



# SUMMER TERM 2011



NCHS – The Science College

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**NCHS ATTENDANCE**

**April - July 10 - 91.9%**

**April - July 11 - 92.1%**

Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of the year it is time to reflect on the past 12 months and look forward to the new school year in September.

I am pleased to say that NCHS is going from strength to strength. Academic results continue to rise as does pupil progress. I have attached a letter we received from the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust congratulating NCHS on its rapidly improving GCSE results. Over the past year we have continued to improve the school environment. Many communal areas have been re-decorated, carpets laid in corridors and, at the request of students, lockers bought. This has given the school a fresh look and made it a very pleasant place to both work and learn.

As I write this students are taking part in Activity Day. This is provided as a reward for all their hard work throughout the year. Students are enjoying visits to Drayton Manor and Alton Towers as well as Paintballing! I am pleased to say the weather has been improving as the day progresses! Our final assembly on Friday is one of celebration and this year we are having trouble fitting everything in. Students have achieved so much both collectively and personally:- from attendance awards to sports awards and everything in between. As you read on you will see the many and varied experiences students have had this term in addition to their normal timetabled learning.

Being part of the South Newcastle Federation, alongside Clayton Hall, means many more opportunities for students. The senior prefects from both sites now meet on a regular basis to discuss shared issues. From September students at Key Stage 4 studying Business Studies and Geography will have the chance to work in classes alongside Clayton students and our students studying Engineering and Construction will benefit from upgraded facilities in these areas on the Clayton site. Clayton students will benefit from our facilities too; having timetabled access to the swimming pool and fitness suite at NCHS.

Working so closely with Clayton offers more opportunities for the students of both schools and we are now beginning to see the benefits of the Federation. We are also working closely with feeder primary schools from both schools and offer all additional Languages, Science, Business, PE and Music, with dedicated staff from the South Newcastle Federation working part of the week in the primaries.

With so much going on it's also good to report that NCHS still retains its unique family atmosphere where 'everyone knows everyone'. It just remains for me to wish you all a very good summer holiday. I look forward to seeing all pupils return ready to learn, and in correct uniform for school and PE in September.

Jill Adamson  
Associate Headteacher at NCHS

## COOKING WITH MISS FAGAN

Year 7 and 9 pupils made cakes in Food Technology with Miss Fagan. The theme was trains and they all produced some excellent results! The following cake was made by Joel Harvey in Year 7.



## SPECS EVENT

In June, the whole of Year 10 went on a trip to Staffordshire University for the annual SPECS Career event. The SPECS event gives the pupils the chance to get lots of information about different careers, courses and practical training. They were able to get first hand information from experts in a range of different areas, such as Retail, Hair and Beauty, Construction plus Further and Higher Education. The trip enabled the year 10's to try out different activities such as bricklaying, painting and problem solving. Jake Matthews said "The trip was very useful as I had not heard about the JCB Academy before the trip. I had chance to speak to members of the academy to find out what courses they offer and what careers they might lead into." Aiden Harrison also went on the trip and he commented "I found the trip really helpful because I got the chance to talk to the Army and find out the different trades I could learn in the Army and what grades I need at school to do this. Also I looked at the Construction courses and spoke to the tutors who explained the different areas that I could study and how practical the subjects were." The trip has enabled many of the pupils to begin planning their progression from school and even to start to think of their career aims and aspirations.

Mr M Scarratt

## NEWCASTLE COLLEGE VISIT

All of Year 9 had the chance to visit Newcastle under Lyme College recently. They were invited along as part of a taster day to give them a better idea of what is on offer. One aim was that they could use the experience to make an informed decision about what they would like to do after leaving NCHS. They took part in taster sessions on Law, Engineering, Sports Psychology and Art. They also enjoyed a free meal in the refectory as part of the day. It was a great opportunity to see at first hand a brand new College that is right on the doorstep of many of our students.

