



NEWPORT NEWS

A fortnightly update from NGHS

Volume 7 - Issue 2 - Friday 22 September 2023



Term is progressing very well and it has been great to see students enjoying their lessons whilst also gathering many N-G-H-S reward stickers. Uniform is largely excellent at the moment and we intend to ensure this remains the case. Students are reminded that they can wear tights or socks (not both) and our policy is clear on our stance on jewellery. The school is open daily from 8am-5pm (a service few secondaries offer for parents) but all school rules apply when on site including mobile phone usage. Computers are available after school if required for homework, not mobile phones. Thank you for your support.

Our Year 7's annual visit to Edgmond Hall was a highlight this week and I am grateful to Mrs Goodall (Head of Year 7) and her team who braved the elements; it wouldn't be Edgmond Hall if it were dry! I popped up to visit the Year 7s at lunchtime (and got soaked) but most girls didn't appear to have noticed it was raining such was their enjoyment of the day's activities. There's a short update on this trip on page two with some photos.

Our Year 12s are also settling nicely into their routines and the different style of life in Sixth Form. They have their Liverpool Residential coming up soon and excitement is building. It is nice to welcome students from over 15 other schools this year into our bumper Year 12 cohort and our former Year 11s have been great welcoming their new peers to the school.

Our **Parent Information Evenings** also continue in the next few weeks - dates can be found in the newsletter. Please remember you can also find out lots of information about the curriculum and learning at NGHS on our website in the Academic section and do get in touch if you have any questions about school life in general via schooloffice@nghs.org.uk.

I am delighted to inform you that Newport Girls' High School has recently been (re)designated as the Flexible Working Ambassador School with the Department for Education. We held this role in 2021-22 and had to re-bid to continue for 2023-25. Our bid scored an impressive 100% and it was announced nationally this week. We are pleased to share our work around flexible working and well-being with other schools and I will be leading the project once again for the West Midlands. If you work in a school that would like to partner with us, please email fwams@nghs.org.uk for more information.

Below you can find more information about our **Sixth Form Bursary**. In a similar way to Pupil Premium/Free School Meals, we can offer financial support to families but, in the sixth form, this is managed in a more independent way. If your child is in Year 12/13 and was on FSM previously or may benefit from some additional funding for education, please read more below. Equally if your work circumstances have changed recently and you feel your younger child may be eligible for **Free School Meals**, please visit [our website](#). Since introducing biometric scanning for lunches three years ago, there is no way that any student would know who receives a free school meal and who does not and this information is kept confidential. Please consider us helping you if you are eligible as we can also offer support with uniform, transport and trips/visits to FSM students.

Lastly, don't be afraid to have a go at Mrs Roberts's regular Maths Puzzle on page 3 with prizes to be won!

Best wishes,

Mr M J Scott, Headteacher

NGHS 16-19 Bursary support

Things are difficult for many of us at the moment due to the Economic Climate, However at NGHS we strive to do all we can to support our Sixth Form students to remain in education in years 12 and 13 and to overcome any financial barriers to remaining in school. If eligible, students can be financially supported to cover costs towards, for example;

- School Transport costs (not private car or taxi)
- School trips (curriculum - related only)
- Course equipment (such as books or materials)
- Uniform

Students can find the Application Form [on our school website](#), which has further detail regarding eligibility and criteria. Forms can also be picked up from the 6th Form office or Mrs Davenport.

Students are able to apply at any point during the year as we recognise financial circumstances can change, however, the total funds available may be reduced.

If a student was entitled to Bursary support in year 12, they **must reapply** by completing another application form at the start of year 13.

Completed Application forms should (where possible), be handed in to Mrs Davenport by 29th September. Should you have any queries over your child's eligibility, please contact us via schooloffice@nghs.org.uk

Edgmond Hall



Head Girl Team Highlights...



