

# NGHS News and Views

Issue 1 | Autumn 2019

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Seacole's  
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victory!



Guide to a sustain-  
able Christmas!

## Fun at Edgmond Hall

By Leah Hicklin, Year 7

First, all the year 7s were gathered into the canteen to organise who was going on which bus. If you were on bus Y you had to stay in the centenary hall while the others got on the coaches first. It was quite a short bus ride to Edgmond hall, at least ten minutes. Once we got there the staff explained to us that the trip was going to be about team building exercises. The first challenge my group did was acting. **(continued on page 2)**

*Below— Edgmond Hall (image courtesy of [planmyschooltrip.co.uk](http://planmyschooltrip.co.uk))*



## EXTRA! EXTRA! LOCAL STUDENTS START SCHOOL NEWSPAPER!



By Ella Johnson, Year 12, Editor-in-Chief

**On the 27<sup>th</sup> of September this year, the first Newspaper Club meeting was held. Our aim? To create an informative and exciting newspaper for students of all years to enjoy.**

Welcome to the first ever issue of NGHS News and Views, an entirely student-run termly newspaper. Throughout this issue you will find a variety of articles on a range of different topics from school trips to current affairs. There are also many puzzles and competitions which you should definitely participate in!

A number of budding journalists have helped to create this issue, and without them NGHS News and Views wouldn't be what is today. Thank you to Georgia, Sanisa, Charlie, Brianna, Lucy, Leanne, Madeline and Sarah for all of your hard work and enthusiasm! We hope that with the support of our journalists and our readers, NGHS News and Views will continue running for many years to come.

Finally, a word from all of us in Newspaper Club: welcome, and thank you for reading!

### Want to write with us?

Newspaper Club is currently recruiting! If you have a passion for writing and would like to get involved, please come along to one of our meetings in Room 201 on Fridays at 1pm. We can't wait to see you there!

# Black History Trip

By Charlotte Toogood, Year 8

On Friday 18th October, a group of 15 Year 8 students were selected to go on a trip. The trip was held in honour of black history month (October) and run by TAARC– Telford African and Afro-Caribbean Resources Centre. It was held at the Telford Elin Community Church. Around the hall we were in, there was a variety of amazing displays. There were many categories such as inventors, athletes, culture and much, much more! There was a xylophone you could play on, the raw versions of slave-produced food and clothes you could dress up in! As you can probably imagine, everyone took full advantage of that– even Mrs Seys! At the end, there was a very interesting video to watch about the history of BAME. Then the winners of a competition about famous BAME people were announced. Congratulations Esther and Uma! To finish, here is my top fact:

*A man named Marcellus Gilmore Edson, from a BAME background, invented peanut butter!*



**Above–** Marcellus Gilmore Edson  
(image courtesy of medium.com)

# Fun at Edgmond Hall (cont.)

We were given a theme and some props to help make a short play based around the theme. Examples of themes were: natural disasters and shopping.

The next activity was to build a den out of sticks and mud in small groups. We were given an hour to complete the den by finishing with the sticks and making it waterproof by adding dirt. Most groups completed the task without any arguments. Once we had finished building it was time to see if they were waterproof enough. Teams would nominate people to lie down in the dens as water was poured all over the den. It was also tested to see how strong it was by standing on it. We also made art out of objects we could find in the woods like sticks, leaves and flowers. One group made a massive flower out of leaves and sticks.

After we had done two challenges, we had lunch in a wooden shelter on the field while the Edgmond staff set up the next activities. We were put into teams once again to do puzzles with teams. One of the activities involved six tennis balls and six cups inside a board and the aim was to get all of the balls into cups without them falling on the floor. My team, after several tries, managed all six balls at the same time. The next puzzle involved rucksacks and a large rub-

ber band; you had to get all of your teammates through the rubber band in a certain time limit. Most teams managed to complete the puzzle after a lot of tries and the quickest time was about 18 seconds. The next activity was basically a massive puzzle where you have to make sure all of the tubes (red, blue and yellow) matched up with each other. There were nine pieces altogether– you also had to complete it in the time limit.

