



New Mills School & Sixth Form NEWSLETTER

October 2017



In This issue

Page 01	Dates for your Diary	Page 11	The Best that you can be
Page 02	Headteacher's Message	Page 13	Science News
Page 03	Open evening	Page 14	The English Faculty are Doddling
Page 05	Transition 2017	Page 15	Year 13 - Field trip to North Yorkshire
Page 06	Year 11 Mock Exams 2017	Page 16	A Few Reminders.....
Page 07	Year 7 Teamwork at Whitehall	Page 17	The Duolingo Challenge
Page 09	New Mills Secondary and Sixth Form Art Department	Page 18	Dare to Read
Page 09	Help Required	Page 19	Sports News
Page 10	Art Department Lunch Time 3D Workshop Year 7 and 8		



October/December Dates for your diary

30.10.17	Students return to school
06.11.17	Y11 Evening of Performance
14.11.17	Y11 Parents' Information Evening
21.11.17	Winter Concert - 7.00 pm.
23.11.17	Y9 Careers Day
27.11.17	Y11 & Y13 Mock Examination Week
29.11.17	Y11 & Y13 Formal Exams begin
04.12.17	Y11 & Y13 Mock Examination Week
08.12.17	Y7, Y8 & Y10 Snapshots sent home
11.12.17	Y8 Parents' Evening
12.12.17	Y11 Certificate Presentation Evening
13.12.17	Rewards Day
14.12.17	Elderly Friends' Christmas Party
14.12.17	Y13 Certificate Presentation Evening
18.12.17	Evening Carol Service at St George's Church
19.12.17	Students break for Christmas



Dear Parent/Carer

It has been a very eventful first half term at NMS. Firstly we welcomed our new Year 7 students who all seem to have made a really good start and have settled in extremely well.

We then welcomed Ofsted in week 2 for our two day inspection! Although this came as a bit of a shock as we were just settling in to the new school year, we are incredibly pleased with the outcome as I am sure you are. Hopefully you have had time to read the report by now which highlights so many good aspects of the work of the school and recognises what fantastic students and staff we have at NMS. As I said in my letter which went out with the report, the line that I hold dear to my heart and encapsulates the essence of the school, is that New Mills School is **'a place where learning is valued and high expectations are prevalent'**.

We also featured in this year's Parliamentary Review which coincidentally was published the week after our Ofsted inspection. The review is introduced by the Prime Minister and New Mills School was selected to feature alongside the a small number of outstanding schools in a document that looks back on the year in education and Westminster with the aim of sharing best practice within the sector to give other schools and organisations the chance of learning from each other's success.

An e-copy of *The Parliamentary Review* can be viewed here:

<https://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/editions/secondary-education/midlands-and-east-england>

It's been lovely to meet many parents already this term at our Parent Information Evenings. Parent Information Evenings have replaced Parent Forums in response to feedback from parents. Instead of the general open forum, which was available to any parents, parents felt they wanted more information and discussion which was specific to their child's stage and year group. The Parent Information Evenings are our way of meeting that request.

Each Parent Information Evening (or PIE for short) is specific to a year group, and invitations are sent out a week in advance. Senior staff, the relevant Year Manager and Progress Leader all attend. Each PIE

begins with a presentation on the key information for that particular year group, and then all parents are invited to discuss any particular matters with the staff available. They are not traditional parents' evenings; these take place at different points in the school year. Parent Information Evenings are more general in tone. So far we have held a year 7, 8 and 10 PIE with the Year 9 PIE on Thursday 19/10.

The presentations from this year's PIE's can be found on our website:

<http://www.newmillsschool.co.uk/parents/parent-forum/>

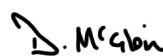
After the half-term break, Year 11 will begin preparing for their mock exams which start week beginning **27th November**. There will be a Year 11 Parent Information Evening held on **Tuesday 14th November** which will focus on how to support your children as they prepare for their GCSEs as well as informing you about the important changes in how students are now assessed. I would encourage as many year 11 parents' as possible to attend this with your children as the information you receive is invaluable.

Early warning

Again, based on feedback from parents of Year 7- 9 students last year we are increasing our parents' evenings for these year groups from 3 hours to 4. Teachers may teach two year 7, 8 or 9 groups which means they could have up to 50 parents to see on an evening which just isn't feasible within a 3 hour window. Therefore we have decided to have a 4 hour window so that we have the opportunity to see more parents or provide more quality time with parents. However, to accommodate this, we will be closing school early on the three nights these parents' evenings take place. School will close to students at 2.10pm instead of 3.10pm to allow teachers to adequately prepare for the meetings. We will review the effectiveness of this and consider your feedback at the end of the year to evaluate how successful this has been.

Finally, I wish you all a lovely half-term break.

