

22nd March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Headteacher Update

It has been another incredibly busy few weeks and life at NSG is as busy and bustling as ever. I would like to begin by congratulating our Year 11 and Year 13 students on completing their pre-public examinations, and formally thanking our examinations team and Year 11 and Year 13 tutor team for their excellent work with ensuring these ran smoothly for everyone. This week also sees the start of the GCSE art examinations and we would like to wish all students involved the very best of luck.

Charity Fundraiser

As part of our ongoing work supporting local, national and international charities, on Thursday 17th March we held a non-school uniform day in support of the British Red Cross and their international humanitarian aid campaign. During tutor time, students learned about the vital work of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement and how it provides international aid to help people in emergencies, supports refugees and those facing chronic hunger, often within hours of an emergency. Our students engaged respectfully and sensitively with these issues and, as ever, were generous in their support. Thanks to the contributions of students and staff, we raised over £1800, with donations still coming in from students and staff. This is a staggering amount and we are incredibly grateful to everyone for their support. We will continue to seek out opportunities to raise money for this important cause.

Sporting Success

It continues to be an exceptionally busy and successful period for our competitive sports teams and athletes. In my previous letter to you, I shared some examples of recent triumphs and since then, our athletes and teams have continued to impress us with their achievements and conviction. Particular highlights include, the Year 7 and Year 8 basketballers winning their round in the Junior NBA competition and our Basketball teams putting in a sensational and unstoppable performance at the 'All Girls Tournament', securing first, second and third place wins in the competitions.

On Thursday 3rd March, the Year 7/8 and Year 9/10 Handball teams, as well as the Year 7/8 Dodgeball team, were officially crowned county champions at the Northamptonshire Sport School Games competitions and our



Netball teams have also put in strong performances in recent competitions across the county. The Under 12 team finished third in the County Plate competition, putting in a strong and committed performance and the Under 13 and Under 15 finished sixth and fourth, respectively, in the County Cup.

We would like to also congratulate Eliza Humphrey who has been selected to join a strong British team heading to the World Para Swimming Champions, which take place at the Pentada Olympic Swimming Complex, Portugal, in June. We are incredibly proud of Eliza and wish her every success - we are following your journey every step of the way!

Duke of Edinburgh

Our Gold, Silver and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh participants have been busy developing their skills and making preparations for future expeditions, with over ninety students attending workshop activities on Saturday 12th March. Forty Year 9 students will be completing the expedition part of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award in coming months. The dates for the expeditions are:

Practise expedition: **Saturday 21st-Sunday 22nd May**

Assessed expedition: **Saturday 18th-Sunday 19th June**

Music for Youth Festival

In partnership with Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust, on Saturday 12th March, Spinney Theatre enjoyed a day of high quality music and entertainment as we had the pleasure of hosting the first day of the Music for Youth Regional Festival. We were delighted to host guests from Derbyshire and Towcester Rock School and music groups from a wider range of primary and secondary schools from across the county. Congratulations to the Madrigalis, Concert Band and Big Band for their exceptional performances and many thanks to all the staff involved for offering their support.

The musical talent of our students continues to 'wow' us, as well as our audiences, and the Music Celebration Concert that took place on Thursday 18th March demonstrated that clearly. Many congratulations to all the students and staff involved - it was another impressive event that showcased the talent, ability and enthusiasm of our students and the Music department at NSG.

As ever, thank you for your continued support and I will update you again at the end of term.

With best wishes,



Mrs Cristina Taboada-Naya
Headteacher

