



The Newman

Your College Newsletter Issue 21 Christmas Edition 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

On Sunday Oct 13th 2019, I joined tens of thousands of fellow pilgrims in a mass to celebrate the canonisation of John Henry Newman. This took place in St Peter's Square in Rome.

It was a bright, stunningly beautiful day and I was there to represent our wonderful Harlesden School and the values of the Nineteenth century Cardinal. Visually the ceremony was phenomenal. Thousands of priests dressed in white, the presence of Pope Francis and the awe-inspiring architecture of Bernini's 17th Century Vatican plus the delightful singing gave much opportunity to reflect on the historic grandeur and magnificence of the Catholic Church. As I reflected on the life of St. John Henry Newman, however I came to appreciate a deeper resonance. This has in my view great efficacy for our Brent community.

In essence, Newman stood for equality. His motto, "Heart speaks unto heart", in my mind, says this: no matter, the superficial differences that we might have as humans we are all the same, our hearts beat, love, and feel pain in exactly the same way. We all therefore share a common humanitymoreover this simple and axiomatic statement needs to be the guiding principle in all our lives ... even when it is difficult!

This inclusiveness unites NCC and makes it such a happy, positive and productive environment in which to work and study. It underpins the school mission statement that, "Everyone counts, everyone contributes and everyone succeeds". I fundamentally believe that what happens on a day-to-day basis at our school illustrates the best of our human race. It raises the spirit and gives confidence to the belief that we can, together create a better world.

The autumn term 2019 has now ended. It has been a solid 4 months of hard work and high quality teaching and learning .We are all better human beings because of the past 16 weeks. It is however now time to rest, to be with and care for loved ones and to have some fun!

Thanks to all for the support and have a marvellous Christmas holiday.

See you all on January 7th 2020 for the start of a new term, year and decade.

Regards

Daniel Patrick Coyle

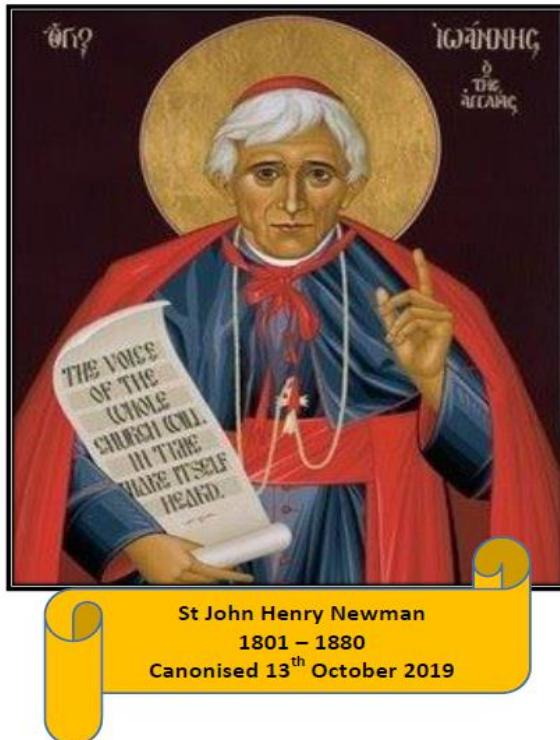




Chaplain's Report

Start of the New Year

The staff returned in September and new staff were welcomed. The new academic year was started with prayer and reflection. The Chaplain led the prayer session with staff participation. We reflected on the upcoming canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman. "God has created me to do Him some definite service. I have my mission. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work." What is our mission? What is the harvest of our labours? We asked God to bless our work, our staff, pupils and parents.



St John Henry Newman
1801 – 1880
Canonised 13th October 2019



"God has created me to do Him some definite service. I have my mission. He has committed to me some work which He has not committed to another. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between people. He has not created me for nothing. I shall do good; I shall do His work."



Prayer of Cardinal Newman
May the Almighty support me all day long,
Till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
Till the busy world is hushed,
The fever of life is over, and my work is done.
Then in His loving mercy may He give us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at that lasts. Amen.



St John Henry Newman,
Pray for us.



John Henry Newman, (21st Feb 1801-11 Aug 1890) was a priest, poet and theologian and later a cardinal, who was an important and controversial figure in the religious history of England in the 19th century. Originally an Oxford University academic and priest in the Church of England. In 1845 Newman, joined by some of his followers, left the Church of England and his teaching post at Oxford University and became a member of the Catholic Church. He was ordained as a priest and continued as an influential religious leader, based in Birmingham. In 1879, he was created a cardinal by Pope Leo XIII in recognition of his services to the cause of the Catholic Church in England. Newman founded the school for boys in Dublin which evolved into University College Dublin, today the largest university in Ireland.

From the latter half of 1886, his health began to fail, and he celebrated Mass for the last time on Christmas Day in 1889. On 11 Aug 1890, he died of pneumonia at the Birmingham Oratory. Eight days later his body was buried alongside Ambrose St. John in the cemetery at Rednal Hill, Birmingham.

Walk to Sainthood like Newman

- a. Newman had a deep trust in God and a sense of God's presence.
- b. He listened to God and followed God's call to serve others.
- c. He followed his conscience even when it was difficult.
- d. He struggled with his difficulties and did not give up.
- e. He worked hard for the poor and people in need.
- f. He was humble, gentle and loyal to his friends.





JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

A holy man in search of the truth



The cause for his sainthood was opened in 1958 and he was declared Venerable by Pope St John Paul II in 1991 after his life of 'heroic virtue' was recognised. Newman's beatification was officially proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI on 19th September 2010 during his visit to the United Kingdom. His canonisation was dependent on the documentation of additional miracles attributed to his intercession. John Henry Newman was canonised in Rome on 13th October by Pope Francis (attended by the Headteacher & Fr Stephen).

Newman's Motto is:
"Cor ad cor loquitur"
("Heart speaks unto heart")



There were 2 school masses on the 9th October that involved the entire school. KS3 and KS4 had mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, Pupils served, read, sang and were involved in the Offertory Procession. The parish church was full to capacity. There was at times standing room only. It was a very spiritual occasion with Fr Andrew's homily based on the life of John Henry Newman.

Sixth Formers celebrated mass in the school hall with Fr Marcellin. This again was organised by the chaplain and executed in conjunction with the Head of Year and members of SLT. The pupils, with help from the head boy (Shamal) stepped forward to read, serve and to be involved in the offertory procession. They sang and joined-in in the mass. Fr Marcellin and staff as well as students were full of compliments and praise after the Mass. Every pupil was issued with tokens of remembrance for the day. The Chaplain had St John Henry Newman Prayer cards printed and distributed as well as commemorative badges, etc. Did you get them? Assemblies were based around the life and teachings of John Henry Newman. Each day in October up to and including the canonisation weekend, the chaplain tweeted quotes and reflections from JHN and his theological insights. Did you follow them?

Bishop John Sherrington celebrated a Mass on Wednesday 30th October for the canonisation of St JH Newman. The school looked beautiful, bedecked with flowers and banners/flags. The pupils were eager to stay behind to take part in the Mass. They took up roles (some for the 1st time). They read, served, involved in processions. The planning and preparation started months earlier involved writing the bidding prayers within the special Liturgy Group. The Mass was concelebrated by priests for the deanery. There were many ex pupils (those from the Hinsley days) as well as pupils from today. The congregation was joined with local religious and VIPs. The Mass was followed with refreshments where people could meet Bishop John, the leader of the Council Cllr Butt, local Brent politicians and Officers, the local police, Head teachers from other Catholic schools and the Brent Mayor. All were delighted to be in attendance. The pupils ate, drank and mixed with all, being photographed with many. The following day there was a great buzz around the college.



Liturgy Group

The chaplain has changed the structure of the Liturgy Group. There will now be year group liturgy groups that meet $\frac{1}{2}$ termly at least. They assist, plan and organise the class and year Liturgy alongside the chaplain. This allows more students to be involved. The members are representing their forms. The Y7,8, 9 &12 have met already and been involved by writing the bidding prayers for mass, organising the readers, etc. All Masses involve the Liturgy Group. Year group musicians play music with Mr. Osborn and Mr Lawrence from the Music Dept. All pupils attend mass and either receive Holy Communion or a blessing. These are very respectful times and are attended by staff who are available during that time. Thanks to visiting (supply) priests we are able to celebrate Mass every week since the start of the new academic year.



All Saints, All Souls

Friday 1st Nov was the feast of All Saints. This followed a week of assemblies based on the theme of All Saints & All Souls. This holy day, a day of solemnity was celebrated with masses in the Parish church and in the college. Pupils as always were called upon to take active roles in the masses: serving, reading and procession. This also involved singing and responding to the parts of the Mass. Staff and pupils were able to complete list and request for the remembrance book. – those who have passed away who we remember in a special way in November. This book is present during all the masses in school as well as the prayer sessions in the chapel.

Marian Procession

Sunday 20th Oct was the torchlight procession of Our Lady of Willesden around Harlesden. Even though this was in half term the college was well represented with pupils from various Forms and year groups coming out on a cold dark Sunday, walking the streets of Harlesden reciting the Rosary.

Education Sunday

Sunday 22nd Sept staff and pupils attended Mass to celebrate Education Sunday. It coincided with Harvest Sunday so the congregation were asked to bring packets of food and tinned products. The 3 local Catholic schools were present. A packed church. Pupils were given various roles including reading and part of the offertory procession.

The Yr 7 & 8 form groups are regular members of Our Lady of Willesden's 10:00am congregation as we take an active part in the weekly parish mass. These are celebrated by Fr Stephen or Fr Andrew and each week the boys read the 1st Reading and the Psalm. Then every Friday, whole year groups have regular Mass with Fr Albert or another visiting priest.



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.





Gardening – Enrichment

The chaplain has restarted his enrichment gardening group. The group is comprised of 6th formers who volunteer to work and learn about gardening. This involves harvesting vegetables from the spring planting and preparing the window boxes for the season ahead. Learning that there is a season for everything and that even small acts are caring acts for the school environment.



This Advent spent

TIME with God

**Fri Dec 6th, Fri Dec 13th & Wed
Dec 18th**

3.30 until 4.00 - Chapel

Join together to reflect, to pray, to be in the Presence of God.



Taize, reading and stillness.

Come along pupils, staff, etc.

Prepare your very self for
Christmas.

Christ with you



This **Christmas** may we have the **joy** of the angels, The **wonder** of the shepherds and the **giving** hearts of the wise men; and may the **blessing** of God rest on each one of us. **Amen.**



Roma 19 Ciao Bella Citta

Pilgrimages



The Chaplain organised an educational trip to Rome for a group of Y10 pupils. They travelled out on the 14th Nov and returning on the 18th. The trip involves numerous churches especially the major cathedrals and basilicas. Pilgrimage according to GCSE topic, is very important in some religious traditions. Christians believe pilgrimage can help them develop spiritually and bring them closer to God.

Rome is a very important place of pilgrimage, particularly for Roman Catholics.

The Vatican is the home of the Pope, the spiritual head of the Catholic Church. They believe that Jesus appointed St Peter as the leader of his disciples. Some people go on pilgrimages simply because it is an opportunity for them to enjoy the feeling of connection with God and all His creations. ... On a pilgrimage, there is a feeling that all are equal in the eyes of God, regardless of their status in the everyday world.

The visits are linked to the RE curriculum e.g. the creation and the last judgment in the Sistine chapel, the tree of life in San Clemente. The complications of Brexit adds a challenge.

A Roman "Holiday"

As we wiped the sleep from our eyes the pilgrims gathered at Heathrow T5 for a 4am start. Passports presented, checked in and with tired excitement we bid farewell to parents and London as we headed for 5 days in the Eternal City, Rome. Upon arrival we checked in and went for our first proper Italian meal. "A table for 11 people please?"



