

# News flash

Issue 52 13 January 2017



“We don’t do things because they are easy; we do them because they are difficult.”  
John F Kennedy

In the week that will see Donald Trump inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States I thought it was worth spending a second or two reflecting on the words of the 35th. Every year I watch my year 11s struggle through revision, exam stress and anxiety, complex subject issues, coping with being teenagers, finding courses of study for September and maintaining friendships and some sense of normality. This year is no different. But on the day in August when they open their envelopes John F Kennedy’s words take on their full meaning.

To help that process, next week I intend to run a parents/carers’

Learning Forum. On Wednesday 25th January between 6:00pm and 7:00pm I will be setting out a practical revision/study process for all year 11s and their parents or carers. It will be in the form of a workshop and will be designed to help you to help your children study and to do so whilst reducing their stress through the process. Please could you e-mail ([powelln@nwhs.uk](mailto:powelln@nwhs.uk)) if you intend to attend so that I can find a suitable space and cater for the event.

Added to that there is a whole school Parents’ Forum on Monday 23rd January and as always I look forward to seeing you all there. Bring all your questions.

Finally, an update on the Student Presidential elections. On Friday I watched all the candidates brief the Year 11 assembly. They were magnificent. I could not have been more proud to sit and listen to these young people address their peers and also of the Year 11s for listening attentively and giving their absolute support.

This week the candidates are canvassing for votes – and on Friday I am asking them all to give a flavour of their ideas for the Newsflash.

Have a great week and see you all in the next seven days in one guise or another,

*Neil*

## Business Mentor Scheme

Business people and employers are being urged to volunteer to take part in our hugely successful Mentoring Scheme aimed at helping students gain the confidence and employability skills they will need in later life. This is the fourth year of our acclaimed Mentoring Scheme.



Mentors take on between two and five Year 9 student mentees, and meet regularly with them over a two and a half year period, as well as being available via email and telephone, to offer support and advice on qualifications, skills needed to progress towards their ambitions, and to help motivate and inspire them. Currently over 280 students are benefitting from having a mentor, with around 70 mentors taking part.

Employers and business people who are interested in taking part in the NWHS Mentoring Scheme are being invited to a business breakfast at the school to find out more. The event takes place on 24th January from 7am-8.30am. Those interested in attending can reserve a place by contacting Kate Lawn Monday to Wednesday on 01692 402581 or by email on [lawnk@nwhs.uk](mailto:lawnk@nwhs.uk).

For the full article and for more details please see our website.

## Diary dates

### Not to miss

- 17 January District Cross Country
- 18 January Years 10 & 11 Assembly by UEA (Health Sciences)

### Exams

- 17 January BTEC Music Exam

### Study

#### Study Support/ Revision

**GCSE Art & Photography**  
Mondays 3 - 4pm A1 & A3

**Year 9 FSMQ** Mondays 3 - 4pm

**GCSE Food & Nutrition** Tuesdays  
3 - 4pm Food Suite

**GCSE Design & Technology**  
Tuesdays 3 - 4pm C2

**Year 11 FSMQ** Tuesdays 3 - 4pm

**BTEC Sport** Fridays 3 - 4pm C2

#### Homework Club - all welcome

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 3 - 4pm, C2

### Sports

#### PE Fixtures

**16 January** U16 Mixed Badminton v Various (A) @ Aylsham 3 - 5.30pm

**17 January** U16 Girls 5 a side (A) @ Open Academy 3 - 6pm

**19 January** Girls Indoor Cricket Practice session (3 - 4pm)

### Extra Curricular

#### After School Clubs

**Netball Club** Mondays 3 - 4pm

**Year 7 Football** sessions Mondays 3 - 4pm

**Art Club** Tuesdays 3 - 4pm, A1

**War Hammer Club** Tuesdays 3 - 4.30pm, A1

**Dance Club** Tuesdays 3 - 4pm

**Workout** Wednesday 7.30-7.55am

**Badminton Club** Wednesdays 3 - 4pm

**Gardening Club** Wednesdays 3 - 4.30pm

**Music Tech Club** Thursday 12.40-13.20pm



## NWHS Presidential Elections

The process of electing a school President is now underway. Eleven Students from Years 7 to 10 have been shortlisted and this week have made presentations to each year group in assemblies.

Votes will be cast next week during form time and we will be announcing the winner the following week.

The new President will then choose his or her cabinet and as a team they will work alongside the Senior Leadership Team to tackle issues raised by students.

We have been hugely impressed with all the candidates and are excited to see who will win! A huge well done to all those who put themselves forward for this opportunity. You have all been outstanding.



A huge thank you to all who donated containers to Food Technology. We have enough to last us a good while now!

Year 11 have their Individual and Year Group photographs on Wednesday 25th January.

## ICT System Updates

In order to simplify and streamline ICT, we will be making extensive changes over the coming months.

Over the years, we have introduced many online systems. It has become apparent from observations in school, and through communication with parents, that the sheer number of logins can be complicated for students. We want to reduce the volume of students leaving class to obtain or reset passwords, condense the number of systems we use and make things simpler.

### RM UNIFY

In the Summer, we moved our broadband provider to RM. One of the utilities we received is a web based system called RM Unify. This is a 'one stop shop' for all school software. It can be accessed within school and from the website. RM Unify will store some (not all) of the usernames and passwords that students use to login to various packages. Examples include Kerboodle, Accelerated Reader and NWHS E-Mail.

### SAM LEARNING

We have recently stopped using SAM Learning. We will continue to use Kerboodle. RM Unify will store Kerboodle username and passwords (SAM Learning doesn't) and Kerboodle costs considerably less than SAM Learning.

### SIMS

We have been using ePortal as our Management Information System for almost 10 years. We have reviewed alternative solutions and believe SIMS to be a better system to help move our school forward. SIMS is used in 80% of all schools in the UK and is the market leader. Graphically, it is very rich and has an easy to use interface. It is well supported and we have received very good reviews from neighbouring schools. Unlike ePortal, SIMS is constantly being improved and developed. We hope to move to SIMS early in April. Students and parents will receive logins in due course.

### EMAIL

For some years we have been using Norfolk County Council to provide and manage our e-mail. We have the ability to use the exact same system, G Suite, in-house at no cost. The system will be simpler with the domain name of nwhs.uk. This will save money but more importantly, it means that new students and staff can receive e-mail addresses on their first day at school. We are a school that wants to embrace technology and not be held back. Users can simply click on the e-mail tile from within RM Unify. No additional username and password needed.

**North  
Walsham  
High School**

### Stay in touch

Call: 01692 402581

Email: [office@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

Visit: [www.northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

Like us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/northwalshamhighschool](https://www.facebook.com/northwalshamhighschool)

Follow us on Twitter: @NWHS

### To report a student absence or email pastoral

Call: 01692 402581

### Pastoral

Year 7: [y7@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:y7@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

Year 8: [y8@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:y8@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

Year 9: [y9@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:y9@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

Year 10: [y10@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:y10@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

Year 11: [y11@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:y11@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

### Parents' Forum:

[parentsforum@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:parentsforum@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

### Work Based Learning Team:

[workbasedlearning@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:workbasedlearning@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk)