

The Arnewood School Newsletter



Message from the Head Teacher

The building work on the SCOLA block is well underway and if anything ahead of schedule given recent summer sunshine. Behind the scaffolding all three floors have been completely gutted at the Gore Road end. New roofing and mechanical and electrical reconfiguration is well advanced. We are delighted with the thoughtful way the contractors are working quietly during the examination period which is also now in full swing.

This has been a busy period in school, made more complicated with temporary accommodation and in some departments temporary staffing. This cannot be helped and I am extremely grateful to the hard-working teachers and support staff who continue to strive to improve results and opportunities for our children. The students too have been very tolerant of the restrictions placed on the school site which have now been eased by access to the field during the warm weather.

This term many children have enjoyed a variety of extra-curricular trips and visits including to Moscow, Osmington Bay, and Hampshire Athletics fixtures to name but a few. Although not a school event, I was delighted to see so many students, staff and Arnewood families participate in the Colour Run at Brockenhurst College in support of Oakhaven Hospice. We also hosted our annual visit of French exchange students from Vannes, some of whom attended the excellent Spring Concert which I think was one of our best to date.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to Mrs Mary Hughes, who is stepping down as a school governor after many years of long voluntary service. Much of the hard work of governorship happens quietly behind the scenes, but in this instance it seems appropriate to gratefully recognise a public guardian for all she has offered our community, while herself modestly hiding from the limelight.

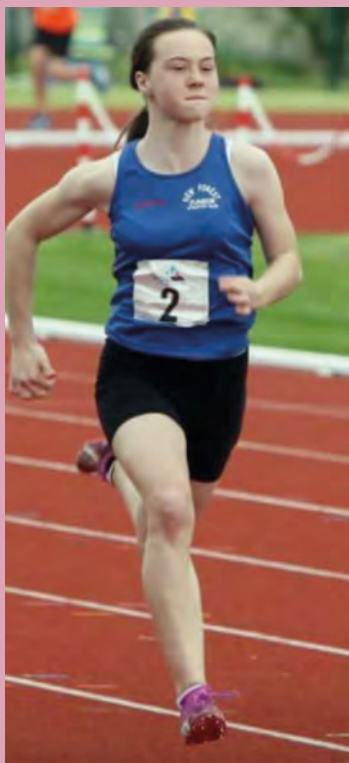
Nigel Pressnell
Head Teacher

Year 7 News

Stars in the Making

By Miss Vincent, Head of Year 7

Sprinting Star of the Future



Lily is an incredibly talented sprinter who is currently ranked number 1 in the UK for her age group at 100m, with a personal best of 12.7 seconds. She trains twice a week and often competes in various events at the weekends including County Championships.

Lily was recently selected to take part in a CBBC television show called "Operation Ouch". The programme is about amazing bodies and how they work. During the filming process she was filmed using hi-tech slow motion cameras to analyse her performance. She also spent time being interviewed by Dr Chris, creator of the programme, who questioned her about her speed and her journey so far. For Lily's episode they explain how her muscles work in order to provide her with her amazing speed.

Most definitely a talent to watch out for in the future, well done Lily!

Football Success for Callum

Callum is a very keen footballer who plays for an elite group called 'South West Select'. Callum recently attended a European tournament in Majorca. Many teams attended the event including teams such as; Barcelona, Manchester City, Borussia Dortmund, PSG, Atletico Madrid, Espanyol and Arsenal.

South West Select came runners up in their group and progressed to the Quarter-Finals, where they unfortunately lost to a newly promoted La Liga side. A fantastic achievement Callum, Well done!



Attendance Celebration



100% attendance is most definitely something which needs celebrating. Having a high level of attendance plays a vital role upon success and ultimately GCSE results in the future. Congratulations to the 80 students who achieved this award and as a result were invited to a pizza party.

Year 8 News

Making Memories

By Mr Emecz, Head of Year 8

Little Canada



75 students visited Little Canada on the Isle of Wight for one of the most memorable Arnewood School trips.

We arrived in glorious sunshine and were welcomed by an enthusiastic PGL team who gave us a tour of the 48-acre woodland site. After our introduction to the canteen, where there was always plenty of food and a good choice of dishes, we spent our first evening playing Ambush! A huge game of hide and seek in the dark. Whole groups lay silently in wait, pressed to the floor without making a move for what seemed like ages, ready to pounce on the seekers once they'd walked past. Students were in high spirits when they retired to their log cabins for their first night at Little Canada.