Some Pupil Comments;

Sports Psychology – We did lots of practical's and were moving about. We did the 'Ski – sit' and the 'plank' to see if we could last longer when people were giving us positive praise to motivate us. (Heidi Grocott)

Law – It was a lot more interesting than I thought it was going to be. Gavin the lecturer twisted everything so that you had to think more and he treated us like we were mature students. We learnt about how law affects us and how a court room works. ( Sophie Turnbull)

Art – I enjoyed making a mask out of clay because we could be creative, use our imaginations and make what ever we wanted. I made half a face and got my inspiration from the Phantom of the Opera Musical. (Nathan Chester)

Engineering – The Engineering taster was great. We designed and built our own rocket and had to make it streamlined so that it would fly. We got to go out onto the field and see whose rocket went furthest. (Oliver Bennion)

Mr Burndred





Aimhigher is about finding out what higher education is all about. It is about making everyone aware of the benefits higher education can bring, whatever the background.

The Aimhigher Roadshow came to NCHS The Science College on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011. There was a marquee set up in the sports hall and it involved Year 8, 9 and 10 students. The marquee had cushions for the students to sit on so that it didn't feel like a classroom environment. They completed a quiz on university and the winner got a prize.

Four students from Staffordshire and Keele University came and gave the talks about what university involved and the array of subjects that were available. Who knew there were courses such as Fishery Studies and David Beckham Studies! (These are real courses you can study at University!)

*Macauley Davies (Year 10) commented: "I found the roadshow interesting as I hadn't thought about going to University before but I now know that it is an option and I could study something that I am interested in, I could even study Football Studies!"*

*Jasmine Brown (Year 9) commented: "It was good to see what all the local Universities offer and it was good hearing the student's experiences, it was very interesting. It gave me a good insight into what being at university is like."*  
*Miss Lucas, Learning Mentor*



## BIKEABILITY

It was a wet July day when 29 pupils took part in the annual bikeability course...



*Well done to everyone who took part, you will all be receiving a certificate and badge.*

*Mrs Clarke*





## Year 10/11 Duke of Edinburgh Award



NCHS – The Science College have been heavily involved with the DofE this year. 52 pupils enrolled onto the Bronze award where they have learnt a range of skills including map reading, camp craft and first aid. Pupils took part in a day walk in the Peak District in February and in a 2 day expedition during the Easter holidays also in the Peak District. Luckily for the pupils the weather was very kind to them and the rain stayed away on both expeditions.

Past pupils who are studying at Newcastle College return to NCHS every second Wednesday to take part in the Silver award and they have also been busy. These students took part in a day walk in the Peak District in February and a 3 day expedition in the Peak District during the Easter holidays. 5 of these students are ready to complete their 3 day expedition assessment over the summer holidays.

Mr Gregory



## Newcastle Schools Athletics Championships

Harry Shepherd and Ben Hill year 7

“In June this year, year 7 & 8’s went to Northwood stadium to compete in an athletics championship. It lasted all day and it was a great laugh but serious at the same time. It was great that everyone was competitive as well as people being friends with each other. There were many events. The event Harry competed in was 800 metres which is two laps of the circuit. Ben competed in the 200 metres. He then qualified for the 200 metres final. He also competed in the high jump and 4 x 100 metre relay.”

Rebecca Hughes year 7

“Visiting Northwood was one of the best days of my life. The events I did were long jump and high jump. I did not win but I would love to do it again.”



## Elite Athletes STARS Squad

Adam Jones year 9 (Gifted and Talented)

“On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, I went to Loughborough University with the Elite Athletes STARS squad. We went to have a full tour of the campus and sports facilities as well as to find out what a day is like the life of an elite athlete. We also had a session on nutrition balancing, diets and fitness testing. I was extremely proud of myself as my electric timed 10 metre sprint is clocked 0.16 seconds faster than Usain Bolt. The day was very productive and gave me an insight into future opportunities.”



## WANTED: BUDDING NEWS REPORTERS

You may have seen our successful BBC school news report day website (if not check the school website and follow the link). All students who participated really enjoyed this day and as a result we have decided to have a regular news team who will report on school and other issues of interest.

From September every Wednesday after school, sessions will be dedicated to the news report team. We will be covering all the main news at school including sporting events, art projects, music concerts, in fact anything that students at NCHS take part in. We will also cover local interest topics as well as national stories that interest the students. We will be producing internet based news stories in film, images, text and sound format and if all goes to plan may even produce a glossy brochure at the end of the year incorporating the whole year's news.

