



SPRING TERM 2013



NCHS – The Science College

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NCHS ATTENDANCE

Jan to April 12 - 94.1%

Jan to April 13 - 95.9%

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach Easter and wait with baited breath for the spring and some warmer weather to arrive I'm pleased to inform you that NCHS and your child's progress continues to go from strength to strength. This term has once again been a really busy one as you will see from the snapshot of events included in this newsletter, as has our future planning. Mark Heuston writes of the work of the federation which is constantly expanding to provide more opportunities for all students and Amanda McHugh (our Director of Learning) writes to keep you abreast of current developments to our learning and teaching programme. We're currently in a period of consultation to become a Foundation school and acquire a Trust for September, both of which will give us more control over the school's land and premises and will lead the next steps for the South Newcastle Federation.

Alongside these strategic developments staff continue to make learning exciting and relevant both inside and outside the classroom and, as you read on you will see that students are thriving on their experiences. Even as you receive this newsletter we are still busy: - only last week year 7 students spent a day launching rockets with 'Starchaser', a company who facilitate the children investigating rocket technology. The day ending as always with a bang when students launched rockets they had made. Gifted and Talented students from the same year group also felt themselves being challenged on a visit to Astbury Water Park in Congleton where their P.E. skills were tested to the limits.



Year 8 students have taken part in a 'Scrapheap challenge' where they spent a day with representatives from Keele University building solar power cars; they have also taken part in a catering challenge led by Mandi Marks, where they were asked to plan a large event, competing in groups against one another regarding menus, venues, costings, etc. and thoroughly enjoyed themselves whilst gaining high level business skills in the process (as well as the statutory chocolate rewards at the end!)

Year 10s have just returned from a week's work placement where they experienced many career opportunities, some enjoying them more than others, but all gaining a very important learning experience.



Gifted and Talented year 11 students too have been busy. In addition to making last minute preparation for their GCSE exams next term they spent a day visiting Oxford University where they took part in an English literature lecture at one college, met undergraduates to discuss university life at another college and were hosted for lunch at a third. Hopefully this taste of university life will have whetted their appetites for the future.

I am also delighted to report that all our hard work campaigning for a crossing on the Keele roundabout over the past few years has been rewarded. The Sentinel reported last week that the go ahead has been given for both the pedestrian and cycle crossing to be built on the upper side of the roundabout - the site fought for by NCHS. This will make for a much needed safer route for students travelling to school and hopefully encourage more pupils to take the healthy option of walking or cycling to and from school more often.

As the school changes and evolves I would like to encourage you, as parents to become more involved in the day to day life and developments. If you would like to help in any way, either by simply visiting to see learning taking place, or to help some of our younger students with their reading, or with any other skills you feel would enhance the learning experiences of our youngsters please get in touch, all are welcome.

It now simply remains for me to wish you all a very happy Easter and remind you all that students are due back at school on Monday 15th April.

Jill Adamson

Federation Update

Dear Parent/Carer

As many of you are aware the Federation is currently engaging in a consultation with all stakeholders regarding creating a new Trust. The partners include Keele University, Newcastle College and Aspire Housing and they have a key role in supporting the two schools in improving the quality of education we provide for our students. This also involves each of the two schools changing our status from community to foundation. In doing so, we remain within the Local Authority family but the governors gain greater power in decision making. This will give them more flexibility when responding to the rapidly changing educational scene and put the two schools in a position where it can make key decisions quickly. The governors believe this is the best for both schools and for its students because, with the support of our partners, we can offer a better and more co-ordinated education.

This term has also seen the year 9 students in both schools make the important choices that will shape their curriculum for next year. Alongside the other offers, we have been able to place 10 subjects or courses in a federation column, thereby giving much greater choice and flexibility to our students in each school. This year's highly successful deliverer of Key Stage 4 courses across the federation owes much to the willingness of both staff and students to engage with this new structure. I'd like to thank both for the really positive way they have tackled the teething problems that have arisen.

One of the benefits of having the two schools work together is the ability to share the expertise and knowledge between teachers. I am pleased to report that this goes from strength to strength. In the last term significant collaborative work has taken place in Art, Technology, Science and ICT/Business. Similarly there is a regular dialogue between the subject leaders of Modern Foreign Languages, PE and Creative Arts. This support for each develops good practice and shares expertise that benefits the students in both schools.

