



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 6 - Issue 20 - Friday 3 March 2023



Firstly, I hope that everyone had an enjoyable half term break. NGHS's return to the ski slopes after about a ten year break was a massive success and I must thank Mr Carey and his team (Mrs Dainty, Ms Capaldi, Miss Crevis, Mrs Goodall and Miss Saunders) for giving up their half term break to take forty students skiing in Austria. Talking to a couple of students about the trip, it is clear that they had the most amazing time and there was great weather and plenty of snow. More NGHS Family memories have been made on this exciting trip and I hope it is the start of more to come.

Charities Week took place just before half term and, in the main, it was very successful. Each House pulled out the stops with the 'soak a teacher' lunchtime event being a particular highlight for many students. Their enterprising spirit in organising themselves for the Lunchtime Fair was astonishing with stalls being

set up in a matter of minutes at lunchtime and lots of 'hard-sell' tactics being deployed. More information on page 3 of this week's Newport News.

Following last term's fantastic performance by our U16 netballers in the regional finals, I am delighted that our U15 team have now won the County Finals. Unfortunately there is not a regional round for this age group, but the U15s were also winners last year as U14. This year, they beat Wrekin College in the Final with a score of 9-5. Well done to the team who have represented NGHS brilliantly in this tournament.

The PE Faculty is excited to announce our first Sports Award Dinner in July. See page 4 for news of this!

Sister Act, our school musical is on next week. Tickets have sold fast, but there are a few for Tuesday/Wednesday evening available from Reception or on the door. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. With best wishes for the weekend, **Mr M J Scott**

Uniform Updates

Uniform Survey Responses

Thank you to all parents who got in touch with your thoughts around uniform, it was helpful to review this feedback. This has been discussed with the leadership team and at Governors and I wanted to provide an update. These changes will be in place from September 2023.

School Uniform

- The logo will be removed from new school jumper purchases; this will reduce the cost of the jumper slightly
- Tall options for trousers are available from the shop on request
- Online ordering is being considered in response to parental encouragement about this matter

PE kit

- Personalisation on PE kit will become optional, if this isn't put on the kit then it will reduce to cost of each item slightly. If no personalisation is added then it is important that names are on each item of kit to enable the PE department to return kit to the correct student
- Football socks will now be plain navy blue rather than having the NGHS embroidery
- Tall options for trousers / leggings are available from the shop on request
- Online ordering will continue to be an option

Mrs H Birch, Assistant Headteacher

Student Committees Reminder: NEXT WEEK!

Monday - Pastoral Review Group (drop in)

Tuesday - Student Council **Wednesday** - Health & WB

Thursday - VI Form Council **Friday** - Sports Committee



Head Girl Team Highlights...

Welcome back: I hope everyone is well-rested and ready for this short 5-week term before the Easter holidays.

The last week of half-term was Charities Week which was a great success. Thank you for all the donations that have raised money for our three important charities for this year: the Kinamba Community Project, Papyrus Prevention of Young Suicide and Cancer Research UK. It was a lovely way to welcome the week off seeing many students and teachers getting dressed-up for the whole school themes and involved in the lunchtime activities. Although all events throughout the whole week were enjoyed thoroughly, I think one of the main highlights of was 'Soak-a-Teacher' involving Mr Tolley and Mrs Griffin!

There is lots planned for this half-term with Sister Act next week. Make sure to buy your tickets if you would like to come and watch this. I hope everyone has a lovely weekend and a great rest of the term.

Liv A

International Women's Day

Next Wednesday is International Women's Day; a day that celebrates the achievements of women around the world whilst also raising awareness of the need for equality. Our whole school assembly this morning was delivered by the Head Girl Team who shared with students the importance of this day and also the stories of some of the inspirational women that inspire them. Alongside tutor time activities next week, we invite students to show their support for International Women's Day by wearing purple accessories such as purple hair clips or socks with their uniform on Wednesday. They are also allowed to paint their nails purple in support, although this must be removed for the following day!



Miss S Webster, Deputy Headteacher

CHARITY WEEK WAS A HIT!

The week before February half term break was Charities Week. This week saw the whole school community come together to raise money for the three house charities: Austen – The Kinamba Community Project, Roddam – Papyrus Prevention of Young Suicide, and Seacole – Cancer Research UK. The week was extremely successful, and the staff and student's hard work paid off as we were able to raise £3,477.89.

Each day had a different dress up theme and lunchtime activity, and it was really nice to see everyone getting involved! On Monday, the hall was packed to the brim with students all dressed up as their favourite subjects selling their homemade goods, running raffles, and guessing how many sweets were in a very large jar. Wednesday was 'Alternative Footwear Day', and the corridors were filled with flippers, slippers, wellies and even roller skates (until they were taken off on health and safety grounds!).

