



NEWPORT NEWS

A weekly update from NGHS

Volume 6 - Issue 24 - Friday 31 March 2023



For what has only been a five-week half term, a lot has been achieved and it is clear that we are all ready for a decent break! Thank you to all our staff and students for their hard work and dedication this term and to parents for their continued support.

Today is the last day at NGHS for Mrs B Dugdale and Mrs A Seys. Mrs Dugdale has only worked at NGHS for a short time but has made a significant contribution to the development of our SEND team and is moving on to a position in the local authority. We wish her every success in her new post. After Easter we welcome Mrs H Arsalan who joins us as our new SEND Assistant.

Mrs Seys started at NGHS almost ten years ago as a teacher of History and English. Over the years she has turned her hand effectively to also teaching Geography and PSHE as well as holding the post of Head of Year 7 & 8 before taking a break and then returning a few years ago as Head of Year in our new rotational system. As well as being a very experienced teacher, I will remember Mrs Seys most for her dynamic and committed approach to the wider life of the school particularly in the arena of Holocaust Education (spearheading our UCL accreditation) and supporting the Bosnian community in Birmingham including taking a small group of students to Bosnia in 2017 to see for herself some of the challenges the country faces. She has also been the Lead Teacher for our Iris (LGBTQ+) Club and is responsible for our Kindness Ambassador status where she worked with colleagues and students from across the school to seek this accreditation. Personally, I

also very much enjoyed our time together (along with Mrs Griffin, Mrs Birch and 45 students) on the trip to Moscow and St Petersburg in 2019 which, as a Russian History expert, was a trip I know she will remember for a long time to come. Mrs Seys also served as Staff Governor during her time at NGHS and has helped with various fundraising appeals including for resources for our new buildings. We thank her for her massive contribution to the life of NGHS and wish her well in her new post in the higher education sector. After Easter we welcome Mrs R Webb to NGHS as a part time History & English teacher and Ms J Clarke who currently teaches History & Politics four days a week will be teaching here every day for the summer term to ensure our exam classes are taught by staff they know. As already announced, Miss J Walker has been appointed as Mrs Seys's replacement as Head of Year 8 and I am pleased to say that she is off her crutches and well enough to return after Easter. I would also like to thank Mr A Mason who returned from retirement to cover Miss Walker's classes in the last few weeks. Students will have been told if they have timetable changes / changes of teacher for the summer term.

This week's Newport News features information about our involvement in Shrewsbury's Gotta Dance competition, an update from our German assistants and of course news from our PTA Hamper Raffle. Thank you to all our students and their families for supporting this. Any money raised by the PTA goes straight back into additional resources for pupils. Lastly, please remember that term starts for all on Monday 17 April at 8.50am.

Wishing you all a lovely break, **Mr M J Scott**

Exam Performers' Concert

This is an open invitation to parents and students to join us on Monday 17th April 2023 at 6pm in the Drama Studio for an Exam Performance evening featuring our talented GCSE and A-level musicians from Years 9-13. No tickets are necessary and it's free entry, but a small retiring donation towards new music repertoire is always appreciated.



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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



Head Girl Team Highlights...

Mr Scott and Mrs Griffin would like to thank our outgoing Head Girl Team for their hard-work, passion and determination in their roles. They have been not only very effective as a team, but also great advocates for NGHS Sixth Form (shown not least in the bumper number of applications for Year 12 we have on file) and they have always been willing to give their time for help the school. Our new Head Girl Team have big shoes to fill and we look forward to hearing their ideas and letting them start their jobs after Easter.

Over to Liv Todd, our outgoing Head Girl....



As we come to the end of our last term of year 13, it is also time to hand over our positions to the new Head Girl Team. For both myself and the other girls, it has been amazing to be a part of the HGT and to have had so many opportunities and new experiences because of it. As a team, we have had a great year and we have been able to do many things around school by working together and begin to bring old traditions from pre-covid times back!

For our last column in Newport News, I thought that we could share what being part of the Head Girl Team has been like for us:

Liv T: For me personally, it has been fantastic to make so many new friends and get outside of my comfort zone doing new and challenging things. My confidence has grown so much over the past year, and it has also been great fun with a team of amazing girls.

Kita: Being on the head girl team has developed my public speaking skills greatly allowing my confidence to grow and open up new opportunities for me. I loved working alongside such an incredible team and have enjoyed taking part in every activity that has come our way.

Farewell and thank you to a great team!

Melissa: Being part of the head girl team has been an amazing experience where I have learnt new skills and made new friends that I wouldn't have had before. My confidence is one thing that has improved massively, and I've enjoyed every second of being part of the team.

Anvita: As a member of the head girl team, I have been able to talk to many more new people and have pushed myself to be more outgoing. I love the experience I've had and couldn't have asked for a better team to have done it with.

Liv A: It has been a very enjoyable year as part of this HGT. Hearing all the contributions from pupils in the health and wellbeing meetings has been really positive. Throughout the year, I have been able to develop a wide range of skills and it was fantastic working with such a great team.

