

# Nottingham Girls' Academy

Newsletter  
July 2019

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## Y7 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*

## Key Dates

*What's coming up?*

**Last Day of Term: Wednesday 24 July 2019**

*This is a non-uniform day. We ask pupils and staff to donate £1 which will go to a chosen charity.*

*Pupils will be dismissed from school at **1:05pm***

### **Exams results days**

Thursday 15 August 2019: A-level results day between 9:00am and 12:00 noon

Thursday 22 August 2019: GCSE results day between 10:00am and 12:00 noon and Sixth Form enrolment

### **Autumn Term 2019/20**

All pupils in Y7-11 return on Wednesday 4 September 2019

Sixth Form students return on Monday 9 September 2019

***Please see the NGA website for term dates for the full year 2019/2020***

**Open Evening for Y5/6 parents/pupils: Monday 23 September 2019 - 5-8pm**

## NGA in the press

Please look out for the article which appeared in the Nottingham Post this week. Our Principal, Mr Tungate, responded as follows:

*"We are delighted to have been rated as the number one secondary school in Nottingham in this year's Real Schools Guide 2019. The staff here are really proud of the girls and work incredibly hard to make sure they have all possible opportunities to grow into positive, confident and ambitious young women. In turn, I am really proud of all of the staff and exceptionally grateful to them for inspiring our pupils everyday."*

## School uniform orders over Summer

Need to purchase any items of uniform for your daughter ready for the start of term? Please note, the deadline for online ordering from our uniform supplier via the link on the NGA website is **Sunday 11 August 2019**.

Please ensure you select delivery to your home address during this period if you require the item for the start of term; the first delivery to be made into school will be 23 September.

## Year 11 Prom and Leavers' assembly

*By Miss Gascoyne, Head of Year 11*

Year 11 have celebrated finishing their exams with a prom and a leavers' assembly. On Friday 14 June they had their prom at the Crowne Plaza Hotel where they danced the night away. There were pictures throughout their school years on a big screen, a professional photographer, a mocktail on arrival and the DJ playing their favourite songs! We all had a wonderful evening; thank you to the staff that came and supported the event too!

On Monday 17 June, they all came back to school to attend their farewell leavers' assembly. They were presented with a year book with goodbye messages from the year team and their tutors. They found out results for the staff and student awards and Miss Henderson had created them a wonderful short film (thank you)! 'Harmony', our school choir, also performed two songs and there wasn't a dry eye in the room!

I would like to thank all the Year 11 students for working so hard; we cannot wait to celebrate with you all on results day!

Finally, I would like to thank all the hard working teachers and staff who have supported Year 11 throughout their exams. You have all done an exceptional job!

Year 10 – you have all this to look forward to... keep up the good work!

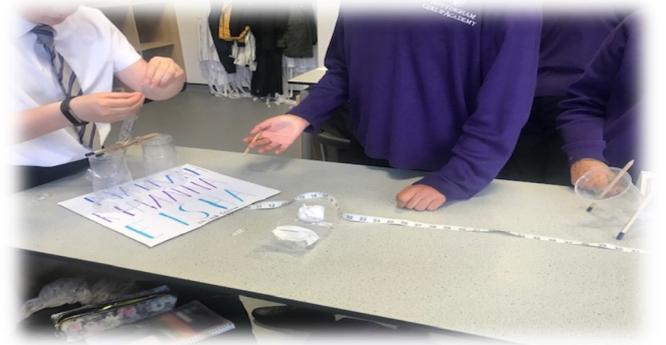


*We value high standards, hard work and a ceaseless desire to improve*

## International Women in Engineering Day

*By Miss Green, Second in Science*

To celebrate International Women in Engineering day key stage 3 had a week of one off lessons based on engineering. Year 7s made chocolate asphalt, looking at different types of aggregate, and Year 8 worked in teams to build a launcher with limited resources, with the challenge of the ball landing in a receiver.



