



NEWENT NEWS

Message from our Principal

A number of you queried my weather related comment last week about the month of March and, not unreasonably, wondered about the relevance of otters and penguins! Well, it's fair to say that for this week at least, we have benefited from a mild and mainly dry week. Temperatures have climbed and the sun sits low in a clear blue sky as I write this.

While it is always a temptation to succumb to the trials of January, which can feel like it has fifty-eight days at times, it is worth remembering that it is a time for change. Okay, so expressions like "new year, new me" might feel very modern, the sentiment is not. January, named for the Roman god Janus, the god of doors, gates and transitions, has been seen as a time of change since Roman times. Nowadays, we see January as being a time to set resolutions, dieting, exercising more, starting new hobbies or giving up bad habits. But, before investing in that gym membership or adding that bag of kale to the shopping trolley, it is worth considering the changes that can be made very simply with the minimum of fuss.

This week, I invite you to take part in this quick Microsoft Form in order to help us gather suggestions for ways in which parents can support their young people at home.

Elsewhere in this week's newsletter, you can read more about a former alumni who has been recognised in the New Years Honours list with an MBE. You can also find out more about the Hitz On Track rugby program that Mr Edgell has set up with Gloucester RFC. There is also some news from Mr McCarthy about an equestrian opportunity on the horizon. And what's more, Mrs Hood is currently rehearsing the undoubtedly fantastic Newent Community School production of Shakespeare's Antony & Cleopatra. This is to be performed at the Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury and is another excellent opportunity for our budding thespians. Speaking of the theatre, Mrs Hood tells me that the visit to Bristol Hippodrome to enjoy "...& Juliet" was a great success.

Clubs and Activities

Monday, 20th January

- * Sew Crafty Club, G4, 12.55m
- * Fitness (All), Gym, 12.55 – 1.25pm
- * Table Tennis Years 7/8, Sports Hall, 12.55pm
- * U15 Girls Lady Taverners Indoor Cricket Competition, 1.30pm

Tuesday, 21st January

- * Girls Cricket, Sports Hall, 12.55 – 1.25pm
- * Theatre Trip to Blood Brothers, 4.30pm for 7.30pm Performance, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre
- * Beyond Sixth Form, 6th Form Break Out Room, 6pm

Wednesday, 22nd January

- * Science Club, Lab G17, 1.00pm
- * Shakespeare School Festival In School Workshop, Main Hall, 1.00-3.20pm
- * Rehearsals Antony & Cleopatra, Hall, 3.20-5pm

Thursday, 23rd January

- * Eco-Committee, T6, 1.00 – 1.30pm
- * Girls Football, Astro, 12.55 – 1.25pm
- * Badminton Club (All), Sports Hall 12.55pm

Friday, 24th January

- * Basketball Club (All), Sports Hall, 12.55pm
- * Boys Football 12.55- 1.25pm
Years 7/8 Week 1
Years 10/11 Week 2



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Also this week, we've had House Basketball. Thanks to Mr Edgell and the team for all the organisation and commitment that goes into the house matches. They are a vital part of school life and provide great opportunities for our students to achieve and exceed. The games were a delight to watch, and I wish I had been able to stay for the whole competition.

It has also been a pleasure to see the team from the Hollie Gazzard Trust doing workshops around knife crime awareness. This is a really powerful and important piece of work. Finally, while Year 12 have continued with their mocks this week, Year 11 have received their mock exam results in a special assembly on Thursday. These results give them a great opportunity to think about their next steps in life and what they now need to do to realise those steps. Coming hot on the heels of the post-16 interviews carried out last week, our Year 11's can now see the areas in which they will need to progress in order to make their ambitions into reality.

Before we get into any of that, there is an update from our Chair of Trustees, Chris Germaine, regarding Mrs Burke's absence.

Once again, thank you for your continued support in all that we do at Newent to embed our HEART Values. We greatly appreciate it!