The last activity we did was an obstacle course and we were given mats to get across the gaps. There were a few rules: no stepping on the grass only on the mats; stick together as how far you travel will depend on the person at the back; and you had to do it quickly because unsurprisingly it also had a time limit. Once we started most teams split up and didn't get too far but some teams stuck together, still not reaching too far. Since it was raining heavily the tires were soaking wet making it really easy to lose your footing but most teams were there for one another and if someone was about to slip they caught them right away.

In conclusion I think it was an amazing trip and I want to thank the staff for making it happen. I made loads of new friends and enjoyed every second of it.

# World News

By Georgia Evans, Year 9

## Politics

Britain is preparing for its first December election in almost 100 years. Nicknamed the 'Nightmare before Christmas', the House of Commons approved legislation (law-making) by 438 votes to 20. The bill is still to be approved by the House of Lords but could become law by the end of the week.

## Climate

David Attenborough's climate change TV show has been described by the Guardian as a 'rousing call to arms'. Attenborough has called global warming 'our greatest threat in thousands of years'. He said in the film that 'in the 20 years since I first started talking about the impact of climate change on our world, conditions have changed faster than I ever imagined'. "It may sound frightening, but the scientific evidence is that if we have not taken dramatic action within the next decade, we could face irreversible damage to the natural world and the collapse of our societies.' In this film, Sir David Attenborough has illustrated the impact that climate change has and will continue to have on our world, if we don't do something.

*Right— Seven Worlds One Planet, Sir David's new show*



## Society

As of the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, abortion in Northern Ireland has been legalised.

## Chile Protests

Protestors calling for drastic social and economic changes in Santiago, Chile after an increase in metro ticket prices going up by 30 pesos (around \$0.04). Thousands of students swarmed metro stations across the country, which ended up escalating to more than a million people marching through the streets of the city. The following Tuesday, thousands swarmed the central plaza in Santiago. There has been some property destruction as protestors set fire to buses, metro stations and banks, however

most protests have been peaceful. The government has imposed a national curfew and police have been liberal with tear gas batons and metal pellet-loaded guns. 'Women in black' are demanding justice, following the injuries and even deaths that occurred as a result of the initial protest. AT least 20 people have died nationwide as a result of the protest.

## US Immigration Health Insurance Rule

A US judge has temporarily blocked a rule proposed by President Donald Trump, which would require immigrants to prove that they will have health insurance within 30 days of arrival in the US, or can pay for healthcare. Judge says the proposal would cause 'irreparable harm' to families. Several American citizens and an NGO (Non-government organisation) filed a lawsuit opposing the rule. Judge Simon's 28-day temporary restraining order will prevent the rule from coming into effect on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, however, as it is only temporary the legal battle will likely continue.

The Trump administration has argued that legal immigrants are about three times more likely to lack health insurance than US citizens, and that taxpayers should not bear their medical costs. However, US policy experts say immigrants are less likely to use the healthcare system than American citizens. Research has found that recent immigrants without insurance made up less than a tenth of 1% of US medical fees in 2017.

## Ugandan Protests

Ugandan police have released tear gas in the country's capital, Kampala. The demonstrations followed the arrest of several journalists at Makerere University, who were reporting on student protests over a 15% rise in tuition fees. The demonstrations on Monday demanded a proper investigation and prosecution of the police officers who allegedly beat and arrested the journalists. They also wanted the police to commission an inquiry into alleged police brutality against journalists, dating back years. Five people have been arrested but were later released. One group of protestors, formed of a group of journalists held up signs outside the police headquarters in Uganda.

# Seacole Steals the Show in House Music!

By Leanne Holmes, Year 12

House music. Everyone knows when it is the build up to this competition as you have music blasting from all corners of the school, not to mention the house teams dashing left front and centre filled with stress. Nonetheless, after the theme 'Rock the World' was mentioned a few weeks prior, it wasn't long before the entire school gathered in the hall.

