

News flash

Issue 56 10 February 2017



“This week I watched the Steve Martin film ‘Parenthood.’ It reminded me of being in school.”

In the movie there is a point at which an ageing Steve Martin, who feels his life is under enough stress, discovers that his wife is pregnant again. This sends him into meltdown. At that point his grandmother gets hold of him and says “You know, when I was nineteen, Grandpa took me on a roller coaster. Up, down, up, down. Oh, what a ride!

I always wanted to go again. You know, it was just so interesting to me that a ride could make me so frightened, so scared, so sick, so excited, and so thrilled all together! Some didn’t like it. They went on the merry-go-round. That just goes around. Nothing. I like the roller coaster. You get

more out of it.”

That is what being a Headteacher is like. This school is like the roller coaster and I would not swap it for the world. The last half term has been a series of enormous ups and downs and as bad as the downs have been, on occasion, they only serve to make the ups even greater.

Slowly and surely this school is changing. It is getting stronger and has a greater community feeling every single day. This week has seen the usual round of contractual resignations and interviews that normally comes at the end of every half term: it’s the teaching world’s equivalent to

Transfer Deadline Day. This week we have made some phenomenal signings. As soon as they start I will introduce them to you.

Thank you to all parents, students, staff and governors who have made this last six weeks truly brilliant. I cannot wait to get back in a weeks time to start the next phase of leading this school to outstanding.

Have a fantastic half term; please make sure everyone has a break and especially the Year 11s. Don’t forget that the Year 11/10 parent/student study group continues when we return. All are welcome.

Neil

Pastoral Updates....

We have changed our absence email address for reporting students absent, please now use absences@nwhs.uk or ring our main phone number 01692 402581. Please remember to contact us as early as possible if your child is not going to be in school.

Change of Directors of Learning

From Monday 20th February there are some changes to staff roles. Year 9 will have Mr Finch as their Director of Learning with Year 8 being taken over by Miss Lee. Student Support Leaders will remain the same.

Don’t forget to book tickets for our Quiz and Chips night on Thursday 9th March! Email sharps@nwhs.uk for more information. Teams of up to 6 people, £5 each, including food. Booking essential - we will not be selling tickets on the door.

Diary dates

Not to miss

19 February Blood Brothers Rehearsals 11am-4pm (Atrium)

21 February Year 9 Parliament Trip

23 February Year 9 Vaccinations

23 February Year 8 My-Care Careers trip

24 February U13 Girls Indoor Cricket Qualifying (UEA) 8.30am - 3.30pm

Exams

W/c 20 February & 27 February Year 11 Mock Exams

Study

Study Support/ Revision

GCSE (Year 10 & 11) 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

Year 11 Science Tuesdays & Wednesdays 3 - 4pm C2

Year 10 & 11 revision support session Wednesdays 6 - 7pm C2

BTEC Sport Fridays 3 - 4pm C2

GCSE Year 11 Art/Photography Fridays 3 - 4pm

Homework Club

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

PE Fixtures

Tuesday 21 February, U13 & U16 Netball v Aylsham (H) 3 - 5pm

Tuesday 21 February, U14 Girls Football v Flegg (A) 3 - 6pm

Wednesday 22 February, U13 & U15 Boys Football v Cromer (H) 3 - 5pm

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

Y7-10 Indoor Girls Cricket training session Thursday 3-4pm



**Ms F Ghafoor
NWHS resident Agony
Aunt, offers words of
wisdom**

Dear Anonymous,

Thank you for meeting with me this week. I would like to address one of the points that you made whilst we had our meeting.

You talked about your child not making progress from the current AP3 data. We also discussed how the reporting system needs to be clearer to parents so they can see the small progress gains that many of our students make between data snapshots.

So, I have a request. Could you please email me with suggestions of how you would like to see your child's data presented, and what would be helpful to you and your child.

Thank you and have a well rested half term.

Year 9 Students meet their Mentors in Networking event

Around 30 professionals went back to school to take part in our 'speed-mentoring' event – the beginning of a two and a half year commitment which will see them mentoring Year 9 students until they finish high school.

In a high-speed event held at North Walsham High School, the business people and employers met groups of students for four minutes at a time, allowing each student to meet every potential mentor before choosing the ones they would like to be partnered with. The initiative is aiming to help raise aspirations amongst students, as well as equip them with the social skills and confidence they will need in the workplace.



One of those taking part was Roger Smith, North Walsham-based health and safety compliance manager at packaging firm TCL. A former NWHS student himself, Mr Smith has decided to take part in the mentoring scheme after recognising how much he would have benefitted from it had the scheme been running when he was a student.



“Children need a whole range of support as they progress through their school career in order to be good rounded individuals. The school itself can provide the educational and pastoral support, but employers and business people can bring another point of view, and complementary skills from the world of work.”

President Symonds chooses his Cabinet

Year 9 student, William Symonds has followed Donald Trump to be inaugurated President after a close-fought election campaign.

Will became the first student president last week in an election which saw every student at the school cast a vote. Following his inauguration, he has appointed a vice-president – Megan Robson - and a cabinet, which will work with our Senior Leadership Team.



Cabinet portfolios include Teaching and Learning; Behaviour, Welfare and Safety; Outcomes; Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND), Curriculum and Business. President Symonds has also appointed a special Anti-Bullying task force.



President Symonds styled himself 'The Asian Guy' during his election campaign, and in hustings speeches in front of his fellow students he tried to inject an element of fun into the process to engage with his electorate.

Head teacher Neil Powell commented, "I am delighted at the extent to which students really engaged with the process of electing a student president, the first time we have held such an election. I look forward to working with Will and his team to continue the whole school improvement with a strong student voice."

**North
Walsham
High School**

Stay in touch

Call: 01692 402581

Email: office@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Visit: www.northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/northwalshamhighschool

Follow us on Twitter: @NWHS

To report a student absence or email pastoral

Call: 01692 402581 Email: absences@nwhs.uk

Pastoral

Year 7: y7@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Year 8: y8@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Year 9: y9@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Year 10: y10@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Year 11: y11@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Parents' Forum:

parentsforum@nwhs.uk

Work Based Learning Team:

workbasedlearning@northwalshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk