

Newsletter

March 2023



Message from the Principal

Thank you all for your support and encouragement this term. With your support we are moving forward and maintaining our high expectations. Our students are a credit to the college and we are very proud of them.

It's been a very busy term with students working hard in lessons and taking part in lots of additional activities. Students have visited different cities, had various authors and speakers visit them and have had the privilege to meet and talk to different councillors that represent them and their families. All part of the rounded education that we are really proud to offer.

Next term is a really busy term with exam season starting. Yr11 in particular should be revising over the Easter break, please continue to support and encourage our amazing young people—they can do it!

We hope that you have a lovely break over Easter and we look forward to welcoming our students back, ready to learn on Monday 17th April at 9.00am.

Mrs Brown, Principal

Happy Easter!



World Book day comes to New College



NCL's Book Week, 27 February to 3 March, which incorporates World Book Day on 2 March, has become an eagerly awaited annual event on the school calendar. This is not surprising as so much activity is packed into the week which is all about creating a 'buzz' around books and reading for pleasure.

This year's activities in English included poetry writing in year 7, story writing in year 8 and character creation in year 9. However, events were not confined to the English department but spread across the whole college.

Staff delighted the students by dressing in costumes portraying characters from their favourite books. Voting for the 'best dressed member of staff competition' got everyone involved with talking about the books the characters came from. The students loved the spectacle created by a school full of literary characters!

Then, worthy of any TV show there was NCL's version of the 'Masked Voice' featuring teachers reading out extracts from their favourite books and students being challenged to guess the teacher.



Form groups put their knowledge of literature to good use in creating fantastic designs for their classroom doors with students then voting for the best door.

Ashmeet, year 9 student, voices the views of many students:

"I think it is really good we talk about books across the school."

A buzz around reading was certainly achieved during the week but here at NCL we have a year round focus on assisting our students to become expert readers and so we extend the fun and love of books generated during the week to motivate everyone to become a reader.

2023 Dates for your diary

- **Monday 17th Apr**
Term starts
- **Wednesday 19th—Thursday 20th Apr**
Yr11 Art Exam
- **Thursday 20th Apr**
Live Tour for parents
Yr9 & 10 Sports Leaders event
- **Friday 21st Apr**
Yr11 Drama exam
- **Monday 24th Apr**
Yr9-10 Sports Careers event
Yr8 Outdoor Pursuits trip
- **Tuesday 25th Apr**
Yr11 Music assessment
- **Wednesday 26th Apr**
Yr7 & 8 UK Maths Challenge
Yr8-11 HPV Vaccinations
Yr9 & 10 Sports Leaders event
- **Friday 28th Apr**
Yr7 & 8 STEM roadshow
Yr7 Hampton Court Palace trip
- **Tuesday 2nd May—Friday 5th May**
Yr7 & 8 exams
- **Thursday 4th May**
Live Tour for parents
P16 practical Hair & Beauty exam
- **Friday 5th May**
Yr9 & 10 Sports Leaders event
- **Wednesday 10 May**
Yr7-10 Arts Award trip to The Curve
- **Friday 12th May**
Yr8 Slavery Museum trip
- **Monday 15th May — Wednesday 21st June**
Yr11 GCSE exams
- **Monday 15th May**
Yr8 Outdoor Pursuits trip
- **Thursday 18th May**
Yr-10 City Athletics Competition
- **Monday 22nd May**
Yr8 Outdoor Pursuits trip
- **Friday 26th May**
End of Term

Duke of Edinburgh Volunteers Plant Tree to Commemorate Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee



We were delighted to receive the news that we had been successful in our bid to win a tree to plant in our grounds from the Queen's Green Canopy campaign. This was set up to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee earlier this year and is sponsored by outdoor clothing brand Craghoppers.

In addition to being a UK wide tree planting initiative, the Queen's Garden Canopy campaign also aims to create training programmes for unemployed young people by putting them through Capel Manor College, a specialist environmental college in Enfield, London.

The New College Tree was planted by seven volunteers from year 9 and 10 who are currently working hard to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Our volunteers spent just under an hour digging the perfect sized hole for the tree and even got the opportunity to wear some of the Craghoppers waterproofs, which were perfect for the job.

After a successful morning of building their leadership skills and working together as a team, Craghoppers also gifted our volunteers some lovely, personalised hoodies to help them remember their special day.

Well done everyone!

Years 7 and 8 Futsal



Futsal may be a new name in sport for many of us but it's one we'll be hearing plenty of in the future given the rising popularity of the game. So, we'll start this report by asking, 'What is Futsal?'

