



NEWENT NEWS

ISSUE 18

Message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, where has the year gone? I can hardly believe that today marks the end of my first academic year as your Headteacher.

I would like to begin by saying a heartfelt thank you for the support you have shown me and our school throughout the year. I would also like to pay tribute to our fantastic students and dedicated staff. Every Headteacher will probably tell you that the children in their school are the best they have ever worked with, but I can honestly say that this is true of our school.

I have never worked in a school where the final week of the academic year has been so calm, purposeful and focused on learning right up until the very end. That is a real testament to the commitment of our students, the professionalism of our staff and the support of our families.

This year, we have made significant progress on our improvement journey. We have continued to strengthen the consistency of teaching, ensuring that we meet the needs of every learner, while embedding a whole-school focus on literacy and the importance of reading. These improvements are already making a positive difference, and we have much more to look forward to.

Over the year, I have had the pleasure of meeting many parents and carers. One message has come through consistently: we all want our school to continue improving. That is exactly my ambition too, and I feel incredibly fortunate to work alongside such a talented and committed team of colleagues who share that vision.

The past two weeks have been a wonderful way to end the year. We have celebrated our students through our Achievement Evening, recognised sporting success during Sports Days, enjoyed the Drama trip and, of course, our students have been making lifelong memories on the Normandy trip, returning home very shortly.

This week, colleagues asked me whether my impressions of the school have changed since I first visited before applying for the role last summer. My answer is yes. I knew this was a special school, but I now know that our staff, students and families have an even greater appetite for success than I first realised. That gives me enormous confidence and excitement as we look ahead to my second year as your Headteacher.

September will bring a number of exciting developments. We will introduce a new Key Stage 3 assessment model that will allow us to track progress more accurately and provide earlier support before students begin their GCSE courses.

Clubs and Activities

Tuesday 1st September

* INSET Day - closed to students

Wednesday 2nd September

* INSET Day - closed to students

Thursday 3rd September

* Year 7, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students return to school - 8.40am registration

Friday 4th September

* All year group students in school - 8.40am registration



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We will continue to enhance our approaches to teaching and learning, marking and feedback, while further reviewing our already ambitious curriculum to ensure it provides the very best education for every child.

Alongside these developments, I have been working on a clear whole-school vision that reflects the journey we are on together. As part of this, I have decided that our previous strapline, Striving for Excellence, no longer fully captures our aspirations. From September, our new motto will be:

Ambition. Opportunity. Success.

These three words represent what we want every member of our community, students and staff alike, to experience every day.

At the end of this academic year, we also say farewell to a small number of valued colleagues. We thank them sincerely for their dedication and service to our school and wish them every success in the future:

- Miss Ingram – Teaching Assistant
- Mr Woodward – Teacher of Art
- Mrs Woodward – Teacher of Art
- Mrs James – Head of Design Technology
- Mr Harries – Teacher of English

Today we also celebrate colleagues who have reached significant milestones in their service to our school.

Congratulations to Mr Phillips, Deputy Headteacher, and Mrs George, Head of Year 7, who have each completed 10 years of dedicated service.

We also recognise Mrs Jiles, Teacher of PE, who celebrates 20 years of commitment to our school community.

Finally, we honour two colleagues whose dedication spans an incredible 30 years: Mr Edgell, Head of PE, and Mr Morley. It is impossible to overstate the contribution these colleagues have made to generations of young people, and we thank them for everything they have given to our school.

As we begin the summer break, I wish every family a happy, safe and restful holiday. I hope our Year 11 and Sixth Form students receive the results they deserve on 13 August and 20 August, and I look forward to celebrating their achievements with them.

Take this opportunity to rest, recharge and enjoy time with your family and friends. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year as we continue our journey together.

I am incredibly proud to be your Headteacher, and I am very proud of every member of our school community.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Have a wonderful summer.

