



NHGS News

2021/2022 Autumn Term

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Message from the Chair of the Governance Board



Happy New Year, I hope the Christmas break has been relaxing and enjoyable for all! This is my first contribution to the newsletter since becoming Chair in September 2020, taking over the role as students returned to school following the first lockdown. I am in my second term as a Trustee, and am currently the Governor link for safeguarding, leadership and management and staff well-being. I also sit on the Pay and Audit committee.

First of all, I want to say thank you from the Governance Board to all members of staff for their commitment and enthusiasm throughout the past 2 years, remaining focussed and continuing to provide a first class education for students whilst helping keep protective measures in place around school. Thanks also to parents and students for helping protect everyone in the NHGS and wider communities by supporting the measures put in place at school and the messages which come out from Mr Fisher.

The NHGS Governance Board currently has 15 Trustees, 4 of whom have joined during the pandemic. Each Trustee is linked with a member of the senior leadership team, having termly 1 to 1 meetings enabling deeper discussion than is possible at full Board meetings. Trustees are also involved in a number of working groups as well. The pandemic has changed how we function as a Governance Board, the day to day responsibilities we fulfil and the additional roles we undertake within school. We have been unable to meet face to face and have conducted all our regular meetings online. We haven't

been able to come into school to meet staff and students, as we usually would, and have had to rethink how we obtain information and data from school.

The Department for Education Governance Handbook, section 1, defines effective governance as:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent

The pandemic hasn't prevented us fulfilling the second of our statutory roles above, to hold leaders to account. We have probably given more support to the senior leadership team than under normal circumstances, yet still have been able to maintain a high level of challenge.

Another role defined above is to oversee the financial performance of the school to make sure we get value for money. This has been more difficult than normal with the increased spending required for enhanced Covid measures together with the loss of income from school dinners and sports hall lettings. Despite this the Board approved the use of a large proportion of reserves to finally refurbish the Technology Block which was completed in Spring 2021. A great addition to the school!

The final key role for the Board relates to vision and strategic direction. The Board together with senior leadership, has, over the past few years, developed the vision for the school which we still believe to be entirely appropriate. In September we began the process of revisiting the school's strategic objectives. A small working party of Trustees were able to meet face to face last term to spend the day talking all things NHGS. This was a very positive and optimistic discussion (notwithstanding the fact it was the first time I was able to meet some of the new Trustees in real life!), and we are looking forward to finalising the updated strategic objectives this term. These will then underpin the development of a new 3 year school improvement plan.

As a Board we are looking at how we can provide better communications with parents. We are starting by doing this through the school newsletter, but we would welcome any ideas around how else you would like the Board to communicate with parents. If you could please email Mrs Wright at clerk@nhgs.co.uk, she will pass on any ideas to the Board for our consideration. If you would like to see 'who we are', then information about each Trustee can be found on the school's website <https://www.nhgs.co.uk/our-academy/governance/our-trustees>

I sincerely hope 2022 sees a return to normality, particularly for extra-curricular activities which have always been such an important part of NHGS life. Whatever 2022 has in store, I am extremely proud to be a part of such a great team!

Amanda Cade
Chair of the Governance Board



Year 7 students have settled at NHGS extremely well, they have shown great levels of maturity in such

unprecedented times. Despite COVID-19, we were able to adapt and offer a virtual meet your Student Progress Tutor evening which had a fantastic uptake and welcomed lots of positive feedback. We were also lucky enough to be able to hold a Summer School, which again showed the majority of the year group attending and provided students with lots of fun activities to help support their transition.

Students loved their induction trip at Another World Adventure Centre once they started at NHGS, students had smiles on their faces and had plenty of fun! As Year Group Leader it has been a pleasure to share the success of Year 7 students through Celebration Assemblies each half-term and I look

forward to the remainder of the year. As an exciting way to round up the academic year we will attend Lightwater Valley as a year group during activities week.

Well done Year 7 for a great start to NHGS.

Miss Brooke,
Lower School Leader &
Year Group Leader Year 7



Year 7 Activity Day

These photographs show the individual and team building activities that students got involved in whilst at the 'Another World' adventure centre. These activities are designed to improve communication, develop leadership skills and get students working co-operatively.

"I think that Another World Adventure was the best way to help with transitioning from primary and secondary school. I really liked it because it helped with communication and communicating with people." Hashim

"It allowed me to get to know people even more and build a closer friendships. It helps to know that I'm not the only one who is looking for friends. It was really fun and even the teachers got involved." Iris

"The activities, particularly the go-kart building, really helped team camaraderie and made my group tighter knit." Rory

"The Year 7 activity trip helped with my transition because I had a lot of fun with my form and I got to know them better." Thomas

"I gained stronger relationships by spending loads of time having fun with my form." Josh

More photos: <https://www.nhgs.co.uk/year-7-transition/year-7-activity-day>

NHGS 99 Recommended Reads

Earlier this term, we launched the NHGS 99 Fiction List - 99 books we think students should read during their time at NHGS.