After a relaxing long weekend for most, the Year 13s were faced with a gruelling four days of assessments, and along with university applications and EPQ's, I can tell we are all in need of another weekend to recover. So far, we have seen House Music underway with sign up sheets posted on the House noticeboards, the launch of House Bake off alongside the infamous noticeboard competition, so make sure to get involved and promote the house spirit! The recently-departed Mr Carey made a surprise appearance in some chemistry lessons this week, and I hear the new school production is in the making! All in all, a busy yet exciting week. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Katy Hossack (Head Girl)



Edgmond Hall. The morning was really fun! We got to light cotton buds and build dens. By far my favourite activity was the den building. The mad rush of last minute sticks with 10 seconds left to go!!!!!! As well as watching friends get drenched with rain water was also hilarious to watch. At lunch everybody enjoyed playing on the mini assault course.

The team building was great but confusing at some points but lots of laughs and giggles. The art activity was fun and we got to create a mini masterpiece to take home. I reckon the day would have been more enjoyable if the weather was on our side but overall it was a great adventure for the class and we learned lots of valuable life skills.

Philippa G and Freya A (7N)

Parent Information Evenings

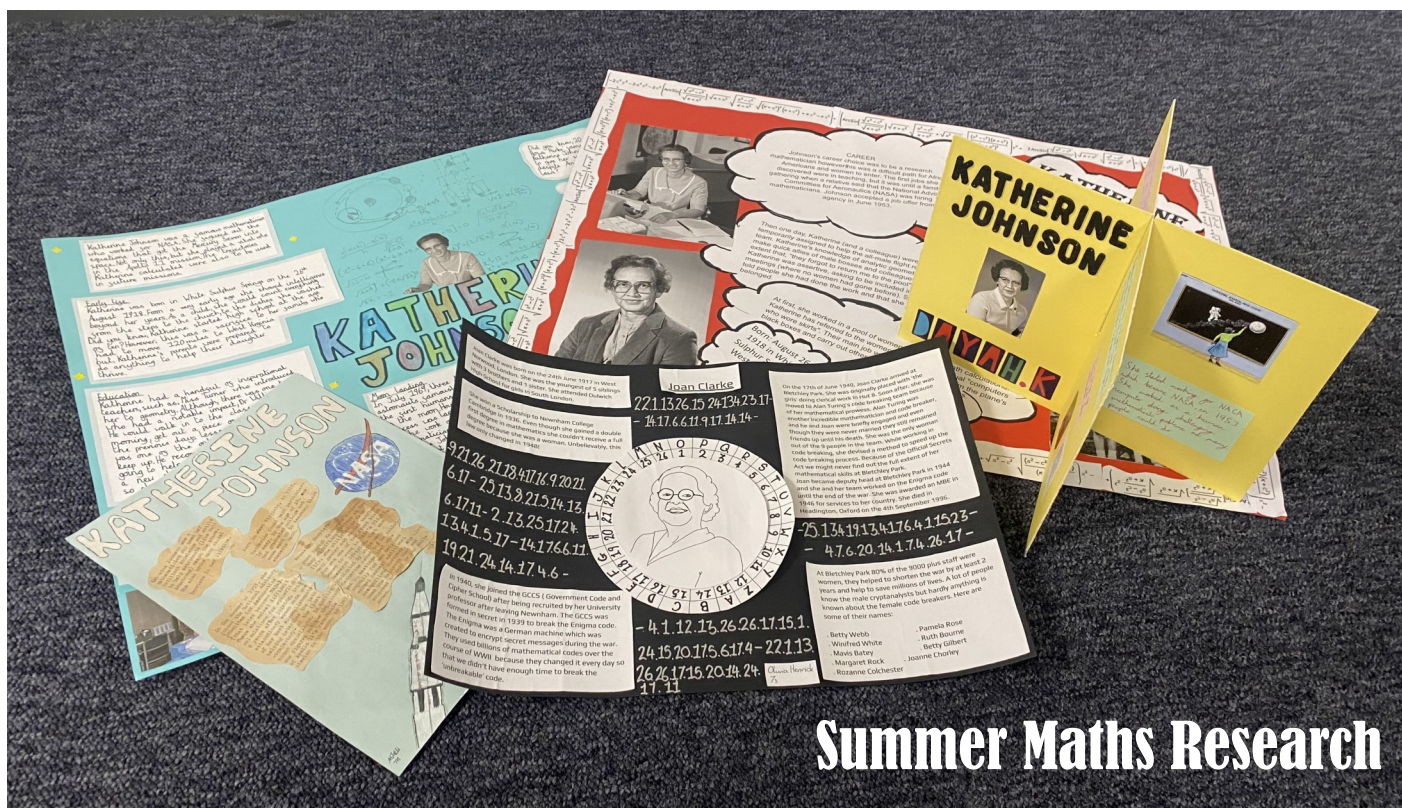
Tue 26 Sept 6pm Y11 via Teams
(Focus: Revision for parents+pupils)