Afterwards it was off to explore the new city centre and to know our home for the next few days. The Piazzas, the fountains, the churches, the narrow streets. Comparing the step monitors apps on mobiles at the end of the day. It is amazing how they varied even though we walked the same routes. Technology?

Gelato, pizza, spaghetti and pasta were the order of the day. Buon Appetito tutti!



The Yr10 pilgrimage to Rome took in places that were related to the GCSE RE Curriculum. The Creation of Adam in the Sistine chapel, the Last Judgement, the history of the Catholic Church and the Tree of life in San Clemente church were among the places to go. We were able to understand the idea of pilgrimage and why pilgrims travel to holy sites such as the Vatican and Rome. The trip was a great success and thanks to the PTA for their support, especially their financial support. Year 9 have been offered the same for their start to Year 10 – Roma20.

Reflections on Rome



Rome was a truly incredible experience. Whilst you can see the sightseeing viewpoint of the visit, there is also an incredible religious perspective that you can only see from a visit. With so many beautiful Basilicas and churches with fantastic historical back story dating back thousands of years to the Romans and even Peter. The food was exquisite and the opportunities were once in a lifetime.

Owen

During our pilgrimage to Rome, we got to experience a plentiful amount of Italian culture, sights and authentic food. Some of the highlights of our trip include going to the Vatican and listening to the Pope speak, going to the Colosseum and most importantly getting to explore Rome on foot and gaining the confidence to talk to street sellers. To conclude, I believe that this was a truly worthwhile and eye opening trip that I would recommend everyone experience. Gintaras

Going to Rome was a wonderful experience. We stayed in a 4 * hotel and we were treated with a lovely breakfast buffet every morning. Waking up early we visited the Sistine Chapel, Vatican City and loads more places, and ate a lot of traditional dishes. In the evening we hustled with the street sellers to get souvenirs and toys for cheap. Overall it was a great experience and a great chance to bond and get to know my teachers and peers. Rhuvawn



This year's NCC trip to Rome was a fantastic experience. We got to see the religious side of the city as well as the iconic sights of Italy such as the Colosseum and the Vatican. We got to experience freedom and also fresh air! A real taste of Italy everyday. We also had a lot of fun haggling with street sellers and attempting to bargain. We learnt some words in Italian and ordered lunch everyday. The trip was fun and I wished we could stay again at least one more day. Chineme

The Rome trip was my favourite trip abroad. In Year 6, I went to the beautiful island in Spain and I thought it would be the best trip I'd ever go to in my life. I was proven wrong. Rome...The sights were unique, the hotel was pretty nice. The trip made me more religious and the food was to die for. Honestly. Thierry



We saw Pope Francis from his window

Questa gita scolastica, abbiamo visitato il Vaticano, il Colosseo, Piazza del Popolo, eccetera. La cosa che mi ha colpito di più è stata vedere il Papa, è un'emozione che non scorderò mai. C'era un'ottima atmosfera in gita, e tutti i compagni si sono trovati benissimo" Un'altra cosa che mi è piaciuta molto è che Mr Roche e Ms Grace sono stati bravissimi e hanno aiutato moltissimo non solo me, ma anche tutti gli altri studenti. Samuel



Artworks – The Creation of Adam, The Pieta, The Tree of Life part of the GCSE RE Curriculum



Schools of Sanctuary

A School of Sanctuary is a safe, welcoming place, especially for those seeking sanctuary. It is a school who welcomes asylum seeking and refugee families into their school community and fosters a culture of welcome and inclusion for all.

We continue to welcome new students who are Asylum Seekers and Refugees to our School of Sanctuary. Our Refugee Co-ordinator Miss Saran has organised a number of exciting activities that students have participated in.

Coram's Young Citizens ran a workshop for young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds to encourage them to feel positive about their life and future

Students participated in photography workshop run by Fotosynthesis to help refugee and asylum seeking students have a voice. A follow up workshop developed further their skills and encouraged them to use arts to communicate

There have also been Yoga sessions for older girls to improve their wellbeing and encourage discussions.

A new cohort of students have been attending the Shine Programme at the American School in London on Saturdays.

Miss Saran teaches English to newly arrived parents on Wednesdays from 9-11am.



**SCHOOL OF
SANCTUARY AWARD**

WELCOMING ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES



A new year means a new leadership team. Year 10 students Dhruv, Owen and Andre were elected to lead the Student Council this year in a fiercely fought battle of four groups. Their deputies are Year 8 students Wali and Moussa. Students particularly liked the winning team's vision statement...



"If you take pieces from anywhere in the world & put them together in the right way, they become something special & that's what this Student Council is...a mix of people from all different backgrounds that were put together correctly!"



We wish the new leadership team every success as they take up the challenge. They will discuss issues such as teaching and learning, pupil progress, mental health and well being. Mr Coyle has spent money to have renovations and improvements made to the student toilets, so this team will be monitoring how students treat them. They will also look at the environment around the school.





Lead Up to the Mayoral Assembly

We attended the Citizens UK Ideas Workshop in Mayfair. This was to prepare for 2020's London Mayoral elections, to build an agenda to make London safe for our young people. This workshop looked at concern about the number of young people getting injured and killed on our streets. We had an opportunity to participate in shaping what specific issues we would like to focus on towards the Mayoral Assembly.

Some of the issues included:

- relationship between young people & the police
- excluding young people from schools and how better to include them
- early intervention and support for parents
- feeling safe in public spaces and public transport
- access to opportunities (higher education / jobs)

We also attended the Manifesto workshop at London Muslim Centre. This was an opportunity to hear what other teams were working on and to distil issues into 3 clear priorities

Roundwood Park Lights Update

A year after speaking in front of a full Brent Council meeting and asking for lights in Roundwood Park, meetings with Councillor Butt and his team, petitioning local residents and gathering the support of our MP Dawn Butler, we are getting the lights! Work on the lights commenced on October 28th. Mr King and our NCC team visited recently and the lights are installed but not yet functioning. This is an amazing win for us and shows that anything is possible with community support and working together. We really appreciate the support of Councillors Kelcher (Kensal Green) and Councillor Patel (Harlesden) who realised the importance of Youth Safety.



A Jewel in Brent's Crown



We nominated Claudette for the Pride of Brent Award and she won 'Volunteer of the Year'. Claudette is a shining jewel in Brent's crown. Every day, whatever the weather, rain, hail, snow or shine during the school year, she is found volunteering on the crossing outside Newman Catholic College after school. In these times where young people worry about getting home safely, Claudette makes a difference. She makes sure our Newman students cross safely and that the traffic slows down. After the students have dispersed from the schools she then goes down to the High Street and makes sure students do not gather but catch their buses etc to make their way home. She is amazing and thoroughly deserves recognition for the hours she volunteers for nothing. Her positive personality and no nonsense approach bring joy to our school community on a daily basis.

Anti Bullying Council

Our Anti Bullying Council representatives had an amazing opportunity to take part in the Anti-Bullying Ambassador programme which is part of the charity the **Diana Award**. Our students conducted assemblies during Anti Bullying Week. They will now help educate their peers on bullying, lead on anti-bullying campaigns, promote a culture which celebrates and tolerates difference and help keep their peers safe both online and offline. One of the outcomes of our training is an anti bullying page on our school website, an email address for ant bullying concerns and an icon on every school computer which takes you to the anti bullying webpage.



STOP BULLYING



Are you being bullied?



Have you seen someone being bullied?



Report **all** bullying to

stop@ncc.brent.sch.uk



STOP BULLYING



The Diana Anti-bullying charity is a scheme to help people cope with bullying and how to deal with bullying such as telling a teacher or ignoring the issue. The Charity also helps us see different consequences and results of bullying like depression and teaches us how to spot bullying and how you can help. **Moussa Year 8F**

Every Year there are students and a member of staff that have the opportunity to be nominated for a Jack Petchey award, 'The Jack Petchey Foundation was set up by Sir Jack Petchey CBE to inspire and motivate young people across London and Essex to do their best and reach their full potential' . Since 2000, over £124 million has been invested in programmes to benefit young people aged 11-25 across London and Essex.

We have had 3 Students this term that have won awards,



September- Daniel Purcaru Year 10

He was nominated by peers for his personal development where he shows his adaptability, care and resilience to his personal life and maintain a positive focus on his school life.

'He is an inspiration to many'

October- Meanwell Umayam Year 10

This young man was nominated by a number of his peers for being a quiet young man that does not always get noticed for all that he does in the school, for example he set up his own after school club and is always willing to help others without any fuss.

'Academically hard working, and runs after school club but is not always noticed, we would like to see him be recognised'

November- Prahlad Chandrakant Year 12

This young man was nominated for his organisational skills, always ready to get involved, he will help at any time with a courteous and polite attitude. He is always supportive in liturgical events inside and outside of school.

'What a gentleman, a credit to his family, his school and above all himself, he makes a great difference to the life of NCC'

Miss H Hardy - Leader Award for 2019

The leader award nominated by many students and staff for her devotion to the students above and beyond. Giving up personal time to support students, coming in over holidays to support learning, staying after school with students doing 'Shakespeare schools festival' learning lines, understanding characters/roles, promoting team work with year 8 students. Amongst all of this being positive and generally making time for anyone that needs her support or guidance, alongside her daily timetable.

'Miss is always there and will do all she can to help us, no matter what the situation'



Mental Health & Well Being



Season greetings to all, during this time of the year as we prepare to celebrate this festive season many of us will be spending this period with our loved ones, sharing each other's company, eating too much and being spoilt with stuff we may not necessarily need, but as we do please spare a thought for those who may not be as fortunate. Here are a few thoughts for you;

Gratitude – As we get caught up in the festivities let us not forget to be thankful for what we have.

Family – Family means friends too! Not everyone can make it home to their families for Christmas so check in with your friends and make sure they have somewhere to spend their Christmas.

Expectations – Don't be too hard on yourself if everything isn't perfect, it's the spending time together in a happy environment that's important.

Help others – Do you have an elderly neighbour or know someone who needs a helping hand? A quick check on them could make their day.

Celebrate – Laugh, love, connect, eat, dance and sing, enjoy every moment spent with your loved ones.

If you or anyone you know is in need of support over the Christmas period, please go to the school website and click the Information tab and then Safeguarding tab to direct you to services which may be of assistance.

Miss Goodin

(Lead Student Mentor & Deputy Safeguarding Officer)



Exam Results & Achievement

This year we - staff and governors are very proud of the achievement of our students and young people.

A quarter of our GCSE grades were also 9-7 (A**-As)

Our students made a combined Progress8 score of **1.679** which is our best Progress 8 results ever as a school. This means that on average, our students performed 2 grades better than expected.

Average Progress8 score in English is **1.539**

Average Progress8 score in Maths is **1.692**

Average Progress8 score in English Baccalaureate subjects is **1.849**

Average Progress8 score in Foundation subjects **1.541**

Value Added in Science is **1.449**

Value Added Languages is **0.576**

Value Added in Humanity subjects **1.539**

We are proud of our collective achievements and strive to continue to improve our standards and attainment of our students.

Wishing everyone of our school community a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

Miss C Abimbola

Assistant Head teacher- Quality of Education - Outcome for Learners, Curriculum Development, Timetabling & Exams



Mr Coyle pictured with two of our most outstanding and successful achievers Andre and Vladut. Andre is now studying at St Dominic's Sixth Form College and Vladut is now at University College London

Raising Aspirations

In November, our more able students were taken on two trips that centred around raising aspirations.

Year 10 students were taken to the “World Skills UK” live event at the EXCEL London and year 11 were taken on a “making the leap” event centred around top universities and what they had to offer.