The two schools, NCHS and Clayton, have embarked on a major training programme to improve the Learning and Teaching Provision. In the summer term 3 staff training days (11th / 12th April and 28th June) have been set aside to begin our training in a model of teaching called TEEP (Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme) designed to engage our students better and provide greater challenge. It is a nationally recognised framework that has a proven track record of raising standards. This major commitment will, I am sure, take the quality of what goes on in our classrooms to a new level. In doing so it signals our long term focus of continually improving the quality of learning and teaching in our classrooms. Students should notice an immediate difference when they return to school on Monday April 15th. Also enclosed in this newsletter is information provided by our Director of Learning regarding the TEEP programme.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mark Heuston
Executive Headteacher

What is TEEP and how is it helping us to become the best we can be?

Dear Parent/Carer

TEEP is the Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme and it is rooted in evidence based research of effective teaching and learning. It aims to support schools to provide the best possible learning experiences for our young people.

The programme is delivered by SSAT (The Schools Network) Limited and is designed to embrace current and recent initiatives in teaching and learning and apply them to our specific situation.

The aims of TEEP at South Newcastle Federation are to:

- Give staff a common language for planning, teaching and evaluating learning.
- Encompass and build upon everything that we do that we know makes teaching and learning better.
- Enable excellent progression within a lesson and across a series of lessons in order to raise achievement for all.
- Raise the number of 'good' and 'outstanding' lessons.
- Provide staff with excellent development opportunities.

The entire teaching staff will undertake a 3 day programme during the Summer Term and a smaller group will undertake two further days in the Autumn Term of the new academic year and will help to mentor and coach colleagues and support the development of TEEP across the school.

As a federation we also intend to work across the staff team to develop and embed TEEP through providing a holistic framework that goes far beyond a lesson planning tool, where it will influence every aspect of the school.

What can we expect to gain? The impact of TEEP training in other schools has been wide-ranging and includes:

- Improvements in pupil behaviour; pupils are more engaged and motivated and enjoy learning.
- Improved pupil self-esteem and pupils have high aspirations.
- Improved pupil progress both in individual lessons and also over time.
- Improved classroom relationships, pupil/pupil and pupil/teacher. There is a genuine dialogue between learning partners as co-learners.
- Improvements in pupils' confidence as learners. They are more active learners and have strategies to use when they are stuck. They have greater ownership of, and take more responsibility for, their own learning, truly preparing them for the 21st Century.

If you would like to understand more about this next exciting phase of our journey to becoming Outstanding, Please feel free to click through to www.teep.org.uk for more information or watch a short film on TEEP by going to www.teep.org.uk/teepvideo.asp.

Jill Adamson

Julian Morgan

Associate Headteacher at NCHS

Associate Headteacher at Clayton

Mark Heuston

Amanda McHugh

Executive Headteacher

Director of Learning



A group of students along with myself and Mr Gregory visited Poland in February as part of their History course. We were based in Krakow and visited several places of interest including the Schindler Factory and Auschwitz. Here is what the students thought;



"I enjoyed my trip to Poland, it was a very amazing trip. I will never forget it. The most enjoyable moment was visiting the Schindler Factory because we had seen this in the classroom through looking at Schindler's List. I loved the History trip and if anybody has the chance to go they should! The experience of going on a trip was much better than learning about it in the classroom. I liked experiencing the Polish culture and trying new things like their traditional food dishes. Overall, this was an ace time and I would love to go again. Thanks Miss!!" Courtney Naylor



"Poland was a really good experience. It was really eerie in the gas chamber and there was also a cold atmosphere. The whole visit was excellent. It's great to learn outside of the classroom. I would love to go again!!!!" Becky Boulton

“When we visited Poland we did a lot of exciting things. For instance, we visited Auschwitz. This was very interesting as it gave me an insight into how the Jews were forced to live, how they were tortured and forced to work. I felt spooked as I walked around the camp, but that was expected. We were given a guided tour of the old medieval town of Krakow which was also very informative. However, it was freezing cold when we did this!! We enjoyed the Polish culture by visiting a very picturesque Polish restaurant on the second evening. Unfortunately, not many of us liked the food so we all ended up in MacDonald’s at 11pm in the evening, which was fun. All together, the trip was an amazing experience.” Josh Conroy



“I really enjoyed our visit to Krakow. It was an extremely interesting and informative experience. The visit to Auschwitz and Birkenau was very mesmerising and I learned a lot from it. Overall, the visit was excellent and I would love to visit Poland again.” Prentice Johnson.

“I really enjoyed the trip to Poland and in particular Auschwitz, it was very educational. I particularly learnt a lot from visiting both camps as I wanted to see the conditions in which Jewish people were forced to live. It was very upsetting knowing that so many people died there. Overall, I found the experience extremely useful for my History work.” Julia McCredie.

