



The Newman

Your College Newsletter Issue 24 Christmas Edition 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As schools terms go, this ranks right at the top as the most memorable. I have to start with our wonderful students, their resilience and fortitude but above all kindness and generosity of spirits is at the very heart of my vision for this school. As you will read in this newsletter, we have continued to provide a top class education despite the challenges presented by a pandemic. When I heard that at private schools had set lessons so teachers could teach from home via online classroom apps I knew it was something we had to do here. Just because you are from a wealthier background does not mean you should have a better quality learning experience. Our parents have continued to support us and this has meant so much to our staff during this often turbulent term. Our staff have been wonderful role models, displaying resilience by showing up for our students even when their own lives have been affected. They are true heroes of their profession.

It has been tough but as a school and community we have rallied. We have stood together during this incredibly difficult time and we have come through it together. There is an indomitable spirit, a sense of community and feeling of family that I have never seen replicated at other schools. There is genuine love between staff and students. We would run through brick walls for each other. It just remains for me to wish you all a very restful Christmas break. We have all earned it. We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year.

D P Coyle



Charity Fundraising Partnership

We are committing our fundraising activities for two years to an 'After-School Programme' in the Beirut suburbs, in a partnership between UK-based **The Constantinian Charitable Trust** (TCCT) and their partner **CARITAS Lebanon**. Its aim is to prepare Syrian refugee and disadvantaged Lebanese children, irrespective of faith and gender, in serious danger of dropping-out of school, for eventual vocational/technical or Higher Education by ensuring their continued State education. The 3-year program of After-school teaching and planned activities (currently held in four centres with a total enrolment of 400) in Beirut, aims to promote their rights, provide protection, and give hope to their families and neighbourhood. The Trust hopes first to raise £325,000 for the Dekwaneh Centre, South East Beirut and the Ain El- Remmaneh Centre, South Beirut to ensure their funding for three years.

Professor Ian Linden, the chairman of the TCCT has responded: "I was very moved as were the other Trustees of The Constantinian Charitable Trust that the Newman College Governors will be directing the school's fundraising activities in support for the Afterschool Programme. My hope is that this new relationship between the children attending Newman College and the disadvantaged Lebanese children and the Syrian refugees attending the programme will be of real mutual benefit by further nurturing in the Newman College students the practice of solidarity that Pope Francis speaks about so often".

Mr Coyle stated: "I am delighted that the superb work of this school over the last few years in supporting refugees from Syria here in Brent as well as from other parts of the world will now embrace children in Lebanon. I am convinced that the relationships that will develop as a result of this project will be of great benefit to all these children and their communities."

The Chairman of the school's Governors, Paul O'Shea, writes: "Both Newman College and the TCCT project have thus far been involved in supporting Syrian children displaced and disturbed by terrible conflict in their country, albeit in different places and different ways. This speaks to the solidarity to which we are called in supporting those suffering the consequences of poverty in Lebanon and those wrenched from their homeland by war".

Our first Fundraising Activity was Christmas Jumper Day on December 16th.

Staff and Students joined in the festive spirit and we raised £410

#faith in action



**GOAL
£325,000**



**So far
£410**

#feedourfamilies

#faithin action

When lockdown began in March, we started providing food to over 50 vulnerable families who due to circumstances, lost their jobs, were furloughed had no recourse to public funds, couldn't access Universal Credit and more. The NCC Foodbank grew from this.

This need for food still continues now. The foodbank operates every Friday in term time from 3.30-4.30pm in rain, hail or sunshine.



The Yard
@ Gracelands

Elaine and Kirsty from the Yard collect food from local residents for us on a weekly basis and drop it off to us. This support is invaluable and we really appreciate all they are doing for us.



Community Engagement



Friday Foodbank



Thanks to Brent Council Marsh Road depot for dropping off two van loads of food.



Our newest partnership is with our neighbours Wates, who are building the development on Longstone Ave. They have donated food and they gave us a fridge to use for our foodbank. We very much look forward to working with Denise and her team to find out more about careers in the construction industry

At the height of the pandemic the Community Response Kitchen provided us with weekly provisions. Although they have scaled down their operations their support is still there.



Caritas have supported us throughout the pandemic, through the provision of food supplies and supermarket vouchers. Sister Silvana, the Development Worker for Caritas has been a beacon of support and ideas for us.

#feedourfamilies
#faithin action



We really appreciate the support of Amy, Abi and the Higgins team at Dan Court, Park Royal for their food donations and £50 Asda Voucher

Community Engagement



Friday Foodbank



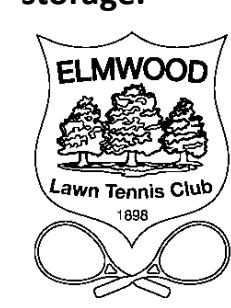
Trinidad Roti Shop
Rice Dishes
Vegetarian
Doubles
Roti
Exotic Cuisine
02088384800
Black Pudding
Polouries
Callaloo
Souse

Thank you to Dulcie Joseph the owner of the Trinidad Roti shop who is a Community Champion here in Harlesden and a pillar of the local community. Dulcie's generosity has enabled us to purchase Asda vouchers to support our vulnerable families over the Christmas Season. We very much appreciate her donation to us in these challenging times.

LOVE HARLESDEN



Thanks to Julia Straker, one of our parents for regularly dropping off left over food from the Harlesden Foodbank



Thank you to Elmwood Tennis Club members especially Rose Rouse, Sophie Rossdale, Caro Rossdale and Charlotte Edgell for their support towards the Foodbank



We received a lovely yellow cab load delivery of food from Ginny and David at Grand Union part of St Georges. This was very much appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS

We need to recognise the students and staff who willingly volunteer and give their time to run the Foodbank and make it possible- Antonio, Moussa and Joseph, Miss Kiernan, Mr Roche Miss O'Connell and Miss Grace.

We also appreciate the generosity of NCC staff who have given us monetary or food donations.

A generous monetary donation came to us via the Daniel Omari Smith Trust. Daniel our ex student was tragically killed in May 2010



London Citizens Reboots Online

Following a 6-week training course in May (hosted by London Citizens), Dillon Donnelly and Dhruv Hirani, Year 11 students decided to take action into their own hands and reboot London Citizens in order to raise awareness about the '#dontzapthezip' campaign - which aims to stop the government from taking away free travel from under 18's.

Dhruv and Dillon



The club rebooted on Wednesday 18th November and had a huge turn out of 21 attendees, spanning from Years 7-11. Since the meeting, the students have discussed a variety of key topics so far, including why the campaign is important to them, the effects of taking away the zip card, how to share their opinions effectively and how to raise awareness.



In the future the Year 7 students, with the help of the Year 11's and staff members, plan to record a short informative play which illustrates the devastating effects of taking away the Zip Card, such as the detrimental effects on children's education and the financial pressure put on families to pay for transport.

One Year 7 student said: 'London Citizens is important to me because it helps us to improve London and its issues that affect everybody - students and adults'.

Dillon Donnelly, a Year 11 student, stated: 'Our new campaign in London Citizens (#dontzapthezip) is so important to the lives of all the children who rely on free public transport to get to school, and around London'.

#Dontzapthezip

NORTH LONDON
CITIZENS



Samaritans' Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal 2020. **#faithinaction**

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 around 50 boxes of wrapped presents which was a considerable achievement considering the challenging year that we have all had.

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 also volunteered to help with wrapping and organising the boxes before they were dropped off.

Our contribution was collected by the Samaritan's Purse charity who were very grateful for our efforts and reminded us of the gratitude and joy of the children who will receive our presents.

It is always rewarding to see everyone coming together in our school community and living out Jesus' commandment of loving others.

Mr Hughes
Curriculum Leader Religious Education



The Chaplain's Report

*"Warm September brings the fruit,
Sportsmen then begin to shoot."*

The Months by Sara Coleridge (see other verses below)

As the apples and the blackberries ripened on the branch, the days grew cooler, September was upon us. The months of risk assessments and planning for this new academic year had arrived. The return to school after months of lockdown and home learning was a welcoming sight in Newman Catholic College. The staff started the Academic New year with prayers to thank Almighty God for His many gifts to us, especially during these last few months.

Faith in Action



Loving God, we entrust ourselves to you. Daily guide our minds and hearts to that we will work for the good of our school community and be a help to all we meet this year.

