



THE MERLE

NOTTINGHAM HIGH SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



9TH FEBRUARY 2024 - ISSUE 44

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are now half way through the academic year and as always the last couple of weeks have been busy. We have just completed our entrance exam interviews and I am pleased to report that we have had a really good entry this year and have offered enough places to fill Year 7 again next year. Indeed, there has been more competition than we have had for some time. In terms of the number of places offered we have a 50:50 split of boys and girls for the first time. We have never engineered this figure so this was a lovely surprise when we looked having made all the individual decisions on each candidate. This will mean that the overall number of girls in the School will grow again next year.

I have had an interesting fortnight starting with a visit to Singapore. I travelled with Mrs Simpson who is our Deputy Head (International and Strategic Projects) because the Singapore government were releasing some land parcels for international schools to start a school there. We attended the briefing and then viewed the land. We are particularly interested in one of the sites and are now involved with our partners GSF in bidding to open a branch of the School there. I should stress that we do not have to put up any of the funding for this. If successful we will receive a fee for providing our educational input and quality assurance but all the costs lie with GSF. Similarly all the costs of our travel are also covered by them. This is an important part of our strategy as we look for additional sources of income so that we can keep fees down here in the UK given the financial challenges ahead. This process is a competitive bidding process but we should find out in May if we have been successful so I will say more then if we have won the bid.

Soon after half-term we have the official opening of our Wellbeing Centre. Our guest speaker on the evening is Dick Moore who I have heard before and I know that he will be really inspiring. I hope that many of you will come along to hear him and then to visit the new centre which is already making such an impact on school life. Further details are below.

I would also like to make a request of all those parents who drive to school. Arboretum Street is quite narrow and has parking down one side. On the other side of the road from the School there are yellow lines and please do not park on that side of the road as it makes it so difficult for the buses to get past and this slows up all of the traffic at the end of the day. It seems to me to be the same few cars parking on that side of the road each day and I fear that there will be an accident at some point as the buses try to squeeze past the cars which are half on the pavement and half on the yellow lines.

Finally, I want to draw your attention to an opportunity for a great social event. Our Player Hall is being rented out by Electric Jive who will be providing dance classes on a Thursday night. I have attended some of their classes myself at times and I know how much fun they will be. You don't need to come with a partner and can learn to dance in a relatively short number of weeks. Full details below and all parents and any of your friends or colleagues are welcome.

I hope that all in the School community have a great half-term,

Kevin Fear (Headmaster)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
19 Start of Term	20 Music - McGegan - Violin - all day Physics - BAAO round 2 Chess - A - Team (U19)	21 Year 9 - DTP & ACWY medicals	22	23 Jazz and Italian Night (7.00pm)
26 Year 10 - White Post Farm Wellbeing Centre Launch (18:00) Chess - U19 (B) - 4.00pm	27	28 Ash Wednesday 1513 - Yr 8/9 DT - Engineers in lessons (PM)	29 Chamber Music Festival/Art Exhibition (4.45pm)	01 Activities Day - CCF Inspection Day
04 Activities Day - CCF Inspection Day	05 1513 - Yr. 7 (4.15 - 5.00pm) Drama - Year 10 iGCSE scripted performance (7-9pm)	06 Year 8 - Patterdale Parent Meeting(6.30pm) Music - McGegan - Voice (Master class) Music - Choral Music Festival (4.45pm)	07 Year 9 Parents' Evening (remote) Music - McGegan - Voice (IJS day!)	08 Netball - U13/U15 DRET Festival (11.20 - 4.30)
11	12	13 YE - Notts county Finals (5.30 - 8.00pm)	14 Drama - A- Level Practical Exam Day 1513 - Yr 7	15 Drama - London Trip (4.00pm) Netball: Year 7 Condover Hall
18	19	20 1513 - Yr 10/11	21 Concert rehearsals (8.30 - 1.00pm) Music: Spring Concert (7pm) - Albert Hall Languages - Year 10 Listening exams Maths - IMO	22 Languages - Year 10 Listening exams Drama - Year 10 Frantic Assembly (all day)

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

Term Dates 2023/24

The term dates for 2023/2024 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

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It has been a short but busy half-term for Year 7. This week we finished our diversity topic in PSHE with a show and tell lesson. All students were assigned the task to bring something in to talk about to the rest of the class that represented something about them as an individual. We saw so many interesting presentations and it was a great way to end the half-term and celebrate all of the things about them that make them who they are. We hope that Year 7 are proud to be part of such a diverse and interesting year group.

