

Newsletter

July 2023



Message from the Principal

I really cannot believe that another year is over. It has been such a busy year here at the college. Our students have worked hard to ensure that they have reached our high standards. Thank you, to all of you, for the tremendous support you have provided to the students and to the college over this year.

Our Year 11 students have worked hard this year focusing on their GCSE exams and we look forward to seeing them on results day on Thursday 24th August to collect their results. We hope that they all get what they deserve and that they are rewarded for all of their hard work.

We hope you have a lovely summer and we look forward to welcoming Y7, Y11 and P16 students back on Tuesday 29th August at 9 am and all year groups on Wednesday 30th August at 9 am.

Mrs Brown, Principal

New College Leicester Teacher Shortlisted at TES Awards



Everyone at New College Leicester was delighted to hear that Ms Maguire, our English as an Additional Language (EAL) Coordinator and Teaching and Learning Lead has been named as a finalist at the TES Awards. The national awards bring

both independent and state schools together and recognise leading talent and performance within the UK education sector.

Nominated by her NCL colleagues, Ms Maguire has been recognised for the impactful work she has delivered in developing New College into a fully inclusive school and ensuring that all children, no matter their background or acquisition of the English language, have access to a wide and varied curriculum. It is the care and passion for every student's success, personal and academic that sets our approach to inclusion apart, and this has been pioneered by Ms Maguire.

Over 50 languages are spoken at New College and Ms Maguire has guided the school to fully integrate EAL teaching across the curriculum. This strategy has improved the academic achievement of students and has supported their integration into the school.

This decision to fully integrate students learning EAL has ensured that Progress 8 figures for these students are consistently above the national average which demonstrates the significant impact of Ms Maguire's vision in improving the life chances of these young people. NCL's 2022 Progress 8 figures for students learning EAL was +1.14 compared to a national average figure of +0.55.

This approach has led to New College securing the coveted Inclusion Quality Mark Flagship School status and maintaining it for the past three years. It is the only coeducational school in Leicester to have achieved this award, and one of only 100 schools in the UK.

To read more on Ms Maguire's nomination please go to [New College Leicester Teacher Shortlisted at TES Awards](#) | [New College Leicester](#)

2023 Dates for your diary

- **Thursday 24th Aug**
Yr11 GCSE Results collection
- **Tuesday 29th Aug**
Yr7, 11 & P16 term starts
- **Wednesday 30th Aug**
All other year groups term starts
- **Tuesday 5th Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Tuesday 7th Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Tuesday 12th Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Thursday 14th Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
Open Evening 4.00—7.00pm
- **Tuesday 19th Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Thursday 21st Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Tuesday 26th Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Thursday 28th Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Tuesday 3rd Oct Sept**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Thursday 5th Oct**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
Yr7 Meet the Tutor Evening
4.00—6.45pm
P16 Open Evening 3.15—6.30pm
- **Tuesday 10th Oct**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Thursday 12th Oct**
Live tour for parents 9.30am
- **Friday 13th Oct**
End of half term

Award Winning Author Backs New College Leicester Reading Drive



We are delighted to have received the backing of an award-winning author in our mission to encourage more children to become avid readers.

We have received a £200 book token donation from Author Susan Hill!

Earlier this year Susan Hill, the author of 'A Woman In Black', announced on Twitter that she would be making funds available for state schools to support the purchase of books for their school and classroom libraries.

Our eagle eyed staff spotted the post and are now celebrating with students on receiving the news that their application has been successful. We have received £200 of Amazon vouchers and we are inviting students to suggest the titles they would like to see added to the school library.

We are always encouraging our students to participate in the school's decision-making processes, involving them in a myriad of activities and projects in which their 'voice' can be heard, and what better way than this! The challenge now will be to whittle down the huge number of student suggestions into a 'shopping list!'

The donation is particularly meaningful to us as our Year 8 students study 'A Woman in Black,' as part of their course work. The book, a ghost story telling of how the central character, Arthur Kipps meets a vengeful spirit, grips the attention of the students with its suspense and surprises. As her work is part of their programme of study, the gift from Susan Hill has a special significance with the students. Everyone appreciates that she has taken the trouble to respond to their request for support.

Aimie Geraghty, Head of English at New College Leicester comments: "This donation has really sparked the interest of our students and we have had lots of requests for books that the children want to see in our library. In particular, many of our students who have English as an additional language, have requested they would like to see a selection of books that are representative of them, so that is something we will be doing. With over 50 languages spoken at New College, we want to encourage a love a reading for all children, no matter their background."

"I would like to thank Susan for her support and very kind donation. It will be put to excellent use!"

IQM Flagship School Status for New College Leicester



We are delighted to announce that New College has retained the esteemed Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) Award with Flagship status in recognition of the outstanding quality of our inclusive provision. This is the third year in a row that we have achieved the award – which means we have maintained our Flagship Status.

New College is one of only 100 schools in the UK, and the only coeducational school in Leicester to have achieved this status. The school is described as ‘a thriving, highly inclusive and exciting place to be in the assessor’s report, which is available to view [here](#).

The school has been recognised for the outstanding quality of our own inclusive education and for our strong leadership role in developing inclusion best practice across a network of other local schools.

The outcome of this latest assessment provides an independent overview of New College's remarkable transformational journey. IQM states that the school's success lies in ‘an incredibly dynamic leadership team’ and the fact that New College places its students at the heart of all it does.

Jane Brown, Principal of New College, comments: “We are all one family here, we know our students well, we understand their issues and appreciate the backgrounds that they all come from. Our deep understanding of our students along with ensuring that they all receive the support they need to learn effectively within engaging lessons, is central to our inclusive education philosophy. Our approach works for our children, and we are delighted that this has been recognised by IQM.”

During her visit to, the assessor reviewed documentation, held discussions with key members of staff and members of the Student Parliament whilst also having informal conversations with other staff and students and observing lessons.

She praised New College's approach to careers education, the role students played in developing activities at the school through its Citizenship Programme, which provides a sense of ownership and inclusion, and how students with English as an additional language (EAL), were fully integrated into lessons and wider school life. As with all students, the emphasis on discovering the career ambitions of each EAL student and tailoring lessons to support their aspirations, is making students feel valued and is supporting their integration into the British education system.

Sally Hamson, IQM assessor comments: “All students were fully integrated, accessing the same learning activity with clear adaptations taking place to enable this immersion. The student's behaviour throughout the school was exceptional.”

In summarising the views of students, Sally Hamson commented: “Students were clearly proud of their college and were able to talk articulately. They were particularly vocal around the inclusive nature of their college and their lessons. They stated that they had really enjoyed their time at the college, how caring their teachers were and how their lessons had been adapted to meet all of their varying needs.”

Reflecting on the report Jane Brown adds: “The quality of this report is testament to the commitment shown here at New College to raise still further our high standards and expectations. It reflects the success of our vision and practice to ensure all students feel valued, secure and included in their educational journey and the positive impact of our mission to provide a rounded and inspirational education for all.

“For IQM to recognise our achievements, our progress, our inclusivity and our relentless focus on meeting the needs of the whole community, makes us all incredibly proud. We all believe that New College is an exceptional place to be and it's great that IQM recognised this too!”



National Award Success for New College Leicester!

We are delighted to announce that our School Business Manager, Wayne Allsopp, has scooped an award at the prestigious Education Business Awards.

Wayne was named as School Business Manager of the Year at the awards ceremony, which took place in London on Wednesday 14 June. Wayne was presented with his award by former Team GB Athlete Donna Fraser.

It was a case of double success for New College Leicester on the night. In addition to Wayne Allsopp winning his award, New College Leicester was also named as a finalist in the 'School Sports Award' category. This is in recognition of its excellent sports provision, including its facilities, external partnerships, and its focus on making sport accessible for all.

Wayne is the driving force behind New College's sports provision and commercial strategy and everyone at New College Leicester is delighted that his tireless work in raising standards of provision and outcomes for children at the school has been recognised by his industry peers.

New College Leicester places itself at the heart of the local community through sport. Following significant investment and established community partnerships, more than 2,500 people now use its outstanding sports facilities weekly. This includes one of the best gymnastics facilities in the UK, a purpose-built outdoor cycle track, gym, sports halls and a café that is open to the public.

We also recognise that health and wellbeing are essential if students are to do well at school. Given that negative health outcomes are prevalent for many in New Parks, the school has placed sports, health, and wellbeing at the core of its strategy to help provide a rounded education and improve the lives of its students.

It is this commitment to getting the New Parks community active, both its students and local people, that led to New College Leicester being named as a finalist and Wayne winning his category.

The School Business Manager Award is given to an individual whose business leadership skills and commercial outlook have had a positive impact on the school's budgeting and strategic decision making.

Wayne's ability to realise the link between a strong sports offering, its benefits to local people and the positive commercial impact this brings to the school is one of the reasons he has been shortlisted.

Wayne comments: "I am thrilled to have won the award and that the hard work the team at New College Leicester has put into improving our school has been recognised. We are proud of New College and what we are achieving for the New Parks community, so it's fantastic to know our work is considered to be amongst the best in the UK and something others may look to replicate to improve outcomes for children."

"We are extremely proud of our asset-based community development approach to sport. Working in partnership to develop excellent sporting facilities that drive benefits for both the community and school is delivering tangible results for thousands of people."

Liz Kendall MP, who supported the school's application comments: "The school serves a community that faces significant levels of social disadvantage, deprivation and child poverty. Staff work tirelessly to overcome these barriers and the use of sport has been a particularly effective tool to boost aspiration, promote healthier lifestyles and encouraging parents and the wider community to get involved in the activities of the school. Sport is used to help unleash children's wider talents, showing them if they work hard they can be successful."

This is the second time in as many months that New College Leicester has enjoyed award success. In May, Edwina Maguire, the school's English as an Additional Language and Teaching and Learning Lead, was named as a finalist in the prestigious Times Educational Supplement (TES) Awards

Award Winning Musical Hamilton Inspires Year 7 Students



Students studying English in Year 7 seized the opportunity to visit London to watch a performance of the multi-award winning cultural phenomenon 'Hamilton.'

The musical continues to play to record breaking audience numbers across the globe and our students were very lucky to see the show at the newly restored Victoria Palace Theatre.

Hamilton tells the story of America's Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, an immigrant from the West Indies who became George Washington's right-hand man during the Revolutionary War and helped shape the very foundations of the America we know today. The score blends hip-hop, jazz, blues, rap and R&B making it appeal to our students some of whom were seeing live theatre for the first time. For Year 7 Ryan the rap battle was his favourite part of the production!

As well as experiencing the thrill of a visit to London and watching such an outstanding live performance, the students were fortunate to take part in a technical demonstration and a Q&A session with the cast. This was an amazing opportunity for our students. It enabled them to begin to understand how musical theatre operates and to appreciate how many career opportunities are associated with the theatre.

Miss Abadir, English teacher, comments: "It was a pleasure to accompany the year 7s on this theatre visit. Not only were the whole cast, the music and the staging amazing, we all learned so much from the technical demonstration."



Sustainability at NCL

New College Leicester have always looked at ways of becoming more and more sustainable and this year has been no exception. With tree plantings happening to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee to the installation of new solar panels to keep those energy costs down, New College Leicester have now created a sustainability group to look at other ways we can become even more sustainable.

The next academic year will see some of our staff and students tackle our quad which is home to our chickens and ducks.

This area is a haven for wildlife and we may even look to grow our own fruit and veg to then be able to pass on.

Watch this space for further developments.



Powerful Messages from Singer Songwriter Maddox Jones



Students across the school were very privileged to receive a visit from mental health advocate and singer songwriter Maddox, who made a strong impression with his powerful words about the consequences of substance abuse and the need to develop positive mental health strategies. His music went down well too!

As well as being a singer with a large social media following, Maddox has chosen to educate students through his musical talents and influence and by the delivery of hard hitting and valuable information about the consequences of drug and alcohol use.

His visit was undoubtedly a hit with students. Here's a selection of their comments:

"Amazing music!"

"Down to earth guy."

"The information was really helpful."

"I am going to follow him on social media, he is fantastic!"



The staff are hoping that Maddox's visit will reinforce key messages from the NCL Health and Wellbeing curriculum reminding students of strategies to promote mental health and helping them to evaluate their own life choices when considering the impact alcohol and drugs could have. Maddox's presentation wowed the staff as much as the students! Here's what they had to say:

"They were incredible."

"They tailored each session to the different students and really got them involved in all year groups. They were so impressive."

"They worked really hard all day too, delivering long sessions."

Maddox's visit was so impactful that news of it provoked a very heartfelt response from one parent.

"I just wanted to send a quick thank-you to the school for bringing in the singer Maddox last week.

"My stepdaughter had the absolute best time watching a live performance and gained a lot from the speech he gave. She came back from school and opened up to her father and I about her anxiety and worries. She most certainly felt inspired by whatever he said about the importance of speaking to someone if you feel you need help and gave her the nudge to do it.

Thanks so much. Can you please thank the teacher that booked him in? I really appreciate it!"

To discover more about Maddox Jones please check out his various social media accounts as follows:

Twitter - @theprimeagency

Instagram - @theprimeagency

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/theprimeagencyofficial>

Leicester Tigers Festival of Rugby Inspires Young Players

Students from years 8 and 9 enjoyed the opportunity to take part in the recent Leicester Tigers Festival of Rugby for boys. Held at Loughborough Grammar School's playing fields, schools across Leicestershire competed against each other after having training sessions led by the Leicester Tigers' coaches.



As well as being great fun, this grassroots developmental festival was planned to promote and inspire students to play rugby, whilst also giving them the opportunity to socialise and compete against other schools.

Maybe this positive experience with top class coaching may have inspired some of our students to consider joining their local rugby club and who knows, they may one day go on to play for a Premiership Rugby Club!



Inspiring Year 9 Sports Leaders in Action



Year 9 Sports Leaders have been developing their skills at the recent Primary Schools Boccia event held at the Watershed Youth Centre.

They were there to assist members of the Inspire Together team in managing the event. As such they played a role in the organisation of the primary schools who were attending and in officiating games.

This event was planned to give primary SEND school students a chance to compete against other schools in a game-based activity. It also supported NCL students towards the achievement of their Sports Leaders Award.

Never heard of Boccia? It's a sport that has been around for some time and one in which our Great Britain team has enjoyed international success. It's a totally inclusive sport and can be played by anyone regardless of age, gender, ability or disability. Boccia is the only sporting option for many severely disabled and older people with limited motor skills.

A little bit similar to bowls, from a seated position, players propel balls to land as close as possible to a white marker ball, known as the Jack. Two sides compete as individuals, pairs or as a team of three over a set number of ends. It's described as a sport of intriguing tactics, incredible skill and nail-biting tension and once you see it or play it you will be hooked!

Thank-you to our Year 9 Sports Leaders for their support at this event, described by Mr Williams, Sports Technician, as 'fun and enjoyable.'



LCFC Experience Renders Year 7 Students Speechless



Even before the Leicester City squad had taken to the pitch, our 26 year 7 students who were at the club for a special visit were overwhelmed just by entering the King Power Stadium and seeing it in its glory prior to the start of the match.

This was no ordinary visit to watch a Premier League football match. Our year 7s had first been put through their paces in a training session lasting one and a half hours. To replenish all the used-up energy, they then tucked into a meal delivered for them by Pizza Hut before heading out to watch the match.

Indeed, with both teams fighting to stay in the Premier League this was a match both teams

needed to win to put the relegation battle behind them. No surprise then that the quality of the football did not disappoint. With Wolves going ahead after 13 minutes, a penalty for LCFC when Vardy was brought down in the box, scored by Iheanacho, and the final decisive winner from Timothy Castagne, a great performance saw the Foxes move out of the bottom three. This crucial win gave the LCFC fans something to shout about and the atmosphere at the ground was electric.

Our year 7s were fortunate to be there to share this memorable experience.

We also hope the visit gave our students an insight into the world of professional football and the many careers available in sport.



Inspire Together West Leicester Athletics Competition



NCL students showed they were ready for action in both track and field events at the recent annual athletics inter-school event organised by Inspire Together. The Saffron Lane Athletics Stadium opened its doors to welcome enthusiastic young athletes from year 7 through to year 10.

The event gives students the opportunity to take part in a range of athletic events in a competitive but supportive environment, putting their skills to the test amongst others in their age group. It also provides the chance for students to show their determination and positive attitude as they endeavour to achieve their personal best.

New College's successes at the event include:

U13 Girls

Nicole Chapman – 100m – 3rd
Ava Dance-Brooks – 200m – 3rd
Nicole Chapman – Long Jump – 3rd

U13 Boys

Andrew Ewaen – 100m – 2nd
Louis West – 300m - 3rd
Ty Grant – Long Jump – 3rd
Andrew Ewaen – Discus – 1st

U15 Boys

Jordan Kargbo – Javelin – 1st

U17 Girls

Kasja Bednarek – 1500m – 3rd
Miracle Ekhaton – 100m – 2nd
Miracle Ekhaton – Triple Jump – 2nd

U17 Boys

Brooklyn Cooke – 1500m – 2nd
Charlie Cuthbert – 200m – 3rd
Kayne White-Hill – Triple Jump – 1st

Comments from the participating students show their appreciation of the opportunity:

"Loved competing in a big athletics stadium."

"Got to experience triple jump for the first time."

"Loved being there with my school friends, cheering them on and supporting them."

Liz Clark, Head of PE, comments: *"This was a fabulous occasion presenting our students with the opportunity to show their talents in a range of athletic events and to show their positive 'I can do' mentality. Being able to watch the skills of students from other schools was very worthwhile and gave us an appreciation of what great young athletes we have in Leicester. Congratulations to all NCL athletes. You did yourselves and the college proud!"*



Sports Careers Talk Shows Students What is Possible Off the Pitch

The Sports Career Event held recently at the college was designed to provide our students with information about the wide range of opportunities that are out there and perhaps sow the seeds of a future career route.

Year 10 BTEC students and Year 9 students were invited to a series of talks presented by guest speakers who have built a successful career in the industry. Each speaker spoke about the skills and qualities required and the journeys they have taken to where they are today. Each talk was followed by a Q&A session to enable the students to find out more.



Our guest speakers included:

- Jordan Hicks, American football linebacker for the Minnesota Vikings.
- Dodici Otto, sports clothing brand designer.
- Katie Ward, founder of Studio Four, a sports nutritionist and fitness expert.
- Jack Bryan, head coach at Leicester Futsal and football coach at Future Elite Sports.
- Wayne Allsopp, Business Development Manager here at New College.

We were also delighted to welcome former students Louis Neal, Daniel Wholton, and Molly Woolmer who shared their experiences of pursuing a career in sport.



What did our students think of the event? Here's a selection of their reviews:

"Eye opening of all the different possible careers to do with Sport."

"Made me want to work hard and follow my passion."

"It really made me consider a career in sport."

"I didn't even realise you could do a job in Sports Medicine. I'd love to do that."

Liz Clark, Head of PE comments: "I'm pleased to read the positive responses from our students who attended the event. At this stage in the lives of our students we want to raise their awareness of career possibilities, to broaden their horizons and to help them understand the skills, qualifications and attributes needed to achieve that career. We're doing this across all the curriculum at the college and the PE department is pleased to play its role in helping our students begin to realise the range of career choices associated with sport."

NCL Students Touch Down at American Flag Football Tournament

American Flag football may be a new sport for many of you. We've probably all heard of American Football but not the flag version. Think of tag rugby and you're getting close. This is a version of American Football but without any physical contact. Tackling down opponents is not allowed. Instead, as in tag rugby, tackles are made by pulling off flags which the players wear on their hips. It's a sport which has a growing amateur following with competitions held at national and international level.



An invitation to send a team to compete in a flag football event at Loughborough University was not to be missed. Students in year 7 and year 8 attended some training sessions here at the college before heading off to the event. Nobody was sure what to expect but it was a good opportunity for our students to further develop their knowledge of the game by playing competitively against other local schools.

The session started with the allocation of team names. We were chosen to represent the New York Jets and were delighted to be wearing a Jets' jersey for our matches. Things started well for our team who drew 6-6 to Brookvale School, with a fantastic touchdown by Louie West. Our second game ended in defeat against Wreake Valley 18-6, although a fantastic touchdown was scored by Ava Dance-Brook. We went through to a quarter final game against Longfield Spencer Academy. Unfortunately, we were well beaten 18-0 in our final match.

Despite two defeats, our students absolutely loved the experience, and worked so hard in spite of the warm weather conditions. They are excited at the possibility of an after-school American Flag club next year.

Annual Sports Awards 2023 at New College Leicester

Our Sports Awards are held each year to acknowledge the students' commitment to participating in extra-curricular sport, their attitude to learning and their progress and attainment in physical education and in BTEC Sport Studies.

