



Noadswood Blazer



www.noadswood.hants.sch.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

MISS K. MARSHALL



Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been an exciting half term for which I have many thank yous. Firstly, my sincerest thanks to all pupils, my colleagues, parents, carers and Governors for their support during our Ofsted Inspection. At the time of writing, we are still awaiting the final Report's publication but from reading the draft, I am really looking forward to sharing with you all the excellent highlights of our school that have been brilliantly captured, as well as our continued next steps to greatness!

I would also like to thank and congratulate Year 11 on their terrific approach to their March mocks, making life easy for our team of invigilators and showing they understand the importance of focus and being professional about their exams ahead. I hope they enjoyed the visit from Jim Roberson, the Discipline Coach, who made us all laugh but also think hard about looking after our brains and our life chances through the best possible choices now, and we really want this to inform their revision and their lives between now and the exams and for ever, actually.

Next, I am personally grateful for the support of parents and carers about the good things that are going on here all the time at Noadswood, but also for your partnership in challenging moments. This is never taken for granted.

Finally, although I could choose so many more things from sport, music, drama, STEM, every department in the school, actually... I would like to thank the pupils who showed Lord Jim Knight and Gwenda Martin, mother of former pupil and civil servant, the late Christopher Martin, around our school and who listened so well to his presentation as well - I am a firm believer in all our young people's capacity to be leaders and the people who dream big for the future, and so there will be a great deal more to follow from his visit.

We're looking forward very much to our production of 'Alice' next week, so I hope to see many of you there.

May I just mention, on another matter, that Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S) has launched a new online service so parents/carers can check their eligibility for free school meals (FSM) themselves. This self-service option is available at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants>. You enter your name, national insurance number, your address and your child's details. Press 'submit' and you will find out if you are eligible. If

your result comes back 'found', this means your child is eligible for FSM and the system automatically tells us. Your child is then entitled to receive £2 a day, automatically loaded onto their cards. All this information will be treated in the strictest confidence and will only be used for FSM entitlement purposes, with no further details disclosed to any other source other than the Department of Education. I am a big fan of these processes being easy and transparent, so we wanted to pass this on to you all. As you may know, this eligibility is also then linked to our Pupil Premium funding as a school - more on how we deploy this as a school on our website, found under the About tab and then in the Ofsted Information folder.

I wish you all a very happy and relaxing Easter break.

LifeLab at Southampton University Hospital

Two Year 9 classes have been fortunate enough to get involved with LifeLab this term. LifeLab was first initiated in 2008 at the University of Southampton. It has continued to develop through the collaboration of researchers from the University's Education School, Faculty of Medicine, and the Mathematics and Science Learning Centre. LifeLab draws on these researchers' findings and combines them with research evidence from elsewhere to raise teenagers' awareness and interest in the science underpinning health issues, and make positive changes to adolescent health-related attitudes.

The students begin with a few lessons in school, delivered by our own science teachers, encouraging them to think about various aspects of their own health and the choices they make that have an impact on this. Having duly prepared for the practical day ahead, the students climb aboard the LifeLab coach and head for the hospital. On arrival, following a brief introduction, they are let loose on a variety of medical equipment which allows them to measure



various aspects of their own health. An ultrasound machine allows them to visualise their own arterial blood flow whilst a blood pressure monitor gives them statistics on their blood pressure. They all enjoyed the chance to prepare and stain a sample of their own DNA, and to run an electrophoresis on some pre-prepared samples. Grip strength, flexibility, jump height and BMI was all measured using a variety of equipment, and they also found out about lung volume and air flow.

Three resusci-annies were present and James taught each student the basics of CPR, with the help of Vinnie Jones and son. Who knew that the perfect tempo tune for CPR was "Staying Alive"!!

The students then got the chance to meet with three scientists – members of the University and Hospital Staff who give up their time to engage with our pupils. These sessions are run in small groups of 6-8 pupils, allowing them to find out more about the various careers available, what they entail, and how these particular scientists began their careers. The careers have ranged from an aeroplane engineer researching how to make jet engines quieter to a geneticist trying to find a treatment for prostate cancer.

The day culminates in a class discussion on what lifestyle choices impact on health, how this can affect them now and in the future and what influence this might have on the students' own lifestyle choices. They are then helped to make a health pledge, which we shall revisit at a later date to see whether they have managed to make any positive changes to their own lifestyle choices.

A huge thank you to Donna, James and Lisa for providing such an interesting and engaging addition to our science lessons.

The HUB Tries Wheelchair Rugby



The Hub club has started again this half term with a session of Wheelchair Rugby which was coached by professionals from Solent Sharks Wheelchair Rugby Team. Pupils from Noadswood and Clayhill Schools got to have a go at playing this exciting sport, which was new to most of them. One student said 'it was a lot of fun and a lot of banging into each other'. The session eventually led to a game which allowed star player Tom to shine and others to experience what can be a fast paced sport. Anyone interested in joining Solent Sharks Wheelchair Rugby team can speak to Mr Woods in the PE office.

