



# NEWENT NEWS

## Message from our Principal

At the weekend I went for a walk in the countryside, enjoyed a refreshing bubble tea by the canal and watched the ducks. The bank was lined with fisherman. I kicked off my sliders and sank my bare toes into the grass. On Wednesday morning, I drove to school through flurries of snow! This week, we have been really proud of our Year 11 cohort who have really knuckled down to their final set of mock exams, working hard to manage the stresses of the process and demonstrate what they know. Well done, Year 11! A plea to parents of Year 11s in particular, but also to any parent who has a rapidly growing teenager: we are always on the hunt for uniform to top up our pre-loved shop. Donations are greatly appreciated. More information about the pre-loved shop is contained elsewhere in this issue. We have high standards for uniform at Newent and appreciate the support of parents in ensuring students are dressed correctly. We are always willing to support where appropriate. There is also some information about free-school meal provision during the Easter break. Last week, I mentioned that it was great to see so many of our students engaged in House Swimming. The details and results can also be found in this week's edition. We also had a wide range of visitors from varying walks of life in to talk to students about different careers choices. Like many of the students, I was bewitched by the visit from a police dog and have decided that I would like to be a police dog when I grow up. Thanks to Miss Jones and the team for all the incredible work that went into this event. Next week is Neuro-Diversity Celebration Week. Miss Brown has provided further detail about this important annual event in this week's edition. We will also be supporting Comic Relief and Mrs Taylor has provided some information about how students can get involved to support such a worthwhile cause. I'll leave you with thoughts of the delicious cooking done by our Year 13 Catering students. Read on for further detail.

Best Wishes,

Rob Nicklin  
Vice Principal

## Clubs and Activities

### Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March

- \* Yr 11 and 13 Mock Exams
- \* Sew Crafty Club, G4, 12.55m
- \* Fitness (All), Gym, 12.55 – 1.25pm
- \* Table Tennis Years 7/8, Sports Hall, 12.55pm
- \* Girls Rugby practice, 3.30pm

### Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March

- \* Yr 11 and 13 Mock Exams
- \* Girls Cricket, Sports Hall, 12.55 – 1.25pm
- \* Yrs 7 & 8 Football (H)

### Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March

- \* Yr 11 and 13 Mock Exams

### Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> March

- \* Yr 11 and 13 Mock Exams
- \* Girls Football, Astro, 12.55 – 1.25pm
- \* Badminton Club (All), Sports Hall 12.55pm
- \* Yrs 8 & 9 Girls Football (A)
- \* Yr 7 Boys Football 3.30pm
- \* Yr 9 Parents Evening, 4.30 - 7.00pm

### Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> March

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



# NEWENT NEWS

## Uniforms

Thank you to our families for ensuring that our children are provided with the correct uniform to wear to school. Wearing our uniform with pride demonstrates our values of Teamwork and Excellence. We have two external suppliers of our school uniform, who are [Monkhouse](#) in Gloucester and [Gooch Sports](#) in Newent. For further information regarding our uniform please find information here:

### [Uniform | Newent Community School](#)

If you have any concerns regarding being able to provide your child with the correct uniform please make contact with their tutor in the first instance and we will do what we can to support.

## Preloved Uniform

Whilst, we have a Preloved Uniform online shop. All items are heavily discounted to help support our families so please do take a look [here](#).

Thank you for all of the kind donations we have and continue to receive, they are essential to maintain the stock within our preloved shop. If you are able to support the school, any washed, preloved uniform donations can be brought into reception during normal school hours.

## Year 13 Cooking Challenge

Since Christmas our Year 13 PSHE lessons have had a 'life skills' focus. Previously the students have had the opportunity to sew, iron and change a tyre on a car. This month the students will be taking part in a cooking challenge based on cooking on a budget. Working in pairs the students had £5 to spend and cook a meal of their choice. See below some photos of the delightful meals produced by the students - a great chance for those who plan on progressing to university in September!





# NEWENT NEWS

## **Annual House Swim Gala**

The annual swimming gala between the three school houses—Collingwood, Mountbatten and Nelson—was held on 7th March. It brought together students of all ages and abilities to compete.