This theme differed from any that have gone before, consequently leading to an exciting afternoon. The event was divided into eight categories which the houses were all competing for. To aid in offering their support, the houses each set up banners around the hall comprising of their house colours and aspects that represented the theme.

The first section on was junior vocalist where younger of the members of the school were able to show off their talent. Romasia Awan (Roddam) was victorious after an incredible unaccompanied performance. Junior instrumentalist was won by impeccable pianist, Sophie Li (Seacole). The remaining solo categories were senior vocalist and instrumentalist. A win of the former was obtained by Abbey Laycock's (Austen) breath-taking rendition of Somebody to Love by Queen. The winner for senior instrumentalist was Leonie Bottomley (Seacole), a year 12 who shocked the entire school with her outstanding playing and even caused a few tears when auditioning for the solo. Whilst these individuals were giving it everything they had, the audience were granted interludes with each of the three houses' entertainment item. An award for the most memorable act went to the Austen house showstopper. The girls performed a choreographed dance using props and large group dances. Before they began Lucy Warner, house captain, informed everyone that High School Musical had been chosen as it had "rocked everyone's world", a statement I'm sure the vast majority could agree with.

Following a more substantial break, there were just

the group pieces left. Each house chose a mash up of songs that they felt best represented the theme for a choir and an ensemble. Every house gave a unique performance that all involved can take pride in. The winners turned out to be Austen for choir and Seacole for ensemble, the latter being a result of Ruby Howell's tremendous effort in creating an ensemble for 25 instruments and forming what is the largest ensemble seen by many at the school, comprising of both students and teachers.

It was equally an amazing time of showing the wonderful community within the school as issues arose in the morning rehearsals surrounding Austen and Roddam's ensembles. It was the result of a faulty amplifier. As a result, Leanne Holmes leant her own to both houses. This meant they were able to put on amazing performances when it came for their turn. Seacole was up last and concern spiked when a bass guitar failed to produce sound. Amy Hill was exceptionally generous and offered out her own bass guitar which lead the spectacular performance by Seacole.

In order to obtain an accurate reflection of the success of house music, there was nobody better to interview than Seacole house captain herself, Brodie McCloy. Here's what she had to say:

## ***How does it feel to win House Music?***

*It feels brilliant to have won house music because it was a nice way to celebrate all the hours and stress that went into it- we went into the competition aiming to win and the reward of leading the house to win is pretty great. Susie, Ruby and I would have been proud of everyone involved regardless of the outcome but victory makes it that much sweeter for us.*

## ***Do you play any musical instruments?***

*I've played the violin for 11 years so have always liked being involved with House ensemble. I have*

the singing voice of a dying walrus so I'm useless for choir but with Ruby's frankly amazing arrangement, I could be of some use in the ensemble. This year I had my own solo, playing the guitar solo from Bohemian Rhapsody and I really enjoyed learning that since I tend to play classical and fiddle music.

**What would you like next year's theme to be?**

If I were in charge of deciding next year's theme, I'd want it to be Scotland/Ireland as I think there's a lot of room to work with there- you have some great pop music like the Glaswegian band Simple Minds, some classical music and the option for folk tunes so I think there's really something for everyone with this theme. The advantage of this year's theme was that it was very much open to interpretation and we therefore had a lot of choice whereas I've found that some themes have been more difficult to work with, particularly for instrumentalists. I think Scotland/Ireland is a great way for everyone to both listen to

music they already like and to discover something they perhaps haven't heard much of before.

**What's your favourite rock song?**

My favourite rock song? Difficult one there because I've got a playlist's worth of contenders. At the moment, it's a tie between 'Town Called Malice' by The Jam and 'It's Late', which is a lesser-known Queen song written by Brian May but my answer could have easily been 'Teenage Wildlife' or 'Five Years', both Bowie songs.