Mr Nicklin,
Vice Principal

Trustees' Update

Dear Parents

On behalf of the Trustees, I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on the Principal's absence from school.

Unfortunately, Mrs Burke is currently unwell and is spending time recuperating. We hope to welcome Mrs Burke back at the start of February.

In the meantime, Mr Phillips and Mr Nicklin, Vice Principals, are leading the school.

Yours sincerely

Chris Germaine



NEWENT NEWS

LIBRARY NEWS

Book club sign up is open!

All Year 7-9 students are welcome. We are kicking off with 3 fantastic books this year so please do sign up!

Book club will be from 1pm, as follows:

Mon - Y7

Tues - Y8

Weds - Y9

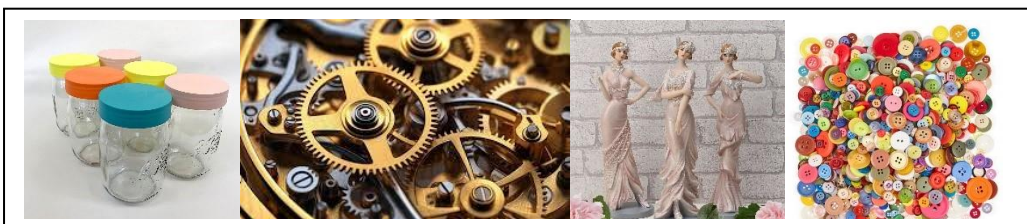
Thursday/Fridays - will be focusing on study sessions for Y10/11s with emphasis on revision ahead of exams.

The library is a safe space for many students who will of course be welcome regardless of activities/year groups, provided they adhere to the library rules.



ARTS

Are you having a clear out for the new year? If so, please think of donating to us here in the Art Department before throwing things away. We love to recycle items and make use of them where we can. In particular we are looking for any unwanted small ornaments and figurines, old discoloured distressed books/pages, buttons and beads, lolly pop sticks, small clear plastic tubs/jars with lids, storage boxes and small metal objects such as broken watches.





NEWENT NEWS

21st GLOUCESTERSHIRE Young Photographer of the Year 2025



We invite all Gloucestershire pupils to enter **ONE** Image - any subject

PRIMARY & SECONDARY AWARDS

FIRST PRIZE £70
& RUNNER UP CASH PRIZES

Best Secondary & Primary School Entry
GYP TROPHY

ENTRIES CLOSE
**FRIDAY
MARCH
7th**

Please submit your entry to your school representative before the closing date

SELECTED IMAGES will be CINEMA PROJECTED at the Awards evening, CHELTENHAM PLAYHOUSE on Tuesday April 29th

For further information ask your teacher or visit:
www.cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk
email: GYP@cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk

Organised by Cheltenham Camera Club
Supported by Cheltenham Arts Council
& Cheltenham Round Table

HITZ

The brilliant rugby initiative, run by Gloucester RFC and Hartpury College, continued apace this week with a fresh group of students getting involved, developing their social skills, their sporting acumen, and their leadership skills.

HITZ is Gloucester Rugby Foundations award-winning education and employability programme, in partnership with Premiership Rugby and YMCA, offers a relaxed environment targeted at 16- to 19-year-olds, who want to have fun whilst improving their functional maths and English, develop valuable life skills and gain important qualifications alongside enrichment and sporting activities.

We had a cohort of students complete a taster for this program at school back before Christmas. The providers were so impressed, they have extended the program with us to give two further groups of students the same brilliant opportunity. Thanks to Mr Edgell for all his work to organise and co-ordinate this work.



NEWENT NEWS

Honourable Mention

We are delighted to receive the news that former NCS alumnus, Mads Howard, has been awarded an MBE in the most recent New Year's Honours list. This follows on from the news that our friend and supporter Nick Gazzard was awarded the OBE for his work at the head of the Hollie Gazzard Trust.