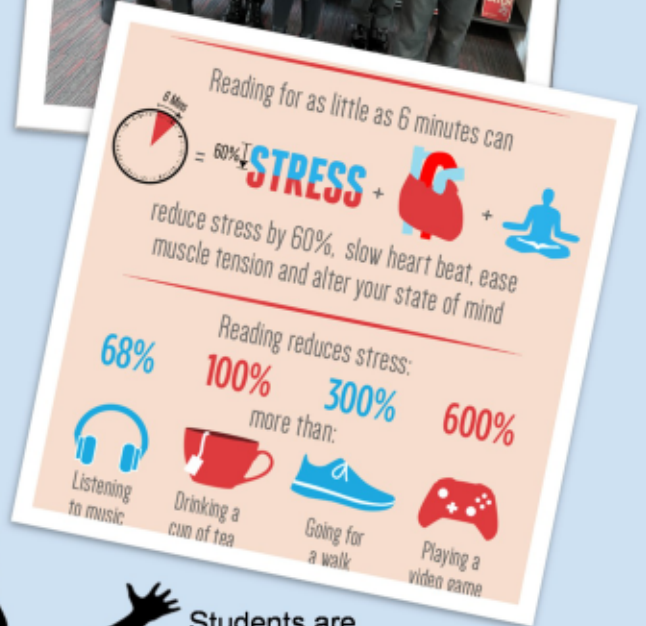
The 99 books are divided into three age-appropriate lists. The first list (1-33) is for Years 7 and 8. The second list (34-66) is for Years 9 and 10. And the third list (67-99) is for Y11 and the Sixth Form.

NHGS 99 was launched to students in assemblies hosted by Miss Kent, and Reading Ambassadors have handed out self-adhesive checklists that can be stuck into students' planners to keep track of their progress.

Students can browse the NHGS 99 in the LRC, in a dedicated display, or on the school website here: www.nhgs.co.uk/99



**“Read
in order
to live.”
Gustave
Flaubert**



Students are invited to submit book reviews and some of these will be chosen for the school website.

Lily & Dunkin reviewed by Iris

Really good - I read it in a matter of hours. It makes you understand different people and I thought it was great. I would recommend it to other students at NHGS.

The Woman in Black by Mia

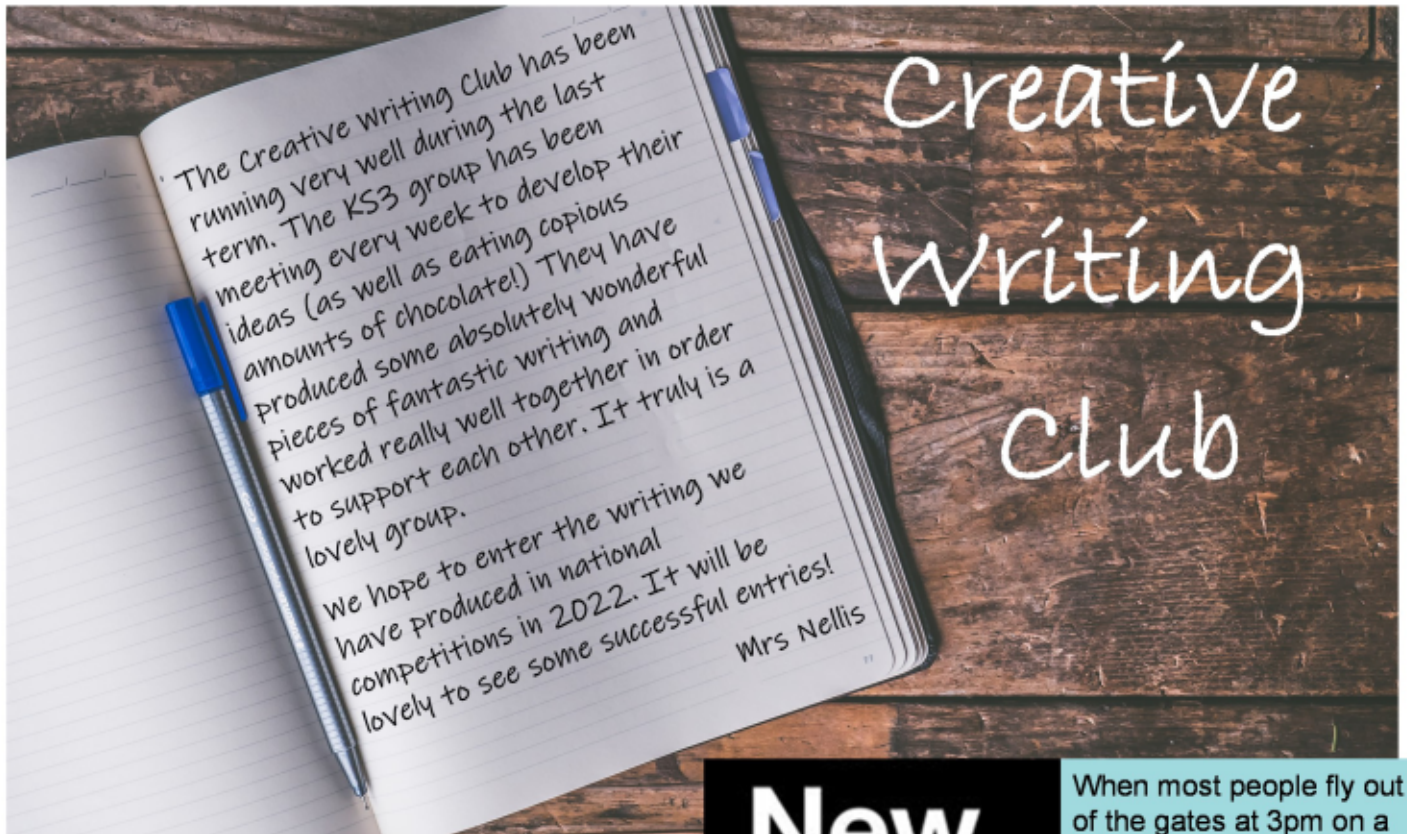
The story of The Woman in Black is one of my favourites. When I was 6 years old my grandad accidentally let me watch the film and we were scared stiff for years. If I had read the book first, I know that I would have felt fear for longer. It truly brought back the feeling of haunting from inside. I definitely recommend!

