



NEWSLETTER

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December 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

As we approach the end of another thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding term, it is always important to take time to reflect on the significant progress that our Academy continues to make and the many wonderful achievements and success stories of our amazing young people. It is a genuine privilege to work with such fantastic pupils and staff who continue to make our Academy a truly special place to work and learn. This edition of our termly newsletter aims to highlight the many excellent events that have taken place throughout another action-packed term along with important news and information that parents, carers and friends of the Academy will no doubt find useful as we look forward to a new term and a new year in 2020.

There has been much to celebrate since returning to school in September. We welcomed our biggest cohort ever to the academy in September with over 238 pupils joining us from a range of primary schools across the town and local region and we have been delighted with how quickly they have settled into Academy life. We are equally delighted to hear from parents and carers just how happy and settled our pupils are and we look forward to supporting them to grow, develop and succeed for years to come. It has been an equally positive start for all other year groups, and we are justifiably proud of their many wonderful achievements both in and out of the classroom. We are delighted to see so much sporting activity and it's truly wonderful to see so many pupils take part in competitive sporting events as well as embrace the many opportunities that our enrichment programme offers.

We are especially pleased to see the impact of our wonderful new music department, led by the very talented and experienced Mr Williams who has established a blossoming and vibrant offer for our talented musicians including our Newark Academy choir who have been involved in numerous events across the term, many of which can be found in this newsletter.

We continue to be justifiably proud of the strong and lasting relationships that we have with parents and carers and continue to work in continued partnership to provide the experiences for children that make our Academy a great local school for children and families.

Please do take time to read about the many wonderful achievements of our young people across so many events and activities. We are truly privileged to work with such inspirational young people, and we are delighted to see so many of them rewarded for their hard work, kindness and commitment to learning. We continue to be immensely proud of our pupils and I'm sure as parents, you are too.

On behalf of everyone here at the Academy, we wish you a happy and healthy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.

Andy Seymour
Headteacher

NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF SPORT



On Sunday 17th November, Newark Flowserve Football Club handed Ben Hall his first team starting debut in the Newark Football Alliance Premier Division in the away fixture at FC Genes from Grantham.

Ben not only proved that he was more than able to cope at this level, but scored a fine headed goal and was awarded man of the match by the opposition in the 4-0 victory.

Sporting round up – Autumn Term

Swimming

We have once again fielded an U13 girls team to this prestigious East Midlands Swimming Gala. It was a tough competition but the swimmers gained some valuable experience and we are looking forward to entering again next year.

The Lithuanian Swimming Federation has recently selected Marija Romanovskaja for participation in the 22nd Luxembourg Euro Meet 2020. She will represent Lithuania at this high level international meet on 25th and 26th January 2020.

Marija will swim in 6 races - 50, 100 & 200 Brst, 50 & 100 Free, 200 IM in the age group 14/15.

This is a world-class competition and Marija will meet in Luxembourg with many legendary Olympic swimmers. Congratulations and good luck to Marija.

Football

WOW!! This year the football has continued to grow with some amazing results in the first few rounds of the County and South Notts cups. Year 7 boys have excelled and played some fantastic football gaining qualification through to round 3. In the girls football we have put out 4 teams from year 7 – 10 with some mixed results but amazing to see so many girls taking up the opportunity



Netball



Another bumper year on the Netball front with the year 9 girls winning the County CVL. They played some amazing netball throughout and were unbeaten, then it was a little closer in the finals but finally coming out on top. The year 10 girls are currently unbeaten in the first round of the CVL's. In year 7 we have managed to enter two teams who have played amazingly currently sitting in second place.

Rugby

The growth of rugby this year has been amazing. Our year 7, 8 and 9 boys teams have been playing some outstanding Rugby in the Rugby CVL's at Southwell Rugby club against some established schools and holding their own and winning in some matches. The girls year 7 and 8 team have also been playing in the Rugby festivals where their flair and enthusiasm has shone through. We are now progressing a number of students into club level Rugby for them to be able to use their skills at a higher level. Well done girls and good luck to those who are joining Newark Rugby Club.



