



SUMMER NEWS



NCHS – The Science College

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Dear Parent/Carer

As you read this newsletter you will see how much has been achieved by so many students this term and I would like to thank all the pupils for the effort and enthusiasm they have shown, not just this term, but throughout the year.

It is nice to look back and reflect on the last 12 months and see how well so many of the students have progressed both academically and socially. In this term alone, students, in addition to their normal studies have taken part in a variety of activities, from working with a local artist to produce some fantastic mono-print work based on the school building, to participating in sporting events across the County and enjoying educational and cultural visits to France to see the Bayeux tapestry and to study slavery at the Merseyside Maritime Museum.

I would also like to thank you as parents and carers for your continued support. The partnership between home and school is vital to the success of all pupils and is greatly valued here at NCHS.

One way that parents and carers can be involved in the school and its development is to become a governor. We are always looking for people who would like to take on the role of a governor and feel they have something to offer. At present we have 2 vacancies for parent governors to represent NCHS on the federated governing body. If you would like to find out more about the role of governor please contact me.

Intake Day, where Year 6 students starting in September visited the school, it was a delight to see current students welcoming and working alongside the new students. I am sure this will help ease their transition to NCHS in September.

In the last week the school has successfully been re-designated as a Science College. This means we can look forward to developing the specialism over the coming 3 years to benefit all pupils at NCHS, in our partner school Clayton Hall, our feeder primary schools and in the local community.

At the end of the newsletter I have attached details for the first day back in September. Please note that different year groups start at different times on the first day although the buses will run at their usual times. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents who are buying new uniform for September to check our uniform rules. Skirts and trousers should be loose fitting, not tight and not hipsters. If your child is in Year 10 or 11, maroon sweatshirts should be purchased, years 7-9 remain in black sweatshirts.

Finally can I wish you all a very restful and enjoyable summer.

Mrs J Adamson
Headteacher

AIM HIGHER ROADSHOW

Our gifted and talented Y9 pupils visited Newcastle College this term to learn about Higher Education. The Aim Higher Roadshow bus was located there for the day and hosted students from around the local area.

The aim of the event was to get more students thinking about staying in learning and in particular considering applying to University in a few years. The students learn about the wide variety of courses on offer, financial help, benefits of getting a degree and of course the social aspects of being a student.

Here are some views from students who took part:

Heather Collett – ‘If you go to University you can get a much better job and more pay. You can also get the job you want.’



Georgia Hill – ‘University means more independence, so you are in charge of your own learning. It has made me think more about going.’



Abigail Forrester – ‘I was not sure about Uni, but I definitely want to go now. It seems really good to help you get the right job, you can move away and meet loads of new friends.’



TASTER DAY—NEWCASTLE COLLEGE

Year 9 pupils each spent a day at Newcastle Under Lyme College in July. They had a tour of the College and then took part in 4 hour long taster sessions in Art, Law, Sport and Engineering.

Staff who accompanied the students remarked how the students seemed to get an awful lot out of the day and many are now seriously considering making applications when the time comes in Y11. It was great to see so many students thinking about their options when they leave NCHS and it also means that the College is not quite so daunting when they have to go for interviews or open events. Bev and Nicole from Connexions also spent the day with us and had chance to get to know our Y9 students and to talk about career aspirations.

Jake Mathews –
“The whole day was really good, I enjoyed Law the most. It was really interesting and gave me an idea of a career prospect for the future.



The recording studio was very high tech and I would look forward to using that in the future. I have got a few courses in mind and Newcastle College is very appealing.”

Denise Rhodes – *“Newcastle is the place I would like to go. I was thinking about the stereotypical girls courses like hair and beauty. But after the Law session it made me think that would be better for me and I also got to see all of the other areas as well.”*

Holly Huxley –
“We did an Art session and got to mould clay. I like how Art is not just about drawing. The session



was good fun but we learnt a lot at the same time, I made an owl.”