After half-term we will be focusing our PSHE lessons on Healthy and Puberty and more information on this will be sent home as there will be some trickier topics for students during these lessons.

On Friday 1st March the whole school is off timetable for Activities Day. On this day Year 7 will be having a Wellbeing Day. It will be a completely screen free day so students will not be allowed to use devices in school on the day and instead the day will focus on them interacting with their peers, spending quality time together and doing activities such as Crafts, Yoga, Board games, Reading and more with the aim to show them how they can look after their own Wellbeing. We are very excited about this day and we will tell the students and parents more about this in the first week back after half-term. We hope that Year 7 have a relaxing half-term break.

Head of Year 8 - Dr Matthew Lakin

8

As ever, we are impressed by the Year 8's maturity and organisation. It has been a very busy half term, and it is great to see so many students taking part in sport and co-curricular activities. We look forward to seeing the Year 8s using these activities to get their Values badges this year. This half term has seen Year 8 take part in activities and assemblies linked to the LGBTQ+ History Month, and they have had an assembly on mental health awareness: these topics are designed to instil into Year 8 kindness, empathy, and tolerance. We hope the discussions they have in Form time will spill over to the discussions they have at home.

The students who have achieved the highest number of distinctions this half term are:

- Mahd J with 17 distinctions
- Ives L with 16 distinctions
- Hattie S with 16 distinctions
- Adam P with 16 distinctions

The Year 8 combined have been the collective recipients of 786 distinctions. I hope they all enjoy their Spring half-term break.

Head of Year 9 - Ms Marquez-Godoy

9

As the half term draws to a close, it feels wonderful to celebrate the many successes of our students over the past few weeks. We have seen huge numbers of distinctions awarded, and the top distinction earners in the year group, for this half term, are as follows: Beate, Rumaysah, Devam, Myah, Grace, Emma G, Khushi, Daisy, Hugo, Arvind and Sharini.

There are a number of events to look forward to on the return after half term: celebrations of LGBTQ+ History Month, the English department's Literary Festival, and a celebration of Random Acts of Kindness Day. Most excitingly, Year 9 will be starting their cocurricular activities when they return from half term: we very much look forward to hearing about their new activities.

We wish you all a restful and enjoyable break.

Head of Year 10 - Mr Paul Allison

10

Collectively, year 10 have been awarded 320 distinctions this half term for excellence in the classroom. I have also received a number of emails from individual teachers who have nominated year 10 students for a special mention. In the half term form totals, 10D and 10E share the top spot for total number of distinctions awarded.

1st = 10D, 1st = 10E, 3rd – 10A, 4th – 10C, 5th – 10B.

Mrs Batt has nominated 14 students in her RS class that have all produced work to a very high standard and continue to impress her with their attitude to learning. In Spanish, Mrs Simpson and Mrs Marquez have nominated the following for their achievements in class. Ben N, Daniel B, Nathan C, Charles D and Francesca A. Mr Hipkiss has nominated students from his 'Culture Club' Linda G, Asha D, Uswah N, Anjali A and Chloe C.

Miss Bray has nominated the year 10 hockey girls who all took part in the national hockey finals, Elizabeth CV, Victoria CV, Sienna W, Georgia A, Francesca A, Emma T and Agatha H.

Year 10 continue to impress me with their hard work in the classroom but also their contribution to the plethora of co-curricular activities outside the classroom. I look forward to reporting on further successes after half term.

Head of Year 11-13 - Mr David Gillett

11
to
13

The 11-13 team has been busy doing transition talks with Year 11 as the first part of Sixth Form induction and following up with the help of tutors on Year 13 Mock Exam results. We are extremely grateful to all of the Sixth Form students who helped at the Entrance Exam, and who did tours for applicants in the subsequent weeks. The feedback from parents was excellent. Our speaker program has continued with talks from local speakers, such as Lucy Gossage, who is an oncologist, charity worker and former international Ironman triathlete. Tammy Smith also spoke to the year groups on the dangers of substance abuse and her experiences.



PHYSIO SESSIONS

We're happy to announce the start of Physio sessions as part of the wider range of services the Centre offers to both students and parents.

Run by experienced physiotherapist Alex Lamb from Coach House Physio, sessions will take place between 1pm and 5pm on Wednesdays. Students will be able to attend sessions during lesson time or after school, with parental permission. Please note that parents must be able to attend these sessions in person alongside their child (including those over the age of 18).

