

# Nottingham Girls' Academy

Newsletter  
February 2019

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*We strive to fulfill  
everyone's learning  
potential*

## Key Dates

*What's coming up?*

**Last Day of Half Term: Thursday 14 February 2019**

This is a non-uniform day. We ask pupils to donate £1 which will go to The Children's Hospital Charity.

Staff INSET Day: Friday 15 February 2019

**Pupils return on Monday 25 February 2019**

Y11 and Sixth Form Mock examinations:  
w/c 25 February and 4 March

Trip to Spain: Monday 4 to Friday 8 March

Science Week: w/c 11 March

Y10 and Y12 Parents' evening: Wednesday 27 March  
between 3:30-6:30pm

Y9 Prison Me No Way!: Friday 29 March

Y9 Talk the Talk workshop: Tuesday 2 April

MasterChef final: Wednesday 3 April

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

**Pupils return on Tuesday 23 April 2019**

*Future dates for your diaries:*

Dance Showcase: 8 and 9 May 2019 at 7pm

Y11 and Sixth Form Prom: Friday 14 June 2019

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

## Student Support Bulletin

*By Ms Scholtz, SENDCo*

A big thank you to the parents who attended our first coffee morning where Anita Bennett from the Autism Team talked to us about *Making Sense of Autism*. We look forward to seeing you at the next event as well as hoping to encourage new parents to come along.

Also, NGA is proud to announce that we now have our own fully qualified Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA). Miss Harper has successfully completed her training with the Educational Psychologist Service and is offering 1-1 support with students around issues such as self-esteem, anger management and coping with bereavement.

### Upcoming events:

*Tuesday 19 March: SEND review drop-in from 10-11am or 2-3pm. Please look out for the letter.*

*Monday 1 April: ASD network meeting - Supporting anxieties - 9.15-10.45am*



## Ideagen

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

Two of our Year 13 students spent the morning at Ideagen in Ruddington presenting their pitches on the 'Internet of Everything' to a panel consisting of their teacher Mr Gaskell, Claire Knee - Enterprise Co-ordinator for the Nottingham City, Sandra Conway - our Enterprise Adviser, and Ian Hepworth from Ideagen. This was part of their work for the level 3 qualification in IT. We are grateful to Ideagen for offering this opportunity and hope to continue working with them in the future.







Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

## Erasmus

*By Miss Moreno, Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages*

Our Erasmus group has been busy preparing for their upcoming trip to Spain which takes place from the 12 to 18 February. We are all travelling to IES Siberia Extremena in Talarrubias, Spain. Whilst we are there, we will be working on activities about languages and intercultural communication and we will be raising awareness and raising funds for local charities who help refugees; those people that are forced to leave their countries to seek safety. We believe languages make you more tolerant and empathetic towards people from other cultures and this is the message we want to get across. So far, we have made posters about intercultural understanding, we have run a logo competition and we have presented our work in assemblies to all year groups. Thanks to the Erasmus grant, funded by the European Union, these hardworking and brilliant students will manage to experience an exchange programme that will be unforgettable!



## Erasmus Logo Competition Winners



Overall winner: Laura Delgado Navas,  
IES Siberia Extremena. Spain



NGA local competition winner: Maha Imtiaz (Y8)



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

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## Year 12 and 13

*By Miss Short, Head of Sixth Form*

UCAS applications for Year 13 have now been completed and students are receiving offers and interviews. All Sixth Form students should now be preparing for mock assessments due to take place during the weeks of **25 February and 4 March**. We wish all students good luck.



## Sixth Form 2019 applications

*By Miss Short, Head of Sixth Form*

Following the Year 11 Sixth Form taster days in December 2018, I am pleased to announce that applications for September 2019 are now open. Application forms are available at Reception, the Sixth Form office and online on the Academy website.

Sixth Form Ambassadors are also offering a lunchtime drop in for students who have questions about the Sixth Form. Year 11 can visit C18 on Thursday lunchtimes from 12.30pm.

We welcome applications from all Year 11s but please be reminded of the standard entry requirement (at least 5+ GCSEs at 4+/equivalent), with subject specific entry requirements listed on the Academy website.



## Meet our Catering, Library and Site Teams

By Mrs Brierley, Regional Finance Manager

### Meet our Catering Team!

Here at the Nottingham Girls' Academy I have a wonderful team of staff who provide delicious and nutritious meals for pupils and staff. All our food is freshly prepared on the premises and we use local butchers and suppliers for the majority of our food.



Each day we have the following on offer:

**8.15am - 8.40am Breakfast:** Toast, bacon, bagels, muffins, crumpets, fresh fruit pots, yoghurts and hot chocolate are served

**11.00am - 11.15am Break:** Toast, bagels, mini pizzas, crumpets, bacon cobs, fresh fruit pots.

**12.15pm Lunch:** Hot meals, hot dessert, freshly baked muffins and cookies, fresh fruit and granola pots. A selection of sandwiches, rolls and wraps are also available, freshly prepared on the premises.

