



NOTTINGHAM
GIRLS' ACADEMY

Nottingham Girls' Academy

Newsletter
July 2022

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Y10 Art Ceramics



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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?

Summer Term 2021/22

Tuesday 26 July 2022: Last day of Summer term—school finishes at 3:15pm

Wednesday 27 July 2022: INSET day - no pupils in school:

Thursday 18 August: A level results day 9am to 11am

Thursday 25 August: GCSE results day 9am to 11am

Autumn Term 2022/2023

Friday 2 September 2022 INSET Day

Monday 5 September 2022 INSET Day

Additional opportunity for Sixth Form enrolment

Tuesday 6 September 2022: Year 7 return 8.45am start, 3.15pm finish
Year 12 return

Wednesday 7 September 2022: Year 11 return 8.45am start, 3.15pm finish
Year 13 return
Year 13 UCAS Day

Thursday 8 September 2022: Year 10 return 8.45am start, 3.15pm finish
AC3 and AC4 return

Friday 9 September 2022: Year 8 return 8.45am start, 3.15pm finish
Year 9 return

School Term Dates 2022/2023

[NGA Term Dates 2022/2023](#)

Holiday Club



HOLIDAY CLUB

SUMMER HOLIDAY DATES:
MONDAY 8TH AUGUST
TUESDAY 9TH AUGUST

MONDAY 15TH AUGUST
TUESDAY 16TH AUGUST

MONDAY 22ND AUGUST
TUESDAY 23RD AUGUST

11AM-3:30PM
SCHOOL YEARS 7-11

St Johns Church, Graylands Road, Bilborough, NG8 4FD
OPTIONAL: 2-3:30PM HARVEY HADDEN - SPORTS

TO BOOK: CONTACT 07765811406 OR
KAT.WADE@WEAREWOVEN.CHURCH OR MESSAGE OUR
INSTAGRAM @WOVEN_YOUTH

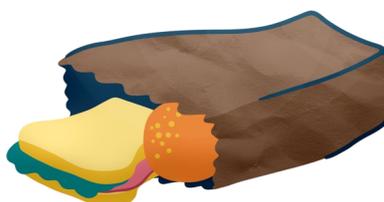
FREE & HOT LUNCH PROVIDED @ 1PM

WOVEN YOUTH



Free School Meal Vouchers for Summer Holiday Period

The Nottingham City Council are providing funding for free school meal vouchers during the summer holidays. Parents/carers of each eligible pupil will receive a £50 supermarket voucher for this period which will be sent electronically by Edenred on 26 July.



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

Year 9 Poetry Competition

By Miss Green, Teacher of English

Congratulations to Aliyah and Zeeneth, our published poets!

Aliyah and Zeeneth entered a national poetry competition and were chosen to be published in *Empowered* - an anthology encouraging students to speak up and channel their voices into making positive change.

Inspired by their English studies in year 9 - including poetry by Amanda Gorman and Maya Angelou; 'Watch Us Rise', a novel exploring social change through young activists; and 'Noughts and Crosses', a play that challenges our perceptions of race, power and truth - Aliyah and Zeeneth's poems are both powerful and thought provoking. To launch the anthology in the library, Aliyah and Zeeneth performed a reading before helping their classmates to analyse the poems.

Feel free to go along and pick up a copy for yourself!



IMA Festival of Mathematics

By Miss Elharm, Teacher of Mathematics

Our trip to the IMA Festival of Mathematics and its Applications hosted at Sheffield Hallam University was a great experience for our pupils. Engaging in workshops about programming, statistics and many more; taking part in building a geometric dome and winning a pop quiz were amongst some of the highlights. We finished with a tour of the university building and our pupils had a chance to ask some great questions about Higher Education.



