenport
Pastoral Support



Mrs A Seys
Head of Year 8



Miss S Webster
Deputy Head



Ms J Capaldi
Head of Year 9



Mrs K Danby
Wellbeing Officer
& CSE Lead



Mrs A Chapman
Head of Year 10

Safeguarding

Years 7-10

Years 11-13



Mrs K Griffin
Head of Sixth Form



Mrs D Martin
Head of Year 11