Each 40-minute session, which will include assessment and treatment, costs £45. Mr Lamb also works with private health insurance providers.

Parents and staff are also welcome to use this service at the same rate of £45 per 40-minute session. If these sessions take place after 4pm, parents are welcome to keep children in our wrap-around care until the end of your appointment. All appointments can be booked in advance via this form. If you have any questions about this service, please contact the Wellbeing Centre Administrator, Dan Scott, at scott.d@nottinghamhigh.co.uk.

PARENT NOTICES

Please be aware, if you wish to drive onto site, this is only permitted on the senior yard from 07:30, the Waverley entrance is reserved for staff and external visitors only.

The pupils are more than welcome to enter the school site on foot, via the pedestrian gates, if they are required at school before 07:30

Sainsbury's are now ticketing anyone who uses their car park and walks down to the school, regardless of if you use Sainsburys or not.



MMR
MEASLES MUMPS RUBELLA

Measles is circulating, it is serious, very infectious and can cause complications.
Especially for those with a weakened immune system, babies under one year and pregnant women.

You need **two doses of MMR vaccine** to protect you, see your **GP practice** to make an appointment.

It is never too late to have your MMR.

immunisation
the safest way to protect your child

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has declared a national measles incident
Measles is an infection that spreads very easily and can cause serious problems in some people.

Cold-like symptoms

The first symptoms of measles include:

- a high temperature
- a runny or blocked nose
- sneezing
- a cough
- red, sore, watery eyes

More info here

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

[National Measles Guidelines](#)

[MMR Vaccine Info](#)

Jasper N's Holocaust Story

It can be easy to think of the Holocaust as a horror of the past. An opportunity to highlight the Holocaust and indeed any genocide arose this week to show that it didn't and doesn't just happen in isolation to random people that have no connection to those walking around us today. Jasper N in Y9 has a personal connection to the Holocaust. His great grandfather Harry born Hans who he is named after (Jasper's middle name is Harry) was a survivor and came to the UK on the Kindertransport in December 1938. Unfortunately he and his sister were the only member of his large extended family to survive Nazi Germany and his parents were murdered in Buchenwald and Auschwitz. They have a rose dedicated to them in the garden, right next to pile of stones – the children's memorial. His dad got in touch to say he thought it was an important message to share, and Jasper was happy to let you all know a little bit about his family history via a short audio.



The Classics and Art Department Curiosity Cabinet

The Classics and Art department decided to share the Curiosity Cabinet this month. The Art Department have chosen items that should spark curiosity about the vast scope of the subject, from a historical background of pigments and paint, to Modern Street Art, Photography and Fashion Design. We explored designers that have been themselves influenced by Curiosity Cabinets and Natural History, as well as those who created collage with the notion of distant lands and exploration, despite being almost reclusive. We wanted to create a display that examined the notion of scale, influence of Natural History Collections and include some examples of Contemporary artists that often provoke controversy and discussion of the value of their work.

The Classics Department has selected its items to focus on the ways in which the ancient world, though separated from our own by several millennia, might resonate with contemporary society. The Greeks, Romans, and Egyptians provide a lens through which to better understand ourselves and the world around us. A theatrical mask from Pompeii allows us to explore the origins of entertainment while our statuette of Athena might prompt discussion of how religion has developed throughout the ages. In working with Art, we wanted to curate a Curiosity Cabinet which demonstrated the continued relevance of Classics in the modern era.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE MARKET DAY

Sat 24th Feb – West Bridgford Farmers Market

Please come along to support our 3 Young Enterprise companies at the annual trading day which is being held at West Bridgford Farmers Market on Sat 24th Feb. Our 3 teams have been busy creating products and ensuring they have enough stock to sell during this exciting part of the competition.

- Fleurish – will be selling their cards and book marks made out of paper embedded with seeds so you can plant the card/bookmark once finished with
- CorKraft – will be selling bespoke decorative and household items out of old recycled corks
- Screensavers -will be selling their educational colour by times table numbers book.



Regional Heats of the Great Debate

On Thursday 25th January, Nottingham High School hosted the regional heats of the Historical Association's Great Debate competition. Dr Natasha Hodgson who is director of the Centre for Research in History, Heritage and Memory Studies at Nottingham Trent University very kindly judged the competition. Throughout the evening, we were treated to a wide range of talks about people and places from our local area that deserve greater recognition from a number of local schools and colleges. Congratulations to Alec in y.12 for placing as runner up!



