



Newsletter
March 2023

Nottingham Girls' Academy

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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?

Spring Term 2022/2023

Last day of Spring term—Friday 31 March

Easter holiday—Monday 3 April to Friday 14 April

Summer Term 2022/2023

Pupils return—Monday 17 April

Year 10 Work Experience—w/c 24 April

Year 8 Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud—Wednesday 26 April 4:30-7:00pm

May Day holiday—Monday 1 May

Dance Showcase—Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4 May—7:00pm

Bank holiday—Monday 9 May

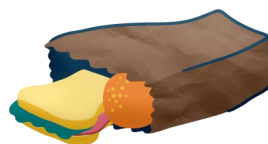
GCSE examinations commence—Tuesday 10 May

Last day of half term—Friday 26 May

Half term holiday—Monday 29 May to Friday 3 June

Free School Meal Vouchers for the Easter Holidays

The Nottingham City Council is providing funding for free school meal vouchers during the Spring Holiday period. Parents/carers of each eligible pupil will receive a £30 supermarket voucher for this period which will be sent electronically by Edenred.



Twitter/Facebook

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



Nowruz

By Miss Harvey, Teaching Assistant

What is Nowruz?

Nowruz (also called Novruz, Navruz, Nooruz, Nevruz, Nauryz depending upon country) is an UN-recognised New Year holiday that marks the Spring Equinox. It is celebrated by hundreds of millions of diverse communities around the world. Much like the spring holiday of other cultures, Nowruz is an eco-friendly holiday which champions unity, peace and solidarity between generations, growth, and renewal.



When is Nowruz?

In 2023, Nowruz, (Novruz, Navruz, Nooruz, Nevruz, Nauryz) took place on Sunday 20th March 2023.

Why do people celebrate Nowruz?

Nowruz is the first day of the first month, and features in the Iranian and Persian calendars, amongst many others.

It signals the start of spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

Nowruz has been celebrated by people of different faiths for over 3000 years



Kurdish flag



Iranian flag



Persian flag

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

Nowruz Part 2

By Miss Harvey, Teaching Assistant

How do people celebrate Nowruz?

For several weeks leading up to Nowruz, families get to work cleaning their homes from top to bottom.

Decluttering homes and getting rid of dirt means they are ready to start afresh in the new year.

A bonfire is lit the evening before the Persian New Year, and fireworks and firecrackers are set off.



It is traditional to sing the words, “my yellow is yours, your red is mine,” into the fire, to replace problems and illness with health and energy for the new year.

The evening before Nowruz begins, children knock on neighbours’ doors, noisily banging pans with spoons and neighbours then give them pastries, sweets or nuts.

On the thirteenth day, it is considered bad luck to stay inside, so families head out to the countryside, parks or cities to spend the day outdoors.

At NGA we will have several displays and posters around the school to highlight to pupils this festive celebration.





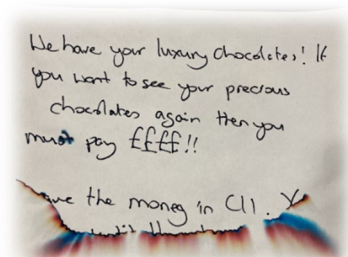
Forensic Science Week 7-9 February 2023

By Miss Mahmood, STEM Coordinator



Students had to solve a crime of who stole Miss Mahmood's stash of chocolates. Each day they had to pick up clues and reach to a conclusion.

Day 1: They revealed it wasn't Mrs Kotze because she did not use the same pen that was used on the ransom note. They carried out chromatography to test it out.



They also had spoken to a student from Nottingham Trent University who studied Forensic Science. They tried out the biohazard suit. The picture shows Ifza and Arouge.

Day 2: There was white powder at the scene which Mrs Tattershall and Mr Marshall had used that day, but they quickly ruled out Mrs Tattershall as the footprints was too big. They also found blood splatters at the scene that was wiped away. They used UV light to spot it.