**“Reading is to the mind what
exercise is to the body.”**

James Addison

The Color Purple reviewed by Zara

A must read novel! From the first page we see Celie - the protagonist- as a dehumanised character who is subjected into her choices, afraid to speak up and live her own life. This book brazenly projects how black people were treated throughout history. The main message that I and everyone should take away is to always stay strong and keep fighting.



Creative Writing Club

Debating Society

The debaters were hard at work last term on Friday lunchtimes, learning the tricks of formal debating. Debates have been held on a range of topics from making scientists responsible for the outcomes of their research to reducing the voting age. Sixteen teams entered the Upper School competition and 17 teams entered the Year 7-9 competition. In Upper School, all the first round matches have been held - many closely contested, and all illuminating to watch. It's been wonderful seeing people gain in confidence; we have some very articulate and powerful speakers. The Lower School debates - using a shorter format than the Upper School - have proved a popular entry point for the younger students. Topics, ranging from the merits of space tourism to the place for politics in sport, have been impressively researched and enthusiastically (but always respectfully) debated.

We look forward to moving on to the next round in the new year - as well as hopefully entering the Manchester Schools online competition in February.

Miss Kent & Mr O'Neill

New Views

When most people fly out of the gates at 3pm on a Friday afternoon, a group of dedicated Year 10-13 students have been meeting for an hour with Miss Kent and Mr Cresswell exploring

scriptwriting as part of a project we are completing with the National Theatre. On the 5th November, Charley Miles, a playwright from North Yorkshire whose first play "Blackthorn2", was produced by the West Yorkshire Playhouse in 2016, and who was the Channel 4 Playwright-in-Residence at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in 2017 and the Paines Plough Playwright Fellow for 2018 came into school to run a workshop with the students. This focussed on supporting them with generating ideas and encouraging creative thinking.

Sessions have since been held on story, plot, character and stagecraft and students have now embarked upon the process of writing their 30 minute plays now, which we will workshop next half term. The deadline for first drafts is February half term when Charley will read them and offer feedback before the final polishing to enter into the national competition. The ideas and short writing pieces produced by students have been fascinating to listen to and there are some really interesting ideas in process from political comedy to highly stylised thriller. We are really looking forward to seeing how these all develop over the next half term.

Miss Kent & Mr Cresswell

Curriculum Update for Parents & Carers

You will be aware that, as a part of your child's educational experience at NHGS we aim to promote personal well-being and development through a taught programme of Personal, Social and Health education that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

From September 2020 the Department for Education made Relationships and Health Education compulsory in all schools and, despite the difficulties faced by the pandemic and remote learning, we are committed to meeting these requirements for our students. The guidance focuses on healthy

relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, well-being, safeguarding and healthy relationships.



As educators and parents/ carers, it is important to direct young people to some of the important issues surrounding making and maintaining healthy relationships, including online relationships. Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of

growing up gives children and young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and will help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

A list of subject content coverage is available on school webpage, as is the NHGS Relationships & Sex Education Policy document and other information regarding online safety.

If you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Mrs G Quigley (DSL) or Mrs S Chadwick (Head of RPSE)

MFL Matters



Students in Year 9 are taking part in the French and Spanish **Translation Bee competitions**.

This competition builds on the requirements of the KS3 curriculum, with its emphasis on translation and grammatical manipulation: helping students to practise and improve a range of skills vital to preparation for starting a GCSE course. The competition focuses on vocabulary, pronunciation, memory, verb conjugation, tenses and sentence formation. Well done to all students who have completed stages so far and thank you to our Sixth Form A level MFL students who are doing the testing.



After 10 years working for the MFL department and 4 years with SEND Miss Lalia Lopez left NHGS in October to start a new role at Huddersfield University.

We would like to thank her for all her work in the Languages Department and particularly her work with A Level Spanish students who have been having lessons every week with her.

We welcome our new Spanish Assistant, Miss Jimenez who is providing individual speaking lessons to each of our A Level Spanish students every week and Miss Threlfall Hares continues to work with our French A Level students.

Well-being Tips:

Let's all get a good night's sleep...