Warm regards
Mr B Dumayne
Headteacher



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Attendance Matters:

We are delighted that attendance across the school has continued to improve this year, reflecting the commitment of our students, families, and staff to ensuring every child has the best opportunity to succeed. This positive trend demonstrates our HEART values of **Honesty, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, and Teamwork**, and we would like to thank everyone for their support in making attendance a priority. Regular attendance is essential, as missing just one day of school means missing six lessons of learning. Lost learning can quickly impact academic progress and outcomes, as well as students' ability to maintain positive relationships, feel connected to their peers, and participate fully in the wider life of the school. We kindly remind families to plan holidays during the published school holiday periods and to refer to the school calendar when making arrangements.

Today, we are proud to celebrate the excellent attendance of many of our students during our end-of-term House Celebration Assemblies, recognising their dedication and commitment throughout the year. We are also looking forward to introducing some exciting new attendance awards in the new academic year. Thank you for your continued support, and we wish all our students, families, and staff a safe, peaceful, and enjoyable summer break.

School term dates can be found here: [Term-Dates-26-27.pdf](#)

Message from Heads Of House:

As Heads of Collingwood, Mountbatten and Nelson, we were delighted to celebrate the achievements of our students during today's End of Term Celebration Assemblies. These special events recognise and celebrate success across all aspects of school life, including academic achievement, excellent attendance, house points, house sport and Sports Day, sports colours, leadership, Hollie Gazzard Trust awards, and many other contributions. We are incredibly proud of all of our students and would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to represent their house throughout this academic year. Every day, our young people demonstrate our HEART values through their kindness, resilience, ambition and commitment to others, and it is a privilege to celebrate their many accomplishments.

We wish all of our students and families a happy and restful summer break.

Message from Music:

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to a number of our talented Music students for their outstanding contributions over the past few weeks. A special thank you goes to Tilly, Sam, Megan, Frankie and Phoebe for their fantastic piano performances at our Achievement Evening. Their musical talent and confidence helped make the evening a memorable celebration of success. We would also like to thank Kacie, Mia, Emily and Frankie for giving up their time to perform at the Newent Food and Drink Festival on Saturday 11th July. They represented the school brilliantly and were a real credit to our community. The continued commitment, enthusiasm and dedication shown by all of these students towards the Music Department is greatly appreciated and truly valued.

Thank you for being such wonderful ambassadors for our school.



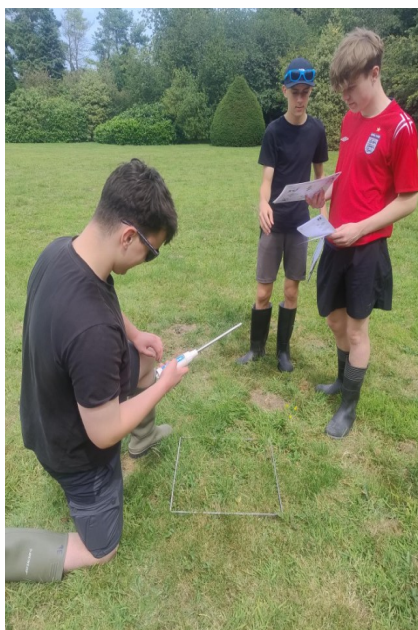
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Geography News:

Our Yr 12 Geography students have just returned from an exceptionally busy and rewarding three-day residential to the Holderness Coast in Yorkshire, packed with hands-on fieldwork, coastal investigations and advanced data analysis. The purpose of the trip was for students to learn and practise the fieldwork methods they will need to complete their own independent investigation over the summer. This forms 20% of their final A-Level Geography grade, so gaining confidence with these techniques was an essential part of the visit.

Monday 6th July. Students began their fieldwork in Kirby Grindalythe, investigating how different land uses affect the water and carbon cycles. They collected data on infiltration, humidity and carbon stored in trees, vegetation and soil and discussed how river discharge and stream carbon could also be measured. This gave them a strong foundation for understanding how landscapes function. In the evening, students were introduced to the 'Route to Enquiry', learning how geographers present and analyse data, including using dispersion diagrams and the Mann-Whitney U statistical test.



Tuesday 7th July. The group explored the Holderness Coast, one of Europe's fastest-eroding coastlines, comparing defended and undefended areas and seeing first-hand how sea defences influence erosion at Hornsea against the unprotected land at Skipsea and Mappleton where unconsolidated glacial deposits see the largest volume of recession. In the afternoon they moved to Flamborough Head to complete a beach profile and sediment study, investigating how pebble size changes with distance from the sea. In the evening, a statistics workshop introduced students to key geographical tests such as Chi-squared, Mann-Whitney U and Spearman's Rank, helping them understand how to choose the right test for different types of data.



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Wednesday 8th July. Students spent the day in Scarborough exploring sense of place, using both qualitative and quantitative techniques such as word pictures, emotional mapping, non-participant observation and the Great Places Wheel. They later returned to the centre to learn how to present and analyse their findings using ArcGIS and coding methods.

Despite long days and sessions running until 8.30pm, students remained focused and committed. Their attitude, effort and teamwork were exceptional and they were a credit to the school.



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History News:

On Thursday 9th July, 47 Year 8 students travelled south to Bristol to visit an iconic ship, the SS Great Britain.

The SS Great Britain was a groundbreaking British ship, renowned as the world's first screw-propelled, ocean-going, iron-hulled vessel. Designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, it launched in 1843 and played a significant role in maritime history, serving as a transatlantic liner, an emigrant clipper, a troop ship, and even a cargo vessel before becoming a coal storage ship in the Falkland Islands. Eventually, it was salvaged and returned to Bristol, where it now serves as a museum ship.

On arrival we were split into two groups, each of which did a tour of the ship and a workshop on some of the passengers who travelled on the ship at various points in its history, and for various reasons.

After lunch we had ample time to visit another exhibition called "Being Brunel", as well as seeing the underneath of the ship and time in the shop, which was much enjoyed by all.

This was the second time that we have ran this trip and I will definitely be looking to do so again for our current Year 7s. All of the students behaved well and I thank those other staff involved for their support - Miss Gibbs, Mrs Smith and Miss Kelly.

Mr I Woodward (Head of History)





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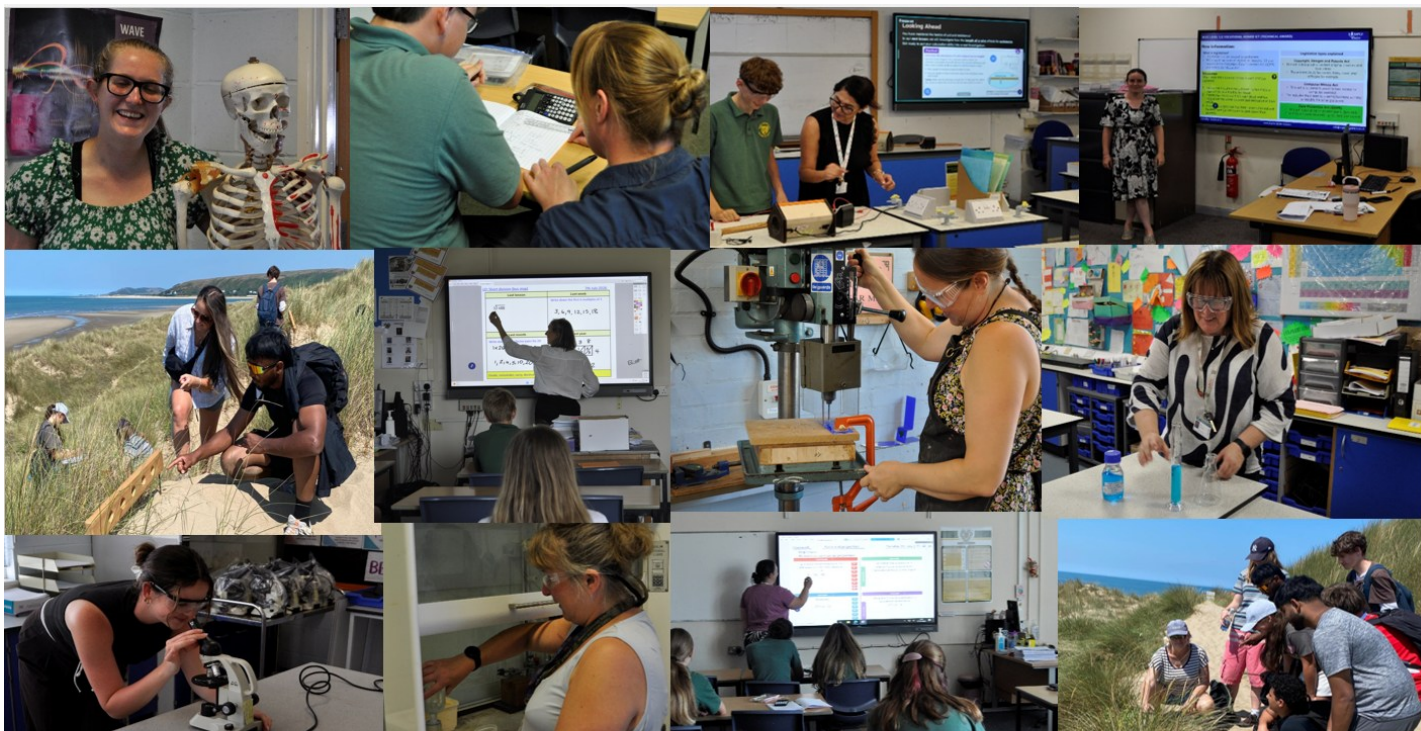
Anti Misogyny Week:

