

11th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last few weeks have been busy for all our students. Year 13 have been focused on the Pre-Public Examinations, Year 12 have started to look ahead to their possible next pathways and Year 11 have been submitting applications to the Sixth Form and considering next steps. We have also formally established a student council, with students from all year groups being represented and, of course, our extra-curricular activities are now in full swing.

NSG Rewards System

On Tuesday 1st February, we launched a new Northampton School for Girls Reward System for Years 7 to 11. In all of your child's lessons, and around the school, teachers and staff will be identifying students that contribute to excellence. They will base this on the following criteria:

- Behaviour
- Effort in learning
- Organisation
- Quality of work
- Home learning
- Demonstrating the ethos of respect

In lessons, teachers will reward excellent performance in any of the above areas, by awarding an Achievement Point. At Northampton School for Girls, we are very proud of our ethos of respect. To recognise and celebrate this, it has been included in the reward system. Achievement points in this category may be awarded in lessons, but they may also be awarded by form tutors, and staff in the wider school community, including the Senior Leadership Team and Headteacher.

The Achievement Points will be recorded on your child's Edu Link account and you and your child will also be notified by email each time an Achievement Point is awarded. Initial feedback from students is very positive and we hope that you will feel the same. Throughout the year, the school hopes that the new reward system will further acknowledge and celebrate students' positive commitment and hard work in all areas of school life.

Billy Elliot the Musical 2022

After three long years, we have thoroughly enjoyed being able to invite audiences back to our Spinney Theatre to watch an incredible performance of Billy Elliot the Musical. Our version brings together the energy and enthusiasm of a very talented cast from Years 7-13; an amazing orchestra of student musicians supported by a few professionals; a skilled student technical team; a dedicated student front of house team and attention to



detail from a staff and student team of hair and make-up artists. It is fair to say that this is a collaboration of all the Performing Arts skills!

Performances began on Wednesday 9th February and continue through to Saturday 12th February and the audience response has been an overwhelmingly positive one, with so many commenting on the professionalism and talent of the cast and crew - they really are quite exceptional! There are still a few tickets remaining for tomorrow's matinee performance and for the final show on Saturday evening.

Sporting Success

It has been an impressive few weeks of sporting success at NSG and it is my intention to share these details with you more regularly now that we are almost back to 'normal' with regard to our extra-curricular activities and competitive events.

We recently hosted the Year 7 and Year 8 District Sports Hall Athletics competitions. Our talented and strong Year 7 team finished in second place and, following a formidable and committed performance, the Year 8 team finished in first place. Both teams will now go on to represent Northampton Partnership at the School Games Competition in March.

On the last weekend of January, the County Swimming Championships took place in Corby. We had a significant number of NSG swimmers competing, all swimming amazingly well, with some impressive successes. We have an incredible group of talented swimmers to be proud of. In particular, I would like to give a special mention to Alice B (3 x Golds and 1 x Silver), Emily A (2 x Silver and 2 x Bronze), Orla E-J (3 x Bronze) and Faye E-J (1 x Bronze) for their medal successes and to Eliza H for setting a new British ParaSwimming record!

There was a continuation of athletic success last weekend when five of our talented students made it to the Anglian Cross Country Regional Competitions. Jess L, Claudia T, Emily D, Mariam Z and Zineb Z all put in impressive performances. Similarly, in the District Cross Country Cup at Abington Park, our Junior team (Year 7/8) finished in first place. This puts them through to the Regional Finals at Perse School, Bedfordshire. They all ran superb races.

We wish all our NSG athletes every success in upcoming competitions – we are exceptionally proud of them.

Safer Internet Day 2022

On Tuesday 8th February, we marked 'Safer Internet Day 2022 with a series of tutor time activities across all year groups. This year's theme was, 'All fun and games?', which explores the importance of respect and online friendships. The day focused on the role young people play in creating and maintaining a safer internet, and the ways they are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of. The platforms young people use are spaces for connection, community and collaboration, which is why Safer Internet Day is aimed at encouraging them and supporting them to foster supportive relationships and respectful communities, whilst equipping them with the skills they need to keep themselves and others safe online. Further information and helpful resources are available online at:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022/advice-for-parents-and-carers>

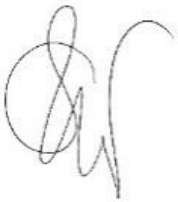


Year 11 and Year 13 Prom

I am delighted to (finally) confirm the details of the summer celebrations for Year 11 and Year 13. The Year 11 Prom 2022 will take place on **Wednesday 13th July 2022** and the Year 13 will take place on **Thursday 14th July 2022**. Both events will take place, as in previous years, at Brampton Grange. After half term Miss Lissaman and Mrs Green will be sharing further information with Year 11 and Year 13 respectively.

Finally, after a very busy start to 2022, I would like wish all our students and staff and safe and happy half term break and look forward to seeing them all again on **Monday 21 February**.

With best wishes,



Cristina Taboada-Naya
Headteacher

