

Newlands News - Term 1 - Issue 3



A Message
FROM THE HEAD



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and brilliant week at school. A real highlight was our Quad Kids event, where our Year 9 leaders did a fantastic job supporting the whole of Year 7 in their first House event of the year. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, teamwork and encouragement (especially during the 800m) and the girls are showing their competitive spirit already!

Our many clubs are now well underway, adding even more energy to school life. I have also had the pleasure of taking groups of prospective families around the school this week and have been incredibly proud to show them the brilliant learning taking place in classrooms every day. Every parent has commented on the behaviour and engagement of our students and they are right to do so. Well done girls!

Another highlight was our wonderful Languages Assembly, with over 20 students taking part and celebrating the breadth of languages, cultures and experiences within our school community. I am always impressed by the confidence and diversity on stage.

A vibrant week that has once again showcased the enthusiasm, talent and kindness of our students. Have a wonderful weekend and please remember that we finish at 12.30pm on Tuesday, ready for Open Evening!

Miss Capon, Headteacher

*Ice
Lolly*

with the Head

**Awarded to students and staff for demonstrating our core values of
Courage, Commitment and Compassion**



A Celebration of Languages



This week in assembly, in honour of European Day of Languages on Saturday 26th September, we celebrated the languages spoken by students and staff at Newlands, as well as the

benefits of learning languages. Students introduced themselves in their mother tongue and gave a fact about where they came from, ranging from how much money was thrown daily into the Trevi Fountain in Rome, to where the name of the Punjab state in India came from. A big well done to all our speakers and the Language prefects for presenting a thought provoking and interesting assembly!



School Police Link



Last week, PC Taylor, our Schools Officer from Thames Valley Police, came in to school to introduce himself to students in Years 7 and 8 and to remind them of the importance of speaking to parents and carers about any concerns they have when online. PC Taylor will be familiar to some of our community already, as he has worked with the 'Mini Police' in local primary schools for the past few years.

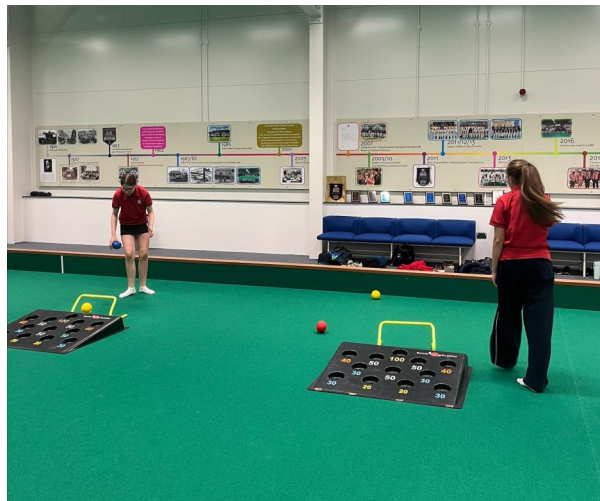
PC Taylor will be coming back in to school again in the future, when he will be available for students to ask questions and gain advice at a break or lunchtime. We also plan to involve PC Taylor with the delivery of our Personal Development curriculum: he will run education workshops with some of our students later in the academic year.