If you don't feel like you get enough sleep on a regular basis, you're not alone. According to the World Health Organisation, two-thirds of adults don't get the recommended eight hours. Regularly getting less than six has a significant detrimental impact on our health: increasing our risk of cancer and Alzheimer's, raising our blood sugar and blood pressure, making us feel hungrier, and increasing our chance of developing depression. That's a depressing thought in itself! So, why are we the only species on the planet deliberately depriving ourselves of sleep? Could GPs prescribe sleep to all of us as a preventative treatment?

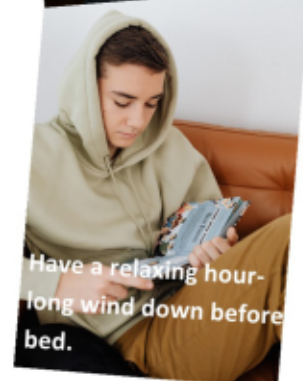
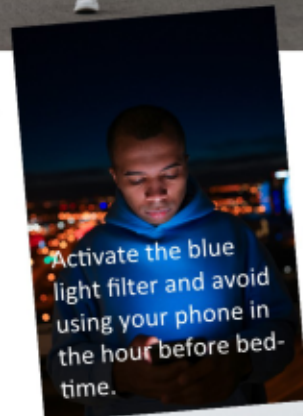
Matthew Walker, Professor of Neuroscience and Psychology and Director of the Sleep and Neuro-imaging Laboratory, has researched this for twenty years and published the brilliant 'Why We Sleep' to get us to think again. He makes an impressive case for the power of sleep which, he says, enhances all our major organs and particularly the processes of the brain. It enhances our capacity to learn and to transfer that learning to our longer-term memory. So, eight hours' sleep is also crucial for our students as they prepare for mock assessments and formal exams over the coming months. Excellent memory function will play a vital part.

Each year the government measures Year 7 and 10 students' opinions about their well-being through Public Health England's (now UK Health Security Agency) Emotional Health Needs Assessment, which this year tells us that 31% of students 'have trouble sleeping more than once a week'. This is better than the Calderdale average of 36%, but worse than our students in 2018 when 24% reported this. I regularly work with our students on their sleep routines, either one-to-one or through poster campaigns around school, and recommend



the following from the latest scientific research on sleep:

- Go out in daylight to enhance the circadian rhythm
- Have a lights-out time to help the body clock, and aim for eight hours
 - Get regular physical exercise so the body and mind are both tired
 - Avoid napping, caffeine and blue light on screens after school. Ensure the blue light filter is activated in the evening on phones and tablets.
 - Set aside thinking time after school so that anxieties can be dealt with
- Have a relaxing hour-long wind down before bed with nothing stimulating, eg homework or gaming. Reading, family TV, chill-out music or a warm shower are preferable.



Perhaps it can be a New Year resolution for the whole family that we make a promise to ourselves to establish a healthier sleep routine, not only to help our students embed learning from lessons into their memory, but also for its long-term physical health benefits for us all.

Mrs Booth

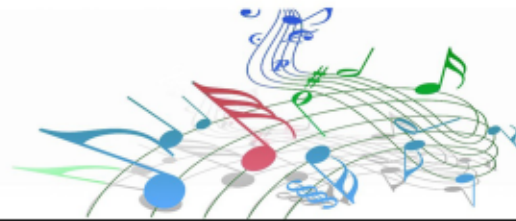
Well-being Manager

Music

We are delighted that our extra-curricular music provision is back up and running. Students should keep an eye on the music noticeboard for news of activities and up and coming events.

In March we will launch the Annual Music Competition. If students can sing or play an instrument, please encourage them to apply. More details to follow.

Our first concert (since the pandemic) took place in November behind closed doors. Please follow the link and enjoy some wonderful performances from our students. www.nhgs.co.uk/students/learning-to-live/music



New Sporting Opportunities

Thanks to funding of £26,39 from the Open Schools Funding initiative, as operated by ACTIVE CALDERDALE (in conjunction with Yorkshire Sport Foundation and Sport England), the PE Department have been able to offer additional extra-curricular opportunities to our students.

The funding will allow us to run extra sports clubs - boxing, football golf, kwik cricket, tennis and ultimate frisbee.

We utilised some of the funded equipment at the Summer School and we ran a Tennis Club, Indoor Cricket and boxing during the Autumn Term. More to follow—**watch this space!**



VISION 2024



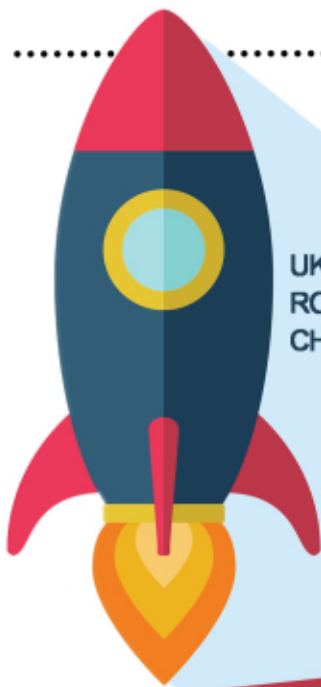
Our LGBTQ+ Club aims to provide a safe space for those who are in the LGBTQ community and allies. We try to educate ourselves and others. We want to make both our school and society a better place by making change within NHGS and in the wider world, so far we have done this through raising money for LGBTQ+ charities such as the Albert Kennedy Trust (£300 raised in our bake sale).