Briefly Futsal is a football-based game played on a hard court smaller than a football pitch, and mainly indoors. It has similarities to five-a-side football and indoor football. With only 5 team

members on the court at any one time, this small-sided game is big in much of Europe and all over the world. Rolling substitutes are allowed from a squad of 14 and the game ball is smaller and less bouncy than in football. Futsal is seen as a great sport in itself but is also regarded as a good development tool for the 11-a-side game. It may be new to many of us, but the game has been around since the 1930s.

Futsal is proving popular with NCL students and others across Leicestershire and so we were delighted to take part in a recent tournament for Year 7s and one for Year 8s hosted by Babington Academy, along with students from Beaumont Leys.

PE teacher, Mr Perkins, reports on the Year 7 fixtures:

"Our first match against Babington ended in a tight 4-4 draw, with both teams really giving it their all. Goals came from Leo Gatward (2), Jacob Zielinski, and Ty Grant. After fighting tooth and nail for the draw, tired legs saw a 4-1 defeat in the second game against Beaumont Leys. Despite this, students were not disheartened, did not get on each other's back, and showed respect at the end of the game when shaking hands. Our goal came from Mako Mohammad."

The Year 8s pulled off a last-minute victory to seal a win in both their fixtures. Mr Perkins reports: "In our first match we played Beaumont Leys and beat them 6-2. Goals coming from David Helwani (2), Regan Cufflin, Amir Naouis and Simon Rusom (2). In the second match against Babington, they showed great resilience, constantly coming from a goal down until the last few minutes where they clinched a late goal to seal a 6-5 victory. Goals coming from David Helwani (4), Harrison Williams and Simon Rusom. A special shout out to David Helwani for his player of the match performance."

Thanks go to Babington for organising these fixtures which gave the students an opportunity to experience Futsal and to represent the school in competitive fixtures.

How did the students rate Futsal? Seemingly very well as they are already asking for further matches! It seems the fast pace of the game appealed to them, not to mention the joy for the year 8s of winning both matches and very creditable performances from our Year 7s. Congratulations to all players for being such good representatives of NCL.



Badminton Tournaments Round-Up

KS3 and KS4 students recently put their best badminton skills to the test in a series of tournaments held at Babington Academy and arranged by the Leicestershire School Sports Partnership (LSSP). The events were organised on a pool basis with the winners of pool A playing the winners of pool B for overall 1st and 2nd place, with those finishing in second place in each pool playing each other for 3rd and 4th place and the third placed schools in each pool paying for 5th and 6th place.

Facing stiff competition from the other 5 schools participating, the NCL KS3 boys' team performed well to achieve second place in their group. Going through to the play offs for 3rd/4th spot against Babington, a tight game

saw Babington take the win, 3-2 resulting in NCL finishing in 4th place overall. Commenting on the fixture Mr Perkins, NCL PE teacher said, "Our students really enjoyed it and asked if it would be on next year. Students also suggested attending badminton club after school to improve in preparation for this."

The KS3 girls' team played well to achieve third place in their pool and went on to be victorious in their play-off game resulting in an overall fifth spot for the team. Mr Perkins reports, "Students were really pleased with the outcome and did not let the first two matches determine how they finished up. Students showed a brilliant 'I can' mentality for the final game when a lot of people would have been disheartened."

In the KS4 tournament the boys were drawn in the pool play offs to compete for the 3rd or 4th overall spot. Unfortunately, they finished in 4th place but credit to the team who admitted they hadn't played for several months and possibly took a while to start finding some rhythm. Despite winning this tournament last year, the step up from KS3 to KS4 proved a much faster pace of game. Students are relishing the thought of coming back next year when they will be in year 11, hopefully to regain the trophy!

Thank you to Babington Academy for hosting the tournament, to the LSSP for organising the event and well done to all our players on how well they represented our school.



Leicester Tigers Girls' Festival of Rugby

Inspired by the success of England's female rugby team, the Red Roses who reached the Rugby World Cup final recently, a group of Year 8/9 students seized the opportunity to find out more about women's rugby at an event hosted by Leicester Tigers at Leicester Forest East Rugby Club.

Training was provided by coaches from Leicester Tigers and then the girls were ready to try out their skills in a series of friendly tag rugby matches against other schools from across the county.

Will the girls give rugby a go in the future? From their positive feedback that might be a possibility. The students loved their experience of playing the game and enjoyed competing against other schools despite the cold weather. Who knows, we may have some future Red Roses amongst us!

Year 7's Hit the Right Notes at Soft Touch Arts Centre



Year 7 students received a boost to their experience of expressive arts with a visit to the Soft Touch Arts Centre, whilst also providing the opportunity for them to develop and strengthen relationships within the College's partnership with Soft Touch Arts.