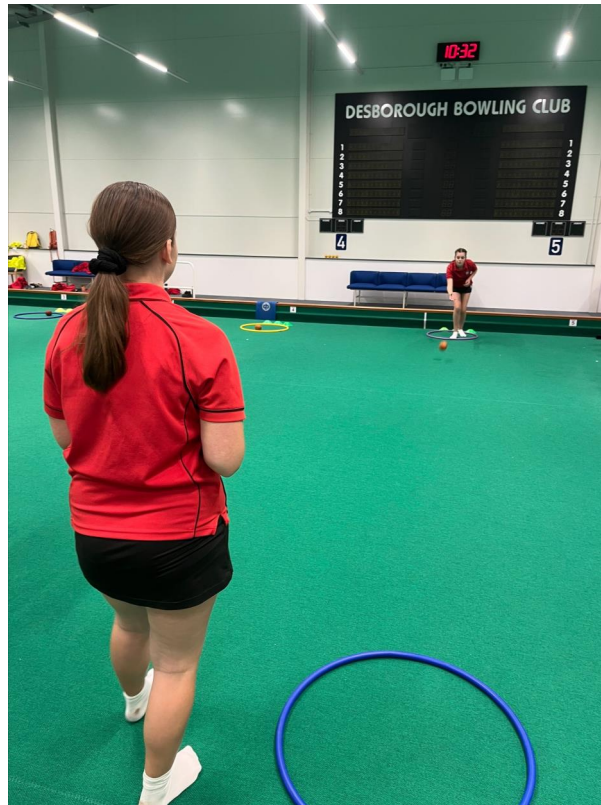
Should you wish to contact PC Taylor for advice or guidance, please email the safeguarding team on the school email address and we will forward this on to him.

We look forward to seeing PC Taylor again soon.

Suzanne Nuttycombe, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Bowls Festival





On Tuesday, 16 of our Year 9 Sports Leaders visited the Desborough Bowls Club in Maidenhead to help run a primary school Bowls Festival. The event was fantastic and successfully encouraged younger students to try out the sport.

Our Year 9 leaders did a wonderful job organizing and running various activity stations for children in Years 3–6 from primary schools across Maidenhead. It was an incredibly rewarding day for everyone involved, and our students demonstrated outstanding leadership and teamwork skills.

Choirs Announced

Competition was fierce this year for a place in our Junior and Senior Performing Arts Choirs. After over 100 auditions, we are pleased to announce our new members. Congratulations to all the successful students listed below:



Junior
Performing Arts Choir

Ceece Forster 7C	Merry Kennedy 8E
Monique Knibbs 7F	Alice Dunton 9C
Lucia King 7B	Olivia Hadaway 9A
Ruby C 9E	Sofia Skinner 7A
Eimear O'Hanlon	Grace Tobin 7A
Erin Wingfield 8C	Maisie Waters 7C
Erin McLaughlin 9D	Marnie O'connell 7D
Elsie Grace 9B	Zoe Doyle 7D
Eliana Rada 9F	Florence Lee 7E
Holly 9F	Pollyanna Reeves 7C
Matilda Osborne 9F	Emily Strain 8
Darcy Fowler 8D	Aurelie Shima 7F
Phoebe Paveley 8E	Zoe Seenevassen 7C

Senior Performing Arts Choir

Amelie Morley 11F

Imogen Stacey 12F

Evie Porter 11F

Sophie De La Bertauche 12E

Elsie Rose Taylor 11D

Alicia Clarke 11E

Michaela Kommu 10F

Imogen McCarroll 10E

Flossie Harry 10E

Eliza George 10E

Elsa Differ 10A

Abi Todd 10F

Zoe Barnes 10D

Lyla Blackburn 10A

Sophie Richards 10A

Lilly Barbe-Da Silva 10A

Aisha Malhotra 10A

Ayla Sogut 11E

Cecily Kewell 10C

Pollyann Stock-Hoy 11D

Georgia Stacey 10B

Elena Clark 11A

Meghan James 10A

Georgia Paveley 11C

Olivia Randall 10C

Flo Stroud 10A

Izzy Duell 10C



MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS

MFL Trip Now Available to Book



Strasbourg and Freiburg Trip 2026

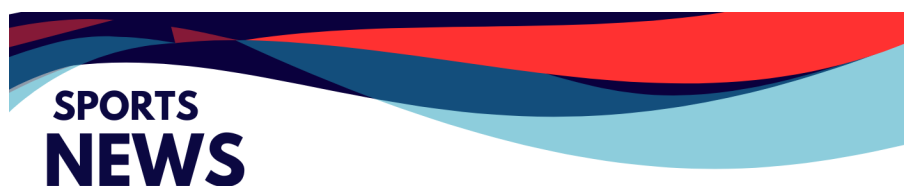
Calling students in Years 8 and 9, French and German students in Year 10 and A-Level linguists!

