

# Nottingham Girls' Academy

Newsletter  
April 2019

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## Y8 Artwork

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*We believe in creating a community empowered with the qualities, skills and qualifications to enter the next phase of life with confidence and ambition*

## Key Dates

*What's coming up?*

**Last Day of Term: Friday 5 April 2019**

**Pupils return on Tuesday 23 April 2019**

Y7 residential trip, Condover Hall, Shropshire: 24-26 April 2019

May Day holiday—Monday 6 May 2019

GCSE examinations commence: Tuesday 7 May 2019

Dance Showcase: 8 and 9 May 2019 at 7:00pm

Y10 DHL residential trip, Aberdovey: 13-17 May 2019

Y7 Parents' evening: Wednesday 22 May 2019 between 3:30-6:30pm

**Last Day of Term: Friday 24 May 2019**

***Future dates for your diaries:***

Y11 and Sixth Form Prom: Friday 14 June 2019

Multicultural celebration: Thursday 18 July 2019

## Y7 Capital One Trip

*By Mr Gaskell, Head of Computing & Business*

Twenty students went to the Capital One offices last week for a computing trip with Mr Gaskell and Mr Glover. First they learned how to use the software, then they designed and created their own apps. All of this was with the guidance of Capital One's software engineers. All the students had a great time and they came away with some goodies, with some of them winning prizes for the best apps. The Capital One staff were very complimentary about the behaviour of the girls and standard of the apps. Well done to all the girls involved.





## Parking on Robins Wood Road

1. The independence and exercise your daughter would gain in making her own way home are important life skills. Please consider whether this would be a possibility.
2. If you do need to collect your daughter, please try to park well away from the main entrances to the academy and the junction between Robins Wood Road and Prestwood Drive.  
  
Parking further along the road towards Aspley Lane would really help.
3. Please do not park in front of residents' houses. We have had incidents where people have been asked to move so residents can access their drives and have been abusive in return. This is totally unacceptable and an appalling example to be setting our pupils.
4. Please do not stop in the middle of the road to allow your daughter to get into your car or make U-turns. Robins Wood Road is busy at this time and people get frustrated when they are delayed. This can lead to erratic decision-making and driving; further endangering our pupils.
5. Please do not mount the pavement near pedestrians. Many people do this to try to ease congestion but it further endangers pupils.
6. Please be considerate of other road users. We have had situations when people have blocked the road rather than giving way to other vehicles, thinking only of themselves.



## PHSE and Careers

*By Mrs Saunders - PHSE, Employability and Careers Co-ordinator*

This half term has been really busy, starting off with assemblies with a careers focus ahead of National Careers week. We were privileged to have Sandra Conway, our Enterprise Adviser, come and speak to our Y11s about challenging stereotypes in the workplace and aiming high no matter what other people might tell you. Other years learnt more about apprenticeships and career pathways.

Y10 spent a very productive day learning how to speak more confidently and to actively listen, useful skills for school and the workplace with the Talk the Talk programme. Y9 and Y12 students will also benefit from this initiative towards the end of this half term, with Y12 having more of a careers and employability focus to their sessions.

Y13 spent the afternoon at the Nottingham Contemporary speaking to a range of employers about the work that they do and then had the opportunity to find out more about what each organisation had to offer through a careers fair organised by Teach First. We hope it will become a regular feature in the calendar.

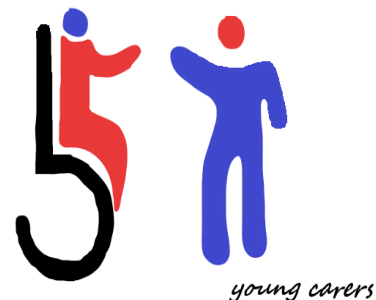
Y9 learnt more about personal space with the Equation organisation through an interactive workshop run by them. The focus was around acceptable and unacceptable behaviour which is especially important to understand as our young women develop new relationships.

Our target cohorts continue to benefit from workshops led by the IntoUniversity team, with Y8 experiencing a day at the university and our Y10s taking part in a business challenge. All these experiences are giving our young people more understanding of the skills needed to go into further and higher education, as well as giving them an insight into what they are likely to see when going to university.

