



# Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

*Striving for Excellence*

Acting Principal • Mr Rhys Phillips

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28<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

Dear Students, Parents & Carers,

Please find below key information from this week.

### **Use of masks within educational settings**

As you will have seen via Milk this week, the Department for Education has now removed national guidance on the use of face coverings in communal areas within education settings.

For those coming to school on public transport and school buses, the use of face masks is still strongly advised by our transport providers.

Students and staff who personally wish to continue wearing masks in classrooms and other areas around the school will be supported in doing so.

Local directors of public health are able to recommend the re-introduction of face coverings in education settings across their area where the DfE and public health experts judge the measure to be proportionate due to specific health concerns. We will keep our school community informed if this action requires implementation. Testing also remains a vital tool in controlling the spread of COVID-19 and we are grateful for your continued use of twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests.

### **Yr 11 Parents' Evening Survey**

Many thanks to those parents/carers who were able to attend last night's 'virtual' Parents' Evening.

I would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing the survey that is normally issued via paper.

The link to the survey can be found in the 'Parent Inbox' section of the Milk app.

Survey submissions can be anonymous, but if you have a particular query or comment that requires a reply please ensure that you add contact details at the end of the form.

### **Year 11 information**

Further information on studying in our Sixth Form, can be found on our website [here](#), along with our [electronic application form](#). If you have any queries about Sixth Form study please contact [lrogers@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lrogers@newent.gloucs.sch.uk)

### **The Song Academy Young Songwriter 2022**

As issued in Milk, the competition is open for entries from the 1st February to the 31st March, from young people around the world aged 8-18.

*Calling all aspiring young songwriters, creative writers & musicians!*

*Aged 8-18? Written your own original songs? Fancy writing your first song?*

*Then get ready to enter The Song Academy Young Songwriter 2022 competition!*

*Open for entries from 1st February to 31st March 2022, from around the world.*

*Check out [www.songacademy.co.uk](http://www.songacademy.co.uk) for all information on The Young Songwriter 2022 competition #SAYS22, plus details on our songwriting clubs, workshops and feedback service.*

*All information, including how to enter and songwriting resources for teachers & pupils, is on [our website](#)*

### **The Lord's Larder Food Bank**

We are delighted to continue our support of this valued initiative. The Larder, which is run and maintained entirely by volunteers, opened in 2010. Working with agencies within the county, they aim to target aid where there is a genuine need using a voucher system which enables us to provide families wherever there is a need. Students have received information in tutorial about how you can support The Larder. Further information is given below.

#### **What can be donated?**

We are grateful for all donations from the public but because of the need to store items for potentially long amounts of time, we do require food to be tinned or dried and to have a long use-by date.

##### Tinned Food

Potatoes/Carrots/Peas, Tomatoes/Sweet-corn,  
Baked beans/Beans, Spaghetti/Ravioli/Macaroni, Soup,  
Ham, Corned beef/Luncheon meat, Mince/Steak/Meat products,  
Tuna/Salmon, Sardines/Pilchards,  
Rice pudding/Sponge pudding, Fruit, Custard/Condensed milk.

##### Packet Foods

Rice, Pasta, Noodles,  
Soup, Instant mash  
Cereals, Biscuits, Crisps.

**Toiletries** must also be unused and not about to expire

Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Disposable razors.

##### Beverages/Jars

Tea bags, Instant coffee, Hot chocolate, Sugar, UHT milk, Powdered milk,  
Fruit juice, Squash,  
Jam, Marmite,  
Pasta sauces.

#### **What cannot be donated?**

##### Perishable Food Items

Cakes, Prepared Meals, Raw Meat, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.

##### Perishable Liquids

Fresh Milk.

Please not lots of baked beans!

#### **Do you need help yourself or know someone who does?**

As the Lord's Larder has only a limited amount of supplies, we are conscious of the need to target resources where they will be of most use.

Vouchers or Emergency Packs can be issued to:

- Persons who have recently lost their job and are not yet in receipt of state benefits.
- Homes where an unforeseen expenditure (such as a large electrical bill) means no money is left for food.
- The vulnerable who cannot afford to 'Heat' and 'Eat' (such as elderly persons).
- Families where children will otherwise go hungry.

Vouchers are available in school for any family who is eligible from Heads of House, Mrs Jevons or from members of the SLT.

### **National Citizen Service**

A reminder that we are excited to be working with NCS this year to deliver an unforgettable summer experience for students in year 11.

NCS programmes offer young people a once in a lifetime opportunity to do something meaningful with their summer break.

During their time on NCS they will have experiences and develop skills they can rely on during university, apprenticeships, and their career. Participants will do something good for their local community, carrying out a social action project to support a cause they care about. We've seen first-hand what an amazing feeling of accomplishment and increased confidence this brings. Throughout the pandemic, teenagers on NCS donated well over 200,000 hours of their time to help rebuild their communities after the first lockdown, showing what a difference young people can make.

NCS lasts 2 weeks (Monday – Friday), during which participants will: meet new people and stay away from home for five days, take on new challenges and develop the skills and confidence to take on their next steps. They will also get their chance to give back to their local community through volunteering action.

A place on NCS is worth around £1200. However, thanks to government funding for the programme, NCS will only ask for a contribution of £50 to cover some basic costs. They want to ensure that everyone can do NCS so there are bursaries available to those who are eligible for free school meals, have an EHCP, are in or have recently left care, or are a young carer.

There are several start dates to choose from: go to [wearencs.com](http://wearencs.com) to find out availability in the area for your teen and encourage them to sign up for a summer they will not forget!

If you have any questions, give NCS a call and they will be able to help: 0800 197 8010 Frequently asked questions can be found at [wearencs.com/faqs](http://wearencs.com/faqs).

We cannot recommend this opportunity highly enough!

### **Forest of Dean Primary Cross Country**

Many thanks to all involved in yesterday's superb event at school. Our student helpers were an absolute credit to the school.

For news and updates from the PE Team, including updates on fixtures, please follow @NCSSport on Twitter.



Best wishes and have a great weekend,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mr Rhys Phillips', written in a cursive style.

Mr Rhys Phillips  
Acting Principal