



THE MERLE

NOTTINGHAM HIGH SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



30TH MARCH 2022 ISSUE 14

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CCF INSPECTION DAY 2022
[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL ALBUM](#)

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of a busy but exciting term and all in the School community can reflect with pride in all that has been achieved.

It was wonderful to be back in the Albert Hall for the Spring Concert and we were treated to a very special evening showcasing just how very strong school music is at present. Last weekend saw the CCF Inspection day and again this showed our pupils as outstanding ambassadors for the School and it was good to welcome back ON Richard Varley as the inspecting officer who I had taught History when I first joined the High School.

The end of this term marks 15 years of being headmaster of the School and how the School has changed in that time. With the opening of the Infant School, the construction of the Sixth Form Centre and the move to co-education the School has modernised in so many ways whilst remaining determined to be the best school in the region with strong academic success at its heart. Our results have improved significantly too over that period. It remains a huge privilege to lead the School and I am still enjoying every moment of my work. We are developing our strategic plans for the next 5 years at present and I am very much looking forward to leading the School in that period. Every day in my role is very different but I have the support of a fantastic group of both teaching and support staff who share the goal of making the School the best it can be in so many different ways.

I hope that all of you manage to get a good break over the Easter period. For many of our students exams will dominate the next few months and we wish them well with all their work over the holiday. Whilst it is important that they work hard they must also not neglect the importance of getting some rest and exercise.

I will take this opportunity to remind any family who is unsure of plans for September 2022, that you have until the first day of the new term to give your notice in writing to ensure that you do not incur fees for Autumn Term 2022. If you are in a situation where you are unsure if your child will be remaining at school next academic year, please feel free to get in touch with me directly (hm@nottinghamhigh.co.uk) and I can advise you of the options or you can refer to the Parent Contract (section 5) on our web-site [here](#).

Have a good Easter Break,

Kevin Fear (Headmaster)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		30 GCSE ART EXAMS ABRSM EXAMS END OF TERM TODAY	31 BUSINESS CLUB	1
4	5	6	7	8
SCHOOL CLOSED FOR EASTER BREAK SUPPORT STAFF ARE AVAILABLE TO CONTACT				
11	12	13	14	15 BANK HOLIDAY
18 BANK HOLIDAY	19 INSET DAY	20 FIRST DAY OF TERM Y11 & 13 ASSESSMENT	21 Y11 & 13 ASSESSMENT	22 Y11 ASSESSMENT
25 Y10 & 12 EXAMS START	26	27 JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE	28 JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE MUSICIANS' DINNER	29

Please see our School Website for the most up to date information via our online calendar [here](#)

Term Dates 2021/22

The term dates for 2021/2022 are live on our website and you can view them [here](#).

Sports Fixtures and Results

You can access all the latest sports information, including team information, on the [sports website](#)

YEAR GROUP UPDATES

Head of Year 7 - Mrs Hollie Neale

Year 7 had the pleasure of a talk from Caroline Lawrence, the author of the Roman Mysteries books, this week on Myths and storytelling. It was a great finale to a busy half-term with students working on their Classics independent study projects. Year 7 will certainly be ready for a break over the Easter holidays after a busy week at the Spring Concert at the Albert Hall on Thursday evening as well as a final weekend of Hockey fixtures for the boys, some of the girls went to Condover Hall for their netball residential. The girls seemed to have a wonderful time with lots of netball, climbing and sweets. Not much sleep though!

Well done to all of the students on an excellent half-term. There have been lots of distinction appointments for Year 7 with various members of SMT and a special well done to Marcus and Khushi (7A), Jasper D and Daisy (7B), Ben and Rumaysah (7C), Sharini and Ara (7D) and finally Jessica and Myah (7E) on having the most number of distinctions per form this term. We hope that Year 7 have a wonderful break and come back well rested, relaxed and ready for their last term in Year 7.



Head of Year 8 - Mr Oliver Pratten

As we approach Easter, Mrs Gillett and I organised a Year 8 assembly to review the term and to celebrate the students' many achievements. There have been a whole range of sporting, musical, drama and other achievements and it has been great to see so many students taking part. We look forward to seeing the Year 8s using these activities to get their High School Award this year.