Teach us to be generous in our outlook, courageous in face of difficulty, and wise in our decisions. We ask this, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We ask and pray for a successful, healthy and happy year ahead. That the pupils will flourish and enjoy being back in class with their friends and teachers. That a love of life long learning be established in all.

With the new Risk Assessments and the Government Restrictions the Religious / Catholic life of the College looks different. The Form classes are leading the prayer session with their Tutor. A longer once a week Form Prayer service, prepared by the chaplain, is carried out in the Form time with pupil participation, almost like an assembly.

With a brand new Year 7 there are new spaces for the Liturgy Group. These members are chosen from and by the class. The election was more straight forward than the November election in the USA. The Year 7 group helped the Chaplain to prepare certain events for the form and the year group. These were especially helpful with preparation for Advent and Remembrance Day events.

*"Fresh October brings the pheasant,
Then to gather nuts is pleasant."*

Feast Days – Newman Day. The Newman events this year had to be altered due to the C19. The first anniversary since the canonisation of St John Henry Newman which was marked with a whole school prayer service lead by the chaplain and the Year10 liturgy group from the chapel. This was broadcast live to all classes and forms via google classroom. The staff and pupils gave positive feedback and appreciated the occasion. It was very prayerful.

All pupils and all staff were issued with a bookmark with prayers and quotes that were used in the chaplains "homily".



"God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not given to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for nothing. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace."

The theme was **"Faith in Action"**. The ideas from St J.H Newman about being created by God for a definite purpose plus the quote "preach the gospel, if necessary use words" by St. Francis of Assisi combined with the St Teresa of Avila "Christ has no body but yours..." Pupils all received a gift of a chocolate bar as they were going home that day.

Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Teresa of Avila



Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

October -Black History month: With events in the USA over the Lockdown period and subsequent "demos" here in London the fight for greater equality became a focus . The whole school once again dedicated themselves to the greater good the impact of people from around the world of every nationality especially of Black and Asian heritage. The Form prayers focused its attention on praying for people struggling for freedom and equal rights and recognition. How had the Catholic Church reflected the diversity of those Saints in Heaven. What black saint can you name?

*"Dull November brings the blast,
Then the leaves are falling fast."*

November list: When we returned to school after half term it was November. This is traditionally the month to remember the Holy Souls. The Staff and pupils were able to name the names of family members, relations and friends who have passed to their eternal reward. These names were then placed into our Holy Souls book which was placed before the tabernacle on a stand on the altar. A candle was lit every day and prayers offered. This is especially relevant after the current year.

PRAYERS FOR THE HOLY SOULS

Your name.....

*The names of the Departed
to be included in prayers for the Holy Souls:*

Add the names of your
deceased relatives and
friends.

The chaplain held a Remembrance Day 2 minutes silence within the school on Nov 11th at 11am. The representatives from Year 7 stood in the playground and were able to join in the prayers and service. The Last Post was played. This was broadcast live to the entire school where Form Tutors and their classes observed the silence and in a different way joining in the occasion. Then fourteen 6th Formers went to Willesden Cemetery to visit the War graves and memorial and laying a symbol of Newman on the graces and the monument. This was a silent, prayerful event again with the Last Post played out across the cemetery. Newman Remembers.

The New School Prayer Book: The chaplain has drafted a new, updated school prayer book. There is a copy available in the Reception area and in the chapel. Staff and pupils are often asking what to pray at times. This booklet has prayers for various occasions and people in our lives. The 100 prayers will in time be printed during the next year.



Prayers: The chapel is open, sanitised and available for all the Newman Community to use for prayer and quiet reflection and devotions. The Forms have reconstituted their liturgy groups. These stay in bubbles and assist and participate in the classes' prayer services.



*"Chill December brings the sleet,
Blazing fire and Christmas treat."*

Advent & Christmas: As the nights draw in and Lockdown 2 is lifted, the college prepare for Advent. The Church's New Year ends with the Feast of Christ the King. A teaching that Jesus Christ is King of all. He is the Lord of Lord. The answer to prayers for various kinds: pain, bereavement, Covid, furlough, job losses etc. We have as many prayers as thoughts and concerns, but faith in Christ to reign triumphant over all.

The Liturgy group lead their forms Advent prayer service. With the candle on the wreath and the chapel decked in purple as they Prepare, Pray and seek Penance during the build up to Christmas. It is always uplifting to see a reflective group in the College chapel. Enjoying them. Where pupils have an opportunity to build their relationship with their God.





We have started a breakfast club in NCC. Thanks to all donations.



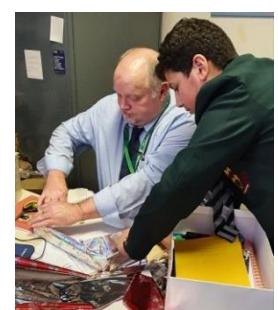
The Christmas trees were erected in the Hall, the reception area and at the foot of the library staircase. Each are colour coordinated: red & gold in the Reception, coloured by the stairs and the hall Christmas tree was a tree of thoughts, prayers and intentions. With white lights blinking, staff and pupils were asked to add decorations of stars or hearts. These could be for those who they haven't seen for a long time or for people who have died this year. Thanks to the volunteers for all their decorating . The Crib is displayed in the corridor for all to see as they pass by. A reminder that this is a time for peace and joy.



Faith in Action



Meet the Year 7 Liturgy group. Well done boys. Looking forward to working with you all.



E	T	I	A	W	E	S	H	P	H	U	A	R	K
A	C	G	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C	G	L
L	P	A	D	V	E	N	T	C	S	A	N	W	E
W	R	M	E	R	H	A	I	A	S	I	Y	D	V
R	E	R	A	P	E	R	P	N	K	O	O	E	A
A	P	Z	E	H	L	H	A	D	I	N	N	T	R
A	A	V	O	N	H	Y	P	L	K	G	S	G	T
N	R	P	G	R	T	E	K	E	C	J	R	O	V
G	E	E	E	A	E	H	Y	S	H	O	N	I	H
E	G	W	S	H	B	J	E	S	U	S	D	P	V
L	N	T	S	S	S	D	R	W	R	E	A	T	H
S	A	V	E	M	A	R	Y	O	C	P	V	A	A
R	M	V	J	R	D	O	R	E	H	H	I	O	T
S	I	G	E	A	J	L	L	L	P	L	D	B	L

STAR	MAGI
TRAVEL	MANGER
VIRGIN	MARY
WAIT	NAZARETH
WREATH	NEW

ADVENT
AGE
ANGEL
BETHLEHEM
CANDLES
CHRISTMAS
CHURCH
DAVID
DONKEY
HAIL
HEROD
HOPE
ISAIAH
JESSE
JESUS
JOSEPH
JOY
KING
LORD
LOVE
SHEEP
SHEPHERD
SKY
SONG
PEACE
PRAYER
PREPARE
SAVE



	True or False?
Q1. The Bible says that Jesus was born in December?	
Q2. Jesus was not born in 0 A.D.?	
Q3. We are told that Mary rode into Bethlehem on a donkey	
Q4. God is the real father of Jesus?	
Q5. The angels told the shepherds that they should worship the baby Jesus?	
Q6. The angel said "Peace on earth to all men"?	
Q7. The wise men were present at the birth site of Jesus?	
Q8. The Bible tells us that three kings riding on camels visited Jesus?	
Q9. The star led the wise men straight to Jesus?	
Q10. The tradition of giving presents at Christmas comes from the wise men presenting gifts?	
Q11. 25th December was originally the date of a Roman festival?	
Q12. Mary gave birth on the night that she arrived in Bethlehem?	
Q13. We are told that the angels sang at the announcement of Jesus' birth	
Q14. Jesus was circumcised on the 8th day of his life?	

Welcome to the Religious Education department.

This Christmas newsletter is looking back to October, when we focused on being Black and Catholic.

As a department, we set our students in Years 7-9 the challenge from the Diocese of Westminster to investigate what is meant by being 'Black and Catholic' focusing on **Father Paschal Uche** - A British Black born Priest in London.



Father Albert Ofere

Father Albert Ofere is one of our school priests that comes to say mass on Fridays.

He was one of the priests that inspired Father Paschal Uche to become a priest.

Father Albert is also a music singer, bringing African culture to catholic songs.

[Click here](#) to listen to his songs.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Diocese of Westminster

The Diocese of Westminster released a new article around 'Being Black and Catholic' as the events of the past few months, where the reality of racism has been thrown into the spotlight, have highlighted the urgent need to tackle prejudice in the world and to promote the dignity of every person.

