

Friday 26th February 2021
Term 4 - No. 1

Headteacher's Message

I hope that all our families enjoyed a pleasant half-term break.

By now, all parents should be in receipt of two important letters. The first was sent yesterday and described the arrangements for the in-school Covid-19 testing. It included a consent form, which many parents have already completed and returned. Thank you for the super-quick turnaround! A big thank you also goes to the large number of parents who have volunteered to help with the administration of the testing. Without you, we would be struggling to administer tests to our large school community of 1200 pupils and 144 adults! The second letter was sent out this morning and outlines the plans for bringing back all pupils after the re-opening of schools on Monday 8th March 2021.

If you have any questions regarding the Covid-19 testing or the arrangements for the return of all pupils – please do not hesitate to telephone us on 01628 625068.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

Dr L.V. Ceska

History visitor!

The quick glare and frantic whispering at intruding parents, siblings, and pets has become an accepted part of online learning for many of us. On a Monday before Half Term, though, the reactions of various members of my household to being told that they were interrupting a meeting with the former Prime Minister were particularly spectacular!

Students studying A-Level history had the chance to listen to Lady May as she spoke about her career in politics, from her first 'mind blanks' in school assemblies, all the way through to becoming the first and only woman to have held two of the Great Offices of State. I learnt so much about modern slavery and sexism in politics, about the political response to the situation in Myanmar, local issues in Maidenhead and even about the infamous handholding with Donald Trump! Not only was it a fascinating insight into a highly successful political career, but I also loved having the chance to ask about more personal issues such as Lady May's thoughts regarding the media's focus on her fashion, the possibility of a work-life balance in the context of such a demanding role and even the historical figure she would most like to meet (Queen Elizabeth 1st).



Ultimately, it was incredibly inspiring to see where passion, hard work and determination can lead, and a great reminder of the importance of making our voices heard through voting.

Lucy Miller (Y12)

Careers

Following last week's student feedback on careers with the South-Central Ambulance Service, we continue our event reviews with an evaluation of "Law in Action" by Maddy Griffin, Year 12.



On Wednesday 4th February, I took part in a very beneficial virtual talk given by three lawyers, each who specialise in a different area. All were female and they spoke about human rights, civil rights and financial law. The professionals explained their career pathways and what 'a day in the life' might look like. I found this very useful as I have wanted to go into law for a long time, and this virtual talk allowed me to clarify which sector will suit me best.

Everyone could ask questions which were answered throughout. I would recommend events like this to anybody, whether you are certain about what you want to do in the future or still unsure, as any guidance is very helpful. During these tricky times, when we are limited in terms of what is on offer (such as university tours or live lectures from professionals) opportunities such as this are hugely informative.

Maddy Griffin (Y12)

If your daughter has any questions with regards to careers, please ask her to email NataliaJandrell@Newlandsgirls.co.uk

Student Focus Centre

Self-Injury Awareness Day – 1st March 2021

Self-Injury (or harm) Awareness Day is marked internationally on March 1st. Raising awareness about self-harm is extremely important to both educate and support individuals. There is plenty of help should you need to access it:

- Young Minds - <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/feelings-and-symptoms/self-harm/>
- Mind - <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/self-harm/about-self-harm/>
- Self-Injury Support - <https://www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk/>



You can also contact your daughter's Head of Year or the SFC Wellbeing@NewlandsGirls.co.uk for information and guidance.

Maths Stars of the Week



The Stars of the week for Maths are:

KS3 - Annabel Rozier (Y7) - Annabel is always punctual for lessons, participates, asks questions, is the first to complete her homework and aims for high marks! She contacts her Maths teacher when she has any questions to make sure she has a strong understanding of what she is doing. She also takes responsibility for her learning and is proactive about completing all her work with quality and ahead of time.

KS4 - Megan Daniels (Y10) - She consistently works very hard and asks for help when she is unsure.

Maths riddle: what has 4 legs but only 1 foot?
(Answer in next week's Friday News)

Answer to the riddle from last week: there is a mix of blue, yellow, and red balls in a box. The total number of balls is 60. There are 4x as many yellow balls as there are red balls and 6 more blue balls than red balls. How many balls of each colour ball are there?

$$\text{Red} = x$$

$$\text{Yellow} = 4x$$

$$\text{Blue} = x + 6$$

$$60 = x + 4x + x + 6$$

$$60 = 6x + 6$$

$$60 - 6 = 6x$$

$$54 = 6x$$

$$54 / 6 = x$$

$$9 = x$$

$$\text{Red} = 9$$

$$\text{Yellow} = 9 \times 4 = 36$$

Parent Support

Snap Inc.

Snapchat's Parent Guide

Currently, there is much more reliance on social media apps to keep in touch with other people. Many teens use the app *Snapchat*. This was originally created to help friends connect when they are apart and to feel comfortable expressing themselves with their camera. However, all social media has pitfalls if not carefully accessed.

Snapchat's new Parent Guide is available through their Safety Centre and Support Site, which can be found here: <https://www.snap.com/en-GB/safety/safety-education>