Several prizes were awarded during the assembly including: The students who have achieved the highest number of distinctions are:

- Leah G with 36 distinctions
- Nathan C and Maya S with 30 distinctions
- Francesca A and James G with 28 distinctions

8A for form of the term.

Cereal Wars winners – the Infinites team for their fantastic idea for a new breakfast cereal and their excellent Dragons Den presentation.



Head of Year 9 - Simon Barr Smith

Year 9 have kept themselves busy in the final few days of term, with the Spring Concert on the 24th of March, the CCF's Inspection Day taking place on Saturday the 26th, and a Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award training day on Sunday the 27th. Many of our students thoroughly appreciated the opportunity to plan their routes and discuss the requirements of the expedition, which is due to take place in July. It was also fantastic to see our students enjoying themselves on DEAR day, reading a wide range of fiction and non-fiction during their lessons.

Following the publication of their interim reports, I would advise Year 9 to reflect with pride on the enormous progress they have made so far this year. Furthermore, armed with the details of their summer examinations, they can start to plan their revision when the new term begins. However, before all of that hard work comes around, they must focus on having a happy and restful Easter break!



Head of Year 10 - Mr Paul Allison

This has been an exceptionally busy term for year 10, both inside and outside the classroom. In the build up to the end of term academic studies have focused on the preparation for the end of year exams, Year 10 should be working towards a comprehensive revision programme over the Easter break. Teachers have provided students with revision material on google classroom.

Year 10 have finished their PSHE cycle three which has focused on 'Respectful Relationships' after Easter their final cycle focuses on 'Current Trends'. A number of Year 10 students have also been taking part in the 'Tenner Challenge' to create a business out of £10. Proceeds this year will go to the 'Ukraine Appeal'.

On Saturday 26th March, forty two year 10 students took part in the CCF Inspection day at school. They formed a parade and demonstrated their skills through CCF activities, such as raft building, leadership tasks, team challenges and camp craft.

As well as this, a number of year 10 students were involved in the production teams for the year 7 and 8 House Drama competition performances. Congratulations also goes to William and Harry who were part of the school team that competed in the Inter – Regional Schools Challenge quiz.

Congratulations to Jack who competed in his first Triathlon competition in the East Leake Tri event. Congratulations to the U15B Boy Hockey team who have finished the season unbeaten, with six wins and three draws. Sam and Milo have captained the side ever week.



Assistant Head, Individuals Y11-13 - Mr David Gillett

The final few weeks for Years 11 – 13 have reflected the term as a whole, with students working flat out until the end. A visit and talk from James Shone in GEP inspired all and we were pleased to see so many enjoying the Duke of Edinburgh training days. It was a real pleasure to read the Year 12 SLT applications and we congratulate everybody on their ideas and motivation. Whilst Year 13 focus on their revision in the short term, it was brilliant to see how much they appreciated the leavers' hoodies and we hope that the ball tickets will continue to sell fast.



A LOOK BACK AT THE SPRING TERM

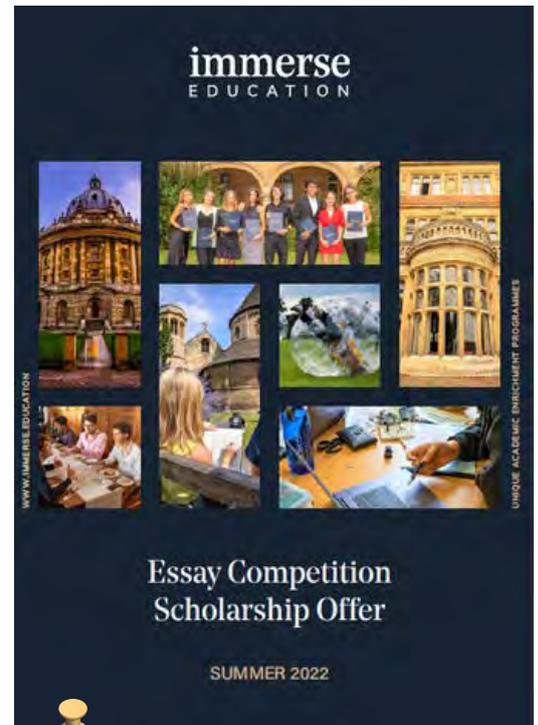
JANUARY - MARCH 2022



Immerse Essay Competition

David P (Y8) recently took part in the Immerse Education Essay Competition and with his essay titled "Should all vaccines for all known diseases be mandatory" managed to win a partial scholarship for their Medicine Programme through being one of the highest calibre entries across the competition. David's essay was thought provoking, well researched and articulate and placing so highly is hugely impressive. A massive congratulations to David for this result and we wish him all the best as he looks into the Medicine programme over summer with Immerse Education.