## Tomorrow's Engineers

*By Miss Green, Second in Science*

To celebrate 'International Women in Engineering day', Year 9 got the chance to take part in the 'Tomorrow's Engineers' workshops which included activities on careers and skills needed to be an engineer, design room and i-engineer where the students worked in teams to program a Lego robot to move around a course.



## Visit From Shane Meadows

*By Mrs Asher, Teacher of Media and Film*

This term Year 10 Media and A level Film Studies students were treated to a visit by the film director, Shane Meadows. Shane has written and directed many films and TV shows, including the mesmerising and award winning 'This Is England', which was filmed in Nottingham. Shane, who hails from the Midlands, was delighted to be able to speak to students regarding his experiences in the film and TV industry. His knowledge was particularly valuable for A level students who study his films as part of their course. Shane shared his insight and experience regarding character development, location sourcing and the art of film making; he was a very popular guest and we look forward to welcoming him back to the academy in the near future.



## Year 10 Brackenhurst Trip

*By Mr Marshall, Head of Science*

We took 14 Year 10 pupils to Brackenhurst for a day of pond dipping, equine studies, small animal management and agricultural studies. We got to ride tractors, feed the horses, meet nearly 40 species of animal, identify creepy crawlies and enjoy the countryside. Hopefully it inspired some students to think about studying there.



*We strive to fulfill everyone's learning potential*

## Debate Mate

*By Miss Sherriff, Teacher of Science*

To celebrate a successful year of debating, the NGA Debate Mate team have worked hard to organise a school debate to showcase their skills. Teachers and students joined forces to argue their case for and against the motion, 'This house would ban all non-school uniform days'. After brilliant contributions from Mrs Turner-Ramadan, Mr Ahmad, Ms Simpson, Mr Marshall, Miss Richardson and Mr Cox, the audience decided that non-uniform days celebrate student diversity and benefit the community through fundraising and, therefore, SHOULD happen on a regular basis! Congratulations opposition team! As a bonus, a fantastic £50.35 has been raised for the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Fund.

### The Debate Mate Cup Final

Debate Mate has run a successful year once again in 2018/19, with our main cohort actively debating against other schools in two separate competitions. All students did exceptionally well in speaking, prepping or timekeeping as part of these competitions and, as a result of that, we were placed Nottingham's Highest Scoring School for both round 1 and 2 of the Urban Debate League. To top things off, for being one of the highest scoring teams **nationally** in the Cup competition held in April, one team has received an invite to the Debate Mate Cup Final, held in the Houses of Parliament!



## Boston 2019

*By Miss Oakes, Assistant Head of Year 11*

The Year 8 and 9 athletics team had an enjoyable day at the Trust Athletics event held in Boston. The event was opened by fantastic performances from G13 and 'Harmony'. As ever, the team gave it their all and showed great team morale by cheering each other on. A big well done to all of those who took part and represented NGA!



## Music Showcase 2019

By Ms Downie-Tosini, Teacher i/c Music

The annual Music Showcase back on Thursday 20 June saw girls from across the school performing their hearts out to a packed hall of parents, carers and friends. There was a real mix including 'Glee', Keyboard Club, Strings Ensemble, NGA's Gifted and Talented Choir 'Harmony' and NGA's brand new Samba Band. A huge array of instruments were represented, including piano, voice, trumpet, guitar, cello, violin and many more. All excelled in their performances which demonstrated so much pride and dedication.

It was a great success; standards were high and talent in abundance. The evening represented a Music Department that is flourishing and one that believes in the power of music and performance to raise self-belief, confidence and pride.

They were a credit to the school and themselves so a hearty "Congratulations" to all involved!



## Year 7 Artwork

*By Ms Bates, Deputy Principal*



## Year 10 Artwork

*By Mrs Pye, Teacher i/c Art*



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## Erasmus Group

*By Miss Moreno, Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages*

June was a big month for our Erasmus students. The Spanish students came all the way from Talarrubias and stayed with host families while doing different activities in school. We did activities related to the project to better understand the issue of refugees and workers' migration. We did some fundraising activities to raise awareness in school and raise some funds for the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum with it also being National Refugee week. We had an amazing karaoke competition with the participation from the teachers, including Mr Tungate! We also showed them around Nottingham and visited the Town Hall, where the Mayor of Nottingham welcomed us and took a bit of time to discuss the project.