Sports Tour

This year we are taking a small number of Netballers and Footballers to PGL for the Netball tournament and Football festival. This will be in March 2020. We will continue to plan for our 3rd International tour to Disneyland Paris in 2021. Watch out for the information closer to Easter.

Rugby, Netball and Football Experiences

We are also pleased to announce that we will be offering Sports Experiences in three sports this year where students will be able to sign up to take part in a range of activities from being coached by professional/top flight players/coaches and watching top tier sport. Further information on these events will be out in the new year.



An amazing trip out for World Rugby Day at Newark Rugby Club for our year 7 and year 8 students.





Sam Hardy was nominated for an award at the Newark & Sherwood Sports awards and won first place in the Warwick Lane Junior Sports Person Award. Fantastic achievement!



RHP under 16's Sunday team were nominated for team award at the Newark and Sherwood Sports Awards held on 5th December at Newark Rugby club.

This team were nominated for award for winning the league last season. 7 of our students were part of this collective:-

Year 11 – Louson Buckland, Harry McFadden, Jenson Gracie, Jack Preston, Ryan Attwood, Bradley Fletcher and a year 10 student – Joe Kingsman.

The team came runners up but were incredibly PROUD of their achievements over the season as was their coach Gary Attwood.

Luke Barker's canoeing team took first place for Club of the Year at the Newark & Sherwood Sports Awards.

It's fantastic news that so many of our students were nominated and won awards at the Newark & Sherwood Sports Awards – congratulations to you all!

FUTURE CAREERS PROJECT

This term we hosted the first Future careers primary project, which was led by our Science Ambassadors alongside International Company, St Gobain. Three primary schools and 250 year 5 students took part and are now working hard ready to present back to us their ideas in January.



FUTURES FIRST CAREERS EXPO



Year 10 and 11 students all attended this year's NSDC Future First Expo at Newark Showground. The students absolutely loved this and loved getting involved and chatting to all exhibitors. It was so nice to see such a diverse range of companies, HE & FE Colleges in attendance. Great event!!

HEAD STUDENT ELECTIONS



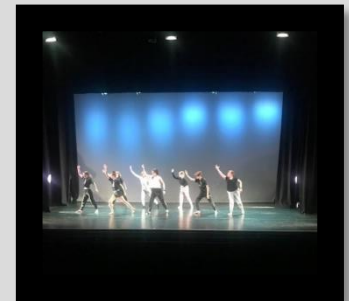
This year we had 6 candidates for the Head Student roles and boy, what a campaign period!! It was great to see them thinking outside the box and being creative with their campaigns. For the 2nd year running, we had 70% of the school community turn out to vote in their new head students – Bianca Eckert and Sophie Rouse will join existing Head Student Chloe Rastall. We're all looking

forward to seeing what this year brings from the team.



UNITE THE SCENE

Our dance groups Black Thunder and NewArts attended this year's 'Unite The Scene' dance event at the Lincoln Performing Arts Centre. This is such a great experience for our students, performing and working alongside professionals in the creative arts industry. Huge thanks to Inspire for supporting us with our programme!



MUSIC TOUR



For the second week running, our year 7 students have taken part in the Inspire NUSIC tour. Such a great experience for our young people to hear live performances from up and coming young artists and to have a Q&A about the music industry.

HOLOCAUST 'SAY NO TO HATE'

A group of students in year were part of a Say No to Hate' day at the National Holocaust Centre, where they worked alongside other schools in a workshop to address hate crime. The group have created an amazing video, which they hope to show in a year 7 assembly next term! Our students were amazing on the day, they had lots to say and represented every single one of our GREAT values.

FUNDRAISING

Student leaders across our Academy have taken their fundraising very seriously with events for the following charities and events.

Wear it Pink Day

World Mental Health Day

Christmas meal for the elderly

UNI AND APPRENTICESHIP FAIR

All NA6 students and a group of year 11's attended the UK's University & Apprenticeships Search Fair in Northampton. Feedback from students was really positive and it was great to see so many HE establishments and employers there on the day. Definitely an event to keep in the school calendar!

