



NEWENT NEWS

ISSUE 33

Message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

It is a privilege to join Newent Community School as your new Headteacher. I am inspired by the dedication, care and effort that I've already seen in our vibrant community, and I am excited to be part of the school's journey towards excellence.

Our HEART values—Honesty, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, Teamwork, guide everything we do and will shape the future of our school under my leadership.

I believe that every student deserves a rich, ambitious education. We will continue to offer teaching that challenges our students, develops their skills, and builds their confidence, preparing them for success beyond Newent.

My Commitment to Newent

- To champion honesty, fostering an open culture where learning and improvement are celebrated.
- To drive excellence, ensuring teaching is purposeful and challenging.
- To uphold accountability, measuring impact and responding promptly.
- To promote respect in every corner of our school.
- To unite our community, working shoulder-to-shoulder for the benefit of every student.

As part of our commitment to raising standards across all areas of Newent Community School, we recently dedicated two full days of staff training to deepen our focus on teaching and learning. Staff engaged in rich professional development centred on evidence-based strategies that support students in recalling prior learning and embedding new knowledge more effectively.

Clubs and Activities

Monday, 8th September

Tuesday, 9th September

- * SEN Parent Coffee Morning
11.15am—12pm
- * Yr12 Information Evening 6—7pm
- * Auditions for Charlie + the Chocolate Factory, G15

Wednesday, 10th September

- * Auditions for Charlie + the Chocolate Factory, G15

Thursday, 11th September

- * Auditions for Charlie + the Chocolate Factory, G15

Friday, 12th September

- * Yr7 Taster Workshop for Charlie + the Chocolate Factory



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These approaches, designed to strengthen memory, boost engagement, and improve outcomes, will be woven into classroom practice to ensure every student benefits from high-quality, purposeful teaching. This is a key step in our journey towards excellence, and I am confident it will have a lasting impact on our learners. My Senior Leadership Team have already observed some excellent practice across the school, and we are now embarking on a series of focused lesson drop-ins. These are designed to further support our staff in refining their craft and ensuring that every student receives the highest quality learning experience. It's part of our shared commitment to continuous improvement and to making every classroom a place where students thrive.



I look forward to meeting you at one of our many events and working with you to support our children to achieve their very best.

Mr Dumayne
Headteacher



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Attendance Matters

As we begin a new academic year at Newent, we're excited to welcome back our students and families. This year we continue to focus on the key message that **every day in school counts**.

You may have seen a recent BBC report that highlights that students with high attendance are significantly more likely to succeed both academically and financially. Just a few extra days off can reduce the chances of meeting expected standards and over time, this often impacts future earnings by thousands of pounds. You may have also heard in the news that week that more than half of pupils who missed part of the first week of school in 2024 went on to become persistently absent.

Persistently absent students have less than 90% attendance, missing 1 day a fortnight on average. This lost learning time equates to over 19 days missed in a year, that's over 114 lessons. This learning often cannot be recovered and does lasting damage to the foundations that all future knowledge is built upon.

The Education Secretary has warned that even missing a day or two early in the term can lead to long-term absence, with serious consequences for a child's learning and future life chances.

At Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre, we link this to our HEART values of Accountability and Teamwork. Being present is about taking responsibility for our learning, and working together with our students, families, and staff to create the best possible start to the year is truly important. If your child has any concerns about attending school please do contact us as we are here to listen, support, and find solutions together.

We are looking forward to working with you over the coming year to ensure that your child is happy, confident and thriving both academically and socially.

Thank you,

Kirsty Gordelier
Assistant Principal

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL THE IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE



Missing just a few days can impact achievement



Pupils with poor attendance fall behind



Attending regularly leads to better outcomes



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PSHE Corner

As a part of your child's education at Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

During Term 1 we will be studying the following:

Year Group	Topic	Lessons to include
7	Resilience and Self-Esteem	Personal identity, British values, positive thinking, confidence, self-esteem.
8	Identity and Relationships	Positive, healthy relationships Persuasion, pressure and coercion Sexting.
9	Peer Influence and Gangs	Healthy and unhealthy social groups, assertiveness, gangs, exploitation.
10	Financial Decision Making	The impact of financial decisions, debt, gambling and the impact of advertising on financial choices.
11	Health choices and independence	Responsible health choices, reproductive health, miscarriage, self-examination and screening.

If you have any questions please email:

lgibbs@newent.gloucs.sch.uk



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Calling all Y7s-Y13s, It's Audition Time!

Tuesday 9th September 3.30-4.30pm
6th Form and Year 11, G15.

Wednesday 10th September 3.30-4.30pm
Year 9 and 10, G15.

Thursday 11th September 3.30-4.30pm
Year 8, G15.

Friday 12th September at 1pm Workshop
for Year 7 in G15

All interested crew members should e-mail Mrs
Hood by Friday 12th September at the latest.

Originally produced on Broadway by Dreamworks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions. Based on the Dreamworks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig.
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.co.uk



Sixth Form Leadership Team

Over the next few editions of Newent News we would like to introduce each member of our new Sixth Form leadership team - this week we have started with Alys who is Principal Student and Ellie who is Deputy Principal Student:

Alys:

How long have you been at Newent?

Since Year 7

Describe Newent Sixth Form in three words?

Encouraging- teachers and peers encourage students to their greatest ability in all circumstances

Bespoke - smaller class sizes help us get the support we need from our subject teachers

Social- people get along well with each other and we have events throughout the year to promote a positive atmosphere

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

Austria ski trip 2020 & 2023 - I went on the seven-day Austria Ski trip in 2020 and 2023, before I had never been skiing so I was very nervous however the instructors were very helpful so I soon picked it up. As someone who was very uncoordinated it took a while but eventually I got it, ready for the second time in 2023!

Shrek and Nativity - I was part of Nativity in 2022 and Shrek last year, this experience was amazing, everyone was so talented and lovely, I learnt a lot about other people lower down in the school. It was nice to see them out of a classroom and Shrek really brought out the best in them.

Auschwitz trip - Myself and three A Level students went to Auschwitz for the day in March 2025, I do not think anyone can prepare you for a trip like this, it was very moving and emotional. A memorable experience I will definitely never forget.



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

I am anticipating to study social work at Queen's University Belfast, hopefully then pursuing a career in child social work as I really enjoy working with children. I also would like to make an impact on families as I've always loved to help people and make individuals feel better about themselves.



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Ellie:

How long have you been at Newent?

Since Year 7

Describe Newent Sixth Form in three words?

Welcoming - In my time being at Newent, specifically in the Sixth Form, I have noticed that the best part of the school is their ability to foster a welcoming environment for the pupils, everyone is really friendly and excited to meet new people and make them feel part of the team, this is especially important to the school due to our HEART value of teamwork.

Committed - The staff are committed to making sure that we all have the best final years at school and beyond, and are always there for students who have any worries or are struggling.

Student-centred - the Sixth Form is very big on being student voice led, and all the staff members and student leadership team are always there for anyone who has any concerns or ideas for improvement.

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

Since I've started at Newent, I've loved getting involved in a wide range of activities that support both staff and pupils. Some of the main activities I've been involved with are, volunteering in the PE department by supporting Year 7 lessons, helping staff during sports day, and also being a Year 11 prefect. I've also always enjoyed helping out at every open day, by guiding prospective students and their families around the school and sharing what makes Newent special.

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

My main plans at the moment are either going to university to study media, or doing an apprenticeship in either PR or HR. I've always had an interest with the different types of media that surrounds us on a daily basis, and after taking media studies as an A Level my appreciation of it has grown, leading me to want to further pursue my studies in that area. The other option of doing HR has stemmed from my passion in trying to resolve conflict and work with people, and after completing both of my Year 12 work experience placements in that sector, it has made me want to pursue a career in this field.

Ian McCarthy

Head of Sixth Form



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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	reception@newent.gloucs.sch.uk
Attendance and Absence 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