World Skills UK at the EXCEL

This exciting event was divided into four areas, each providing a focus on particular industry sectors:

- Construction & Infrastructure
- Health, Hospitality & Lifestyle
- Digital, Business & Creative
- Engineering & Technology



Over 80 employers from across the UK were at LIVE, including BAE Systems, BMW, Coca Cola, HS2, IBM, Muller, NHS Careers, Royal Mail, Toyota and the armed forces, offering top jobs, apprenticeships and training opportunities.



Virtual Reality



Raising Aspirations

"....at the event there were many employers from construction, hospitality, business, etc. that told us that we could do work experience with them for two weeks and the benefits that work experience would give us once we go apply for jobs. We were also involved in a presentation on how to build a CV; this would also help us show our achievements, experience and qualifications when we go to apply for jobs.

Overall, I believe that this experience was educational and it widened our knowledge on life after school, which is very useful; therefore, I give the trip 5/5 stars". **Farhan Musa**

"...I enjoyed our time at the skills event this year. We played different games which were in the creative section. I personally enjoyed the games section where there were expensive brands such as Alienware. We also took part in a Virtual reality event where we took the perspective of a construction worker and we drilled etc. A lot of DT was around there which was amazing. Lastly we spoke to a man who had told us about an event(we have to be 18)where we go to America and teach children on a hobby that we enjoy doing. It was a great overall experience. I gained a lot from it."

Adam Chahi



"When I went to the exhibition I got to meet a lot of new and different people, which is one of the things I enjoyed the most. Furthermore, I also got to learn about new careers which I may be interested in, and I got the opportunity to play entertaining games that were related to careers I would like to be a part of in the future. I enjoyed the music production and medicine related stalls that were present. I would consider a career in medicine."

Zeal Jani

.."I mainly visited the engineering departments such as mace and other standard construction enterprises and asked them about how I can get into engineering (a-level in maths and English, then usually an engineering degree or apprenticeship) . We visited a small amount of colleges such as Cambridge then went into the technology section. We started at the environmental protection section, which worked on things like the hydrogen powered car and how to solve flood occurrence....."

Jan Kolterniak

"The Skills Uk event was an interesting and informative exhibit for career paths. I found it interesting that the navy protects ships that carry cargo that is used in everyday life. I really enjoyed the Royal Air Force VR simulation, it taught me that information and analysing this information is important to the Air Force's job. I did a quiz at School of Engineering, Technology and Design, and it said I could be a mechanical engineer, which leaves a job to consider for my future. I have learned that the conditions for an apprenticeship in different construction companies are similar, as they all require similar skills., "

Andre Anil

Raising Aspirations

“Making the Leap” Year 11 – Central Hall Westminster

This event involved representatives from top universities , there to speak to our students and guide them on paths they were interested in.

Making The Leap held their fifth annual Raising University Aspirations fair, aiming to broaden the horizons of London school children by introducing them to representatives from prestigious universities. The universities present were UCL, Kings College, Manchester university, Cambridge, SOAS, Oxford and many more.



Students were given the chance to talk to universities, a question booklet was provided to guide students to the sorts of questions they should be asking – modelled by Nimeire and Tre!



Also they were given a prospectus from each university to take home and read through, some students left with about 10 of them and a heavy backpack!

Raising Aspirations

Comments from the students on “Making the leap”

“Making the leap event was a good experience as it allowed me to have a better view on which universities could offer an engineering course that would suit my interests. In addition, it also gave me a wider view on what the universities specialise in and would be keen knowledge to have if I were to take a different route from engineering.” **Franz Agcaoili**



“I think that the making the leap event was a very good experience because it's helped me quite a bit. I got to learn a lot more about university life due to the abundance of universities present, stuff such as the multiple societies, sports and residence. I've also found out more about opportunities universities can provide me with, for example studying abroad for a year or doing work experience in the field I'm studying. The event also benefited me because it showed many possibilities!” **Ozzy Majewski**

“I have learned a lot from the Making the Leap event. My experience there was learning what the universities are like; the courses they do; what their requirements are; and their extracurricular activities that can be done outside of your learning. I visited many universities, such as: Cambridge; Oxford; Exeter; City and UCL. I enjoyed mostly the University of Cambridge - due to how many courses they have and the amount of events you can be in / do outside of your learning to add to your CV in the future.” – **Simeon Bozhilov**

Raising Aspirations

Visit from Oxford University

Students from years 7-10 were visited by **Dr Ed Dodson of Oxford University** who came to deliver a talk on Life in Oxford. He spoke about the high academic standard of Oxford University, now being the number 1 university in the world (*Times Higher Education*) and also the courses offered. There was also discussion about the wide range of extra curricular activities at Oxford and the chance for students to visit the university for a day!

"The subject I wish to pursue is Cyber Security, which involves Computer Science. I feel this University will help me achieve a high degree due to its highly qualified teachers and mentors, which is why Oxford is my ideal University." Jayden D'Souza



"I found that Dr Dodson gave a proper insight as to what kind of things you could expect at university. Before the talk I thought that university was not all that necessary or needed as I want to pursue a career in music, but Dr Dodson showed us all the different courses available at oxford university making me have second thoughts about attending any kind of university but specifically oxford" – Robbie Majewski

Raising Aspirations

Visit from Oxford University

"The university talk was really educational, Dr Dodson talked about the university and great courses it has to offer. He explained what clubs it has, so it's not only studying. He also explained that there were famous artists, music writers, even previous prime ministers that attended Oxford University."

Alexander Dragnov



"The university talk was helpful because Dr Dodson spoke about the high standards of Oxford. He explained that it is now the number one university in the world and I am convinced that there is where I should be aiming to attend in the future. I will make sure I work hard to achieve my goals. Thank you Dr Dodson for the fantastic talk!" Kevin Vieira



"I was invited to go and listen to Dr Dodson talk about universities, in particular Oxford. He spoke about the opportunities that university can give you and how we should all try to get to university. After this talk I felt inspired to strive towards getting better at each subject." **Samuel Tracey**

"I found that Dr Dodson gave a proper insight as to what kind of things you could expect at university. Before the talk I thought that university was not all that necessary or needed as I want to pursue a career in music, but Dr Dodson showed us all the different courses available at oxford university making me have second thoughts about attending any kind of university but specifically oxford" – Robbie Majewski

CELEBRATE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month in the UK is celebrated nationwide in October every year for nearly 40 years.

This month was originally founded to recognise the contributions that people of African and Caribbean backgrounds have made to this country over many generations.

Now, Black History Month has expanded to include the history of not just Afro-Caribbean black people but all black people in general.

Black history month was first launched in London in the 1980s, where the aim was for the local community to challenge racism and educate themselves and others about the British history that was not taught in schools.

Yoga Class with Natty Little Yogis

To celebrate **Black History Month 2019** a group of twenty year 9 and year 10 students took part in a yoga session run by Natty Little Yogis, which specialises in yoga for teens to promote good mental well-being. On 31st October these selected pupils engaged in a series of exercises aimed to increase flexibility, energy and respiratory health; it was a beautiful sight to watch them sit and meditate focusing on the here and now, their mind, body and soul, to be at one with themselves while the trained instructor gave them words of affirmation. Many well known celebrities and athletes such as Lionel Messi, Gareth Bale and Lebron James regularly participate in yoga to improve their health and happiness and I am happy the boys were so willing to seize this opportunity and I hope they continue to learn some of the techniques taught.

"I enjoyed the yoga class with my other students. I felt as if it helped me relax and refocus as well as a bonding class for me and my friends. This also allowed me to stretch which was important for me because I play sports. In conclusion, thank Miss Richards and whoever else set up this chance and I will be grateful if I could do this again in the future." Josiah Pyne Year 10



Made by History

The Voice Newspaper annual Made by History essay writing competition welcomed from schools up and down the country.

The Made by History competition aimed to encourage students to study history and connect with the icons of the past through unassisted research and a journey of self-discovery. Students were asked to submit a 500-word article on the topic: 'Who is your favourite black author and why?'. Cade Denys from Year 10 was awarded a certificate of participation for his contribution to the competition.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Diwali Trip-Monday 28th October 2019

On the first day back after the October half term, we took our annual trip to the Hindu Shree Swaminarayan Temple on Willesden Lane to celebrate Diwali. 13 Paul and myself accepted their invitation to celebrate the festivities of Diwali with them in their mandir (temple). We had a lovely walk to the mandir and when we got there, the celebrations had been in full swing for a few hours.

The pupils were taken aback by the lively nature of the mandir and the noise of people praying, chanting and worshipping. Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights and it is usually celebrated in late October or early November. People usually light small oil lamps and place them by their doors and windows to guide Rama back home. This comes from the famous Hindu story of Ramayana where Rama and his wife Sita were banished for many years from Ayodhya, a city in northern India. With the help of Hanuman, they were eventually able to return to Ayodhya and were crowned king and queen.

It is a happy festival, where people usually give each other cards and presents. The pupils learnt all about this from one of the guides and were amazed at the amount of food that had been made and offered at the mandir. We were then brought upstairs to enjoy their hospitality where the pupils were given a beautiful Indian vegetarian meal, which was a new experience to many but nonetheless went down very well! This is a trip we have done for many years thanks to the invitation of the Shree Swaminarayan Temple and it is one that we hope will be extended for many years to come!!

Samaritans Purse- Operation Shoebox Appeal 2019

Thank-you to all those who have again supported our shoebox appeal. It is always great to see our school at this time of year live out the ideals of our Christian faith where we display Christ's love to those in need. Each year we collect shoeboxes of presents which will then be distributed to less developed countries, to children who are living in poverty and who would not normally receive anything on Christmas morning. This year we presented 100 boxes of wrapped presents which was a considerable achievement considering all the other charities our school supports.

During this appeal, it is so good to see the effort that the whole school community makes. Thanks to all those who contributed, pupils and parents who specially made their own boxes, pupils who may have given up old favourite toys and who generously donated their own pocket money. A special mention must go to those students who are very new to our school and even the country, who got into the spirit of the appeal and got involved with making their own boxes and who also gave up extra time to wrap empty shoe boxes in preparation of more donations coming in.

Our contribution was collected by the Samaritan's Purse charity who were very grateful for our efforts and informed us that our presents would likely be heading to Nigeria this Christmas. Also it seems that our presents will be used there for two religious communities of Christians and Muslims to bring them together and develop their relationship. This is especially pleasing and apt as it comes from our own school community which has a significant number of students from other faith backgrounds and who actively work together in our school community to foster good relationships with others outside of their own faith. It is always rewarding to see everyone coming together and living out Jesus' commandment of loving others.

Mr Hughes, Curriculum Leader, Religious Education



Year 10 Judaism RE Trip

The Religious Education department organised a GCSE whole day workshop at the Jewish Museum London to expand and push students knowledge on Jewish beliefs, teachings and practices. Miss O'Connell planned the trip for 40 key pupils in year 10 to attend the Jewish Museum on Wednesday 18th December 2019 to complete two workshop by Jewish specialists.

As part of the new Religious Education GCSE, students will study Catholic Christianity and Judaism and both religious and non-religious views to broaden their knowledge of all communities within British society. The study of Judaism has been chosen alongside our current study of Catholicism as Christianity derived from Judaism and the founding father Abraham.

The Jewish Museum was an unique and invaluable opportunity for students to be aware that Judaism is one of a diverse range of religious and nonreligious traditions and beliefs in Great Britain today that includes Christianity; Buddhism; Hinduism; Islam; Sikhism; Humanism and Atheism, but that the main religious tradition in Great Britain is Christian.

The workshop students participated in was *Mitzvot in Daily Life*. Firstly, mitzvot is Hebrew for law, duty, rule or commandment. Christians follow the ten commandments given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai, however most Jews accept there are 613 mitzvot they must follow and each come from a different source of authority. Year 10 explored how the commandments affect Jewish daily life and reflected on the diversity of interpretation of the commandments within the Jewish community through artefacts, text study, audio, and film. Also, they had the chance to understand the centrality of the text of the Torah as a guide to Jewish life, the laws relating to food - Kashrut , the role of prayer in Judaism and the role of tzedakah (charity) in Judaism.