We desperately need people to be a part of the team. We want all students to experience the full range of possible jobs from presenters, news writers, editors, photographers, camera operators and many more. Why not become part of the team and gain valuable experience about the news industry?

If you want to know more or are interested in joining the team please see Mr Gregory or Mrs Allwood for more details.



## PRIMARY SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS

### Year 3 & 4 Dodgeball competition

The Dodgeball competition was held on 5<sup>th</sup> July and three teams entered. This was a great success and all pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The competition was exceptionally close but in the end St Luke's managed to win. In second place was Westland's primary school and in third place was Knutton St Mary's. Well done to the pupils who took part in the competition. The following year 9 leaders did a great job in supporting the event: Julia McCreddie, Natalie Coomer, Kyle Kirkham and Fraser Ashley Smith.

Here is what some of the year and 4 pupils had to say:

"It was fun and exciting – Awesome!" Harry Sapsford

"Great fun playing as part of a team" Sunshine Bright

"It was really good meeting children from other schools" Abbie Bennett

"Fun warm ups with lots of energy" Lewis Hughes

The pupils at Westland's primary school look forward to playing Dodgeball again in the future.



### Year 5 Danish Long ball competition

The competition took place on 14<sup>th</sup> June and was enjoyed by the pupils who took part. Silverdale Primary school won and Westland's primary school were runners up.

Here is what some of the year 5's had to say:

"It was really good fun and enjoyable. We liked it because we helped our team by getting more runs".

Thanks again to the year 9 leaders Kaleisha Emmens, Callum Lovatt, David Bailey and Nathan Chesters for supporting the event.



### Year 5 & 6 Ultimate Frisbee

The year 5 & 6 Ultimate Frisbee competition took place on 21<sup>st</sup> June and again was a good success. The pupils that took part enjoyed playing a new and different game. One of the year 5's said "It was ace".

Thanks again to Kaleisha Emmens, Callum Lovatt, David Bailey and Nathan Chesters for helping to run the competition.



## CELSIUS CHARITY DAY

We organised a wear 20 colours day in aid of the West Midlands Air Ambulance.

We raised £420

Notable students:

James Higgins- baked cakes and raised £35

Jodie Hanwell raised £50 sponsored silence



## 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 the new academic year or for more information contact the admin office on 01782 667650 as from 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011.



## RAINFOREST ROAD SHOW

Our Y9 pupils enjoyed a fantastic day recently after being visited by Dave Shaw and his Rainforest Road show. Dave returned to NCHS to bring the Rainforest topic to life.

Students were amazed by artefacts such as a spear used to hunt by the Waorani tribe, a blow pipe and musical instruments used to mimic bird calls.

Dave also talked about Tribal Indians and the way in which they live within the Rainforest in a sustainable way. Students were also asked to consider the implications of their own lifestyles as more of the world's Rainforests become threatened. The issues of Palm Oil production and the growth of Soya farming were discussed to show the complexities of protecting wildlife habitats of animals such as the Orang-utans.

Some Pupil Comments ;

*Luke D* – " It was great to see the animals. I was shocked because they never seem that big on TV. The Tarantula was huge and the teeth were massive, you could see them clearly. I was amazed that there are still tribes that are un-contacted. "

*Sophie T* – "It was good when Dave shot the blow pipe. He popped a balloon with the dart and told us it can travel up to 150mph. He told us all about the poison that is used and the techniques they have to make sure the dart stays in the animal when hunting."

*Shannon C* – " We got to see lots of pictures from Dave's visit's to Rainforest regions. One was showing the world's largest flower which was huge and smells like a rotting corpse to attract flies and help pollination."

*Kyle K* – " I also enjoyed being able to stroke the Tarantula. It was really interesting to learn about how the Amazonian Indians live in the Rainforest and how they make use of the forest for all of their needs. It made me want to travel and witness it for myself."