Saturday began with a cooked breakfast, followed by a range of pursuits completed in small groups. The weather had turned cold, and students were wrapped up warmly as they took turns on different activities. The Giant Swing was a favourite, which involved children sitting in a

swing and being pulled by the remaining students until they were left hanging 30 feet in the air, then suddenly being released to cheers from the rest of the group. Aeroball was a series of short competitive games of 'almost volleyball, not quite basketball' on trampolines. The challenge course was particularly hard given the cold weather, but students rose to the challenge of overcoming a range of obstacles on a very tricky assault course.

The campfire was replaced by indoor activities, and students displayed a genuinely impressive ability to work in groups and have fun together. They returned to their cabins and slept through a snow-storm, waking to find Little Canada covered in inches of snow!

This really was a rare event for the Isle of Wight, and we re-jigged the timetable for our last day to make sure we got home safe and early. Students managed to enjoy all of the planned activities, with a few adjustments due to the snow. For example, as individuals flew down the zip wire, other group members tried to pelt them with snowballs. The forest walk down to the beach was particularly beautiful, but the icy wind when we arrived meant we turned back pretty quickly, spending some extra time at the canteen where PGL staff had laid out hot chocolates for everyone to warm our spirits. It was an amazing weekend, and students showed resilience, determination and a wonderful spirit of mutual support and encouragement. They were a credit to their parents and should be very proud of themselves for the way they represented the school.



Year 9 News

Aiming High

By Mr Neal, Head of Year 9

It has been a very busy Spring and Summer term so far. The Y9 exams gave the students a taster of what it might be like in two years sitting their GCSE courses. There were some brilliant results, particularly in French, GCSE PE and Drama.

There were lots of talented Y9 students appearing in the spring concert before Easter, including, Libby Harrison, Lauren Perkins, Ella Taylor, Stefan Balevski, Rebecca Caslake, Natasha Owen and Alice Street. Well done to all those that performed.

Many have taken part in extracurricular activities, however a number have also given their evenings to help out at the Y10 parents' evening, including Lauren Perkins, Maria Justalero and Leena Adams.

There has also been cause for celebration, as over 50 students achieved 100% attendance in the Spring Term. This was rewarded with a celebratory Domino's Pizza at lunch. Over half the year have maintained or improved their attendance figures since the Christmas Break – keep it up!

At the time of writing, lots of Y9 students are receiving their ADDS Awards. This includes the Promethium Award for Cohen Ward, Casey Porter and Harry Brown, a fantastic achievement. Lots more on their way with a further 14 students already on their Platinum Awards; Ella Maycock, Lewis Hatchett, Karl Jones, Romwell Arcellana, Alicia Mobbs, Benjamin White, Charlotte Bale, Cheyenne Richards, Imogen Clarke, Megan King, Ella Maidment, Tamiya Jaques, Harry Davies and James Dibden.

This great work has all led to students achieving great results in class, from studying poetry in English to algebra in Maths. There has been some great hands on work in Construction where students have been working in groups. Hair and Beauty has been fantastic where they have been engaged in experimenting with different hairstyles.

Students have received their reports and their progress dots show how hard students have been working all year.

As we come towards the end of Y9 it is a great time to reflect on what students have achieved and what to work on next. Looking ahead students will continue to have great opportunities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award, work experience at the end of Y10 and getting to grips with the final part of their GCSE courses.

Motorbike Racing



James Bull has been taking part in motorbike racing for a number of years now, below he explains his recent track meet in Easter.

Since Easter I have been completing in a class called Junior Super Sport in the British Super-bike events, where I have been getting more comfortable on the bike and finding better positions. When I first started I wasn't as confident so I didn't get a very good position. We solved this by going on a track day to get me used to riding at a very fast pace. This helped me a lot to be more comfortable at Brands Hatch.

When race day came I was in a group of riders who knew the track well. Unfortunately I got pushed off the track and onto the grass. The next race is at Snetterton on 16th June.

By James Bull

Osmington Bay



Over a weekend in May, 60 Y9 students took part in the residential trip to Osmington Bay near Weymouth. The students had a great time over the three days, where they stayed in new accommodation and enjoyed taking part in a variety of activities.