This year's event saw almost 100 students receive this prized recognition. We know how proud our students are of their achievements and how much they value being rewarded and acknowledged for all their

sustained efforts over the year. It also means so much to their families who love seeing their children's commitment recognised in this way.

Notable awards this year include:

KS3 Sports Person of the Year awarded to Lola Carlisle and Owen Sargent.



KS4 Sports Person of the Year awarded to Carolyn Carlisle and Brooklyn Cooke.



In the Trenches with Year 9 History students



Thirty-six of our year 9 history students recently took part in a memorable, residential visit to see first-hand the significant battlefields of WW1 and the associated museums located in Belgium and France.

At the Vimy Ridge Museum the students learned about the Canadian soldiers who came over the Ridge during World War I to support the offensive the German soldiers. Who the Allies

were trying to push back. One student commented:

“Knowing we were walking in the footsteps of some of the soldiers who were only our age and through their tunnels and trenches was very moving experience.”

The following day was packed with experiences. In the morning, the students visited Essex Farm Cemetery where John McCrae was stationed, the author of the poem ‘In Flanders Fields.’ A local history guide provided a tour in which students found out about the fighting that took place nearby during WW1.



Later in the day, our year 9s students had the privilege of visiting Tye Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth cemetery where over 11800 soldiers are buried and over 15,000 commemorated for their sacrifice. One of our students, Pari, read a poem in honour of the lives of the fallen soldiers that are buried there.



This was a very busy day as we managed to fit in another visit, this time to the Sanctuary Wood Museum, where students were able to experience what life in the trenches would have been like for soldiers during WW1. They explored tunnels and trenches which helped them understand the terrible conditions facing the soldiers. Reflecting on their experience of life in the trenches one student said:

“The trip gave an idea of what it might have been like for soldiers fighting especially some who were my age.”

In the Trenches with Year 9 History students continued....



In the evening we were further privileged by having the opportunity lay a wreath in the last post ceremony at the Menin Gate. This ceremony takes place at 8pm every night to commemorate those who died fighting in WW1. Ethan, Lola, and Hanna represented the college with utmost respect. Our representatives commented:

“We felt very privileged to take part in the ceremony and be the first ones to lay a wreath on the night.”

The final day of the residential arrived and it was time for some fun! After a continental breakfast at the Hotel Hinterland, the students visited the stunning De Panne Beach where they played football, indulged in some lovely ice cream, and checked out the souvenir shops!



Mr Mansoor, Head of History was impressed with the conduct of our Year 9s throughout the trip. He comments:

“This residential visit added so much to the topic of WW1 which we have been covering in class. It shows the ethos and commitment of the History Department to bring learning to life by providing the students with as many history related experiences as possible. We really hope that visits such as this help to generate a love of history!”

NCL Science Students Visit the National Space Centre



A group of year 9 students accompanied Mr Tandi from our Science Department on a visit to the National Space Centre in Leicester to take part in a series of activities designed to deepen their knowledge and understanding of STEM subjects. The particular focus was to raise the students' awareness of the wide range of career paths using STEM subjects that are available in the space industry.

With six interactive galleries, the UK's largest planetarium, and the iconic 42m high Rocket Tower, the award-winning National Space Centre is billed as an out of this world experience. We certainly hope our students found it so!

Students enjoyed participating in various workshops learning about drones and space materials. They were eager to discover the range of careers involved in space technology. As they are soon to transition into year 10, it was interesting for them to gain some idea of the variety of pathways available to achieve employment in the space industry based on their studies at NCL.



Moving on Up! Year 6 Taster Days at NCL



Leaving primary school to continue your educational journey can be a daunting prospect for some of the year 6s currently faced with having to make the giant leap into the world of secondary education.

To turn the worry into excitement, we were pleased to hold a series of taster days and welcomed a group of 24 pupils from various primary to spend 3 days at the college. Starting with the grand tour of all our wonderful facilities, the pupils joined in with a variety of lessons.

Working in our Science rooms was a special experience. The pupils were tasked with completing a range of experiments to

determine the acidity of various substances and recording their findings. Other experiences saw the visitors enjoying Art, Maths, English, Music, French and Food Technology.

Their 3-day visit ended with the students making bread to take home. As the photos show, we had some very impressive bakers amongst us!

Alongside the opportunities to find out about lessons at NCL, the taster days gave the pupils a chance to get a feel for the college, to find out about expectations, routines, and the social side of being a student at NCL. No better way to experience this perhaps than by experiencing our well-ordered lunchtime which provides meals of exceptional quality. The pupils were impressed with the wide variety of food on offer and commented on how good it was.



We hope our visitors feel reassured about all the opportunities that await them here at NCL and the support they will be given to help them to settle. We're looking forward to having them join us and from what we saw on the taster days, we're sure they become a very worthy year 7.

Thank-you to Mrs Mercer and all the staff who supported our very successful year 6 taster days.

On the Trail of World War One in Leicester



Year 9 history students at NCL were recently out and about in Leicester enjoying an immersive experience on the theme of WW1 which provided a great complement to their studies back at school. The varied range of experiences certainly engaged and made a strong impression on the students as they found out more about the First World War and its impact on the lives of ordinary people.

The WW1 Walking Trail has been devised by Historic England and takes the students through a variety of simulations to help them develop an understanding of the war and an empathy with those who experienced it.