Congratulations also goes to Muskan G who was awarded a fantastic 50% Scholarship in the Immerse Essay Competition Law Category! Muskan's essay explored the question 'Is stealing a loaf of bread really a crime?'



Horse Riding Achievements!

Great riding success for Victoria and Elizabeth. Victoria qualified for the spring festival championships in arena eventing with an amazing double clear and Elizabeth qualified for the sunshine tour and ESUK championships in the 90 and 1m classes in show jumping.

Well done to both girls! Please do share any of your sporting success with the PE department we love to hear!

Charity Golf Day

There's still time to register for the School's Charity Golf Day. To sign up or to Sponsor a Hole please click [here](#) . All proceeds to the School's Bursary Fund. A programme that supports 1 in 8 of our current students.



Business Club Returns

We are looking forward to welcoming the business community back to Nottingham High School on Thursday 31st March 2022 09.30-11.30 for the first of a series of Business Clubs.

They're a great way to raise the profile of your business, network in person, catch up with some familiar faces, all in the wonderful setting of Nottingham High School. There's still time to register your interest by clicking on the following [link](#)

We hope to see you there!



SCHOOL NEWS

MENTORING

Could you provide support for a current student interested in your industry or profession?

If so, please sign up to our alumni platform, Nottingham High Connect, where past pupils, parents and friends of the school plus current sixth form students can support each other.

Create your account now at:

www.nottinghamhighconnect.co.uk



Careers

Thanks so much to all our wonderful speakers this term, who have shared their expertise with students through careers talks, masterclasses and through curriculum-linked events. We've heard from 2 lawyers, 2 trainee doctors, a scientist, an author, a police officer, an actor, a pilot, a musician, an engineer, a sports-scholarship winner and an aspiring linguist. The sixth form have also been treated to a range of talks from a refugee, a cancer charity, an LGBTQ+ organisation and individuals with inspirational stories about overcoming unimaginable situations such as blindness, a gambling addiction, and a life-changing drink-driving mistake. It is wonderful so many people are able to share their experiences with our students and we are truly grateful to all our speakers for their time and expertise. If you would like to speak to our students, or would consider being a mentor to a sixth form student interested in your industry, please get in touch!

- Rebecca Auterson, Head of Careers

SPEAKERS

SPRING 2022

LAW: Isaac Murdy, Dr Edward Goodwin
CHEMISTRY: Dr Chris Sleight
PILOT: Ryan Hanks
GAP YEAR: Gabe Hutton
SPORT SCHOLARSHIPS: Katy Fuhrman
MEDICINE: Harjit Nijram, Saman Al-Sahab
ACTOR: Stephen Boehm
MUSICIAN: Jess Gillam
POLICE: Nigel Best
POLITICIAN: Ben Bradley, MP
AUTHOR: Alex Wheatle
GAMBLING: Patrick Foster
ILLNESS & DISABILITY: James Shone
DRINK DRIVING: John Hoskison
LGBTQ+: Just Like Us
CANCER: Oddballs
REFUGEES: Host Nottingham

Languages News

On Wednesday 23rd March at 7pm, three of our students (Muskan G, Gauri K and Millie W) from Year 11 participated in a Translation Book Club event via Zoom organised by Oxford University. In order to prepare for this, they read the novel A Long Way from Douala by Swiss-Cameroonian author Max Lobe, translated by Ros Schwartz from French – and occasionally from Camfranglais, a mixture of French, (Pidgin) English, and indigenous Cameroonian languages including Beti-Fang, Bamileke and Duala, spoken mainly by young people in Cameroon. The book follows the narrator, Jean, and his best friend Simon across the country in search of a runaway older brother hoping to make it as a professional footballer in Europe, it addresses weighty contemporary issues of migration, terrorism, and sexuality without ever losing its sense of humour.

