



# The Newman

Your College Newsletter

Issue 39 June 2025



## Newman Rising

### New SEND block offers new provision for students



Anyone walking past the site in the past months will have noticed that the building of our new Alternative Resource Provision block is rapidly progressing. This block is being built on the site of the former caretaker's house, and will constrain two classrooms, meeting and sensory rooms for up to twenty five students with specific diagnoses of Special Educational Needs. It will offer those students a base from which to enter mainstream classes as well as benefiting from lessons in the smaller setting of the new block. Students from Years 7 to 11 will be enrolled in this provision.

In June, six students were invited by Ms Jackson (Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator) and Mr King (Learning Support Assistant) to visit the building site at the 'Topping Out' ceremony, when the building has reached its highest and halfway point. Students had a full tour of the new building, and were invited to sign the walls; their messages will be within the fabric of the building forever.

Those students visiting the building described it as "...an unforgettable experience" and "like a rollercoaster but more fun". Henry in Year 8 Paul, said it best by stating: "Lots of children will enter this building but we're the first: This is Newman, our generation and the next generation".

Miss Jackson said 'It was an absolute honour to be a part of the Topping Out ceremony. I'm immensely excited to see and be a part of the next chapter of Newman's ARP.'

Mr King said that it was an 'overwhelming experience' giving him the 'vision of a new chapter'.

The building is due to open in November 2025, after October half term, and students will be joining the school from September 2025, at first based in the Wembley Manor building, our other new block.



## Headteacher's Message

Friends of Newman, welcome to our latest Newsletter. Congratulations to Year 11 and Year 13, who have reached the end of their exams season, and have earned a wonderful summer. Good luck to those students moving to further education and training, and we look forward to welcoming many Year 11 students back to NCC6. Whole-school assessments take place before the end of June, so good luck to students in these assessments also.

In this edition there are lots of notifications for upcoming events including our summer fair and end of year play. We thank you in advance for your engagement with these events. The summer term is always the busiest, and this edition of The Newman contains many stories and examples of our busy Newman community. Enjoy the read and thank you for your continued support. Kind regards, Mr Dunne.

## Library News

### Carnegie Medal for Writing

Selected students from Years 8,9 and 10 have taken part in our Carnegies Shadowing group, where they 'shadow' the judging process for the Carnegie medal for writing. Shaders read, discuss and review shortlisted books. Our Shaders have voted for their favourite in the Shaders' Choice Awards and on June 20th we gathered to watch the Carnegie Medal Award Ceremony. The winner of the Carnegie Medal for Writing 2025 was Glasgow Boys by Margaret McDonald and the Carnegie Shaders' Choice Medal for Writing was King of Nothing by Nathanael Lessore, which was certainly a popular choice with our students,

'The Carnegies are the UK's longest running and best-loved children's book awards, recognising outstanding reading experiences created through writing and illustration in books for children and young people. The Awards mission is: To champion librarians to inspire and empower the next generation to create a better world through books and reading. A national (and international) reading for pleasure initiative, the Carnegie Shadowing Scheme engages thousands of children and young people in reading the books on the shortlist via reading groups in schools and public libraries with dedicated educational reading resources and promotional materials to support each shortlist.' Past winners have included Arthur Ransome, C.S. Lewis, Terry Pratchett, Philip Pullman, Noel Streatfeild, Sally Gardner and Elizabeth Acevedo. You can find out more about the Carnegies at <https://carnegies.co.uk/>

The shortlisted titles have made for very engaging reading, with topics very relevant to our students growing up as young men in today's society. Joshua commented of The Things We Leave Behind by Clare Furniss "I cannot stress enough how little I can talk about this book on a computer as my mind keeps on flooding with ideas, thoughts and theories about the novel. All I can say is that it is a must-read and that I hope it wins the Carnegies.

## Newman takes on Oasis Farm



Oasis Farm is one of our most unique interventions with the 5-week programme taking place out of school and on the city farm in Waterloo. The programme is focused on building confidence, resilience and fostering a sense of teamwork. The sessions on the farm involve the young people getting stuck into farm maintenance tasks, such as

planting seeds, chopping wood, feeding animals, cooking a group meal and taking care of the compost. Each session begins with a group check in where the tasks for the week are distributed and ends with the group coming together to eat what has been made by the cooking group that week. Young people get so much out of spending an afternoon out of school and in nature and although they might be shy around the animals at first, they almost all end up getting in the goat pen, holding the chickens and cuddling the guinea pigs! Our boys have thoroughly enjoyed this!