Paige Usher – *“The College was a really nice, clean environment and I was shocked how big it was. The lecturers are really friendly and they have brilliant facilities.”*

YEAR 7 TRIP TO THE SLAVERY MUSEUM

52 Y7 pupils had the chance to visit the International Slavery Museum in July. It is located with the Merseyside Maritime Museum at the Albert Docks in Liverpool. The trip was arranged to reinforce the work they have been doing on the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade as a cross curricular Project in Humanities. Students had the chance to immerse themselves in stories of bravery and rebellion and were able to explore the historical and contemporary aspects of slavery. They also had the chance to take part in role play to discover the stories of the nine million people who set sail from the port of Liverpool in search of a better life as emigrants to the New World. The students really enjoyed their day and made the following comments about the whole experience:



Charlotte Tomkinson – *“We got to see what life was like under deck for people emigrating to New York. It was horrible, uncomfortable and with no space to move. It was really dark and would have been worse if you were tall.”*



A new attraction at the Docks is the Bug World Experience where Mr Jones and Molly Sherratt showed their daring side by taking on their very own 'Bush Tucker Challenge'. They got to eat a chocolate covered leaf cutter ant, and even had to pay for the privilege. Molly said *“The shell was crunchy and inside it was all sour. I learnt loads at the museum. We saw the Middle Passage in the Slavery Museum which showed the conditions on the slave ships. People were being sick because it was too hot and cramped and it must have been really depressing.”*



There was then just enough time to enjoy a ride on the Echo Wheel of Liverpool which is a smaller version of the London Eye, located at the Albert Docks for the next 12 months. The pupils who dared to ride were treated to views across the Liverpool skyline and were also able to see the Welsh Mountains in the distance. Mr Jones had Lauren Valco screaming in his ear. She commented *“I was so scared. It was really high and we could see all across Liverpool, The Albert Docks and the Echo Arena”*



S.W.A.T. News

Our Students With A Talent group has been busy since January with several activities taking place. The Bistro Art Club meets every Thursday after school and this small, dedicated group are putting the finishing touches to 3 big painted boards. Recently the group has been opened up to Year 8 and will begin the artwork for the school canteen. It's hoped that these after school sessions continue and we will produce a wide range of art-



work to be displayed around the school. This is a really good way to showcase the talented artists we have at NCHS.

A small group of Year 9 artists visited The Borough Museum and Art Gallery to see the work of illustrator 8Bit. The pupils drew from his quirky illustrations then

tried to recreate his style using the old-fashioned toys on display in the museum. 8Bit's work is strange and creepy and the pupils really captured this in their work. Future links with the Museum are in the pipeline. *(pic Work by Lauren Robinson)*



Talented future chefs tried out some new recipes with Miss Walker our Food Technology teacher. The Year 9 boys worked hard and the food produced was really delicious. Many staff, parents, pupils and (greedy) prefects showed their appreciation when the students made a buffet for Options Evening. Very tasty!



Miss Lockett ran sessions for Year 9 to try their hand at Textiles. A group of about 20 pupils worked hard and enjoyed their taste of

this new GCSE subject. They all produced a textile product and picked up new skills.



In June, local artist Ruth Allen came into school and worked with 16 pupils from years 8,9 and 10 to produce a fantastic piece of artwork. It was a really busy and creative session

"Today's mono-printing workshop for me was excellent. I never knew that mono-printing could be so interesting and have such a good artistic effect. When we finished our mini prints, we put them on



two big canvasses. It looked really good and we were very proud. In this gifted and talented group there were 16 of us, everyone had input in the final piece. Ruth Allen is an amazing artist and she was really helpful and inspiring." Naomi Goodall Year 10



"Today me and a class of 15 others took part in mono-printing with an artist named Ruth Allen. She taught us all sorts of interesting methods of mono-printing. Our theme was the school grounds. I found it to be fantastic and very interesting & I felt inspired by the amazing work that she produced, it was full of colour and it didn't have to be perfect. I would love to keep this creative piece of art up." Jessica Whitehead Year 9

How can you get involved in S.W.A.T?

Many of the activities are open to all and will be advertised on the school bulletin. We also have a S.W.A.T. notice board next to the Bistro area where events will be advertised and photos will be displayed. Some events are by invitation only— If you get a letter I would encourage you to get involved. Having a go at an activity, no matter how scary it sounds, could be the start of something. You will learn something new and you might love it! If you are involved in an activity or group outside school & think it would make a good S.W.A.T. session please speak to Miss Watkin.

As part of our on-going links with Newcastle under Lyme College the Year 10 GCSE Graphic Products group are spending the day in the Graphics and Media department in July. The day will be spent working between Game Design / Animation and Graphics/ Media. As you know, the new college has fantastic facilities and our students will be using state of the art computers and design equipment. It is an exciting opportunity for them and one we hope to repeat each year.