Mads, who attended the school from 2007 until 2014, has been awarded her medal for services to the cyber-security industry and we are very much looking forward to a visit from her and some opportunities for students to learn more about the cutting-edge technology that she works with. Mr Worgan, Head of ICT and Computing, is putting plans together to facilitate a visit as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mads on such an incredible achievement. Another example of outstanding achievement from within the student body at Newent, and a great reminder to all of our current students that hard work and determination can pay off in unexpected ways!





NEWENT NEWS

Year 9 Camp 2025

Countdown to YEAR 9 CAMP!

Please see the letter on Satchel about Year 9 camp 2025. We are returning to Mendip Base Camp in Somerset for our under-canvas adventure in June. There will be 2 separate camps 16th – 18th June and 18th – 20th June.

The trip for each student is 3 days / 2 nights per student and includes a range of activities, coach transport, food and camping with tent provided.

Places are on a first come, first served basis and Parent Pay will open on Friday 17th January for deposit payments. The cost is £210 per student. Financial support is available - please contact the finance office for information.





NEWENT NEWS

Antony & Cleopatra

Following on from the overwhelming success of 'Shrek' our Drama Department is now taking part in the 2025 Shakespeare Schools Festival. Rehearsals are already underway, with a cast and crew of 35 students, for a performance of 'Antony and Cleopatra'. The show will be performed, for one night only, at The Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury on Wednesday 12th March. To support the young people involved please buy your ticket directly from The Roses either by visiting their website [Shakespeare Schools Festival | The Roses](#) or via their Box Office on 01684 295074



"..... & Juliet"

On Wednesday 15th January, we took a Drama trip to see '& Juliet' at the Bristol Hippodrome. We often go on drama trips to enjoy various musicals throughout the year, but this one was special because it included students from all year groups. Some of us had been on these trips for years, while others were experiencing the magic of professional theatre for the first time.

'& Juliet' offers a colourful and creative twist on Shakespeare's famous story of 'Romeo and Juliet'. It features songs from popular artists like Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys, and Katy Perry. This modern version of a classic tale celebrates love and reminds us that we can all shape our own futures.

I highly suggest that anyone who loves going to the theatre should go and watch this show. It's one-of-a-kind nature makes for an enjoyable experience for everyone. Thanks to Mrs Hood and the team for organising it. One of the many things I will miss about Newent Community School, when I leave Year 13 in the summer, is the amazing opportunities provided by the performing arts team.

Written by Head Student Gia



NEWENT NEWS

Could You Rescue a Dog ?

The BAFTA-nominated Channel 4 series, The Dog House, is about to return for a new series. Described as one of the most heart-warming programmes on TV, we are starting the search again for people who can offer a loving home to a rescue dog and share their reasons for doing so. We wondered if you might be able to help?

In previous series, we found that there were many reasons people might consider bringing a rescue dog into their life; to help combat loneliness, extra company for a child, to encourage getting out more. For children specifically, having a dog in your home has been proven to help with social skills and impulse control, and even improve self-esteem. Dogs are always happy to see you when you get home from school, and their love is unconditional - the ideal confidant and an ever-willing playmate!

Could you provide a loving home for a rescue dog? The Dog House is looking for couples, individuals, friends and families who are seriously considering bringing a rescue dog into their lives and are willing to share their reasons for doing so. Apply now, see details below.



HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO

COULD YOU RESCUE A DOG?
ON CHANNEL 4'S HIT SHOW

the Dog House



APPLY NOW

WWW.CHANNEL4.COM/4VIEWERS/TAKEPART/THE-DOG-HOUSE



NEWENT NEWS

For information or queries about your young person and school please do contact their tutor in the first instance.

For other queries please use the emails below:

General Enquires	reception@newent.gloucs.sch.uk
Attendance Queries	attendance@newent.gloucs.sch.uk
Safeguarding Queries	dsl@newent.gloucs.sch.uk
Finance Queries	finance@newent.gloucs.sch.uk
Bus Pass Queries	buspass@newent.gloucs.sch.uk
Data protection Queries	dpo@newent.gloucs.sch.uk