**Any words for the other houses?**

To the other houses, I'd like to say thanks for the competition; winning is better when you have to fight for it and there was tough competition in each category. I can tell you that Mir and Lucy along with their performing arts captains put in so much work and it really was evident on the day so thanks for being worthy opponents.



**Above**– The extremely well-edited logo for this year's theme

# Cross Country

By Sanisa Golar, Year 7

Normally, the people who are participating in the event have to run a mile, sometimes a bit less. They go by bus to the place where they will run. First to run is year 7 girls, then year 7 boys, then year 8 girls, then year 8 boys, then year 9 girls, then year 9 boys, then year 10/11 girls and finally year 10/11 boys.

Sometimes you could end up going the wrong way and then there is nothing to be done about it.

Sometimes their parents pick them up or they go back by bus. Some people do not enjoy cross country but if they quit and are in another team for the school they would most probably be removed.

A member of the team

said:

*“When you are waiting for the race to start, it is super boring.*

*When you’re running it, it is the most impossible thing ever.*

*When you’re almost at end, you are like ‘finally’.*

*When you are finished, it is the easiest thing ever.”*

Because the placings of the year 7s, they are quite close together. Mrs Goodall sometimes says as joke, “Why don’t you run as one big group?”

The last race that they ran was at Idsall and after there was a presentation. In this Edith Nickson, who is in year 7, came 3<sup>rd</sup> place and won a bronze medal.

**Right-**  
cross  
country  
runners  
(image  
courtesy  
of Shutter-  
stock)



# A Sustainable Christmas!

By Sarah Nawaid, Year 12

It’s that wondrous time of the year. The cold has settled in and “All I want for Christmas is you” is getting dangerously close to being overplayed. Christmas time brings with it joy, togetherness and warmth, but is there perhaps someone (or something) that we are forgetting about in this whirl of festivities?

Christmas is a time for being considerate of others and loving those who you hold dear but it is also the time of year where unnecessary consumption and waste are at their peak. It’s endlessly important that we don’t exchange the safety of our planet for our own comfort. We need to balance these things out, enjoy Christmas time whilst reducing our impact on the planet. Here are a few tips and ideas on how to have a more environmentally friendly Christmas:

- **Wrapping paper alternatives:** It is a good idea to exchange flamboyant, shining Christmas wrapper for brown paper and string bows this Christmas. It may not be as dazzling at first but with a little creativity and care, you can achieve a more rustic and eco-friendlier look for your gifts this season!

- **Plastic trees:** It’s true that plastic trees last longer and look just as nice as the real deal, but isn’t there something so charming about having a real Christmas tree in your home? Try renting Christmas trees or buying real trees this holiday instead of indulging in their plastic counterparts which produce a lot of synthetic waste when discarded.

- **Christmas lights:** Indeed, part of the magic of Christmas time is being able to see those lovely Christmas lights blinking as dark falls. However, try switching them off before you go to bed or to school this Christmas and do your electricity bill and the environment a favour by lowering your energy consumption.

- **Food waste:** After Christmas, there’s always going to be some morsels left over that nobody could quite make themselves eat. Don’t throw them out! The UK already produces over 7.1 million tonnes of food waste each year! The saddest part?

70% of this food is still perfectly edible. So, instead of just throwing out leftovers, why not donate them to your local food bank? Try and construct fun new recipes from them or share them with neighbours and friends. It sounds odd but it's better than wasting good food.

- **Food Options:** Changing our diet is one of the most efficient ways to reduce our impact on the Earth. This Christmas season, why not branch out and try vegetarian or vegan options for festive feasts? If you really don't want to give up the turkey, try finding organic meats to include in your Christmas dinner instead.
- **Ethical gifting:** Large corporations milk Christmas time for all it is worth. The glazed, glorious products are tempting but before you add something to your basket, take a moment to consider where that product came from? How did it make it to the shop and who/what might have been exploited in order to make it? It is our responsibility to be ethical consumers during these critical times, so try and support small businesses and buy products that contribute towards the conservation of the environment..

