



AUTUMN TERM 2011



NCHS – The Science College

Tel: 01782 667650 Fax: 01782 667667

E-mail: office@nchs.staffs.sch.uk

Student Absence line: 01782 667660

<http://www.nchs.staffs.sch.uk>

NCHS ATTENDANCE

Sept to Dec 10 – 92.9%

Sept to Dec 11—94.2%

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the latest newsletter from NCHS. As you read on you will see that, as usual, we have managed to fill the term with an enormous variety of activities, both inside and outside school, all of which add to the educational experiences of our students.

I was delighted to take part in our annual presentation day on 30th November. This is a very prestigious event where we celebrate the achievements of pupils both past and present. This year's event was attended by more students, parents, relatives and governors than ever before and a clear indication of how the school continues to go from strength to strength. The occasion, the most formal in our calendar includes the presentation of awards for individual subjects at both key stage 3 and 4, special awards and GCSE and attendance certificates.

The event was also quite poignant for Mark Heuston and me who celebrated 3 years at NCHS on 1st December. It reminded us of how far the school and its community has come in 3 years. On that day I attended Clayton Hall's presentation evening where I was proud to watch a group of 22 students from NCHS perform one of the musical interludes. The pupils were superb and a credit to themselves as well as being fantastic ambassadors for NCHS.

This term has also seen some sadness when 2 ex students passed away. Gemma Ray left NCHS in July 2010. She was studying hospitality at the De Vere Academy in Wychwood Park near Crewe at the time of her death. Gemma was a delightful young lady who had a bright future in front of her. A few days after her death family and friends celebrated what would have been her 18th birthday with a moving tribute of flowers and balloons on the school site. Also Jenny Lovatt died suddenly at the age of 20. Jenny, a former pupil who lived in Silverdale was currently studying adult nursing at Keele University. Our thoughts are with both families at this time.

When we hear of news like this it makes us think just how precious time is and how we all need to make the most of every minute of every day and consider carefully how we interact with each other. It also makes us look to the future and try to make the most of every opportunity presented to us. This is why presentation day is such an important and integral part of the school's year, when we celebrate success and see pupils return to school with bright futures ahead of them. I look forward to taking part in many more here at NCHS and hope that our guest speakers in the future will be ex pupils who come back to share their life's adventures and successes.

May I wish you all a very happy Christmas and prosperous new year from everyone here at NCHS. I look forward to seeing all the pupils again on Wednesday 4th January.

Jill Adamson
Associate Headteacher at NCHS

Primary Master Classes – Enterprise & World Percussion 2011



From the 20th September to the 14th October 2011, 176 Year 6 pupils from Westlands Primary, St Luke's Primary, Silverdale Primary, Friarswood Primary, St Giles & St George Primary and Hempstalls Primary Schools visited our school for the day as part of their transition to high school.

They were given a Master Class in World Percussion, where they learnt to perform a short piece of music using African Drums. They were also given a Master Class in Enterprise where they were challenged to design and build a bridge with specific criteria, using only old newspaper, sticky tape and paper clips.

The learning outcomes for the Master Classes were extremely important, but for the Year 6 pupils, having toast in the dining hall and their first experience of break time at a high school seemed to be the most important aspects of the day.

All pupils worked extremely hard throughout the Master Classes and the final presentations to parents were of a very high standard. Winning teams received a certificate and trophy to acknowledge their hard work.

Congratulations to all the Y9 students who mentored the pupils on these two very successful days.



Mrs Marks



Action Aid Talk

The Year 10 Geography group hosted Alec Spencer, a representative from Action Aid, in November. He came in to talk about the work Action Aid does to combat climate change around the world. Some students then had the opportunity to work in small groups to discuss how they could take action as individuals. The talk clearly inspired the students and plans are now in place for some of them to form a campaign group.

Comments from students:

Shannon Critenden – We want to raise awareness of issues such as climate change. Alec was a big help because he has helped to set up our group and he was a big inspiration to take action.

Andrew Pass – I really think our group could make a difference in school and in the wider community. We are going to meet up at lunch times and discuss ideas. We have contacted an organisation called 'People and Planet' which helps groups like ours to get off the ground.

Richard Dixon – Alec was a member of the Action Aid charity who delivers talks on climate change to school groups. We really appreciated his input and his ideas. We now have a better understanding of how climate change is affecting LEDC's such as Bangladesh and why we should take action.



School Council

Elections have been made for the year and form reps have been selected.