As well as being fairly serious, we also have lots of time for fun. From having different events through the year, such as our end of term movie night, to just being able to chat, chill or play games. It gives those who may not feel able to be themselves in the wider community an opportunity to be who they are without fear of judgement.



The Albert Kennedy Trust supports LGBTQ+ young people aged 16-25 in the UK who are facing or experiencing homelessness or living in a hostile environment.

We meet on Thursday lunchtimes in LC2. If any students are unsure or nervous about coming along they can contact Miss Lotz/Mrs Lydon or Mr Walker to talk about it first.



**UK YOUTH
ROCKETRY
CHALLENGE 2021**

On Thursday 7th October, Mr Wilkinson took two Year 13 teams to compete in the UK Youth Rocketry final in Grantham.

Following a close fly-off, one NHGS team finished 2nd and the other in 4th place. Each year, the mission requirements change. This year's competition required each team to design, build and launch a model rocket, with the payload of one raw egg – representing the astronaut.

Teams had to organise their own launches and have them verified/recorded by some independent witness.

They were very strong teams coming from as far afield as Gordonstoun school in Scotland.

Mr Wilkinson is already recruiting for this year's competition!



Attenuation Tank Visit

In November, Mrs Manley took fourteen Year 9 students to Halifax Bus Station to see the installation of an attenuation tank. The students were really engaged, especially during the presentation by Willmott Dixon.

An attenuation tank is a storage system for rainwater and surface water. The stored water inside the attenuation tank is released via a flow-control chamber and is either pumped via a pumping chamber or run-off through a gravity storm water pipe system.



I liked looking at the buildings that they have done so far—I had been seeing it from a distance since construction started. Originally I wasn't going to try for a job in construction but now I might consider it. ” Daisy



I found the visit the most interesting when we were looking at the graphic design plans and learning about how the drainage system would actually work. ” George



Find your groove!

A full list of extra-curricular activities, clubs and societies can be found on the school website here:

www.nhgs.co.uk/students/learning-live/extra-curricular



Charity Committee: Children In Need

Each year, NHGS Sixth Form students coordinate fundraising for a variety of charities.

Star bakers at NHGS from all year groups produced an impressive array of cakes, buns and biscuits for the Sixth Form Charity Committee to sell in aid of Children in Need on Friday 19th November. The sixth formers were rushed off their feet selling the goods at break and lunchtime as students were keen to support the charity by buying something delicious to eat.



Miss Keeler, who coordinates the Sixth Form Charity Committee with Mrs Pollard, said:

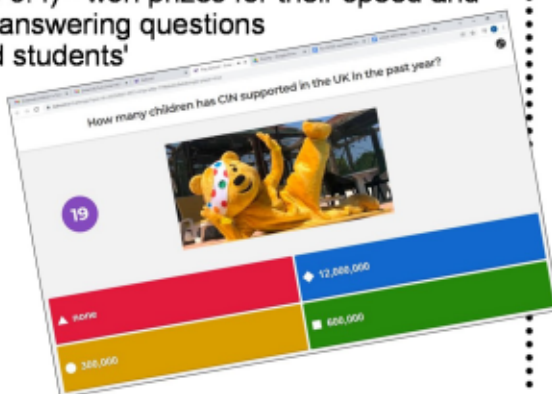
"Thank you all for your baking efforts and bringing such a lovely lot of cakes to sell for Children in Need. The bake sale alone has raised £375 - a fantastic effort! You are absolute superstars and should be very proud of yourselves."



Alongside the bake sale, the Charity Committee also organised a non-uniform day and invited forms to enter a Kahoot quiz via video link during registration.

The top three quizzers - Joe (10.5); Ella (9.4) and Bella J (also 9.4) - won prizes for their speed and accuracy in answering questions which tested students'

general knowledge and awareness of the work done by Children in Need.



Sixth Form Charity Committee co-chair Lydia Kay, who coordinated the day's events and hosted the Kahoot quiz, said: "Seeing how much money was raised for Children in Need and how enthusiastic the whole school was in doing so was really rewarding. Big thanks to everyone who brought in food for the bake sale and donated money! I'm looking forward to raising money for Overgate Hospice and Comic Relief in the next couple of months!"



Mrs Pollard said: ***"The Charity Committee, Miss Keeler and I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their efforts and participation in our fundraising efforts. As a school we raised a massive £1584.50. This will go a long way in supporting children in the UK."***



Food collection organised by Austen Hadcroft and Alex White in Year 13 to support a food bank in Bradford where Austen volunteers.

In the run-up to the Christmas holidays, the Sixth Form Charity Committee organised a collection of food to support local food banks; and a Christmas jumper day, to raise funds for a local hospice. Events the sixth formers are planning for next term include an environmental campaign; a fun run; and activities to make us laugh while supporting Red Nose Day. **Watch this space!**

Fell Running

On Sunday 26th September it was the English Schools Fell Running Championship. Katie Buckley in 9.3 came 13th and Bethan Buckley in 7.4 came 2nd.