Abel and Johncel composting to help the Farm



Carnegie Children's Book Awards Shadowing group

## Model United Nations Global Politics Role Play

After a short break in the Spring Term, NCCMUN (Model United Nations), has started up again with many eager young delegates wishing to develop their current affairs knowledge, research skills, as well as their public speaking and debating skills. Chaired by Alexander Baldwin 10B and Vice Chair Zak Hassan 10B, this promises to be a very fruitful and exciting season. Come and join our heated debates: we meet every Tuesday lunchtime from 1.20pm – 1.40pm.

Model United Nations (MUN) is an academic simulation activity where participants role-play as diplomats to debate and negotiate solutions to global issues, mirroring the structure and procedures of the United Nations, fostering an understanding of international relations.



## Travel & Tourism Exploring London

Mr Griffith and Miss Whitehouse took students on a field trip to explore London's tourist attractions and landmarks Buckingham Palace, Chinatown, Carnaby Street, Eros and more.



## Hounslow Borough Council Meeting Student Visit

Councillor Mushiso writes... I recently visited Newman Catholic College in Brent to speak to students about public life. Liban, who is passionate about Politics and History, asked to shadow me. I invited him and his mother to Hounslow to observe our borough council meeting. At that meeting, I delivered a tribute to our outgoing mayor, Cllr Karen Smith, written entirely by Liban. He had composed it quietly in my office, comparing the mayor to a football referee: neutral, fair, and respected. The speech earned warm applause, not just for its message, but for the young man behind it. Afterwards, Liban and I discussed his own local challenges, youth services, community resources, and how to create positive change. He asked serious questions. I asked him in return: 'Are young people doing their bit?' 'Are they contributing, not just demanding?' Liban didn't offer excuses. He listened. He thought. He planned. He stepped up. He did what Councillor

Gill did not: he took responsibility. Politics isn't about hiding when things get hard. It's about standing up, especially when it's inconvenient. Liban understood that. Cllr Gill chose not to. We need more young people like Liban, engaged, committed, and brave enough to lead. And we need fewer politicians who retreat from the very responsibilities they campaigned for. Public service is not a hiding place. It's a platform for action. Responsibility must always come first



## Maths Trip Royal Observatory Greenwich

In celebration of London Maths Week, Year 8 and Year 9 pupils enjoyed an unforgettable trip to the Royal Observatory Greenwich. The highlight of the day was a spectacular planetarium show that brought the wonders of the universe to life. The programme looked at the challenging conditions of space, the types of things humans must be prepared to encounter should we travel there, and the distances and scales involved in going on such a mission.

The pupils also explored the Royal Observatory Museum, discovering the work of the early Royal Astronomers and early instruments used to navigate the globe. Additionally, pupils learnt the history of the creation of UTC (formally known as GMT) and straddled the Prime Meridian line. It was a truly inspiring visit that sparked curiosity and enthusiasm for maths, science and space in all who attended. In the words of one Year 9 student,

*"It was a "9.9 out of 10" experience."*



## Safeguarding Updates Snapchat: "My Eyes Only" and WhatsApp "Locked Chats."

This article is useful for those that may have to search/screen devices. **Snapchat: "My Eyes Only"** came out in 2016, essentially it is a private, password-protected section of the app where users can store Snaps and Stories which they wish to keep hidden from others, even if those others (e.g. parents) have access to their phone. It allows users to move selected photos and videos from their main Memories section into a secure, locked folder which then requires a passcode to view. This type of feature has become quite common, for example **WhatsApp** has a chat lock feature. It's pretty obvious if a chat has been hidden because it's within a **"Locked Chats"** folder (similar to 'Hidden' within Apple Photos), but as an extra measure you can hide the Locked Chats folder which is opened by tapping on search, then entering a security key.