In his message for World Communications Day 2020, Pope Francis reminded us that, '**Every human story has an irrepressible dignity.**'

They invited four individuals to share openly and frankly their experiences of being Black and Catholic. One of them being Father Paschal Uche is a Deacon and will soon be ordained as the first British-born black priest in the Diocese of Brentwood.

[Click here to read the article and watch their videos.](#)

ENGLISH



The Power of the '6 Steps'

Good Day all,

As Head of English, I always strive to make the subject of English easier to understand, as well as accessible for all learners. I came up with the 6 steps to give our learners a tool and guide that would assist them whenever they needed to respond to a text.

Whether Poetry, articles, novels or plays, the 6 Steps can be used to give a detailed answer to any Reading exam question.

The English department are committed to rolling this tool out across all year groups and can guarantee that if students use the 6 steps accurately and consistently, it will have a profound effect on their English analysis!

Mr Edwards
Head of English

Road to GCSE...

When you are analysing a text always remember the 6 steps...

1. Identify words, characters, symbols, structure...
2. Understand...
3. Explain in your own words...
4. Develop using connectives...
5. Explore other idea using alternatively/however..
6. Create a theory (what do you believe the text is *really* about?)

Principles:

- The 6 steps are a **checklist of skills and content** that should be in any piece of English analysis.
- They **do not need to be used in a particular order** but must be within a response/essay
- Over time it will become easy to **self assess work before** handing it in to a teacher/examiner
- Through **continuous practise** learners will gain confidence and marks as they begin to see where the **signposts** (6 steps) are in their work
- Students, over time, will be able to **identify the 6 steps in other peoples work**

Black Boys Book Club Goes Virtual



The Book club recently had a great Q&A session with the fantastic writer Jude Yawson. Jude is a writer and a poet. He helped to kick-start Penguin Random House's new imprint #Merky Books when he edited and co-wrote Stormzy's 2018 memoir 'Rise up: The #Merky Story So Far.'

Since then, #Merky have worked with big names like the Barbican and the Royal Society of the Arts, as well as alongside inspirational artists like Malorie Blackman and Benjamin Zephaniah.

"Poetry," Jude says, is about "coming together to understand someone else's form of expression. It might be different, it might be unique, but that's the beauty of it."

Jude navigated through endless questions about Stormzy and what it was like to co-write for such a huge star. Jude gracefully explained the importance of black British writers being the ones to tell the stories of people from their own community. Here is a sound bite of some of the great questions from our boys at NCC:

Question :- *Kye*: "Why did you want to write a book for Stormzy?"

Answer:- *Jude*: "The opportunity came about and ... when you're coming from an area that only you can relate to, only certain types of people...only you can really describe that experience...with Stormzy he was always just supporting other black causes"

Question:- *Jonah*: "Why Stormzy out of all rappers?"

Answer:- *Jude*: "when it comes to our community and representation within our community you've got to understand that you're growing into a system that has systematically and structurally held black people back...then you've got characters like Stormzy...so in terms of what all of these young successful men and women are doing, they're all literally trying to build the culture and the community ... to help with opportunities that we didn't have when we were your age".

"If I was to go to a publisher and ask to submit a story they might have all these other details as to why this story won't thrive or be successful... then you got people like Stormzy"

Q5. How does it feel writing a book in an industry that's predominantly white?

Jude: "it feels like taking up space, but it's a necessary space, one thing I'll tell all of you is that you probably have experiences in your mind that only you can articulate. Going into those spaces at first I was a bit intimidated because there was not many black faces here... but then I realised this is why it's even more important for our stories to be told... this is when I realised only I can do this"

Brilliant Blended Learning in English

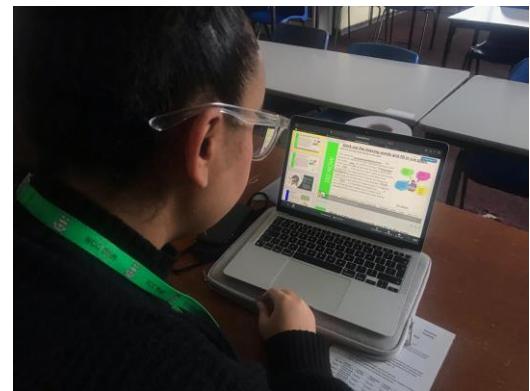
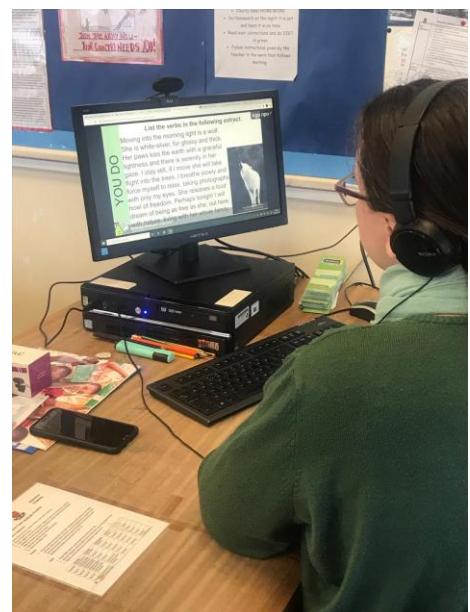
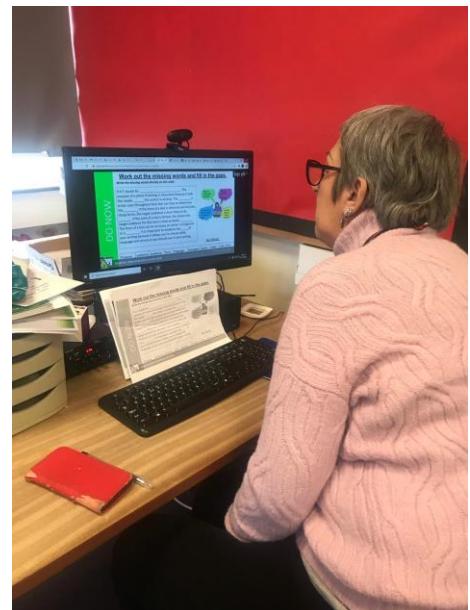
With the Year 8s at home and a week left until their assessments, we were determined to begin a week of online learning with a bang!

Thanks to the help of Pear Deck, an interactive online PowerPoint tool, we managed to create lessons where students could take part at home, all at the click of a button.

Students revised together on everything they have learnt so far this year, from interesting adjectives and adverbs to how to make a persuasive argument successfully.

As they wrote down their answers to questions at home, we could see every line drawn and every letter typed so that we were able to congratulate successes, correct any errors, and motivate students to keep up the fantastic work.

Attendance was brilliant and we were so impressed by how engaged and ‘switched on’ our students were, pardon the pun! A fantastic sign of things to come with technology supporting our quest to ensure *Everyone Counts, Everyone Contributes, Everyone Succeeds.*



ONE NIGHT OF SHAKESPEARE

Shakespeare Schools Foundation is a cultural education charity that uses the unique power of **Shakespeare to transform lives**. Over this term, Year 8 have rehearsed multiple times a week; from rehearsing in school with Miss Hardy, to working with Shakespeare **theatre professionals** in a specialist workshop.



Students have developed their **drama skills** as well as **life and communication skills** such as; confidence building, making new friends, tackling the language, group work, self reflection and evaluation and **ultimately we had a lot of fun!**

ONE NIGHT OF SHAKESPEARE

Year 8 have participated in the Nationwide Shakespeare Schools Festival, a celebration of Shakespeare's plays, for the fifth consecutive year. Our cast performed *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, to a large audience of 100 family, friends and staff, in our school hall, on Friday 20th November 2020!



The whole production was led by the Year 8 cast; from the actors, sound technician, lighting technician, stage managers and props, with Miss Hardy directing and overseeing it. The students worked incredibly hard as an ensemble to ensure everyone was included, shared ideas and felt heard.

ONE NIGHT OF SHAKESPEARE

The students 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.