"Katie and Bethan are incredibly talented runners but more importantly they really enjoy what they are doing. The whole running/ event 'scene' is as important to them as the competition. Long may they continue to have fun running on the fells!"

Mr Wilkinson

Here Katie and Bethan answer questions about their sport.

How did you get into fell running?

K: I began to do fell running when I joined my local running club.

B: I got into Fell Running because my parents were both into running and they took my older sister to a club and I joined too. She did the school cross country races and I did the race too although I wasn't old enough (I came second).

What type and how much training do you have to do to prepare for a competition like this?

K: I train twice a week on the track, roads and grass.

B: I usually train once a week and don't prepare for races much except for not eating before in case of getting a stitch.

What's your favourite thing about fell running?

K: My favourite thing about fell running is the running downhill after the up, and seeing my friends.

B: My favourite thing about fell running is that although the whole point of going is racing, I enjoy playing about and swimming in rivers as well.

How would you recommend it to your friends?

K: I would recommend it to my friends by saying that it is a fun way to keep fit and have a good time with your friends, usually in a nice place!

B: I would recommend it to my friends because it doesn't matter if you're last or first, just have fun!

Thank you to www.woodentops.org.uk/ for permission to share these photographs.



Trampolining



Isabelle Teasdale from 8.5 will be representing NHGS in the northern heat in February after finishing 5th in the qualifying competition in November.

How did you get into Trampolining?

I started trampolining as a hobby, doing one hour a week on a Thursday evening. Then I got into the squad and a lot more work was introduced.

What type and how much training do you have to do to prepare for a competition like this?

I train for 7 hours a week : Wednesday (2hrs) Thursday (2hrs) and Saturday (3hrs)

What's your favourite thing about trampolining?

The friends I have made is definitely my most favourite thing, they are like family to me.

How would you recommend it to your friends?

I would tell them that it is so much fun and worth the effort! The advice I would give to someone starting out would be to just have fun and let your confidence grow, even just doing a day a week would bring improvement. Just find a great club that makes you and everyone else feel welcome.

"Isabelle is an extremely talented trampolinist and we are all proud of her efforts representing NHGS. Well done Isabelle." PE Department.

Swimming



Three NHGS students, who swim for Sowerby Bridge Stingrays Swimming Club, medalled at a regional gala held at the John Charles Centre in Leeds.

Well done to Josh, Emily and Sam.

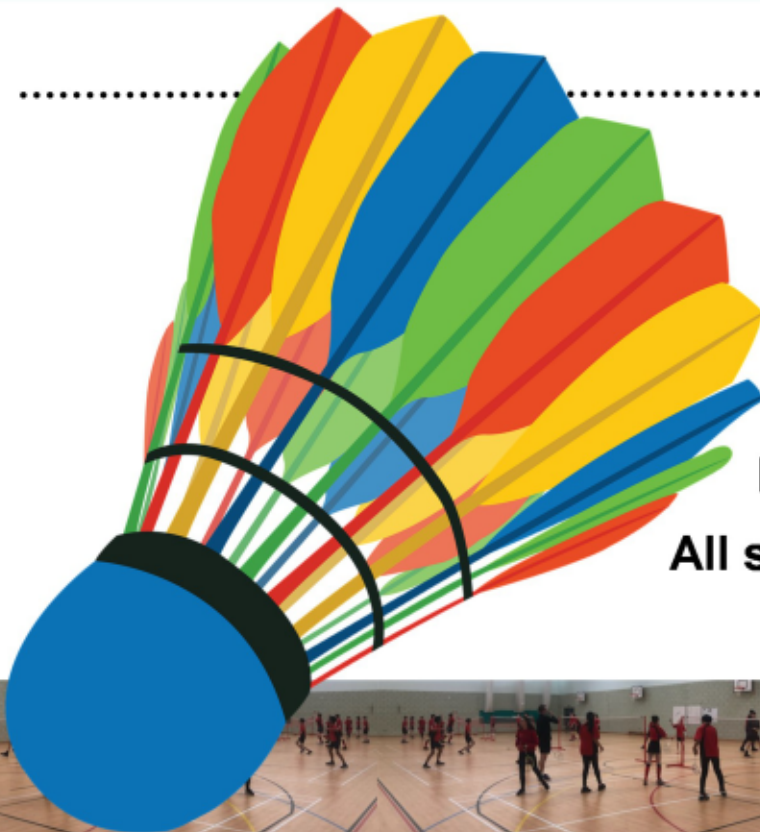


If you take part in sports or other activities outside of school and you would like to feature in the newsletter, please send details to Mrs Platt at n.platt@nhgs.co.uk.

BADMINTON

Badminton continues every Tuesday night after school from 15.00-16.15/16.30 up to February half term.

All students are welcome.