I would like to thank the staff who took the trip to Poland arriving back late last night. It is only with the support of your staff their families and the organisation of the school that our children’s education is enriched please pass on my thanks to everyone involved.
Karen Emmens (Parent)

Mrs Robinson

House Charity Work

Celsius



Accidents will always happen, so it is reassuring to know that across the Midlands and Welsh border region we have an Air Ambulance service available 7 days a week, 365 days a year, just in case.



The service receives no Government or National Lottery funding - in fact no public money at all. The Charity needs to fundraise £6 million each year to support the work of the helicopter service. This is why so many people generously fundraise for the Midlands Air Ambulance and why we thank you for your continuing support.

The Charity operates three Air Ambulances, covering a geographically area of 6,000 square miles across six Midland counties. Midlands Air Ambulance carries out approximately 3,500 missions each year and has completed in excess of 30,000 life saving missions since it commenced in 1991.

Celsius raised £600 last year for 'Wear 20 colours day'. We are proud to raise money for such a vital life saving charity!! Look out for future exciting events.

Mr Jones

Newton



Boot Camp is back!

Help Our Wounded is a charity that helps injured soldiers adjust back to family life. Returning from war can be an arduous task on its own, but for some soldiers they have to come to terms with the loss of limbs or serious injuries that will affect them for the rest of their lives. Newton last year raised over £1000 to help provide these injured soldiers with specialist equipment to help them adjust.

This year pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a sponsored 10 mile speed march with the Royal Marines. There will also be a boot camp in the last week of the summer term. Last year this was a massive success and pupils really enjoyed taking part and having fun.

Mrs Askew

Henry



The Henry House Charity is The Donna Louise trust.

Over the past year we have raised money for this amazing cause through a variety of activities. We held a non uniform day where pupils had to wear clothes that were only blue and yellow. We've also had pupils making and selling trinkets.

During the summer term last year we held a summer fayre where pupils from our House ran several stalls. These included a bouncy castle, a Wii competition and a bucking bronco.

Overall we managed to raise £411 for the Trust. Whilst everyone who took part enjoyed the activities they also realised the importance of the events. We are looking forward to helping to raise more funds in the near future.

Mr Johnson

Sievert

Last half term Sievert Form Groups were asked to organise their own mini fundraising events to raise money for 'The North Staffs Special Adventure Playground'. Miss Anslow organised a raffle, Miss Fagan had a 'guess the name of the teddy bear' competition and Mrs Ridgeon asked pupils to guess how many sweets there were in a jar. So far we have raised £40.

Mr Jones (Maths), Miss Lockett and Mr Kerr will be holding their events this half term, which include a cake sale and a penalty shootout competition.

In the week before Christmas, 10 Sievert pupils helped busy Sainsbury's shoppers with their packing, sporting reindeer antlers and Santa hats! With all proceeds going to our charity.

This half term we will be holding a whole school 'activity afternoon' - pupils will be asked to contribute £1 to join in with the various activities on offer. Again all proceeds will be donated to 'The North Staffs Special Adventure Playground' so we hope that all pupils will participate.

I just wanted to write to thank you and your students for your support with our charity bag packing event at Sainsbury's before Christmas. I hope all the students that helped enjoyed the experience; they certainly did a brilliant job and it was good to get such positive feedback about them from the customers whose bags they packed. I managed to get the money counted over the Christmas break and I am pleased to report that we raised the grand sum of £573.61 which is fantastic and will contribute greatly to the ever-rising cost of keeping the Playground open. We couldn't have raised this amount without the help and support of all those who gave their time on the day. Please pass on my thanks to all the individual students that came along on the day and thank you once again for organising them and lending your support to our fundraising efforts. Hannah



Miss Moyden

Sprucing up the Busy Bees room at the Cornerstone Community Centre in Silverdale

Paul Krynauw from PM Training was asked to help pupils plan and carry out the community project, which forms part of their curriculum.

Mrs Clarke said "The pupils wanted to put something back into the community so decided to improve the Busy Bees room for others to enjoy. I'm so grateful that local businesses have teamed up to support them."

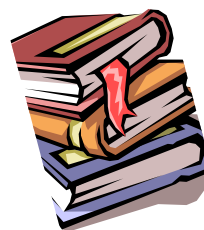
Businesses involved in the project included: Johnstone's Paints and Burslem Recycling Centre (Community Repaint Project), B&Q Festival Park, Timberland DIY (aka Longton Protective Clothing).

The group spent the day painting and were very pleased with the results.



Mrs Clarke

NCHS LIBRARY—NEWS

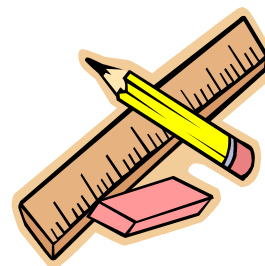


Westland's Primary School Y6 pupils have been spending some of their Thursday lunch breaks playing chess with Mrs Lovatt in the library. Two tournaments have taken place so far. Last term the champion was Oliver Kent with the crown being taken this term by Sam Clarke with the runner up being Oliver Tucker. Well done lads.