Watch the live performance of our Year 8 students performing 'A Midsummer Night's Dream on You Tube

<https://youtu.be/Tx75mqYi2j0>



ONE NIGHT OF SHAKESPEARE

"OUR PLAY IS PREFERRED"

NEWMAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE DELIVERS FIVE STAR PERFORMANCE

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Newman Catholic College

20th November 2020

Appraised by Bethany Appleton



I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to Newman Catholic College for your exceptional production of A Midsummer Night's Dream as part of the 2020 Shakespeare Schools Festival, One Night of Shakespeare. Against all odds you have shown the world that theatre can be created in the darkest of times, demonstrating the best of yourselves. It was a wonderful performance, and I'd like to highlight a few aspects that really stood out.

My favourite thing about this performance was how you created the three different worlds of the lovers, mechanicals and fairies, making them really distinct at the beginning with different costumes and set, and then let us watch as the three became more entangled with each other. The Mechanicals in high-vis jackets was a particularly nice touch – a delightful modern twist and a simple yet effective costume choice. This was brilliantly contrasted with the music and beautiful lighting that introduced the fairies, and again with the plight faced by the Athenian nobles, as their more serious world was created, before the stories began to intertwine.

You brought a huge, lively, playful energy to the text and, in the best way possible, very much



made the play your own. You worked beautifully as an ensemble, and always kept the stage exciting, dynamic and visually interesting – this was a production that never had a dull moment, and had a great warmth and humour to it!

Every single actor delivered their lines with clarity, confidence and great vocal projection, to tease out the emotion but also the comedy from this story. This was a fun, magical production of A Midsummer Night's Dream from a lively and engaging ensemble – you could tell that the audience was loving every minute!

I am in awe of your boundless creativity, talent and determination. This was the year for experimentation and you rose to the challenge of performing Shakespeare for the camera with bravery, resilience and ingenuity. This demonstrates a great deal of maturity as actors, and innovation as theatre-makers. I know you will look back on 2020 with a great deal of pride at what you have achieved especially in light of the challenges you have faced. You all deserve a round of applause and standing ovation!

"This was a fun, magical production of A Midsummer Night's Dream from a lively and engaging ensemble."

**ONE NIGHT
OF SHAKESPEARE**

Raising Aspirations

The Brilliant Club

Currently 12 of the MAS across year 9 and 10 are enrolled onto a programme called The Brilliant Club (Scholars Programme)

They are involved in a 1hr tutorial session every week with a PhD research tutor from UCL. This programme aims for students to experience university – style learning. They will have to submit a challenging final assignment which is marked and moderated using university grades. They are studying the topic of pathogens and antibiotic resistance.



Franz, Sami, Kevin and Yusuf (Year 10)

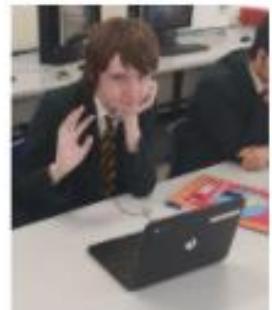


Anthony, Diego, Daniel, Oliwier, Ellias, Jad, Charlie and Malik (Year 9)

Raising Aspirations

This programme aims to help them to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to secure a place at a highly selective university. It will also provide them with the skills needed to ensure they progress across subjects by looking at study skills, independent learning and revision techniques.

They are all doing a FANTASTIC job and learning concepts that are at least 1 key-stage above their current year.



Science

Biomedia Meltdown Competition

Our KS3 students (years 7-9) have begun their fantastic journey in the Biomedia Competition.

Students have been given art books, pencils, watercolours and other items to help them create their ecological pieces.

Students have the chance to create different artistic pieces based around the concept of Ecology. This includes topics such as extinction, evolution, classification and adaptations.

Year 7



Mari McIntyre has made a start on his leaf assignment! Great shading!



Prince Osaje has brilliantly drawn and coloured his leaf print.

Science

Year 8



John-Ray Rabanillo has finished his first piece on the maple leaf! Excellent job!



Daniel Shamon has created these brilliant life like leaves!

Year 9



Maths Department News

Black History Month:

As part of Black History Month we invited students to celebrate and widen awareness of diversity in mathematical achievement. Students learned about the mathematical journey of Nira Chamberlain, a British mathematician based in Birmingham, UK. Students then created posters to honour a successful black mathematician either past or present.



Some of the mathematicians researched included: Benjamin Banneker (1731-1806), Elbert Cox (1895-1969), Euphemia Lofton Haynes (1890 – 1980), Katherine Johnson (1918 – 2020), Tidjane Thiam (1962 – present) and Nira Chamberlain (1969 – present). We received a number of outstanding entries and these will be displayed in the maths corridor as soon as possible.

Financial Maths:

This year we are continuing our commitment to support the development of students' financial literacy using the 'Your Money Matters' programme, endorsed by Martin Lewis of Money Saving Expert. This term year 8 explored budgeting and value for money as well as online payment security. Upcoming topics for other year groups will include interest, savings, understanding payslips and tax.

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.

Unfortunately the team challenge is unable to run this year but students from Year 7, 8, 9, 10 will have the opportunity to compete in the individual challenges against other students around the country. For more information visit ukmt.org.uk

NSPCC Number Day



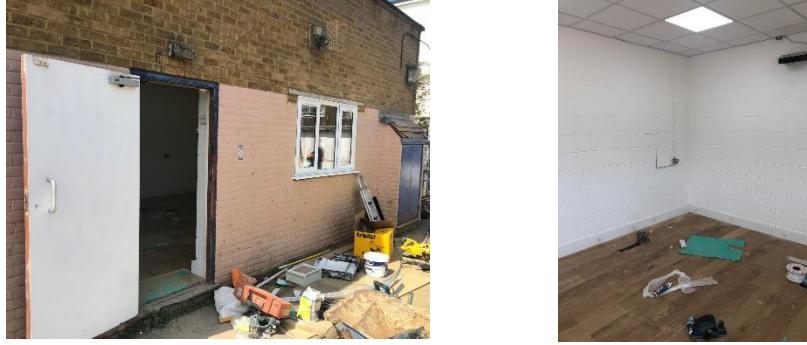
The maths department are excited to be supporting the NSPCC through celebrating Number Day (Friday 5th February 2021) again. There will be a number of events running throughout the day to raise money and awareness for the work of the NSPCC. The money we raise could help to fund Childline, the 24/7 helpline 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

Equipment:

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

PE Department

We are pleased to announce that the new NCC gym will be opening in January 2021. Mr Finnie and the PE team have worked tirelessly since the summer in putting everything together. It was a building that had been under used for a number of years. During the first lockdown, it was fully cleaned out a brand new floor was put down. This was the first stage in the development of the gym.



The next stage of the development was putting the correct equipment so that it could be fully utilised properly. Fortunately Mr Finnie had a multi gym, which he an ex student managed to build during the summer. This machine can be used for a variety of different exercises and according to Mr Finnie it is 'indestructible'. There is a new set of wonderful weights that have just been added which go all the way from 2.5kg – 25kg. We have also managed to include three fantastic treadmills. So anybody who is thinking of running any marathons then these are the thing for you. The gym also has a new HD TV which can be used to show exercise videos or play music while working. It's a fantastic addition which adds to the overall excellent experience of NCC gym.



With all that been said the most important part in all this is how we get you the students using this. We have had to put protocols in place due to COVID-19 which has delayed us letting students access it. For any students who want to use the gym, an induction needs to take place. This is so all students know how to safely use equipment so they don't incur any injuries from lifting heavy weights or lifting weights incorrectly. Once students have been inducted they will then be given a pass which gives confirmation that they have been safely inducted and are able to use all of the equipment in a safe manner. Now due to the size of the gym which is relatively small and the ongoing COVID-19 situation we are unable to allow students from different year groups. Students will have designated days in which they can use the gym and it will be a first come first serve basis. As of right now, we can only allow five students at a time. So you will need to be fast. Over the Xmas holidays get your training programmes ready for the new year. Myself and the PE team would like to wish all students a very Happy Christmas and prosperous new year. Please look after yourself and your family.

All the Best.

Geography News

HS2 is a massive infrastructure project happening right here on our doorstep at NCC, with the development of Old Oak Common Station providing a super hub connecting London, Birmingham and the North West.

This term, as part of their UK economy module, our Year 11 Geographers have been getting to grips with just what's involved in making HS2 a reality. Students have been researching the arguments for and against, before facing off against each other in teams, using opinion supported by evidence and persuasive arguments to try and win the debate.

Competition was fierce but, as team captain, Thierry Halgand walked away with the prize (a tub of Cadburys Heroes) to share with his teammates. The winning argument? Those in favour of HS2 – we'll let you decide!