The first stop on the trail was at The Y Theatre, a former billeting post before the soldiers were shipped out for duty. The students watched a performance presenting both pro and anti-war arguments which were prevalent at the time. This was a valuable experience in seeing historical events from different

perspectives and provided plenty of material for debate back at school.

Then it was off to the Town Hall where students became army recruits having been enlisted by the Recruiting Corporal who greeted them. Filling in the enlistment forms made this a very real experience for the students as they stepped into the shoes of the WW1 recruits. The Town Hall was actually used as a recruiting station in 1914.

The impact of war on people's lives was explored with a visit to the New Walk Museum where the students met Magda, a woman whose husband had died serving his country in WW1. This tragic story was sadly not uncommon and showed the devastating human impact of war when a family is left to survive in hard times without its breadwinner. The experience inspired Magda to become a suffragette and a pacifist.

Then back in their role as young, inexperienced recruits, the students headed to the site of the former Leicester Barracks at the Magazine to be put through their paces as they learned the essential skill of marching correctly!

The busy day was rounded off by a visit to Newarke Houses Museum to meet WW1 soldier, Jed Jaggard, who shared the inside information on the reality of daily life in the trenches and what it was like to engage in combat.



The final words go to one of our history students who enjoyed everything about the day!

"I really enjoyed the trip and learnt how many places in Leicester are linked to World War One, like the Y Theatre and the Town Hall. I really enjoyed hearing the arguments in the performance at the Y theatre and marching!"

Many thanks to Ismail Dale, East Midlands Officer for Historic England, for coordinating this thought-provoking day.





In the Steps of William the Conqueror

The history department here at NCL is always keen to present its students with first hand learning opportunities to complement their classroom studies. Fortunately, our location in Leicester which is steeped in history gives some good opportunities to get out and about. However, this time it was the turn of our 37 year 10 students to travel further afield as they headed off to London.

Tower Bridge and the Tower of London were the destinations to help the students broaden their study of Norman England, part of their GCSE syllabus. The Tower of London, still a Royal Palace, has played a key role in English history ever since it was constructed by William the Conqueror in the wake of his Norman invasion of 1066 and has witnessed some dramatic events such as the imprisonment of Henry V111's wives, Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard.

Aside from stepping in the footsteps of William the Conqueror, we find that students are always excited to immerse themselves in the sights and sounds of the capital, with this the first visit for many of them. Here's some of their comments:

"This is my first time to London and I really enjoyed it. I can't wait to come back and learn more about its history." Holly

"My favourite part of the tour was the White Tower and knowing it was built by William the Conqueror." Kane

"Knowing we stood where the likes of Anne Boleyn may have stood was really amazing." Jack



After a thoroughly rewarding and memorable visit, our year 10s were safely transported back to Leicester, narrowly escaping being locked in the Tower!



A Visit to the International Slavery Museum

Located in the Albert Dock area of Liverpool, a World Heritage site, the museum has three main galleries dedicated to developing our understanding of transatlantic, and other forms of enslavement. Through its exhibitions the museum highlights the international importance of slavery, both in a historic and contemporary context.

It was, therefore, the ideal venue for NCL's year 8 history students to visit to further their study of the transatlantic slave trade, the role played by key abolitionists and its long lasting effect on Britain. Our 40 students taking part in the visit, had the benefit of a guided tour from one of the knowledgeable curators which enabled them to have a detailed, informative look at some of the exhibits.



The students showed a sensitive response to the visit which broached some challenging topics. As one student pointed out:

"I enjoyed the tour but was really shocked to see the shackles and artefacts from the time."

For others the guided tour added more depth to their knowledge:

"The tour was really informative, and I enjoyed learning about the Haitian Revolution."

Miss Lehane, history teacher comments: "With some emotionally challenging material to grapple with, this was always going to be a moving and difficult visit, but it provided the perfect complement to our classroom studies. Whilst we were approaching the topic from a historical perspective, the learning we took from it cut across so many subject areas such as human rights and modern-day slavery, making this a relevant experience for understanding the world in which they live."



In the Footsteps of Henry VIII

It's not every day that our students can step back in time and visit a world-famous palace that was one the home of a notorious Tudor monarch and his six wives.

Fifty-year 7 history students benefitted from such an opportunity when they visited Hampton Court Palace, home of Henry V111 and other British monarchs. As part of their course work, the students have focused on 'Religion and The Monarchy' and the trip to Hampton Court was planned to bring the topic alive. Nothing beats first hand learning and so the chance to walk in Henry's footsteps by stepping into one of his palaces was a powerful experience for our students.



They saw evidence of key elements of Tudor history which provided a meaningful context for their classroom studies and helped to reinforce their understanding of the religious changes the country underwent during the reign of Henry VIII

Feedback from the students showed how impressed they were:

"The palace was amazing. I can't believe we were somewhere that King Henry VIII has been."

"You could feel the history as you walked around the old buildings. I liked seeing the chapel and where they would have kept the crown."

The students' observations reminded us that the palace was at one time the home and playground of the royal family, as well as a setting for nationally important events and lavish banquets.

"All of Henry VIII's wives had been to the palace, and his children lived there too."

"I loved the palace gardens and the maze. We also got to see where Henry VIII played tennis."