[A Stationery Shop has opened this term for students to purchase basic items:](#)

Pens — 15p
Pencils — 10p
Erasers — 10p
Sharpeners— 20p
Rulers — 10p



[NEW Graphic Science BOOKS KS3](#)

Thanks to the science department the library has been able to purchase a set of KS3 graphic science titles for pupils to read...

[Display Club](#)

Valentine cards, Mother's day cards and craft pillows are this terms theme.



Mrs Lovatt

Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Group are currently preparing for their final assessment which will take place over the Easter weekend. They are busy independently finishing their skill, service and physical sections of the award before the 3 day expedition in the Peak District.

They are seen here practicing their navigation skills in Snowdonia.

Mr Gregory



Year 10 and 11 Construction

All pupils who are working towards a BTEC Construction award have been working on joinery skills this term. Each pupil has been given the option to independently create a child's toy, frame or bird box. Each pupil has improved their joinery skills and created their piece of work to the required standard which they should be proud of.

The year 11's have also worked as a team to create a porch which they will go on to tile.

Mr Gregory



Zumba Sports Leaders

Year 4 and 5 Pupils from St John's primary school in Keele take part in regular Zumba sessions with sports leaders Brooke Jones and Karen Bradley helping to lead the way. Brooke and Karen are new year 7 leaders and they are really enjoying their challenging and exciting new role. Mrs Clarke



Thank you from Lisbon Place Residents

Thank you to Mrs Clarke and her team for the excellent work of area cleaning/litter-picking around the pathways of Ostend Place/Lisbon Place and Paris Avenue. As you are aware, Lisbon Place is a housing scheme for the elderly and is surrounded by public pathways. As such, we tend to attract a lot of litter. This creates particular difficulties for our residents' age group who cannot easily bend to pick litter. Your team do a very useful community service by litter-picking. It's not the most glamorous job for young people to do, so it is to their credit that they do the job well—and in good spirits.

Mick Bird—Lisbon Place Court

housing21

PE News

Indoor Athletics

We reported in the last newsletter that the year 7 and 8 indoor athletics teams were training for the district championships. The year seven boys and girls teams both won the district championships and went to the county finals in Fenton to represent the Newcastle District. Both teams put on a great performance and both teams finished a creditable sixth place. The hard work they put in training with team coach Adam Jones (year 11) was all worthwhile and they were a real credit to the school.



Save a Life

Students in KS3 are being given the opportunity to take the Rookie Lifeguard Award. It is designed to equip the students with basic skills to enable them to keep themselves and others safe around water. Any students interested should bring swim kit and meet at the pool every Friday lunchtime.



Table Tennis

Our table tennis teams entered the North Staffs Table Tennis League last term and we have just received news that our team of year 8 boys have qualified for finals night to be played at Clayton on the 20th March. This is a fabulous achievement as they have been competing against year 11 pupils and is the first time we have entered the league.

The year 9 boys have missed qualifying by the narrowest of margins and should look forward to next year's league where they will aim to go one better.

Sports Ambassadors

Our four school sports ambassadors continue to fly the flag for NCHS as they spent the day being trained up in tag rugby and netball in preparation to run competitions in local primary schools for the stars of the future. They will also be attending Keele University for a day this term to be trained up in Kwik Cricket. Well done to Ben, Cain, Courtney and Caitlin for the work they are doing.



Football

The year 11 boys are marching on in the Sentinel Cup. A fine 3-2 victory over Sir Thomas Boughey after extra time has seen us progress to a last sixteen tie against The Discovery Academy, Stoke to be played later this month. Goals from Lee Pickerill, Jai Heeland and Luke Dann saw us through.

The year 8 team travelled to Chesterton to start their league campaign. Having lost 9-1 last year, the lads knew they were in for a tough night. After a close first twenty minutes we took the lead and never looked back. An outstanding team performance saw us win 6-1 with goals from Jack Hampton (2), Reece White (2), Lewis Beech and Elliott Lockett.

Trips

Following our trips to Man United and the Velodrome, trips have been organised next term to watch Lancashire Cricket Club to watch the 20/20 matches, Sales Sharks Rugby Club to watch some premiersip rugby and for the lucky few the chance to visit Goodison Park to watch the mighty Everton. Watch the PE notice board for details.



Creation Skate Park

As part of the drive to introduce new sports and activities to the students, 12 of our students had the chance to visit Creation Skate Park in Birmingham. The students finally got to go in early January as the trip had cancelled due to the bad weather earlier in the year. The wait was worth it as the tricks were brought out for the occasion. As can be seen from the photos all students had a great time and managed to develop their skills.