The Big Debate

"The HS2 infrastructure project is a good deal for Britain"

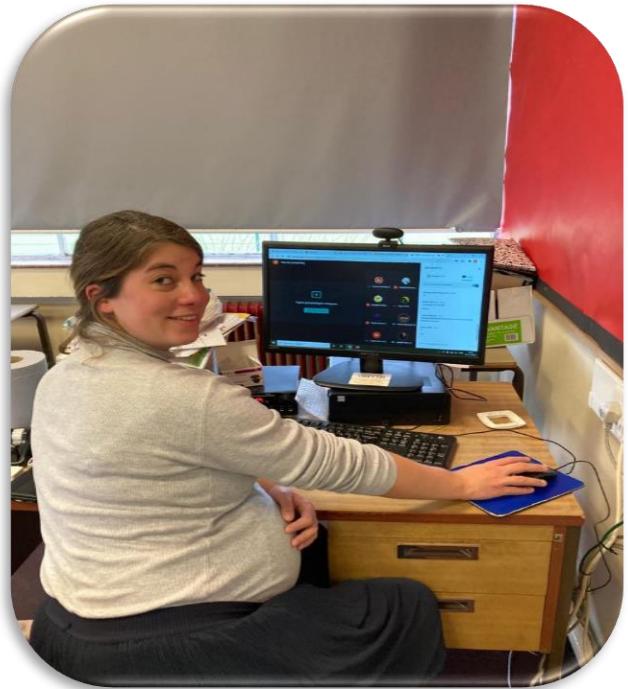


HS2



Virtual lessons

New challenges, new opportunities



In the MFL department, we have overcome the challenges of teaching live lessons that the pandemic forced us to face. We all felt a bit lost at the beginning, including the students, parents and teachers, but we are now experts and thanks to everyone's collaboration, virtual lessons have been as good as onsite lessons.

Students are engaged, they participate and they really enjoy learning languages virtually!

Year 8 have been absolutely fabulous for 14 days, their level of engagement is to be commended.

They have shown us that we can turn challenges into opportunities.

Differences between Spanish and English Christmas Traditions

The length: In Spain, Christmas holidays last one more week than in the UK. Children have an extra week of holidays and workers have a few more bank holidays.

The Three Wise Men: In Spain, Santa is not as popular as he is in England or in other European countries. Children in Spain receive presents from the Three Wise Men January 6th. The Three Wise Men were three kings who brought presents to baby Jesus after he was born.



The Christmas Lottery: This takes place on the 22nd of December. It is an important day as it marks the beginning of the Christmas celebrations.

You need a 5 digits matching number to win. Tickets cost 20 euros. Families normally buy a few tickets and watch the lottery draw on TV. The biggest price is 4 million euros and it is called 'El gordo'.



New Years Eve: On New Year's Eve the Spanish follow a few rituals or traditions to bring good fortune. We eat lentils for lunch and we eat 12 grapes at night, the last 12 seconds of the year (one grape per second).

Señorita Sanz



Business @NCC

**Wishing you a Happy
and Healthy Festive Season!**



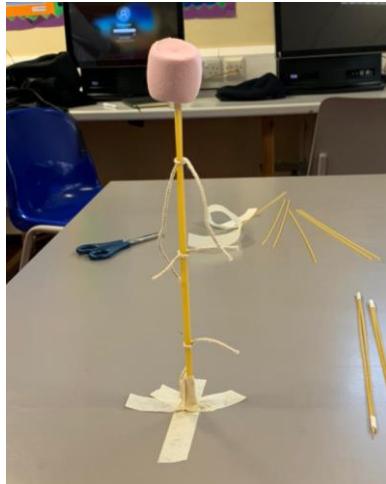
Firstly, Mr. Albert and Mr Connors would like to wish you all a happy and healthy festive season.

We hope that you all enjoy a good rest and spend some good quality time with those dear to you.

All of you have been fantastic this first term, you have risen to the challenges of one of the strangest school years that we have ever seen and took it in stride and just got on with it, well done to you all!

What have we been up to?

Our Year 13s have been exploring different team building tasks as part of their level 3 BTEC in Business.



For this task they were put into teams and were tasked with building the tallest tower possible using only raw spaghetti, masking tape and a marshmallow which had to sit atop the tower.



Here is the winning attempt.

1p Savings Challenge!

The New Year is the best time to develop a new habit. What we are suggesting is that you take part in the 1p challenge.

Here is how it works:

Each day you save what you saved the day before, plus just 1p more. So you start by saving 1p, then 2p, then 3p a day – right the way up to £3.65 by the end of December 2021.

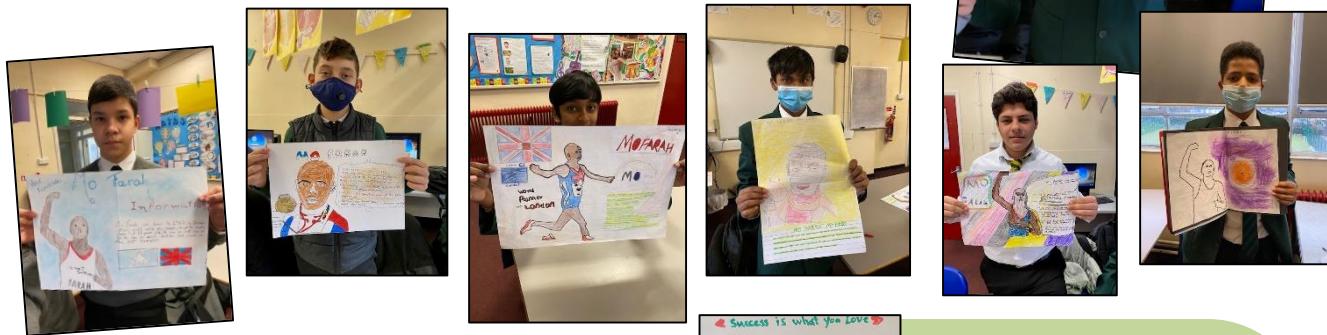
If you start on 1 January, then by 31 December 2020 you'll have saved a huge total of £667.99 – just by saving your pennies.

If you want to get involved speak to Mr Connors who will print you off a chart that you can use to track your progress!

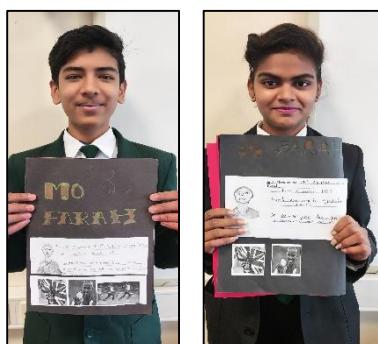


Celebrating Black History Month

Students in the EAL Department celebrated Black History Month with poems and stories about Mo Farah. The celebrated sports star was chosen as an example of someone who moved to the UK as a child and achieved enormous success in the field of sport. “We learned interesting things about Mo Farah,” Mohamed said. Nithesh added, “He’s very fast and I like his personality.”

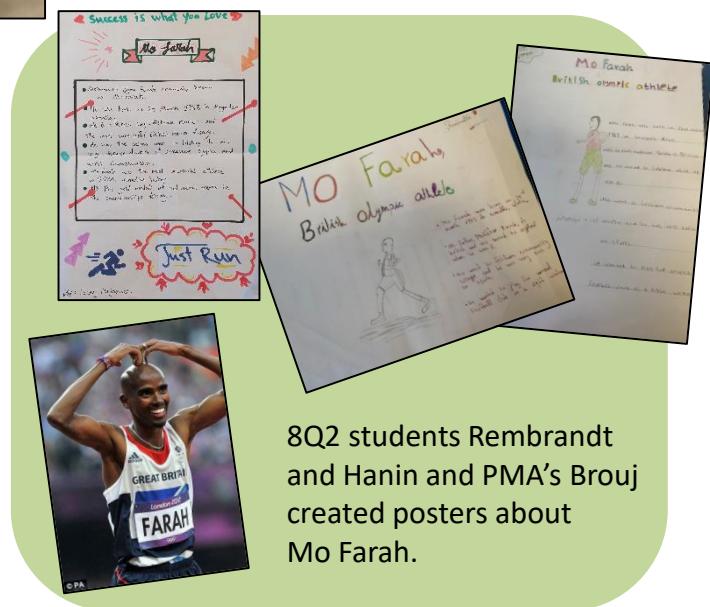


Students from KS3 Pathway created colourful posters to celebrate Mo Farah's success. “I know he is from Somalia and he is a very fast runner. He has won gold medals and even when he was 14 years old, he won competitions,” said Volodymyr. Abukar said, “He comes from the same country as me and we have the same name!” Arkan added, “I saw him on the television and he is a good runner. I enjoyed learning about him.”