There were lots of memorable moments that the students can treasure. For example, the first challenge was to create something that would protect a water balloon from breaking when dropped from a height. Those that were successful were allowed to aim



these at Mr Cooke to help keep him awake. There were also some great moments where students conquered fears and took to the heights. They also had a chance of spending quality time with friends and peers.

Y9 student, Sam Constable said, "The Osmington Bay trip was very

enjoyable because there were so many activities in the two and a bit days we were there. We played dodgeball, built rafts, abseiled, climbed Jacobs ladder, dragon boated, learnt survival skills and walked along the beach. The food was good and the staff were great."



Overall, all the students had a great time and I hope they will remember their Y9 residential trip for many years. A big thank you to the staff that helped on the trip including Mrs Morris, Mrs Glaze, Mrs Knight, Miss Shevlin, Mr Cooke, Mr Martin and Mr Bellows.

More photos can be found on our website in the Events Gallery under News & Calendar.

Charity Football Match

Students held a charity football match on Saturday 7th April to raise money for Scarf. A parent-led charity based in the New Forest, who support children and young people with special needs by organising regular activities for them and their families.

The Football match was organised by Noah Andrew, Alex Brash, Dan RM and Seth Woodcraft. Noah tells us more...

The game was between two eleven a side teams, one captained by myself and the other captained by Aaron Mulley. The game ended as a draw, 7-7, so the game went to penalties. George Hurdle missed the decisive penalty, losing the game and making Aaron's team the winners.

Aaron Mulley also received an injury putting him out the game but his team were still triumphant. The final amount that was raised was £250 which will be donated to scarf.

Noah Andrew, Year 9

Year 10

Entrepreneurs in the Making

By Mr Elward, Head of Year 10

Business Enterprise Workshop

Budding entrepreneurs put apprentice stars to shame on Thursday 3rd May as 52 Y10 students took part in an enterprise workshop.

Two current Bournemouth University students in their final year came to deliver the session about university life and business degrees as well as have the students complete an enterprise based activity.



Students were given examples of how to pitch and sell a product before being tasked to develop their own business plan to be presented to the rest of the class in a Dragon's Den style presentation.

Our business moguls came up with original and innovative suggestions, backed up with strategies on price, target market, branding, location, company structure, and other business features.

It was great to see lots of fantastic ideas and enthusiasm. The university students were particularly pleased with how students got stuck in and came up with some fantastic ideas.

The session also gave Y10 a valuable insight into what to expect at university from day to day life to an overview of what to expect by the end of university.

The students had a great day experiencing what enterprise and business education can offer students in the future.

Year 11 News

Work Hard, Dream Big

By Mr Byles, Head of Year 11



On Monday 21st May, Y11 students, tutors and parents gathered in the hall for a special Celebration Assembly. This is an Arnewood tradition that marks the end of Y11's formal time at the school and the start of the examination period.

The assembly reflected on Y11's five years at Arnewood; from the young faces of Y7, through the Cornwall, Porthcawl and Ardeche trips in Y8, 9 and 10, to the emotional Third Reich Tour of Y11. There was live music from Pat Bourne and Shannon James as well as from Hannah Crutch and Ellaine Munsayac, both duets singing with guitar accompaniment. However, we also celebrated the achievements of many individuals within school as well as having a laugh at some old photographs (of students and staff).

Y11 naturally conducted themselves maturely and respectfully on their final formal day at Arnewood and the day was declared a success by many parents and staff.

A real achievement for everyone involved. Thank you Y11, good luck in your exams - we look forward to seeing many of you in sixth form.

SURVIVING EXAM SEASON

Leading up to exam day

- Make sure you are studying for no more than 45 - 60 minutes before taking a break - studying for hours and hours will only make you tired and ruin your concentration.
- Change up your environment regularly
- Study enough topics - don't assume your best ones will come up
- Look at past papers
- Eat well
- Get plenty of fresh air
- Don't forget to reward yourself!
- Sleep well
- Stay calm
- Avoid people who might stress you more!

How to handle exam days

Be prepared. Start the day with a good breakfast, and give yourself plenty of time to get to the exam hall. Remember to take everything you need, including pencils, black pens, ruler, rubber, sharpener and a calculator.

Take a few minutes to read the instructions and questions. Then you'll know exactly what's expected of you. Ask an exam invigilator if anything is unclear – they're there to help you.