'It was a fantastic day of learning and would like to thank the Jewish Museum for the in depth workshops. It was a time for us to build on our prior knowledge and learn new knowledge about Jews in Britain today and in history. The most interesting fact we learnt was that before each Shabbat service in the synagogue, Jews say a 'Prayer for the Royals' ידיעת מלכי which is a prayer of respect and thanks for the royal family allowing Jews to practice their religion openly without persecuting in the UK after King Edward in 1290 expelled all Jews from the UK.'



Performing Arts Newsletter

In 2020, Brent will be the Mayor's London Borough of Culture. The Performing Arts department has focused on exploring the stories, art and emotions that hold Brent together.



We took our students on a journey, a local journey to open their eyes to the Drama, Music, Art and Architecture Brent has to offer: Rafael Marques, Year 12 is taking part in this momentous opening. He has been practicing dance twice a week with a professional dance choreographer in Willesden Green Library.

RISE

Rise will be performed on the steps at Wembley Park Station on the 18th of January at 19:00 to 21:00pm.

Diva Opera in Brent

Year 12 students attended the DIVA Opera at St. Andrews Church Harrow Road on Saturday 7th of December. DIVA Opera are an internationally renowned Opera whose singers have performed in the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and the English National Opera. The tickets were sponsored by Christine Harvey, at Sudbury Arts Events.



ABC OF BRENT

Twenty teachers and educators across the Borough of Brent collaborated to produce an educational

Resource that can be used in all key stages and focuses on the A B C of Brent. A stands for the Arts, B is for Brent and C is for Culture, exploring the history and heritage that have shaped Brent. Working on this resource allowed the students to explore what makes Brent important to them.

11 Joseph wrote the poem "Harlesden" and made a contribution to the Brent Anthem which will be sung at the opening of Brent 2020 at the Wembley Arena Harlesden, Brent Anthem.

Harlesden

I see your Jubilee Clock stand high upon the block.
People preach with power.
The fire in their stories aim to shock.
Our stories your story.
Nothing to mock.

Brent
the place we love
represents peace
like the form of a dove.
Strolling down Harlesden listen to the beat.
Parade vast subcultures of people we meet
who burst with flavour
from all over the place
who ooze out of shops
like beef in a patty.
Each person asks which is the best?
Gather together put it to the test.
On the 18 bus see spray paint art sending a tag straight to my heart.
We may not stay together we'll never be apart.
Community.
Brent bound together like rice and beans
A unity of immigrants
no sword or spear can conquer.
Although it's not the safest It's definitely the greatest.
The pain and the struggle make us what we are.
And if you give us a chance we will sing and we'll dance with our hearts and our voices.
For these streets are our home and here they will stay beautifully long after we've gone



OPERA IN QUEEN'S PARK

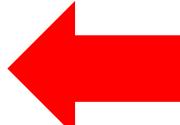
Year 7 Francis have been invited to form the chorus of an Opera. The Opera was written by Mary Philips who is the sister in law of Sir Simon Russell Beale.

The Opera will be performed in July in Queen's Park and Queen Victoria will be played by Sir Simon Russell Beale. The students work with Mary Philips every Friday preparing for the big event.



Mary Philips, working with year 10 on the Musical 'Joseph'.

Even though year 11 are busy preparing for their GCSE'S, they showed their artistic talents by working together to write a poem about Harlesden, they also contributed lines to the Brent Anthem which will be sung at the opening in Wembley Stadium.



Three theatres in Brent, Who would believe it!

THE Kiln, the Troubadour and the East Lane.

We have a long and valued relationship with the Kiln theatre and we attended two shows there this term. "The 7 Ages of Patience", staring our own drama students Rafael Marques, Mihai Munteanu and Maksymilian Mira

Merga, a wonderful community performance which also gave our students an insight into the production and backstage of a theatre.

In November we attended "When Crows Visits" a dark and disturbing look at modern, urban Indian lifestyles. It was directed by Indhu Rubasingham MBE.

The Troubadour in Wembley 'WARHORSE'

This was our first visit and it didn't disappoint. Year 11 students saw a performance of Warhorse.



East Lane Theatre 'EDEN'.

One of the most beautiful old theatres in London is situated in East Lane, Sudbury Town they sponsored tickets for our year 12's to see a performance of "Eden". This was a look at the real life scenario, where Donald Trump bought out the native population of a small town in Scotland to build a golf course. The students also got an opportunity to speak with the director and one of the actors who has been in the theatre since 1951



Women's Conference Day.

SPEAKERS: SARAH JOHNSON (WOMEN AND GIRLS NETWORK CHILDHOOD TRUST), CHARLOTTE BOBROFF (J.P. MORGAN SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT), CINDY HUMPHREYS (PRESENTER AND MEDIA PROFESSIONAL), LUCY JENKINS (TEACHER & HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WOMEN), AMANDA EPE (SPEAKER, TEACHER, EMPOWERING WOMEN AUTHOR, "FLY GIRLS")

CO HOSTS: CARMEL BEIRNE-FRANCIS (HEAD OF DRAMA AT NCC, SERENA BALFOUR GOVERNOR OF NCC AND CHAIR OF US CHARITABLE TRUST)

JOUMANA MOURAD (DANCE COMPANY, DRAMA THROUGH SCIENCE AND ART)

With the support of the US Charitable trust, the Drama department organised the fourth annual women's Conference. With many thanks to Serena Balfour for her tireless work in the empowerment of girls at Newman Catholic College.

We run this conference every year as a way of encouraging our young women to speak up for themselves and discuss issues they want changed or explored. We are so very grateful to all our speakers taking the time to come and engage with us and empower our young women. NCC has always been an all-boys school so it is very generous of them to welcome so many lovely young women and we hope they enjoy the discussions as much as the girls will.

Joanna Itila was sad not to be able to make the conference but she wanted me to extend an invitation to all of you to join her programme working with sixth formers organising events and proms and a visit to her company BARCLAYS bank's main office on Canary wharf to have a conference in their board room in the spring.



Maths Department News

UKMT Maths Challenge:

This year the Maths department is continuing our participation with the UKMT Maths challenges. The students involved last academic year thoroughly enjoyed it and this would be a great experience for your son, so do encourage them to get involved this year.

We will be competing in the regional final for the UKMT Team Maths Challenge in March 2020. This will involve a group of 4 students (2 from year 8 and 2 from year 9) competing in a series of four rounds: group round, crossnumber, shuttle and relay. In the next few months selected students from year 8 and year 9 will be able to compete for a place in the final team. If successful, the team will go on to compete at the National Final in June 2020.

Additionally, we have the opportunity for boys from Year 7, 8, 9, 10 to compete in the individual challenges against other students around the country. For more information visit ukmt.org.uk

NSPCC Number Day



The maths department are excited to be supporting the NSPCC through celebrating Number Day (Friday 7th February 2020) for the first time. There will be a number of events running throughout the day to raise money and awareness for the work of the NSPCC. The money we raise could help to fund Childline, the 24/7 helpline for children to contact, whatever difficulty they're facing or help NSPCC to visit more schools with the Speak out Stay safe programme – giving children the knowledge and confidence to speak out about anything that's worrying them, including abuse, so they can get help. For more information visit www.nspcc.org.uk

Maths Department News

The History of Algebra:

Students in Years 7-11 were treated to a fantastic assembly from Ms Vitamore that explored the diverse history of algebra. Contributions to the emergence of this amazing subject came from mathematicians in Ancient Egypt, Babylon (now Iraq), Persia (now Iran), India, Greece, China and Japan to name but a few.



The importance of the work of these pioneers cannot be underestimated as they have contributed to the vast majority of modern day life from computer programming or the financial system to analysing sporting performances.

Booster/Intervention sessions:

Year 11 revision sessions will run until the GCSE exams. These take place on Tuesdays after school (3-4pm) for all sets.

The Maths Homework Club continues to take place in Room M41 on Wednesdays 3:05-4:05pm. The sessions are run by Miss Joseph, and students from all year groups are welcome to attend.

UKMT Maths challenge club will be running in January and February. Students who attend will be eligible to be part of the Team Challenge but it will also be useful preparation for the Individual Challenge.

Equipment:

All students are required to have their full equipment, including a Maths set and a scientific calculator. These are available to buy from the Maths office at a subsidised cost: £1 for a Helix Maths set, and £10 for a Casio fx-83GTX scientific calculator.

Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!

English Department



On the 20th November 2019, 23 Year 10 students from mixed ability classes came together for the annual 'Speak Out' Challenge. This yearly event is the idea of philanthropist Jack Petchey who believes all children should have equal opportunities to speak on subjects dear to them as well as receive rewards for their talents and skills.

Charles Onoku returned to Newman Catholic College to facilitate another phenomenal workshop. At first, the cohort seemed nervous and anxious but Charles was soon able to transmit his own enthusiasm and confidence amongst the students.

The workshop began with warm up games based on memory and projection of voice. Soon, students were coming out of their shells and contributing beyond expectation – at least from my perspective. The workshops continued to build on hopes, dreams, fears and the mechanics of presenting an engaging speech. Students learned to trust themselves and be aware of their own body language when it came to communicating the wrong messages.

This was truly a fantastic opportunity and experience for the learners, many discovering their 'voice' for the first time. Charles encouraged students to select topics that were close to their hearts – statements they really believed in. Soon the whole cohort was bubbling with ideas and catch phrases they wanted to share to an audience.

However, students were reminded this was a challenge and there could only be one regional winner. We had the difficult task of selecting six finalists. This was extremely difficult. They had all surpassed themselves but we finally decided on our six representatives: Chineme Okolo, Owen Freeman, Pedro Da Silva, Samuel Medhane, Cade Denys and Jan Kolterniak. Congratulations!

We now have the difficult task of selecting one finalist from the six to represent Newman Catholic College at St Gregory's school on January 22nd 2020 for regional final. We will keep you updated...

Mr Edwards

Curriculum Leader English



Reading for Pleasure

Accelerated Reader is used to help students to choose books within their reading level. This term students have worked hard to exceed their personalised targets. Congratulations to the following students

Year 7

Ismael Abdur Rahman, Omar Aden, Blessing Aggreg-Amoah, Ebenezer Aso, Ransley Fernandes, Afeez Jempeji, Kyle Jones-Blake, Callum Cunningham, Kacper Kazmierczak, Milosz Kozlik, Kieron Loose, Riyad Madane, Mohammed Mahmoud, Jamali Mann, Mervin Manoj, Toby Ogunniyi, David Rodrigues, Hawa Sadat, Jairus Sastrillo, Daniel Shamon, Adonay Tekie,

Year 8

Abdul Ahmad, Faizan-Wali Ahmed, Moussa Al-Kawarit, Mustafa Al-Lami, Sayed Alavi, Mahmoud Albadie, Mohammad Alkatib, Razvan Avram, Kai Brennan - Lowe, Anthony Donnelly-Timble, Younes Eddami, Daniel Fagyas, Adam Hssini, Malik Lar, Aleksander Lepecki, Donnell Lewis, Charlie McAveety, Essey Mehbab, Adam Mohamed, Liam Monteleone, Bilal Nadeem, Mohamed Osman, Chris Pinto, Sayed Sadat, Sador Tesfagebriel, Gheorghe-Robert Vladut

Year 9

Franz Daniel Agcaoili, Jhay-L Antonio, Doyle Bona, Celso Dafe, Asher Dias, Yousif Hussain, Godwin Jyan, Benjamin Lola, Denilson Nwokoro, Lisa Pinto, Schneider Rodrigues, Mohammed Shakib, David Shamon, Andrew Souza, Sergiu Stoica,