**If you're interested in how we are making NGHS more sustainable, please check out the SustaiNGHS noticeboard outside room 103!**

## Teacher of the Half Term

By Charlotte Toogood and Brianna Gill-Ballard, Year 8

After much deliberation, we are pleased to announce that winner of the first ever Teacher of the Half Term award is...



Honourable mentions go to:

- ⇒ Mr Tolley
- ⇒ Mrs Seys
- ⇒ Mr Hennessey– who despite leaving managed to get a lot of votes

Thank you to everyone who cast your vote!

## Creative Writing Competition Autumn 2019

**Feeling creative? Love to write? If so, why not enter NGHS News and Views' first ever creative writing competition! If you win, your work could be published in our next issue! There's also a sweet prize on offer, so what's not to lose? If you're interested, read on for more details...**

Entrants must write a short story or part of a story on the theme '*Distant Worlds*'. The winners will be chosen from these age categories: Years 7-8, 9-10 and 11-13. Each winner will receive a prize and their story will be published in the next issue.

All entries must be 1500 words or fewer and sub-

mitted by **Friday January 10<sup>th</sup> 2020** or they will not be considered. Entries must be written in English and cannot contain any defamatory, obscene, offensive or otherwise unsuitable material.

Entries can only be written by one student and must include a declaration that the entry is the student's own work in its entirety. Entries must also include the student's name, year and form. Only one entry is permitted per student.

**Email your entries to [ella.johnson@nghs.org.uk](mailto:ella.johnson@nghs.org.uk) or hand them in person to Ella Johnson in Year 12 (A6).**

# NGHS Puzzle Corner

In honour of our first issue, here's a double page spread of puzzles for you to try your hand at. **Answers will be published in next term's issue.**

**SUDOKU** Fill in the blank spaces so that every row, column and 3 X 3 box contains the numbers 1-9 without any repeats.

**EASY**

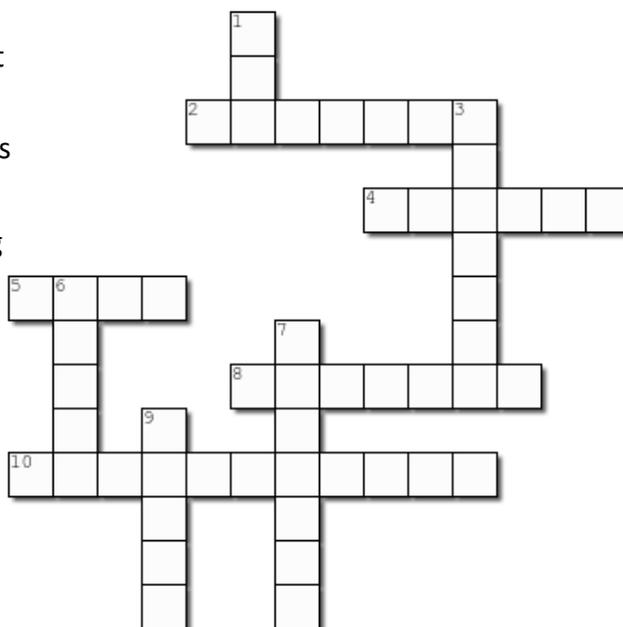
			7			8		
			4	8		6		9
	8	1	6	2	3	5	7	
			5	6	4			7
3								6
6			9	3	2			
	6	8	3	7	9	4	5	
2		9		4	8			
		4			6			

**HARD**

6			1			2		
					4			1
				5		8	9	
	9	4			6		3	7
5	3		4			6	1	
	4	6		1				
2			9					
		5			3			6

## CROSSWORD

Since this issue is coming out near Christmas, what better way to celebrate the holidays than with a Christmas crossword? Fill in the blanks using the clues to help you.