## Young Carer's Club

*By Mrs Cast, Student Support Co-ordinator*

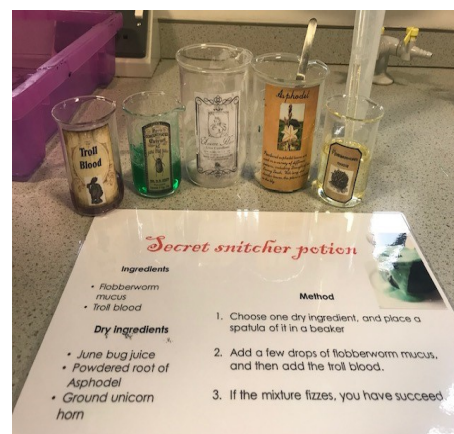
Young Carer's Club started in September and is held in the Drama Room every Friday lunchtime from 12:30 - 1:00pm. Mainly, we play games but we have tried origami; we are happy to try other activities. We have 5 regular members who are in the 6th Form, Y11 and Y10 and, this week, a student in Y9 came along. We know there are more young carers out there and they are all welcome to come along on Fridays. For more information, you can speak with Mrs Cast, Mrs Saunders, Mrs Asher, Miss Harper, Miss Sherriff or Mrs Cox.



## Science Week

*By Miss Green, Second in Science*

During the week of 11-15 March we celebrated National Science week, and this year's theme was 'Is there witchcraft and wizardry in the real world'. Students in Y7 and Y8 experienced one off lessons on the care of magical creatures, herbology and creating potions.



## Red Nose Day 2019

*By Ms Burke, Teacher of Physical Education and Assistant Head of Y11*

Red Nose week was a great success; the final total raised was £146.20. The whole event was planned and organised by the student House Captains who met every Tuesday lunchtime to discuss how the event for the school would go. The students did a fantastic job coming up with creative ways to help raise money for Red Nose Day, eg designing posters and promoting upcoming events in tutor times. Congratulations to all the students who took part in the basketball shoot out, obstacle race, guess the cake and sweet jar competitions. I would like to say a big thank you and a massive well done to all the House Captains for their hard work, determination and commitment.



## NGA Academy Council Vacancy

We have one parent vacancy on our NGA Academy Council. Please see our website for more information and an application form for this important role. Meetings are held three times per year.

If you would like to apply, please download and complete the application form from our website by the deadline of **Tuesday 7 May 2019**. Alternatively, contact Reception for a paper version of the form.

See under:

[www.nottinghamgirlsacademy.org](http://www.nottinghamgirlsacademy.org)

Our Academy

Governance



## Meet our Reception Team

*By Mrs Thornton, PA to the Principal*

Our friendly and welcoming Reception team are the first staff you will be greeted by when you visit our Academy. Whether it is answering the telephone or responding to e-mails, they are always happy to assist with queries from parents and students alike. Please remember to let us know if you have changed your contact details and they can update our student information system. Do keep in touch with them via :

[admin@nottinghamgirlsacademy.org](mailto:admin@nottinghamgirlsacademy.org)



## Y10 BTEC Design Crafts students

*By Mrs Pye, Teacher of Art*

On Tuesday 5 March our Y10 BTEC Design Crafts students visited ROCKET SCENERY as part of their 'Theatre Design' project. They are a Nottingham based company who employ a team of experienced draughtsmen, metalworkers, scenic carpenters and scenic artists to create commissioned scenery. Helen Skelton, the General Manager, showed us around and explained the design and construction process from start to finish. The sets on site were The King and I, War Horse and Skellig, as well as a dance set for Romeo and Juliet. It was fantastic to see so many female role models working in this environment and I hope it was a real eye opener for our creative girls.