Word Millionaires

Students who have become word millionaires this term

Mohammed Mahmoud and Mohamed Osman have read 1 million words since September 2019

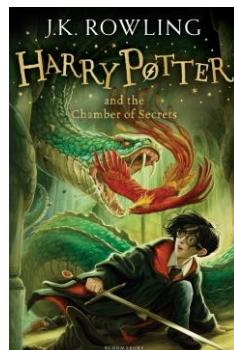
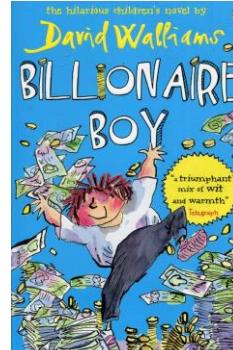
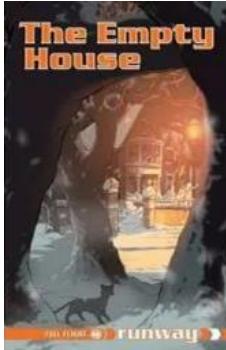
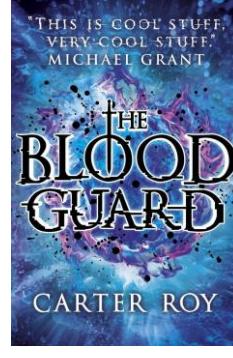
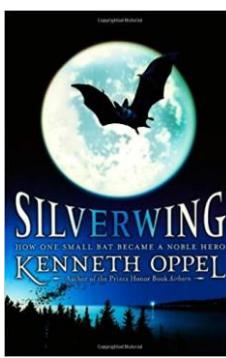
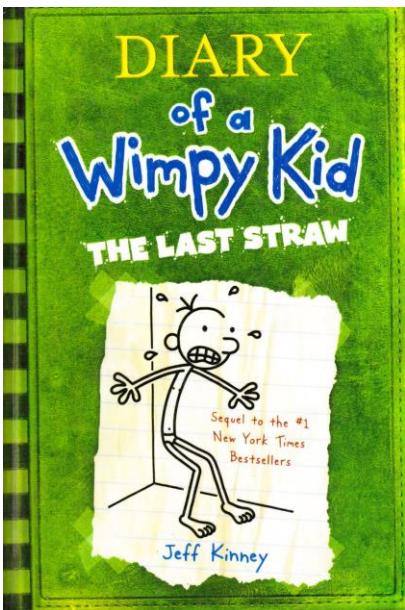
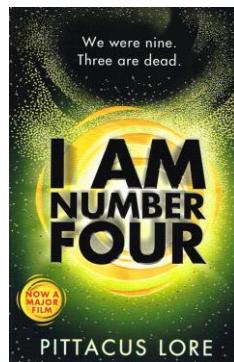
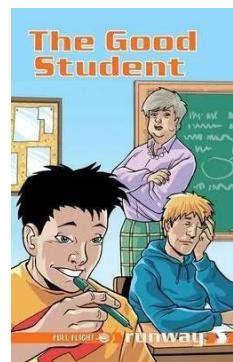
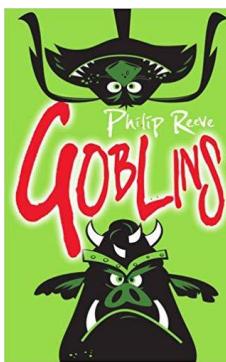
Doyle Bona has read 2 million words since September 2019

Library future events

Celebrating Culture and History,
Shakespeare on Screen,
CILIP Carnegie Children's Book Award,
Books on Screen

Autumn Term Top 10 Most Borrowed Books: how many have you read?

1. The Last Straw Jeff Kinney
2. Goblins Philip Reeve
3. The Good Student Alison Hawes
4. I am Number Four Pittacus Lore
5. Silverwing Kenneth Oppel
6. The Blood Guard Carter Roy
7. Doom Clone Melanie Joyce
8. The Empty House Alison Hawes
9. Billionaire Boy David Walliams
10. Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets J. K. Rowling



Book Groups News



The CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards

The Carnegie Book award is the oldest prize in children's literature...and we are a part of it. Every year at NCC we read the books with relish and come together to discuss them and choose our winner. Staff and students are invited to participate.

Newman students wow Shakespeare Schools Festival audience in double show!



Y8, Y9 & Y10 and Miss Hardy have participated in the Nationwide **Shakespeare Schools Festival**, a celebration of Shakespeare's plays. This is the **fourth** consecutive year NCC has taken part.

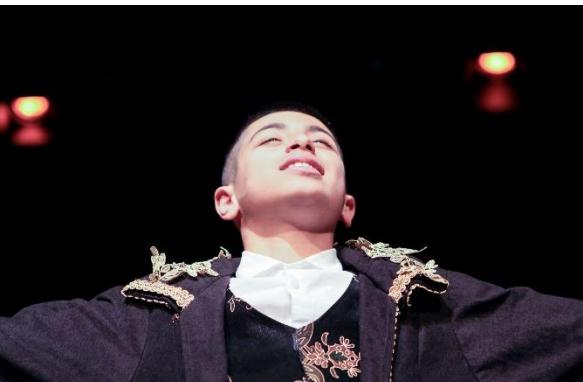


Our cast performed *The Taming of the Shrew* to an audience of 250 at Watermans Arts Centre on Wednesday 21st AND Thursday 22nd November – being the **only school** in the country given the opportunity!

The whole production was led by the cast: **actors** from Y8, **sound lighting** and **props** by two Y9 students, co-directing from a Y10 student, with Miss Hardy directing and overseeing it. The students and Miss Hardy worked hard as an **ensemble** to ensure everyone was included, shared ideas and **felt heard**.



Newman students wow Shakespeare Schools Festival audience in double show!



We began the project in September but in the six weeks build up to performance day we **rehearsed every day** after school for two plus hours. The boys worked incredibly **hard** and were continually **dedicated, professional** and full of **energy** and excitement.



Our students have developed a **love for theatre** and drama, huge aspirations and growth in **self-confidence**, while making new friends and having fun while learning. They have tackled Shakespeare's great language to create an incredibly funny, dramatic and witty performance.



Miss Hardy has signed up for **2020s festival** and the cast cannot wait to start again and **help recruit** the newbies!





"BEING A WINNER, GOD GIVES YOU GOOD NIGHT."

The Taming of the Shrew

by Newman Catholic College

at The Watermans Arts Centre, 20/11/2019 and 21/11/2019

appraised by Iain Jones and Timothy Allsop

I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to Newman Catholic College for your tremendous production of The Taming of the Shrew as part of the 2019 Shakespeare Schools Festival. You impressed us not once but twice this year! Both nights were excellent nights of theatre, and I'd like to highlight a few aspects that really stood out in Iain and Tim's appraisals.

This is one of the best versions of Shrew I have seen in years, professional or otherwise. You created a stylish and classical world, to the sound of Greensleeves, and you welcomed the audience to Padua. The costumes looked elegant, with colourful tunics, dresses and uniforms.

You were very committed to your characters. Katherina was distinctly 'waspish', stroppy and full of drama. Petruchio was unpredictable and audacious. You all connected to the text and showed detailed work in all of the scenes. There was also a good understanding of the character's intentions.

The ensemble used the language effectively, sometimes firing the words with the sharpness of a weapon. You highlighted the word play, banter, and the way in which characters try to out-wit one another. You worked incredibly well as a company and told the story with energy and commitment.

Adding to this were the animated facial expressions and brilliant reactions, such as how everyone responded to the size of the dowry. When this play was originally performed, all the parts would have been played by males and, as an all male Company, you completely owned how that challenge was addressed for a modern audience. In addition to the actors, Antonio did a brilliant job of the tech.

This was a bold, dynamic and funny version of the play, which allowed everyone to shine. Well done for a committed, expressive and fun production of 'The Taming of the Shrew'.

Performing Shakespeare's words on a professional stage takes bravery, resilience, and creativity. You should be immensely proud of what you and your teachers have achieved in this Season of Infinite Variety.

I hope to see Newman Catholic College in the 2020 Festival!

Iain Jones and Timothy Allsop

"WELL DONE FOR A COMMITTED, EXPRESSIVE AND FUN PRODUCTION OF 'THE TAMING OF THE SHREW'."

SCIENCE

Biomedia Meltdown

Students from Years 7 and 8 were visited by the Biomedia team this term offering fantastic workshops on Animal Anatomy!

Students investigated how a variety of animal anatomies are adapted to each species' needs and environment.

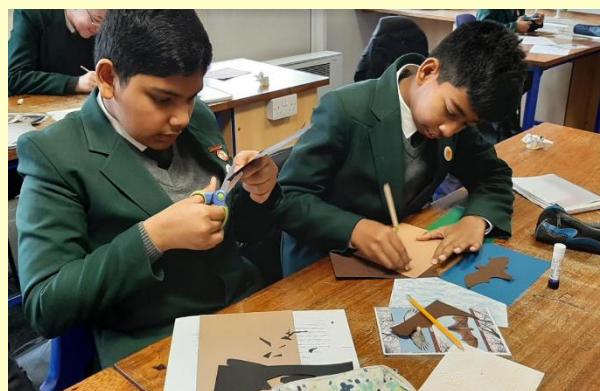
They got to illustrate the biological concepts and demonstrate convergent evolution using 2D design techniques and creative writing.



"I enjoyed the Biomedia meltdown as there were many options of things that we can do and learn. This was very fun because we all had a chance to explore what we can do with our imaginations of animals in our future generations "
– Abdul Wahhab Ahmad



"I really enjoyed the workshop because we got to explore science/biology with art which I really enjoyed and hope to do it again. I enjoyed the creativity" – Amina Sadat



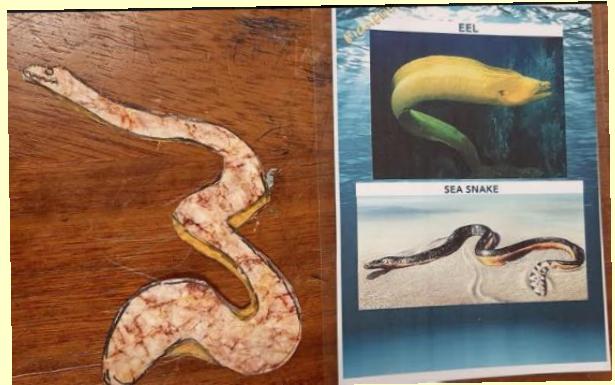
Biimedia Meltdown



"I really enjoyed the workshop. I created a snake and made a rocky background using wax pastel crayons and plastic patterned backgrounds. Never seen those templates before!" Year 7 student



"...it was different to other workshops because it was based on combining art and science and made me more interested in the topic of Convergent Evolution..." Year 8 student



BTEC Applied Science

This term our BTEC science students were visited by Dr Sana Shamim, a trainee GP.

She spoke to the students about not only the route of medicine but also the skills required and expectations at universities and real life job roles. Our students had some great questions for her and some are very interested in pursuing a career in medicine!