The MFL department are pleased to launch the MFL Trip to Strasbourg and Freiburg in July 2027. The trip takes in the French city of Strasbourg and the German towns of Freiburg and Triberg im Schwarzwald, as well as a visit to the Europapark- the second biggest theme park in Europe. A letter has been sent via Arbor regarding this and the deadline for expressions of interest is on Tuesday. Expressions of interest can be given via this link: [Trip To Strasbourg and Freiburg im Breisgau 12th- 16th July 2027 – Fill in form](#)

Calling all History Students...



Tune in to Newlands' very own GCSE and A-Level History revision podcast. It includes relevant content and top tips for your exams, plus it's free to listen to, click [here](#) – or just search for “It’s Just a Bunch of Stories”.



Mavericks StoneX Cup





This week, some of our U14 Netball Squad travelled to Queenswood School for the U14 Mavericks StoneX Cup. This was our first time entering this competition and the squad was excited to see how far they could progress.

With the 12 teams split into three pools, we had to play three pool games before finding out if we had qualified for the Quarter Finals. With a convincing start and a 13-1 win against St Benedicts, our second match was a closer affair with a 7-6 win over Leventhorpe and the pool matches were rounded off with a third win over Bedford Girls School. With three wins out of three we finished top of the pool and had a guaranteed Quarter Final place.

In the Quarter Finals, due to the seeding, we once again faced Leventhorpe, who were out to try and reverse the pool results, but we stuck to our game plan and with accurate shooting from Flic and Flo once again, we beat Leventhorpe for a second time, and progressed to the Semi Finals.

Berkhampstead were our Semi-Final opponents. Having watched their matches throughout the tournament we knew they would be a tough team to beat. Their goal shooter, at six foot plus, was just not making a single error and whilst we held them for the first four minutes, they drew three goals clear by half-time. Into the second half we tried everything but unfortunately it just wasn't enough and the game finished 14-7 to Berkhampstead. Newlands therefore finished the tournament in joint 3rd position.

All of the U14s played incredibly well throughout the five matches, developing as a squad and we hope that they might continue this excellent form in the County Tournament in November. As well as the netball matches students had the opportunity to take part in a Q&A session with Mavericks players and of course they enjoyed getting some free merch!!

Miss M Claxton, Head of PE



Talent Academy Place for Elvie



Our congratulations go to Elvie in Year 10 who has recently been selected for Reading Talent Academy for Hockey. She works incredibly hard at her hockey and spends a huge amount of her spare time training and playing, so is understandably thrilled to have been selected.

The Talent Academy is part of the England Hockey talent pathway and brings together some of the strongest young players in the region for additional high-level coaching, training and competition. Players compete against other Talent Academies around the country and are developed and monitored as part of the pathway towards England U16 and U18 selection.

For Elvie, whose ambition is to play hockey at the highest level, being selected for Reading is a really exciting opportunity and another step forward in her hockey journey. Well done Elvie, you should be very proud of your achievement and we look forward to hearing about future successes.



Key stage 3

Amelie Couillart (8B)

For an excellent start to gymnastics lessons. Well done!

Key Stage 4

Amelie Butler (10A) for a terrific start to the BTEC PE course. Organised, attentive and friendly in all lessons! Keep it up!

Key Stage 5

Eva Johal (12E) and Evie Khan (12F) for being incredible netball captains and organising and leading the Year 7 Netball Club with such a maturity and professionalism. We are so fortunate to have you. Well done!