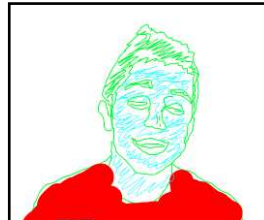
Year 10 Graphics trip to Newcastle Under Lyme College

Miss Watkin and Mr Scarratt accompanied Year 10 Graphics to NULC to spend the day in the Creative and Media Department. Pupils used Macs and Illustrator to produce magazine spreads and learn about industry standards. They also used film and graphics software to make a short piece of animation. The results are fantastic! The films are available to view on the school shared area- well worth a look. Our Graphics pupils impressed the staff at NULC with their skills, attitude and professional work.



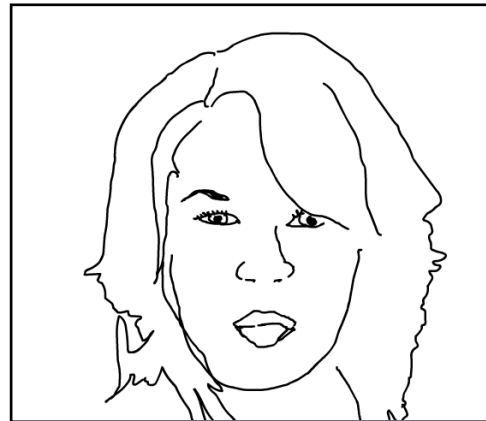
"I enjoyed using the new equipment especially the Graphics Tablet. I also enjoyed seeing that the college has a nice atmosphere and a very clean environment. The tour was amazing- I hope it will help me to make decisions about my future."

– Emily Lacey



"I enjoyed the animation session and having a taster of what the college has to offer. I was very inspired."

– Rhian Goodridge



PE Dept & SSCO (Mrs J Clarke)
Dance off and Virtual Basketball competitions

Year 10 Sports Leaders have done a fabulous job again in running the competitions. Year 5's from the feeder primary schools learned new basketball skills and then got jiggy on the dance mats. All were excited and can't wait to do it again!



Peter Williams – *"I helped to lead the virtual basketball competition with the year 5's. I was in charge of the dribbling station which was good fun."*



Isabella Emmens-Senior Sportsleader:

"We had a class of pupils from Westlands Primary School in for a dance mat and basketball competition. I helped to run the dance mats along with some other sports leaders. It was good showing younger children how to do it"

Ellis Gibbons—(Year 5 pupil from Westlands School) :
"In basketball we had a go of shots, then dribbling then throwing the ball against the wall."

Athletics multi-skills Academy

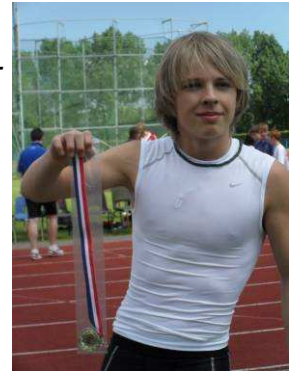
A number of our gifted and talented pupils are now regularly attending Newcastle Athletics club as a result of the academy session. Year 8 boys absolutely nailed the other schools at the Northwood competition. Some of the girls also picked up medals. Well done!

Pupils from some of the primary schools are also regularly attending the club too.

Callum Lovatt – *"I attended the Multi-skills Academy Athletics session in May as I am gifted and talented. I have been going twice a week ever since in which it has helped me to be a faster runner. At the district Athletics competition, I came second in the 200m and first in the high jump."*

Adam Jones – *"I regularly attend the Athletics club and have been doing lots of Athletics in PE lessons and at lunch times with Mr Thomas. After some very intense training and thinking, me*

and Mr Thomas selected the squad to compete for our school. Fortunately, we obliterated the competition winning with a clear 60 points. 8 of us have been selected to represent Newcastle-Under-Lyme at the County Championships. I am happy because I got gold in 100m and 200m. Best of all I broke the 200m year 8 record of all time jogging 25.1 seconds."



Athletics Taster session (club links)

A number of pupils took part in the Athletics taster session at Newcastle Athletics club. Some pupils enjoyed the session that much that they have been attending every week since.

Aaron-Maiden Jones – *"Since I joined the Athletics club I have never felt fitter. The people at the club are very sociable and you get lots of help to improve your technique from the coaches. I am more confident and I am faster as a result. I have been focussing on 100m, 200m, javelin and the relay. We recently attended the Northwood Athletics competition and beat all the other schools. It was a great feeling!"*

Kieran Lee (year 10) *"I attend the club every week and also mentor some of the younger pupils. I find this easy as I am a sports leader. I won the*



Long jump at the district championships where I broke a record jumping 6 metres 11 inches!!! I also assisted the PE staff at the district championships helping the year 7 & 8 pupils."