To be honest, her medicine journey surprised me as soon as she said she spent 13 years and 2 more years training to become a GP! Also, I enjoy the way she was expressing her journey and I enjoyed the quiz at the end where we had to diagnose different scenarios and symptoms!
- Vishal

The talk was rather informative, with the pros and cons of the medical career path being laid out sufficiently and clearly. All of my doubts were swept away and it was interesting. Receiving sufficient information, which is also reliable as it came from personal experience, made the whole talk worthwhile - **Mecban**

I have always wanted to be a doctor and it has been always a dream of a glorious future. Having Dr Sana speaking to us and providing us with a brief explanation about her journey in medicine benefited me in many ways where I have observed what exactly studying medicine is about. What have surprised me the most the fact that after finishing up your degree it won't be up to you to apply for the hospital that you are willing to work at, it is a systematic system where they pick the location for you to work at! - Ghufran

Thank you very much for the talk Sana, I found it very interesting and helpful, the information you give us was really important and made me realise that I can study medicine in a different way if I don't get into medicine directly. This was very supportive and really inspired me to study medicine! - **Wafa**

BTEC students also visited SKILLS UK LIVE which was held at The Excel in London. There were many opportunities for the students to speak to representatives of Science and Engineering work placements, universities and apprenticeships



“..My enjoyable moments was the software engineer apprentice. There was a guy who did level 4 apprentice in software engineering for 2 years and then he did degree in software engineering and he became a software engineering that actually inspired me” – Vishal Ramesh

“I used my time wisely to get more information about my subject with many universities and I talked about my subject in detail. Also, some other companies were there to offer apprenticeships. received a lot of information on apprenticeships to build up general knowledge.

I enjoyed all the free pens, prospectuses and bags that were given also! It was a great opportunity attending this event. Thank you” – Kuldip Bharat



Geography

Our hardworking Year 11 students are currently completing their final unit of the GCSE syllabus. The unit's theme is our changing economic world in which they have to investigate a Newly Emerging Economy (NEE.) Our chosen country is Nigeria as it is experiencing rapid economic development.

Being a culturally rich and diverse community we are lucky enough to have several staff members and students with links and family ties to Nigeria. We invited several guests to speak to our Year 11 students. Our experts included Mr. Molokwu, Miss Abimbola and Tobi (Year 7). The session gave us all a personal insight into the culture and importance of Nigeria



Top Tip Thursday

Every Thursday Year 11 lessons start with a geography top tip for exam success. This could include new revision strategies, exam techniques or examining a model answer. Students have found this invaluable in the run up to their mock exams.

Now if only Mr Dunne could remember to do this on Thursday's and not Wednesday!

Volcano Competition.

As part of an extended learning activity the Geography department will be launching a 'Build a volcano' competition in the new year. It is hoped that the activity will stretch our students geographical learning outside the classroom into a creative task. Success criteria will be judged on the following factors:

- Locational knowledge
- Annotations/labels of volcanic characteristics
- Realistic
- Creativity
- No SPaG errors

To make this competition as accessible as possible, there will be several categories with various prizes for award winning entries. The categories consist of:

- Most accurate models
- Best effort models
- Unique entry winners
- Special shout out winners



More information to follow.

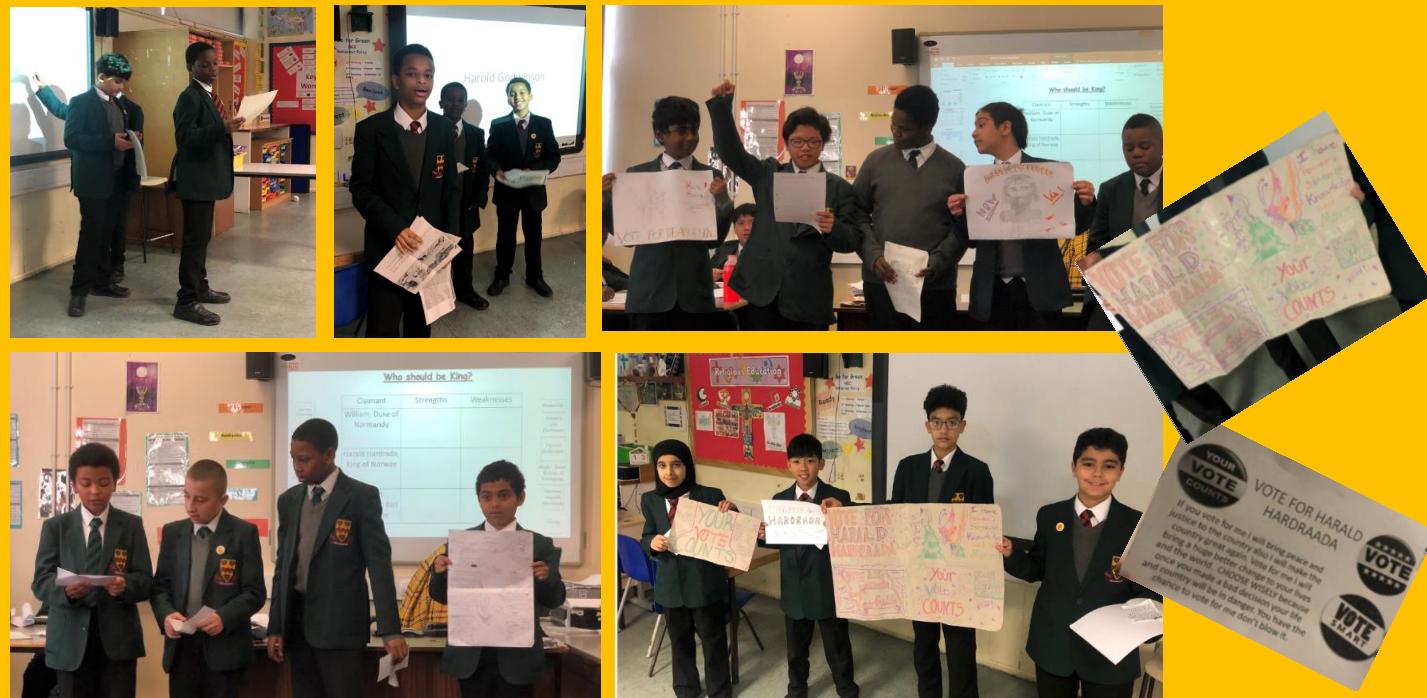
History Department



Forth coming opportunities in the History department at Newman

Year 10 Holocaust seminar at the Jewish Free School.

Year 7J and 7P presenting their election campaigns for the next King of England. It got very heated and passionate in class.



History- Christmas in the past Quiz!



1. What did was a “Kissing-bough” used for at Christmas in Medieval England?
- A) The Lord of the Manor would have to kiss a peasant for Good Luck.
 - B) It was a type of Mistletoe and people would kiss under it for Good Luck.
 - C) It was a branch that holly would be tied to.

2. In Tudor England, Christmas was celebrated in wealthy homes by having ‘Sweetmeat’ and huge displays of sweet foods made with sugar. But why was Sugar used?

- A) The Tudors believed sugar to be an essential food group.
- B) Sugar was cheap and easily available, so many dishes could be made out of it.
- C) Sugar was very expensive and only the rich could afford it, so having ‘sweetmeat’ banquet was a way of showing off your wealth.



3. Although the Christmas Tree was in use several years before, who is given credit for introducing the Christmas Tree to England?

- A) Prince Albert, Queen Victoria’s husband.
- B) Winston Churchill, The British Prime Minister in WWII.
- C) Henry VIII, A Tudor King.



History - Christmas in the past Quiz!

4. Tom Smith was an apprentice in London in the early 19th century. On a trip to Paris in 1840, he admired the French sugared almond bon-bons (Small sweets)

For seven years he worked to develop the bon-bon into something more exciting, but it was not until he sat one evening in front of his fireplace that his great idea came to him. Watching the logs crackle, he imagined a bon-bon with a pop. He made a coloured paper wrapper and put in it another strip of paper containing chemicals which, when rubbed, created enough friction to produce a noise. He knew that bangs excited children (and were said to frighten evil spirits) What had Tom Smith invented?

- A) Popping Candy.
- B) The Christmas Cracker
- C) Christmas Stockings.



5. In the 19th Century, there were lots of names

for Father Christmas, which of these is not a

name for Father Christmas?

- A) St Nicholas
- B) Sinterklauss
- C) Father Gifts



6. In Medieval times, the poor would eat a pie made from all the leftover parts of the animal once the rich had finished it!

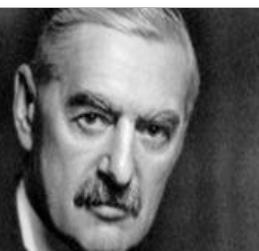
What was this pie known as?

- A) 'umble pie
- B) Bramble pie
- C) Scrambled pie



8. Which British leader banned the celebration of Christmas?

- A) Neville Chamberlain
- B) Queen Elizabeth I
- C) Oliver Cromwell



7. In World War II, supplies were short. Which one of these statements is not true?

- A) Carrots were used instead of sugar in cakes and lamb was used to make fake turkey.
- B) People could not afford Turkey with rationing coupons so ate chicken, mutton or rabbit instead.
- C) People ate sawdust in biscuits to give them texture as rationing meant flour was limited.

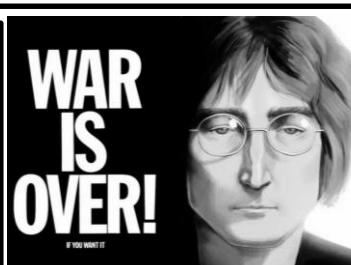


9. On Christmas Day in 1914, World War I had been going on for nearly 5 months. Many men had been killed or injured and they were fighting in muddy trenches. Which of these is not true?

- A) The soldiers started to play football, sing carols and share chocolate with the enemy.
- B) The Soldiers were given boxes of Christmas presents, such as chocolate, cigarettes and mini bottles of whiskey.
- C) The Soldiers were told they must keep fighting, Christmas was to be like any other day.

10. John Lennon's song 'War is over' (If you want it) was a protest song against which war?

- A) World War II
- B) The Cold War
- C) The Vietnam war





Modern Foreign Languages

Spanish

In the Spanish lessons, the students not only learn grammar and some vocabulary about different topics, being aware of the interest that normally they present for the Spanish culture and the different traditions, the MFL department always include cultural elements that promotes their learning beyond the class, and therefore, this month, the students are learning about the Christmas in Spain.

Christmas in Spain



The 22nd of December



This day is a very special day for Spanish people. It is for many of them the beginning of the Christmas season. Is the day of the Christmas Lottery. They call it "El Gordo". Loads of people play the lottery that day and there are more chances to win than any other day. The Christmas lottery adverts are similar in Spain to the John Lewis adverts in the U.K. They are always quite emotional.



The 31st of December

Did you know that in Spain the night of the New Years Eve people eat 12 grapes during the last 12 seconds of the year? Some people also eat lentils for lunch the 31st of December as they believe that this will bring them luck.



The Three Wise Men The 6th of January

Father Christmas is not as famous in Spain as he is in the U.K., however, children in Spain also receive presents, but from the Three Wise Men the 6th of January instead. The Three Wise Men were three kings who came far away to offer presents to Baby Jesus a few days after he was born in Bethlehem.



French Exchange



Students in Y7 have started an exchange with Immaculée Conception Independent Catholic school in Lille. They will be visiting their French pen pals in March 2020. Lille is the fourth largest city in France, renowned for its culture and Flemish roots. Situated in the north of France, Lille is famous for its universities and picturesque monuments such as "Beffroi de l'Hotel de ville" or "Maison Coillot" our students will have the privilege to be immersed in the French way of life at an early stage of their course, giving them strong foundation to become world class linguists. We will keep you posted on our stay in France, in the meantime you can try to translate our new friends' letters. **Joyeux Noël et à bientôt!**

Message 4

Notre école s'appelle l'Immaculée Conception à Fécamp près de Lille, dans le nord. L'école accueille les élèves de 3 ans à 15 ans (maternelle, primaire et collège). Il y a 1200 élèves. C'est aussi une école catholique.

L'école commence à 8h20 et se termine à 16h30. Le midi certains vont à la cantine ou rentrent chez eux manger.

Les repas à la cantine sont assez bons. Le vendredi, c'est du poisson. C'est un self et il y a un bar à légumes.