Impact@NGS CATERING NEWS

Next Week's Menu

Week Commencing:
07/09/26 28/09/26 19/10/26

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Beef & Lentil Bolognese with Pasta & House Salad

TUESDAY

Bang Bang Chicken with Soy & Mixed Rice

WEDNESDAY

Glazed Gammon or Lemon & Thyme Roast Chicken, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy

THURSDAY

Chicken Tikka & Chickpea Masala, Braised Rice & Kachumber Salad

FRIDAY

Chip Shop 'Friday' Fish, Salmon Fishcake or Pizza with Chips, Peas & Tartare Sauce

MONDAY

Plant Based Bolognese with Pasta & House Salad (V)

TUESDAY

Bang Bang Eat Curious with Soy & Mixed Rice (V)

WEDNESDAY

Vegetable 'Squashage' Roll with Crispy Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy (V)

THURSDAY

Cauliflower, Courgette & Chickpea Rosti with Braised Rice, Kachumber Salad & Minted Yoghurt Dressing (V)

FRIDAY

Vegan Chickpea & Coriander Burger with Fries (VE)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Spiced Pineapple Cake

TUESDAY

Chocolate & Banana Brownie

WEDNESDAY

Sticky Ginger Cake

THURSDAY

Oaty Apple Crumble

FRIDAY

Hot Chocolate Rocky Road & Custard

Fruit and Jelly Pots Available Daily

JACKET POTATOES

Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily

Street VIBES

MADE YOUR WAY!

CHOOSE IT!
ADD IT!
TOP IT!

Switch up your flavours with our street food-inspired range, available **Tuesday to Thursday**. With weekly rotating choices, there's always something tasty.

Choose a base, add protein, and top it your way!

Visit the restaurant to check out what's on offer each week

NATURally

MONDAY

Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)

TUESDAY

The Big Plant Burger (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Roasted Butternut, Sweetcorn & Chipotle Pasta (VE)

THURSDAY

Maple & Chilli Cauliflower Wings with Cajun Wedges (VE)

FRIDAY

Garlic & Chilli Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA

MONDAY

Pasta in Cheese Sauce

TUESDAY

Tomato & Basil Pasta

WEDNESDAY

Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza

THURSDAY

Creamy Pesto Pasta

FRIDAY

Margherita Pizza

From the LIBRARY SHELVES

Your Library, Your Choice



Strong readers are created through freedom to choose and having access to a wide range of reading materials. Libraries and librarians have always played an important role in nurturing that choice and helping children and young people become confident, enthusiastic readers who choose to read widely throughout their lives.

The school library is no exception. We offer a diverse collection of fiction and non-fiction, including graphic novels, dyslexia-friendly texts and the latest titles, all available for students to borrow free of charge. Whether you have a favourite genre, are looking for your next series to get lost in, or want to try something completely new, there is something for everyone.

The benefits of reading are well documented, from supporting academic achievement across all areas of the curriculum to developing vocabulary, knowledge, and helping wellbeing. We strongly encourage all students to make the most of the library during their time at Newlands by broadening their reading horizons.

You can explore the books available through our [Library Catalogue](#)., where you'll also find lots of useful links to book related websites and audio books. We are always keen to hear students' recommendations too, so if there is a book you would like to see on our shelves, please let us know!

Challenge Yourself

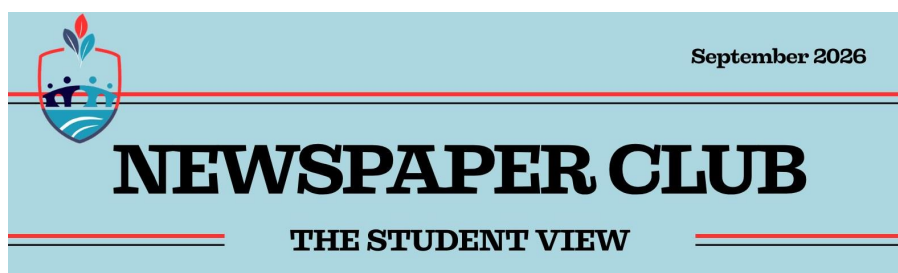
The Library runs several reading challenges to encourage wider reading in a structured way - call into the library to find out more about the Genre, Author, Non-Fiction and Classics reading challenges.