Summing up the day, Miss Kay, history teacher comments:

"Our visit to Hampton Court certainly fired the enthusiasm of our year 7 history students. Their curiosity, the quality of the questions they asked, and their impeccable behaviour made them a pleasure to be with. I'm looking forward to more days like this with this great group as we continue our mission to broaden the learning experiences of our students."



NCL Students Winning Design for Lord Mayor's Sickle Cell Campaign



The Lord Mayor of Leicester, Cllr George Cole, the city's first African-Caribbean holder of the post, has chosen to support The Sickle Cell Society throughout his term of office. During the year he has been involved in many events to raise awareness of the condition, and to highlight the work being undertaken in the city to improve the lives of people with sickle cell across Leicester.

Students at New College were pleased to use their talents and rally to the Lord Mayor's latest initiative which called for designs for information leaflets, power point presentations and posters to spread awareness about sickle-cell disease throughout Leicester. This took the form of a competition for schools and recently the short-listed entrants were invited to the Town Hall for the award ceremony. Thirteen students from across the city attended the event, seven of whom were from New College. Our students walked away with four of the five major prizes, including that of overall winner.

Congratulations to all New College students who supported this worthy cause and a special shout out to Prabhjot Kaur, overall winner. Highly commended prize winners were Hollie Woolley, Vidhi Arachande and Annora Nwachukwu. Receiving commended certificates were Lucy Rudzitis, Lukas Kubicki and Amber Richardson.

Although the students were delighted with their success, their comments about the competition remind us that this was about more than winning. If in some small way our students have helped to support the Lord Mayor's campaign, then everyone is a winner. Here are their words:

Hollie Woolley: "I really enjoyed the event, and it made me feel proud because I could make a difference and make people more aware of sickle cell disease."

Annora Nwachukwu: "The award ceremony was an exciting and proud moment for both the school and for me. I felt happy to be one of the winners but also happy that I helped people learn about sickle cell anaemia."



The Lord Mayor was joined at the presentation by Amy Webster, consultant haematologist at Leicester Royal Infirmary and Acey Eghan who has sickle cell. Commenting on the Lord Mayor's latest initiative Janine Hall, Art Teacher at NCL who also attended had this to say:

"Working alongside our students on their competition entries gave me the opportunity to discover more about sickle cell which is an inherited condition affecting the haemoglobin protein found in red blood cells. It mostly affects people whose ancestors originate from Africa, the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, and Asia. It was interesting to hear of the work being

undertaken by Leicester Royal Infirmary's dedicated Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Unit and to listen to how the condition impacts on people's lives. Along with the students, I am much better informed and really hope the publicity material designed by NCL students and others do help to raise awareness and support for the Sickle Cell Society."

Inspiring a Love of Learning – the NCL Aspire Programme



We may have heard of Leonardo da Vinci through his fame as a great Renaissance painter responsible for works such as the Mona Lisa and the Last Supper but the range of his achievements extends beyond art and into fields such as engineering, science, architecture and mathematics.

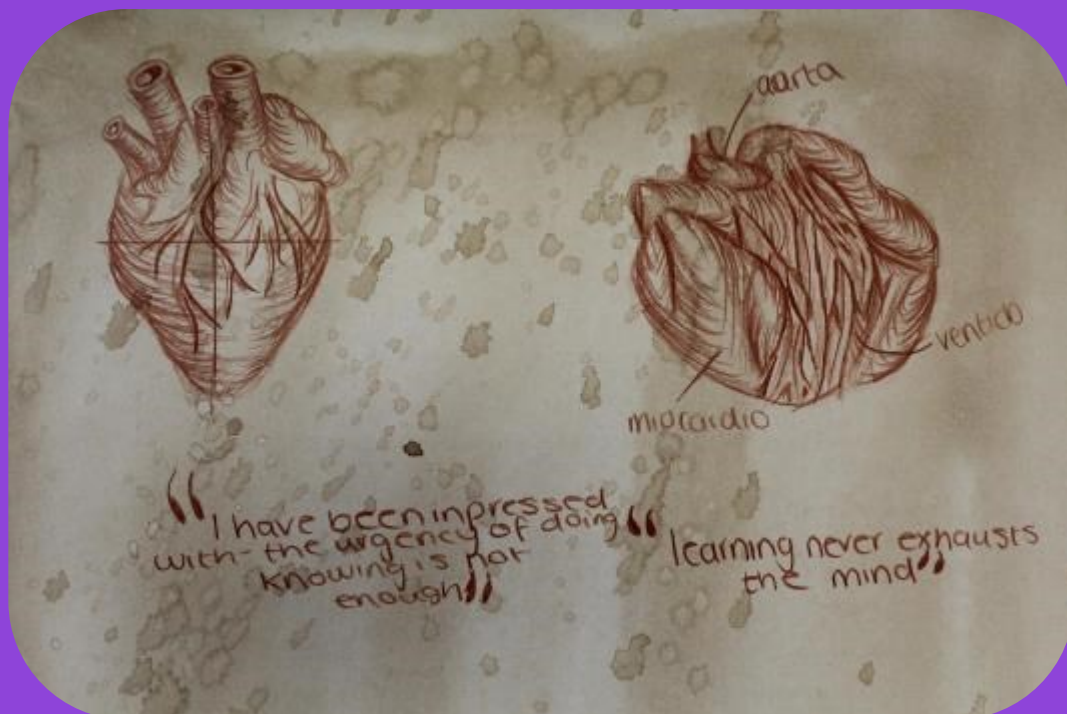
Thirty-two Year 8 students who are part of our Aspire Programme were introduced to Leonardo's work on the study of human anatomy, particularly his focus on anatomical dissections and their impact on modern surgical techniques of today.