U12 Netball Success

The U12 netball team took part in the age group county tournament on Thursday 24th March. The team won their pool with 3 great wins before heading into the semi-final and dominating from the whistle. The team worked hard for each other and were successful to progress to the final. The final game was 0-0 after the first half so all was to play for with each team scoring in the second half with the final score having 1 point in it the U12 netball team came away with a very well deserved silver medal. Nottingham High Schools highest achievement at a county netball tournament so far. Well done to all of the team on an outstanding effort!



EASTER CRICKET CAMP



MONDAY 11TH TO WEDNESDAY 13TH APRIL

9AM-11AM - YEAR 7 ONLY (30 PLACES)

11:30AM – 1:30PM - YEAR 8 & 9 (30 PLACES)

2PM-4PM - YEAR 10 UPWARDS

[SIGN UP HERE](#)



@ VALLEY ROAD PLAYING FIELDS

A GREAT WAY TO FURTHER YOUR CRICKET SKILLS

SIGN UP THROUGH LINKS AND REMEMBER CORRECT EQUIPMENT ON THE DAY

SCHOOL NEWS

Ukraine Appeal

Earlier this month, shortly after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, a Year 13 student, Mollie O-W inspired the School by starting an appeal for Ukraine - both for people still in the country but also for refugees fleeing the country to Poland. She sought a number of items from sleeping bags to torches, to medical supplies, which soon escalated into a whole School campaign, including the Infant and Junior School. At short notice, parents, students and staff were asked to donate a variety of items and as a School we were completely overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness shown by our parent/student/staff community, so much so that the Student Services Office became full! After taking in all donations, the wonderful Student Services team separated the items into different categories, placing signs in English and Ukrainian on each box, including a medicine box for the Red Cross to distribute to those still in Ukraine. On Tuesday 15th March, our donations set off on their journey to Odessa in southern Ukraine via Poland thanks to Mollie's family, who was able to find a local charity able to transport the donations to Poland - not an easy task! In addition to the appeal, the School is hosting a non-uniform day on Wednesday 30th March in aid of the crisis in Ukraine so please do not forget your £3 donation for this! On behalf of Mollie, her family and Community Action, I would like to thank all parents, students and staff who made a donation to this extraordinary appeal and to those able to donate on non-uniform day!



Fitness Suite Report

There have been over 1500 visits to the school fitness suite this Spring Term, outside of PE lessons, once again showing how popular fitness training is as a co-curricular offering in the school. Surprisingly, before-school gym sessions have actually been the more popular choice for our Year 8s to 11s.

The second lot of Fitness Training Awards for pupils who have demonstrated great commitment to personal fitness development have been awarded, with Henry B (Year 8), Priya M (Year 9) and Andreas (Year 10) picking up their medals this term – well done all!

We are well into our second round of HRF Triathlon testing (Three one-minute events, with total distance recorded) in PE for Years 7-9 and we have seen some fantastic individual and group improvements across all year groups. I strongly believe that the amount of sport we offer at the school, and the quality of our Games sessions accounts for some of the improvements in fitness we've witnessed. The first term will generally improve a student's baseline fitness to some degree (coming off the back of a summer break), but significant improvements to fitness testing scores such as 140-150 m as seen in some year 7s is very pleasing to see.

SCHOOL NEWS

CCF Inspection Day

The CCF Biennial Inspection took place in sunny conditions on Saturday 26th March on the school premises. We were privileged to have as our inspecting officer, Old Nottinghamian, Major Richard Varley. Richard left school in 2005 and was a cadet in the RAF section whilst serving in the CCF. Major Rich Varley joined the British Army after studying Business and Economics at Newcastle University, commissioning from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in August 2009. Joining the Royal Artillery. Richard was able to see the cadets perform lots of CCF activities such as raft building, command tasks, assault course, weapons demonstrations and fitness. The main inspection parade was made up of 120 cadets from years 9 to 13, with the Senior Cadets taking control of the formations and formalities.



Major Richard Varley
Royal Artillery

Click [here](#) to see the full album.



Volunteering at NHIJS

Evie, Year 12: I volunteer at Nottingham High Junior School each morning for 20-30 minutes. As a volunteer here I am able to spend some time with the younger students before school, talking to them and supporting them as they go about their day. I have had the opportunity to develop key skills like communication and commitment when I volunteer. I have also built relationships with staff from other areas of the school and I have had the opportunity to work with a range of age groups. It is an enjoyable and positive environment at the junior school with kind staff and students.