<http://www.rainforestroadshow.co.uk/>

Mr Burndred



## **CULTURAL SISTERS Y8 TEXTILE WORKSHOP** **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

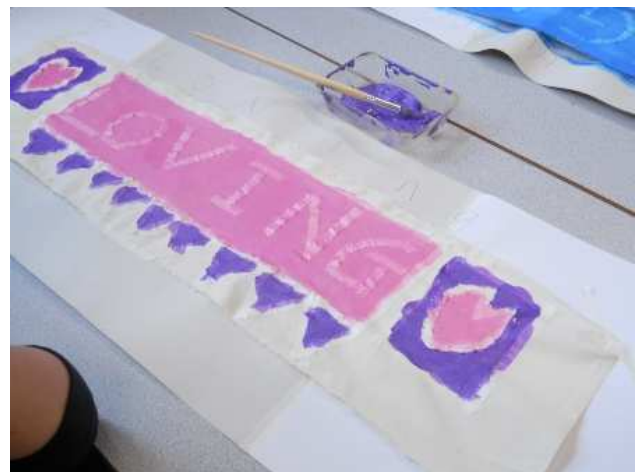
As part of the Design and Technology Department, a group of Yr 8 pupils were involved in a workshop with local textile artists 'The Cultural Sisters'. At the start they had to discuss relationship and friendships. Each pupil had to choose a word which they then used as a basis for the wall hanging. Throughout the 2 days pupils learnt various techniques and skills such as; batik, felt making and rubber printing. The Sentinel visited the workshop and it appeared in the local paper. The work produced was taken away and Fiona from the Cultural Sisters will be bringing the finished wall hanging to present to the school.

The following girls were involved:

Megan Shingler  
Alysha Elms  
Chloe Pattyson  
Fran Gregory  
Chloe Alcock  
Megan Edmund  
Sarah Barlow  
Kayleigh Gawley  
Jessica Rowley  
Danielle Morgan  
Sarah Goodall  
Hollie Griffin  
Charlotte Hill  
Laura Wilshaw  
Jessica Holdcroft



Miss Lockett



The following students have received a  
praise letter from Mrs Adamson.  
Congratulations everyone!

David Bailey	Y9
Jack Holmes	Y9
Richard Dixon	Y9
Sophie Turnbull	Y9
Bethany Bowers	Y9
Ben Hill	Y7
Levi Broad	Y7
Ross Sutton	Y7
Daniel Heath	Y7
Prentice Johnson	Y7
Oliver Bennion	Y9
Sarah Goodall	Y8
Aden Mold	Y7
Cain Davies	Y7
Lauren Robinson	Y10
Jessica Blundred	Y9
Jack Holmes	Y9
Tom Shortt	Y9
Jess Ashley-Smith	Y9
Megan Rose Mason	Y9
Leon Kirk	Y9
Kelsey Heeland	Y9
Andrew Askey	Y9
Tyler Micklewright	Y7
Keiran Barlow	Y7
Heidi Grocott	Y9
Casey Bebbington	Y9
Holly Altham	Y8
Jack Purves	Y10
Jake Dubiel	Y8
Alysha Elms	Y8



## School re-opens to students on Wednesday 7th September 2011 Week 1

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FIRST DAY OF TERM

08:45 Year 7 & Year 11 arrive  
11:10 Years 8, 9 & 10 arrive  
(School bus available at normal times)  
(Years 8, 9 & 10 need to make their own arrangements in  
the morning)



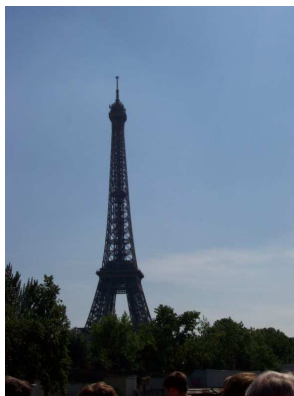
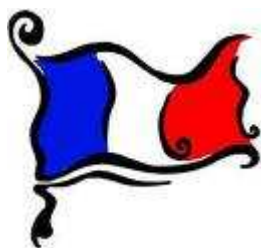
### 100% ATTENDANCE

Well done to the following  
students who have achieved 100%  
attendance for the whole year.