The Hub Club is an inclusive sports club at Noadswood which runs Wednesday's after school. The Hub club

runs all year round by letting both sporty pupils and those who find sport a bit difficult to have fun doing inclusive sports. After Easter Hub club will be moving onto Cricket.

Maths Challenge Adds Up To A Great Day

Teenagers with a flair for sums converged on the Port of Southampton to take part in the first ever ABP Maths Challenge.

The event attracted youngsters from schools across Hampshire – Hounsdown School, Applemore College, Noadswood School, Testwood School, New Forest Academy, Redbridge School, Cowplain Community School and Mountbatten School – and there was a great atmosphere of friendly competition.

One of Noadswood School's teams emerged as the winners, beating Hounsdown School by just 1 point. The team won £500 for the school's

mathematics department and will be treated to an exclusive trip on a Harbour Master's launch to show them the port from the water. Two of our other teams managed to finish in 5th and 10th place.

The day kicked off with a welcome from ABP's Head of Port Operations Beth Evans-Gay followed by a talk from Project Engineer's Connor Smith and Gideon Aymes about how mathematics plays a crucial role in their day to day work. After an hour of competition Noadswood School were crowned as the Champions.

Beth explained: "It has been a great day of bringing together eight schools of bright students to battle it out to become the 2017 Maths Champion."



Noadswood My Ed App



We are very pleased to announce that we are introducing a fantastic new way to communicate and share information with you, our parent community. At Noadswood we want you to feel as much a part of their education as possible. With the increased use of smart phone technology we want to make best use of it.

MyEd is the free parent app that gives you a multitude of communication and information features to stay in touch with what is going on at school. The app gives you direct access to your child's attendance, timetable, absence records, achievements and much, much more.

You will receive an email before the end of term with more information and instructions on how to download the app.

FREE Download



Search "My Ed"...

www.myedschoolapp.com

Plant for the Planet



Nine year 8 pupils from Noadswood were among 50 pupils from 7 local schools coming together to become ambassadors for Plant For The Planet. Contributing to the United Nations goal of planting 1,000,000,000(!) trees worldwide in the bid to combat climate change.

KEYDATES

07/04 Last Day of Spring Term
10/04 - 21/04 Easter Holiday
24/04 First Day Summer Half Term

01/05 Bank Holiday - School Closed
03/05 Yr7 Parents Evening
04/05 Yr10 Prefect Training Day

29/05- Yr9 Parent Evening
02/05 & 17/01 Summer Half Term

Successful Ballet Auditions!

Huge congratulations to 5 of our pupils (Aimee Francis and Amy Riche Y9 and Anna Ferrier, Grace Noble and Elliemae Taverner Y7), who have successfully auditioned to take part in the English Youth Ballet double bill production – Ballet Etudes & Nutcracker Suite. All girls attend a local dance school, The Lindsey Read School of Dance. The production will take place in Salisbury City Hall on Friday 21st evening and Saturday 22nd matinee and evening performances.

EYB is now well-established for the production of full length classical ballets in the regional theatres of England, Scotland and Wales. The Company uses between 80-100 young dancers chosen by audition from within an 80-100 mile radius of the theatre in the area, therefore giving young ballet dancers the opportunity to experience the creative process from rehearsal to performance in exciting productions of The Nutcracker, Coppelia, The Sleeping Beauty, Giselle or Swan Lake.

This is a wonderful opportunity for young dancers outside London aged 8–18 years to perform within a professional setting. The demand for places is expressed by the

hundreds of young dancers who audition annually. Many of EYB students go on to vocational training having gained enormous confidence, invaluable performing experience and great pleasure from their involvement with EYB.



HOUSE NEWS

As we approach the end of a very long term, it is good to reflect on the achievements of so many of our Knightwood superstars who have thrown themselves into school life in recent weeks. Every time a list of pupils who are out on a Science trip / off to a Rugby tournament / visiting a local junior school is e-mailed to staff, it is most gratifying to see large numbers of 'yellow' pupils involved. We firmly believe that school life is about more than 25 lessons a week, there is so much to be gained by pupils in seeking out a wider and more varied experience over their five years at Noadswood.

Our new House charity is 'Young Minds', a national body that is concerned with supporting young people who are struggling in a variety of ways. We recently held a cake sale, led by our senior prefect team to fund raise for the work they undertake. In one break-time, due to the 'profiteering' nature of the prefects, nearly £100 was raised. We hope to add to this total with stalls at Sports day later in the summer term.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have also been interviewing potential prefects from amongst our Year 10 pupils. As always, we have been impressed by the commitment and talent of these 'future' leaders of Knightwood. We would also like to pay tribute to our outgoing prefects who will finish their duties after Easter as they prepare for their final GCSE exams. Thank you for all your hard work this year, especially to the senior team of Erin, Seren and Kate for your leadership. Also, to Oli and India for leading us to another victory in Sports day last summer. Good

luck to you all for whatever the future holds for you after Noadswood!

Finally may we wish you all a very chilled Easter holiday, revision is important for those in the higher years, but do remember to fully relax too and re-charge your batteries!



MRS FRENCH



MR FENTON