Louis, Year 12: I volunteer at Lovell House for two hours, one day a week. During this time, I mostly talk to the students, and help them with the activities that they are doing, such as drawing or cutting and sticking. It is also a very good opportunity to develop my interpersonal skills, with both the children and the teachers. Furthermore, I often have to show a lot of patience with the children, as they do not always do what is asked of them, so being patient and respectful is necessary to achieve what is needed.

I would definitely recommend helping out at the infant or junior school, as it is a fun experience, and it helps to develop skills that would be hard to attain anywhere else - it is perfect for DofE volunteering as well!



SCHOOL NEWS GALLERY



Last week's visit from Alex Wheatle



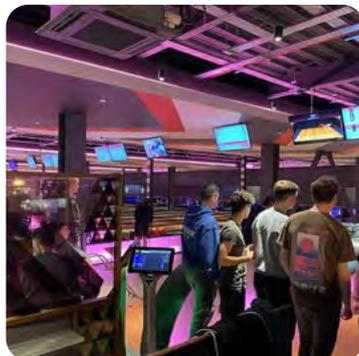
E-Sports Trip



Making Snowflakes in Physics



Setting up for Rocket League practice



The Hockey Tour take a break for some bowling



Netball Trip Award Winners



Mellers House Drama Winners



Y9 Expedition Training



CCF Inspection Day



Y10 DofE Students working on their Silver routes



A wonderful visit from Caroline Lawrence



Excellent lamps made by Y9 Students

SCHOOL NEWS

**WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM
FOR 2022/23**

SENIOR PREFECT TEAM:

Head Girl and Head Boy

Martha Christensen & Taona Makunganya

Deputy Head Girls and Deputy Head Boys

Hannah Bryce, Holly Harwood and Isobel Shearman
Ethan Huntley, Sam Threlfall and Coy Zhu

HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Cooper's House Captains

Evie Barr-Smith

Zamel Sadek

Maples' House Captains

Anna Goodenough

Hou Yu Lei

Mellers' House Captains

Jenna Davies

Ethan Rathour

White's House Captains

Andrew Barish

Nnenna Ilione

PARENT NOTICES

Raise donations for Nottingham High School whenever you shop online

Turn your everyday online shopping into FREE donations

Over £32m raised for good causes through easyfundraising

Easy Fundraising - Help us raise money

EasyFundraising is a brilliant platform which allows you to do your online shopping and raise money for your favourite cause at the same time. We currently have 74 registered users who have raised over £1803.70 for the Nottingham High School Bursary Fund without it costing them a penny. The retailer makes the donation as a 'thank you' to you! Please sign up today!

Sponsor a Stone

Since its launch in 2017, our Sponsor a Stone campaign has raised almost £35,000 for the School's Bursary Fund plus another £8,000 in Gift Aid!

Waverley Walkway is lined with personalised stones - a permanent feature of the School, one which will be enjoyed by our community for many years to come.

This is a great opportunity to celebrate links with Nottingham High Society as well as supporting our work to create opportunities for children who, without financial assistance, would be denied their opportunity to attend the School.



To order your stone
please visit our website.

Prayer Meetings

The prayer support group meets regularly, and all are welcome. Please contact Helen Bromley (Helen.bromley@sky.com or 07816164550) for details or to join our mailing list.

Social Media

Don't forget that you can follow us on social media to keep up-to-date with what's happening at the school. Please do feel free to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Flickr. A full list of all Nottingham High School departmental social media accounts is available on our website.

Attendance in School

If you know in advance that your child is going to be absent from School, please apply for an Exeat by emailing xeat@nottinghamhigh.co.uk. If your child is ill or unexpectedly absent, please telephone the School Reception on 0115 978 6056 before 8.40am on every day they will not be attending and we will update our registers.

iParent and iStudent

iParent and iStudent are extensions from iSams and will give you access to important information anytime, anyplace, anywhere. Download the iParent app from your mobile phone app store for free!

If you would like to contribute a story to our newsletter, we'd love to hear from you!
Please get in touch at marketing@nottinghamhigh.co.uk

FEATURED VIDEO

