



# Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

*Striving for Excellence*

Acting Principal • Mr Rhys Phillips

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12<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

## Anti-Bullying Week- 15<sup>th</sup> November

Anti-Bullying Week is an annual UK event, held in the third week in November which aims to raise awareness of bullying of children and young people, in schools and elsewhere, and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. It started in 2002 and has since grown to become a significant event in the calendars of children, families and schools. As a school we are committed to the culture that bullying of any form is not tolerated, and where it occurs, it is dealt with swiftly and effectively. The key principles and values underpinning this intent is that all staff and students have a right to feel safe and secure within our community, and that we meet the expectations of other stakeholders, including parents and carers, in ensuring that the school effectively deals with bullying situations. If any student, parer or carer has a concern in this area I would ask that they contact the school directly via [admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk) so that the issues can be addressed and resolved.

We will be holding assemblies and information sessions during next week and students are all encouraged to take part in the 'Wear Odd Socks Day' on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November to raise awareness of the cause.

## TiKTok

In relation to our commitment to not tolerate bullying or harassment of any sort I am sorry to have to write to students, parents and carers with a clear warning regarding the appropriate use of social media. As you may have seen in the news this week schools across the country are experiencing situations where students have impersonated school social media accounts and created videos containing harmful and defamatory comments directed at school staff. Disappointingly, this has also been the case in our school community this week. **I would like to make the message very clear that behaviour such as this will absolutely not be tolerated within our school and any incidents will be investigated thoroughly with severe sanctions issued for any students involved.** We will also report incidents to the Police for support in this area.

I am deeply saddened to have to share a message such as this and I would ask parents and carers to support this message and ensure that your children are aware of the appropriate use of social media, and the potential damaging consequences of inappropriate usage. Again, if you require support in this area, please contact the school via [admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk)

## Winter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

Please find attached a copy of a postcard with regards to the upcoming Winter Holiday Activities and Food Programme.

The postcard covers both the Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF), funded by DfE, which is returning this December for children aged 5-16 years eligible for free school meals, as well as the Holiday Activity Programme (HAP) which is grant funded and is open to children of any age.

Any questions regarding this request, please contact [HAFParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:HAFParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

## **Remembrance Service**

We are immensely proud of the way in which our student body showed their respect during our annual Remembrance Service on Thursday. Well done to everybody involved. If anyone feels that they need support during this difficult time I have included a list of charities that can offer support and guidance.

[Help for Heroes](#)

[SSFA Forces Line](#)

[Royal British Legion](#)

YMMChat (for students) contact details can be found on MILK

## **Newent Neighbourhood Flood Association**

Please find attached details of the Public Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## **Catering Update**

Over this term there are a number of themed events that the Catering Team will be holding eg Children in Need and a Festive Food Fortnight which will include a traditional Christmas dinner being held this year on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December. More information will follow on each themed event so please look out for more information.

Could we remind parents and carers that Meet n Eat is completely cashless with all purchases being made using the student's fob. While we appreciate that fobs can be misplaced or forgotten on a day, we will speak with any student who is regularly forgetting to use their fob. I would request that parents and carers support the team in maintaining the cashless systems.

Allergy information is available for all items on sale. It is, however, important that you make sure the school is aware of any food allergies your child has. Please email [admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk) if you have any concern that the school is not aware of a particular allergy. It is still important that your child understands their allergies and understands their responsibility in checking the allergy content of food they are buying, however, Chef will support all students who have a particular allergy and wishes to eat in Meet n Eat. For example, Chef regularly purchases gluten-free bread for those students who wish to eat a sandwich. All we ask is that the item is preordered and paid for in advance.

We have received a number of requests from parents and carers to use Halal meat. This is something Chef can accommodate through the preordering system. Please ask your child to speak directly to Chef to discuss the options available and the procedure to preorder. Alternatively, if you would like more information in the first instance, please email [admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk).

## **Mixed Martial Arts success**

Grace Reeves has retained her title as European Champion for her age and belt category in the Kenpo forms section of the Mixed Martial Arts European Championships. Izzy Ogden also came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the same competition and Leo Bishop achieved 3 second places in weapons, forms and self-defence. Superb effort from all involved!

## **Children in Need- Non Uniform Day Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November**

As part of our charity work we will be supporting Children in Need this year by holding a non-uniform day on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Please click [here](#) for Children in Need Donation page on Parentpay shop.

## **Bus Safety Reminder**

Please can parents and carers reinforce with your children the basic road safety rules regarding school transport, especially taking due care and attention when crossing roads after disembarking the school buses.

With best wishes for the week ahead,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a cursive-style name.

Mr R Phillips  
Acting Principal