The week's lunchtimes were extremely busy, especially for the staff. On Tuesday, a team of 4 year 13 students went up against Mr Wade (chemistry), Mr Audouin (MFL), Mr Bourne (English) and Mrs Chapman (music) in a tense game of University Challenge. The match got off to a surprising start whereby the English question was correctly answered by Mr Audouin, our native French teacher. To the teachers' surprise, the sixth form team were victorious! Also on Tuesday, a 'Sponge A Teacher' event took place, organised by the Austen House Team, which saw Mr Tolley and Mrs Griffin being pelted with cold wet sponges. Mr Heighway had a narrow escape from this, as he was poorly on the day!

The most watched event of this Charities Week was the Staff vs Sixth Form Netball match. Each House made a team of their best year 13 netballers to go up against the staff team. The four matches were all very intense, but unfortunately for the teachers, they lost all of their matches! The overall winner of the netball was Seacole, whose team won every match they played.

This year **Roddam** raised the most money for their charity, with a whopping total of £1,224.26! Austen and Seacole weren't far behind, with respective totals of £1,192.57 and £1,061.06. Raising this incredible amount of money would not have been possible without the help from every single student and member of staff, many of whom gave up multiple lunchtimes, so we must give you all a massive thank you and well done!

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



Weekly Maths Challenge

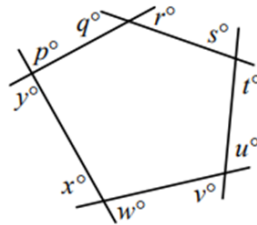
Years 7 & 8

Which of the following is divisible by all of the integers from 1 to 10 inclusive?

- A. 23×34
- B. 34×45
- C. 45×56
- D. 56×67
- E. 67×78

Years 9, 10 & 11

Which is the value of $p + q + r + s + t + u + v + w + x + y$

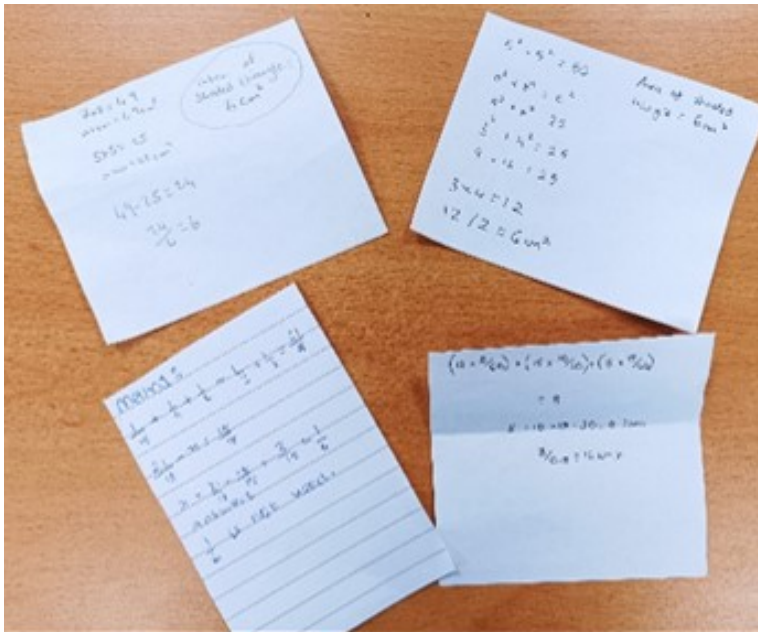


Years 12 & 13

Which of these has the largest value?

- A. $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}$
- B. $\frac{1}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4}$
- C. $\frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}$
- D. $\frac{1}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}}$
- E. $\frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4}$

Due by 9am on Thursday in the box in Room 301 or by email to l.roberts@nghs.org.uk



All the solutions last time were excellent. Well done!