Year 11 Leavers and Prom

By Miss Richardson

After 5 wonderful years the time has come to say goodbye to our class of 2022; an amazing year group who have worked incredibly hard to get to this point. After a strange two years of lockdowns and bubbles, our year 11 pupils persevered throughout and supported each other immensely, embodying everything we stand for here at NGA. Their celebrations started with a leavers' assembly on 20 June, where they signed shirts and took photos, and made many TikTok videos! Our year 11 and Sixth form Prom took place on 7 July and was a fantastic evening full of celebration and, once again, we are so proud of the way the students conducted themselves throughout the evening – we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Thursday 25 August will see the year 11 cohort in school to collect their GCSE results, and I'm sure all of their hard work from the last few years will finally feel as though it has paid off. For those coming back to the sixth form, I look forward to seeing you again in September. For those moving on to new places, and experiences, I would like to wish you so much luck going forward.

Enjoy a very well deserved summer!





Music Showcase

By Mrs Downie-Tosini, Teacher i/c Music

It has been three years since NGA's last Music Showcase and it came back with great success last month. There was an abundance of talent on show over two nights on Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 June.

It was a fantastic celebration of what happens in extra curricular music all year round, with all performers demonstrating their tireless commitment and hard work, having attended weekly instrumental lessons and lunchtime and after-school music clubs and choirs. There was a representation from year 7 through to year 13 with over 80 students involved. We had brass and strings players, guitarists, drummers, singers, pianists, keyboard players and NGA's very own choir, 'Harmony'. There were also special collaborations creating small bands, all of which took a tremendous amount of extra time and practice on top of their usual lessons. A special mention also goes out to all of the students who worked in the sound and lighting booth and back-stage operating the technical requirements of the evening ensuring a smooth delivery. Well done and thank you to the 'Atmosphere' team and the back-stage crew. Congratulations and thank you to all involved; you were amazing. Keep playing over the summer and we will welcome you back for more music making in September.



Music Exams Success

By Mrs Downie-Tosini, Teacher i/c of Music

There are around 75 pupils from Year 7 through to Year 11 currently having weekly instrumental lessons in the Music department. Attending these lessons takes an enormous amount of commitment and a dedication to practice what they have learnt to progress further. It all amounts to a display of growing confidence and resilience to ensure success. Some of these pupils have recently taken the brave step and took an exam in their instrument showing their technical ability and a performance of a number of pieces under examination conditions.

Those pupils are pianists Lydia (Distinction), Sarah (Merit), Esme (Distinction), Kristiyana (Pass) and Faakornam (Pass). Chloe passed her Electric Guitar exam with a Merit.

Congratulations to those pupils mentioned for their deserved results and I look forward to welcoming them next year to continue their musical journey. If you would like to enquire about learning a musical instrument in September, please pop into the Music room and register your interest.



Year 7 Drama Trip – A Midsummer Night's Dream

By The Performing Arts Department

We took 30 Year 7s to see an outside performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at Nottingham Playhouse. Yr 7 are currently studying Shakespeare and were so excited to see the play that they have been working on in school. What an incredible show with a very talented cast! Yr 7 absolutely loved it!



Engineering Success

By Miss Sherriff, Teacher of Science

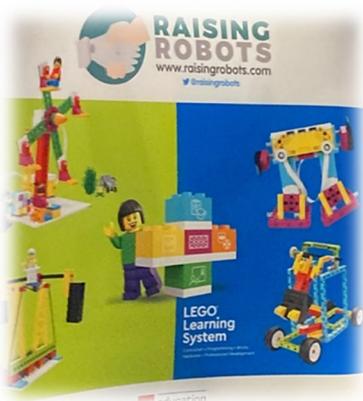
11 year 7 pupils attended the 'How engineering landed people on the moon' event at The University of Nottingham earlier this term. They had an inspirational talk from the engineering department and were then put in competition with other local schools to make comets from food items and rockets from paper. Engineering is all about using failure as fuel to make progress and Nottingham University said our pupils had worked brilliantly; their reflection sheets being the best they had read. As a result of their fantastic contributions on the day, they have won the prize of a National Space Centre school visit which we look forward to hosting next year!



