

NEWPORT NEWS



The fortnightly newsletter from Newport Girls' High School

Volume 8—Edition 8 20th December 2024

FEATURING...

Snow White!

Christmas Lunch

Young Enterprise

All the latest news

and lots more...



**Merry
Christmas**

**SPECIAL FESTIVE
EDITION!**



IN OMNIBUS FIDELIS

NEWPORT NEWS

A fortnightly update from NGHS

Volume 8 - Issue 8 - Friday 20th December 2024



Mr Adam Jones, Headteacher

And there we have it... we've reached the end of the Autumn term!

At the time of writing this, I'm not sure how our last day celebrations have gone but hopefully everybody enjoyed the staff pantomime and the entertainment provided by the Sixth Form! It has been a long term, with a lot of hard work and high-quality learning taking place so it is important that we have these opportunities throughout the year just to have some fun! Certainly, that's what I feel we've had across the term with events like House Bake-Off, Teacher Benchball, House Music and our pantomime today.

Last week, we had our termly celebration assemblies to acknowledge the achievements of our pupils and to award prizes for their collection of N-G-H-S points. It was great to see so many students collecting their NGHS pencils and pens throughout the week. This is just a small gesture to recognise that we truly value their approach to learning and contributions to making our school environment such a pleasant place to be.

Our Carol Service on Tuesday was simply outstanding. With around 90 students taking part in various ensembles and choirs, St Nicholas's Church was packed. Thank you to everyone who attended and particularly to Mrs Chapman for all her hard work in preparing our many ensembles. There is so much musical talent within our school, and it was wonderful to have an event that showcased this talent but also brought the wider NGHS family together at this special time of year.



Today also marks the departure of a member of our teaching staff, Mrs Sara Fletcher. Mrs Fletcher joined the biology department in September 2022 and is returning to the independent sector in January. She has been an incredibly valuable teacher and colleague during her time with us and we wish her every success in her new post. In January, Mrs R Oates will be joining us as a part-time biology teacher from a school in Wolverhampton. Students know already if they have timetable changes.

At the end of this long term, we thank you, parents/carers, for your support and hope that you have an enjoyable break. For families who celebrate the festive season, may we wish you a Merry Christmas. We also wish everyone a peaceful and prosperous New Year. We return to school on Monday 6 January at 8.50am. If there's anything we need to urgently know about during the break, please use the urgent email address below.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season,

Mr A Jones, Headteacher

Inside this special festive edition of Newport News...

- Page 1** Head Lines 
- Page 2** Christmas Dinner at NGHS
- Page 3** Sixth Form shopping trip, candle sale, school decorations
- Page 4** Carol concert report, Christmas crafts
- Page 5** Winter Jumper Day 
- Page 6** House Music report
- Page 7** House music continued, staff pantomime
- Page 8** Young Enterprise fundraising
- Page 9** Young Enterprise mentoring and product development
- Page 10** Year 14 reunion
- Page 11** The 'Great Debate' report, netball news
- Page 12** Dates for your diary, NGHS social media
- Page 13** Pastoral who's who? 

Newport Girls' High School

Wellington Road

Newport, TF10 7HL

Headteacher: Mr A Jones

To contact the School about a general enquiry, please use schooloffice@nghs.org.uk



CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT NEWPORT GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL!



Always a highlight of the school calendar, this year proved no different as the students and staff had a fantastic time as they tucked into a classic Christmas lunch with all the trimmings! Leesa and all the team at Academy Catering really outdid themselves with their delicious turkey, roasties, gravy, stuffing, sprouts, pigs in blankets and loads more! Everyone agreed it was a great way to end a very successful term and mark the start of the Christmas period and break up from school!



Click NGHS social media for lots more photo's: facebook.com/NewportGirls

SIXTH FORM SHOPPING TRIP TO CHESHIRE OAKS!



Friday 13th is an ominous date for a school trip, but the Y11, Y12 and Y13 social trip to Cheshire Oaks has been in the diary for a long time, and students were buzzing with excitement as they congregated in the atrium after school ready for the trip. After a long and busy term, it is always nice to get together and do something fun, and the annual

trip to Cheshire Oaks was definitely a fitting festive finale. We arrived to see the twinkling lights on the ferris wheel and the magnificent journey back to Newport followed, which is apparently over 90ft high, 32ft wide and weighs more than 18 tons! Mrs Griffin and myself were joined by Mrs Han, Mr Green and Ms



A very festive Cheshire Oaks!



Retail Therapy for Y12 and 13!