FONA CHRISTMAS FAIR

Another exceptional FONA Christmas Market. Huge thanks to our amazing community who came out in droves to support our wonderful event including stall holders, musicians, parents, carers, staff and pupils.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Please fasten your seatbelts, ensure your tray table is stowed away and ensure your seat is in the up-right position....the words I uttered prior to being involved with putting our fabulous music department back in the air at the start of the autumn term.

As the new music lead, I have been truly honoured and humbled to have already met and worked with so many talented students, and we're only at the midway point. I was of course, apprehensive about how things will in fact get started and certainly asked the question, 'will anyone come and say hello?'...I shouldn't have worried. I have very quickly lost count of the treasured knocks received on the music room door, with someone stood asking for help either at the piano, some early singing tuition or just some help with writing music down. All these one-to-one opportunities are literally fantastic to deliver and incredibly special occasions, which as a new teacher at Newark Academy, continue to allow me to get to know students and quickly assess how I can support each of them going forward.

We kick-started our learning in September by taking an early opportunity to enjoy a performance given by the Nottingham Philharmonic Orchestra. The programme was quite contemporary but as a trip, it did much to pave the way for future visits. I would like to thank parents for kindly supporting the concert, by dropping and collecting children. The trip wouldn't have been possible without the kind support of Ms Daw, who supported the trip without hesitation.



I must say a huge thank you to all our students who have supported getting our choir and wind band started. The choir should be incredibly proud of their achievements, as they reflect on having been involved in a very worthwhile project led by the Shawmind Foundation. The student's singing of 'Just be you', which is available to listen to on our website, is exemplary and is a very professional and memorable account of some fabulous early choral work from the department. The wind band is also full of enthusiastic, very able and dedicated instrumentalists and we are very

proud of each of them and all they have achieved in what has only been, a very short space of time. The performance at this year's Christmas Fair summarised our work to date and we are already having 'team talks' about what we might like to play next year.



Elizabeth and Joe work hard before school studying for their Associated Board Grade 5 Theory examination.

As an ex-serving Royal Marines Musician and Warrant Officer, I was keen that the Music Department took responsibility for this year's Act of Remembrance. With the support of staff and students, we were able to ensure a fitting and heartfelt recognition for those who have served or continue to serve in either of the three services or conversely continue to maintain our safety through vital work in the Emergency Services. In arranging the event, I was delighted to meet Alan Ellerby, father of Michelle Ellerby (site team), who through the Royal British Legion, kindly organised the parading of the RBL standards. Thank you Sir!



On behalf of Mr Seymour, I was also delighted to invite Deputy Lieutenant, Mrs Sue Gorham to share in our event. DL Sue is the former Head of Nottingham Girls High and thoroughly enjoyed meeting a number of our students prior to the service. Father John, who led our Act of Remembrance, remarked on our school's GREAT values and how our key and fundamental standards shone through to him whilst visiting our tremendous school. I must thank and congratulate Joe (year 7) for ably performing last post and to Mrs Goodman, who responded brilliantly with Reveille. I must also commend Mia (year 8), who took on the role of an evacuee and in doing so, delivered a superb, and very emotional rendition, of 'Maybe'. The choir's performance of Rutter's 'The Lord Bless You and Keep You' was equally exceptional and I would like to congratulate singers on preparing such a challenging piece to such a high standard, so quickly.



Revd Canon John speaks to students about the importance of the Act of Remembrance

More recently, I was delighted to be able to organise a fabulous trip to work with the well-renowned vocal coach 'to the stars', Mark De Lisser. Our choir joined with a number of other schools and worked through a couple of well-known songs to create a fun and exciting morning's event.

Below a delightful account from Sophie, Grace and Eleanor (year 9), who have taken time to summarise their experience of the trip.