Last week, we held an Anti-Misogyny Week with a range of activities across departments, encouraging students to reflect on equality, respect and the role we all play in challenging harmful attitudes.

Each subject area explored the achievements, experiences and contributions of women within their field. A particular highlight was the Art Department's "N2M: No to Misogyny" installation, which gave students a creative platform to raise awareness and promote their ideas on how to call out misogyny. In PSHE, students examined why some people develop misogynistic attitudes, discussed how to be active bystanders by safely challenging and calling out sexism, and explored the importance of positive masculinity in creating respectful and inclusive environments.

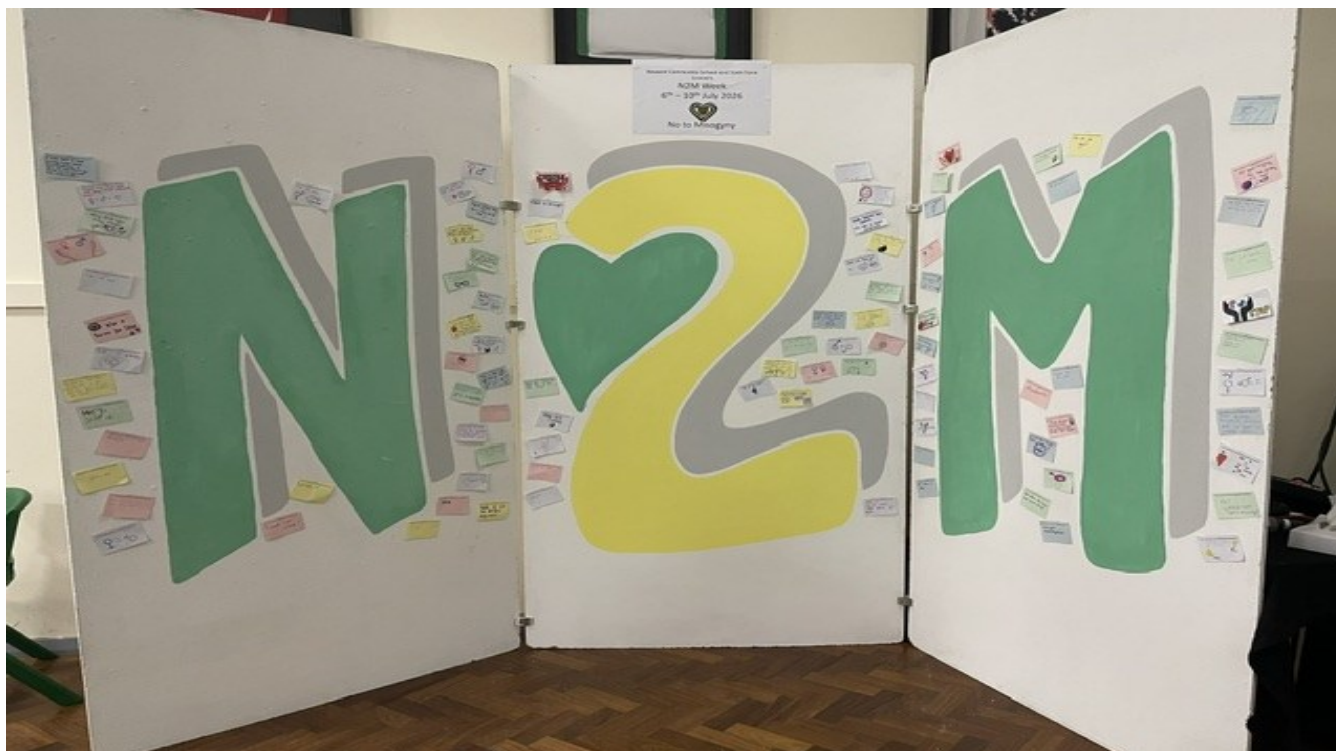
Meanwhile, the ICT Department investigated the influence of the online manosphere, helping students to think critically about the content they encounter online and understand how digital spaces can shape attitudes and behaviours.