First of the meetings have taken place and houses have decided to focus on the following items for the term

Newton – Educational Visits
Celsius – Litter
Henry – House competitions
Sievert – PE Changing rooms

Pupils meet twice every term to discuss anything that has come up during form time. House Captains then meet with Mrs Adamson over lunch to discuss possible changes and improvements that can be made around school.

Mrs Askew, Head of Newton House



Prince's Trust

Year 11 students have been busy cooking up lots of treats in the kitchen. The course requires them to plan, prepare and cook a main meal and a dessert. The students developed lots of useful skills on the way. Watch out Gordon Ramsey, Macauley Beech is about!!



Basketball trip

On Sunday 20th November 36 BTEC Sports students visited Chester to watch a national league basketball game. The group was made up of year 10 and 11 pupils who already follow the course, as well as Y9 students who are looking at taking the course next year. Pupils found the trip very helpful as it allowed them to see the sport played close up at an elite level, it also gave them an opportunity to learn the rules which is a key element to their assignment. A good time was had by both pupils and staff.



Mrs Askew



BBC News group

The group meet every Wednesday after school and are preparing a news video which will be displayed on the school website. The group are learning video recording, sound, lighting, script writing and web design skills.

Mr Gregory

Anti Bullying Week

14th November was the start of anti-bullying fortnight. Over the two weeks pupils worked during form time on different activities. The two weeks has made pupils more aware of what bullying is and how to recognise it. Also what to do when they think they or someone they know is being bullied. At school we run a zero tolerance approach towards bullying. During the two weeks the peer mentors attended an Anti-bullying workshop, which has helped to raise awareness and give them an idea of their role within the school when younger students are being bullied.



Mrs Askew, Head of Newton House

ZUMBA

Pupils in years 10 and 11 have been developing their fitness, coordination and rhythm during lunchtime Zumba sessions. These sessions have inspired some to want to continue physical activity when they leave school.

Laura Lacey said "I love doing the Zumba. The music is great, it keeps me fit and it is also good for reducing my stress levels during exams".

Geography Trip to North Wales

Some of our Year 10 Geographers visited North Wales this term. It was a joint visit as they are taught in a group with students from Clayton. The focus of the visit was to examine the sea defences that have been erected at Towyn since the flood event in 1990. They then travelled further down the coastline to compare their findings with the stretch of coastline at Pen Sarn. Students will then complete a controlled assessment to decide whether management strategies should be extended to protect this area too.



Geography Trip to The Peak District

Our Year 11 Geography students enjoyed a day out in the Peak District National Park this term. They were collecting data for their controlled assessment task looking at the impacts of tourism on the village of Castleton. Students had the opportunity to appreciate this honeypot location and to compare their findings to Bradwell, a village nearby. The students seemed to enjoy their day amongst the picturesque backdrop and the spectacular scenery. The day got off to an amusing start with a twenty minute delay waiting for cattle to cross the road into Castleton. It was a novel experience for some of the students that they don't usually experience on their way into school but served as a great example of the conflicts that can occur between users of the National Park.



Mr Burdred



Construction

The year 10 & 11 construction group have been working on a number of tasks to achieve their level 1 BTEC in construction skills.

Both year 11 and year 10 have completed plumbing tasks including a radiator system and repairing the pipe work on a school sink.

Also, the year 11 construction group have completed bricklaying, groundwork, painting and roofing skills and the year 10 group are working on groundwork and bricklaying skills.

Both groups are designing and working on a new development site on the school which consist of a patio area, gardens and pathways. This area will be used for a number of activities including an outside teaching area.

Mr Gregory



Fruit Enterprise Challenge at Knutton St Mary's Primary School 11th November 2011



As part of their Business Studies GCSE work on Enterprise Year 10 pupils: Charles Markey, Andrew Pass, Alex Tunstall and Jamie Harland visited the Year 5 class at Knutton St Mary's to deliver the Fruit Enterprise Challenge. Working in small teams the Year 5 pupils had to run a small fruit production company. They spent the afternoon making fruit and selling it to our Year 10 pupils who were the "Bankers". With a fluctuating market the team who managed to make the most profit won the challenge and prizes from NCHS.

Mrs Marks

Netball fixtures

Upper school (Year's 10 & 11) have now completed their Netball fixtures and await their tournament in March. Training has gone well and they managed to get a good result against Clough Hall beating them 13-5.

Lower school are yet to complete their fixtures and they will also have tournaments in March.

