

Nottingham Girls' Academy

Newsletter
February 2020

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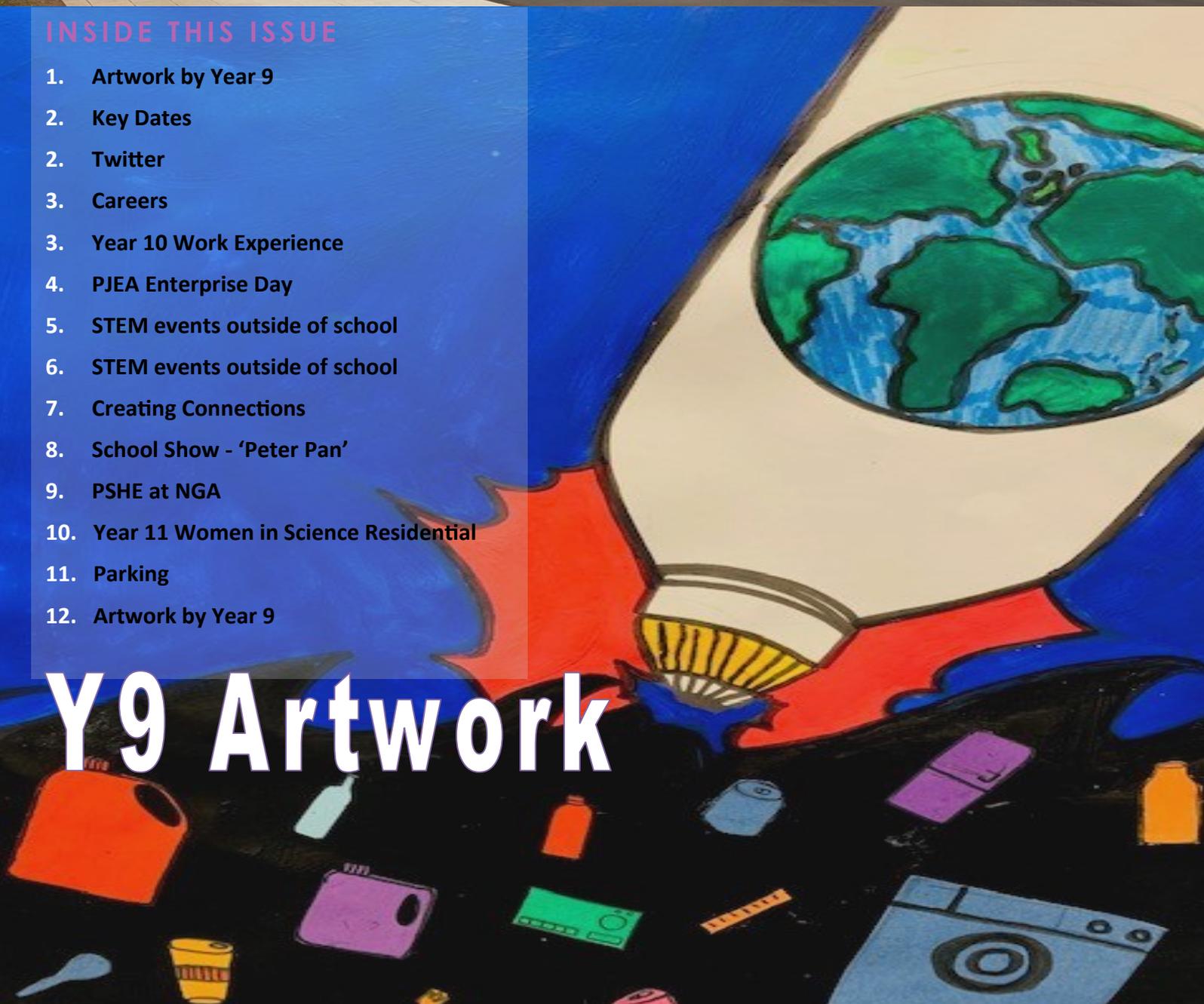
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Y9 Artwork



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?