Big Bang STEM Event

By Ms Megran, Teacher of Science

On Friday 24 June, a group of 30 KS3 pupils visited the Big Bang STEM event in the NEC Birmingham. The event had various stalls where organisations gave out information as an opportunity for the pupils to explore what a career in STEM looks like. One stall had pupils answer a questionnaire to be told which STEM career they're best suited to. An organisation called 'Code 4 drones' challenged kids to code flight paths to fly the drones through obstacles. The University of Sheffield offered story telling through Virtual Reality whilst the West Midlands Ambulance service demonstrated CPR to the pupils and were giving out free pens in the shape of medical utensils! There were plenty of other exciting stalls with crazy engaging activities for the pupils to access. It also provided an opportunity for us, as a school, to explore which organisations we can work with in the future to expand our pupils' STEM experience further. We were very impressed with how the pupils conducted themselves on the trip – they certainly did us proud!



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The Big Bang Fair

By Miss Green, Second in Science Faculty & STEM Coordinator

On Tuesday 12 July, pupils in key stage 3 celebrated all things STEM-related by attending the Big Bang Fair at Nottingham Girls' Academy. Pupils had the opportunity to visit interactive stands hosted by companies such as Rolls Royce, RAF, The British Army, Ignite!, Amey, East Midlands Airport, Nottingham City Museum and The University of Nottingham where they could try their hand at a range of interactive activities demonstrating and developing their STEM skills and ask career related questions.

A selection of Year 12 students applied for the role of being a NGA STEM ambassador in which they helped to run the event by running a careers and STEM for everyone's stand. They also helped the external exhibitors set up and pack away. Their help was invaluable, and I couldn't have done it without them. NGA's STEM club also presented their research projects, which they have been working on for the last 3 months, providing a show and tell of their chosen experiments and findings.



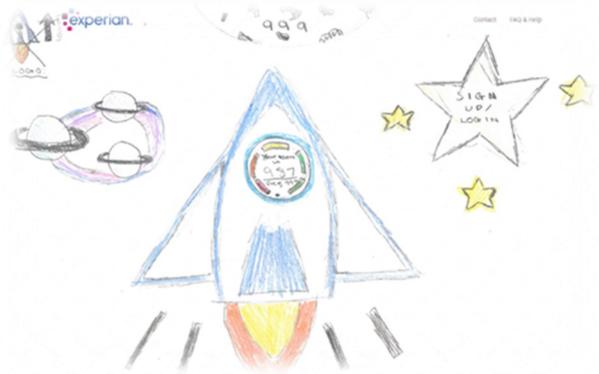
Careers

By Miss Everard, Careers Administrator

We've done it! Looking back at a successful year of careers activities, post-pandemic, Mrs Saunders and I are feeling incredibly proud of our students and school community. This year we have delivered 62 activities to our student base, and around 200 one to one careers meetings, all of which have been met by curiosity and a fantastic willingness to learn by our students.

This term kicked off with Year 10 and 12 work experience. Our students had fantastic conduct on their placements, with employers describing them as 'hardworking' and 'very mature'. Students had a variety of placements, including working in schools, working in a court house, working in a garage and even working in a craft store. Those Year 10s and 12s who did not secure a placement outside of school either worked as teaching assistants (so we've got some phenomenal new displays around!) or took part in a week long programme of activities including CV building, meeting Nottingham Forest and having a mock interview with a real employer. Feedback about the students in school has been fantastic- and some students even have a chance to do work experience over the summer with the employer that conducted their interview. Our work experience programme was followed by a careers day for our Year 10s, where they had a series of workshops from ASK Apprenticeships, Nottingham College, the NHS, the Civil Service and Nottingham Trent University. Our guests were really impressed by the level of understanding that Year 10 had, and how much they'd already thought about their next steps.

Year 7 then had their careers day, which started off with a fantastic STEM careers fair, organised by Miss Green. They then were able to engage with workshops related to the NHS, reflecting on their skills, using our careers platform StartProfile and understanding the variety of jobs available in different sectors. They also had a workshop with Experian, wherein they designed a front sheet for the Experian website. For me, this was a fantastic opportunity to meet our Year 7s and find out about their wonderful aspirations- including becoming a midwife, a surgeon and even a forensic investigator!