Year 9 are currently taking part in the league and have so far lost to Saint John Fisher and Sir Thomas Boughey; however celebrated an emphatic win against Mary Hill.

Year 9 Netball team that beat Maryhill.



Year 10 & 11 Netball team



Well done girls Mrs Askew and Miss Lucas

Year 9 History visit to the Beth Shalom Holocaust Memorial Centre



Year 9 students are currently studying the persecution of the Jews in Nazi Germany and the Holocaust itself. The particular focus is looking at different historical interpretations of this event. Students visited the centre in November. The visit allowed the students to investigate further the events leading up to the Holocaust by studying the extensive exhibition there. This was followed by some reflective time in the Memorial Gardens.

The highlight of the visit, however, was that the students engaged with a Holocaust survivor, a truly unique experience.

My Understanding! Today I have learned:

I learnt lots of things there about the horrors of what happened to the Jews and why they were treated this way. I learnt that 6 million Jews is only an estimate and the figure could be as high as 8 million.

My Action! What is it I will do to prevent others from suffering:

We could treat other people with respect and this should make others treat us with respect back. This is the natural thing a normal person should do. Joe Clarke



My Understanding! Today I have learned:

I have learned how Britain let 10,000 Jewish children in and how most didn't get to see their parents again. They came to a country where they couldn't communicate with other people because they spoke a different language.

My Action! What is it I will do to prevent others from suffering:

Treat people equally and fairly. Chloe Alcock

My Action! What is it I will do to prevent others from suffering:

To prevent others from suffering we need to stop racism and anti-Semitism.
Nakita Emmens



My Understanding! Today I have learned:

I have learnt more information on what happened to the Jews when the Holocaust survivor was talking to us and what life was like for him.

My Action! What is it I will do to prevent others from suffering:

I will try to tell people how horrible it was but tell them that when we were talking to the Holocaust survivor he told Megan Shingler

My Understanding! Today I have learned:

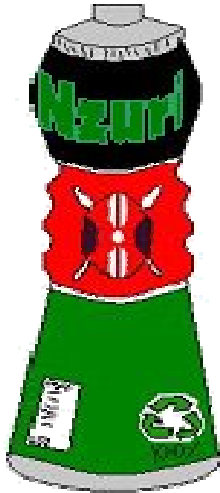
I learned what it's really like and listening to Bernard Grunberg made me feel really emotional. Katie Parkes



Coca-Cola Real Business Challenge Competition

Y10 GCSE Business Studies pupils took part in the Coca-Cola Real Business Challenge Competition this term as part of their GCSE topic on Creative Enterprise.

Working in small teams the pupils were given the task to develop a fruit drink which could be sourced from a country competing in the Olympics and sold in the lead up and duration of the 2012 Olympic Games. After presenting their ideas to Mrs Adamson one team's entry was selected to be sent to Coca-Cola head office and entered in the national competition.



The winning idea chosen by Mrs Adamson was "Nzuri" who developed a drink around the country of Kenya. This translates as 'Nice' in English from Swahili which is Kenya's national language. The name is exotic and shows a small part of Kenya's culture and national language. Their slogan was: 'Nature's Energy'

The winning entry was selected by Coca-Cola as one of the top 5 entries in the West Midlands and the pupils were invited to attend the West Midlands Regional Final on the 18th November 2011 at the NEC in Birmingham.

The Coca Cola Real Business Challenge is designed to give pupils a better understanding of business and enterprise, and the skills and attributes needed in a work environment. The team worked with a dedicated "business" facilitator from Coca Cola Enterprises Ltd who will guided them throughout the day.

Congratulation to the team from NCHS who represented our school, they had an excellent experience at the NEC and came away with some Coca-Cola free goodies: Charlie Markey, Andrew Pass, Jamie Harland, Jack Holmes and Jacques Dunn. A special mention goes to Andrew who demonstrated excellent creative business skills on the day and supported this team throughout the event.