Beth Shalom

On Friday 26th of January, to coincide with both their studies of the Holocaust and Holocaust Memorial Day on Saturday 27th January, the History and RS Departments took Year 9 students on a trip to Beth Shalom. Holocaust Memorial Day is an opportunity for everyone to remember the millions of people murdered not only in the Holocaust under Nazi Persecution, but also in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. This year's theme was 'Fragility of Freedom' and as students engaged in each of the different workshops throughout the morning, they were encouraged to reflect upon and engage with the way in which freedom is fragile and cannot be taken for granted. Students discovered how freedoms, such as the freedom of religion, freedom to self-identify, freedom of movement were all restricted in Germany from 1933 onwards. As they moved through the exhibit on Nazi persecution, they saw how this extended beyond Germany in 1939 as Germany occupied much of Europe.

In the afternoon we had the privilege of hearing from Holocaust survivor, Hedi Argent, who grew up in Vienna and shared her story of "two children who were treated as though they did not belong to the human race" with our students. Luckily, Hedi's father had been incarcerated prior to the pogroms of Kristallnacht, and so when he was released 6 weeks later, Hedi's family managed to leave Austria, intending to travel to the USA through Britain. They were only able to bring one suitcase each, and Hedi brought her doll named 'little Suzie', which our students saw earlier in the day on display in the Centre's museum. Speaking of her arrival in Britain in 1939 and her treatment by a station porter, who gave her a halfpenny, which was in stark contrast to her experiences in Vienna, Hedi said that; "his small act of kindness meant everything to me. Small acts of kindness are very important. Try every day of your life to do some good." As Hedi said, "there are no human monsters, just human beings."

Throughout the day, students were confronted with how fragile freedom is and how we must not be complacent about it. This theme was then drawn upon during an assembly run by the Philosophy, Religion and Ethics department the following week. Year 9 continued to reflect on their experiences and what they heard and saw once we returned to school, and these can be viewed down the main school corridor.





As we come to the end of what is usually the most difficult half term for sport, we have been delighted with the turnout we have had from our students on the hockey pitches and netball courts. Attendance at training across years 7-10 has been very impressive in both our major sports, and this is something we wish to continue. [This article](#) is another interesting read for those who regularly participate in team sports, and it should also draw the attention of those who do not. It illustrates a direct link between participation in sport and academic achievement. Regular participation in sport, can mean competing every weekend, but equally it can be improving your skills through regular training.

We look forward to welcoming more of you into the range of sporting opportunities available through school

Stuart Whitehead
Director of Sport

Fitness Suite Update

We have reached the end of our first block of strength and conditioning (S&C) training for netball, just in time for a well-earned break over the half-term holiday. Years 8-10 have turned up to after-school training in great numbers and have worked hard on the court and in the Fitness Suite. Our netballers have trained effectively in small groups and have been working on fundamental strength, as well as netball-specific power development exercises. Our aim with S&C is not only to increase strength but also to reduce the risk/severity of injuries and to improve jumping ability. Thank you to the PE interns Miss Hammonds and Miss Edwards for the additional coaching support in the Fitness Suite.



It was great to see two of our very talented cross country runners win their events at the recent County Championships at Worksop College. Jake G (U18) and Sofia C (U15) have both seen the benefits of completing S&C sessions in the Fitness Suite and have been using very similar training methods, though they are at different stages of development. There is a lot of scientific research showing the benefits of plyometric training for endurance runners, and both Jake and Sofia have been on a progressive plyometric programme that had the aim of improving running economy, the function of the Achilles tendon, and time to exhaustion.

Mr Drummond



1st XI Football Team News

The 1st XI Football team got their season underway with a pleasing 4-0 victory away at The Joseph Whitaker School. The windy conditions provided both teams with a challenge, but a first half goal from Alec C was enough to go into the break with a slender lead. In the second half the team were much more clinical and goals from Tom R, Jack F-D and Robbie S secured the victory.



Nottinghamshire County Schools Cross Country Championships 2024

Jake G and Sofia C won their respective races at the county schools cross country championships on Saturday 3rd February. The event was held at Worksop College and each race consisted of athletes from across the eight different districts in Nottinghamshire.

Jake and Sofia will now go on to represent Nottinghamshire at the English Schools National Championships in March.