“Mo Farah is very fast and a brilliant sportsman!”

Students from 8Q1 researched facts about Mo Farah. Ankit found out that Mo was born in 1983, in Mogadishu, Somalia and spent his early childhood living in Somaliland in Djibouti. Chahna enjoyed learning about Mo. She said, “He’s a good sportsman and he’s very fast.”



8Q2 students Rembrandt and Hanin and PMA's Brouj created posters about Mo Farah.



Students from 8Q2 enjoyed exploring colour and shade in their recent art assessment.

“Mo Farah is cheerful and happy!”

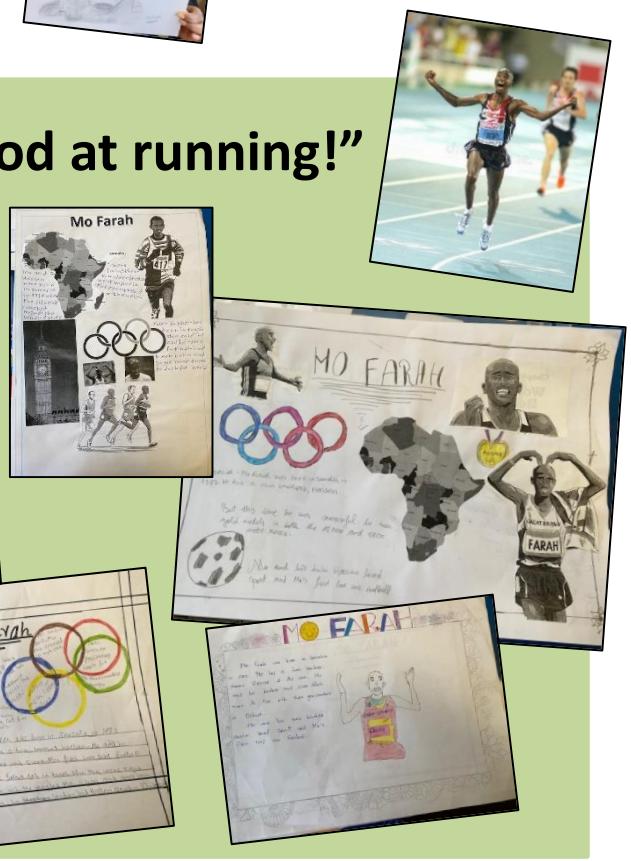
Students from PNA learned about Mo Farah. “Mo Farah is a most successful person,” said Kashish. “He is very famous because he is very hardworking and he can focus on his work. He is an Olympic champion and also a marathon runner. He won gold medals.” Vaishali also likes Mo Farah, “He is a great and successful person and he comes from a different country.” Reem and Malak like the fact that he is “famous” and are impressed by his seven gold medals. While Bayan points out that not only is he a runner but he can play football too. He is “cheerful and happy” said Donelly. Lazarus adds that he thinks Mo is also “respectful”.

“I found out lots of facts about Mo Farah. He was born on 23rd March 1983 in Mogadishu, Somalia. He is a British distance runner and he is very famous. He won the 5,000 and 10,000 metres and has also run the marathon. He has a lot of medals!” Ashraf



“He worked hard to be good at running!”

Students from PMA created stunning posters to illustrate Mo Farah’s success. Mo came to London as a young child and thanks to the support he received at school pursued his dream of becoming a world class sportsman.



Morning breakfast



"We like the cereals and eating breakfast in the morning makes us feel energetic!"

Every morning during lockdown students in the EAL Department were provided with breakfast. Students chose from a range of cereals and porridge. "We like having breakfast," said students from PNB. "We like the cereal and it make us feel energetic." Emanuel agrees, "It gives me energy and I like the cereal best." Benjamin enjoys helping teachers distribute the cereals. "My favourite cereal is the honey loops," he adds. Rembrant and Rodolfo also enjoy the cereals, "It's good, we like having breakfast in the morning." Mohamed explains that he travels for an hour to get to school and so doesn't have a lot of time in the morning to eat breakfast before he comes to school. "I travel a long way so it's nice to have breakfast before we start." Orber agrees and also enjoys eating with his friends in the morning. Abukar, Ahmad, Awad and Nithesh agree that the cereals are "delicious and healthy".

Halloween stories from KS3 Pathway.

The Old House

In my city is a very old and dirty house. A tree is near the house, it looks like it wants to catch you. People think no one lives inside but some say that they saw a light shining from the window.

One man wanted to go inside the house. In the night he goes inside but he does not come back and no one saw him anymore. When police go inside they can't find him.

A year later the police go back to the dark house and find a deep hole inside the house. Everyone that went into the house fell into the hole and couldn't get out, so they died in there.

By Volodymyr

The Spooky House

One day there was a house on the top of mountain and it was foggy and dark. There was a lot of leafless trees and a graveyard. The house is creepy and it's making me scared. The bushes look like humans because they are as hairy as a human head. There was a huge moon beyond the house. The floor outside the house is dry and it crunches when I walk on it. Two windows are looking at me. The house is squeaky and the doors and floors are broken. The gravestones are broken with lots of bodies. The bodies are all chopped up and it's making me scared. *By Mohamed*

A successful first term!

EAL Pathway students were delighted to return to school for a busy first term of the academic year 2020 - 21! Despite all the challenges that Covid 19 brings to our daily lives, the attendance of the EAL students is very high and their commitment to learning at school and remotely is outstanding. The participation in the online lessons reached 86% and we are all very proud of this achievement! Thank you to the families and students for their continued extraordinary support.

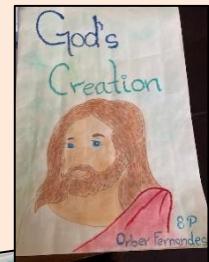
We are determined to continue expanding our knowledge in all areas of the curriculum. This term, in English, students were exploring types of text and various techniques used by writers to attract the reader, others were enjoying the theme of 'Detectives', 'Travel' and 'Families and Everyday Routines'. In Science, students have been studying the 'human body' and in Physics the 'Electric Circuits' while in Maths students have been learning about the 'Four Operations,' 'Numbers', 'Properties of Number', 'Fractions' and 'Rounding'. Ms Bilan was excited to show me some of the fantastic work in History on the 'Stone age' and the 'Roman Empire'; in Geography, students were proud to learn about different 'Continents, Oceans and the United Kingdom'. Students studying ASDAN have been learning 'How to communicate with others at work'.

Enriched Programme of Study

This term our afternoon study period became a comprehensive learning programme. The programme aimed to enhance literacy and broaden knowledge in many subjects. Students benefitted from: 'Editorial Lessons' where they have an opportunity to gain an understanding of the publishing process, 'Virtual Trips', 'Learning Journal/PHSE' – in these lessons, students discuss their well-being, healthy living, strength and challenges, friendships and more. 'Language of Maths' lessons equip students with money sense skills, helping them to understand themes like 'borrowing and debt' and 'budgeting'. 'Art & Craft' lessons were enjoyed by students who created the most amazing Origami, developing their manual skills as well as sequencing skills and maths reasoning. 'EBook' lessons helped students develop their vocabulary and comprehension, while promoting a love for reading even when the libraries are closed. 'News Reading' helped the students engage with the world around them by raising awareness of topical issues in an accessible way. Students also developed their knowledge and use of Google Classroom.

Celebrating God's Creation

Orber enjoys art and created a beautiful picture about God's creation in RE.



Students from PMA responded to themes including 'The Broken Mirror', 'The Secret Door' and 'The Unexpected Guest' in their Drama assessment.



EAL students worked hard this month in their Art, History and Geography assessments.

"The food was tasty!"



"I made a chicken dish. I enjoyed making it and it was easy to follow the recipe. It was very nice to eat."