With many students aspiring to pursue a career within medicine this was a fantastic opportunity led by our Health and Social Care team and our head of Art, Mr Thomas.

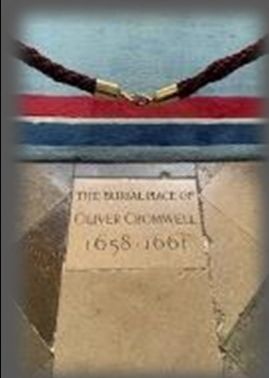
The students were given the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of Da Vinci by dissecting hearts and making detailed diagrams from their observations, recreating some of Da Vinci's anatomical drawing techniques.

Commenting on the students' achievements Mr Thomas said, "The students were amazing in the maturity of their approach to this opportunity and responded with great respect and sensitivity to the subject matter."

In the words of one student, "That was the best Aspire masterclass – I enjoyed learning about dissections and how Da Vinci would use them to improve his art."



GCSE Citizenship Visit to London



An action-packed visit to London saw our citizenship students having a whistle stop tour of a trio of historic institutions. This provided the students to engage with the political experience of Parliament and to discover the political nature of Westminster Abbey and the work of the Supreme Court.

Westminster Abbey, a world heritage site, was featured this year in the coronation of King Charles III. Since 1066 it has been the location of 40 such coronations and royal weddings and is the burial place of poets, kings, queens, and many other famous people. Our students were there to learn more about the politics behind the only church in the UK owned by the Monarchy.

They visited the nearby Supreme Court and had the opportunity to sit in on a case.

Then it was a short walk to the Houses of Parliament where the students took part in a guided tour and heard parliamentary business about mental health being discussed. Following a workshop about law making and debating, they met with our member of parliament. Liz Kendall. This was an excellent opportunity to meet with a decision maker. Our candidates for the role of next PM of our student parliament had the opportunity to ask questions and have a photograph taken with her.

Head of Citizenship, Sera Shortland comments:

"It was a pleasure to spend a day in London with our hard-working citizenship students. Being in the capital and near the River Thames is always a wonderful experience but having the opportunity to visit a trio of historic institutions and see how they related to our citizenship studies gave a meaningful context to their work back in school."



Meet our Safeguarding Team here at New College Leicester!

At New College Leicester, the safety of our students at all times is of paramount importance to us. Every student at New College Leicester has been given a "How to stay safe" card. The card has been designed so that students can keep it with them at all times for their reference. This card has important information on it as to how students can stay safe in college, at home, in the community, on-line and near water, fire, roads and railways. If your child needs a replacement copy of the "How to stay safe" card please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor. To contact any member of the safeguarding team please contact the college on 0116 231 8500.

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Rudge-Tezcan

Designated Members of Staff



Ms Amani



Mr Pereira



Mrs Walker



Miss Carlisle



Mr Porter



Miss Wright



Mrs Dawson
Safeguarding Admin

Mental Health First Aiders here at New College Leicester

There are plenty of different types of support out there, and a Mental Health First Aider can help you access the support you need to feel better.



Mental Health First Aiders are a point of contact if you, or someone you are concerned about, are experiencing a mental health issue or emotional distress. They are not therapists or psychiatrists but they can give you initial support and signpost you to appropriate help if required.

Your Mental Health First Aiders are.....



Mrs J Brown



Mrs L Dawson



Mrs T Mercer



Mr M Pereira



Mr M Porter



Mrs E Rudge-Tezcan



Mrs K Simpson

IMPORTANT NEWS



Does your child have a medical condition that we are not aware of, or do they no longer suffer with a condition that we currently have on our system? If you answer yes to these questions please contact us so we can update our records.

Have you changed your address, contact number or email address? If so please inform the school of the new details so we can update your child's records.

Uniform

At New College Leicester we have high uniform expectations. We expect all our students to come to school in the correct uniform every day. As a reminder of our uniform expectations please refer to our website

www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk/uniform/404.html



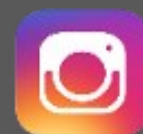
Scooters/Bikes

Students who come to school on bikes or non-electric scooters should be parking them in the student bike shelters located inside the student entrance and NOT at the main reception bike shelter. Please be aware that all students MUST lock these up in the shelter as the students are responsible for their own property and leave them in the shelter at their own risk.

Please note electric scooters are not permitted to be brought to school as the law states that electric scooters are illegal to use on public roads, pavements, in cycle lanes and in pedestrian-only areas!

Keep following us on Social Media!

To keep up to date with everything we do here, you can not only visit our website www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk, but you can follow us on twitter @NewCollegeLeice, on Facebook @newcollegeleice and on Instagram @newcollegeleics



From everyone at New College Leicester, have a great Summer

COMING UP!



New College Leicester Open Evening

#ThisIsUs



Thursday 14th September 2023
4 pm – 7 pm Everybody Welcome!

#wheretyousucceed #wheretyoubelong #wheretyouachieve



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