Swimmers from each house competed in a variety of events, including individual sprints, relays, and medley races. Students from all year groups participated, ensuring a mix of both seasoned swimmers and enthusiastic newcomers. The houses were represented by a dedicated squad, each eager to bring home the trophy.

Despite the fierce competition, the camaraderie between the houses was evident. Spectators cheered loudly for every participant, and the houses supported each other with enthusiasm, especially during the relays. The team spirit was high, with chants and cheers filling the air. The gala was, once again, a resounding success, with many standout performances and great sportsmanship throughout the day. The event not only highlighted the individual talent of swimmers but also emphasized the importance of teamwork, dedication, and community spirit. We look forward to next year's gala, where we expect even more participation and competitive swimming.

After an exciting series of races, the final scores were tallied. The competition between the houses was incredibly close, but Mountbatten emerged as the winners. Nelson finished in second place, and Collingwood came in third, each putting up a tremendous fight throughout the morning.

We would like to thank the students that took part and the PE Department for ensuring the success of the gala.

### **Overall**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mountbatten (252 points)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nelson (183 points)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Collingwood (148 points)

### **Year 9 and 10**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nelson (88 points)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mountbatten (78 points)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Collingwood (46 points)

### **Year 8**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mountbatten (78 points)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Collingwood (68 points)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nelson (42 points)

### **Year 7**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mountbatten (96 points)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nelson (53 points)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Collingwood (34 points)



# NEWENT NEWS

## Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Next week we will be celebrating our differences, with Neurodiversity Celebration Week. The week will challenge stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences, offering greater insight into different ways of thinking. As an inclusive and equitable community here at Newent, we celebrate differences and empower every individual. We will be hosting a student Neurodiversity forum next week, inviting in the first instance, our ADHD and ASC students to share their unique perspective on the world.

For more information visit [www.neurodiversityweek.com](http://www.neurodiversityweek.com)



## Information Regarding Spring Holidays FSM Vouchers

We would like to make you aware of the holiday Free School Meal (FSM) voucher scheme that Gloucestershire County Council is currently offering to families in Gloucestershire.

Applications for holiday FSM vouchers for the Spring (Easter) Holidays 2025 will be open from midday 18 March until midday on 1 April. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing 7 April.

Please check your junk/spam folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there.

If parents have not received their vouchers by 14 April, please submit a query via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#)

This Spring (Easter), Gloucestershire County Council will provide families in receipt of Free School Meals, who sign up to this offer, with vouchers to assist with food costs during the school holidays. The vouchers are funded through grant funding we have received, and they are separate to that of term time free school meals.



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The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. **We are unable to consider college and sixth form students, nor children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2) - they are not eligible for this scheme.**

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of £15 per child.

To find out more about the scheme and to apply, parents can visit [FAQs | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

**Families who have signed up previously do not need to re-register for Spring (Easter) 2025 holiday vouchers** - will already have been included. Families that have previously signed up will need to contact us with any changes to their circumstances (e.g. if the number of children eligible increases or decreases). To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

Please note we check eligibility for the scheme by cross-referencing with the term-time free school meal register, so please make sure you are registered beforehand. You can register by visiting the [apply for free school meals](#) page. You can find more information on what schools these are on the link above.

**Using vouchers** – vouchers need to be used will only be awarded once the parent has registered for the scheme and cannot be backdated. Vouchers are valid for 6 months, although should be used in the holiday period in which they are awarded. If vouchers are not claimed and have expired, they cannot be re-issued. Vouchers not received should be queried via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) by the end of the holiday period.

**For any parents wishing to update details of an existing application, please ask them to submit an update existing details request via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) so we can update their account, as details are not automatically updated.**



# NEWENT NEWS

## National Careers Week

Last week we hosted an event at school for National Careers Week. Miss Jones (Careers Lead) had the task to invite a variety of local businesses, Colleges and Universities into the school to give the students from Years 7 to 13 the opportunity to be inspired for life after school.