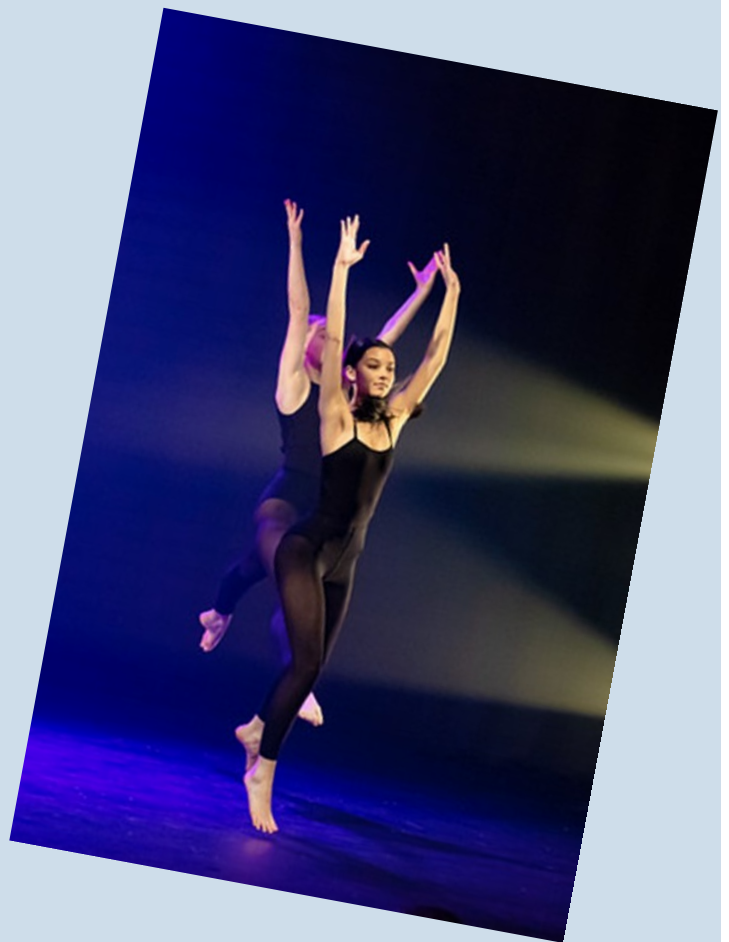
Emily: Being in the head girl team has been a real highlight of my sixth form experience. Working alongside the other members has been so enjoyable, as well as an important lesson in teamwork and time management. The biggest skill I have gained is speaking to my large groups of my peers, with minimal preparation, which is amazing prep for university and later life.

Although we are sad to be handing over our badges, we are so excited for Katy and her team who we are sure will be amazing!

We hope that you all have a restful Easter break and remember to take time out and rest, especially year 13s whose A-levels are beginning in the coming weeks.

Thank you,

Liv Todd
Head Girl 2022-2023



GOTTA DANCE TRIUMPH!

Last week a group of students and myself performed in Shrewsbury's Gotta Dance where we had the opportunity to perform a piece of choreography as part of the show on the Theatre Severn stage. After holding auditions for the dance at the end of last year, a team of 12 dancers were chosen and I choreographed a contemporary dance which I then taught at rehearsals every Friday lunch. Many hours of practice, coordinating costumes and perfecting the routine resulted in an absolutely incredible performance and I am extremely proud of everyone who took part!

I Cooper, Year 11

PTA Hampers raise almost £1500!

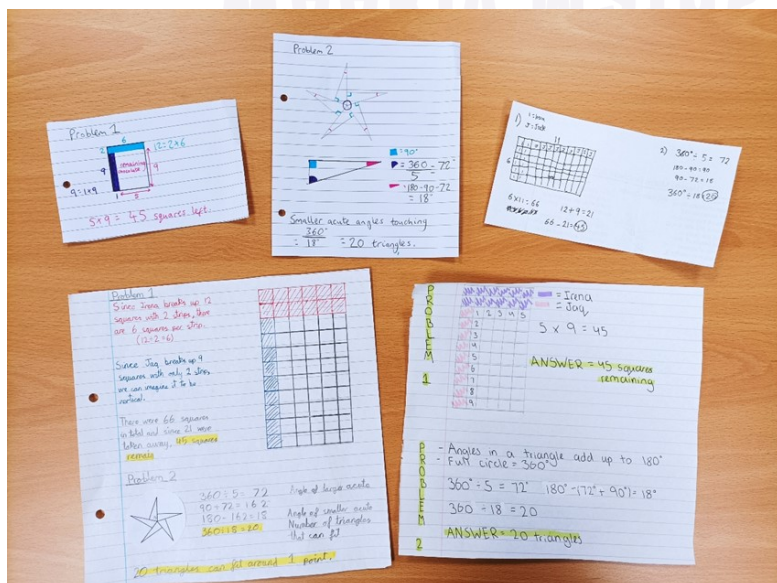
On Monday evening, the PTA and I were joined by an outstanding team of student volunteers to sort through all the donations to create some beautiful hampers for our raffle this week. The students did an incredible job and worked together to tackle the cellophane wrapping, which is always a challenge! Along with extra support from Mr Pointon and Mrs Jones, we put together **21 hampers** for the raffle, and spare donations were packed up ready to be delivered to Newport Food Bank. During assembly on Thursday, the lucky winners were announced and students (with the help of parents in some cases due to the size of the hampers!) have been eagerly collecting their prizes. We would like to thank everyone that sold tickets (particularly those students who sold extra books!), purchased tickets, and donated an item for the hampers; it is only with your support that we can make fundraisers like this a success.

