

Friday 3rd May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteacher Update

There is certainly a buzz of activity and anticipation in the air as our Year 11 and Year 13 prepare for their external examinations, our Year 9 and Year 10 groups prepare for their forthcoming PPEs starting next week and, tonight, we have our annual Now Dance extravaganza which showcases the dance talents of all our year groups. On that note, it is still not too late for you to join us and get a ticket for the event, which can be purchased from the Spinney Theatre box office here:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/spinney-theatre/now-dance-2024/2024-05-03/19:00/t-rpdgrek>

It is fair to say that given all the wonderful activities and events that have taken place in recent weeks, we are all looking forward to the Bank Holiday weekend which will offer a much-anticipated opportunity to rest and rebalance - I am keeping my fingers crossed that the temperatures will revert to those we saw earlier this week!

County Challenge students launch 'gang awareness' app.

On Tuesday we welcomed representatives from the BBC, ITV, Northamptonshire Police and University of Staffordshire, ahead of the launch of a 'Gang Awareness' app, designed by our Year 9 County Challenge winners. The aim of the app is to equip young people with the ability to make the right choices and demonstrate good judgement in difficult scenarios. This is the first time an app of this kind has been created and developed by students and we are immensely proud of the accomplishments of this team and how they have worked with a variety of organisations in the development stages of the app. In my meeting with the app developer, Rob Lambert (University of Staffordshire), he praised the girls' clarity of vision in their work with him and his team. The intention is that this app will be piloted at NSG before being shared more widely across schools nationally for use in their PSHE programmes. You can read the full BBC article here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c84zqx11l50o>. I would like to, once again, congratulate the team and thank them for their impeccable behaviour and for the maturity they have demonstrated throughout the process.

Sporting Success and Opportunities

There really is nothing stopping our U13 basketball team who were crowned County Champions last week, triumphing in all their games and showcasing a dominant performance in the final. Huge



congratulations to: Aliza S, Amelia W, Batia E, Brooke F, Chimela C-A, Daisy F, Emilie M, Erin M, Freya T-A, Melissa N, Rosheedat K, Sienna T-S and Zuri, C. They are a great team of players who consistently demonstrate excellent strength of camaraderie and commitment!

Well done to Nela S who recently took part in the British Handball Futures Training programme and got into the England Camp! Nela currently participates in handball training with the Northampton Handball Club, Talent Pathway Regional Team and British Team. In July, together with the British Team, Nela will take part in another camp in Denmark before heading to Loughborough College in September to continue her Handball journey. We wish her every success!

Still on the theme of excellence, we want to say a huge congratulations to Eliza Humpreys who secured two Bronze medals at the World Para Swimming European Championships. Eliza completed her time with us at NSG last year and it is wonderful to see her swimming success flourishing internationally.

It was a joyful and a proud moment to see Year 7 student, Kensie W, walk on to the pitch at Old Trafford recently as a mascot for Manchester United during their recent match against Liverpool. Despite the pouring rain, Kensie walked on proudly and it was wonderful to see Alejandro Garnacho's kindness as he removed his jacket and offered it to Kensie to keep her dry and warm - she even got to keep it as a souvenir! (I must confess I am a little envious.)

Finally, thank you to all the Sports Leaders that took part in the recent Primary School Multi-Sport festival for Year 4 that took place at NSG. Our Sports Leaders helped to plan, deliver, and lead the Year 4 activities. Well done to each of them for making the day such a success!

Wishing you all a wonderful extra-long bank holiday weekend and I look forward to seeing all our staff and students on **Tuesday 7th May**.

With best wishes



Cristina Taboada-Naya | Headteacher