We would like to say a massive thank you to Ask Apprenticeships, Oxford Brookes, Hairdressing by LG, MKM, The Army, Ontic, The Kitchen Broker, Glos College, Police with their dog (Dog Handling Team), Gloucestershire Fire Service - with their truck, Forest Sports and Prostar's, The DofE team, Safran, University of Gloucestershire, Meister - Stone Masonry, Herefordshire College, Stroud College and Hartpury College.

They all came prepared with a challenge that related to their industry which allowed our students to get a real taste of what they do.

There were also a few competitions, The Kitchen Broker asked students to guess how many dowels were in the jar to win a large basket of goodies. Miss Newcombe came up with guess how many jelly worms are in the jar to win them'. Mr. McCarthy came up with a quiz about our visitors to try to persuade the students to interact to win easter eggs and packs of mini eggs. This went down very well on Monday when Miss Jones took the winners their prizes during class.

It really was a great week, and our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Looking forward to doing it all over again next year





# NEWENT NEWS

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

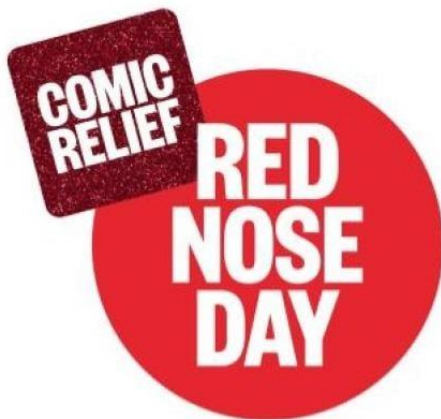
The 2026/27 school holidays have been published by GCC:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/augcrvwy/gloucestershire-school-term-dates-and-holidays-for-academic-year-2026-27.pdf>

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/pptcdcn/gloucestershire-school-term-dates-and-holidays-for-academic-year-2025-26.pdf>

[SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL JUNE JULY AUGUST Gloucestershire County Council](#)

**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS** Mon 1 8 15 22 29 Mon 6 13 20 27 Mon 3 10 17 24 Tues 2 9 16 23 30  
Tues 7 14 21 28 Tues 4 11 18 25 Wed 3 10 17 24 Wed 1 8 15 22 29 Wed 5 12 19 ...



**FRIDAY 21 MARCH**

We will be marking Comic Relief 2025 by allowing students to wear red on Friday 21st March. This may be a red jumper, red nose, red hair band, red hat etc. All other school uniform should be worn as normal. We will accept donations via our usual ParentPay channels. Many thanks for your support for this national charitable event.



# NEWENT NEWS

## NEWENT ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERT



**On The Side!**



***F. Schubert, Overture in the Italian Style***  
***C. Saint-Saëns, Rapsodie Bretonne***  
***W. Herschel, Symphony No. 20***  
***A. Dvořák, Symphony No. 8***

**29 March, 2025, 2:30 p.m.**  
**Newent Community School**

**Tickets £10, students free**  
**Includes interval refreshment**

**Conductor, Tobias Lazenbury-Halliwell**  
**Leader, Bill Anderton**

***Book a table and bring your own picnic!***  
***(see website)***

**[www.newentorchestra.org/concert.html](http://www.newentorchestra.org/concert.html)**

**Programme:**



**Tickets:**



**HMRC Charity No. EW01917**





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**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	<a href="mailto:reception@newent.gloucs.sch.uk">reception@newent.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Attendance Queries	<a href="mailto:attendance@newent.gloucs.sch.uk">attendance@newent.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Safeguarding Queries	<a href="mailto:dsl@newent.gloucs.sch.uk">dsl@newent.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Finance Queries	<a href="mailto:finance@newent.gloucs.sch.uk">finance@newent.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Bus Pass Queries	<a href="mailto:buspass@newent.gloucs.sch.uk">buspass@newent.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Data protection Queries	<a href="mailto:dpo@newent.gloucs.sch.uk">dpo@newent.gloucs.sch.uk</a>