

# NEWPORT NEWS



*The fortnightly newsletter from Newport Girls' High School*

**INSIDE THIS EDITION**

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**....AND LOTS MORE!**



**#HelloYellow**





# NEWPORT NEWS

## A fortnightly update from NGHS

Volume 8 - Issue 4 - Friday 18th October 2024



Mr Adam Jones, Headteacher

The half term finishing line is rapidly approaching, and our staff and students are looking forward to a well-earned rest.

This week I was fortunate to see our cross-country teams compete at Idsall School in the final event of the cross-country series. All our students can be proud of their performances as they ran as hard as they could in the muddy conditions. A special mention must go to Ivy and Annie who managed to win the race for their age group. We look forward to seeing the overall results for the series as several students have been placed in their categories and we hope to award them with those medals soon.

In school there has been a hive of activity, not only from Mr Wade's beekeeping club, but from all the rehearsals taking place at lunchtimes. The House teams have been busy polishing their showstopper performances ready for House Music and the cast of Six, The Musical, are getting to grips with the musical and drama elements of the school production. What is so amazing to see is the range of year groups all working together, they are led so well by the House Captains who are such fantastic ambassadors for their Houses and the traditions of NGHS.

Last week in our assemblies, a student team led our World Mental Health Day assemblies that culminated in our annual Hello Yellow Day. The assembly gave us all some useful reminders of the ways in which we can be kind to ourselves and have a positive impact on our own mental health through self-care.

During the next two weeks, we are happy to welcome parents into school for our Year 13 Parents' Evening and Year 7 New Parent Event. As you are aware

though, parking on the school site is very limited and we would like to ask for your support in being considerate of our local residents when attending these events. We have already had some concerns raised about parents blocking driveways during morning and afternoon drop-offs. There is also quite extensive parking available in the town centre that is a pleasant walk away from school. Your help with keeping our neighbours happy would be most appreciated.

Finally, we have included a guidance page for parents around online tuition. We know that there may be times when you may want to provide additional academic support, which may include online tuition and hopefully this will give some advice on how to ensure this is done in a safe way.

Enjoy half term when we get there!

Mr A Jones, Headteacher

### Dates for your Diary

- 21.10 Year 5/6 Open Morning
- 23.10 Year 13 Parents Evening
- 25.10 Iceland Trip
- 25.10 End of Term
- 4.11 Return to School



Top results in region at GCSE & A-level since 2019

Outstanding Ofsted 2019 & 2022

Excellent Pastoral Care & Support

Year 7-8 mixed forms to support Transition

Friendly family-feel to our community

Benefits of all-girls education

See what makes Newport Girls' High School special at our **OPEN MORNING** Monday 21 October, 9.30-11am [www.nghs.org.uk](http://www.nghs.org.uk)

No booking required - come and see what makes us special

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](mailto:schooloffice@nghs.org.uk)

# YOUNG ENTERPRISE IS BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER AT NGHS!

Following on from our amazing regional and national success in last years competition, the Young Enterprise program in school is set to get turbo charged for 2024-25! In a change from previous years there will now be three Young Enterprise Teams in Year 12 as it becomes not only a local and national competition but a new house rivalry as well!

After an extensive and thorough recruitment process carried out by last years teams, the members for each house team have now been selected. The students will be taking on roles such as managing director, finance officer, marketing executive and a host of other positions you would find in a real world company. As the year progresses they will develop their own products, company names, brand identities and crucially they will actually produce, market and sell their products to the general public.

In their journey, they will be advised and supported by NGHS Economics and Business Studies teacher Mr Bentley and our newly appointed cover supervisor Mrs Tsang. Mr Bentley has nearly 20 years of

experience leading Young Enterprise in schools and colleges and has supported teams to local, regional and national success. Mrs Tsang joins us with many years experience in product innovation management with multinational companies such as Unilever, Cadbury and Muller! It is crucial to note that these two members of staff will be there to offer their advice and support but it is up to the students themselves to plan, design and carry out their plans!

Below you can see the three house teams for Austen, Roddam and Seacole. Over the coming weeks and months they will go from barely knowing each other to a functioning business entity with the goal of not only snatching the trophy from the other houses but competing against hundreds of other schools around the UK. Look out in the near future for activities and events that all three teams will be offering to raise funds and working capital to get their ventures off the ground. Please support these as much as you can as every penny raised helps them to achieve their goals!