Clarke for the evening trip, and while staff enjoyed a pizza the students made the most of their time in the designer outlet. Judging by the number of bags brought back on the bus it was a successful shopping trip! An uneventful and students were picked up at 10pm.

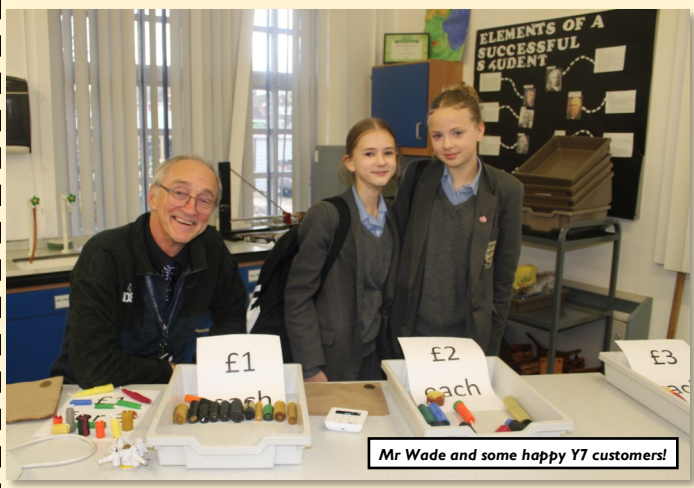
Thank you to those staff who gave up their Friday evening. These trips are a wonderful opportunity for students to spend time with their friends doing something completely unrelated to their academic studies and from a wellbeing point of view they certainly give us all a boost!

Report by Miss Heyes

“FOUR CANDLES—NAH CANDLES FOR GIFTS!”

Mr Wade and the beekeeping club have been busy selling their very own home made candles as Christmas gifts and stocking filler! Using their own wax from the hives as well as ‘wax foundation’ they held a very successful sale in the last week of term and raised over £130 towards the club funds. We are sure that they will be well appreciated by all who receive them!

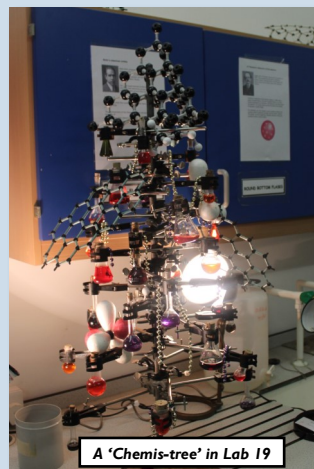
(Students, ask a parent or grandparent to explain the headline!)



Mr Wade and some happy Y7 customers!

“IT’S BEGIIING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!”

The staff have been getting into the swing of things in the lead up to the end of term. Here is a selection of some of the little things to brighten up school!



A ‘Chemis-tree’ in Lab 19



Computing Lab Angels!



Mrs Taylors very festive workstation!



Science Technicians Door

A WONDERFUL EVENING AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH FOR NGH'S CAROL CONCERT

On Tuesday 17th December, we had our annual carol service. For the past few weeks there have been rehearsals every day, for choirs, small groups and so much more. Despite all these



Chapman was still stressed enough to request the whole of Monday off timetable to prepare!

We spent most of the day counting music stands, reprinting lyric sheets for lower school choir and frantically searching for sleigh bells. Then the big day arrived! Still very stressed, Mrs Chapman registered



the hundred performers, and we set off for the church, Mr Whitehouse in a minibus full of instruments bringing up the rear.



Once we had got to the church it was time to start our run through - Mr Pointon organising the readers (and the mulled wine), Eddie the church warden finding chairs for orchestra and Mrs Chapman leading it all. We all had to be back at the church for six o'clock ready for our evening performance. The church was completely full of audience members and festive cheer. Everyone involved did an amazing job and it was a lovely end to the term. We would also like to say a special thanks to Mrs Chapman for organising the whole event!

Grace Worrall, Year 12

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Mrs Benoit has been running a Christmas Crafts club in the run up to the end of term . Here are some of the amazing finished baubles that they created!





WINTER JUMPER DAY!



To go along with their Christmas Lunch, the students were able to wear their own 'Winter Jumpers' for the day on 19th December. By donating £1 for Newport Food Bank we were treated to a vast array of elves, reindeer, snowflakes and everything in between! Below you can see a small selection but you will find many more on our school Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages!



HOUSE MUSIC CAPTAINS REPORT ON A FANTASTIC 2024 COMPETITION!