Eight Pupils took part in the district Athletics Competition with 2 pupils qualifying to represent at County level. Charlotte Tomkinson (Y7) came 2nd in the shot putt and Adam Jones (Y8) won the 100 and 200m. They will go to Telford on July 19th for the County Competition.

Volleyball Multi-Skills Academy

Pupils from both the primary and NCHS took part in the Multi-Skills Academy session run by Anthony Viggars from Newcastle Staffs Volleyball club. This was a fun and exciting opportunity for pupil to sample volleyball skills and play a competitive game.

Alex Kania – “I attended the volleyball session which was run by Anthony Viggars and I really enjoyed it. I learnt how to spike the ball like a professional and I would like to play more volleyball so I can play even better.”

Cricket Multi-skills Academy

Pupils from both NCHS and the primary schools attended the session which took place at Silverdale Cricket club. Mick Moore ran the session in which the pupils got to experience cricket at a club.

Joe Clarke – “I learned new skills and met lots of new people at the cricket club.”

Brazilian Football session

John Farnworth who is the World Champion in Brazilian football skills, led a very exciting and engaging assembly to encourage more pupils to get active. He was very inspiring and the pupils and staff were buzzing at the end. Mr Jones's handstand was impressive!!!



Dodge ball sessions

Due to popular demand, the dodge ball sessions are running over two lunchtimes now to cater for different year groups.



Rock-It-Ball sessions

Year 7 & 8 boys continue to play this new sport which is very physical and challenging.

Intra-House competition

Pupils look forward to the upcoming Rounders and softball competition in July which will be run by the Sports Leaders from year 10.

Year 3 & 4 Danish Long ball competition

This was the first competition for year 9 leaders who run the session over the afternoon. They were very confident and showed lots of enthusiasm with the younger pupils



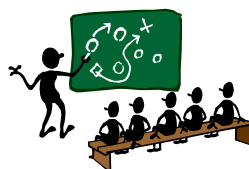
Year 3 from Knutton St Mary's Primary School “The teacher explained everything. It was Fun. We went to the high school. I liked everything about Danish Long Ball.”

Primary Link Teacher from Knutton St Mary's “The children learnt and took part in a game they had never played before. They worked on team skills and understanding of new rules. All went well and the children really enjoyed the event.”

Intra House Danish long ball

Year 9 sports leaders (Bethany Nicklin, Hannah Smith, Macauley Davies and Jake Matthews) will run this competition as part of their initial training into leadership.

Year 10 Sports leaders



Year 10 Sports Leaders continue to develop their leadership skills with great confidence and enthusiasm. Keep up the sporty work!!

SENCO

NCHS the Science College have several methods to help the transition of pupils from primary to secondary education, one such initiative was the introduction of our 'Nurture Group'.



Nurture Groups have been highlighted as an example of successful intervention in students that show signs of social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. Here at NCHS we are extremely



proud of our very successful group which is now running into its third year.



This term, as part of our Nurture programme, we have been participating in an exchange with the Coppice school. We had been invited to join and share in their activity days one of which was called '**Fed Fest**', it was based on Summer Festivals, where there was the opportunity for our Nurture students to take part in African Drumming, making friendship bracelets and necklaces, henna tattooing, face painting, and practising their circus skills.



The day was a complete success and the students enjoyed every minute. I hope you find the photos as interesting as we did.

Caroline Begley
Asst. SENco/Nurture Manager



LIBRARY @ NCHS

New Library Monitors

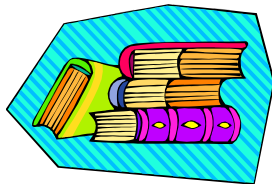
NCHS Library would like to introduce the four library monitors....as voted for by regular library users in school:

Megan Rose Mason

Tom Shortt

Rowan Cox

Richard Dixon



The four Library Monitors will be on duty in the library every break and dinner time. They will be wearing their badges and ready to help anyone who needs them. The Library Monitors will share the responsibilities of issuing and returning books, putting books back, keeping the library tidy, helping pupils find books and doing any jobs around the library.

Coming soon.....

The library has lots of plans for the start of the new school year in September.