Well done to Martha, Nicole and Jarkar in Year 8 who finished the Genre Challenge this week - your House Points and small prizes are on their way to you - I've enjoyed your talking to you all about the books you've been reading.

Mrs Flood, School Librarian

Student Journalists

What began as the Year 8 Newspaper Club has now expanded to welcome students from across all years. They meet in the Library on Monday lunch times if you would like to come along. This week one of the founding members Matilda Osborne (9F) picks up on the theme of this week's assemblies by writing about European Languages Day:



This week Matilda in Year 9 finds out about European Languages Day

LANGUAGES UNITE!

European Day of Languages is on Saturday, and we celebrated it in assemblies this week. We heard many of the languages that are spoken by the students at our school, and we learnt lots of facts about different places around the world. This is the 26th annual European Day of languages, it is celebrated in 46 different countries. The 2026 theme is "Languages Unite!", to show how languages connect people and cultures.



DID YOU KNOW?

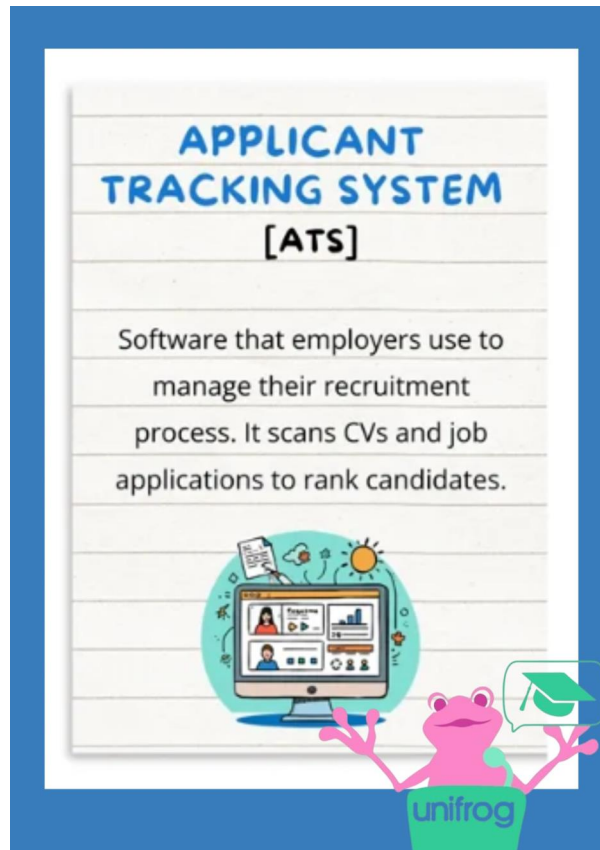


This annual celebration is a great way of learning about different cultures or even learning more about your own. There 225 native (Indigenous) languages spoken across the European continent and there are 7,164 languages spoken across the world today.

Fun fact in Bulgaria and some parts of Albania nodding your head up and down means no and shaking your head side to side means yes.

Update on **CAREERS**

Getting ahead in the job market in the age of AI?

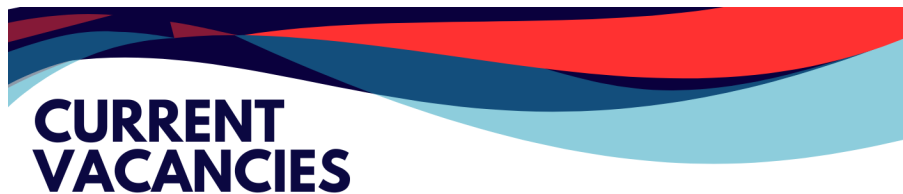


As artificial intelligence becomes a more common part of the recruitment process, it is important that students understand how to make the most of these new technologies while still showcasing their own skills, experiences and personality. Our students have access to Unifrog where they will find practical advice on applying for jobs in the age of AI. From creating strong CVs and application forms to preparing for interviews and using AI tools responsibly, their guidance will help students approach the job market with confidence. Whether applying for a part-time job, apprenticeship or a future career opportunity, these tips will support students in presenting themselves professionally and standing out for all the right reasons.