Plan how much time you'll need for each question. Don't panic if you get stuck on a question, but try to leave yourself enough time at the end to come back to it.

- Plan your answers in bullet points, then re-read the question to make sure you have enough material
- Re-read your work, checking grammar and spelling

Once the exam is finished, forget about it. Don't spend too much time going over it in your head or comparing answers with your friends. Just focus on the next exam instead.

Sixth Form News

Preparing for the Future

By Mrs Reece, Deputy Head of Sixth Form

UCAS Fair



March is that time when our Y12's visit the UCAS Fair at Bournemouth University. You really have to experience this event to know what the benefits are for students and each year we encourage our students to attend.

To help students make an informed decision on where they would like to study, UCAS hold a series of fairs throughout the UK every year. Students from our Sixth Form were able to explore the different UCAS stands and get advice and information about the different courses offered at universities and colleges across the country.

Students were also invited to join in seminars on essential topics like finance, gap years, and help with applying to university through UCAS. We believe that not only do our students learn more about the courses and universities in which they are interested, it also allows students to consider other options that they may not have considered and support the next stage of their journey with us.

Ski Trip 2018



On a drizzly Saturday afternoon in New Milton, 35 extreme sports enthusiasts set off for the slopes of Italy. After a seamless, but tiring journey of 24 hours we arrived in the picturesque village of Artesina in the Italian Alps. After students had settled into their rooms, the air of expectation lifted as students collected their skis, snowboards, boots and helmets. This was followed by the first evening meal which set the tone for the week - a large bowl of pasta, meat main and polished off with a lovely Italian dessert.

We awoke to beautiful sunshine on the first morning, and the students were divided into their different groups - one group of cool snowboarders, two beginner ski groups and a small advanced group.

The advanced group led by veteran instructor Gino quickly disappeared over the horizon into the Alps. The beginners quickly progressed onto blue runs and by the first afternoon found themselves at the top of the mountain. However, this is also where we had our first major crash. As keen geography student Nathan

Prowles was taking in the amazing view he realised too late that his skis' were moving him down the mountain at quite a rate. Fortunately for him the solid frame of Josh Dew was directly in his line and provided a useful but unaware 'buffer'. Despite the mighty collision both dusted themselves off and fell about laughing.

Despite a large number of thrills and spills both the skiers and snowboarders progressed quickly and the instructors were full of praise for their efforts. Indeed by the third morning most students were following the instructors down the second most difficult red runs. Fortunately the hotel provided hot lunches of even more pasta to help re-fuel for the afternoon exertions.

Keen to keep minds sharp, Mr Merrick provided the evening entertainment. Each evening meal was accompanied by a brain teaser of a quiz on topics as diverse and academic as sweets, chocolates and makes of car. This was followed by Merrick evening Entz such as bingo, pub quiz, sledging and movie night. Needless to say it wouldn't be Merrick Entz without the usual technical hitches. These evenings were also an opportunity to reflect on the day's exploits with awards for skier of the day, snowboarder of the day, crash of the day and of course plank of the day, which I am pleased to announce was won by Miss Vincent on at least one occasion.

The week seemed to pass so quickly. A combination of beautiful blue skies, stunning mountain scenery, delicious Italian food and great company meant that everybody had a fantastic time. Roll On Ski 2020.

A special thank you to Mr Price, Miss Vincent and Mr Merrick who went on the trip this year.



Cooking on a Budget



‘Sweet and Sour Rotini’. Sounds good doesn’t it?

This was a real life skills challenge for some of our students in sixth form. It’s been a long time since many of them have ventured into the school food technology rooms and it was great to see them remember the skills they had learnt in earlier years and enjoying working in teams.



Many of our Y13 and 14 students will be leaving us for university this September. Others are going on to do apprenticeships and some are off on gap years, both here and abroad. We decided that the one thing they will need to be able to do, wherever they are, is cook a nutritious meal on a budget. So we gave the students a technical challenge of preparing a meal in small groups and serving this at the end of the session. And what a success... lots of lovely smells were coming out of the room, laughter and giggles when things weren’t going quite to plan, but we all got there in the end.

All the students cooked up a fantastic pasta pot to take to their common room for lunch and plenty of seconds. Well done everyone!

As this newsletter goes out we wish all our Sixth Form students the very best in their examinations this summer.