'Recently the music department and choir at Newark Academy were invited to take part in a singing workshop with Mark De Lisser. He is a well-known singing coach and has worked with many famous people and groups before, such as Jessie J and the dementia choir! Mark has been part of the music industry for many years and has lots of experience, so it was useful for him to pass that on to us. Some advice which he gave us was to never give up and always stay positive on our future as well as on how we sound or think we sound.'

In the workshop we sang 2 songs after a vocal warmup. In the warmup we all learnt new vocal tips on how to exercise our voices. It was very useful as we can now use these tips in choir practice! We sang the songs 'These Days' and 'High Hopes' with added harmony's which Mark helped us understand and be able to sing well.'



In addition to Newark academy many other schools went along so we all got a sense of being in a bigger choir and how everyone must work together. Having the chance to be part of a bigger choir was new to us and was nice to experience something different. We all look forward to performing these songs to others and showing them what we have learnt. We are thankful for this opportunity and can't wait to experience more! Also, we would like to say a big thank you to Mr Williams who made the trip possible and helped us progress in choir even more.'

Sophie, Grace and Eleanor Year 9 Students.

Choir visit to Beaumont House, Newark

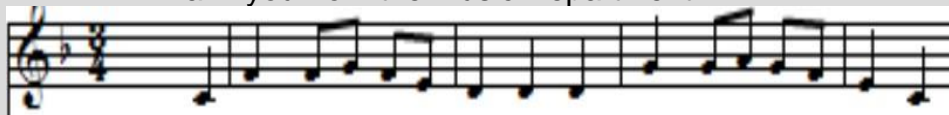


On Tuesday 10th December, our Choir was again out on the road performing. This time, we gladly took Christmas cheer to the lovely residents at Beaumont House. Students expertly put on a fantastic show for an enthusiastic audience, who thoroughly enjoyed singing along with a number of famous, well-known carols. Instrumental performances from Joe and Elizabeth were superbly played as always, as were the vocal solos which followed from Sienna and Chloe. Fuchsia-Mae had all the residents laughing with some fantastic Christmas jokes, which led to Jack's very impressive and memorable performance from our forthcoming show, Beauty and the Beast.

Our Academy's GREAT values shone though in each and every student, clearly demonstrating responsibility, excellence and tenacity to name but a few. The residents were clearly impressed and put firmly in the Christmas mood by our tremendous musicians. We look forward to returning later in the year.

Finally, please don't forget our School Production, Beauty and the Beast, which will take place across three nights in the final week before the Easter Break. Students are working incredibly hard in and out of school in order to be ready and Ms Morris and I certainly couldn't be prouder of everyone's work ethic and focused attitudes. Well done everyone!

Thank you from the Music Department!!!



DROP DOWN DAY

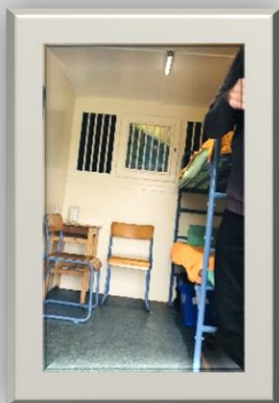
Back in October our students were involved in a whole school drop down day. The purpose of the day was to help grow our students

understanding of the wider world and help expand their personal, social and health education.

Each year group was given a theme for the

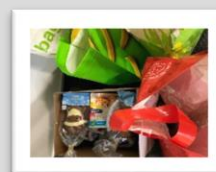
day, year 7's focused on 'Crew building', year 8 and 9 Sexual Health and year's 10 and 11 Crime awareness. Highlights from the day included 'Prison me no way' who are a company that brought a prison cell in a van for students to see what prison life is really like, The band 'The Hara' who sang and discussed body confidence and bullying and a talk from Jacob Dunne on transformative justice, a reformed ex-offender who killed a man in Nottingham City centre back in 2011. Students thoroughly enjoyed the day with lots of positive feedback. In addition all external facilitators

mentioned how wonderful our students are and how polite and welcoming they were. The opportunities available went above and beyond the everyday classroom experience and have really helped to shape our young people. We look forward to the next drop down day on the 31st January.