- Our new library monitors will be fully trained and helping out everyday.
- New clubs; girly club, homework club, reluctant readers club and chess club.
- Brand new QUIZ DAY with a brand new leader board and prizes to be won!!
- Year 7 induction; a new year 7 club, plus induction lessons and quizzes and a brand new FREE book for every year 7!
- Comic convention and Comic Book Launch Day

SUMMER READATHON

The Reading Club held their second **Readathon** in the library this term. We spent the whole day in the library and had to read non stop (apart from refreshments!) from 8.45 to 3.15!



Everyone who took part had a great time and we managed to raise £77.60 for charity.

A big thank you to everyone who took part:

Megan Rose Mason
Rowan Cox
Richard Dixon
Tom Shortt
Connor Ellison
Jordan Smith
Becky Alcock
Charles Markey
Karla Parry
Jade Huntingdon
Jack Rowley
Francesca Gregory
Alex Kania



Reading Club

Reading Club is the library's longest running and most successful club. We have a group of avid readers who hang out in the library every day to read and chat about books. All members have also been busy completing quizzes based on the books they have read.

The more books you read and the more quizzes you take....the more POINTS you get. We now have a bronze, silver and gold library award to announce based on these scores. Scores are a combination of books, quizzes, behaviour and the librarian's opinion on how much effort each member made.

Drum roll please.....

BRONZE – Tom Shortt and Benji Daly

SILVER – Richard Dixon

GOLD – Megan Rose Mason



LIBRARY @ NCHS



Quiz day



Our first series of Quiz Day ended last term after a battle between *Power rangers*, *mmrjct* and *tiny titans*.

This year's winners were **Power Rangers** (Kyle Shaw and Matt Barlow). Congratulations guys!

Quiz Day will start from scratch in September, every Wednesday dinnertime in the library. Find a team and come along!



Comic Book Club

The library Comic Book and Graphic Novel Club started in January.

The club has been a slow starter but we have a small group of pupils working to produce full comic strips. Those who are finished by the end of the year will have their work made into a full graphic novel and distributed around school. We will have a signing and book launch event to release the finished comic to the world!

THE LIBRARY CLUBS
ARE OPEN TO EVERY-
ONE
COME ALONG AND
JOIN IN THE FUN!!!



Book Reviews 2010

Benji Daly

Year 8

Name of book and author:

Artemis Fowl Graphic Novel, by Eoin Colfer



Rate the book from 1-10:

10/10

Describe the book:

This is a great, colourful book with a very interesting storyline. The depth and the characters that are involved is an excellent comparison to make you want to read it. If you like sciency modern stuff and you like fantasy, this book has both!

Give a brief description of the book:

Artemis Fowl is a 12 year old criminal mastermind genius with his bodyguard Butler and Butler's little sister. In this one, they plan to kidnap a fairy and ransom it. However once the leprechaun starts rolling in and starts performing the unexpected, things start to fall apart. Will Artemis succeed in his mission or will he earn millions and build his family fortune?

Would you recommend the book:

Anyone who is a fan of *Artemis Fowl*, likes *H.I.V.E* or teenagers.

Rowan Cox

Year 8

Name of book and author:

Eldest, Christopher Paolini

Rate the book from 1-10: 10

Describe the book:

It's a book about fantasy and war.

Give a brief description of the book:

Eragon (the main character) travels to the elven city for further training on magic. When he returns to the Varden they then fight against Galbatorix's army and fight new rider Murtagh.

Would you recommend the book:

HELL YEAH!



EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO NORMANDY

In June, we took 34 students from Years 7 to 9 to Normandy to experience French life and culture and to learn some historical facts about the area. The four staff involved, were Mrs White, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Roddy and Mr Gregory. The trip was extremely successful and was very enjoyable for all concerned. Students visited the famous Bayeux tapestry, the small resort of Arromanches, which was one of the destinations for the D-Day landings and the site of the execution of Joan of Arc in the beautiful town of Rouen. They also enjoyed a full day in Paris, where they climbed the Eiffel Tower and took a boat trip along the river Seine. Plans are now already in place for next year's trip.



Jessica Sant Year 9

"On our visit to Normandy we stayed in a manor house, which was nice, because it was situated in a quiet, rural and typically French village called Argueil. We had a really good week, but one of the best trips was the one to a French hypermarket. This helped us with our French because we had to use our language to ask for what we wanted. The hypermarket was much bigger than I'd expected and included many different selections of French foods and clothes.

Overall the French trip was 'fantastique!'"