NCHS Volleyball

Our year 7,8 and 9 volleyball squads are in preparation for their first volleyball match after half term. They will be traveling to Macclesfield to take part in a tournament against two Macclesfield schools. The students have shown a real commitment to training and have developed their skills. We wish them the best of luck!

Mr Dolman

New Facilities

The PE Department at NCHS are both pleased and proud to have gained yet more outstanding facilities. The old tennis courts have now been renovated into an astro turf pitch for netball, tennis and 5 a side football. Pupils have also been using the new space for hockey during lessons.

We look forward to making the most of this space and a hockey camp will be running in the Summer term for Year 7's on a Wednesday evening after school.



Netball

All league games have now been completed and for the second year running NCHS have fielded full teams across the age groups. As well as participation rates increasing, our levels of success are also starting to improve. Throughout every year group, NCHS finished in the top half of the league table.

The Year 8's have competed in their tournament and beat Clayton Hall 7-4 and Clough Hall 4-2, a fantastic result against two good teams.

Netball training will continue throughout the Summer Term to start preparing for the leagues in September. A big thank you to Miss Lucas for all the time and energy she has put into coaching the teams.

Year 7 Netball Team

Molly Godding ©, Amelia Birks, Greta Johnson, Anna Jones, Louis Hancocks, Abbie-Rose Powner, Chloe Derrett, Sophie Hammersley, Megan Knott, Leah Wagstaff, Sophie Pritchard

Year 8 Netball Team

Jordina Hancock ©, Morgan Denson, Alexis Everill, Maddi Husnu, Helena Lawrence, Megan McDonald, Georgina Sale

Year 9 Netball Team

Rebecca Hughes, Tammy Lawrence, Courtney Naylor, Caitlin Steele, Lauren White, Jade Dudley, Jessica Edwards

Year 10/11 Netball Team

Georgia Dunn, Hollie Griffin, Alysha Elms, Nikita Emmens, Fran Gregory, Kaleisha Emmens, Hayley Furnivall, Charlotte Hill, Annabel Rhodes, Jess Rowley, Louise Thompson.

Well done to all who committed to both playing fixtures and training and we hope to see you at Summer Camp on Monday evenings.

Mrs Askew

Student Council

The student council continue to meet every half term to discuss any concerns raised during form time. The focus for this half term was 'rewards'. The introduction of Vivo's has been reported to be a big success at KS3.



KS4 would like to see an improvement or change to the positive citation rewards system. They feel the system should be more visual and accessible to them, so watch this space KS4.

Any students interested in getting involved with the student council next year please see Mrs Askew.

Newton House

It will soon be that time of year when we wave goodbye to our Year 11's and the Year 10's step up to become prefects. Therefore I would like the Year 9's to start thinking about their applications for House Captain and Vice-Captain. This is a privileged role for somebody who is organised, dedicated and shows good leadership skills. It also looks fantastic on your CV when applying for college. If you would like more information please see me and I can talk you through the process.



Newton house are still working hard on attendance and it remains a key focus for the house.

I have a meeting scheduled with the chairman of Help Our Wounded to discuss fundraising ideas over the next few months. Boot Camp is a definite and will be back, so dig out your old camouflage kit at the ready. If you have any fundraising ideas please see me.

Mrs Askew

Prom/Prom Fayre

The Prom Fayre was held on the 7th February and was a massive success. Pupils from all over the area attended in an attempt to get some ideas and help with their dresses and accessories. The Prom Committee worked tirelessly to help set up, pack away and organise this event. Well done to you all.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Year 11's the very best of luck with their exams. I look forward to celebrating with them at this years Prom on 28th June at the North Staffs Hotel.

Mrs Askew



Religious Education – Year 8 Places of Worship

During Religious Education lessons all pupils in year eight have been learning about the different places of worship and the importance of them to communities. For their homework project they had to produce a model of a place of worship that included all the key features. Great effort and creativity was shown by pupils and parents! Well done!



Miss Spendley

MUGENKYO VISIT NCHS

In late January members of the world famous Taiko drumming group, Mugenkyo, visited NCHS to run workshops for year 7 and key stage 4 pupils. Based in Scotland, Mugenkyo have established a worldwide reputation for their work which take in TV and 'live' performances as far afield as the Far East and America. Interrupting a very busy schedule Shona and Barry led pupils through the basics of Taiko drumming, including handling Bachii sticks, mastering the discipline and teamwork needed, emphasising it's visual nature and explaining the background and history behind Taiko, all of which connected closely to the Creative Arts Scheme of Work. The workshop centred around the rehearsal and performance of a complete piece, initially taught through the medium of word pattern and then transferred to strikes on the drum. Pupils really enjoyed the intense session and to their credit ended with a very creditable performance.