Year 7 & 8

S.Karthik; A.Mills; R.Wattal; C.Charlery; M.Adamson

Years 9/10/11

R.Abebanjo; O.Wade; C.Toogood; L.Smith; S.Beale
A.Corkhill; A.Chakkravarthy; H.Biju

Years 12/13

A.Wu; E.Raymond-Martin

Staff

Mr Wade x 2

Special Mention for outstanding late entry for all of last week's problems: M.Younis

THE SPORTS AWARDS DINNER

NGHS Sports Awards Dinner

This year Newport Girls' High School are planning to host a Sports Awards Dinner on Friday 7 July here at NGHS. The Sports Awards Dinner will include praise and recognition for the dedication of students and sport teams as well as their leadership. The night will consist of a three-course meal, the awards ceremony, and we are hoping to get an elite

sport performer to host the evening and talk to students and parents/guardians about their sporting achievements and answer any questions. The Dinner will come at a significant cost to the school so we hope parents/companies will support us. Ways to support include a one-off cash donation (with possible sponsorship logos in the programme/on tables) or a raffle prize such as a voucher or experience. If you are able to assist or wish to find out more, please get in touch with me via schooloffice@nghs.org.uk. The PE department would really like these awards to be a night to remember for our students, so we are grateful for all your support in this. I would like to thank you for your time in reading this and appreciate the help if possible. Thank you.

Miss R. Saunders (Director of Sport)

The hills were alive...with the whoosh of skis....!



After the cancellations in 2021 and 2022 it came as a huge relief that the 2023 ski trip was able to go ahead as planned. Even a 24 hour strike at Munich Airport, resulting in the cancellation of our flight only hours before departure, could not stop us this time. Hastily rearranged travel arrangements meant that the majority of students travelled in the early hours down to Luton with the rest of the party heading to Stansted for flights to Salzburg. 40 students and 6 staff could then join together to head for the mountains and our final destination, The Wiederkehr hotel in Wagrain.

Ski fitting was the usual endurance test with everyone quickly learning that getting a comfortable pair of ski boots is never going to happen. Every effort was made to coordinate the colour of helmets to ski jackets. By the end of our first meal everyone was exhausted and an early night was called for. Everyone was fast asleep within minutes – or maybe not - as my room was two floors away from all the others so heard nothing at all. My female colleagues may have a different story to tell! NGHS hasn't organised a ski trip for 10 years or so and therefore it was not surprising that the majority of our students were new to skiing. We did have one intermediate group and within minutes of meeting their instructor they were off. The skiing area is a massive 760km of pisted slopes and over the course of the week this group covered most of them. Well done to every one of them.

Watching beginner skiers is a lot of fun. They fall down a lot and move very slowly. However, their learning curve is very steep and it wasn't long before all three

groups were off the nursery slopes and tackling blue and red runs. The instructors were most complimentary about the attitude, effort and behaviour of all the girls. I don't think that any of the group can now be classed as a beginner.

The ski trip isn't all about skiing. Breakfast, packed lunches and evening meals are largely spent talking about who had the most spectacular fall of the session. Then there are the evening activities; swimming, ice skating, mini-golf, quiz night, hot chocolate, singing and dancing (no curling as the rink had melted). It was particularly good to see how the different year groups mixed and enjoyed each other's company.

In what seemed like no time at all it was time to start our packing and say goodbye to our home for the week. A big thank you to Georg our Tour Guide who in real life is a professional opera singer. Few will forget his performance at the presentation evening which left us absolutely speechless. More importantly the help he gave to making our trip run smoothly could not have been bettered. Thanks too to the ski instructors who allowed our students to develop their skiing skills so quickly. A vote of thanks also has to go to Monika and her family who provided great care and service at The Wiederkehr. I've stayed there before and I hope it isn't too long before I'm back again.

Finally, a big thank you to the students on the trip and to my colleagues for their fun and companionship. A great team effort by everyone. Look out for details of the 2024 ski trip coming soon.

Mr A P Carey, Ski Trip Leader

Student Successes



GREAT NEWS!

We have been pleased to learn of a number of recent student successes outside of school. These include:

1. **Sienna Raiyat** (Year 8) who represented Shropshire and the West Midlands British Youth Championship Foil Qualifiers and fenced really well to finish second. She moves now to the Nationals in May in Sheffield. We also congratulate other NGHS girls who competed: Sophie Li (3rd place U18), Matilda Needham and Isabel Luksenaitė (U14) and Ana Sutcliffe (3rd place U12). Sophie and Ana will also go forward to the Nationals in May.
2. **Sophie Coupe** (Year 7) who has qualified at County and Regional for Pony Club National Championships. She was placed fifth out of 60 competitors.
3. **Onara Perera** (Year 12) who competed in the UKA Ballroom & Latin competition in Manchester winning second place in Ballroom and third place in Latin dance.
4. **Katie Markworth** (Year 11) who took part in the National Schools Pistol Championships, scoring 180/200 (6th place from 40 competitors) then went on to come fifth in a very close final.

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

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 A Chapman
Head of Year 10



Mrs K Danby
Wellbeing Officer
& CSE Lead

Safeguarding

Years 7-10

Years 11-13



Mrs K Griffin
Head of Sixth Form



Mrs D Martin
Head of Year 11