Spring Term 2019/20

Last Day of Half Term: Friday 14 February

Half term: Monday 17 February—Friday 21 February

Staff INSET Day: Monday 24 February

Pupils return on Tuesday 25 February

Year 11 and Year 12 Mock examinations: commencing 25 February until 6 March

Year 10 and Year 12 Parents' evening: Wednesday 25 March between 3:30-6:30pm

Last Day of Term: Friday 3 April

Easter holidays: Monday 6 April—Friday 17 April

Summer Term 2019/20

Pupils return on Monday 20 April

Year 8 Parents' Evening: Wednesday 29 April between 3:30-6:30pm

Dance Showcase—Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 May: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Friday 8 May: May Day holiday

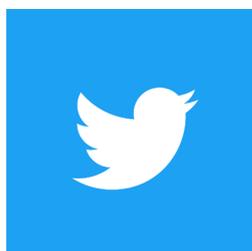
Last Day of Half Term: Friday 22 May

Half term: Monday 25 May—Friday 29 May

Pupils return on Monday 1 June

Twitter

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





Careers

By Mrs Saunders, Employability and Careers Co-ordinator

Congratulations to our Year 10 pupils who have been impressing us with their work ethic whilst on work experience. It has been a pleasure to visit them and hear about all the interesting things they have been doing. We have had pupils in retail, schools and nurseries, law firms, riding stables, pharmacies, hospitals and the university to name but a few. Many pupils were enjoying their experiences so much they did not want to come back to school. Others were finding it quite tiring, especially when working with younger children. It is now time for them to start researching the next stage of their learning journey post-16.

As part of work experience, Intu has been working in the urology unit at the City Hospital. She has undertaken a range of activities including working on reception, learning about how equipment is sterilised, observing doctors giving advice and treatment to patients and accompanying doctors on their ward round. She has thoroughly enjoyed the experience and definitely would like to undertake a career in the medical field. She has been able to apply her knowledge of science to what problems people have had and how the treatments they've been given work. The ward sister said she had been a model pupil, always on time and eager to get started each morning. She is a credit to the academy. Well done Intu!

Alina has been working with Lawgate solicitors in Slough. She has been working on case studies and doing research on cases. She was fortunate enough to attend the Old Bailey and observe a murder trial that was taking place. She has gained valuable experience over the week and is keen to take up a legal career in the future. Again, she was praised for her excellent work ethic and I'm looking forward to reading her record of what she has been doing.

National Apprenticeship Week

Some pupils from Years 10 and 11 visited Nottingham College's Beeston site for an apprenticeship fair to raise their awareness of what apprenticeships are available in this area. We also had visits from Balfour Beatty and the Civil Service to talk about apprenticeships which can be undertaken through them.



Virtual reality careers



We have also just taken delivery of a virtual reality careers programme which we will be trialling with our sixth form students in the next few weeks before it rolls out across the school.