As a follow up, some pupils attended a 'live' two hour performance by Mugenkyo the following week in the atmospheric setting of Keele Chapel, their first 'gig' of a nationwide tour.

'The performance was amazing, really interesting for me because of it's mixture of strength, endurance, athleticism and musicality' Adam Jones Y11

Mr Dawson



Helping serve Christmas lunch to the Bowlers

Kyra Everill, Jade Huntingdon, Rian Everill, Molly Sherratt, Sophie Terry and Lynda Martin helped to serve food and drinks ensuring the Bowlers had a lovely time. This is something that the pupils do which gives us the strong links with the community.



Y10 Aim Award serving Christmas lunch to Swimmers

Year 10 Aim award group serving Christmas lunch to the swimmers. Brandon Timmis, Oliver Powner, Trent Pearce Rogers, Ben Usher.



Mrs Clarke

THE NURTURE GROUP HELPING IN THE COMMUNITY

The Nurture Group is a fantastic way to provide a flexible, preventative resource, which is responsive to the particular needs of the children attending and to help them behave appropriately, to use their curiosity constructively, improve their self esteem and develop confidence, one such way is ensuring these students can take part in certain projects, we were invited to join Newcastle Borough Council and assist them with many of their community projects, one was wild flower planting at Thistleberry parkway. The pupils had a great time planting these wild flowers and sowing seeds and enjoyed getting as muddy as possible, it will be a pleasure to see in June when this once boggy marsh area is blooming with flowers that the nurture students here at NCHS took time to take part in, and thoroughly enjoyed the "muddy" experience.



Mrs Begley

Eco Group – Save Energy Campaign

The Eco group meet every Thursday after school in the Library. We are currently looking at ways of reducing energy consumption within in the school and have launched a competition this half term focussed on reducing energy wasting by teachers!



By Easter our dedicated group will have checked on classrooms to make sure that lights, computers, printers and whiteboards have been switched off. Good teachers will receive a “Good Job” card and “naughty” teachers will receive a “Need to Improve” card. At the end of each term the best teacher from each House will receive a special certificate in the Award Assembly.

Whilst the competition is meant to be light-hearted it is hoped that it will show how just a little thought can make a big difference to the Environment.



We would like budding new Eco Warriors to join our dedicated group – all pupils are welcome to come and see what we do and to shape future initiatives.

Mrs Doig



Apedale Country Park

Year 7 Geographers went exploring at Apedale Country Park this term. They were aiming to test their map skills that they had covered in the Autumn term. Pupils used the Orienteering course to navigate their way around the beauty spot and had plenty of opportunities to take in the fine views and appreciate the natural environment. They particularly enjoyed using the binoculars up at the viewpoint to spot Mow Cop and other features across the local skyline. They thanked their guide for the activity, Jenna Holford from Staffordshire’s Wildlife Trust, and headed back to school to rest their weary limbs.

Felicity Higginbottom – It was great to do some work outside and we learnt how to use a compass to find our way around the orienteering course.

Sam Plant – It was good because we got to learn about extended map skills. We had the chance to put what we learnt in the classroom into practice.



Mr Burndred

Hitler on Trial



Year 11 History students attended an exam-busting workshop and courtroom drama held in Manchester on 26th February.



There was a workshop led by a principal examiner in which he explained the thinking behind the examination syllabuses. He also showed pupils how to improve their performance in their GCSE course and final examination. Pupils looked at seven questions, covering each strand of the assessment objectives, and they marked actual answers taken from past examination scripts. The workshop was followed by a courtroom drama, written by Josh Brooman, in which students are asked to imagine a parallel historical world in which Adolf Hitler was captured alive by British Special Forces in 1942 and put on trial for war crimes, starting with the charge of causing the Second World War.

Prosecuting Counsel opens the case against him by questioning a series of Germans who witnessed many of the key events in Weimar and Nazi Germany: a sailor who took part in the Revolution of 1918-19; a founder member of the Sturmabteilung; Gusav Stresemann; a security guard who witnessed the Reichstag Fire; and a member of a jazz band that toured Germany during the 1930s. Counsel for the Defence casts a wider net by calling a series of world leaders to give evidence to justify Hitler's actions: Neville Chamberlain, Benito Mussolini, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Josef Stalin. Finally, he calls Hitler himself to take the witness stand. The play ends with the student audience voting to decide whether or not Hitler is guilty.