Finally, this week we have had the final session of our Educator STEM project with a group of Year 8 pupils that are interested in careers in STEM, who visited The University of Nottingham. Pupils engaged in practical activities with a variety of STEM ambassadors, some of whom were students still themselves. Pupil got to learn about wind tunnels, wavelengths, frequencies of sound and were shown how to build and design a structure that could withstand different levels of force. They got to put this to work, building a structure from magnetic springs, magnets and different sizes of platform. They also got to have a session around choosing their options next year- as this seems far away but will

soon come! Pupils had to rate good and bad reasons to choose a GCSE course, with options from, 'My friends are taking it' to 'I like the subject'. All on this pupils on this project have worked on it over the course of the year and, therefore, the day ended with a prizegiving ceremony for all of their hard work and commitment over the year.



8N1 - Biodiversity Homework

By Miss Mahmood, Teacher of Science

Year 8s worked in groups on a project on biodiversity. The homework scenario was:

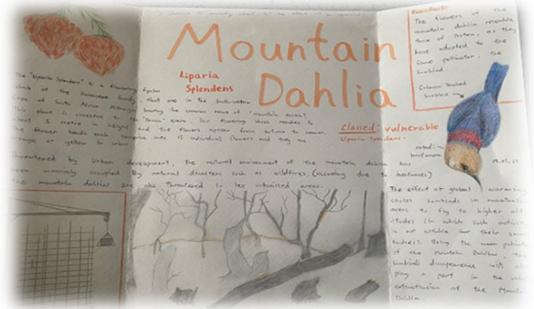
An international conservation organisation will grant £1 million to a 'species expert' to restore his or her chosen species from the brink of extinction. The 'species expert' with the most convincing case as to why his or her species deserves to be saved will win the grant. The best case will draw connections between the chosen species and its vital role in biodiversity, its habitat, and its ecosystem.

They selected a range of different species from around the world that were becoming extinct and conducted research on their chosen species. They then presented their work to the class.



Esme, Joanny, Hannah and Blossom presented their work on the Venus fly trap. Although Venus fly traps are protected under the state law under the endangered species act, poachers have known to steal thousands of them in the wild and sell them for 25 cents. To conserve Venus fly traps they need to have seed banks as well as preventing habitat loss. The class voted them winners of the project.

Nimra and Sachina researched the Mountain Dahlia. The Mountain Dahlia is threatened by urban development and wildfires due to climate change. They also described how the decrease in the Mountain Dahlias also decreases the population of the sunbirds. Si Wa's hand drawn pictures also showed off her artistic skills.



Zubiya, Hannah and Rashida presented the Gentoo Penguin. They explained how human activities such as commercial fishing and local pollution is making them endangered. The girls discussed ways of saving the Gentoo penguins by ensuring that fishermen place some fish back into the oceans for the penguins to eat and to ensure that people are recycling so that plastics are not left in the ocean.

Magdalena and Amber described the black footed ferret. They looked at how the species is critically endangered. They discussed how the WWF help by maintaining ferret sites and relocating prairie dogs into new sites.



PSHE Update

By Mrs Gangneux, PSHE Coordinator

Year 10 PSHE day – Thursday 30 June

On the 30 June pupils in Year 10 had their drop-down day of PSHE workshops covering some of our statutory obligations regarding the teaching of relationships and sex education, and also topics of wider concern that had been highlighted by safeguarding and pastoral teams.

The pupils explored issues such as coercive relationships, social anxiety, misogyny and harassment, as well as physical health issues such as smoking and vaping and women's health, looking at lesser-known female health issues such as endometriosis, for example. It is incredible how little is known about some of the conditions affecting female health and we are striving to help change that imbalance here at NGA.

One girl in every 10 will experience endometriosis, and yet there is still pitifully little research and no known cure. In fact, one of our pupils came to speak to a provider at the end of the session to say she was now going to seek medical help as she recognised many of the symptoms discussed. A real-life consequence of opening up these issues for discussion; this is why we do what we do!