Anas

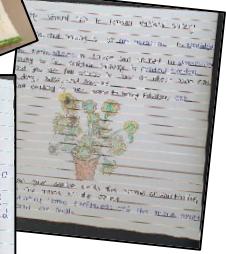


Students from PMA made a variety of delicious dishes, including vegetable biryani. Mr Albert (below) was a guest chef, making his favourite meal of jerk chicken wings with rice and peas. "We made biryani and it was difficult to make. It was very

tasty," said Jigna. I made potatoes with and it was quick and easy to make," added Hamed. "All the teachers wanted to eat it!"



This term's virtual trips

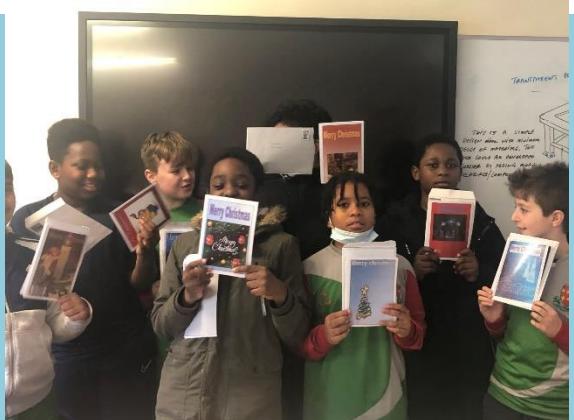


This year students are enjoying virtual trips and, to date, have 'visited' the Royal Observatory, London Sea Life and the National Gallery. Students learn about history, science and geography in speaking and listening activities, extend their comprehension skills and develop their knowledge and appreciation of art. Ayman said, "I liked learning about London Sea Life. It was interesting."

"I enjoy studying."

I am Nasser and I'm 15 years old. My religion is Muslim. I was born in 2005. I like reading many books and I like to learn more. I like animation and doing strength training every day. I don't like Drawing and Drama. I like to learn all of the other subjects. I like playing different sports like running, tennis and push ups with one arm. I translate 300 words from English to Arabic every day so that I can learn more. I'm learning hard and long words.

Year 7– Graphics Pop-Up Card



Year 7 pupils displaying their creative Christmas cards and envelopes.

Year 8– Graphics Perfume Package



Year 8 pupils producing their unique Perfume Packages.



Konrad, Kieron, Jovani, Sam and Gabriel displaying their final Perfume Packages .

Year 9 Graphics - Fast Food Logo Design



Year 9 pupils cutting out their shop front.



Gidion, Shannon, Mohamed and Chris displaying their well designed and made Shop fronts and Chip boxes.

Year 8 and Year 9 - NCC Bakery



Year 8 made bread...‘hedgehog’ and ‘plait’ designs....Year 9 tried their hand at making shortbread biscuits using various cutters...

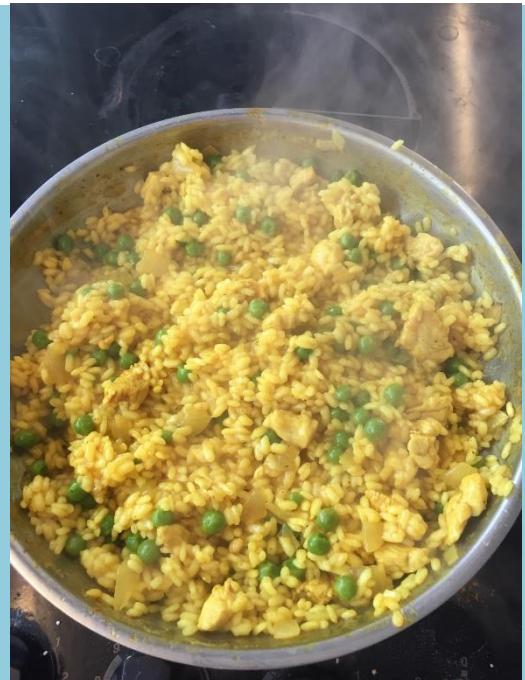
Year 9 made vanilla cupcakes using real vanilla pods and ‘hundreds and thousands’ cake decorations...



Year 10 students learnt how to pipe, using a variety of cake nozzles...

Raphael is very proud of his Victoria Sandwich cake!

Year 10- Catering



Nour in Year 10 made a lovely 'Paella' along with her classmates...



Year 10 students learnt how to make a 'Beef Curry'....they were served with mini poppadum and plain naan bread..!

Year 7- Catering



Joel and his classmates enjoyed making, and eating (!) pizza toast.....

Project Groups -Catering



Students in this class cooked a variety of dishes from their own countries, including chicken biryani and Sudanese beef/potatoes ...Mr Albert was our guest chef, who made jerk chicken, rice and peas!

Anti Bullying

We celebrated Anti Bullying Week with Odd Socks Day. Antonio our Anti Bullying Lead and Miss Goodin organised an Assembly presentation as well as Odd Socks Day. Students can check out our school website for further anti bullying information.



Mr Burt and Mr Lawrence have been working hard to establish Year group bands. We have some extremely talented musicians. It was the Year 8 Band who saved the day and performed for our Christmas Concert as Year 7 Bubble was sent home and other Year groups were missing musicians. We look forward to peripatetic lessons and choir starting in the new year.



Due to Covid restrictions we couldn't perform our Concert for a live audience, so please watch our Christmas Concert on You Tube

<https://youtu.be/Wx9gryS2zBQ>



History Department



Forth coming opportunities in the History department at Newman

Year 10 Holocaust seminar at the Jewish Free School.

Year 9 and 10 Leadership course with the Facing History Charity

Year 7 and 8 Archaeology Club with the Museum of London



History- Christmas in the past Quiz!

Have a go at the History Quiz. How many can you answer correctly?



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



Year 10 Skies and Clouds

Inspired by their investigations into the fantastic skies created by French artist Claude Monet within his landscapes, the Year 10 GCSE artists have created a visual response in the form of an A2 painting using acrylics. The variety of colour, form composition, shape, pattern and texture is stunning.



GCSE Still Life Studies

This term, our GCSE artists have also been inspired by the work of Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo. As part of their study response, they have created tonal studies of tropical fruit from direct observation which they will develop into colour. Great observational skills, flair and detail.



Year 8

Students in Year 8 have been exploring Art by **Frank Shepard Fairey** an American contemporary street artist, graphic designer, illustrator. He became widely known during the 2008 U.S. presidential election for his Barack Obama "Hope" poster. They have also looked at **Andy Warhol** who was a leading figure in the visual art movement known as pop art. His works explore the relationship between artistic expression, advertising, and celebrity culture.



Digital Skills for Year 7s

The Year 7s have been busy this term acquiring a set of Digital Skills during Computer Science lessons, and have produced some amazing work.



On the first of December, in 1955, Rosa Parks was arrested for not allowing a white man to take her seat. This happened in the USA, Montgomery, Alabama. She was arrested because the law at the time was that if there was no available seat then the black person would have to give their seat. Eventually, she was released from prison and a few years later the segregation law was abandoned.

Prince Osaje (7J)

Using Google Docs to create a photo journal about black history

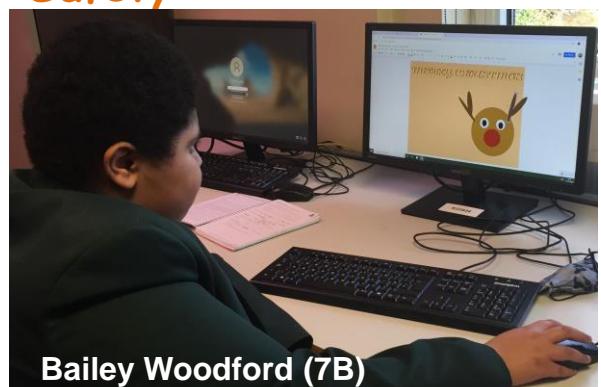
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
5													
6													
7													
8													
9	J												
10	G	o	d										
11	a												
12	c												
13	h												
14	D	i	s	c	i	p	p	l	e				
15	m			a									
16	n												
17	i												
18	t												
19	R	i	c	c	o	m	e	s					

Ricco Mendes (7F)

Using Google Sheet to create a crossword puzzle of biblical terms



Using Google Slides to create a presentation about Internet Safety



Using Google Drawing to create Christmas cards

Well done ! Keep up the good work!