During the visit the students had the opportunity to explore a wide range of resources and to take part in a music workshop, leading to the creation of their own piece of work with some of Soft Touch's highly skilled professional musicians and producers. It also gave them the experience of working within a music studio setting and gave an insight into the careers available in the arts.

Established in 1985, Soft Touch Arts aims to deliver fun and creative projects across the arts to interest young people and to help them realise the endless opportunities at both a personal and professional level that engagement with the arts can bring.

Our students loved their time at Soft Touch. Here's a selection of their comments:

"The trip to Soft Touch was really fun and, if I could go again, then I will. Also, I would do a lot more if I could."

"The trip to Soft Touch was amazing! I liked playing different instruments and I love the art they've made."



"What I enjoyed about the Soft Touch trip was that it was a fun experience and we made art. We could also have a break from the stress at school and just have fun."

Given these positive impressions it would be wonderful if, as their skills and confidence grow, the students availed themselves of other experiences on offer at Soft Touch. As a community-based arts group, the centre is open to all, and students are welcome to join in with projects independently of school.





Hitler on Trial at the Y Theatre Leicester

Our Year 11 students are hard at work preparing for their GCSE in History and we're always looking for new ways to support them in achieving the best possible results.

A visit to the Y Theatre in Leicester provided the opportunity for an immersive experience in their study of Weimar and Nazi Germany. Hitler on Trial is a half-day presentation which opens with a grade-booster workshop in which the workshop leader explains the thinking behind the exam specifications, and shows students ways of improving their examination performance.

Using a free 16-page workbook, students mark answers to a set of questions covering each of the assessment objectives.

This is followed by a courtroom drama in which students are asked to imagine that Adolf Hitler

was captured by British Special Forces in 1942 and put on trial in a British court. In this court, the students are the jury.

The charges against Hitler are those drawn up by the International Military Tribunal during the war: crimes against peace; war crimes; and crimes against humanity. Here, he is tried for crimes against peace.

The play ends with the students voting whether or not Hitler is guilty.

Mr Mansoor, Head of History reports:

"The 42 students participating in this visit were brilliant and represented the school excellently on the day. Speaking to the students it seems they got a lot from the afternoon which should help them with their final exams."

From a student view, their Hitler on Trial experience, was well received.

"I really enjoyed the play and all the different perspectives from Germany it showed us. It was fun and educational."

"The trip was really good, and I liked the revision and exam activity we did at the start."

We wish our year 11s all the best in their forthcoming exams and hope that some of the skills learned in this experience supports the way they tackle exams in other subjects.

Students Visit the Imperial War Museum London



This was an educational visit to remember. Not only did it support the history curriculum, but it also gave 46 year 9 students the opportunity to visit London and to get a feel for our capital city.

The focus of the visit was to deepen the students' understanding and knowledge of WW2 and the Holocaust. In a dedicated workshop at the Imperial War

Museum they discussed the causes of the Holocaust and how it was able to happen. This brought out the depth and complexity of this area of study and helped the students to understand why it is still important to learn about the events today.

The students then went on to explore the museum's galleries which gave them the opportunity to look at a wide range of artefacts from the period.

The challenging visit certainly made an impact on the students. Here's a selection of their comments:

"I didn't realise how badly the Jewish people were treated – even after their deaths."

"Hitler controlled every aspect of life – he even had toys of himself, and top Nazis made for children."

"Even regular objects became treasured because everything else was taken away from them."

Miss Kay, teacher of History, comments:

"I hope the experiences at the Imperial War Museum gave a meaningful context to our studies at school and broadened their understanding for future learning. It may have inspired some students to further their study of history at GCSE level."



We continue learning about the holocaust because it is important to learn what the Jews went through.
-Sara♡

To remind people of the holocaust we should take lessons and experiences that we learn from the war period



A Holocaust Survivor

During a talk held at English Martyrs' Catholic School, Holocaust survivor, Simon Winston BEM, (British Empire Medal) shared the moving story of his early life as a young Jewish child, growing up in WW2.

Our year 9 history students went along to listen to his story which, because it was a first-hand account, added so much depth to their study of the Holocaust and the events of WW2.

Simon's talk was a once in a lifetime opportunity which brought the student's learning to life by allowing them to listen to his experiences of the terrible events and how they impacted on his later life.

Simon Winston was born in 1938 to a Jewish family in Radzivillov, Poland.

In 1941, the Nazis occupied Simon's town, imprisoned Simon and his family in a ghetto and subjected them to antisemitic laws. Conditions in the ghetto were abysmal, and, following an execution of 2000 Jews in 1942, Simon's father arranged for the family to escape the ghetto by bribing one of the German guards.