Pupils who have received a praise letter this term - Congratulations

Joshua Salt	Jack Purves
Georgia Barclay-Hill	Ben Hardy
Siobhann Mitchell	Courtney Harding
Jake Matthews	Fran Gregory
Kyra Everill	Joseph Clarke
Kyle Kirkham	Mitchell Bird
Sophie Turnbull	Rebecca Alcock
Nathan Chester	Kyle Grant
Danielle Meadon	Callum Salt
Anthony Hughes	Dean Hemmings
Jack Lindop	Harry Shepherd
Ciprian Pointon	Abdulla Hassan
Ryan Jones	Jade Dudley
Jack Hushes	Molly Jones
Ashley Paczkowski	Lucy Hope
Joshua Knott	
Joshua Conroy	
Joseph Burke	
Levi Broad	
Richard Dixon	
Jack Holmes	
Olivia Christie (Clayton High)	
Sheridan Forrester (Clayton High)	
Jacques Dunn	
Kyle Birks	
Demi-Leigh Elson	
Megan McDonald	
Emilia Leonowicz	
Alicia Birch	
Charley Bebbington	
Sam Heelis	
Matthew Lambert	
Leon Perry	
Benjamin Machin	
Lucy McDonald	
Meesha Hall	
Jodie Hanwell	
Emily Powner	
Poppy Withington	
Nicole Allan	



Home to School Transport— Entitlement on Income Assessed Grounds

Pupils of secondary school age, years 7 to 11, from low income families, are entitled to free home to school transport if they meet the following criteria:

- They attend one of their three nearest schools and they live between 2 and 6 miles from school or
- They attend the nearest school of their religion or denomination, preferred on the grounds of the parent's religion or philosophical belief, where they live more than 2 and less than 15 miles from school and
- They are from a low income group, which is defined as those who are registered and entitled to free school meals, or the family is in receipt of the maximum level of working tax credit.

Parents need to apply, using application form B, available from the website detailed below. Alternatively they can phone the Admissions and Transport Service for an application form on 01785 278593.

Those assessed as entitled will receive free transport until the end of the academic year, when they will be reassessed. At this point, those no longer entitled would have their free transport withdrawn, from the start of the next academic year.

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schooltransport

Your Staffordshire Card

Great News! If you are aged 11-19 and live in Staffordshire you can get cut price bus travel as well as discounts and offers in local shops and businesses. It's free to apply. The card allows you to travel by bus on any single journey which starts or ends in Staffordshire County Council's area for just £1 per journey.

Besides applying online you can also:

- Pop into your local library and apply at the counter. You will not need to fill in any paper forms and your photo will be taken there and then. Be sure to take proof of ID and your address. If you are 15 or under your parent or guardian will need to be with you.

Call 0300 111 8000 for an application form.

STUDENT LOCKERS

Earlier this year, NCHS – The Science College showed a commitment in the investment of the supply and installation of quality student lockers. The lockers provide a secure storage for books, PE bags, lunch boxes, jackets and valuable items such as mobile phones. This gives the student the opportunity not to carry their heavy books or bags around with them throughout each day.

A number of lockers are still available and allocated on a first come first served basis. There is a key deposit charge of £10 that is refundable upon the safe return of the key at the end of the academic term or year. The deposit is **non-refundable** should the student lose their key.

If you would like your child be allocated a locker, please send a £10 deposit with your child at the beginning of next term or for more information contact the admin office on 01782 667650.



100% ATTENDANCE

Well done to the following students who have achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn Term.

Harry Abercrombie	Michael Aldridge
Jacob Ash	Andrew Askey
Aaron Austin	Jordan Austin
Kurt Baddeley	David Bailey
Georgia Barclay-Hill	Ioan Bayley
Casey Bebbington	Lewis Beech
Macauley Beech	Jessica Blundred
Alexander Broad	Melissa Brown
Matthew Brundrett	Joseph Burke
Jake Calvert	Imam Camara
Joseph Clarke	Travis Collier
Joshua Conroy	Jasmine Cottingham
Meesha Cru-Hall	Daniel Crystal
Luke Dann	Mandie Davis
Ben Dawson	Paige Dix
Richard Dixon	Jennifer Donnally
Veselin Donkov	Taylor Dunkley
Georgia Dunn	Jacques Dunn
Megan Edmond	Samuel Edwards
Alysha Elms	Nakita Emmens
Elliot Gordon	Jonathan Hall
Ben Hardy	Chloe Harland
Jamie Harland	Abdulla Hassan
Raad Hassan	Ben Hill
Jack Holmes	Hayley Hood
Leyah Hope	Chelsea Hudson
Maddison Husnu	Levi Huxley
Jack Hyde	Sam Hyde
Fabien Johns	Prentice Johnson
Kay Jones	Phillipa Jones
Helena Lawrence	Stuart Leat
Britney Leighton	Jodie Leighton
Aiden Lockett	Elliott Lockett
Ben Machin	Conah Maidment
Megan-Rose Mason	Megan McDonald
Ryan Micklewright	Tyler Micklewright
Chelsea Middleton-Hancock	
Danielle Morgan	Chloe Morris
Lucy Mountford	Shannon O'Dwyer
Melanie Owen	Sharon Parker
Katie Parkes	Sophie Pattyson
Leon Perry	James Proctor
Annabel Rhodes	Laura Roberts
Peter Roberts	Jack Rowley
Jessica Rowley	Callum Salt-Hedge
Philip Sanders	Peter Shaw
Megan Shingler	Tobias Skipiol
Alex Smith	Callum Smith
Connor Smith	Jordan Taylor
Liam Toft	Alex Tunstall
Shane Twigg	Charlie Williams
Laura Wilshaw	Rhys Wilshaw
George Wood	