Wed 11 Oct 6pm Y10 via Teams

Wed 11 Oct 7pm Y8 via Teams

Thu 9 Nov Y7 in person*
(*Individual 5-minute tutor appointments are made before and after this meeting if required by parents)

Heads of Year will send letters confirming arrangements and Teams links (as required). All sessions include information on safeguarding, assessment, curriculum & pastoral support.)



Summer Maths Research

As part of their summer tasks, year 7 were asked to create a piece of display work on a famous female mathematician. With over 50 pieces of work handed in, we have been amazed by the creativity and hard work that has been put in, as well as the number of mathematicians that have been researched. We have had mathematicians going back to the Greek period all the way up to the present day. House points will be awarded to all that have handed in their work but there are also some prizes too! After a lot of deliberation, with the help of the Maths Ambassadors, the following will be given prizes for the best piece of work from each class: Freya R (7N), Charlie O (7G), Miheli J (7H) and Olivia H (7S). A prize will also be given for the best overall piece of work, going to Dayah K for her amazing work on Katherine Johnson (7N). Well done year 7!

Mrs C Petford, Second in Maths & Computing

Fortnightly Maths Challenge 2324 #2

You can answer either or both problems, but show all working out!

All Year Groups

Problem 1

A ball is made of white hexagons and black pentagons, as seen in the picture. There are 12 pentagons in total. How many hexagons are there?



Problem 2

The six-digit number $2PQRST$ is multiplied by 3 and the result is the six-digit number $PQRST2$. What is the sum of the digits of the original number?

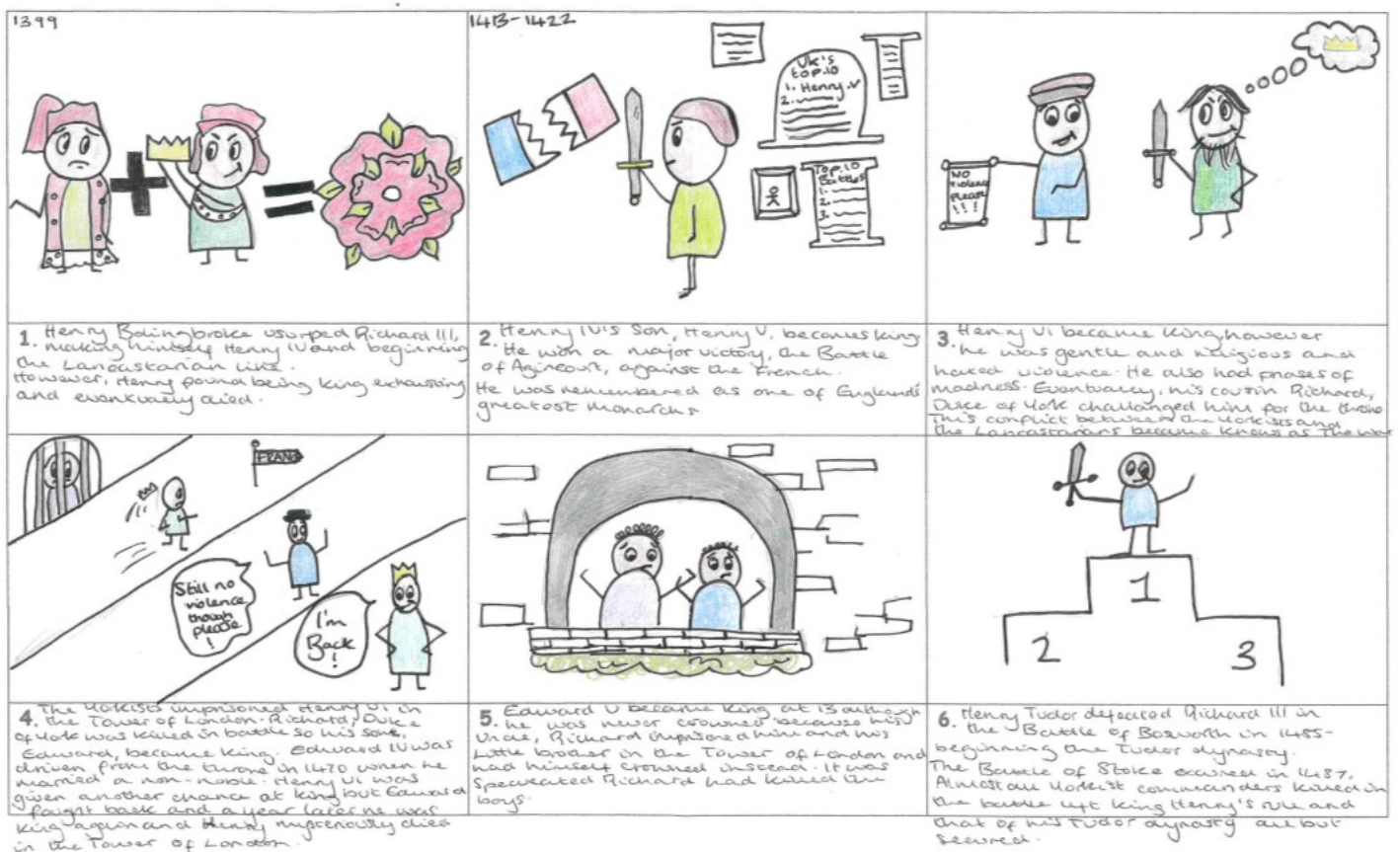
Best solutions will be published in the NGHS newsletter. Put your work in the entry box in room 301 - Due 9am Wednesday 4 October 2023.

Our Year 12 A-level historians have started their studies on Wars of the Roses. The story is notoriously complex but they have done a great job learning the key elements and turning it into cartoon strips. Both classes have made a great start to the course!

A Quick History of 'THE WARS OF THE ROSES':



A Quick History of 'THE WARS OF THE ROSES':



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
16+

in UK and Europe;
rest of the world 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original ... and might not be entirely factual, either.

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except ...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



...HEY OSCAR...



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/1077018839582332> | https://faq.whatsapp.com/361005896189245/?helpref=hc_fnav | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private> | <https://www.aura.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>

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.

Heads of Year



Mrs H Goodall
Head of Year 7



Mrs A Chapman
Head of Year 8



Miss J Walker
Head of Year 9



Ms J Capaldi
Head of Year 10



Mrs D Martin
Head of Year 11

Sixth Form Team



Mrs K Griffin
Head of
Sixth Form



Miss E Heyes
Well-Being Officer



Mrs V Glew
Administrator
(Sixth Form)

Safeguarding Team



Miss S Webster
Deputy Headteacher
Designated
Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Mrs K Danby
Well-being Officer, CSE Lead
& Safeguarding
Case Coordinator



Mr M J Scott
Headteacher, Deputy DSL



Mrs F Davenport
Pastoral Support, Deputy DSL



Mrs H Birch
Assistant Head, DSL
(on maternity leave)