Girls' Football

Fantastic turn out to girls' football practice for Lower School. They have been able to showcase all their hard work at a number of competitions throughout the term. A combined U12 and U13 team attended the Calderdale Schools Football at Brighouse High School, in which both teams played really well against some tough competition. The A team made it to one final, winning on a penalty shoot out. The U13 team also played in the West Yorkshire Schools County Football Tournament fighting for a chance to represent Calderdale at the next round. Unfortunately, they narrowly missed out, but have plenty to work on for next term. The U12s were however, successful in the West Yorkshire Schools County Football Tournament and won, therefore will be going through to represent Calderdale in January. **Watch this space!**



18.11.2021

Well done to the Year 7 and 8 girls who took part in November's U13 football tournament. Some fantastic performances and great to see so many students enjoying playing football, even on a miserable cold day! Massive thanks to Year 10 student Lola for joining us as coach for the afternoon too. Well done ladies! **Miss Brooke.**



10.11.2021

The Year 7 girls' football team are through to the next round to represent Calderdale at the West Yorkshire County Schools Cup after Christmas.

A 2-1 win, a 10-0 win, taking it to the last game as a decider and won 1-0 with a cheeky last minute tap in from Daisy! Well done everyone.

Miss Brooke.

24.11.2021

Well done to the U13 girls football team at the West Yorkshire Schools football tournament. Some nail biting matches, They all got stuck in right to the final whistle! Player of the tournament; Tilly, solid at the back and playing a year up too. Thank you to coach Porsha and Year 10 student, coach / referee Nina for helping out also.

Miss Brooke.



Boys' Football

Year 7

NHGS 8-2 TAG. Great result, some lovely football in very windy conditions.

Mr Doyle



Rain, hail, snow, sunshine and wind could not stop these magnificent 10 during their 3-1 cup win over a very useful Trinity Academy Halifax side. A great game played in the right spirit in horrendous weather.

Mr Doyle



Fantastic effort from these Year 7s in their defeat to a very strong and newly crowned WY Champions Ryburn.



Year 8s beaten but heads held high with a gutsy second half performance against Ryburn.

Mr Doyle



What a result for the Year 11 Boys' Football Team. A brilliant 1-0 win against Crossley Heath in the Calderdale Cup.

All players were "man of the match". Sykes' penalty was the deciding goal.

Mr Doyle



Hockey

Amazing efforts by the Year 7 and Year 8 girls who played in their first ever NHGS hockey fixture against Rishworth. A 0-0 draw. Player of the match - Tilly as voted by the Rishworth team. There was some great hockey played by all, well done girls. A huge thank you also to our two Year 10 students for coming along to coach!



Well done to the Year 9 hockey team who did themselves very proud after Miss Brooke got her dates mixed up and accidentally took them to the Year 10 hockey tournament! The girls were not phased and did fantastic, winning one game 1-0 and losing the second 2-0, although plenty of chances on goal!



Y9 hockey girls on a roll. Continue to be unbeaten this year, with two fantastic wins last night and hockey debuts for some students! Player of the matches - Gracie. Well done all, Miss Brooke.

Well done to the Year 10 hockey team at last night's Year 11 tournament. A 2-0 win, a 3-1 loss and a fantastic overall work ethic from all involved! A brilliant first outing for our goalkeeper and well done to player of the match: Nia.



Top Christmas effort from these students at their last hockey practice of last term.

All superstars - Miss Brooke!



Netball



Year 7 Netball. The girls put in a solid performance against Trinity Academy winning 16-4. Well done to player of the match Claudia Mrs Heaton

Year 8 Netball. Well done to the Year 8 girls winning against Trinity Academy 10-3. Player of the match Maisie Miss Baker

AND a double win against Crossley Heath. The Year 7 netball team were amazing and won 12-1 with Eva claiming the Player of the Match. The Year 10 team had a tightly fought match but won 20-15 with Phoebe J claiming Player of the Match.

Well done girls Mrs Heaton



Cross Country



Fantastic performances from all our runners in the Calderdale Schools Cross Country Championships 2021. Year 7 girls saw a 2nd from Bethan and 3rd from Kitty, Year 8 & 9 girls saw a 1st from Nia and 2nd from Katie, Year 12 & 13 saw JD finishing 3rd. All of which qualify for the West Yorkshire round.

A superb effort from all runners on a tough course and in freezing conditions

Mrs Heaton 🧊 🙌



Overall results...

Year 7 Girls are the Calderdale Schools Cross Country Champions 2021.

Year 7 boys finished 3 points behind winners Ryburn with Henry the strongest finisher for NHGS in 8th place.

Year 8 and 9 girls combined finished 4th.

Well done! Mr Doyle



An update from the NHGS PA

A NEW CHAIR

The NHGS Parents' Association works hard to raise money for the school, to purchase equipment and fund initiatives that would not be possible out of the school's normal budget.

David Marsden was appointed as the Chair of the NHGS PA last month.



Do you have children at the school?

Yes, my daughter is in Year 9 and is enjoying her studies at school.

How long have you been involved with the NHGS Parents' Association?

About 3 years, but that has been a tough set of years due to the COVID Pandemic. Tough on the work that the PA do and how they operate, not to mention how we raise funds for the school and the children who attend.

I was originally a volunteer and helped to serve mulled wine at the Christmas Fayre, I attended the monthly meetings and then took on the role of Secretary for a year to understand the internal mechanisms of the PA and finally have been moved to the position of

Chair by the rest of the team to help bring continuity to the role since Sue Smith stepped down in November.