Hockey update

After winning the Midlands Finals back in November, it was finally time for the U16 Girls Hockey team to take centre stage and compete at the Tier 3 National Finals at Nottingham Hockey Centre. This would turn out to be a historical achievement for the School with the U16 girls being the first girls' team at Nottingham High School to reach a National Finals in any sport. The day started as well as it possibly could have, with the girls securing a 2-1 win over Withington Girls' School giving Nottingham an early lead in the group. Next game saw the girls face a tough Warminster side who battled well to take a 0-0 draw in their previous game. Nottingham took a well-deserved early lead through Alice but were unlucky when a loose ball squeezed through and found its way into the bottom corner of the goal. Final score 1-1 and a game where the girls can't help but feel an opportunity missed. With a win and a draw under their belts, the girls went into their final pool game against a strong Sevenoaks side who also had a win and a draw to their name. The game started well with both teams seeing some early chances, but it was Sevenoaks who through an unfortunate officiating error capitalised on one of their opportunities. The girls knew a win would see them through to the gold medal match so gave everything they had but sadly it wasn't enough to see them take the points and through to the medals. With a loss in their last game, the girls finished 3rd in their group by 1 point and now faced a strong side from The Abbey School in the 5th/6th play offs. The girls started brilliantly with another early goal from Alice but sadly having given everything they had left in the last group match, The Abbey School fought back well to take the win. With their final result, the girls finished 6th overall at their first ever National Finals and can be incredibly proud of their achievement and how they approached every game. I am incredibly proud of the team and look forward for what is to come from this group of girls. On any other day the girls could have been walking away with a medal in hand which just goes to show how fine the margins were on the day. Well done to all who took part.

Mr Read

Update from Music

Music Events this term:

Jazz and Italian Evening – Friday 23rd February, 7pm, Dining Hall (Tickets need to be purchased for food for this event through TryBooking, both for parents and students/musicians – please contact musicadministrator@nottinghamhigh.co.uk for more information) - this event will feature Big Band, Lower School Big Band, Barbershop groups and soloists
Chamber Music Festival & KS3 Art Exhibition – Thursday 29th February, 4.30pm, Music School – a chance to hear all our chamber ensembles across strings, wind, brass and percussion

Choral Music Festival – Wednesday 8th March, 4.30pm, Recital Hall – Greg Link (Voces8) will be working with the Pop Choirs, Barbershop Groups and Chamber Choir during the day and the concert will feature performances from these groups plus a massed finale item.

Spring Concert – Thursday 21st March, 7pm, The Albert Hall, Nottingham – this involves all of Year 7 and senior ensembles and choirs. Seating is unlimited but please use this [Trybooking link](#) to give us an idea of numbers for refreshments. If you have any questions about instrumental music lessons, our ensemble programme, or our music events, please contact us through the administrator address above.

Our digital brochure can be accessed via the school website, on the [Arts page](#).

Teatime Concert - Woodwind and Brass

Our 3rd teatime concert in our series took place on Wednesday 7th February. It featured pupils from Y4 to Y13. We had a wide range of genres including Classical, Latin and Jazz. Everyone presented themselves extremely professionally and played exceptionally well. It was a lovely concert!

A big thanks to Ms Johnson as the accompanist for all the musicians.

Pupils that took part:

Dan B, Rex C, Henry L, Hannah G, Victoria O, Clemmie R, Charlotte S, Kayode A, Evelyn A, Alex G, Hattie J, James G, Lucas, James B, Eloïse C, Seth D, Louis Aston-Gully.



Nottingham High School CamMUN Delegation 2024

After our very successful trip to Cambridge last year, we were full of enthusiasm to take the Model United Nations team to the Stephen Perse Foundation in Cambridge again for this year's conference. This turned out to be absolutely the correct decision: we had a wonderful time and even won some awards, particular congratulations go to Nathan, Will and Katie, the latter two being first-timers. It seemed unbelievable to think that some of our delegates had only begun with MUN a few weeks prior. The knowledge and skills that we have gained from this experience are invaluable to our ongoing academic journeys: including our rigorous debates (ranging from Colonel Gaddafi to oil tariffs) and a fascinating pre-conference lecture entitled, "Mitigating growing barriers to navigate through a fractured diplomatic climate" which considered the nature of diplomacy from Oxford lecturer and sometime ambassador to Moldova, John Beyer.

We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Auterson and Miss Walker for helping us organise the trip. Of course, a huge thank you to Mrs Manders and Miss Davis (who stepped in the night before we left) for taking eight of the school's most argumentative students and putting up with us for a weekend. Since not everybody knew each other that well beforehand, it was lovely to see everyone come down on the bus in their little groups and then for us to grow into a brilliant team, both professionally as delegates and indeed socially- ultimately, we all had a great laugh on the bus journey back as one delegation. Once again, as with last year, we've come back with multiple awards, two seemingly satisfied teachers, and eight very happy (though properly exhausted) delegates.