Miss S Webster, Deputy Headteacher



Weekly Maths Challenge

The weekly challenge returns after Easter. Here's last week's solution!



Five fantastic solutions to last week's problem. Well done to:

- B. Patil,
- L. Smith,
- M Younis,
- N. Morsy,
- M. Evans.

Also, well done to F. Qadri for her solution to the chocolate problem!

Also At the beginning of the week, we took two teams to Idsall School to take part in the AMSP Maths Feast competition. The teams were up against 16 teams from 8 other local schools, where they had to use their problem solving skills, mathematical knowledge and logic to answers a variety of different maths questions. There were four rounds in total, one which involved the pupils finding an estimation to the value of pi. Both teams worked brilliantly, displaying great team work and resilience, resulting in one team coming first in the 3rd round and the other coming joint first overall. Excellent work NGHS!

Mrs C Petford (Second in Maths Faculty)

Time flies when you are having fun!

It's unbelievable that Jette and Merle, from the Bergische Universität at Wuppertal in Germany, have been with us already for nearly two months! They have settled in so well but do not only take my word for it; this is what they think about their placement so far:

This week marks week 7 for us at Newport Girls High School. Since arriving here on Monday, February 13th, we have settled in really well and are working with students in the MFL department, helping them to improve their confidence in speaking German. We really enjoy working with the students and getting to know the British culture and the British school system. This year is really special because we arrived earlier than former students from the University of Wuppertal, so that we are able to experience springtime in the UK. We are looking forward to getting to know how Easter is celebrated here in the UK and to explore the beautiful county of Shropshire in the Easter break.

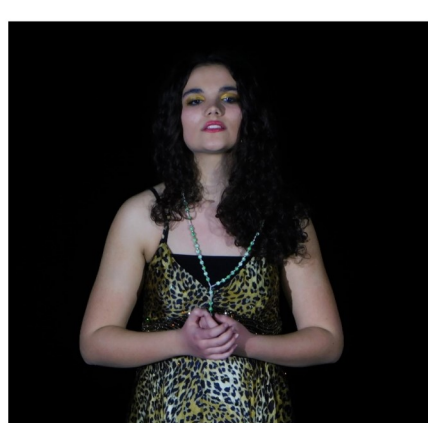
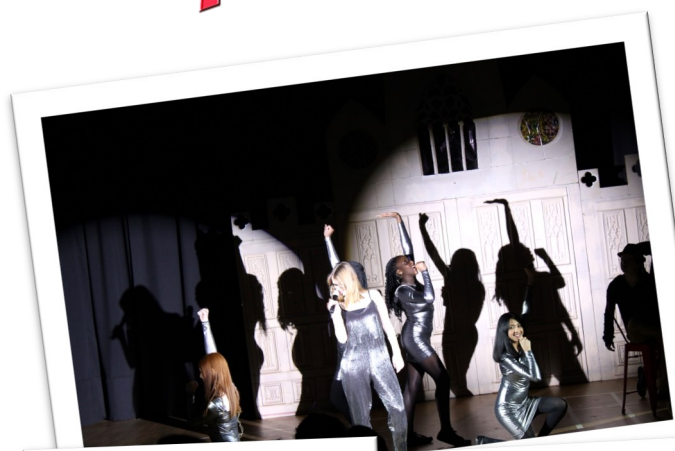
We are enjoying our time here, having received such a warm welcome by students and staff alike. Thank you everybody for making this such an unforgettable experience for the both of us! And a special thank you to Sarah F and her family for having opened their home to us, and to the Nicklin's who had also kindly offered us to stay with them.



Jette and Merle (and Frau Rosbach)

SISTER ACT JR.

Mr Whitehouse has compiled a montage of pictures from the fantastic 2023 production: 'Sister Act!'



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.



Miss S Webster
Deputy Head
&
Acting Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mr M J Scott
Headteacher



Mrs H Goodall
Head of Year 7



Mrs A Seys
Head of Year 8



Mrs K Danby
Wellbeing Officer
& CSE Lead



Mrs F Davenport
Pastoral Support



Ms J Capaldi
Head of Year 9



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



Miss E Heyes
Acting Well-Being
Officer Year 12-13