## Y8, Y9 and Y10 visit to Spain

*By Miss Hodgson, Miss Jones, Mr Carey and Miss Richardson*

Hola! In early March 40 students and 4 staff travelled to the Mar Menor in south-east Spain for a week of educational activities and Spanish language immersion. Students and staff alike took part in water sports (kayaking and sailing), beach games, Spanish cooking and visited a local market, all whilst practicing our Spanish, encouraged by our 'Monitores' – Christina, Alicia, Miguel and Iker. We visited Cartagena Roman amphitheatre and museum and celebrated International Women's Day by creating images about what being a woman means to us. We really had a fabulous time.



## Y10 Trip to Strategy Science Fair

*By Mrs Chewings, Teacher of Science*

On 11 March, three of our Y10 students attended the Industrial Strategy Fair at the Royal Academy of Engineering in London. The event, run by the BSA and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, was in recognition of outstanding CREST award projects. Aaya, Aisha and Fafali presented their hydrogen fuel cell project to industry leaders and government ministers, including Jim Al Khalili OBE and MP, Chris Skidmore. Despite the initial nerves, the girls were highly praised by many delegates at the event for their knowledge, understanding and articulacy on a challenging topic. Well done!



## NGA Veg Garden

*By Mrs Brierley, Regional Finance Manager*

As part of our commitment to the environment, today we made a start on growing our own veg!

Students gave up their lunch break and planted seed potatoes, which we look forward to harvesting in July and using in the Academy kitchen. Mr Marshall has peas and tomato seedlings growing in the science labs and herbs, lettuces and beetroot will also be planted out in the coming weeks.

Salad, fruit and vegetables can be grown, even if you have very little space available. There's nothing quite like the taste of home grown produce – why not give it a go? Good for you and good for the planet!



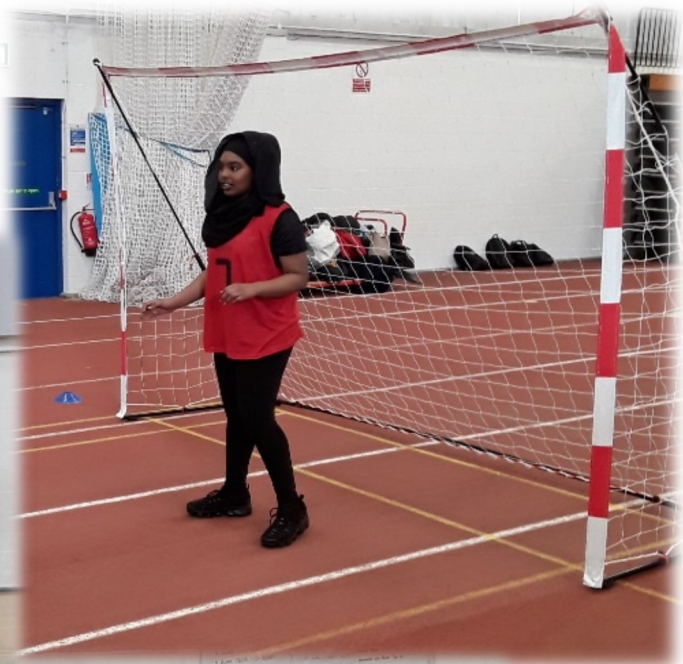


## NGA House Games

*By the Physical Education Department*

On Monday 25 March, the Nottingham Girls' Academy took over Harvey Hadden for their annual NGA House Games multi-sports tournament. Students from Y7, Y8 and Y9 took part in a tournament which was led by our sports students in the Sixth Form. The girls chose which sports they wanted to play in their PE lessons, including: basketball, handball, dodgeball and football. The House Champions will be revealed in the final assemblies on Friday 5 April; watch this space! A fantastic day was had by all; our girls really do like competition! #NGAGirlsCan

Follow our Twitter page to keep up to date with all of our sporting fixture results and photos @NottmGirlsAcad





## Visit to Spain - Erasmus

*By Miss Moreno, Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages*

During a week in Spain with the Erasmus trip, our students learnt a lot, not only about Spanish culture but also about the topic of our project. We had the days packed with activities in school and out of the school in Spain, the most popular ones being a visit to a medieval castle, a talk by a young refugee who told us his journey from Nigeria to Spain, a play performed by a group of refugees living in the region, a concert and the trip to Cordoba.