Although we no longer sell bottles of water, we have water fountains inside and outside of the school building. Also, my team and myself are always keen to hear from parents and pupils alike, so look out for "Feedback Friday" slips available in school for pupils or just drop us an email!

### Meet our Library Team!

We believe reading for pleasure is as important as reading for learning! Ms Squires and Mr Williams ensure the library shelves contain the most up-to-date, award-winning children's fiction. There is something for everyone!

Our library team are ably supported by a dedicated and hard-working team of student library assistants who help keep library records up-to-date and shelves filled to the brim.

The library is open at break and lunchtimes, as well as before school from 8am and after school until 4.00pm.

Our Student Librarians are: Lucy Robson, Shannon Parkes, Codie Golding, Taybah Mahmood, Noor-E-Sabah Mahmood, Nicole Nyathi and Aliha Babar.



### Meet our Site Team!

Keeping staff and students safe all year round, our hard working site team are highly skilled and dedicated. Mr Wesson and his team take great pride in maintaining our reputation as the best kept Academy in the Trust!

Visitors to the school are always amazed at how clean, tidy and well maintained our grounds and buildings are.

Whatever the job, from gritting paths to managing building projects, you can be sure of one thing - with a smile on their face, our site team will get the job done!



## Recycling

*By Mrs Brierley, Regional Finance Manager*

We all like to recycle as much as we can but do you know what rubbish should go where? By following the simple guidelines below you can help reduce contamination in your recycling bins and #recycleitright:

- 1) Do not put your recycling in plastic carrier bags; simply put it loose in your recycling bin
- 2) Do rinse out the food containers
- 3) These common household items **CANNOT** be recycled:
  - ◆ Pizza boxes (if contaminated with grease)
  - ◆ Large cooking oil cans
  - ◆ Plastic food trays, Tetra Paks, juice cartons.
  - ◆ Polystyrene

<b>Yes please</b> 	<b>No thanks</b> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catalogues and brochures</li> <li>• Paper</li> <li>• Paperback or hardback books</li> <li>• Food and drink cans</li> <li>• Plastic bottles</li> <li>• Aerosols</li> <li>• Newspapers and magazines</li> <li>• Cardboard</li> <li>• Large tins</li> <li>• Plastic tubs, pots and trays</li> <li>• Telephone directories</li> <li>• Glass bottles and jars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bagged waste</li> <li>• Foil lined juice and milk cartons</li> <li>• Paper tissue</li> <li>• Plastic carrier bags</li> <li>• Cling film</li> <li>• Foil</li> <li>• Wallpaper</li> <li>• Polystyrene</li> <li>• Textiles</li> <li>• Mirrors</li> <li>• Light bulbs</li> <li>• Pyrex</li> <li>• Window panes</li> <li>• Toys/hard plastics</li> </ul>





## Mary Poppins 2018 – School Show

By Lauren Slater and Humera Yaseen, Year 12

Mary Poppins, the iconic movie that made many childhoods, was such an exciting, yet scary show to take on. The pressure of meeting the audience's expectations was a task we were all aiming to fulfil, striving for it to be the best show possible.



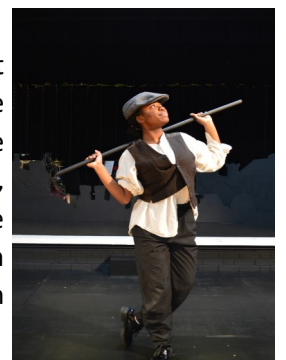
Anybody who has previously taken part in a school show is aware of the infamous rehearsals; the shouting, crying, stressing and just overall panic but, trust us, it is all worth it in the end. The cast truly become your second family and you meet people that become long-term friends. People always wonder what brings us all back every year after all the complaining we do but the sense of community is incredible. Everybody has each other's backs covered and if something was to go wrong on a show night, a cast member would have the initiative to save the scene (a quick shout out to Faith)! Now, we're sure some of you are curious to know what went wrong during the 'Practically Perfect' performance that you watched on the Thursday performance; well, let's just say that there were a few wardrobe malfunctions. Karolina truly stole the show; it was lucky she was wearing leggings under her skirt! Despite the error, it was these moments that brought the cast together. Every cast member cried with laughter and precision and order was truly lost (Mr Banks would not have been impressed). The cast are honestly the biggest factor in how the show goes and we know a lot of the members would not have been able to make it through the process without the love and support of those around them.

Props and set were a big aspect of the process this year as most scenes or songs contained many. From the cupcakes in 'Spoonful', to the forty-two chimney sweep brushes, a lot of time and effort was put into the accessories needed to make the show truly magical. Teachers, sixth formers and even family members of those involved in the show, gave up a lot of their time to transport the audience to 20<sup>th</sup> century London by umbrella. Whether they were spelling supercalifragilisticexpialidocious or flying a kite, the props piqued the audience's interest from the beginning to the end.



The show has benefits for all involved as you throw yourself into a situation where you have to use your initiative and make decisions. It allows for personal growth within cast members as the confidence that they once lacked appears magically, like Mary Poppins. The whole experience provides you with memories that you never forget; to this day, cast members speak about the shows from years ago, with funny anecdotes or mishaps. Shows can be a turning point for people who need a confidence boost and many people have labelled it as the time they realised their love for performing. The cast work incredibly hard to ensure that everyone is on the same page throughout the whole process.

