

# Nottingham Girls' Academy

Newsletter  
October 2018

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**Rated the best performing  
school in Nottingham for  
Progress 8.**

Progress 8

**0.49**

**Top 7%  
of  
secondary  
schools  
nationally**



**Strive. Improve. Enjoy.**



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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?*

**Autumn Term 2018-19**

Last day of Half Term: Friday 26 October

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

Half Term: Monday 29 October – Friday 2 November

Staff INSET Day: Monday 5 November

**Pupils return on Tuesday 6 November**

Y11 mock examinations: weeks commencing 12 and 19 November

School Show: 11 to 14 December

Sixth Form Study Day: Monday 17 December

Y11 and Y13 Parents' evening: Wednesday 19 December between 3:30-6:30pm

**Last Day of Term: Friday 21 December**

*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 **1.10pm**

## Biology Week

*By Miss Green, Second in Science*

This October we have celebrated our first National Biology week which involved a variety of exciting lunchtime activities including dissections, testing your senses, edible bugs and a bio health check. The students have also experienced one-off lessons in science and other subjects such as art, history, maths and catering, all promoting the wonderful world of biology.

**Biology**  
**Week 2018**





## Erasmus

*By Miss Moreno, Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages*

Over the summer, the Nottingham Girls' Academy was awarded Erasmus funding to run a project in partnership with a school in Spain. Selected students will be working on a project called "Destruyendo Muros, Levantando Puentes" (Breaking Walls, Building Bridges) which aims at developing the students' Spanish language while raising awareness in the school community about tolerance and respect towards other cultures and nations. The most exciting part for our lucky participants is spending the week abroad in the partner Spanish high school.



## Mary Poppins

*By Miss Hawley, Director of Performing Arts*

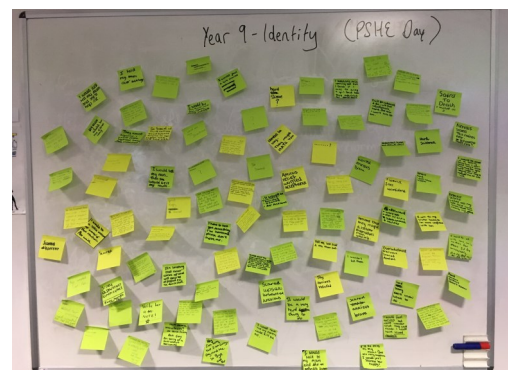
NGA will be proudly presenting the exciting musical, Mary Poppins, as this year's production. The performance dates are 11, 12, 13 and 14 December 2018 at 7pm. The girls are working extremely hard in rehearsals after school, at weekends and during half term to produce a fantastic show. Tickets will be available to buy from the beginning of December and are £4.00 (£3.00 for concessions). We hope to see you there!



## Year 9 PHSE Day

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

Year 9 took part in workshops about planning future careers, self-awareness, consent, identity and positive mental health. The students were very engaged and there were some meaningful discussions. One student said the self-acceptance workshop helped her to 'feel more confident about who I really am'. Another student said that the identity workshop 'helped give her a better understanding of individuality'. In the afternoon they watched a drama presentation from Pintsize around the issue of teenage pregnancy and how it can impact a person's life which one student said was 'informative and entertaining'.



## Young Carers

*By Mrs Cast, Student Support Leader*

On 12 October, we started a lunch group for young carers.

A young carer is someone under 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol.

The group is open to all young carers from Year 7 – 13. The staff involved are Miss Malpass, Miss Harper, Mrs Saunders, Miss Sherriff, Mrs Cox and Mrs Cast. The group will meet in the Drama Room on Friday lunchtimes and we will be doing some fun activities.



## Open Evening - Monday 24 September

*By Mrs Turner-Ramadan, Assistant Principal*

In preparation for the transfer of Year 6 pupils to secondary school in September 2019, an Open Evening was held on Monday 24 September. This was followed by Open Mornings on 9 and 10 October where parents and their daughters were invited to tour the school during the school day. The deadline for on-time applications for a place in Year 7 for September 2019 is **Wednesday 31 October 2018** via: [www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/schooladmissions)



## Year 13 IntoUniversity Trip

*By Miss Short, Head of Sixth Form*

As part of careers support, Year 13 visited the University of Nottingham to explore option choices, understanding financial support and challenges that can be faced if moving away from home. As part of the visit, students were involved in a tour of the campus as well as engaging in a shopping and budgeting task, with some very ambitious shopping lists!

As a reminder, our school UCAS deadline is Friday 14 December. Students have been receiving one-to-one support from their tutors and IntoUniversity staff for their applications.

Further careers support for apprenticeships and employment advice can be gained through Mrs Saunders and appointments with our Futures Advisor.

We wish the girls all the best with their applications.



*We strive to fulfill everyone's learning potential.*

## Year 11

*By Mason, Cassiebelle and Hannan, Year 11*

Prior to beginning Year 11 I felt really nervous about it; mostly I wanted to ensure that I maintained being organised and balanced doing fun things like the school show with revision and work - which sadly isn't as much fun. It was exciting to start my final year here but it feels surreal because I feel kind of old and I'm only just realising now how fast the past 4 years have gone by. Having to look at sixth forms and knowing my GCSEs are right around the corner feels strange because I remember year 7 as if it was yesterday. Head Girl is also a daunting title to carry but I intend to do the best job I can to help make school a better place for everyone. I'm hopeful that this year will go as planned and I'm certain I'll have various memorable moments throughout. **Mason (Head Girl)**

Before beginning Year 11, I was trying to uphold this expectation that this would be the most studious year of my life so far; completely dedicating myself to work and revision. I soon realised the importance of balancing school and home life. It is exciting to start my final year and to begin finding out what I want to do with the rest of my life. Being Deputy Head Girl has been hard also; when I started in year 7 as a shy child, I would never have expected myself to present in front of everyone and take on so many responsibilities. While it is scary to have all these responsibilities, I want to do the best possible job to help my future as well as yours. **Hannan (Deputy Head Girl)**

Before starting my last year of school I don't think I'd quite understood and digested how close the end of my secondary school experience was but, thanks to my supportive teachers, I now feel prepared to take on exams. School is such a comforting and friendly environment, it's easy to forget the various tests quickly approaching. Though I'm determined to balance revising, extra-curricular activities (such as G13) and my social life all equally, I am positive that NGA is the most perfect place to do this. **Cassiebelle (Deputy Head Girl)**

Since returning in September, Mason, Cassiebelle and Hannan have done a superb job. They are leading a group of Year 11 prefects and taking their roles very seriously. They have helped feedback to the Student Council, ensuring new students are settling in and managing to balance their studies with extra-curricular activities. Well done girls, keep it up!

*By Miss Gascoyne, Head of Year 11*



## News from the Greenwood Academies Trust

### **Greenwood Academies Trust Free School Application to open a new Primary Free School in Nottingham**

In support of the Regeneration Project and new housing developments in the Trent Basin, Waterside area of Nottingham, Greenwood Academies Trust are considering submitting an application to the Department for Education to propose the opening of a new Primary Academy as part of the Free School application process. This would be a 420 place Primary Academy with a 60 place Nursery which we would plan to open in September 2021. The Trust has support from Nottingham City Council to open a new Primary Academy to meet the future need for school places in this area. If this proposal is approved, the Trust will work with the Local Authority to identify a suitable site for the new Academy. The Trust have submitted an expression of interest and have commenced engagement with the local community and other education providers in the area. This is ahead of the full application, subject to approval of the Trust Board, which will be submitted by 5 November. The Trust are pleased that we are in a position to consider adding more schools to our primary portfolio; this is also a reflection of the improvements they continue to make in outcomes in progress and attainment at all levels within the Trust.

For further information visit the Trust's website and click on news

[www.greenwoodacademies.org](http://www.greenwoodacademies.org)





*We enjoy the  
journey together.*

## Plastic and the Environment

*By Mrs Brierley, Finance and Business Manager*

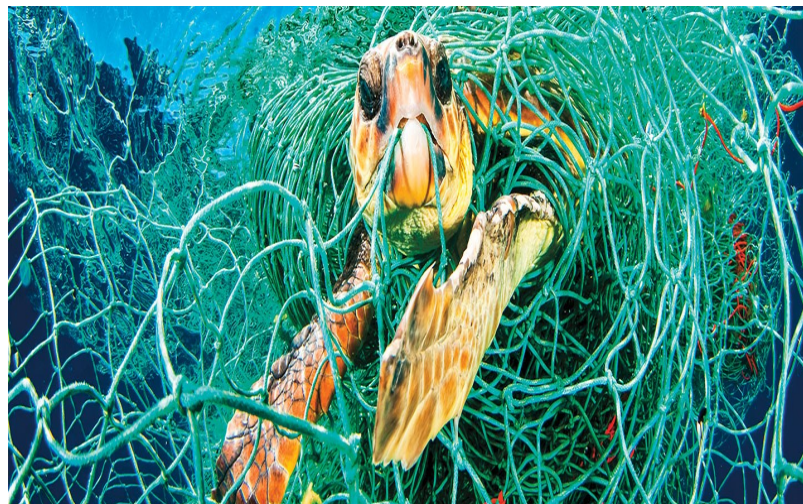
We're sure that over the last few months you've seen and heard about the damage that single use plastic is doing to our planet. Here at the Nottingham Girls' Academy staff and students are committed to reducing the amount of plastic we use. As part of this initiative there are several actions we have taken:

- Assemblies to all year groups on the issue of plastic pollution.
- Student Eco Ambassadors are being appointed from each year group and will be leading the way with ideas and actions.
- Replacing plastic sandwich containers with compostable ones which can be added to our Academy compost heap along with peelings from the kitchen.
- We've installed bottle filling water fountains in our outdoor areas so that students can refill their own bottles quickly and easily. We also have several indoor water fountains already installed.
- New clearly marked plastic bottle recycling bins are available.

Our biggest challenge is single use plastic water bottles. Each day we get through hundreds of these as we sell them at breaktimes and also offer them free as part of a meal deal.

As part of our commitment to reducing plastic waste, we have decided that from **Tuesday 6 November** we will no longer sell drinks in plastic bottles. As an alternative, we will provide jugs of water on lunch tables; we also have water fountains inside and outside the building. Please remind your daughter that after half term it would be a good idea to bring in a re-usable (ideally non-plastic) drinks container that they can fill throughout the day. Many supermarkets now sell steel flasks at around £5 or less. We also plan to have a small number of flasks for sale in the Academy.

We hope that you can support us in our quest to reduce plastic waste and become a more environmentally friendly Academy. Please see our website for more information, useful tips and advice on how you too can make a difference and protect our planet!





NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' ACADEMY



**2018 - 2019**  
**Celebrations**



At NGA we will be celebrating Black History Month  
on 15 October with assemblies  
including a quiz and prizes!



**February 2019**

NGA will be holding a special event to celebrate the diverse cultures in our school with a huge party which will include Indian, African, Asian and many more!

We will be advertising this after Christmas - please keep a look out for the posters and ticket announcements.


DJs, special guests, performances and dates to be confirmed in the New Year


We would love to see you there!

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