

# FRIDAY NEWS!

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



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Term 1 - No. 2

## Acting Co-Headteachers' Message

This week has seen the return of some of our hugely missed traditions. Pupils enjoyed assemblies, squad try outs, after school clubs and a full return to use of the canteen. It is lovely to see the site busy and active once more.

We have begun to share our theme for the year with our students as we meet them in assembly, and discussed **'The 3Cs'**- confidence, community and compassion. These strands will underpin the way in which we approach the school year and we look forward to seeing how pupils rise to the challenge of considering how we might help our wider community beyond Newlands. All ideas are welcome.



**'The 3Cs'**

You will have heard that the decision to offer the COVID-19 vaccination to younger age groups has now been confirmed and we await information from Public Health England as to how this will be rolled out in schools. As soon as we know more, we will write to all parents and carers. In the meantime, please continue to use the LFD kits to test twice weekly and discuss the importance of practising good hygiene routines both in and out of school to help protect everybody.

Finally, have a lovely, restful weekend.

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

## Musical Opportunities

Last week, Year 7 students were invited to the Berkshire Maestros instrument taster sessions. This was a fantastic opportunity for our newest pupils to see - and try out - all the different instruments they can learn to play during their time at Newlands. This included piano, woodwind, brass, strings, guitars and the drum kit. Practical music-making is at the heart of the Music Department at Newlands and we look forward to hearing many performances over the next year!



For those wishing to further their musical experiences, we also offer an extensive programme of extra-curricular music clubs available to all pupils free of charge. Our wide variety of ensembles run every lunchtime and after school, including choirs, bands, clubs and smaller groups, which flourish here and are often led by senior students.

In order to sign-up for instrumental lessons and for more information, please visit [www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk](http://www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk). There are limited places available on some instruments and at the moment, more students are signing up than ever before!

## Welcome to the New Year 12s!

After a challenging 18 months, we are delighted to welcome our new Year 12 students into the Sixth Form. We are very impressed with the positive attitude they have all shown over the past week, and the maturity with which they have settled into the school routine.



*"Starting Sixth Form has been a really great experience. It has allowed me to have more independence whilst studying the subjects I enjoy learning about."* **Mia Bui (12C)**

*"Going into Sixth Form I knew the workload would increase but at Newlands they have given us a smooth introduction to the work and helped us adapt to the changes. I am really enjoying the subjects I'm doing and I look forward to the rest of my time in Sixth Form."* **Hannah Smith (12D)**

*"I have enjoyed Newlands so far due to the way the staff and students here made me feel welcome. Also, there are amazing facilities here such as the common room. In addition, the teaching has so far been good across the subjects."* **Abisha Thilainathan (12G)**

*"The transition between Year 11 and 12 has been smooth and easy, despite the Covid-19 pandemic. All my teachers were helpful and were willing to adjust the workload to minimise stress and pressure, while we settle into Sixth Form."* **Megan Edwards (12D)**

**Gemma Walton, Head of Sixth Form/Assistant Headteacher**

## Travelling on school transport



Please can we remind students that it is school policy for masks to be worn whenever they travel on a school mini bus. We will not be able to transport students to their destination, if they do not wear a mask, unless they have a medical reason not to.

## Science

We are very excited to welcome all students back into our Science labs to participate in practical work and experiments. For hygiene reasons, all students should bring their own pair of safety glasses or goggles to all their lessons. These can be purchased from our uniform providers or are widely available online.

To prevent damage or scratching to goggles in their bags, we recommend that students keep their safety glasses in a case, or even an odd sock!

We look forward to sharing more about our experiments in the coming months.



**Mr Wood (Head of Science) and the Science Department**

## Library News



The Library is now open to all students every day! We are delighted to see so many pupils coming in to look for new books. To meet this demand, please could we kindly ask that students check at home for any books that they borrowed before the holidays so that these can be returned to the Library as soon as possible.

We would love to receive any donations of good quality, second-hand books for children and young adults. If you have any film DVDs or board games you would also like to

give to the school, we would be very grateful. Students can bring donations to the Library or they can be left at Reception.

## Save The Date!

### Quiz Night

**15th October at 7pm for a 7.30pm start**  
**Teams of 6**  
**School Hall**

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021, the Newlands Parents' Association (NPA) are hosting a quiz in the Hall. We encourage you to put together a team and look forward to a fantastic evening! Refreshments will also be served.

More details will be coming soon!



## Student Focus Centre

### **Organisation and Wellbeing**

There are many benefits to being organised. As well as reducing stress, when you are prepared, your mind feels free, decluttered and able to stay focused. Most importantly, it gives you back time to do the things you *really* want to do!

Being organised also improves your wellbeing, increasing energy and feeling at peace. It boosts self-confidence and helps you to build a positive mindset.

#### Top tips to get organised and stay organised!

1. Write down all your homework, noting the due date.
2. Try and complete homework when it is set, rather than waiting until just before it is due in.
3. Pack your school bag the night before.
4. Ensure you have all the correct equipment and stationery for your lessons.
5. Arrive at school on time and move between lessons quickly, so you are not late.



# Duck Derby and Family Fun Day

**YOU'D BE QUACKERS  
NOT TO COME!**

Lions Train rides, Bouncy Castle,  
Gift Stalls, Children's Entertainers  
& Duck Race at 4.00 pm

All proceeds to Local  
Good Causes.  
Lions Club of Maidenhead CIO,  
Registered Charity no 1193483



## **DUCK DERBY & FAMILY FUN DAY**

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1-4.30 pm  
Ray Mill Island, Maidenhead

**Free Admission**

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