Il y a 3 classes de CM2. Nous étudions les mathématiques, français, anglais depuis 3 ans, histoire, géographie, sciences, sport, arts plastiques. Nous allons à l'école le lundi, mardi, jeudi et vendredi. Tous les 6 ou 7 semaines nous avons 2 semaines de vacances sauf pour les grandes vacances où nous avons 2 mois (été). Au collège quels sont les noms de classes ? (6^{ème}, 5^{ème}, 4^{ème} et 3^{ème}) Avez-vous cours le mercredi ? Portez-vous des uniformes ? Faites-vous des sorties scolaires ? Comment fêtiez-vous Noël à l'école et dans votre famille ? Avez-vous des délégués de classe ? Nous vous souhaitons un joyeux Noël à

Vendredi 29 novembre

Horaires

Tous les horaires, nous pouvons arriver à l'école à partir de 7 heures (garde de matin) à 8 heures ils nous envoient dans la cour. À 8h10 les grilles ouvrent et nous pouvons entrer dans la cour rejoindre les autres enfants. À 8h20, nous nous réisons en rang, peu de temps après les professeurs viennent nous donner. De 8h25 à 10h15 nous travaillons, puis nous avons une récréation d'un quart d'heure. À 10h30 nous rentrons en classe puis à 11h30 nous allons manger. Tous 30 min plus tard, nous allons dans une récréation qui durera 1h30. À 13h35 nous travaillons puis nous sortons en récréation jusqu'à 15h05, de 15h20 nous travaillons en finissant la journée à 16h30. C'est fini !! Mais il y a la garderie et l'école (pendant 16h30-19h05) étude 16h30-17h30



Hello, my name is Lara and ten years old. I am playing ping-pong and he Monopoly. Je m'aime pas the football.



Hello, my name is luc. I am 10. Je vais aux scouts. Je m'aime pas à l'école parce que ça empêche de jouer. Tu ce que tu aimes à l'école ?



Salut je m'appelle SOFYAN j'en ten years old. My favorite sport is tricotining. Je déteste le footballe. J'aime le gaming in Fortnite. Mon plat préféré est la macdonald. GOUDBAKE MY FRIEND.



Hello my name is Younes. I am 10 ans et demi. J'aime tennis, football and athlétisme. Je don't like baseball. Et quelle heure te lèves-tu de la pêche ? Moi je fais de la pêche.



Hello, my name is Clémence. I am 10 years old. I like l'athlétism, football et la gymnastique. A l'école, I don't like l'Histoire. Quels sports fais-tu à l'école ? A tu des frères et soeurs ? Quelle est ta couleur préférée ?



Hello my name is Jules, I am 10. J'aime l'athlétisme et gaming. Nous ne portons pas d'uniforme. quel est le nom de votre école. Je n'aime pas trop l'anglais. La plus vieille de ma classe s'appelle Emma.

Food Technology

Cupcake Extravaganza

Step 1

Make decorations with precision



Hawa, Kaedon and Baron artistically rolling and carving out the decorations.

Tyreece Proudly making and filling the cases.

Step 3 Icing



Louis, Isaac, Moussa and Robert showing off their piping skills.

Step 4 Finally, the beautiful cupcakes.



The final products with John Ray proudly showing his batch.

Aelizio proudly presenting his beautifully piped cupcake.



Louis could not wait to devour his cupcake.



A very proud Year 8 group!

More Final Products.



Year 7 DT - Graphics



Year 7 boys proudly displaying their Pop-Up Christmas Cards .

Picture showing boys developing their Pop-Up Cards using the Publisher Software.



Year 7 DT – Resistant Materials



Year 7 boys displaying the final outcomes of their creative pewter keyrings.

Year 8 DT – Resistant Materials



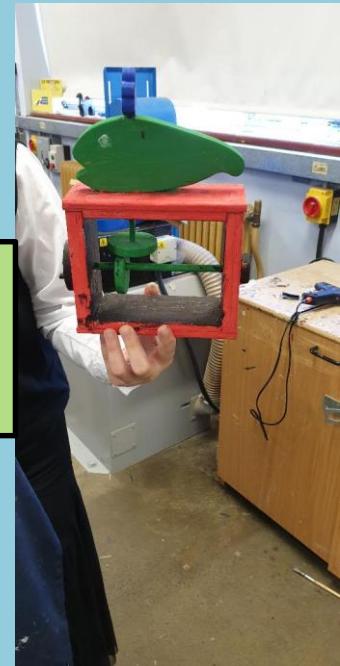
Year 8 boys
showing off their
Clock Project.



Year 9 DT – Resistant Materials



Pictures showing Cam
Toy Projects.



Year 12 Vocational Studies



Taha is pictured here painting the flag of his native country on his money box.



Rafat is seen here in deep concentration adding finishing touches to his work.



Nedal can be seen here expertly painting his project.



Bhumika is proudly displaying her well crafted and finished money box.



Yohana is seen in this picture performing quality checks on her project.



Here she is skilfully assembling her money box .

Treasure and torture at the Tower of London

EAL College



Students enjoyed trips to the Tower of London and the British Museum this term.

Historically the Tower of London, completed in 1285, has served as a royal palace, a political prison, a place of execution, an arsenal, a royal mint, a menagerie and a public records office.

At the Tower of London students saw the Crown Jewels, including the Queen's imperial state crown worn by the Queen at the opening of parliament. They also saw King Henry VIII's armour and the Bloody Tower, where members of the royal family were held centuries ago. "All of my class loved the trip to the Tower of London," said Nisar. "It was the first time my friends went there. We saw lots of things inside the Tower of London. We saw an old prison

The ravens

"The ravens that live at the Tower of London eat raw meat and biscuits soaked in blood. Once a week they eat one egg and a whole rabbit with fur," explained Brouj. In April, for the first time in 30 years, healthy raven chicks were born at the Tower of London.

and a present which was given to the King and Queen many years ago. Inside the prison they have an old zoo. They kept animals in the zoo." Yusef thought the trip was amazing. "It was amazing and interesting and we saw jewellery and the Queen's Crown. It was interesting travelling on the train into central London. We saw Beefeaters and the ravens who live at the Tower of London. We took lots of photos. My advice for everyone is to go to the Tower of London and to see London Bridge too." Ahmed went with his class, P More B. "The trip was amazing and we saw the Queen's Crown, the Beefeaters (who were originally guards at the Tower of London and are now guides for visitors) and old armour. We took pictures of each other in the armour!"



The Crown Jewels

The Crown Jewels, jewellery belonging to the British Monarchy and displayed at the Tower of London since 1661, are under armed guard at the Tower of London. The Imperial State Crown, worn by the Queen, is just over 2kg, the same weight as a bag of sugar. There are 2868 diamonds, 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, 269 pearls and 4 rubies in the crown. Nisar said, "My favourite part about the trip was when I saw lots of things that I hadn't seen before."

EAL trips enable students new to the UK to discover London by visiting a range of historical and cultural landmarks.

Students enhance their cultural capital, developing their knowledge about a range of topics. They consolidate and extend their learning by writing and drawing in their trip journal, in lessons after their trip.

To date, EAL students have visited the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, the Natural History Museum, London Sea Life, London Zoo, the British Library, the National Gallery, the Tate Modern, Kew Gardens, the Royal Observatory and the Science Museum. "The trips are good for the students because we learn so much about London. New students also learn how to use public transport," said Ahmed.



"My friend Nour and I put the small gold crowns on our heads in the Tower of London shop!"



Nisar and Ahmed (above) tried the "comfortable" military helmets at The Royal Armouries, which has been responsible for making and storing arms, armour and military equipment for as long as the Tower itself has been in existence. Claudia (right) saw a display of metal hooks.



EAL students from KS3 Pathway visited the British Museum. There they saw different statues and learned about the Rosetta Stone which has three different languages engraved on it. George enjoyed the trip. "I saw a statue of George III and George IV. In the museum I also saw lots of artefacts from Egypt, including an Egyptian urn.

"At story time we heard about a tree sculpture with guns. The origin of the story was America. The guns were brown. I also saw a feather, which was so big and different to the small feathers we see in London. I saw different costumes from Africa and masks, some of them were scary. The costumes were all colours: black white, brown, pink and green, like the masks.

The food in the museum was expensive, but we brought our own food to eat at lunchtime." Romeo saw lots of "beautiful" things at the British Museum. "There were things from every country. I learned many things on our trip. I saw a statue with guns. I also saw something very funny, it was an old statue with shoes."



KS3 Pathway students liked the statue of The Townley Discobolus, a Graeco-Roman copy of a fifth-century BC bronze statue, which was excavated at Hadrian's Villa at Tivoli near Rome in 1791. The statue is criticised because the athlete is not looking at the discus, as he would if he was taking part in the games. However, the original statue was found without a head attached to its body and so the head was added when the reproduction was made.

Meet the new EAL Editorial Team

An EAL Editorial Team has been created this term, comprising one member from each class. The team will write about news and achievements in the EAL department for a range of publications, including The Newman and the EAL magazine. They will also contribute to photography and design and distribute a range of EAL publications throughout the year.



Menna (PNB), Daniela (PMA), Adrian (8Q), Ahmed (KS3 Pathway), Nisar (PMB), Robert (PNA) and Jaydip (12/13 Hinsley).

Students from 12 and 13 Hinsley took part in the **Shoe Box Appeal** this year, filling shoe boxes with a range of items including pens, pencils and notebooks. The shoe boxes are sent to less fortunate children to open at Christmas.



Creating a podcast

Students in P More A and P More B are taking part in a 12-week podcast project. Students are learning skills in speaking and listening and the technical skills required to create and broadcast a podcast. "We are proposing to make our podcast in January, we are learning new skills so that we are able to do this. I really like the project because I can improve my speaking and listening skills," explained Daniela. "We are also learning new vocabulary. In the lessons we watch videos and explain what we like about them. We also presented speeches to our class, on topics such as animals, our home countries etc. This week the teachers interviewed each student about their hopes and dreams for the future. Some people are shy, but if we practise we will all become more confident."

What is a podcast?

A podcast is a serial periodic digital publication either in audio or video. It is usually downloaded from the internet and it can be listened to both on a computer and a mobile phone or ipad.

Delicious dishes

Students from 12 Hinsley made a delicious noodle dish this term. "I enjoy cooking," said Minakshri. "First we cooked noodles in boiling water, then we removed the skin from the chicken and cut it into strips before cooking. Then we prepared the vegetables." Rutika also likes cooking. "We crushed the garlic, deseeded and sliced the chilli and when the noodles were ready we put it all together. It tasted very nice."



The Sixth Form

Sixth Form Committee

The Sixth Form are proud to announce a new Headboy/Girl for this academic year, Rabia Wahid (13 Joseph) and Shamal Mohammed (13 Joseph).

Both students delivered outstanding speeches to ensure that they were elected into this elusive and sought after roles. Shamal and Rabia have been excellent in these roles thus far, showing real leadership during Sixth Form Committee meetings and by positively articulating the needs of Sixth Form students when they met with the Headteacher, Mr Coyle.

"I have been consistently impressed with the prefects within the Sixth Form, specifically the Headboy/Girl. Each year, they continue to drive standards in the Sixth Form and ensure that student's voices are heard". (Mr Molokwu, Head of Sixth Form)



Mc Millan Cancer Coffee Morning

Within the Sixth Form, I am proud to say that we are made up of a number of different nationalities, and as such, a number of different faith groups. That notwithstanding, as a Catholic school, we ensure that this message is continually spread within the Sixth Form. As such, I have continually been impressed by the ongoing charitable work undertaken by all students.

Sixth Form students planned and implemented what has now become an annual McMillan cancer Coffee Morning. Students were given the option of a number of different charities to support, but decided to remain with McMillan. Students have continually raised well over £200 each year, with this years total being £230. "A big thank you must be given to our schools police officers, PC Weedon, PC Patel and PC Breakwell, who donated a large number of the cakes for sale!" (Mr Albert, Deputy Head of Sixth Form)

Into University Workshop

Year 12 undertook their first Into University workshop for this academic year. The session, named 'Skills for the Future' was a practical two hour workshop covering key topics related to student budgeting and finance. Topics covered involved how to apply for student finance, cost of student accommodation, food bills and cost of utilities. All students agreed that the workshop was necessary and very informative.