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

PJEA Enterprise Day

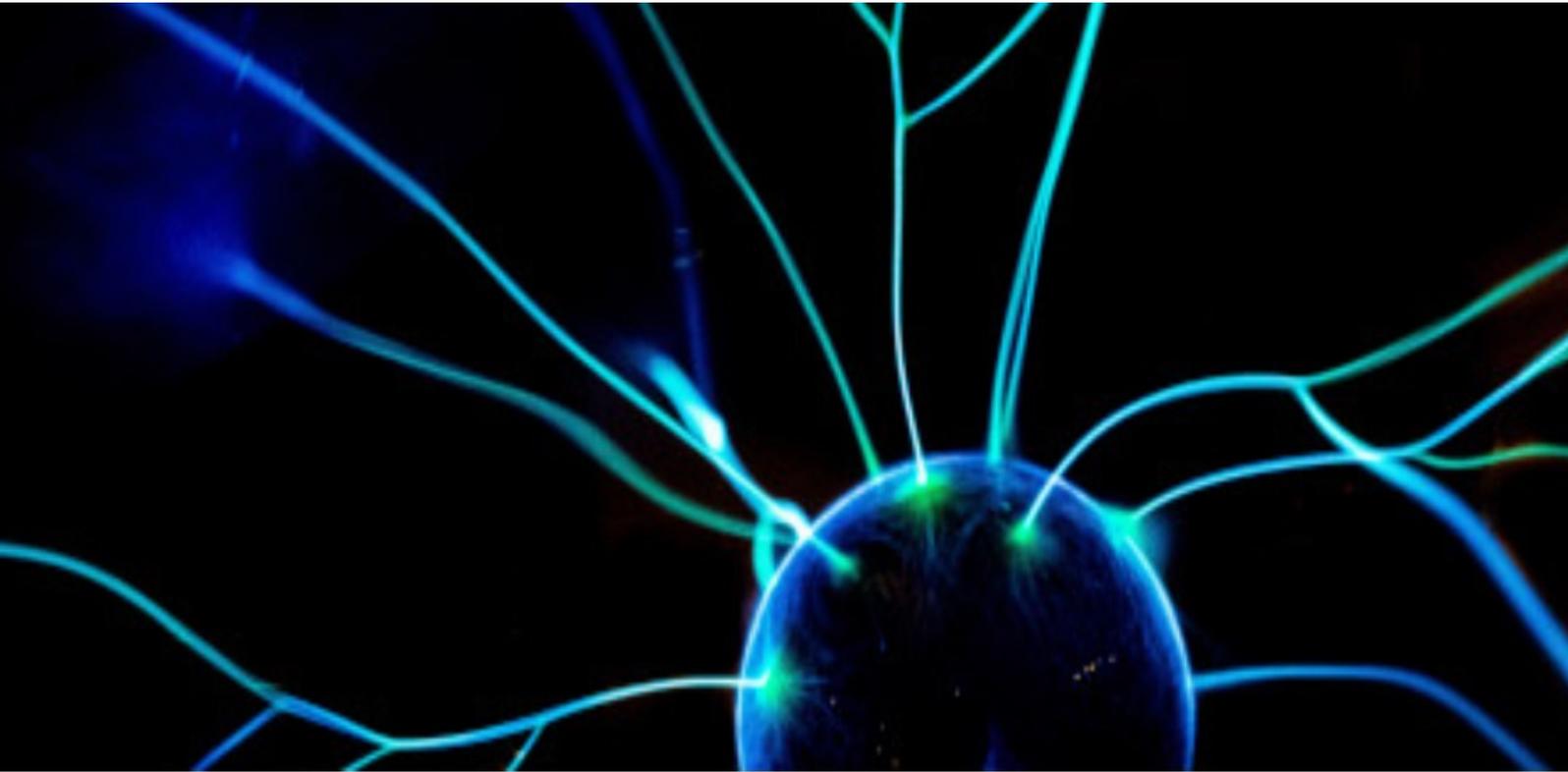
By Mr Sharpe, Deputy Principal

Nottingham Girls' Academy continues to develop strong links with world-renowned companies, such as Rolls Royce, Capital One and Ideagen.



STEM events outside of school

By Miss Green, STEM Coordinator



Science in the Park is a free family aimed science event held at Wollaton Park on 7 March 2020, 11am-3pm.

Activities included are:

- Guided walks by the RSPB local group
- The Wonders of the Microscopic world
- How nature can be beneficial to people's mental and physical well-being.
- Marvellous manifests

and many more interesting activities.

*We strive to fulfill
everyone's learning
potential*

STEM events outside of school

By Miss Green, STEM Coordinator



**Nottingham Festival of
Science and Curiosity
2020**

The Festival of Science and Curiosity is a week-long festival during 12-19 February which takes Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths out of the lab and into our everyday lives. Most events are free.

Visit <https://nottsfosac.co.uk/events/> to find out more.

Creating Connections

By Mrs Pye, Teacher i/c Art



CREATING CONNECTIONS AT THE NEW ART EXCHANGE

Monday 3 February was the start of our **Creating Connections Project** in partnership with the **New Art Exchange** and **Brunts Academy** in Mansfield.

30 Yr9 NGA students were paired up with students from Brunts and they spent the day together participating in P4C workshops, Art workshops, gallery visits and discussions.

Over the next few months, we will be working with Shamila Chady in school to create a group sculpture, inspired by this day, for display at the **New Art Exchange** on **5 June 2020**. There is an open exhibition and all 180 students involved in the project will have their work on display! Please come down!



Discussion about the 'Encroachments' exhibition by Shezad Dawood, 'VR' library and paired creative work with Shamila Chady.



School Show - 'Peter Pan'

By Lauren, Y13 Student

All we needed was a bit of faith, trust and pixie dust to rehearse and perform this year's school show, 'Peter Pan'. Being an iconic childhood movie for many people who would have been watching, the pressure of meeting the audience's expectations was something we were all aiming to fulfil, intending to make the production as magical as possible. Just like the previous years, the rehearsals were both stressful and enjoyable; there were a lot of ups and downs; shouting, laughing, tears, celebrating and muscle pain from the constant flying but, as usual, it was all worth it in the end. Spending hundreds of hours rehearsing, the cast really had to stick together and create the family we do every year to get through it. Following the Darling family in their journey to Neverland, we got to develop the personalities of these characters and connect them all together in their journey. Being either a Lost Boy or a Pirate, the chorus provided the energy of the scene, whether they were never growing up with Peter, scheming with Hook or fighting with the Braves.



We ensured that our production of 'Peter Pan' was a story with a twist, adding in extra scenes, songs and, subsequently, dances. Taking songs from Descendants 2, The Muppets and Pirates of the Caribbean, we ensured that the audience were consistently entertained. What's My Name was a particular favourite; both the cast and audience singing it for weeks after the final performance, and a shout out to Chyna for the amazing rap!