Looking back on the show's journey, there are so many people to thank who we could not have done the show without. First of all, the Performing Arts department who always strive to get the best out of every cast member and put a large amount of time and effort into the rehearsals every year. Also, to the rest of the staff members who contributed to props, backstage and general support, as well as the site staff for all the times you had to fix the umbrellas (sorry)! Finally, to all the cast members, as the show would not have been possible without you all. Your commitment, dedication and hard work is admirable. We can only wonder what the school show will be this year!



## Year 10 join UKYA City Takeover Nottingham

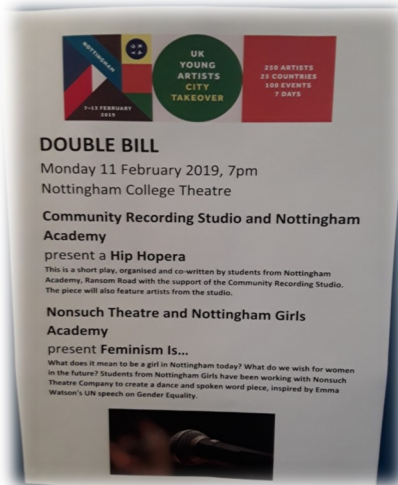
*By Laura Jasper, Community Practitioner, Nonsuch Theatre Company*

On 11 February twelve Year 10s will be performing at the Nottingham College Clarendon Campus, as part of UK Young Artists Takeover week.

Over January they have been working together to create their own performance which focuses on empowerment of women and what it means to be a female in Nottingham today.

UKYA Takeover festival will takeover Nottingham from 7 - 13 February.

This is an incredible opportunity for the girls to showcase their work alongside 250 professional artists from across the world.





## Parent Voice

*By Mrs Turner-Ramadan, Assistant Principal*

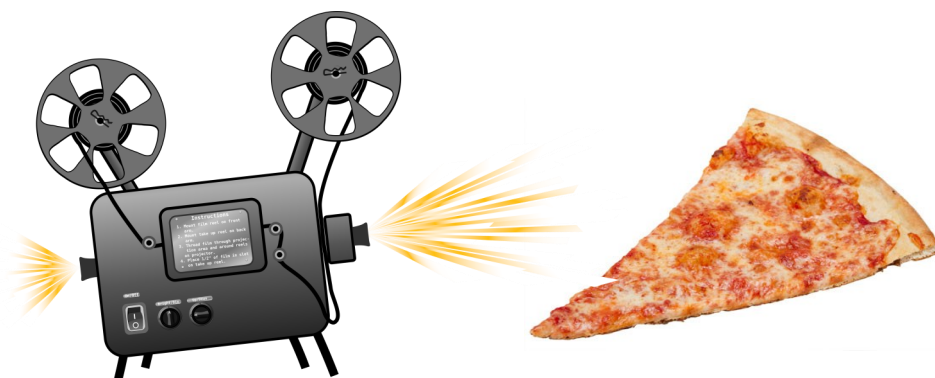
So far this year we have had feedback from Year 11, 13 and 9 parents' evenings. We held a Year 11 parents' revision workshop to discuss the best ways to revise in year 11 and how parents can support their children with this. We also held our first Parent Focus Group session where parents had their say and gave some suggestions on how to improve the Academy even further. We followed up on this and asked you to complete the Kirkland Rowell survey; we appreciate your support with this and will share the findings once the report has been produced.



## Term 1 Reward Afternoons

*By Mrs Turner-Ramadan, Assistant Principal*

On 21 January and 4 February, we held a pizza afternoon for those students with the highest amount of BUILD points for Term 1 in their year group. This was a way to celebrate those students who are getting it right, day in day out. As a reward, the top 10% of students per year group were invited to the Hall for the afternoon to have some pizza and watch a movie. The reward for Term 2 will be a huge Easter egg hunt! The Student Council have been asked to decide what they would like the Term 3 reward to be; last year we had inflatables on the field. Let's see what they decide!



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

## Career Mark

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

We are delighted to announce we have been awarded Career Mark status for recognition of the quality of careers education, information, advice and guidance provision at NGA. Well done to all on gaining this prestigious award.



**Nottingham Girls Academy**  
has achieved the national quality award  
for its careers education, information, advice  
and guidance provision.

The award is for a period of 2 years,  
expiring on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

John Ambrose (Lead Director)  
Complete Careers LLP trading as Career Mark  
Awarded on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 by Career Mark



as a Licensed Awarding Body  
for the national Quality in Careers Standard



**Recognising Excellence  
in Careers, Employability  
and Enterprise**

## Inter Academy Year 9 Basketball

*By Mrs Turner-Ramadan, Assistant Principal*

A massive congratulations to our Inter Academy Year 9 Basketball winners! Their hard work at training every week really paid off.



## Twitter

Keep up to date with all the news and exciting events happening at NGA via our Twitter feed by following: @NottmGirlsAcad









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

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