Extra Curricular Activities at NCHS

	Lunch time club	After school clubs
Mon	Maths Drop In Board Games Club Peer Mentoring	Netball Training Football H&S Care Art/Graphics History Revision Maths Revision
Tue	Coursework Catch Up Basketball French Catch Up Peer Mentoring	Football Singing Workshop Catch Up/Revision
Wed	Maths Drop In Board Games Football Peer Mentoring Coursework Catch Up	Art/Graphics Maths Revision News Club Football Netball English Revision
Thu	Reading Club Creative Art Club Board Games Club Peer Mentoring Coursework Catch Up	Art/Graphics Catch Up Geography Revision ICT Catch Up H&S Care Maths Revision
Fri	Gifted & Talented Football Board Games Club Fitness Training Peer Mentoring	

Interested in a Career in School Meals?

We are looking for enthusiastic people who would enjoy providing good food to the young people of NCHS in support of a healthy lifestyle.

- Casual Basis
- Term Time working
- Excellent rates of pay

If you are interested contact Tracey on 01782 667650 ext 680.

NCHS
THE SCIENCE COLLEGE
Gallowstree Lane Newcastle ST5 2QS
Tel 01782 667658

Community Centre Information

Mondays: 6.30-8.00 Family swim.
6.45 Adult Zumba.
8.00-9.00 Lane swimming.

Wednesdays: 9.30-11.30 Over 50's.
5.00-6.00 Kids Street Dance.
7.15 Adult Zumba
8.00-9.00 Lane swimming.

Thursdays:

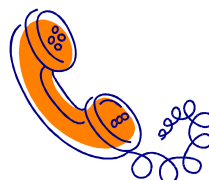
Fridays: 6.30 Adult Zumba.
8.00-9.00 Lane Swimming.

Saturdays: 10.30 pm. Adult Zumba.
Pool hire for parties.

Sundays: 9.30-12.00 Family swim.



ZUMBA[®]
FITNESS



School Absence Line:
01782 667660

Just a reminder to all parents that the above number is the one you should be ringing if your child is ill or going to be late in, due to an appointment. It is a dedicated line and is available for you to ring 24 hours a day. You will hear a short message asking you to leave details of your child's absence.

School Terms and Holiday Dates 2012

Spring Term 2012:

Staff Only:	In service Training Day - Tuesday 3 January	1 day
Staff & Pupils:	Wednesday 4 January - Friday 10 February	28 working days
Holiday:	Monday 13 February - Friday 17 February	5 days
Staff & Pupils:	Monday 20 February - Friday 30 March	30 working days
Holiday:	Monday 2 April - Friday 13 April	10 days
Easter Sunday:	Sunday 8 April	

Summer Term 2012:

Staff & Pupils:	Monday 16 April - Thursday 31 May	33 working days
May Day:	Monday 7 May	1 day
Holiday:	Friday 1 June - Friday 8 June	6 days
Staff & Pupils:	Monday 11 June - Friday 20 July	30 working days
Holiday:	Monday 23 July - Friday 31 August	30 days

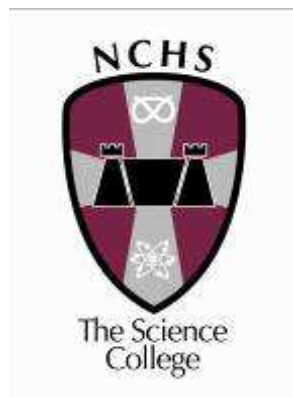
School re-opens to students on Wednesday 4th January 2012
Week 1



**Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year**

**From all the
Staff at
NCHS**





**PUBLISHED BY
NCHS—The Science
College**