It was an amazing week in which we created some long lasting friendships while raising awareness for a good cause.



## Year 10 DHL Trip to Aberdovey

By Mr Lawrence, Teacher of Technology

We were all off to Wales and it wasn't raining! What could possibly go wrong? Well they had to ask, didn't they? One hour into the journey our mini bus pulled into the service station. There we met up with all the other coaches from the other Greenwood Trust schools and it was all going so well until we came to leave. The driver turned the key in the ignition and there was nothing! Thankfully, all the other coaches were still at the services which we split up into which enabled us to spy on the other teams; MI5 would have been proud of us.



### Day one: **The GROT POT!**

This involved something looking like a sheep dip (but only smelling a lot worse) and a plank. Team work was required to ensure that you and your partner didn't fall in when you crossed over in the middle. This was followed by the 'Rollover, round and back to the top' without getting wet and smelly! Myself and countless brave souls fell in; 'NOT A NICE SMELL UNLESS YOU'RE A FLY'!

### Day Two and Three: **Hike up the Mountain and camp out!**

It was at this point that we discovered that one of our team was in fact scared of heights. I pointed out that we would remain on the ground at all times! For some reason this didn't help so one by one the rest of team gave advice before starting up the mountain but alas this didn't help, until one kind soul stuck with her to the top.

At the top we took in the view, had lunch before seeing the 'I'm scared of heights' team member who was almost running at the front. At the end of our day's hike up the mountain, we roughed it in a log cabin.



### Day four: **The Gorge walk, "Let's play stuck in the mud!"**

This was a nice walk in a stream with rocks, trees and slime. Let's not forget the mud pool which claimed a trainer which was retrieved by its owner, several students and a staff member! Speak to Aliaba for more details on the story of the lost trainer! I can see them making a film about this one.

### Day five: **The raft and certificates**

Let's just say we built a raft, put it in the sea, climbed onto it and paddled. After what felt like an hour of paddling (OK it was 5 minutes), the barrels left us bobbing in the sea.

*(Picture far right with course completion certificates in hand and smiling)*



## Meet our Cleaning team

*By Mrs Brierley, Regional Finance Manager*

Working hard, behind the scenes every day is our dedicated team of cleaning staff!

Often the unsung heroes, they beaver away alongside our site team to ensure our Academy maintains its reputation as the best kept school in Nottingham!



## Environment Group

*By Mrs Brierley, Regional Finance Manager*

The first harvest of school grown potatoes and lettuce. Grown and eaten by our pupils!