Mrs Robinson

Gifted and Talented Students Join Forces to Tackle Pi

Staff from NCHS The Science College and Clayton Hall Business and Language College have given the Gifted and Talented Mathematicians from local primary schools the opportunity to join forces to tackle the Pythagoras Theory.

Some pupils working at a higher level than their peers whilst still at primary school can feel isolated by their talent for a certain subjects. The sessions have been especially designed to stretch young mathematical minds and introduce the pupils to other pupils of a similar high ability.

The three sessions will be taking place at NCHS finishing on the 12th March have been attended by 33 pupils from seven different primary schools including Langdale Primary School in Clayton and Knutton St Mary's Primary School in Knutton.

Andy Massey Maths Teacher at NCHS The Science College said

“ the lessons have been a great success, I am astonished at the progress which these pupils have made, its has been a pleasure to teach them and to see their minds stretched”

Due to success of the Maths lessons, the schools have introduced sessions for Gifted and Talented English pupils starting on the 18th March 2013.



Mrs Marks

Zumba Sessions

Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 pupils continue to be busy in the primary schools leading the Zumba sessions. 547 pupils have taken part and also staff and parents too.



Karen Bradley and Felicity Higgingbottom lead the zumba sessions at Friarswood Primary school in front of 85 pupils from different year groups. The girls confidence has well and truly blossomed. Alexis Everill, Leanne Heath and Emma Auden led the zumba sessions and taught the year 4's from Hempstalls Primary school how to lead too. Plans for the Summer term include: Cheerleading, dance mat and wall climbing sessions.

Mrs Clarke (School Sports coordinator)

Business Studies Pupils in the Regional Final “Real Business Challenge”

Pupils from the Year 10, GCSE Business Studies class won their way to a VIP lunch at Pride Park Stadium in Derby.



During December the class took part in the national competition the “Real Business Challenge” which is run by Coca-Cola Enterprise. Judges were impressed with the teams ideas and creativity and they were one of just seven teams which competed in the regional final in Derby.

The team had to develop a marketing strategy to create awareness of the Para-Olympic Games. The team worked very hard and their presentation was both professional and creative. They represented our school at this regional event in a very professional and business-like manner. Well done to Georgia Dunn, Jessica Rowley, Elliot Gordon, Joseph Clarke, Chloe Alcock, Lotti Tomkinson and Shannon Hurd.

Mrs Marks

Y10 Health & Social Care

Year 10 Health and Social Care group – as part of the Healthy living food unit, the girls planned, prepared, cooked and served a roast chicken dinner.

The focus was on food hygiene and safety skills. Kyra Everill led the session and delegated to the rest of the group who worked excellently as a team. The meal was finished off with a nice cup of tea!

The team: Emily Clewes, Lynda Martin, Holly Lockett, Molly Sherratt, Rian Everill, Courtney Ankers, Kyra Everill, Leyah Hope, Jade Huntingdon and Sophie Terry.



Mrs Clarke

Summer Fayre



**Saturday 13th July 2013
 10am to 2pm**

**Activities for all the family:
 Heritage Tours
 Bouncy Castle
 Dog Agility Display
 Bucking Bronco
 Have a Go Dog Agility
 Tombola and Bottle Stall
 Dog Micro Chipping
 Cream Teas
 And lots more!**

**“Fun” Dog Show
 with
 Greyhound Gap**



**Helping Hounds into
 Homes**

www.greyhoundgap.org.uk
 Registered Charity 113207

Fun classes are:

- **Best Rescue Dog**
- **Catch the Biscuit**
- **Waggiest Tail**
- **Best Junior Handler**
- **Best Trick**
- **Fancy Dress**



Pupils who have received a praise letter this term - Congratulations

Kyra Everill	Rian Everill
Jade Huntingdon	Molly Sherratt
Sophie Terry	Lynda Martin
Brandon Timmis	Oliver Powner
Trent Pearce-Rogers	Ben Usher
Abdulla Hassan	Alex Broad
George Ash	Isaac Lovatt
Sammi Johnson	Hayley Lands
Cain Davies	Shane Twigg
Tom Chell	Harry Shepherd
Ben Dawson	Ben Machin
Maddi Husnu	Jackson Oliver
Dale Mellem	Tyler Drakeford
Karen Bradley	Felicity Higginbottom
Zahid Islam	Daniel Heath
Charlie Butler	Alex Smith
Ben Hill	Prentice Johnson
Molly Jones	James Proctor
Aden Mold	Joe Burke
Macauley Baker	Liam Banks
Harry Abercrombie	Nathan Rhodes
Connor Smith	James Proctor
Bryan Cross	Jacques Dunn
James Whitehead	Jack Lindop
Josh Knott	Tom Whitehead
Mandie Davis	Elliott Lockett (Y8)
Allie Ankers	Jake Calvert
Shane Davis	Rosie Hawkins
Scott Odell	



FREE Year 7 Breakfast

FREE toast and drink for all year 7 students daily from 08:00—08:35 in the Dining Room.