RS CHALLENGE

This year we have launched our first ever 'RS Challenge' with the purpose of both raising the profile of RS at Newark Academy but primarily to challenge our young people to apply key religious themes such as love, forgiveness and equality to our local community by reaching out and helping others. We are very proud of the work our current year 7's have done, they have embodied our GREAT values by collecting donations for our local foodbank the Trussell Trust. Every year hundreds of people use this foodbank in Newark which provides emergency 3 day care packages to those who are in need. Our students have helped to improve the lives of our local community and we are very proud. We hope you support us in our future 'RS challenges'.



INDEPENDENT LEARNING KS3

This year we have launched a revised Independent Learning strategy for KS3 following pupil, staff and parents feedback last academic year. The strategy is based around home learning and how best to ensure that homework is purposeful and effective. All year 7 and 8 students receive a 'Knowledge Organiser' each term with content from each subject. All pupils bring the booklet to school and each subject sets home learning from it for example Geography set keywords to learn, Maths use it in conjunction with Maths Watch and Food Technology has all key content for that term. The students have also been given a timetable of homework to ensure they are set an aspirational but realistic amount of home learning and subjects set homework on a rota system with Maths, English, Science and MFL setting one piece each week. As we move into the second school term we welcome feedback from parents to ensure that this strategy is having the impact our young people deserve. If you are interested please can you complete the following survey by typing in the following address;

<https://tinyurl.com/u8dn77u>

The survey will close on Monday 6th January and will only take a few minutes. We appreciate your support on this.

Ms Daw

YEAR 9 PRINCES TRUST



The year 9 Princes Trust held a cake sale after baking their cakes to raise monies. The funds were used to buy gifts for the elderly so when they come in for their Christmas lunch they can give each individual a gift.



The group have worked really hard to support this lunch with the X13.

The group have made their own cards to hand out and have created table decorations for the event made out of fresh foliage. The students will be serving lunch to the visitors and this will be challenging for some as they each will be pushing out their comfort zones to achieve this.

Mrs Goodman and Mrs Willis are really PROUD of their attitude and efforts that they have made towards this event.



NEWARK ACADEMY SCIENCE

We had a fresh and fruity start to the year in science as STEM club took part in the bath bomb challenge, even experimenting with the likes of bubble gum and rhubarb and custard flavour – which left Miss Wileman’s classroom smelling delightful. The past term has seen our Science Ambassadors display their efforts with Saint-Gobain UK launching the primary Future Careers project, and we are looking forward to seeing what they have planned for some local primary schools. STEM club are currently working towards the Robotics Engineering Challenge and we are hoping to attend the regional competition in February. Our team have built their robots and we are now starting to programme so that our robots can undertake the challenges on the challenge mat. The challenge this year is focused on the environment, a topic that holds a very large question mark above its head. It is extremely necessary for our generation of students to be aware of how significant their contribution can be in terms of providing a more sustainable future. Activities with this focus and the crew challenge last term on recycling and upcycling are all highlighting the serious issue we are facing. British science week will be coming up in March and we are planning on ‘our diverse planet’ being a running theme and however upsetting, it is vital we acknowledge the impact of human activity on biological diversity. This is designed to inform and motivate students to consider how their daily activities affects the environment and for some, they may even consider a career in sustainability?

As we look to the New Year, 2020 will include opportunities for KS4 students to attend Exploring STEM for Girls and KS3 students to attend the Big Bang Fair! Both of these successful trips were organised last year and students thoroughly enjoyed seeing real world applications in science. We are also offering the opportunity for Year 13 chemists to attend an NMR spectroscopy workshop at Nottingham University and KS4 students to attend GCSE Science Live! These new trips will allow students to use analytical methods they have discussed in lessons, and hear from scientists at the cutting edge of their specialisms.

The start of the year will be exceptionally busy in science, but a very exciting and inspirational time for our students at Newark Academy.

Please also keep a look out for information regarding our STEM Careers Event!
Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

Best Wishes
Miss Langford

THE OFFICIAL CHEMIS-TREE

Getting festive with the periodic table of elements

