

FRIDAY NEWS!

Newlands Girls' School, Farm Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 5JB



Friday 10th December 2021
Term 2 - No. 6

Acting Co-Headteachers' Message



This week has been a very unusual one. We did not think that the school would need to close for non-covid related reasons which was both a shock and a disappointment, but we have been delighted with the way in which everyone quickly rose to the challenge of remote learning once again. Despite being at home, pupils enjoyed assemblies on 'The Road to Christmas' and today, we had an array of jumpers!

We have included a few photos (including the Leadership Team above) for you to enjoy. As well as a variety of inventive and colourful cards, there was a brilliant display in the library of Advent calendars which have been created by our artistic students.

I hope you have now had the chance to read our letter about the additional changes to next week. A copy is on the website if you have not seen it. A reminder that although 'virtual' from Wednesday, lessons will take place up until Friday period three, when pupils will enjoy a final remote assembly.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our survey. There was an excellent response and we were delighted with the praise and gratitude from so many of you about the school. There were some areas of development for us to reflect on too, which we are keen to do, and will communicate more next term about how we intend to address some of the similar strands that have arisen from the feedback.

Next week we will send out a follow up letter detailing the logistics and the timings of the testing programme at the beginning on January. If you did not see the original letter, then here is a [link](#) to it on the website.

We do hope your homes are beginning to look festive too, and for those families who do not celebrate Christmas, that you are looking forward to a break with your loved ones soon.

Miss J. Capon and Mr M. Henshaw
Acting Co-Headteachers

Christmas Jumper Day!



Ashleigh Brown (8A)



Lily Peake (9E)



Mr Kerrigan



Eva Mottershaw (9A)



Teal!



Mr Wood

Art News



Artists of the Month

We have some fantastic artists at Newlands and this month we have been particularly impressed by the following students:

Year 7 Abi Boreham - for being so inquisitive and committed throughout the term to developing her sketchbook studies.

Year 8 Dara Oladoyinbo - for showing promising progress in Art, where she is utilising her skills in observation to draw accurate facial features for her portraiture project.

Year 9: Sophie Fismistr - for showing a great ability to apply a range of watercolour techniques this term.

Year 10: Alexie Nelson – She has been working hard on catching up with her work and has been consistently showing up to do extra work after school. She has really been putting in the extra effort needed to succeed in Art.

Year 11: Lizzie Berry – Lizzie has demonstrated an excellent attitude and dedication to Art. She challenges herself to try new materials and to work on larger scales in her outcomes. She is a positive influence in the classroom, encouraging and helping her peers.

Sixth Form: Jess Hallam – She goes above and beyond in her photography. She shows great enthusiasm for the subject.

Student Focus Centre

Music and Mental Wellbeing

It has been proven that listening to music releases dopamine, the feel-good chemical in your brain. Dopamine levels can be up to 9% higher when listening to music that you enjoy. There is strong evidence to suggest a positive link between music and mental wellbeing - it really can improve your mood or relieve feelings of depression.



Dance, sing or move to music: these activities not only provide physical exercise, but they can also alleviate stress and build social connections.

Listening to music that you know and like tends to cause the strongest brain response and dopamine release, but you should also try listening to new music too. Unfamiliar melodies can stimulate your brain and provide a new source of pleasure as you get used to hearing them.

Make music yourself: you could try singing or playing an instrument. Learning to play a musical instrument can also help boost your self-esteem and give you a sense of achievement, while enhancing brain activity. Singing may be the simplest way to get started and who doesn't love to sing? Why not give it a try – even if no one is listening!

Maths Stars of the Week

The stars of the week for Maths are:



KS3 - Lexie Hayes (Y7) - Lexie works really hard in every lesson, is always eager to participate and has a great attitude towards her Maths. Well done, Lexie!

KS4 - Mia Gamblen (Y11) – She has an excellent work ethic in lessons. She contributes lots of answers and works hard to improve her knowledge.

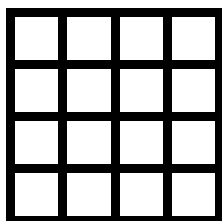
Maths Puzzle
(Answer in next week's Friday News)

Can you arrange these numbers to form a sum that totals 1000?

8, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8

Answer from last week

In this diagram of squares how many squares are there in total?



Answer - 30