Props and set were a massive part of this year's production, both staff and students setting aside time to create the contrasting worlds of Bloomsbury and Neverland. From the window in the Darling family household, to the Lost Boy scooters, Tinkerbell's house and the pirate ship, the set captured the audience's attention from the beginning to the end. However, the star of the show was definitely the crocodile!

If you are thinking of doing the school show next year, then do not hold back! If you are willing to show a high level of effort and dedication, then there is nothing stopping you. It provides you with many benefits; not only will you improve your acting, dancing and singing ability, but you will also develop key skills like teamwork, initiative, creativity and confidence. Being put in situations that mean you have to work in groups of many different numbers, having to save a scene if something goes wrong and using your imagination to create something interesting and unique will mean that your confidence increases massively, preparing you for performing in front of an audience. As well as this, you will become part of a family that comes together every single year, and previous casts still speak of memories from years ago now, as you take away stories and experiences that are unforgettable.

We could not do the show without all the support we receive so there are many people we need to thank. First of all to the Performing Arts department for creating an incredible show every year that always brings something new, and dealing with our diva moments! We could not do it without you pushing us to our best potential, and giving us the training and confidence to step on that stage! Also, to everybody behind the scenes; the people who made the props and set, all of Atmosphere, the site team for working everything out technically (and fixing everything we had broken) and the staff who gave up their evenings to help us backstage. Finally, a big thank you to the whole of the cast. We had one of the biggest casts that we have ever had this year, and despite ups and downs, we put on an unforgettable show and shared an enjoyable and rewarding week together!

From all the year 13s that will not be in the show next year, we want to say a big thank you to everybody for making our time at NGA, especially in Performing Arts, absolutely amazing. For all of us, the show is our favourite time of year, and we are very sad to be saying goodbye to the process and to all of our friends we have made along the way. So from Faith, Rana, Annabelle, Humera and Lauren, we wish you all the best for the future; keep on making us all proud, and we will be back to watch it next year!! Remember, second to the right and then straight on until morning!

PSHE at NGA

By Mrs Evans, Assistant Principal

It has been an exciting few weeks in relation to PSHE. The Year 10s have taken part in a **drop down PSHE day** covering several aspects in relation to safety and well-being on Tuesday 21 January. The girls had workshops on resilience, how happiness is linked with mental well-being, the importance of communicating with others about our feelings, online safety, the benefits of a healthy diet, recognising unhealthy relationship behaviours, conflict resolution and a police workshop on anti-social behaviour and its impact. The PSHE evaluation following the day was overwhelmingly positive from the Year 10s who participated brilliantly in the activities presented.



Our Year 8s took part in the **Prison, Me? No Way!** day on Tuesday 4 February. The aim of the day is to help reduce risky behaviour and prevent young people becoming involved in crime.

The day included looking at our life choices, prison life, the dangers of fire, drugs and knife crime. Pupils had the opportunity to meet with offenders, listen to their stories, and ask pertinent questions about the impact of choices made. Pupils also got to look at a prison cell and explore the constraints experienced when one loses their freedom. It was a very inspiring day in which pupils showed great enthusiasm and involvement in the discussion. PMNW, we are looking forward to the next one!



Fundraising at NGA

Up until the end of last term, students at NGA had a lot of fun raising £1520.00 for a range of charities including the My Bag Charity, Macmillan Cake Sale, Wear it Pink, Refugee Forum Charity, Children in Need, Save the Children and the Salvation Army Christmas Homeless Appeal..... and there's more to come.



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Year 11 Women in Science Residential



Pembroke College
Year 11

WOMEN IN SCIENCE RESIDENTIAL

7th - 9th April 2020

Love science? Apply to our free, three day
Women in Science Residential to:

- TAKE PART IN ACADEMIC SESSIONS
- MEET CURRENT STUDENTS AND MEMBERS OF STAFF
- EXPERIENCE LIFE AT CAMBRIDGE

For further information, and to apply, visit:

www.pem.cam.ac.uk/yr11womeninscience

Please note that eligibility criteria apply. See our website for further details.

Applications close at 8am on Monday 17th February 2020.



Parking

By Mr Tungate, Principal

We would like to take the opportunity to once again ask for your support and assistance in making the area near our Academy safe for pupils and in being considerate for local residents. Please see the guidance below about collecting your children from school.

Nottingham Girls' Academy

Strive. Improve. Enjoy.

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.



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

Artwork by Year 9

Recycling visual imagery, inspired by Pop Art.



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