Students enjoyed every second of it and made NGA proud when stepping out of their comfort zones and learning to be more resilient and self-confident.

Now we are waiting for the Spanish students to come over in June! We are looking forward to their visit and, hopefully, it will be an enriching experience for everybody in school.



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## Primary Dance Festival

*By the Dance Department*

On Wednesday 13 March 2019 we held our annual Primary Dance Festival here at NGA. Y3 students from four primary schools across the Greenwood Academies Trust, Nottingham, Mansfield, Queensmead and Skegby Academy, came to NGA. They worked with our Dance department and Y10 BTEC Dance students for the day, with a theme of 'Mary Poppins'. Students took part in a range of 'Mary Poppins' themed warm-up activities and learnt a routine which each group performed at the end of the day. Everyone worked really hard and staged some excellent performances.

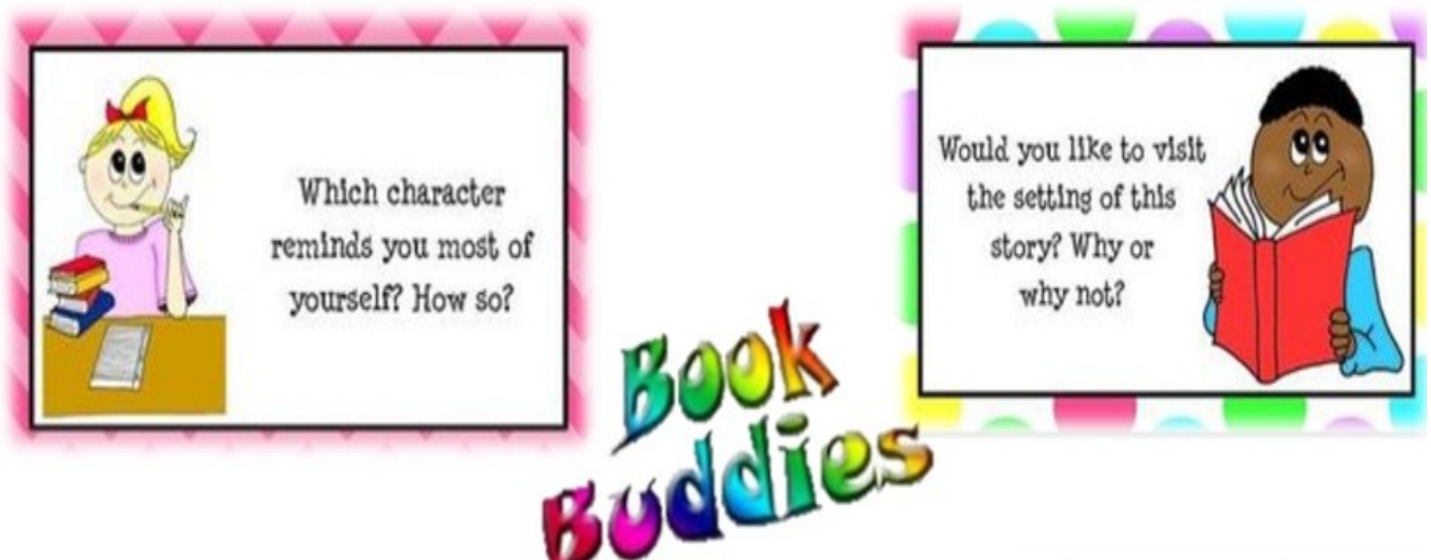




## Parent Volunteers

By Ms Scholtz, SENDCo

Would you be interested in working alongside the SEND team at NGA? We are hoping to offer particular students the opportunity to read out loud to an adult every week. If you have the time and would be interested in supporting this project, can you please return the below slip to school in order that Ms Stead, our Literacy TA, can contact you.



**To: Ms Stead (Literacy TA)**

I would be interested in hearing students read at NGA  
and can commit to coming in at the same time every  
week for half a term.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

We value high  
standards, hard work  
and a ceaseless  
desire to improve

## Y8 Artwork

By Ms Bates, Deputy Principal

Monoprints, inspired by images of motivational women and the book, 'Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls'.



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