



# NEWENT NEWS

## Message from our Principal

Dear Newent School Community,

The exam season is approaching as the practical elements of some subjects have started this week. We have begun the Art assessments and Year 11 Drama performances took place this week in-house with the examiner. These first few days are always hard as in the main body of the school, exams have not started, and students and staff continue to revise alongside the organisation of exam staffing and logistics. Thank you to everyone who has supported the staff and students; be it through cover so subject specialists are available for the examined groups, room changes so that they can work in specialist areas and behaviour so these areas are quiet to allow concentration.

If you are the parent or carer trying to support over this period, the best thing is to always ask our young people what they need, but to help the BBC have some really good advice that we have found useful as parents ourselves. Please do have a read as it helps us understand the need for downtime in order for students to refresh and how to embed smart strategies at home.

[Five ways to motivate your teen to study at home](#)

Outside of exams we have seen the Year 10 and 12 visit to Bletchley Park this week, a local author, Cheryl Mayo visited to run a revision session on 'top tips for writing fiction' focusing on effective endings and gathering ideas from the question, the Eco Committee have taken part in a litter pick supported by Emma Nice, from SOLACE, and a Primary Football festival has taken place on the Astro!

## Clubs and Activities

### Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April

- \* Cross Stitch Club, Rm 110, 12.45pm – 1.30pm
- \* Online Chess Club, Rm 106, 1pm – 1.30pm

### Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April

- \* Y12 UCAS Discovery Day
- \* Y7 Hollie Gazzard Active Bystander Training, 9am – 12.45pm
- \* Duke of Edinburgh drop in, Library, 10.45am – 1pm
- \* Homework Hub, Rm 100, 1pm – 1.30pm
- \* Gardening Club, Polytunnel, 1pm – 1.30pm
- \* Creative Writing Club, 1pm – 1.30pm, G10
- \* Graphics Club, 1pm – 1.30pm, Rm 106

### Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April

- \* Y7 Hollie Gazzard Active Bystander Training, 9am – 12.45pm
- \* Duke of Edinburgh drop in, Library, 10.45am – 1pm
- \* Bug, Bee & Hedgehog houses, T10, 1pm – 1.30pm
- \* Programming Workshop, Rm 106, 1pm – 1.30pm
- \* Spring Spelling Bee Final Round, Main Hall, 2.30pm – 3.20pm
- \* Science revision, Rm 100, 3.30pm – 4.30pm

### Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> April

- \* Junior Maths Challenge, Gym, 8am – 10.30am
- \* Science Club, 1pm – 1.30pm, Lab 101

### Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> April

- \* BTEC Performing Arts, 9am – 2pm
- \* Popular Music Club, G10  
1pm – 1.30pm
- \* Y7 & Y8 Choir, H20  
12.45pm – 1.30pm



# NEWENT NEWS

Thank you to all those supporting these ventures and I hope you enjoy reading about some of them below,

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs D Burke

## Sporting Fixtures

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Y9 & Y10 Football v Five Acres, (Home) Astro, 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April

U13 Boys Cricket v Crypt (Home), 3pm – 6pm

U15 Boys Cricket v Crypt (Away), 3pm – 6pm

Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> April

Primary Mountain Biking Event, 6<sup>th</sup> Form Field, 1pm – 4.30pm

## Local Author

On Tuesday 16th, we were lucky enough to be visited by Cheryl Mayo, a local author whose books appear on Amazon's Kindle Unlimited and whose latest novel reached the top of the chart in its genre in America recently. Cheryl ran a revision session in the library for 20 of our best story writers, preparing them for a question that makes up 50% of their assessment on Paper 1 English Language. She focused on developing a character's deep point of view, editing out unnecessary words and the most effective ways to end. She was also generous enough to share excellent examples of flash fiction that we were able to share with pupils so that they go into their exams with clear professional intent and lift their writing to an even higher standard.