**MAY THE BEST TEAM WIN!**





# Year 7 Enjoy a Fantastic Teambuilding day at Edmond Hall

Every year, the new Year 7 students visit Edmond Hall for a day of problem solving, shelter building, fire-starting and a host of other activities. It is a brilliant way for the new students to get to know each other, challenge themselves and also have a whole heap of fun! Despite the rain (or perhaps because of it) they had a super day getting muddy and wet whilst working in groups to overcome the challenges they were given. Below you can see a range of pictures from the day to give you a flavour of what they got up to!





# Year 12 Liverpool Trip



Liverpool - a patchwork quilt of different cultures, from iconic music history to escape rooms and museums, the Liverpool trip has something to offer everyone! Before going on the trip, my heart would pound faster and faster at the idea of spending my weekend with my peers who I barely knew. However, this trip turned my peers into friends, my nerves into confidence, and my dreams into memories. We settled quickly and had a fabulous time at the theatre seeing Sister Act, which put everyone in a great mood. We mostly had free time; I appreciated this aspect because the freedom gave us the opportunity to do what we wished. My friends and I feel most ebullient when we try something new, so we booked an escape room, went around a museum, and went shopping! Besides our vast free time, the school had arranged some other activities to partake in collectively. This strengthened my friendships because I spent time with them. My favourite activity was the Beatles bus tour! Our guide bubbled with humour as he took us around the city, stopping off in crucial locations like Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields.

**Eleanor W (6A3)**

On the Friday, after arriving at the hostel, full of excitement for the weekend, we all got settled into our rooms and got dinner, which was either a chicken curry (which was delicious) or a jacket potato with beans and cheese! After a nice tea, we all got ready to see Sister Act the musical! We walked from the hostel to the Empire Theatre, and when we arrived, we found our seats. The musical was amazing, and we were all singing on our way back to the hostel! We even saw Peaky Blinders being filmed while outside the theatre!

On the Saturday, we woke up bright and early for breakfast at 8 o'clock. And after, we made our

way to the docks for the Beatles bus tour! We learnt loads about the city and got to do a good sing along to some of their greatest hits. After the bus tour, we got to explore the city for 8 hours. This was by far the favourite part of my weekend, we shopped till we dropped, taking advantage of Liverpool one, and we got to choose where to go for tea (my group went to Nandos). We also had a quiz when we got back, and it got very competitive! I was very upset my group didn't win the box of heroes.

The Sunday was a very tiring day, all of us now spent from the Friday and Saturday. We explored the area around the dock more, a Sunday market being on, and we all got some treats to take home. It was a nice relaxing way to finish the trip, although I think all of us were happy to go home and back to our own beds after a very fun, but tiring weekend!

Aimee C (6R1)





# COMPETITION

## DESIGN A LOGO

# FOR SIX THE

TEEN EDITION

# MUSICAL

Create a logo for this years school production, SIX. The winning logo will be used to promote the show and for a range of exciting merchandise!

See the accompanying poster for details and ideas for your designs.

Submit your entries to Mrs Saysell or Miss Walker by 25/10/24



Your logo design/s can be created by hand on any surface that works best to showcase your idea or alternatively they can be created digitally. If they are digital they will need to be saved as either a PNG or JPEG file and emailed to Mrs Saysell or Miss Walker by the 25/10/24.

Please make sure you add your full name to your entry.



## Year 7 Student Scoops Photography Prize!

Year 7 student, Elizabeth B was thrilled to win first prize for her outstanding photograph of a honey bee. The award was presented by South Staffordshire and District Bee Keeping Association.

She had her certificates presented by Honorary Secretary Mr G Round after being judged the winning photographic entry by Mr John Goodwin.



A fantastic achievement Elizabeth!







# HELLO YELLOW 2024!



On the 10th October our school came together to celebrate Hello Yellow Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about mental health. According to Young Minds, one in six children aged five to 16 were identified as having a probable mental health problem in July 2021, which equates to around five children in every classroom. This statistic highlights why we need to come together as a school community and celebrate our mental health.

The school was joyfully decorated with yellow bows, bunting, and a positive atmosphere, as students and staff united to spread kindness and support. Throughout the week, members of our upper and lower school Head Girl Teams led assemblies where they discussed the importance of self-care, reaching out for help, and how we can support one another. Many of our teachers shared their personal self-care routines, emphasizing that mental health is important for everyone. Mr. Tolley shared how his love for football and music helps him relax, Mrs. Saunders highlighted the benefits of exercise for releasing stress, and Mrs. Aver-Howdle showed photos of her garden, where she finds peace while tending to her flowers.