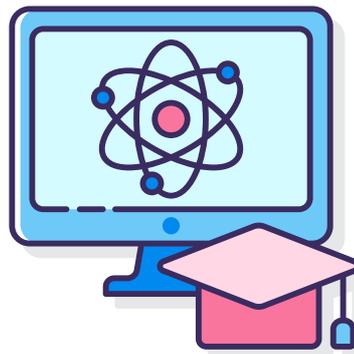
Update from the Computer Science Department

The Computer Science department has had a bumper run of success stories and exciting developments over the past couple of weeks! After the infamous BEBRAS computational thinking competition took place in November, we had record breaking numbers invited for the Oxford University Computing Competition- where the top 10% of BEBRAS participants get through to stage one.

Around 120 students were invited to take part, which saw many giving up their lunch hour to try their hand at the challenging OUCC. We have recently found out the wonderful news that we have three students who have managed to get through to the final, which will take place in March. Congratulations to Harry (Juniors category), Ives (Inters category) and Will (Elite category) who will all compete in the final round soon! Will has even given up some of own time to mentor the younger competitors who will be sitting it for the first time.

British Informatics Olympiad

Will H also took part in the BIO in January, which is a long running Computing Olympiad (started back in 1995). He is one of only 15 students invited to the final, which will take place in Cambridge during the Easter holidays. The top four from the final will travel to Egypt for the International Olympiad in Informatics, so it's a fantastic opportunity for him. We wish him the best of luck as he prepares for this. What a superstar he is!

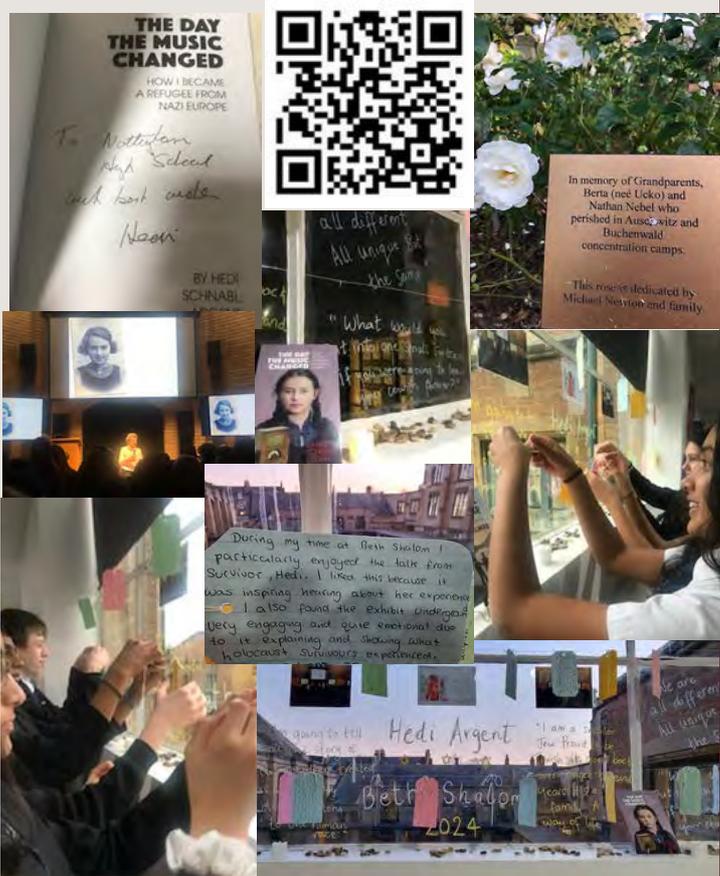


Curiosity Corridor

"Imagine you were leaving your room for the last time, and you had only one small suitcase you could fill. What would you take but what would you leave behind?" This was a question posed to Year 9 when listening to Holocaust survivor, Hedi Argent.

Upon our return, the Philosophy, Religion and Ethics department continued to encourage Year 9 pupils to reflect and be curious about the Holocaust, the survivor talk and how there was some hope during those horrifying times where some notable people showed courage. Pupils wrote personal reflections on prejudice, the Holocaust or how listening to survivor Hedi Argent made them feel. It has been great to see other pupils and staff stopping by to take an interest in the display and to ask questions. During one break, I happened to pass some Year 8 pupils counting the labels and stones and we stopped to think about how many more there would need to be just to represent those children who died. I was delighted to hear some family history from a Year 9 pupil and you can hear some of this via the QR code. But the course of study has ended in a positive way with presentations on the work of Nicholas

Winton, Princess Alice of Battenberg, Irena Sendler, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Corrie ten Boom and Maximilian Kolbe. This tied in nicely with my assembly on this year's theme of "Freedom" where we incorporated other examples of loss of liberty from history and impacting on world faiths.



Date for your diaries

The 10th February is Chinese New Year and although we will be on Half Term, the Philosophy, Religion and Ethics department are looking forward to hearing student testimonies and seeing photographs they share.



RS and Art – Year 7

Year 7 have been covering inspirational figures this half-term and they started with Arthur Rackham which was done in collaboration with the Art department. We then looked into the life of Malala and explored how she has fought against certain obstacles in order to help girls have an education. Finally, Year 7 have been recording drama productions about an inspirational person ranging from Malala to Marcus Rashford and have explored how they are inspirational and the impact they have made. There have been two pieces of work which have both been marked out of 12 – one essay on Malala and the drama piece is marked out of 12. Year 7 have also had homework pieces this half-term, one which included an art piece based on the work of Arthur Rackham.



World Hijab Day

February 1st, 2013 marked the first annual World Hijab Day (WHD) in recognition of millions of Muslim women who choose to wear the hijab and live a life of modesty.

The brainchild of this movement is a Bangladeshi-New Yorker, Nazma Khan, who came up with the idea as a means to foster personal freedom of religious expression and cultural understanding by inviting women from all walks of life to experience the hijab for one day on February 1st annually.

By opening up new pathways to understanding, Nazma hopes to counteract some of the controversies surrounding why Muslim women choose to wear the hijab.

Some of our community who choose to wear the hijab got in touch with me to share their reasons. The Philosophy, Religion and Ethics department continues to raise awareness of cultural and religious diversity alongside other areas of school life.



News from the Drama Department

On the 1st February the Drama Department was proud to present the studio production of 'She's Bad News'. This original performance was written, directed and choreographed by our multi-talented Year 12 A-Level Drama Students. A huge thank you to Bea H, Zoe F and Ben H for their hard work, time and dedication.

The talented cast of Year 9 and 10 students included Tegan D, Nevaan P, Ara O, Sophie F, Jasmiya S, Aditi P, Maxwell C, Leo S, Vis G and Jasper D.

This juke-box musical included numbers from Mean Girls, High School Musical, Matilda, 13, School of Rock and Heathers.

Thank you to all parents, family, friends and staff who came along to the Les Wilkinson Drama Studio to show their support.

Thank you also to Pip Robertson and Tregi Worsley for overseeing the production.

If you'd like to come and support future performances in the Drama Department, the Year 10 GCSE Drama students will be performing a selection of extracts on 5th March. Later in the year, the Lower School musical, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat will be taking place in the Founder Hall – 25th and 26th June.

Mr. M Huntbach
Head of Drama



Update from PSHE

This week Year 11 welcomed Molly, Jonathan and El from Equation, who delivered a workshop on communication in relationships entitled "Respect not Fear". They learned about the different forms of domestic abuse, and how relationships can change over time if one partner becomes controlling and abusive of the other. We learned about the warning signs that someone may be in an abusive relationship and were reminded to go [here](#) for support. Equation have further sessions arranged with Year 7 and Year 10 over the next months and there will be a parent school session to find out more. To find out more about equation, and their school based projects, Equate for Secondary Schools and the GREAT project in Primary schools, go to their website.



Battle of the Bands

Thursday 25th January saw the inaugural 'Battle of the Bands' take place in the Recital Hall. This was a really enjoyable event and featured music from 'Tears for Fears', 'The Killers' and 'Dire Straits'.

Well done to the Year 8 and 9 Rock Bands, Tom H and Seb H for their performances. Thank you also to Mr Wood for supporting the Year 8 Band and treating us to a drum off with Seb that proved a real spectacle!