# NEWENT NEWS

## Bletchley Park

On Tuesday, we set off for Bletchley Park with 47 Year 9 and 3 Year 12 History students. The weather was far kinder than last year, although the odd hail storm kept us on our toes! We split into two groups on arrival, with each having a guided tour, a one-hour workshop on the Battle of the Atlantic and the links with code breaking, as well as having time for exploring the original huts, offices and displays. The students were visibly impressed with the scale of challenge that the code breakers faced during the war, and therefore how significant their achievements were at the time. Plenty of food for thought for those considering the further study of Computing and Cyber Security, as well as the role of intelligence and its links with state security. Bletchley Park does involve five hours of travel, but all agreed that the time that is spent there makes it all worthwhile. We look forward to offering this trip again next year to those students who are interested in taking GCSE History and/or Computing. My thanks to the students for their excellent behaviour throughout the day, as well as Mr Santos, Mr Walsh, Mr Worgan and Mr Brown for their help during the day.





# NEWENT NEWS

## Oxford and Cambridge Information Days

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May the Admissions Offices from Oxford and Cambridge University are running a Parents and Supporters session for any student who is considering applying to either university. The session will cover the differences between 'Oxbridge' and other UK universities, the application timeline, how parents and guardians can support students in applying to the universities, as well as an overview of student finance, fees, and funding. There will be a chance to pre-submit questions and ask them live. A recording will be made available if you cannot watch live, but please register to access this.

The session will run from 6pm-7pm and in order to attend the session please follow the link below.

[Oxford and Cambridge Information Days 2024 - Parent and Supporters Sessions \(office.com\)](#)

During the summer term we will also be inviting a group of Year 10 students to attend a visit to Lady Margaret Hall at the University of Oxford where they will be able to find out further information on the application process.

In the meantime, if you have any questions please contact Mr McCarthy.



# NEWENT NEWS

## Carnegie Medal 2024

Yoto Carnegie shortlisted books are in the library!

We are delighted to announced that the shortlisted books for the Yoto Carnegie Medal 2024 are in the school library.

The Yoto Carnegie Medal Shortlist for Writing is the UK's longest running and best-loved book awards for children and young people. There are some fantastic titles in this year's line-up with a particular focus on powerful poetry and prose, with excellent illustrations.

The shortlisted books are as follows:

- Away with Words – Sophie Cameron
- Choose Love – Nicola Davies
- Safiyyah's War – Hiba Noor Khan
- Steady for This – Nathanael Lessore
- The Boy Lost in the Maze – Joseph Coelho
- Crossing the Line – Tia Fisher
- The Door of No Return – Kwame Alexander
- The Song Walker – Zilah Bethell





# NEWENT NEWS

## Youth Rangers

If you have any young people who may be interested in finding out more, please ask them to visit <https://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/youth-rangers> and register their interest!



**Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust**



Are you aged between 13-17, interested in nature and want to contribute to making positive changes for nature and wildlife?




### Why not join the Youth Rangers?



**When?**  
Usually the third Saturday of each month from 12:30pm-4:30pm

**Where?**  
Robinswood Hill in Gloucester

**What?**  
Practical conservation; from scrub clearance to surveying, building bird boxes and habitat creation

**Why?**  
Learn about wildlife, conservation and gain new skills, meet new people, gain volunteering hours towards a qualification (e.g. Duke of Edinburgh award)

# Spotlight on Sixth

**Zoe Hayes – Year 13**



*How long have you been at Newent?*

Since Year 7.

*Describe what Newent Sixth Form means to you.*

Nurturing- In Sixth Form, I feel extremely supported by staff and due to smaller class sizes, lessons are tailored to suit each individual, so we are all encouraged to reach our full potential.

Community- All staff make a real effort to get to know every student and we often have quizzes and activities at the end of each half term to celebrate our achievements and bond as a team.

Supportive- Any issues are quickly and thoughtfully dealt with, and each student has had access to resources and help in choosing next steps for the future.

*What have you been involved with during your time at Newent?*

During my time at Newent I have been involved with school productions which has given me a great opportunity to meet students from every year group and work together to create shows which are so fun to be a part of! I was also lucky enough to be a prefect and Collingwood House Captain in year 11 and now currently head student. These roles have allowed me to be a representative of the school and develop my communication and team leading skills.

*What are your plans for the future? What made you pursue this path?*

I have always had a passion for Performing Arts and have been involved in productions both inside and outside of school. I am lucky enough to have an offer to study Musical Theatre at The Brighton Academy next year on the Foundation Course, and then the Performing Arts degree course after. I am so excited to begin this next chapter and am so grateful for all the support I have been given from Newent.