Pupil feedback was really positive, and the external providers always leave singing the praises of the girls' ability to articulate themselves, to participate and ask questions during the sessions.



Equality Group



The Equality Group reconvened after half term to start the planning for their work on becoming an anti-racist school. We are really excited to be joining forces with curriculum equality lead, Mrs Evans, who is leading on a body of work within the Trust looking at the experiences of students and staff of different ethnicities, to be better able to represent everyone across our student and staff cohort. The work we do will be supported by our partners at Nottingham Citizens, helping us to think

about how we plan and organise ourselves and taking their impressive work and experience from associates in other schools to help shape our own ideas. The work is student led, and has considerable input from our student Citizens members and now Head and Deputy Head girls, Hayat and Rasan.

We start our listening work with the student body in September, so watch this space!

The Equality Group have had some real successes this year; look at some of the things we have achieved:

- Meeting, organising and collaborating with the Alternative Curriculum group - this was a great bit of work by all involved which we thoroughly enjoyed.
- Assembly given on SEND issues to all year groups.
- 3 student members have done online training with Nottingham Citizens on social organisation.
- Y8 PSHE day workshop on 'finding your voice' run with Citizens members Sanaa, Rasan and Hayat.
- Hayat and Rasan leading on Living Wage campaign at Nottingham Forest FC.
- Equality Group relaunched for the anti-racism work.
- Represented the school at Djanogly Academy two weeks' ago for the Citizens' summer assembly.

All students are welcome in the Equality Group. We welcome anyone with ideas and a passion for change; so do come along!

PSHE Update Part 2

Head and Deputy Head girls represent Nottingham Girls Academy at the Citizens Assembly on 7 July

It was a pleasure to be part of this uplifting gathering looking back at the achievements of all the stakeholders over the last year in their various campaigns for social justice. Marley, Y8, Hayat, Head Girl, and Rasan, Deputy Head Girl, all received their certificates for the training they have undertaken. All have shown real leadership and a true willingness to change society for the better. They are an inspiration and we're very proud of them!



Other PSHE news

On 20 July we had a team in from Nottingham City Council to talk to the pupils about knife crime, anti-social behaviour and online safety ahead of breaking up for summer. All year groups had the talk preparing them for the long summer holidays, and making sure they are as prepared as possible to keep themselves safe.

Year 8 Literacy

By Mrs Cox, Literacy Coordinator

Year 8 literacy have been to The National Space Centre to learn all about space and our planet! We had astronaut training in the planetarium and then up the rocket tower to see the moon (or at least a tiny piece).



Sports Day

By Miss Henderson, Head of PE Faculty

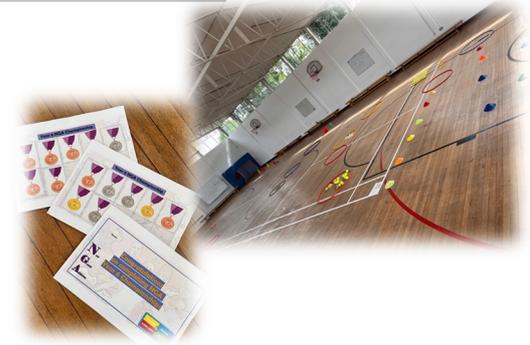
This year we held sports day on 15 July on our school field. We saw the first sports day post-pandemic and what a day it was! With amazing performances from all of the athletes, it truly was a delight to have the event back on our year plan. Field events in the morning saw some high scores and healthy competition, with all competitors celebrating each others' successes. The track events brought out the whole school to relish in the fantastic atmosphere, cheering, chanting and waving our flags, we enjoyed the 60m, 100m, 200m and relay races. Watson took the overall gold, with Obama following closely behind... Game on for next year. Thank you to all involved in the day and we can't wait for 2023 sports day already!



Year 6 Transition Day

By Ms Burke, Standards and Progress Lead - Year 11

Y9 sports leaders were ready to welcome our new Y7s for the NGA championship games! We hope you had a great two days here at NGA Y6; we can't wait to welcome you all back in September as our new Year 7s - see you then!



Year 9 Street Art



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