Find out more about Apprenticeships:

- Morrisby: you can search currently available opportunities in your account and save them to review later
- [Click here](#) for reviews on current apprenticeships
- [Click here](#) for a list of events around the UK and online showcasing different sectors and opportunities

Degree apprenticeship ideas [here](#)



NTU are holding an apprenticeships open day this week on Thursday from 1-5pm. Students need to [book ahead here](#)



I started my apprenticeship search with little knowledge of the schemes available, but with an interest in finance and a desire to fast track my career I knew this post sixth form route was right for me. I initially began my research by signing up to multiple finance related online events organised by Young Professionals, this included 2 hour insight evenings giving me taste of the variety of firms in this industry on offer. This then progressed to attending in person events such as 'Females of the City' event in London, a two day workshop at Direct Line Group in Leeds and a day at Experian. After the different experiences I narrowed down my interest to a career in accounting. Due to this being a highly competitive career choice, I organised a week of work experience with an accountancy firm in Nottingham (Cooper Parry) to help me stand out and enable success in the application process.



For my Ernst and Young application it consisted of : an application form (academic records and personal information), EY One assessment (maths tests / online self recorded interviews), assessment centre (group tasks) and finally an interview. The whole application process took place online and took roughly 3 months from starting my application to receiving an offer. Feedback is given after the EY one assessment, so even if you are unsuccessful in progressing to the next stage, it is still great experience and I would recommend to anyone who is looking to peruse a career in this industry to families yourself with the software the big 4 use in their recruitment processes.

Mya, Year 13

FIRST NIGHT FREE

Electric Jive



Every Thursday

Want a great night out?
More fun than the gym!

BEGINNERS WELCOME

NO PARTNER REQUIRED!

EASY TO PICK UP

FOR ALL AGES 18-80

For more information

07730 269 969

www.electricjive.co.uk

FIRST SESSION - THURSDAY 7TH MARCH

Player Hall - Nottingham High School - NG1 4HH

HOCKEY CAMP

at Nottingham Hockey Centre (High School Pitches)

February Half-term Hockey Camps 2023

Date	Time	Years Groups
12 th Feb	Session 1: 10am-12pm	5, 6 & 7
	Lunch: 12pm-1.00pm	Boys & Girls
	Session 2: 1.00pm-3.00pm	Both Sessions
13 th Feb	Session 1: 10am-12pm	8, 9 & 10
	Lunch: 12pm-1.00pm	Boys & Girls
	Session 2: 1.00pm-3.00pm	Both Sessions

SCAN THE CODE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE



Please arrive 15 mins before the start of the session. Please bring your own hockey stick, mouthguard and shinpads. A stick can be provided if you dont have one.



NOTTINGHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

AFTER-SCHOOL NETBALL TRAINING

IN THE MAIN SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE



MONDAY SESSION ENDS

YEARS 6 & 7
YEAR 8 6PM

TUESDAY SESSION ENDS

YEARS 9 & 10 6PM

THURSDAY SESSION ENDS

SENIORS 5.45PM



THE FESTIVAL OF THE WORD

Hosted by the English Department



- Year 7 - Alex Foulkes (Author of the Rules for Vampires series)
- Year 8 - Simon Brown (Curator, Newstead Abbey)
- Year 9 - Carolyn Melbourne (D H Lawrence Birthplace Museum)
- Year 10/11 - Russell Slater Johnson (Songlines magazine)
- Year 10 - Professor Lila Matsumoto (University of Nottingham)
- Year 11 - Professor Natalie Braber (Nottingham Trent University)
- All Years - Speaking workshop - "How to Speak to Get What You Want"
- All Years - Dan Scott Writing for radio and the stage

W/C MON 19TH FEBRUARY



NOTTINGHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWS GALLERY



Year 12 production of 'She's bad news'



U16 National Tier 3 Hockey Finals



Pizza debrief after the opening ceremony to Cambridge MUN



Curiosity Corridor



Y8 Gymnastics lesson



Veganuary 2024



Kari our senior and Derbyshire Cricketer training our Y8's



Y12 presentations on the different aspects of Detente



NOTTINGHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE

Wellbeing Centre Launch

You are invited to celebrate the official launch
of our brand new Wellbeing Centre

26TH FEBRUARY

Event starts at 6pm in the Player
Hall with our guest speaker Dick
Moore. Followed by the official
opening of the Centre & drinks
reception. Finish time approx
8pm. Booking link [Here](#)



To find out more about Dick Moore's work

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

Easy Fundraising 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 106 registered users who have raised over £3,500 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 click on the [link](#) and sign up today!

Sponsor a Stone

Since its launch in 2017, our [Sponsor a Stone](#) campaign has raised over £50,000 for the School's Bursary Fund.

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!

Pick Up and Drop Off

Parents, please be considerate to our neighbours during collection and drop off at Valley Road.

Update your Information

Should you need to update any of your information that we hold on record, please email our Data Manager at brearley.za@nottinghamhigh.co.uk.