Bethany Nicklin Year 9

On our trip to Normandy we had great fun. When we arrived at the manor house it was in a beautiful French village that had beautiful grounds where we could relax and chill out in the evenings. The rooms were nice and cool. We visited the Bayeux Tapestry which was very interesting, as we studied this in Year 7. Overall I had a lovely time

Abigail Forrester Year 9

"We visited Normandy where we stayed in a lovely converted manor house called 'le manoir d'Argueil'. The manor house was huge and had lots of lovely open green space around it. The trip was a historical/language trip and we went to lots of different places. My favourite visit was to Paris where we went up the Eiffel tower and saw lots of other famous buildings such as the famous Arc de

Triomphe. We also went on a lovely boat trip along the river Seine, which was really good because we saw lots of different sites on the way and were guided through everything and told about its history.

The trip was also about using my French and we had lots of opportunities to do this, such as on our visit to the 'pâtisserie' (cake shop) where we bought our own delicious French cakes. Overall the visit was really enjoyable and I had the chance to experience real French life and culture."



Dani Heath Year 9

"Our recent trip to Normandy, France was most enjoyable and inspiring. I particularly enjoyed the visit to Arromanches D-Day landing beach and 360 degree cinema, which simulated the sounds and actions of D-Day in June 1944. The weather was beautiful and we stayed in a manor house in a small rural village. The food was different but tasty and I tried everything. I now know lots more about French food."

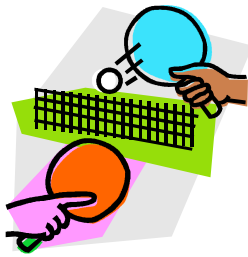


"On Friday 9th July I took 4 Year 9 pupils to Blackfriars School where the teacher Mrs Brewer had organised a mock-up French café event for some of her pupils. Our pupils had to use their French to act as waiters and waitresses and serve things like croissants, coffee etc. The Blackfriars pupils had to use their French to order them. Mrs Brewer said how great the pupils had been and we hope to do this again. It was really enjoyable and they learnt a lot and were given a tour of the school. The pupils were Sophie Malham, Jessica Whitehead, Josh Salt and Billy Eagles. Blackfriars School is part of our CELL (Cluster for Early language Learning), which is a group set up to help support language teaching and learning in the local primary Schools and to aid transition." Mrs E Johnson- Languages Dept.



YEAR 11 PRINCE'S TRUST

So far this year the Prince's Trust xl club has taken part in many activities such as personal, interpersonal and team skills, community activities and a healthy eating and cooking programme. They are so eager to get cooking and eating another session is coming soon! Club members successfully set up a table tennis club for yr's 7, 8 and 9.



They are now working on "preparation for the world of work" where they will be working with outside agencies. Future

events include a presentation and talk from one of the countries top crime scene investigators who will be doing a one off visit to the club. An element of "preparation

for the world of work" will be investigating appropriate areas of employment, writing letters of application and writing a CV.

As part of the process they will also enhance their skills and competencies by working closely with Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service.



Mr C Madden

PARENT GOVERNOR

WE CURRENTLY HAVE VACANCIES FOR 2 PARENT GOVERNORS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL

THE FOLLOWING PUPILS ALL HAVE 100% ATTENDANCE RECORDS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2009-2010



**Jonathan Hall
Jacques Dunn
Georgia Dunn**

**Rhys Wilshaw
Naomi Goodall**

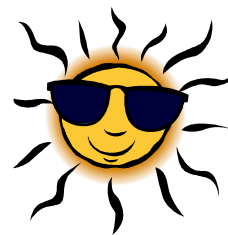


Well done to you all and keep it up!!

Mrs Hewitt—Attendance Officer

**Enjoy the Summer
See you in September**

**From all the
Staff at
NGHS**



**SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON
WEDNESDAY 8TH
SEPTEMBER**

**IT WILL BE WEEK ONE OF THE
TIMETABLE**

**08:45 Years 7 and 11 arrive
11:00 Years 8, 9 and 10 arrive**

MESSAGE FROM OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY POLICE



Your local information



Air Weapon Warning

Parents are being reminded not to buy their children air weapons and imitation firearms as toys.

The warning has been issued as the school summer holidays are about to get underway and young people spend much of their time outdoors with friends.

Traditionally at this time of year the number of reports of anti-social behaviour, including young people using air weapons, increases.

If a report is received by police of an incident where a firearm is suspected to be involved, the appropriate firearms response will be deployed.

Those caught using air weapons irresponsibly could therefore come face to face with armed officers and be arrested.

Anyone who has any information on air weapons is urged to contact Staffordshire Police on **0300 123 4455**, or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.



www.staffordshire.police.uk