After escaping from the ghetto, the family survived by hiding in the cellar of a barn until liberation in 1945. After the war, the family were unable to return home and spent time in several Displaced Persons camps before emigrating to England, where they settled. After attending school, Simon became a civil engineer and then a teacher.

Now retired, Simon is working to make sure that the impact of the Nazi ideology on the lives of millions (not just Jews but gypsies, the disabled, other ethnic groups) of people who were deemed 'unworthy of life' is not forgotten but also to encourage young people to be active in their world by accepting difference, valuing democracy, and avoiding prejudice. He also raises awareness of the genocides that are sadly still happening in the world.

Miss Lehane, teacher of History comments:

"The 44 year 9 students attending showed exemplary behaviour and respect during the talk. They evidently understood the importance of the trip and showed the utmost respect by following instructions and listening attentively to the Holocaust survivor throughout.

They also demonstrated their confidence and interest by frequently answering Simon's questions."

Our students realised how fortunate they were to have this experience:

'It was amazing, we are so privileged to hear the story of someone who lived through the Holocaust.'

'It was really interesting to hear what he went through.'

Fun and Challenge at Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre

Year 7 students were well and truly tested when they visited the Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre (LOPC) recently. Offering a host of activities, the LOPC was a great choice to reward our year 7s for their excellent behaviour and efforts during PE.

This was no stroll in the park however, as the range of physical activities undertaken challenged the confidence and skills of our students. The Gladiator Challenge was particularly demanding! Hard hats on, the students were soon climbing and abseiling trying out their newly learned skills.



Mr Williams, PE Teacher, comments:

“It was a pleasure to accompany the year 7s on this visit and to see their willingness to have a go at a range of quite demanding activities. They supported each other well and the great behaviour we see during lessons at school continued throughout the day which made the visit particularly enjoyable. Well done year 7s.”



Award-Winning Author Presents 'History of Horror'



New College's Reading Week was given a boost when we were privileged to host a visit from William Hussey, author of over a dozen novels for young adults and grown-ups. William has been visiting schools for over a decade with the aim of getting young people excited about reading and encouraging them to write their own stories.

William worked with year 7 – 9 students throughout the day presenting workshops on the theme of 'History of Horror' and the 1600 witch trials. His interactive presentation, in the Horrible Histories-style, focused on writing, reading and an exploration of genre. William read extracts from one of his books and engaged the students in recreating a mock witch trial, in which they played major roles such as Dracula and Van Helsing. This active learning experience impressed the students, with the mix of horror, humour and history combining well to capture their interest:

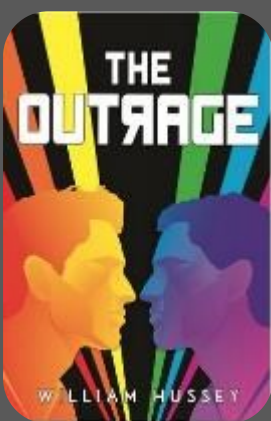
"I loved the way William scared us in the workshop, he is a very good author and I can't wait to read his books," – *Alfie*

"The 'History of Horror' workshop was interesting and creative and William was funny." – *Szymon*

The presentation moved on to discuss why specific trends in literature happen based upon the political aspects of the time and the relevance of historical events to what is happening in the world today. William also discussed the history of LGBTQIA+ rights and how these transform from his books to modern day life. He discussed the Stonewall riots and section 28. This encouraged the students to think deeply about literature in its period context and to make connections when it comes to the LGBTQIA+ rights and how they have changed over time.

"I loved William Hussey's visit today - dispelling the myths about witchcraft. More importantly raising awareness in our students that the freedoms we have today should not be taken for granted and we must challenge those who seek to deny us our human rights." - *Mrs Maguire*

"We learnt a lot from William, especially about the history of LGBTQIA+ rights, it is not nice thinking what those people went through just for being themselves." - *Sarah*



"Fantastic to speak to so many bright, intelligent, compassionate children about the history of LGBTQIA+ rights and to meet members of the Young Allies Club that was set up by students themselves. I was made to feel very welcome by all the staff and students." - *award winning author William Hussey*



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.



Mrs E Rudge-Tezcan

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Mr M Pereira

Designated Member of Staff
(DSM)



Mrs B Walker

Designated Member of Staff
(DSM)



Ms J Amani

Designated Member of Staff
(DSM)



Mrs L Dawson

Safeguarding Administrator

IMPORTANT NEWS



Medical updates

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.

Uniform

At New College Leicester we have high uniforms 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



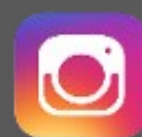
Scooters/Bikes

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, happy Easter

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