Anti-Misogyny Week provided valuable opportunities for learning, discussion and reflection, reinforcing our school's commitment to respect, equality and creating a culture where everyone feels safe, valued and heard. Throughout the week, students engaged with the topics with remarkable maturity, thoughtfulness and sensitivity. Discussions were respectful and reflective, with students demonstrating a genuine willingness to listen to different perspectives and consider how they can contribute to a more inclusive school community.



Celebrating our Wonderful Women in STEM during N2M Week

Art -N2M: NO TO MISOGYNY WEEK



Last week saw the school focus on issues around misogyny in our anti-misogyny week. In the Art department students learnt that violence against women often starts with words and the importance of calling out threatening behaviour towards women. We created an art installation, now displaying in the school main hall, highlighting simple phrases that can be used to make people think about their actions and words towards women. Well done to all those involved and those who contributed thoughtful discussions in class around the issue.





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What is Positive Masculinity?

- **Emotional strength** — being able to talk about feelings, ask for help, and support others
- **Respectful leadership** — using influence to uplift, not dominate
- **Healthy boundaries** — respecting others' space, choices, and consent
- **Courage with kindness** — standing up for others, not putting them down
- **Self-control** — managing anger and stress in constructive ways

PSHE



The Arts



- Lyrics from Taylor Swift's *The MAN* directly challenges the music industry's sexist double standards:
- "I'm so sick of running as fast as I can
Wondering if I'd get there quicker if I was a man"

Would modern life look the same without women in science?

- Women have made enormous contributions to science
- Many received less recognition than male colleagues.
- Today we will celebrate achievements and consider why representation matters.

- Marie Curie
- Rosalind Franklin
- Katherine Johnson
- Mary Anning
- Tu Youyou
- Jane Goodall
- Ada Lovelace
- Susan Gilbert

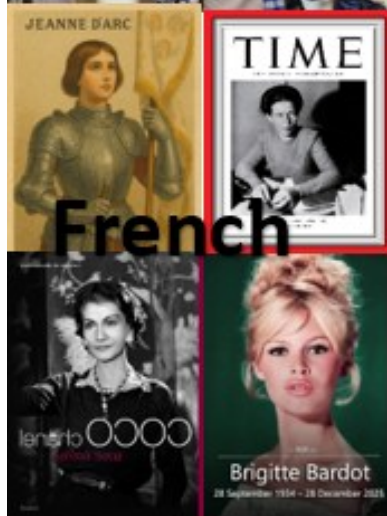


Science

PE



French



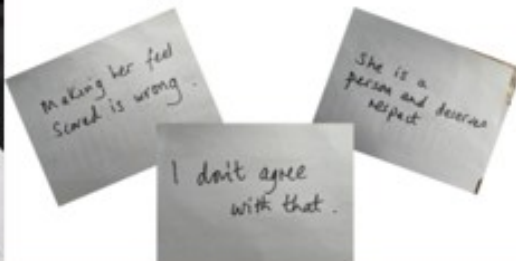
How would you call out misogynistic behaviour?