7B



7J

Newsletter Christmas 2020



NCC Drama

This has been an incredibly challenging year for so many people but we in the drama department felt light pouring back into our studios with the return of our students, some leaping back like lambs free in spring time. Once again reminding us that life goes on and a new enthusiastic group of students are ready for the next exciting stage in their lives. In Performing Arts we teach the whole school, Year 7 all the way through to Year 13, each year brings its own brand of uniqueness –



Karol and Craig performing a scene from 'A View from the Bridge' for their year 11 exam



Cade and Christian Performing a scene from 'Closer' by Patrick Marber



Karthi and Abdi performs a scene from 'Death of a Salesman' by Arthur Miller

With Christmas nearly upon us our Year 7 students were busy preparing a Nativity play and this year it will be recorded and sent to a village school in Bethlehem where they will share their celebration with us from Nativity Square in Bethlehem. Even though we rehearsed the Nativity play with 7 Joseph at the last minute we had unexpected news and Year 9 took over and performed a wonderful nativity play in a rehearsal time of 2 hours.



Though we faced restrictions this term we still managed to have some valuable training in the department. Year 13 students performing their Theatre in Education piece. Unsurprisingly the theme was staying safe during Covid and the target audience was primary school students.





Russell Dean, International mask maker and puppeteer delivered a workshop for Year 12 and 13 students studying diplomas in Performing Arts.

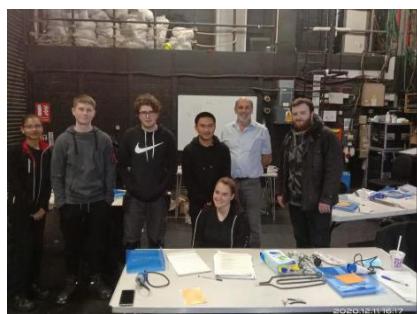
Miss Tetley delivered some excellent online lessons all during lockdown and especially in the last few weeks when the Sixth form had to isolate, a feature of 2020, unfortunately.

Our links with the Central School of Speech and Drama continue to provide us with the most talented undergraduates, this year was no exception with the arrival of George Eldridge. He and Mr Kourmoulakis, who is completing his teacher training both directed the nativity play. It is always wonderful to welcome our own students back and this term saw Patricia Masalenka return to do her placement with us, she is studying Psychology at London Metropolitan University.

Mr Eldridge takes on a role with Renato from a play called 'True West'



Our apprentices in the Performing Arts department are making excellent progress, training with lighting and sound engineer David Fitch and completing their bronze award ABBT in Health and Safety. This course took place in Stevenage at the Gordon Craig Theatre. Preparing props for a scene from Lorca's The House of Bernarda Alba.



The Performing Arts department has always been at the forefront of providing career advice and work experience for our students. This year saw the introduction of Balfour Beatty to the school. Balfour Beatty is a leading international infrastructure group who have the 10 year contract for the building of the Old Oak Common HS2 station. They will work with our students providing higher level apprenticeships, talks in the classroom from a seventy strong team of professionals, like architects, quantity surveyors, civil engineers as well as ecologists and environmentalists.

This is an incredible opportunity for the young people in our school who are finishing their A levels and BTEC level 3 courses.



Getting in Nursing presented by Tiffany Li.

Tiffany Li the new CEO of the US Charitable Trust prepared and led a session on getting into nursing. This was for all the girls in year 13, who are interested in making a career in nursing. The next session planned for January is getting into teaching. We would like to thank Serena Balfour, CEO of US Charitable Trust for her steadfast support to the performing arts department.



I would like to sincerely thank the hard working team in the Performing Arts Department, without them, none of this would be possible – C Tetley, Z Jalil, G Kourmoulakis, G Eldridge, F Agcaoili, P Harkisan, H Hardy, S Curtin and Ms Grace who line manages the department

Merry Christmas
C Beirne-Francis.



The US Charitable Trust

everyone. The US charity team



motivation and aspirations up in our young people.

Keeping a positive mind set we did our best in supporting young people in providing activities throughout 2020 such as the summer programme. This included a variation of activities aimed to promote wellbeing and to develop transferable skills. Alongside our other programmes, we hope this encourages a positive attitude and skill-set ready for employment when they leave school. Over the year, we ran debate and public speaking, held conferences, dinners and award ceremonies, Set Design and sports fixtures.

We knew that fun, creative, skills building activities would inspire young people to look forward and use this time to prepare themselves.



The annual Christmas presents was of great success this year, with more than 50 parcels given out to young people and their families. Due to the pandemic, it has been an even tougher year for many families. The US charity team reached out to the community, their family and friends, who have kindly donated money and goods to this incredible cause. We have also partnered with Glaxo smith Klein and Youth Brent foundation in providing sports equipment, toothbrushes and toothpaste for our presents. The teamwork this year has been fantastic with the help of our alumni network. We are so grateful for all the generous donations this year and it sparks joy in our hearts to know that in such little time, we can all come together and spread the cheer this Christmas by putting a smile on young people's faces.



The US Charitable Trust



There are exciting new projects beginning in the new year which focusses on skills development and careers preparations for the future. We have delivered our first workshop for aspiring young people to encourage individual creativity, public speaking and reflection on their future ambitions. The workshop aims to excite, unite, develop confidence, and give the young people a voice which is not only heard by employers but also a future voice they are proud of and trust.

In response to the pandemic, the focus moving forward will be on skills development, careers and mental health. We will be delivering more exciting and engaging programmes with our expanding network of employers and companies. Next year will be such a fantastic journey for young people.

At the US Charitable Trust we are family and we make sure that our young people are always our number one priority. We will always listen, adapt and support those who need US the most. Have a great Christmas everyone! See you all in the new year where our next adventure begins.

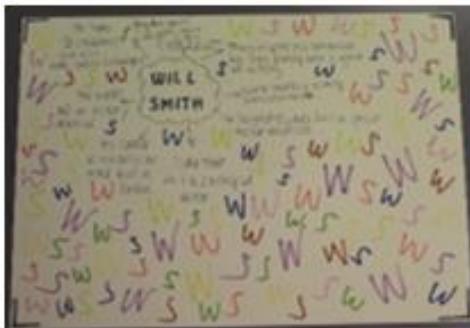
West London



"It has boosted my self-esteem and helped me to make better decisions." Shahed Al-Wadi 9F

Element

Some Year 9 students have been working towards gaining a bronze qualification this term, as part of the Arts Award. During one session, they were asked "Who creatively inspires you?". The group created information mount boards about a creative person whose work they admire. We learned more about Ryan Reynolds, Charlie D'Amelio and Will Smith, to name a few.



"It's given me a chance to meet new people."

Nicholas Monteleone 9P



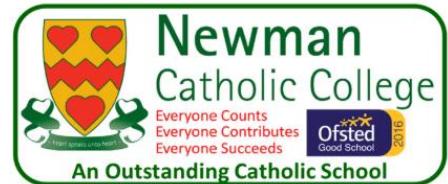
RECLAIMED

Some Year 8 students have been working on numerous projects in woodwork. One project; Identity Arrow Boards, explored how we can give ourselves positive labels and new identities. We focused on moving forwards, even if we've been called negative things.

Parent Information

School Resumes for Students

We are monitoring Government Advice regarding Tiers. Please check the School website www.ncc.brent.sch.uk and our Social Media platforms Twitter, Instagram and Facebook @nccbrent for details as to when students will return.



Keep up with all the NCC News and follow us on Social Media

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).

Free School Meals Update

At long last the Free school meals service can now be accessed on line by parents. It is on The Brent Council website but a link is attached below. The Schools admission service advise that they want all future applications to be made on line not on paper forms. If parents do not have access to a computer until libraries open they can pop in and see Mr Noronha (Assistant Bursar at NCC) Parents can take a photo on phones to send evidence to Brent Council.

https://children.brent.gov.uk/SynergyCPD/Parents/default.aspx?_ga=2.224536282.1585001364.1591022480-1544165908.1590680218

Sign in or Create an Account by clicking the link at above.

To make a Free School Meal Application, ensure you add all children that you wish to claim for (using the Add Child option) then click on the Submit Application button below this where you will be prompted to confirm your NI or NASS number and date of birth.

You will need to make an in-year school application if either of the following apply to you:

- Your child lives in Brent and does not currently have a school place
- You wish to apply for a transfer to a school in Brent

**This form will only allow you to apply for a school place in a Brent school. For schools outside Brent please contact the Local Authority or the school directly for the application process.*



We wish
everyone in our
Newman Family
a very happy,
safe and peaceful
Christmas