After months of preparation, the day of House Music began with all the house teams in the hall putting up the decorations for the board competition. As more people arrived, costumes were adjusted and microphones triple checked. Each event was of such a high standard,

and as the second performance began every performer seemed to have improved from in the morning. After a short but nerve wracking wait, it was absolutely incredible to know that all the hard work and musical talent in our house had been



Emily G, Seacole music captain



Seacole Choir

recognised as Mr Pointon announced that Seacole had won House Music once again, with wins in junior instrumentalist, duet, ensemble, and choir! Who can forget our additional victory in the board display competition, where I'm sure the pictures of my face as Elphaba are what clinched the win. Everyone who took part should be so proud of themselves for coming to rehearsals and trying their hardest. The house team themselves have put so much work in, and I couldn't be happier with what we presented on the day. Seacole's on fire!!

- Emily G (Seacole Music Captain)

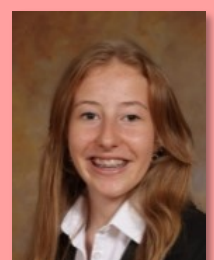


Austen in lights!

Representing Edie), ensemble and showstopper performers for Austen in achieving 2nd place in their categories! These results house music would not have been possible without the enthusiasm was an and commitment shown by all performers. Most a m a z i n g importantly, I want to appreciate the dedication shown experience by the rest of the house team, Yula, Heidi and Alice W and one that who gave up their time to run rehearsals through lunch, I will break and form times. House music 2024 was absolutely remember phenomenal and I hope everyone enjoyed!! forever.

- Briony F (Austen Music Captain)

Ultimately, we did come last place, however thankfully we redeemed ourselves from last year's performance and the results were closer than ever. Our vocalists, Eden and Natalie, deserve a massive congratulations after dominating this year's junior and senior vocalist categories, both winning 1st place! Further congratulations go to our duet (Makena and

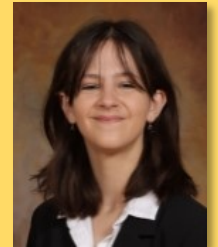


Planning for house music was something I've imagined since year 7, but nothing could've prepared me for the frenzied months of preparation which completely overtook my life. It consisted of anything from the strangest choreography sessions with the house team in study periods, to spending hours holed up in a music room, to screaming at very skilled Harry Styles and Taylor Swift impersonations. The day arrived way faster than expected, but our house showed up with the biggest house spirit, fuelling the house team's constant running around and shouting.

Even though we didn't win overall, we obtained deserved victories in Senior Instrumentalist (Go Lisakee!) and Showstopper (a point of personal pride for

me). I couldn't be prouder of Roddam, not just due to their stunning-as-ever talent and skill, but also how positive and team-driven we become as a house something which I truly think makes us stand out. I couldn't be happier that our team had the opportunity to add to the impressive legacy of Roddam music and I can't wait to hear what the house will produce in the following years.

Alice W (Roddam Music Captain)



SNOW WHITE AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE!



As is traditional, the end of the Autumn term saw the staff entertaining the pupils with their acting talents in a hastily put together pantomime production! There may be a new Snow White film coming up from Disney in 2025, but it will have to go some to beat out our staff production! With assistance from the Sixth Form students there were plenty of gags, mishaps and wet paper towels to save the day! **"BOOOOOOO!"** **"BEHIND YOU!"**



'The Wicked Wade'



and they all lived...



"Mirror, mirror on the SLT Office wall..."



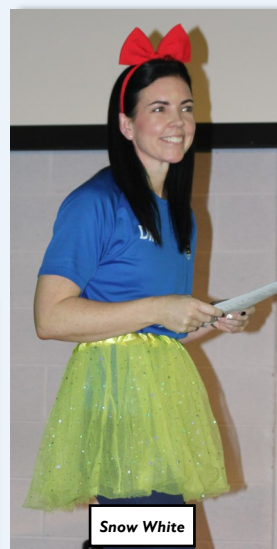
The huntsman!



Snow White is captured!



The paper towels saved the day!



Snow White



Snow White imposter!



Dancing Dwarves!



Sourcing the poison apple from the canteen!

NGHS YOUNG ENTERPRISE UPDATES

It's been an extremely busy term for the three house Young Enterprise Teams as we approach the Christmas break. In preparation for their products to be launched in 2025, all of the teams have been super busy fundraising to generate working capital, designing their products, running test marketing events and receiving mentoring visits from industry experts. Over the next couple of pages you can read all about these.



Candy Grams' and Glow in the Dark Disco

Austen House held a 'Glow in the Dark' Disco on a Friday Lunchtime in the Hall. Suffice to say it was a massive hit especially with the younger pupils. There was also food and drink for sale which again proved extremely popular.