Day 3: They ruled out Mr Stapleton as they found the fingerprints matched Mr Marshall's fingerprints. They used carbon powder to identify them.

Evidence

The Culprit was Mr Marshall. He didn't have to clear away his practical as Mrs Tattershall clears away all the teachers' practicals. He was carrying the same white powder as he used in his practical session. We noticed there was blood splatter on the desk. He happened to cut his finger and wore a plaster. His footprints matched one of the footprints found at the crime scene. That last piece of evidence was looking at the fingerprints on the Chocolate Stash beaker. Only Mr Marshall's and Miss Mahmood's fingerprints were found.

The Secret Science Show at Wollaton Hall Year 9

By Miss Mahmood, STEM Coordinator



A group of year 9 pupils went on a trip to the Natural History Museum at Wollaton Hall. The picture on the left shows Hadia, Akshara and Neisha. They met with various female scientists who shared their experiences and career pathways with them. The Scientists delivering the presentations included Dr Susie Lydon (Palaeobotanist), Foteini Patera (PhD student on Cancer Immunology and Pharmacology), Claire Smith (Botanist), Lucy Newman (who works for the Elephant Welfare Project) and Sandeep Sidhu (a veterinary surgeon).

They also had a tour of the Natural History Museums to see the different species, fossils and crystals.



The Symposium at the Nottingham City Council House - STEM Club

By Miss Mahmood, STEM Coordinator

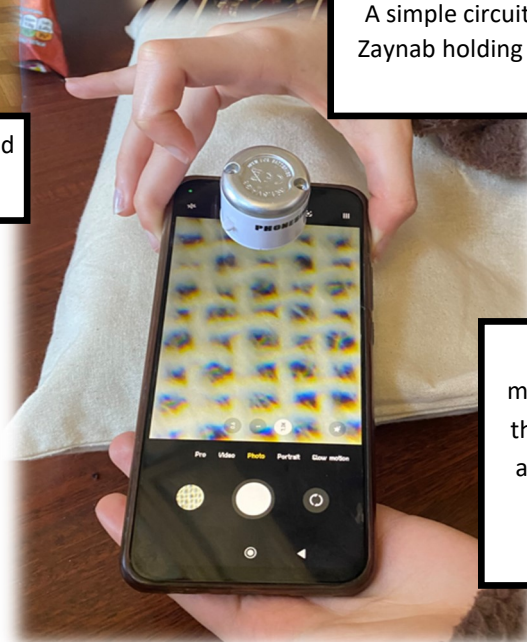
Pupils from years 7 – 9 presented their STEM projects to a range of different schools and the Lord Mayor at Nottingham City Council House. This event was to celebrate science and curiosity across Nottingham. The picture shows Hadia, Akshara, Safia, Millie, and Zahra. They presented their ideas on purification of water, plant growth and their importance in countries suffering from drought and they also spoke about crime scene identification.



The Lord Mayor with Hadia and Akshara



A simple circuit to make a vacuum pump. Zaynab holding a key ring made using a 3D printer.



They had looked at a mini-microscope that can be attached to the camera on a phone. They were able to see the individual fibres of their cloth.

University of Nottingham Racing Team

By Miss Mahmood, STEM Coordinator

Students from the STEM club took part in a challenge set by the University of Nottingham Racing Team. The aim was to make the fastest model of a solar panelled car.

The Racing Team brought their own student's model of a car that they made at the University. The main goal of using solar panelled cars is to try and reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Our students then built and designed their own solar panelled cars which they tested.

The Final Day – Students raced their solar panelled cars to see which one was the fastest. Notts TV media crew also came to film the event! The girls gained resilience, creativity and problem-solving skills.

NGA STEMINISTS!



Maya making a solar
panelled racing car!

Safia in a solar panelled
car

STEMINISTS in the photo below: Hadia, Akhshara, Sumeyya, Maya, Faatimah, Aleena, Maya,
Karzal, Safia, Millie, Seerat, Aizah, Tuleen and Zaynab

Red Nose Day

Last Friday to raise money for Red Nose Day we had a cake sale, guess the weight of the cake, guess the number of sweets in the jar, henna stations at break time and 'pie a teacher'! Thank you to all the pupils and staff who gave up their time, bought cakes or paid to watch 'pie a teacher'. Ms Burke also organised a Dodgeball tournament this week with students v staff



Music Exams Success

By Mrs Downie-Tosini, Teacher i/c Music

There are some 80 students from Year 7 through to Year 11 currently having weekly instrumental lessons in the NGA 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 our more experienced students have recently taken an exam in their instrument showing their technical ability and a performance of a number of pieces under examination conditions.

Those students are Year 11, Kristiyana who took her Grade 3 violin and Year 10, Ellie who took her Grade 4 cello exam. Both achieved the highest mark of Distinction which is an amazing achievement and a credit to their hard work. Many congratulations.



School Show - Matilda

By Iris, Year 12 Student

The School Show is one of the highlights of life at Nottingham Girls' Academy, and as rehearsals take place from September to December, it is truly one of the most exciting times of the academic year. The show allows your passion for drama, music, and or dance a platform to shine, whilst developing skills and confidence. The show takes on pupils from year 7 to Sixth Form. You create friendships in all year groups, and no matter what part you get, you will not be alone stepping out onto the stage, as a supportive cast and our talented backstage, lighting and sound team Atmosphere will be right there beside you.



How it usually works: two weeks into the September term, the show is announced in a big school show reveal at lunchtime in the hall. From there, if you're wishing to take part in the show, you will need to get into groups and rehearse a scene from the musical we will be doing, there will be different options to choose from depending on how many members you have within your group. Should you wish to audition for a main part instead of a chorus role, you will need to learn a section of the audition song chosen by our wonderful Mrs. Downie-Tosini. On the day of the audition, you will say your name and perform your drama scene in your groups, then you will move onto the dance audition. You will learn a section of choreography taught by our brilliant dance teachers and perform it in front of the performing arts team (they know it will not be perfect!). If you wish to have a chorus role, that is where the audition ends, however if you'd like a main part you will go to the dance studio and stay behind to sing. The cast list will follow in a couple of days. The show is a big commitment, you will be required to attend after-school rehearsals on Tuesday and Thursday, nearer to the time you will be required to attend on some weekends too. Our shows are always sell outs. To make our shows amazing it requires hard work, but it is one of the most fun and rewarding experiences I've ever took part in.



School Show - Matilda Part 2

By Iris, Year 12 Student

I have gone from a chorus role to a crazy lady with a big colourful wig, to the straight-laced Mr. Darling, to Shrek, and most recently to Miss Agatha Trunchbull. So, I can honestly tell you from experience that every role matters. My confidence from taking part in the school show and studying performing arts has strengthened more than I ever expected it would, as has my passion for it, which has developed into a desire to have a career in the arts because it's always made me the happiest. Of course, if your ambitions lay on a different route than performing arts then that's brilliant, but the show will help build confidence, give you experience working in a team, gain technical experience should you wish to become a member of Atmosphere, and altogether make memories that will last you for a very long time. The feeling of being part of an amazing, supportive, talented cast is one I look forward to every year. So, I hope that you all come along to auditions in September! What do you think it will be this year?



Y7 Indoor Athletic Shield Final

By Ms Burke, Standards and progress lead - Year 11

It was a very close intense final but our students did us proud, coming 2nd place in the indoor athletic shield final and only 5 points between 1st & 2nd. All participants worked incredibly hard and gave 100% effort into the event.

Well done girls, The P.E. Team is very proud!



Turkey and Syria Donations

We are super proud of NGA for all their contributions for Turkey and Syria after the tragedy of the earthquake. We raised £1000 pounds from the non-uniform day and donations of clothes, blankets, canned foods and baby products were stacking up ready to be collected.



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