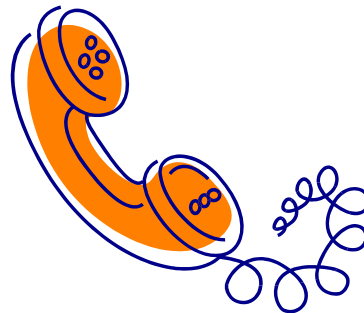
100% ATTENDANCE

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

Jack Barlow	Jasmin Bull
Joseph Burke	Jack Burton
Adam Cotton	Richard Dixon
Georgia Dunn	Jacques Dunn
Cory Edgerton	Sam Edwards
Harry French	Jordan Gillon
Molly Godding	Jonathan Hall
Ben Hill	Jack Homes
Leyah Hope	Fabien Johns
Greta Johnson	Anna Jones
Kay Jones	Leon Kirk
Helena Lawrence	Mark Lawrence
Tammy Lawrence	Liam Lockett
Callum Lovatt	Conah Maidment
Megan-Rose Mason	Samual Plant
Oliver Powner	Charlotte Smith
Connor Smith	Sara Tegg
Shane Twigg	George Wood

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.

We had a fantastic first half term's attendance this year with many students showing a real improvement, lets keep this going and we can achieve the best year ever at NCHS!

RememberGreat attendance = Great results!

Extra Curricular Activities at NCHS

	Lunch time club	After school clubs
Mon	Zumba Chess Club History Drop-in Boys Football Girls Badminton	D of E Award History Revision Child Development Food Technology Girls Netball
Tue	Display Club French Catch-up History Drop-in Girls Basketball Boys Football	Sign Language ICT Catch-up
Wed	Homework Catch-up (Nurture) History Drop-in Boys Football	French Catch-up ICT Catch-up Maths Child Development Food Technology History Revision Football Training Table Tennis Club Netball Matches
Thu	Reading Club Homework Club History Drop-in Boys Football	H&S Care Princes Trust ICT Catch-up Geography History Revision Girls GCSE PE Boys Football Boys Volleyball ECO Group
Fri	History Drop-in Girls KS4 Fitness Boys KS4 Fitness Boys Badminton	

Bus Service

A **FREE** bus service will operate at 4.30pm to Knutton and Silverdale on Monday's, Wednesday's and Thursday's for students who attend any After School Activity on those nights.

Please note that seats are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Students wishing to use this service must register their name with Mrs Gregory by lunchtime on the day.



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

Community Centre Information

Mondays:	6.30-8.00	Family swim.
	6.45	Zumba & Tone.
	7.15	Hi/Low Cardio & Tone.
	8.00-9.00	Lane swimming.
Tuesdays:	6.30	Boxercise.
	7.00	Aqua Zumba.
	7.15	Zumba.
Wednesdays:	9.30-11.30	Over 50's.
	5.00-6.00	Kids Street Dance.
	6.30	Aqua Bootcamp.
	7.45	Bokwa.
	8.00-9.00	Lane swimming.
Thursdays:	7.00	Hi/Low Cardio & Tone.
Saturdays:	10.30	Zumba.
	8.00-9.00	Lane Swimming.
Sundays:	9.30-12.00	Family swim.



School Terms and Holiday Dates 2013

Spring Term 2013:

Staff & Pupils:	Monday 25 February - Thursday 28 March	24 working days
Holiday:	Friday 29 March - Friday 12 April	11 days
Easter Sunday:	Sunday 31 March	
Staff Only:	Training Days—Thurs 11 & Fri 12 April	2 days (Training)

Summer Term 2013:

Staff & Pupils:	Monday 15 April - Friday 24 May	29 working days
May Day:	Monday 6 May	1 day
Holiday:	Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May	6 days
Staff & Pupils:	Monday 3 June - Friday 19 July	35 working days
Staff Only:	In service Training Day - Friday 28 June	1 day (Training)
Holiday:	Monday 22 July - Friday 30 August	30 days

Autumn Term 2013:

Staff Only:	INSET—Monday 2 & Tuesday 3 September	2 days (Training)
Pupils:	Wednesday 4 September—Thursday 24 October	37 working days
Staff:	INSET— Friday 25 October	1 day
Holiday:	Monday 28 October—Friday 1 November	5 days

School re-opens to students on Monday 15th April 2013 Week 1



**Published by NCHS—The Science College
Part of the South Newcastle Federation**