During form time, students were encouraged to create 'Chatterboxes' with questions designed to spark conversations about mental health. Other activities included a quiz on all things yellow and a brainstorming session about how to protect our mental health in the digital world. These resources are available in this newsletter for parents and students to explore at home.

It was wonderful to see so many students wearing yellow to show their support for mental health awareness. We hope this day continues to spark open conversations about emotional well-being, both in school and at home. A big thank you to everyone for getting involved, as well as all the help from Miss Heyes, Mrs Aver-Howdle and Mrs Danby! **Rosie B Deputy Head Girl (health and Wellbeing)**



## Here are some more tips for how to look after our mental health in the digital world :

**Stay informed mindfully** – staying up to date with the news can become overwhelming, so limit how often you check this, like turning off or limiting your notifications.

**Take a digital detox** – take regular break from social media, whether it's a few hours or a full weekend cleanse. You can even add limits to how long you can access certain apps on your phones to help you do this

**Curate your online space** – unfollow any accounts that don't make you feel good and follow accounts that bring you joy

**Go phone-free** – having set times you won't use your phone can help you maintain taking a break from your screen

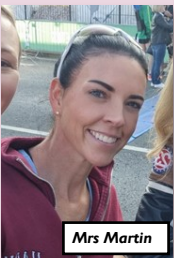
**Practice mindful tech use** - avoid using your phone when interacting with others as well as multitasking, like when you're on your phone and watching TV at the same time, helping you to focus and enjoy one thing at a time.

## staff news



Continuing the theme of sporty staff achievements, there is now a staff badminton club taking place between 4.00 and 5.00pm every Friday evening after school.

The club has been organised by Mrs Martin who is keen to ensure that the staff have plenty of opportunities to keep fit and enjoy themselves at the end of the week. Speaking recently, Mrs Martin explained, "We rightly give excellent sporting opportunities to all of the students but it's also important the staff get to take part too. Badminton can be a wonderful sport played either for recreation and fun or for those seeking a bit of competition! I'm looking forward to the club growing over the coming weeks."

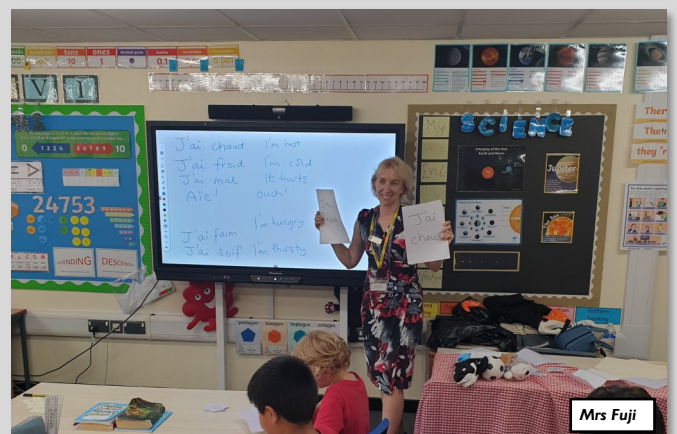


Mrs Martin

## Un peu de français!

Moorfield Year 5 and 6 students had a little taste of French on the 8th October with a visit from Mrs Fujii.

In a preview of what's to come with language learning in high school students made and played vocabulary games, racing one another to find correct translations!



Mrs Fujii



# SPORTS ROUND UP

## UNDER 16 NETBALL TEAM QUALIFY FOR REGIONAL FINALS!

On Thursday 10th October, we took part in the U16's County Netball Tournament at Abraham Derby School. Although our coach, Mrs Martin was unable to be there, Mrs Saunders and her bucket hat kept the team together. We played six games in total, winning 4 and drawing 2.

Our spirits were so high right from the first game, which led us to our biggest game against Wrekin College, both our attack and defence worked so hard and we secured a win 8-7!

We have now qualified for regionals and we will work exceptionally hard to make sure you do ourselves proud at this tournament. **Jess W IIA (U16 Captain)**



## SENIOR NETBALL SQUAD DEFEAT LOCAL ADVERSARIES!



VS



On Wednesday 2nd October the Senior Netball team played against fierce local rivals, Haberdashers Adams Grammar. Each school fielded an 'A' and 'B' team in their first matches of the season. With local bragging rights up for grabs, all of the players went in to the matches keen to put in a strong performance with pride on the line! In the first match, Newport 'B' defeated Adams 'B' by the score of 22 to 10. A battling and brave performance from Adams was not enough to stop a determined and strong NGHS team with Katie M performing particularly well in both attack and defence.