In a March 2026 Unifrog survey, 40% of students reported that they had used AI as part of their research into next steps. They have created a guide for students to help prepare them for the job market in the age of AI, where they can learn practical tips on overcoming new challenges, such as 'ghost jobs' and AI-led interviews. There is also a guide for parents and carers to support their children and encourage them to use AI responsibly:

For students: [How to apply for a job in the age of AI](#)

For parents/carers: [How to support your child's job search in the age of AI](#)



Teacher of Design & Technology



WE ARE HIRING

Teacher of Design Technology

Maternity Cover, Full-Time
£34,398.00 Annually (FTE)
Teachers main pay scale
or UPS + Outer London Fringe

We are seeking a Design Technology Teacher to join a highly successful team for a period of maternity cover.



For full details including how to apply please visit My New Term: [Teacher of Design & Technology](#)

Closing Date for Applications: Midday, Friday 2nd October, 2026

Student Focus Centre Manager



WE ARE HIRING

Student Focus Centre Manager

Permanent contract, term time only
Salary £24,233.00 - £25,894.00 Annually (Actual)
Scale 6, spine point 18-22
30 hours per week + 1 INSET day
(8.15am - 3.45pm, Monday to Friday)

We are seeking a proactive, highly flexible and committed Student Focus Centre Manager to join our team. Working closely with the Wellbeing Practitioners, this role plays a vital part in ensuring all students feel safe and supported at school. This is an excellent opportunity for someone with experience of working with young people with emotional, mental health or behavioural needs, who wants to make a meaningful difference to young people's lives.

Under the direction of the Leadership Team, you will manage the Student Focus Centre (SFC), including the team of Wellbeing Practitioners. You will take a lead role in ensuring the wellbeing of the students in the school by providing specific, targeted support to students, who are struggling with their emotional wellbeing or behaviour.

For full details including how to apply please visit My New Term: [SFC Manager](#)

Closing Date for Applications: 9:00am, Thursday 1st October, 2026

Teacher of Art (Part-Time)



WE ARE HIRING

Teacher of Art

Maternity Cover, Salary £34,398.00
Annually (FTE)
Teachers main pay scale or UPS + Outer
London Fringe,
Part Time 0.6 hours per week

We are seeking an Art Teacher to join a highly successful team for a period of maternity cover. Experience of teaching photography is not necessary but desired.

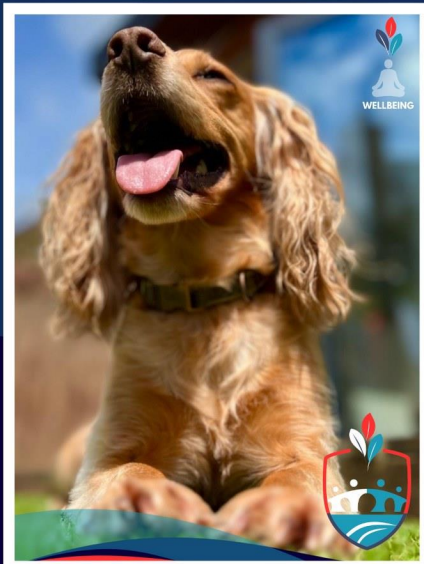


For full details including how to apply please visit My New Term: [Teacher of Art](#)

Closing Date for Applications: 9:00am, Monday 5th October, 2026

Theme for Next School Week:

Resilience



COMING UP

MONDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

FY7 Good News Assembly

TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

Early Closure 12.30pm

School Open Evening
5.00pm-8.00pm

WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

Later Start - 9.10am (Gates
open at 9.00am)

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER

Year 11 Drama Practical

FRIDAY 2ND OCTOBER

Year 11 Drama Practical

National School Swimming
Relays 6.00pm-10.00pm

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER

UKDC A-Level Physics at
Royal Holloway



CONTACT US

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