



# Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

*Striving for Excellence*

Acting Principal • Mr Rhys Phillips

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18<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

Dear Students, Parents & Carers,

My thanks again to students, parents and carers for your understanding during our transition to our new Home learning and communication platform, Satchel:one. The Satchel:one [Help Centre](#) is a useful resource for articles, help, and advice for getting the most out of the platform. There are dedicated sections for students and parents/carers. If you have any further queries please email [admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk)

## **Covid reminder**

As a reminder, recent updates from the 'Living with COVID-19' plan issued by the government means that routine asymptomatic testing is no longer advised in mainstream school settings. However, if students have any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 (a recent onset of a new continuous cough; a high temperature; or a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell) you should order a PCR test. Students are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while they wait for the test result. If positive, students should isolate and take an LFD test five days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. 2 consecutive days of negative test results are required prior to returning to school. Full guidance can be found [here](#).

## **Spelling Bee**

Many thanks to all students and members of staff involved in our school's Spelling Bee.

The joint winners were:

Collingwood: James Hadlington and Edward Cutter

Nelson: Leo Raine

Names of the other finalists were:

### **Collingwood:**

Demi Sykes and Jake Goddard from year 7

Isabella Duberly Wood from Year 8

### **Nelson:**

Jack Radford

Joe Chivers- Y7

James Ward- Y8

### **Mountbatten:**

Joel Fishpool & Owain Thomas

Stanley Bayfield and Hollie Haines



Special thanks to Mrs Barnes for her superb organisation of this event, and to Mr John for his superb compèring of the final event. A great time was had by all!

### Swimming Gala

The House swimming gala went ahead last week with competitors from all year groups, 7 to Sixth Form. Following a two-year absence, everyone was excited to be back at the pool and the atmosphere was of fun and friendly competition.

Nelson took an early lead with the Junior competition and Mountbatten were able to pull forward with strong Senior teams. However, overall the win went to Collingwood with a consistent performance across the age groups.

There was a notable performance from Amelia Raynes for Mountbatten, who broke the school record for the Senior Butterfly event. Congratulations Amelia!

Thanks to the PE department for organising and scoring and A-level PE students for acting as officials and timekeepers.

Well done to all involved, great to see this event back on the school calendar.

### Holiday Free School Meal Voucher Scheme

This Spring break, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to parents who have signed up to our Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through COVID-19 grant funding we have received and is separate to that of the term time free school meals.

Parents who have signed up to the scheme will receive a voucher for £30 for each child who is eligible for FSM which will cover both the two weeks of the Spring holiday. The scheme is eligible for children aged 4-16 years old. Unfortunately, we are unable to consider college and sixth form students.

**Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register**, they have already been included, but, to ensure we get all who are eligible, we are encouraging new parents to sign up as soon as they can.

**For parents who have already signed up, if more of their children have become entitled to free school meals since they applied, please ask them to contact us so we can update their amount, as this not an automatic process.**

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers for the February half term period is now open until the 4<sup>th</sup> April. Voucher emails will be sent out between **6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April**. Please encourage parents to also check their junk/spam email folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If parents have not received their vouchers by then please encourage them to get in contact with us by emailing [childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk).

For more information and to sign up if you haven't already please visit our website: the [Holiday School Meal vouchers page on](#) our website.

## Volunteering Opportunity- Sport Leadership Programme

Please find below details of an excellent opportunity being offered by our partners at Freedom Leisure.



**Forest of Dean  
Sport Leadership Programme**

Do you have a passion for sport and wellbeing?  
Do you enjoy helping others?

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Freedom Leisure are launching a Sports Leadership volunteer programme and are looking for enthusiastic Secondary School Sport Leaders to join us!

For an application form or for further information contact:  
**07766616977**  
Nathan Thomas (Active Communities Manager – Forest of Dean)  
Nathan.Thomas@freedom-leisure.co.uk

Forest of Dean  
freedomleisure  
where you master

## Charity Involvement

Thank you for the valued contributions to today's non-uniform day.

In further charity work, as noted in last week's newsletter, Newent & District Rotary club have set up a collection point next to The George in Newent for items to send to Ukraine, please see below list of items required. The shop will be open Monday to Friday 9am – 11am and 3pm – 5pm and on Saturday 10.00am - 12 noon.

We are able to accept items from the list in school and we will take them for you or alternatively make a donation online by clicking on the link below

[Donate to Ukraine | DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal | Oxfam GB](#)

Items that are needed:

### First Aid

Paracetamol for children  
Bandages, disposable gloves, dressings  
Plasters  
Multivitamins

Torches  
Batteries  
Ladies Toiletries  
Baby Wipes  
Baby Nappies  
Metal cups

### Food

Soup Mixes / Cereal Bars / Porridge / Rice / Pasta / Stock Cubes /  
Tinned Meat or Fish / Tomato Puree

With best wishes for the weekend ahead,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized, cursive name.

Mr Rhys Phillips  
Acting Principal