In addition to the disco, Austen also sold 'Candygrams' to send personalised messages to friends and colleagues. At £1 for a written message or £3 for a singing one, these were also very popular with students and staff!



Prize Hamper Raffle

Seacole held a raffle for their prize hamper with tickets priced at £1 each or £3 for 5. There were lots of fantastic prizes including xx, xx and xx. The draw was held on Friday 13th which was certainly luck for some who had

bought tickets as then scooped some of the wonderful prizes!



- A restyle by Ashley Gamble hair salon worth £55,
- An Attingham park family ticket,
- £10 Next voucher

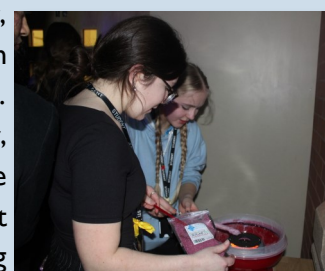
RAFFLE

And also including a gift from Newport Immy's cakes and bakes, Baylis and Harding sets, Yankee candles, fragrances, and many more...



Festive Film Night

Lastly, on the 18th December, Seacole held a fun festive film event in the drama studio. With a candy floss maker, sweets, soft drink and festive movies it was a super event enjoyed by all as well as raising over XX?



YOUNG ENTERPRISE 'INDUSTRY MENTOR' MEETINGS



Roddam Young Enterprise Team with 'Business Advisor' Tony Hague

In order to give additional business insights for their companies, the teams were thrilled to receive their first visit from the regional Young Enterprise Business Advisor—Mr Tony Hague. Tony is a volunteer with YE and is the current West Midland MD of the Year. With over 30 years experience in precision engineering, he is a specialist in marketing, scaling business and all things pertinent to manufacturing of products.

Each week he will visit the teams to provide individual advice, insights and feedback on their current activities. We are sure his support will prove invaluable as they continue on their Young Enterprise Journey.

INITIAL PRODUCT IDEAS AND MARKET RESEARCH

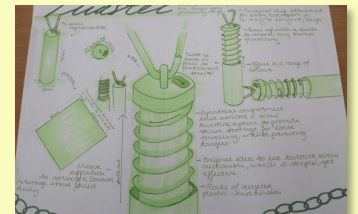
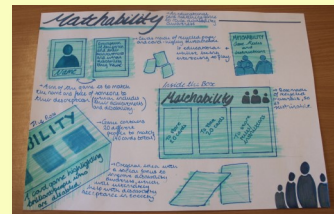
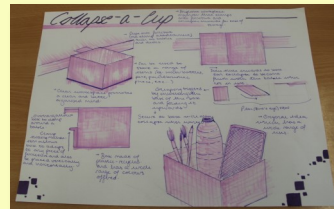
On Monday 16th December each of the three teams had a joint event where students and staff could view and give feedback on their initial ideas.

always, keep an eye on NGHS Social Media as well as the individual teams online presence to keep up to date with everything that is going on!

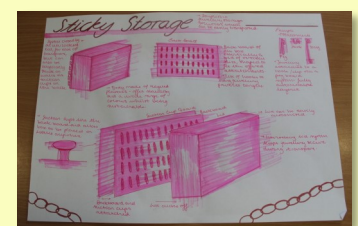
Some of the initial ideas from each of the teams



Recording customer feedback on initial ideas!



With the promise a free sweets for anyone taking part, a copious amount of very useful information was gathered by all of the teams. In the New Year they will decide upon their final products, consider manufacturing processes and start marketing them to the school and general public. As



Which ideas did you like the best?





YEAR 14 REUNION!

CLASS OF 2024



It was great to see so many of the Class of 2024 back in school!

On Wednesday 18 December we were absolutely delighted to welcome back many of our Sixth Form students who left us last Summer, for our Y14 Reunion.



Over sixty former students returned and joined us for refreshments in the Atrium. Students are now at University all over the country, or are having gap years or have secured apprenticeships, so it was lovely to hear how everyone is doing. Students took the opportunity to catch

up with friends that many hadn't seen since results day in August. Mrs Roberts was really interested to hear how former Maths students were getting on, and Mrs Chapman was delighted to catch up with musicians who had playing starring roles in NGHS in school shows in years gone by. Miss Davies was delighted to meet up with former history students, and to hear how they are using their history skills in the degrees they are studying. I had the opportunity to show one of our former A Level Art students the refurbished art classroom, and was really impressed to hear that she is now a student voice ambassador at Keele University.



I spoke with students who are at Durham, Cambridge, Warwick, Portsmouth, Harper Adams, Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts... and students were keen to tell me about the new friendships they are making and their plans for meeting up with school friends over the Christmas holidays.