Some special dates for your diary:

Monday 11th June 2018 - Year 12 - Return to school following AS exams ready to continue your A Level journey. Assembly at 8.45am in the upstairs common room.

Tuesday 26th June 2018 - New Starters - Sixth form information evening in the school hall 6.30pm start.

Wednesday 27th June 2018 - Year 13/14 - Leavers BBQ

Monday 2nd July 2018 - Year 12 - Sixth form mock Interview day

Thursday 5th July 2018 - Year 13 – Sixth form prom at the Queens Hotel in Bournemouth.

Junior Maths Challenge

Well done to everyone who took part in the Junior Maths Challenge.

This is a national challenge run by the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) and there were some very notable performances from the following:

Y7 Bronze – Bethany Stott

Y7 Silver – Evie-Lou Dunn-Mussert

Y7 Gold – Fred Gouldstone

Y8 Bronze – Daisy Cutts, Daniel Fox, Ben Miller, Isabella Romley

Y8 Silver – Oliver Padley



Crafting New Milton's Heritage



Students are set to preserve the heritage of their home town in the most modern of ways – by using Minecraft.

Fifteen youngsters are carefully crafting the town's post World War II history by re-creating streets and buildings using the popular computer game and app. The 12-week project started in April and will be completed in July.

Young people throughout the town are also invited to get involved in the Block 2 Block project, which has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and supported by Hampshire Cultural Trust and Forest Arts Centre.

In the May half term holiday, the Block 2 Block project is running two one-day workshops at the skate park and Memorial Hall, on 30th and 31st May, for young people aged 11-18.

So far students have interviewed the Mayor of New Milton, David Rice-Mundy, and the school's Chair of Governors, Elizabeth Cook to gain their knowledge and memories of New Milton.

They also went on a research trip to St Barbe Museum in Lymington and the Red House Museum in Christchurch to research the history of the town.

Headteacher, Nigel Pressnell, said: "This is an amazing opportunity for our students and is a very exciting project for them to be part of."

"Not only are they learning so much about their home town but they are also finding out more about computer techniques. We can not wait to see New Milton's history brought back to life."

Now in weekly workshops the young Bill Gates are recreating the town and learning filming techniques so they can re-enact some of the stories they have heard and insert videos they have recorded. These film clips will be accompanied with original music from the Coda Music Trust and an audio postcard created by a group from Young Carers.

The students' innovative work has so impressed bosses at software giant Microsoft that the teenagers have been invited to share their plans and learn more about Minecraft at its London HQ.

Jackie Goddard, community programme co-ordinator for Hampshire Cultural Trust, said: "Forest Arts is really proud to be part of this innovative project. By using Minecraft as the platform for this contemporary museum, the young people of New Milton are engaging with history and the arts in an exciting and creative way."

Jackie is forming a youth theatre group to perform a story from New Milton's history as part of a special celebration event on 14th July at the Forest Arts Centre to launch the online museum. Rehearsals start Tuesday 5th June, anyone who would like to take part, please call 01425 612393.



Young people who would like to book a place on the half term Block 2 Block workshops can do so by going to:
www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/forest-arts-centre

Dates for Your Diary

28th May - 1st June

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR
HALF TERM

4th June (Monday)

School re-opens at 0820

6th June (Wednesday)

School Council Meeting

11th June (Monday)

A2 courses commence

16th - 17th June (Sat - Sun)

DofE expedition

18th June (Monday)

Sixth Form Life Skills

20th June (Wednesday)

Y7 - 10 Gifted and Talented
celebration evening

26th June (Tuesday)

Sixth Form information evening

27th June (Wednesday)

Y6 transfer evening

28th June (Thursday)

Y11 Prom

29th June (Friday)

SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET DAY

2nd July (Monday)

Sixth Form mock interview day
International Day
Y12 Geography field trip

2nd - 6th July (Mon - Fri)

Y10 work experience

3rd July (Tuesday)

Sports day

4th July (Wednesday)

STEAM day
School Council Meeting
New Forest volleyball tournament

5th July (Thursday)

Y6 induction day
Y12 Geography field trip
Sixth Form Prom

6th July (Friday)

Y6 induction day

11th July (Wednesday)

Reserve sports day
Summer Concert

12th July (Thursday)

Y10 Gifted and Talented
University Workshop

20th July (Friday)

END OF TERM
School re-opens Wednesday
5th September