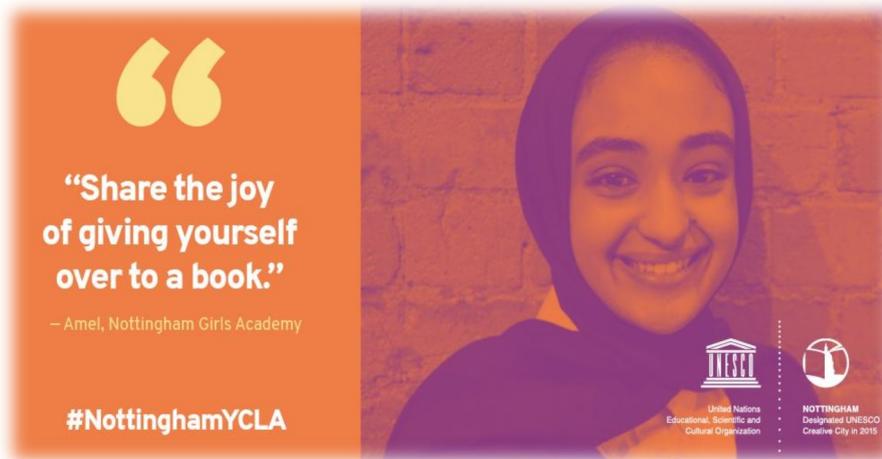


*We value high standards, hard work and a ceaseless desire to improve*

## Nottingham City of Literature Event

*By Mrs Simpson, Head of English*

On the morning of 12 July, a group of budding Year 8 and Year 10 writers attended a 'Nottingham City of Literature event', 'Big City Reads'. Our girls met and questioned local published authors, gained professional writing tips and engaged with creative writing based on impromptu ideas. The event was coordinated by the City of Literature representative, Jim Hall, a popular local writer, formerly of First Story. In June, Year 12 NGA Literature Ambassador, Amel Elleily, and Year 10 poet, Precious Ezeama, also attended a city-wide poetry evening, where both shared their original work. A very proud moment for NGA.



*"Our Young Ambassador today is Amel from Nottingham Girls' Academy who was born in The Netherlands before moving to Notts in 2008. Amel wishes to "promote the importance of reading and writing in younger people" and to "share the joy of physically reading". Nottingham City of Literature*

*We strive to fulfill  
everyone's learning  
potential*

## Creative Writing Club

*By Mr Traylor, Teacher of Creative Arts–Technology*

This term the school has rekindled our Creative Writing Club where students of all year groups are welcome to come and give air to their creative talent amongst like minds. It is a very inclusive club where students of all abilities are able to come and discuss creative thoughts, and write short pieces based on a prompt. These are shared with the group if the writer feels comfortable in doing so and is always appreciated, especially when great description is included. A number of our sessions have been very successfully led by one of our year 10 students and this has helped to forge a very close bond within the club. We are always eager to welcome new members, especially from Year 7 who might want to continue next year. It is run by Mrs Cox, supported by Mr Traylor.



## National Citizenship Service Award

*By Miss Short, Head of Sixth Form*

For the second year running, The National Citizenship Service awarded NGA with the 'Champion Schools' plaque for a brilliant 44 signups in 2018. It's not too late to be part of this year's event. Say Yes to NCS!



## Parent Pay

By Mrs Brierley, Regional Finance Manager

### ParentPay - our new online payment service from September 2019



We are pleased to announce that in September we will be switching to ParentPay for accepting payments online for items such as dinner money, school trips and revision guides. Using a secure website called ParentPay you will be able to pay online using your credit/debit card or continue to make cash payments at PayPoint stores. ParentPay will be our preferred method of making payments to school.

#### What are the benefits to parents and pupils?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind
- Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint
- Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

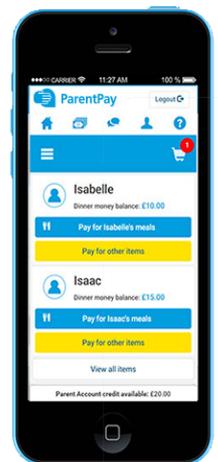
#### What are the benefits to our school?

- You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services
- Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school
- Improves school security
- Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises
- The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.

#### How to get started with ParentPay?

We will send you your account activation details over summer. Once you receive these:

- Visit [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)
- Enter your Activation username and password in the Account Login section of the homepage **NB. These are for one-time use only; please choose your own username and password for future access during the activation process.**
- Provide all the necessary information and choose your new username and password for your account - registering your email address will enable us to send you receipts and reminders
- Once activation is complete, you can go to straight to Items for payment, select which item(s) you want to add to your basket and proceed to complete your payment
- If you have any questions, please contact the school. For more information, visit [www.parentpay.com/parents/](http://www.parentpay.com/parents/)



***The switch to the new ParentPay portal will not affect the balance on your daughter's account.***

We enjoy the  
journey together



NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' ACADEMY  
*'Strive, Improve and Enjoy'*

# SUMMER ACTIVITY CLUB

Monday 29 July - Friday 2 August 2019

8:30am - 3:00pm



**FREE**

**OPEN TO GIRLS FROM YEAR 3 TO CURRENT YEAR 6**

Robins Wood Road, Aspley, Nottingham, NG8 3LD

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