To find out more and to learn more about Apple Photos 'Hidden' folder see [HERE](https://support.apple.com/en-us/104987#:~:text=To%20turn%20off%20the%20Hidden%20album:%20*,down%20and%20turn%20off%20Show%20Hidden%20Album). [https://support.apple.com/en-us/104987#:~:text=To%20turn%20off%20the%20Hidden%20album:%20\\*,down%20and%20turn%20off%20Show%20Hidden%20Album](https://support.apple.com/en-us/104987#:~:text=To%20turn%20off%20the%20Hidden%20album:%20*,down%20and%20turn%20off%20Show%20Hidden%20Album).

For Parents - Should Your Child Have a Smartphone? It's the big question that's been around for years, but there's no single answer that will fit every age, there's no single piece of advice that will fit every family dynamic. You can find an article [HERE](https://www.waynedenner.com/3-things-parents-wish-they-had-considered-before-giving-their-teen-a-smartphone/). <https://www.waynedenner.com/3-things-parents-wish-they-had-considered-before-giving-their-teen-a-smartphone/>

To find out how My Eyes Only works see the Snapchat support page for Safeguarding Children:

<https://safeguardingchildren.co.uk/snapchat/>



## Newman welcomed Rabbi Frank Dabba-Smith



Judaism is studied as part of our GCSE Religious Education. Year 10 Students had the opportunity to listen to Rabbi Frank and ask him questions about Jewish views on a range of topics. These included Shabbat, Pikuach Nefesh, Brit Milah, Death and Dying after life. They also asked questions of a political nature regarding the Middle East Crisis.