A Message from the Computing/Business Department.

Christmas is a time for family and friends, too often do we become caught up in the amount of time that you are spending on your PCs and Games consoles either gaming or on social media.

It is important to make sure that we make time for those near and dear to us.

Too much screen time?

These days, screens of one kind or another occupy youth for 50 hours a week, in 2010 a survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation reported. "It's a full-time job plus 10 hours of overtime, and that's the average,"

Video-gaming consumed nine weekly hours for teens, the Kaiser survey found, while a Harris Poll conducted for Gentile during the same period reported 13 hours a week spent gaming on computers and consoles.

★ While some kids can shoot 'em up for hours, for others, too much time gaming leads to poor school performance. Recent studies have finally linked the cause and effect, showing that gaming displaces after-school academic activities such as homework and reading. It is really important that you do not let your love for Video games and/or Social media get in the way of your future. Nor should it get in the way of you enjoying yourself and spending time with your friends out and about.

4 Things you can do instead of sitting in front of screens!

Below is a list of things you could try over the Easter holidays instead of festering in front of a screen!

1. Prayer

A lot of us become caught up in the presents and the food and all of the excitement. We can forget the true meaning of Christmas: it is a time of spiritual reflection on the important foundations of the Church. It's also a celebration. It's when we celebrate God's love for the world through the birth of Jesus.

2. Read, Read, And Read More

Never before in human history has so much information been available for us. Reading non-fiction is especially important. History and biography books will enable you to learn about great men from the past while philosophy, psychology, and sciences will expand your mind.

3. Play a Board Game

Board games are a great way to spend time with your family and friends whilst still getting your gaming fix! They encourage you to be social and enjoy time with people around you!

4. Charity

We are very lucky to be where we are in the world right now, with the new year coming up this could be a good time to have a sort through your things and give items you don't use anymore to charity so someone else can benefit from it and you can help those less fortunate than yourself.

From All of Us in the ICT department we wish you a safe, happy and healthy Christmas Holidays.



Physical Education

So far this term PE have had 100% win rate in all basketball matches and some exceptional results in the football. The Year 8 basketballers are doing very well under Coach De Four as are the Year 10s. Special mention should be given to all players as no player is above anyone else within the team, hence the meaning of the word 'team'. Mr Jeeves and Mr Boakye Smith have developed a good training strategy with their teams which has led to great success 16-1 against Michaela School being one of the stand out games. Another mention needs to go to Mr Albert for taking on the Sixth Form football team and training them in a way that some of them were tested to their limits.

Future news for the new year, we will be introducing a Boxing Club after securing money from Wembley Stadium Trust the format and day has yet to be arranged as we are looking to secure an internationally recognised coach. There are indoor cricket competitions coming up and we are looking to also invite schools for table tennis competitions in the new year.

A special mention to Mr McCrann and Mr Molokwu for steering the Level 2 BTEC students in their coursework and external assessments. A big thank you to Mr Molokwu for his contributions to the PE department over the past 5 years. He will be greatly missed for his expertise and humour.

Mr Finnie, Curriculum Leader Physical Education



Art



Their investigation into the life and artwork of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo has inspired the Year 10 GCSE artists to create a self-portrait that will reveal cultural background, interests and personality.



As part of our Newman Canonisation celebrations, Year 10 produced portraits of St John Henry Newman

Year 12 Paul are looking at natural form. They intend to create a personal response in the image of a 'Tree of Life' which is much inspired by the work of Gustav Klimt and Kerry Darlington.



Music

This year, the Music Department welcomed two new staff members, Mr Osborn and Mr Lawrence. Students enjoy music and have been learning new skills such as drumming. Students have been using technology programmes such as Music Ace Maestro. They have been composing their own versions of popular songs using Garage Band and Logic Pro. Year 8 Paul had great fun creating their own version of the famous Ben E King song 'Stand by Me'. GCSE students have been working on their compositions and performance pieces. We look forward to seeing the Music department go from strength to strength.



8 Paul students composing their versions of 'Stand by Me'.



Thierry and Rhuvuwn entertained passers by with their musical talent on a Grand Piano in Rome Fiumicino International Airport "Leonardo da Vinci"

Oyiye entertained visitors with his musical talent at Open Evening



URBAN SURVIVAL

Halloween Secret Cinema Event

The US trust ran a student led pop up cinema event in a local cafe called Rubio's on Harlesden High street. Rubio's was transformed into a creepy cafe through decorations sourced by the students. Rubio's closed slightly earlier in order for the students to dress the cafe with Calderon's, witches, pumpkins, candles and other Halloween paraphernalia.

Students curated the event through funding raised and pitched on the London Youth Futures program. The US Trust is a member of the London Youth program, which is one of the largest funded organisations, geared to supporting youth charities across London. The initiative allows students to pitch for money and to create events that have an impact on their community.

Our students pitched to have an intergenerational cinema event that brought the generations of the people in the community together. Local people attended the event from the community with their children. Students also managed to get some senior citizens and young people to engage through a quiz before the screening. Rubio staff members were so impressed that they got in on the act and joined in.

The US students programmed the classic movie **Ghostbusters** for the spooky screening. Rubio's were great hosts as participants of the event ate pizzas, popcorn, sweets and drinks. The event was so successful that US students have organised a Christmas pop cinema themed event. The students have programmed the film **Home Alone** for this festive and fun season.

Illuminated Light Trail – Blenheim Palace

As a special treat this year US trust provided tickets for students and staff to visit the Illuminated Light Trail at Blenheim Palace in Oxford. The visit included two US trust debate team members Thierry and Godson who had attended Blenheim previously for the annual Churchill debate competition. On this occasion though students had the opportunity to take in the splendour of Blenheim and the Christmas experience. The lights illuminated the glory of Blenheim and mixed in was the Christmas market. Walking around the illuminated Christmas trail is like stepping into an enchanted forest from a children's fairytale. Throughout the trail music is played and co-ordinates with the magnificent lights, this was truly magical trip. The sheer imagination, decorations and light displays were awe-inspiring for the students. After the trail we explored the Christmas market that had lots of stalls with lovely food, drinks and handmade crafts to buy. Students ended the winters evening with hot chocolates and marshmallows.



The US Trust organised a camping trip called A Way With Nature (AWWN) over the summer. AWWN was designed to promote self-esteem, independence & self-reliance in a new environment. Students also gained new experiences through outdoor activities with their peers.

Many of the young people who took part had never had the opportunity to experience nature. The activities they undertook were specifically designed to allow for improved team building, soft-skill development & problem solving.



In partnership with the NCC Police Summer Camp



METROPOLITAN
POLICE



With the cast of the musical 'Hamilton'

For the past few years our MPS Safer Schools Officers PC Weedon, PC Breakwell and PC Patel have organised a Police Summer Camp. This year, the US TRUST staff teamed up with our Safer Schools Officers from the Metropolitan Police force. They bonded, supported and worked with the young people. They hope this will foster deeper relationships and trust from everyone involved.

As part of the Police Summer Camp, five organisations teamed up to deliver the *NO PEN* project over the summer. The collaboration involved The US Trust, Soccerdays, The Metropolitan Police, Saracens and Mama Jaqs.

As a special treat the police were able to get a workshop from the cast of the hit west end musical *Hamilton*. Students were taken to a performance of *Hamilton* before the workshop.

The main focus was sports and wellbeing and Soccerday's provided a multitude of activities on a day-to-day basis.

Two *US Trust* Alumni's who previously attended the school were employed to support the project. Alfred and Heritier supported the cohorts and documented their progress through film.

The project focused on social cohesion, engaging with others and learning how to express their feelings. Through sports they were able to communicate more and learnt how to work as a team. The students also attended a Saracens Rugby Club workshop and went through training drills. After their sports session the coach gave a talk on the Saracens culture and how they operate as a club. The coach talked about everyone buying into the core values of Saracens. The coach went on to tell our students that they were now part of the Saracens family. Two of the students attending took the opportunity to join a Saracens initiative through the *NO PEN* program.

During the program there was also a cooking and wellbeing workshop. Allen a young chef that has his own local company called Mama Jaqs led the Masterclass. In the first part of the Masterclass students learnt about Allen's journey and were able to ask questions about nutrition. They also asked and learnt about being a young entrepreneur. The US Trust are currently arranging a mentorship program for some of the participants who have an interest in the food industry.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL APPLICATIONS

Newman Catholic College

Harlesden Road, Willesden

London NW10 3RN

Tel: 0208 965 3947/8497

Fax: 0208 965 3430

E-mail: office@ncc.brent.sch.uk

Website: www.ncc.brent.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr D P Coyle

Chair of Governors: Mr P O'Shea

The qualifying benefits are:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual

Income, as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), that does not exceed £16,190

- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Apply for free school meals

If you meet the criteria you can apply by:

- [Download the application form](#) (.pdf, 1.41MB) and return to Children's Team, Brent Customer Services, PO Box 1057, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 1HJ
- Asking your child's school for an application form which you can return to them or us
- Contacting Brent Customer Services Team on 0208 937 3110 for a paper copy of the application form which they will post to you.

The application form is only for a child or young person who attends a school or nursery in the London borough of Brent.

We will ask for proof of Child Benefit to be provided if this is your first application for free school meals. Eligibility for free school meals will not be backdated, so ensure you apply as soon as possible.

Please note that providing us with an email address or mobile number (or both) will help to ensure we can regularly inform and update you on the progress of your application.

Working Tax Credit exception

If you receive [Working Tax Credit](#) your children may be entitled to free school meals:

- for no longer than four weeks from the date you became unemployed (or reduced your working hours to less than 16 per week) and started receiving Working Tax Credit.

In this case you will need to provide evidence of your benefit. You need to make sure this information shows the date you became unemployed, or the date you reduced your hours, because free school meals are only available to parents on Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

If you have been unemployed and receiving Working Tax Credit for longer than four weeks, then your children are not entitled to free school meals.

If your Working Tax Credit stops and you begin receiving a different benefit that is one of the qualifying criteria listed above, you will continue to be eligible after the four-week period.

If you increase your hours or begin working and continue to receive Working Tax Credit your free school meal entitlement will stop.

Parent Information



Parent Pay

We are a cashless school. Parents need to pay for their children's meals in advance. Parents have the option of topping up Parent Pay online (there is a link at the top of the school website home page) or by going to a shop displaying the Parent Pay sign. All parents should have received a unique login (for the internet) and payment card (to be used in shops).

Extended School Activities

We have extended school activities happening every afternoon of the week. These are free. Please encourage your child to join up and learn a new skill. Make sure you child signs up for an activity. These are listed on our website.

Newman Catholic College PTA Parents Association

This is a group of parents who meet monthly on Wednesdays to organise events and raise money for the school. Some recent events have been our Bingo Nights and Quiz Nights. They have supported departments within the school- Science Fair, Drama Production, Spanish Classes, Rome Trip, London Citizens. New members are always welcome. This is a chance to meet other parents and make new friends.

PTA Meetings 2020- January 8th February 12th March 11th April

22nd May 13th June 17th July 8th

6.30pm in the school conference room. Come along and see for yourself.

Do you know someone in need?

Fresh Foodbank

Every Friday 11.00-12.30pm at Harlesden Methodist Church

Supporting individuals and families in need in our local community.

The food bank will supply up to 2 standard sized shopping bags of food free. (BYO Bags)



**THE FELIX
PROJECT**



School Resumes for Students Tuesday January 7th 2020

Behold! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

Matthew 1:23



Newman Catholic College
wish all of our friends and family
peace, joy and love
during this Christmas Season.