What attracted you to being an active member of the Parents' Association?

The PA interested me as I wanted to get involved to ensure that I had some representation in the school that my daughter attended. For my journey, it was a way to find my own roots at the school which I previously had not associated with.

As you might expect, the PA is a diverse bunch of people and one of the key elements to enjoy is those different perspectives, including from different sexes and races – all of which are perfectly valid, and I would say this ensures that the outcomes the PA chooses to support are balanced.

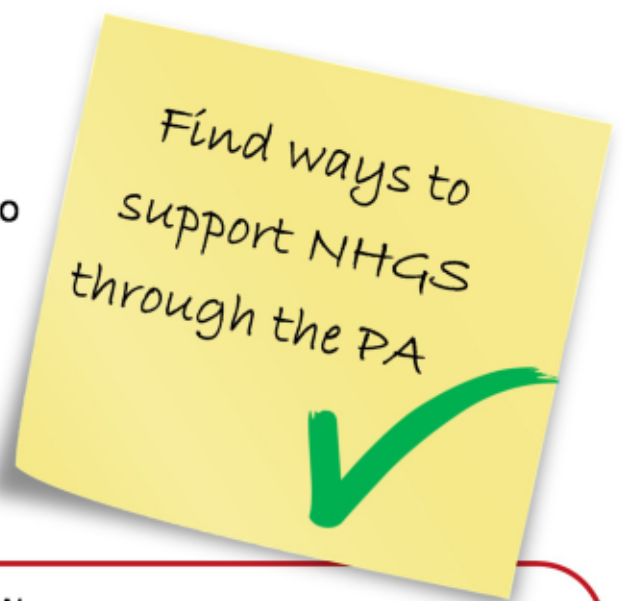
What would you say to someone considering joining the PA?

If you wanted to get involved, but do not want to be a governor. If you wanted to support your child and if you wanted to find a way to meet other people who have children in the school or had experience you could draw on, then the PA may be your answer. Whilst we are primarily a group focused on fundraising for North Halifax Grammar School, there is also the social element and ability to attend events as a PA supporter to help other parents.

The NHGS Parents' Association meet at 7.00pm on the first Tuesday of each month. This is currently taking place online, for more information please contact nhgs.parentassociation@gmail.com or join the Facebook Group for regular updates (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1414873465412640/>)

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

There are many ways that parents/ carers can help to raise much-needed funds for the school through the Parents' Association. Come along to one of our monthly meetings or volunteer to help at an event—watch our Facebook page for more details. We understand that not everyone has the time attend events and so **here are 3 easy ways to support our fundraising...**



1



MONTHLY PRIZE DRAW

Entry is £5 per month with a top prize of £100. All you need to do is set up a standing order and fill in a simple online form. The prize draw has been running since May 2019 and the number of entrants is steadily increasing each month. We have been delighted to be able to contact lucky winners to tell them they have won either the top prize of £100, second prize of £50 or third prize of £25.

<https://nhgspace.org.uk/prize-draw/>

2

smile.amazon.co.uk

Simply visit smile.amazon.co.uk and select "The North Halifax Grammar School" as your chosen charity. You must start your shopping at <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

0.5% of the money you spend on AmazonSmile will be donated by Amazon to NHGS Parents' Association.

3



You can raise money for NHGSPA while you shop. It is easy to do and at no extra cost to you! Please support North Halifax Grammar School Parents' Association through Easyfundraising:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk



Be part of the team. Join our volunteers' list. Please complete this form if you are happy to be contacted if we need volunteers to support our events? The form also asks if you have any key skills that you would be happy to provide as and when we need support too. The link to the form is [HERE](#)

Please follow us on Facebook. It's a way to connect with other parents as well as keeping in touch with our activities. Our Facebook group is also a great way to find answers to those school related questions as other parents may just know the answer!



Facebook: Search for North Halifax Grammar School Parents' Association (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/1414873465412640>)

Your contribution makes a big difference!



MUSIC

Classroom Instruments (over £1,000)

A big thank you to the PA for providing the music department with funds to be able to replace some of our equipment.

Keyboards, tuned percussion and general classroom percussion has helped to boost our ability to provide an exciting curriculum. **Mrs Pegg**



HISTORY CLUB

Board Games & Card Games (£50)

Thank you to the PA for providing funding for historical board games and card games. They have been much appreciated by the members of History Club who have really enjoyed playing them and testing their historical knowledge at the same time. The games have been really helpful in allowing me to offer a variety of activities to the students who attend the club and playing the games together has added an extra social aspect for the younger students who attend the club to meet other people with shared interests. **Mrs Woodward**



This year's hamper raffle raised over £4,000. Thank you for your support.

A special thank you goes to top sellers Molly, Finlay and Deacon (all Year 7).

Form 7.1 won the prize for the most money raised—bringing in over 11% of the total at £462.

Mr Jugroop's form (7.4) won the Best Hamper prize with Mr Puft (the Marshmallow Man).

Prizes and reward events will be arranged shortly.



Christmas Dash & Turkey Trot



Headliners

The Winter Variety