## Religious Education

*Everyone Counts, Everyone Contributes, Everyone Succeeds*

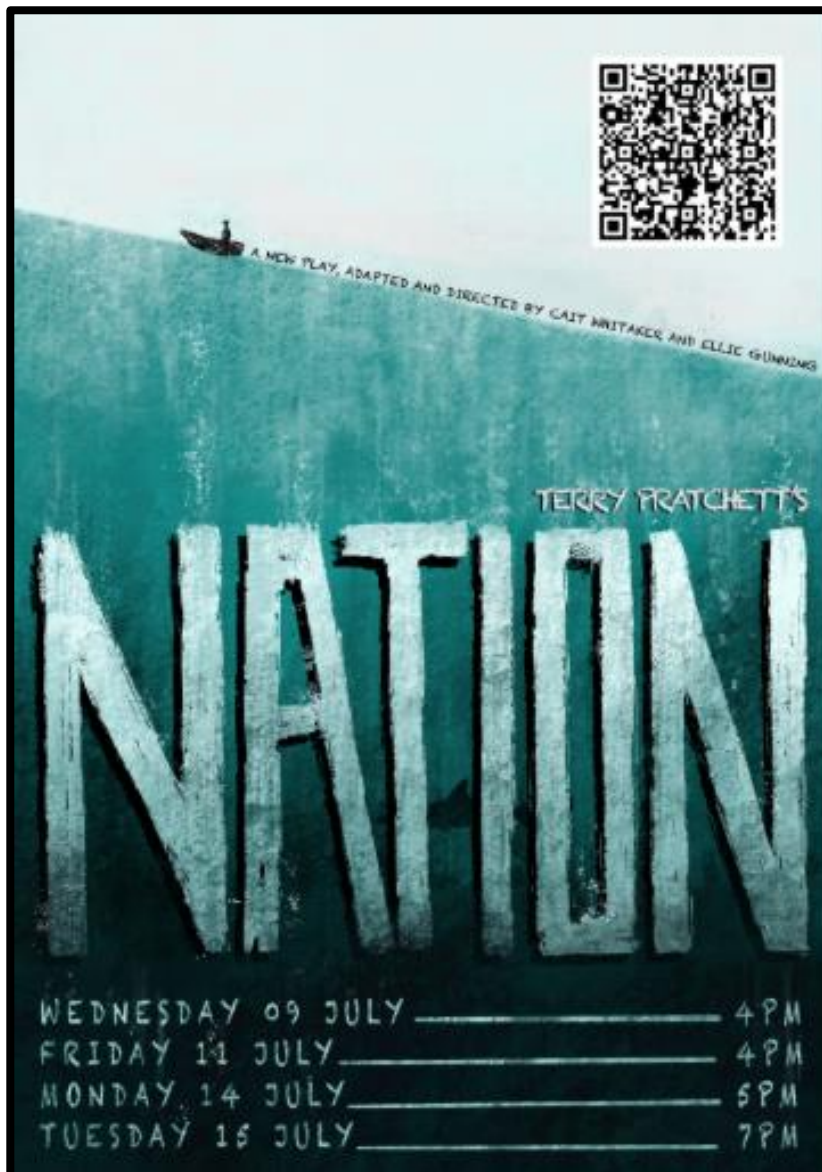
# NCC GCSE Art Exhibition 2025

Join us as we celebrate the best of Newman's future Artists!



# Nation Performance

Come along and watch our end of year Drama Production- Nation



Everyone Counts  
Everyone Contributes  
Everyone Succeeds

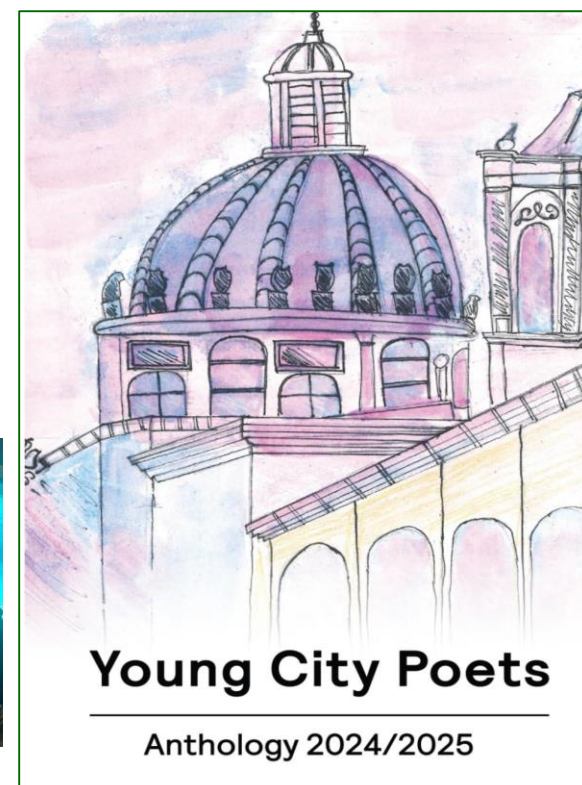
## Dates for your Diary

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June** GCSE Art Exhibition  
**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July** Community Day 1.00pm-4.30pm  
**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July** Whole school Activity Days  
**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July** School Drama Production- 'Nation'.  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July-** Sports Day  
**Friday 18 July 2025** Term Ends  
**Staff Days:** Monday 21 July 2025 and Tuesday 22 July 2025 (School Closed to Students)

## Visiting ZSL London Zoo

Students in the EAL Department visited ZSL London Zoo this month. The visit built on the Science and Geography curriculums, students learned about the habitat of different animals, threats to their survival and about action to support endangered animals. "I liked seeing the lions and the penguins.

'I enjoyed the trip,' Haben said. Barkat also found the visit interesting and enjoyed seeing some of the animals that he had been learning about, "The trip was good. I liked the tigers and the lions and the pigs and goats, all the animals!"



## NCC's Young City Poets

For the fourth year, year 9 students took part in the National Literacy Trust's Young City Poets programme. The programme is designed to promote engagement and enjoyment of poetry. Students visited the Guildhall Art Gallery and then created their own poems in a workshop with poet Paul Cree. Students then performed their poems in a celebratory event at St Paul's Cathedral. Six of the poems were also published in an anthology. "I really enjoyed it, it was a great experience, Deshaun said. Aatheesanan agreed, "I also liked the poetry workshop with Paul Cree, it was fun and exciting."

## Sixth Form Masquerade Ball

Our Sixth Form Students finished the year with a Masquerade Ball at the Royal Oak in Harlesden. Thanks to the organising team spearheaded by Head girl Anna, Mr Jalil and Mr Albert. Everyone had a fabulous time dancing the night away to Bollywood Music, Arabic Music and more. We very much appreciate the support of Emma, Manager at the Royal Oak and her team for giving us the venue.



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