English



Maths

NASA Remembers
Katherine Johnson
1918 - 2020



What is the manosphere?

ICT



The Global Picture

Key facts:

- 1 in 3 women experience violence in their lifetime
- 129 million girls are out of school
- Women perform 76% of unpaid care work
- In 18 countries, husbands can legally prevent wives from working
- In 45 countries, there are no laws protecting women from domestic violence
- (These are all real UN/WHO statistics.)



Voices of Change

• Malala Yousafzai



• Narges Mohammadi



• Tarana Burke



[Malala's story - BBC News](#)

Pakistani education activist and youngest Nobel Peace Prize laureate, honoured at 17 for her fight against Taliban restrictions on girls' schooling. She survived a 2012 assassination attempt and she continues global advocacy for girls' education, human rights, and gender equality.

Iranian human rights activist and journalist - a leading opponent of the death penalty and compulsory hijab. Awarded the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize while imprisoned, she has faced 13 arrests, over 30 years in sentences, and serious health crises due to harsh prison conditions. Even from prison, she documents abuses, advocates for women, and inspires global solidarity.

American founder of the 'Me Too' movement, which she began in 2006 to support survivors of sexual violence, particularly women of colour.

Geography



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Forest Green Rovers Ammbassadors 2026/2027:



After whittling down the several brilliant applications, we now have our Forest Green Rovers Ambassadors for the 2026/2027 season!

A massive congratulations to our 4 students who will take up their role when we return in September.

Well done to Cooper (year 7), Riley (year 8), Toby (year 9) & Annalise (year 10).

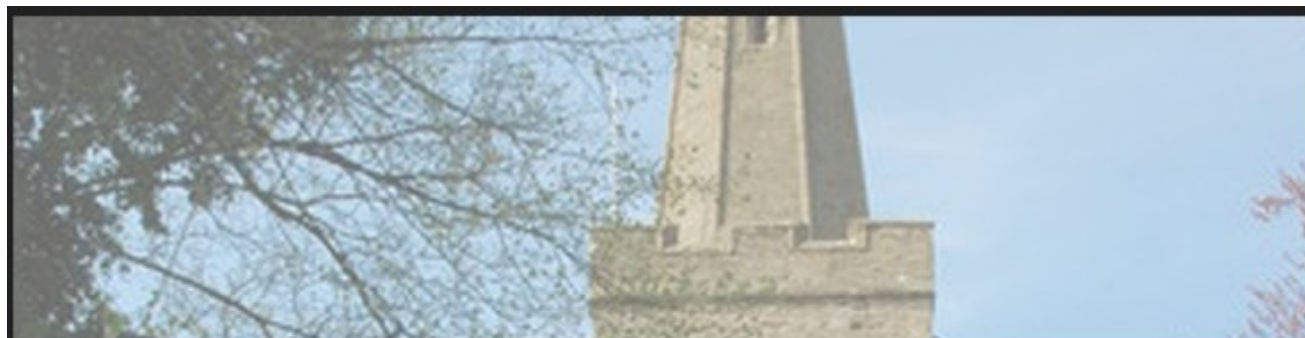
I am sure they will represent both Newent and FGR with commitment and panache.



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Free Summer Breakfast Club:



FREE SUMMER BREAKFAST CLUB!

Every Tuesday in the Summer Holidays

9-10am (July 21, 28, Aug 4, 11, 18, 25).

Drop in for **free** cereal, toast and drinks.

THE BACK ROOM
ST MARY'S CHURCH
NEWENT





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Back to School Dates:

Newent Community School & Sixth Form Centre

BACK TO SCHOOL!

SEPTEMBER RETURN DATES

THURSDAY
3RD SEPTEMBER
YEARS 7, 11, 12 & 13

FRIDAY
4TH SEPTEMBER
ALL YEAR GROUPS

WE CAN'T WAIT TO WELCOME YOU BACK!

Be Kind • Work Hard • Aim High



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Newent Community School
& Sixth Form Centre

Have a
Lovely
summer!

To our amazing students, dedicated
staff, and supportive families:

Thank you for a fantastic year.

Enjoy the summer break,
you've earned it!



Ambition, ♥ Opportunity, ♥ Success