Georgia Barclay-Hill  
Alexander Broad  
Joseph Burke  
Joshua Conroy  
Rowan Cox  
Richard Dixon  
Georgia Dunn  
Jacques Dunn  
Naomi Goodall  
Simon Leat  
Sophie Leech  
Callum Lovatt  
Jake Matthews  
Katie Parkes  
George Poole  
Callum Salt-Hedge  
Lauren White



## FRENCH TRIP 2012



Following the success of previous years, we are hoping to run an educational visit to France next academic year. We are interested in your views on whether you would like your child to participate, as we need to be certain that we can enlist 35-40 students to make the trip viable.

The trip is likely to run during the second half of the summer term 2012. It will take place over a week and will involve the children staying in a specialist centre in France. Previously, we have involved students from all year groups and have tailored the activities according to the age and ability of the children participating. The visit is designed to introduce students to the culture of France and to some of the history of the particular area we happen to be visiting. It also involves the children using their language in practical situations such as buying cakes, ordering drinks in a café and planning, shopping for and eating a picnic!

Travel to and from the destination will be by coach. The team of accompanying teachers will be experienced in running school visits and will include a fluent French speaker and a qualified first aider.

The cost of the visit will be finalised once a specific visit has been booked but the approximate figure will be £300. This will include all travel, accommodation and meals, excursions, insurance and passport. The children will need a small amount of spending money for their own use, to buy souvenirs for example.

If you are interested in your child participating in a visit, and have not received a letter, please ask your child to collect a letter from reception and complete and return the attached form.

This is a fantastic opportunity for your child and an experience not to be missed!

Mrs Haley



### 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](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schooltransport)

### Head Boy—Head Girl 2011-2012

Congratulations to our new Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputies;

Head Boy - Jake Matthews  
Head Girl - Beth Nicklin  
Deputy Head Boy - George Poole  
Deputy Head Girl - Jess Sant

**Jill Adamson**



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

### Public swimming sessions

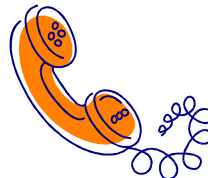
Mondays:	6.30-8.00	Family swim
	20.00-21.00	Lane swimming
Wednesdays:	9.30-11.30	Over 50's
	20.00-21.00	Lane swimming
Fridays:	20.00-21.00	Lane swimming
Saturdays:	pm.	Pool hire for parties
Sundays:	am.	Pool hire for parties
	3.30-5.30	Family fun swim

### 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.



**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 Holidays and Term Dates

### **Autumn Term 2011:**

Staff:	Monday 5 September- Friday 21 October	35 working days
Pupils:	Wednesday 7 September - Friday 21 October	33 working days
<b>Holiday:</b>	<b>Monday 24 October - Friday 28 October</b>	<b>5 days</b>
Staff & Pupils:	Monday 31 October - Tuesday 20 December	37 working days
<b>Staff Only:</b>	<b>In service Training Day - Friday 2 December</b>	<b>1 day</b>

### **Spring Term 2012:**

Staff:	Tuesday 3 January - Friday 10 February	29 working days
Pupils:	Wednesday 4 January - Friday 10 February	28 working days
<b>Holiday:</b>	<b>Monday 13 February - Friday 17 February</b>	<b>5 days</b>
Staff:	Monday 20 February - Friday 30 March	30 working days
Pupils:	Tuesday 21 February - Friday 30 March	29 working days
<b>Holiday:</b>	<b>Monday 2 April - Friday 13 April</b>	<b>10 days</b>
Easter Sunday:	Sunday 8 April	

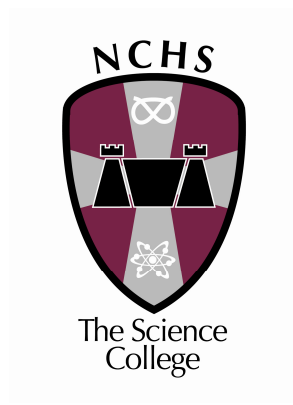
### **Summer Term 2012:**

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



**Have a restful  
Summer  
Holiday**

**From all the  
Staff at  
NCHS**



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