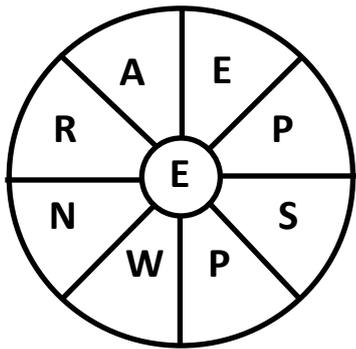


### Across

2. A demon from European folklore- the opposite of Santa
4. The traditional centrepiece of a Christmas dinner
5. You might have one on top of your tree
8. Pulled with family and friends
10. German for Christmas

### Down

1. A common type of Christmas tree
3. The main character from Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'
6. The Queen's speech is at \_\_\_\_\_ in the afternoon
7. A three-part TV series due to start airing on January 1st
9. I'm dreaming of a \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas...



## WORD WHEEL

Find as many words containing three or more letters as you can! All words must contain the letter in the centre of the wheel. There is also a nine-letter word to find!

T R O K R Q N W X G B W I K R  
 A E D I T O R I A L E R A X W  
 I P E T H M T Z D I O L B A T  
 D A B H C E E I V A S B C H H  
 E P R M S T A R D N O D U Z L  
 M S V U T D E D S E A N N F J  
 Z W V E K T A S L T H S M O V  
 L E S Y N S E O S I Z A H A D  
 R N I I H R R V R Q N U G R M  
 N H K D P L B Y N B S E I T Y  
 D F Y F L G E V Z V H A V I C  
 F G N B N E W S G L A M M C S  
 Y D V A A E B K Z B I G P L D  
 T S I L A N R U O J Q V S E H  
 X F B Y Y G V E A A S I H F G

## WORDSEARCH

Enjoy a news-themed word search to honour our first issue! Find the words listed below in the grid on the left.

## Logic Puzzle (thank you to Mr Ley for providing the puzzle!)

Santa always leaves plans for his elves to determine the order in which the reindeer will pull his sleigh. This year, for the European leg of his journey, his elves are working to the following schedule that will form a single line of nine reindeer:

- Comet behind Rudolph, Prancer and Cupid.
  - Blitzen behind Cupid and in front of Donner, Vixen and Dancer.
  - Cupid in front of Comet, Blitzen and Vixen.
  - Donner behind Vixen, Dasher and Prancer.
  - Rudolph behind Prancer and in front of Donner, Dancer and Dasher.
  - Vixen in front of Dancer and Comet.
  - Dancer behind Donner, Rudolph and Blitzen.
  - Prancer in front of Cupid, Donner and Blitzen.
  - Dasher behind Prancer and in front of Vixen, Dancer and Blitzen.
  - Donner behind Comet and Cupid.
  - Cupid in front of Rudolph and Dancer.
  - Vixen behind Rudolph, Prancer and Dasher.
- Can you help the elves work out the order of the reindeer?

ARTICLE  
 BROADSHEET  
 EDITOR  
 EDITORIAL  
 GAZETTE  
 HEADLINE  
 INTERVIEW  
 JOURNALIST  
 MEDIA  
 NEWS  
 NEWSPAPER  
 PRESS  
 TABLOID

## ATTENTION ALL READERS:

If you have an idea for an article or column which you'd love to see in future issues, please feel free to send them in! We have created an email especially for sending in any suggestions you may have:

[nghs.newsandviews@gmail.com](mailto:nghs.newsandviews@gmail.com)

We are also looking for puzzles, competition ideas and comic strips, so if you would like to send any of those in please do!

Finally, if you are in a club and would like to write a guest article for us about what you've been getting up to, contact any of our editors (Ella Johnson, Madeleine Partridge and Sarah Nawaid) either by email or in person and we'll see what we can do.

Thank you for enjoying NGHS News and Views, and remember to keep anything you send in appropriate for school (no foul language or offensive/defamatory content).