We were delighted that so many former students joined us for the afternoon, and hope that they will keep in touch, let us know of their achievements, and maybe come back to talk to our current Sixth Form when they start thinking about University and next steps.

Report courtesy of **6th Form Pastoral Team**



NGHS TRIUMPHS IN THE GREAT DEBATE!



The internal school and regional heats for the Historical Association's prestigious Great Debate competition took place in December. The theme this year was *How does your local history tell a global story?* There were

Riya chose to focus on the Koh-i-noor diamond and its links to her home town of Hyderabad in southern India. She impressed the judges with her arguments as she questioned how history tells the stories of the victor and the impact that this and the British Empire has had across the globe. We are so proud of them both. We are delighted to announce that Riya was chosen as the winner of the regional heats and as such, will go forward to the semi-finals in the New Year. We wish her well in the next stage.

5 entries in the school heats and we heard a range of diverse speeches including the relevance of local literary icons and the significance of the Ironbridge. A big thank you Evie D, Eleanor W and Madeleine N, they all contained their nerves to give polished and professional speeches. A big thank you also to our fantastic judges – Miss Davies, Mrs Griffin and Mr Pimm.

The winners of the school heats were Eleanor L in year 10 and Riya G in year 12. Both went through to the regional heat at Haybridge High school in Stourbridge and competed against 11 other students from across the West Midlands where they gave their speeches in front of judges from the Classics, History and Linguistic departments at the University of Birmingham. Eleanor gave an excellent speech linking the 19th century renovations of St Nicks church in Newport to the worldwide experience of anemoia. She challenged how we look at the past and answered tough questions from the judges with confidence and knowledge.



Eleanor L (Y10) and Riya G (Y12) at the 'Great Debate'



NGHS v HABERDASHERS ADAMS 'THE RE-MATCH!'

On Thursday 12th December we played Adams Grammar in a friendly netball match, which was a refreshing change of scenery as we usually play at our own school. In the fixture earlier this season we were comfortable winners but never underestimated our opponents. After several weeks without training due to bad weather, we were understandably a bit nervous heading into the game.

However, we had confidence in our abilities and the team played brilliantly, maintaining high spirits throughout. As expected, we secured a thrilling 21-18 victory. I couldn't be prouder of the team—we gave it our all, and the result was exactly what we

hoped for. We're already looking forward to our next match and excited for the games to come!

Ava Mangham, Year 13 netball captain

21 - 18



VS



What's coming up in January 2025?

6th Jan Return to school

14th Jan Duke of Edinburgh Meeting after school

16th Jan – Year 11 parents evening

20th Jan – Year 8 Options launch

20th Jan – Y12 Assessment Week

27th Jan – Y13 Mocks

27th Jan GCSE Science Live

27th Jan – Y9 Options Launch

29th Jan – Y8 parents evening

30th Jan – Y11 Taster Day

31st Jan – GCSE Mock Speaking Exams



NGHS Social Media

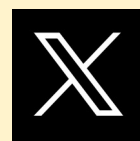


facebook.com/NewportGirls

facebook.com/nghs6 (sixth form)



instagram.com/nghs6form/



[@NGHS_Info](https://twitter.com/NGHS_Info)

A LITTLE FESTIVE FUN TO FINISH THE TERM.....

What do Santa's helpers learn in school? **The elf-abet!**

What's green, prickly and flies through the air? **A holly-copter!**

What is an elf's favourite kind of music? **Wrap music!**

Did you hear about the elf who wouldn't share? **He was very elfish!**

Why does Santa have to wear a hard hat at the toy factory? **Due to elf and safety!**

Where do elves vote? **At the North Poll!**



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 D Martin
Head of Year 7



Mrs K Danby
Head of Year 8



Mrs A Chapman
Head of Year 9



Miss A M Davies
Head of Year 10



Ms J Capaldi
Head of Year 11



Mrs K Griffin
Head of Sixth Form

Wellbeing Team



Mrs Aver-Howdle
Years 7—10
Wellbeing Officer



Miss E Heyes
Wellbeing Officer
(Y11/Sixth Form)



Mrs V Glew
Administrator
(Sixth Form)

Safeguarding Team



Miss S Webster: Deputy
Headteacher & DDSL



Mrs K Danby : Well-being
Manager, CSE Lead & DDSL



Mr A Jones: Headteacher & DDSL



Mrs F Davenport: Pastoral Support &
DDSL



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

DSL—Designated Safeguarding Lead
DDSL—Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



MERRY Christmas

...and a Happy New Year from everyone
at Newport Girls' High School!



www.nghs.org.uk