In the 'A' team match it was more of the same as both teams were desperate to perform well. The NGHS players knew that defeat was not something they could tolerate and from the first whistle they were hustling and harassing, giving the Adams players little time to settle. A particular mention goes to Saskia R for her smothering defence and all round contribution. Despite giving their all, the Haberdashers Adams players just couldn't stay with the home team and NGHS eventually won convincingly by the score of 26-8!



After the matches, senior netball captain Millie Hartwright declared, "This was an excellent start to the season against our local rivals. Both the 'A' and 'B' teams performed as they mean to go on and it was great to continue our long

standing winning streak against our nearest competitors!"



# CROSS COUNTRY NEWS

## DOUBLE CHAMPIONS IN Y8/9



Over the last month the Year 7-10 cross country team have been attending the 'Telford and Wrekin Cross Country Championship' meets that have been held at various locations around the county. As is usual with cross country running, the conditions ranged from fine and firm

under foot to torrential rain and running through fields of mud!

In terms of the overall competition, Miss Saunders was delighted with the level of determination, grit and effort shown by the whole team.



Despite the variable conditions all of the girls performed superbly! The 4 races were held at Chetwynd Deep Park, Telford Park School, Abraham Darby and Idsall School. We are absolutely thrilled to say that the U13 individual champion is Y8 Student **Phillipa G** and the U14 individual champion is Y9 pupil **Annie W!** We are currently

awaiting conformation for another Y8 student, **Ivy B** who was sitting in 3rd place but won the final race so may move up to 2nd place to give the U13's a champion and runner up!

The competition organisers are still calculating the overall winning school but the PE staff are optimistic that we will finish in the top 3 schools in the area!



## TOUGH START TO THE SEASON FOR U16 FOOTBALL TEAM!

In their first game of the year, the U16 football team opened their season with a very tough away fixture against local foes Thomas Telford. Travelling over, they knew that they would have to be at their absolute best to

get anything out of the game. At kick off, it was clear that the opposition were well drilled and had a high level of skill. Undaunted by this, all of the players battled hard and did themselves proud. After ninety gruelling minutes the final score was 4-1 to Thomas Telford.



Despite the result, team manager Miss Saunders, was extremely proud of the skill levels shown by the girls and their excellent effort. Following the match she said, "The score-line is not really an accurate reflection of the game. We certainly had chances to score more and if we had taken those then who knows what might have happened! I would like to make special mention to Lottie L for scoring the goal and Grace W for a fantastic performance in goal. There was plenty of promise shown in the performance against very strong opposition and I'm certain the results will come later in the season."



# ONLINE TUTORS KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE



## GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

**YOU MIGHT GET A TUTOR FROM SCHOOL, A GOOGLE SEARCH OR A RECOMMENDATION. BUT ANYONE CAN CALL THEMSELVES A TUTOR, SO HOW CAN YOU KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE IF YOU GET THEM A TUTOR?**

### 1) Select the right tutor

- o Get to know them first - ask about qualifications, experience (freelance? umbrella body?) & approach
- o Take up references and speak to them if you can
- o Ask to see a DBS (criminal record) check. NB - private tutors can only get the basic check; (don't let a DBS give you a false sense of security though)
- o Find out which platform they will use and its safety features



### 2) Establish clear rules

- o Sessions must always be arranged via you; the tutor should not contact your child directly between sessions, send private messages or change communication platform
- o A tutor is not a friend – they should behave in a professional way, like a teacher
- o Sessions must not be recorded without your approval
- o Try to be in the room for all sessions, especially for younger children, and certainly the first time
- o Your child should not join a session from a bedroom. If this is unavoidable, pop in frequently, ensure they are fully dressed at all times, point the camera away from beds & personal information; blur or change the background



### 3) Make sure your child knows

- o The rules apply to them and the tutor
- o A tutor is a teacher not a friend
- o The RED FLAGS: asking to communicate directly, change platform or meet up (if not booked via you)
- o Neither tutor nor child should share personal information, private messages or photos & videos
- o They must never meet without your approval or communicate on a different platform
- o Who their trusted adults are at home and school
- o They can tell you if they are asked to keep a secret or anything happens or is said that is strange or makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or upset



FIND MORE SAFEGUARDING RESOURCES  
TO SUPPORT PARENTS AT  
PARENTSAFE.LGFL.NET



# 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



**Mrs H Birch:** Assistant Head, DSL



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



**Miss S Webster:** Deputy  
Headteacher & DDSL



**Mr A Jones:** Headteacher & DDSL



**Mrs F Davenport:** Pastoral Support &  
DDSL

DSL—Designated Safeguarding Lead  
DDSL—Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead