

FRIDAY NEWS!

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



Friday 19th November 2021
Term 2 - No. 3

Acting Co-Headteachers' Message



This week has been another busy one as Y13 completed their mock exams and Y11 returned after their period of study leave. To that end, we would like to congratulate both year groups on the exemplary way in which they conducted themselves during this period. Their maturity, focus and work ethic has been exemplary and the way in which they went into the examination hall was impeccable. Well done Year 11 and Year 13.

The next batch of test kits has arrived in school and we continue to encourage all students to test twice weekly thus helping prevent the spread of COVID-19 amongst the school community. We remain mindful of the need to keep up with our routines and safety measures. As you will recall, schools have been asked to implement the wearing of face coverings in communal areas until the end of this term.

We would be really grateful if parents could assist us in checking that students have a face covering before coming to school. We have issued many disposable masks and our stocks are running rather low! Reusable face coverings are also much more environmentally friendly.

Finally, a big thank you to the NPA who regularly give up their time to support Newlands. They ran another bags2school event last weekend and raised important additional funds to support our pupils.

Have a wonderful weekend.

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

Year 10 Chess Club

Chess has many benefits, including the ability to improve your memory, planning, and problem-solving skills. On a Wednesday lunchtime, Year 10 students are invited to visit the Library and play chess, assisted by Mr Casey-Woodward.

If you have never played and would like to learn, or are keen to try out your skills, please come and join us. We look forward to welcoming new members!



Careers

Work experience is an integral part of careers education and as a result of the pandemic, there are now more virtual opportunities available to young people than ever before! Whilst they are not entirely 'the real deal', they provide students with the opportunity to sample a range of careers from the comfort of their own home.



At Newlands, we encourage students to take advantage of these opportunities and regularly promote upcoming events. Many of these are provided by [Springpod](http://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/search) (www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/search) and [Speakers for Schools](http://www.s4snextgen.org) (www.s4snextgen.org). We recommend students check these websites periodically for new opportunities.

Over half term, several students have participated in virtual work experiences with companies and organisations, such as Santander, Thames Water, The NHS, Barclays and many more.

Anjali in Year 10 reported *"I found [it] very beneficial [...]. Although it was on zoom, the hosts still got us to do some interactive work in small groups. This included research for certain job fields of Santander and researching job expectations, rules, and regulations."*

Amelie in Year 11 felt it furthered her interest as she *"enjoyed discussing [...] the ways we could improve water systems and purification to avoid waste and shortages and ensure the future of our planet."* She continued, *"Not only did I learn about the various careers in Thames Water but it also helped me to talk confidentially to a crowd of strangers after carefully planning my points."*

This was echoed by Zaakirah in Year 11, who confirmed that *"the experience [...] allowed me to build my confidence with interacting with the other team members"*. She also appreciated the fact that *"in a short period of time it allowed me to learn and develop skills that not only employers are looking for, but skills that will help me in the outside world such as working in a team and communicating with others."*

Isma in Year 10 advises students *"to join [virtual work experience opportunities] as it will improve your CV and also develop your ability to work with different people and expand your vocabulary."*

Look out for future opportunities and careers information emails from Mrs Jandrell.

7C Remembrance Poems

In form time last week 7C, spent time writing Remembrance Poems. They put a lot of time and thought into them and we are very impressed with what they have produced. Here is a small selection of their work. Well done 7C!!!

Miss L. Third and Mr H. Casey-Woodward

Peace and Poppies - By Faith Hawksby (7C)

This goes out to all the heroes,
The ones who may have passed,
The animals who gave their lives,
And most importantly,
The brave men who defended their country.

It may have been 100 years ago,
But yet here we stand in silence,
Paying respect for those heroes.

Wearing our brightly colour poppies,
Which grew where the very war took place,
With a remembrance meaning behind them,
We will never forget,
It will always have a place in our hearts.

Remember Then - By Scarlett Smith (7C)

The poppies grew in Flander's Fields,
When the ceasefire was declared.
Some lived to see this moment,
Brother's lives weren't spared.

Men breathed sighs of relief,
And the rest of the world stood still.
So many men were sent to fight,
But none of them at will.

So now we stand silent,
For those that had fought,
For those that protect us now,
To thank them through thought.

The Tragic Remaining - By Myra Raza (7C)

The death count increasing by the second,
Soldiers dying without their last goodbyes.
The smell of blood filling the air,
Poppies spreading everywhere.
Coffins getting full,
Mothers crying their hearts out.
All of this just in a short period of time,
Bodies being buried.
Now a two-minute silence to remember those who are no longer with us,
Lives gone just for a war,
Be grateful because tomorrow isn't promised.



Student Focus Centre

Exercise is good for the mind!



Most of us are aware of the benefits of exercise on mental health. Even walking or cycling to and from school counts as part of your daily exercise. Physical activity boosts self-esteem, especially when new personal skills are acquired. Activities such as yoga, pilates and walking all provide opportunities to develop mindfulness and can help reduce stress.

Staying off your phone, being mindful, and paying attention to your surroundings will not only benefit your mental health, but will keep you safe on the roads too.

Maths Stars of the Week



The stars of the week for Maths are:

KS3 - Ikman Sandhu (Yr 7) – She showed excellent effort in completing all set MyMaths tasks, while showing perseverance in wanting to get 100% each time.

KS4 - Kavya Mhalsekar (Yr 10) - Kavya did exceptionally well in the last test and she always completes all the work set.

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

An entire village of 120 turned up for a local concert and paid £120 in total. The ticket prices were:

£5	for men
£2	for women
10p	for children

How many men, women and children attended the concert?

Answer from previous week

Using just 2 straight lines, can you divide the diagram into three parts? Each section must contain two numbers that can be multiplied together to equal the same total as those in any other part.