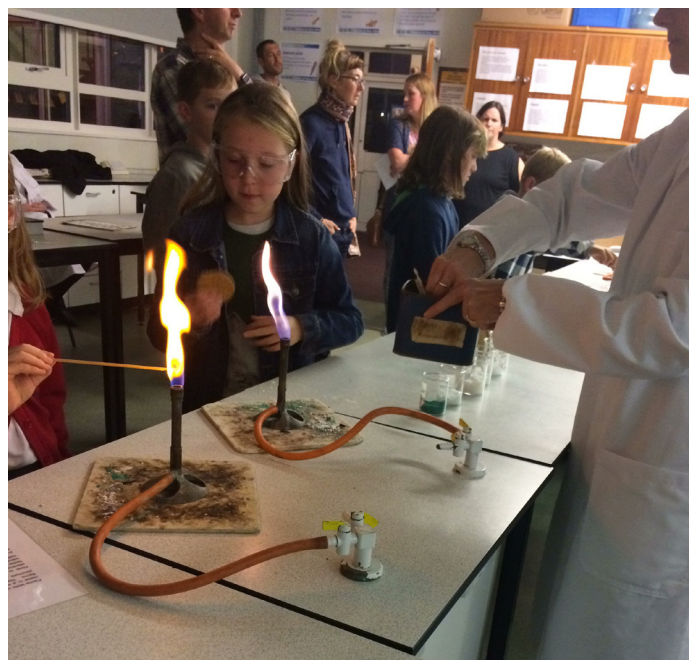
Yours sincerely



Debbie McGloin
Headteacher

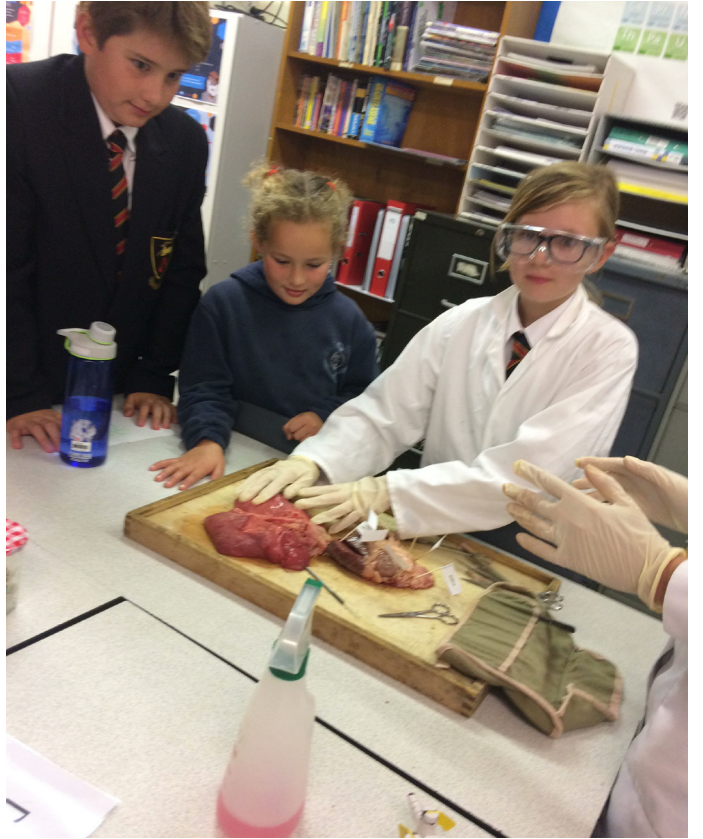
Open Evening

On the evening of Tuesday 19th September we hosted our annual open evening for families with children in Year 5 and Year 6. There was standing room only in the school hall, with many families excited to see the changes in the school over the last few years. After the initial presentation from Mrs McGloin, families toured the school, getting insights into all of our different subjects. Some children made cookies in Catering, a keyring in Resistant Materials and fireworks in Science! There was lots of fun, but also a lot of questions and comments on the school. One parent commented "This school is so different now, it feels so welcoming and has really high standards". The children enjoyed their evening, several commenting that, "I can't wait to come here!"



New Mills School is proud to be a 'Good' school;
 "A place where learning is valued and high expectations are prevalent."

Ofsted 2017



Transition 2017



On the 5th September, it was with great excitement that we welcomed the new members of New Mills School

The students had enjoyed 3 days of induction in the summer term, getting to grips with the systems and expectations of our school, having a taste of the lessons to come, and meeting future teachers. They met their tutor and members of the tutor group, and already new friendships were forged.

Before we knew it summer was a distant memory and the first day of the new term had arrived. New uniforms, shiny shoes, and excited faces arrived for the next step of their school career.

Over the last 7 weeks, our year 7 students have settled in to New Mills School life quickly and seamlessly. They have engaged in their lessons, taken part in after school clubs, and team building activities at Whitehall.

As they grow further in confidence over the weeks to come, we look forward to seeing them develop and flourish into independent, resilient members of the school family.





Year 11 Mock Exams 2017

Monday 27th November – Friday 8th December

During this two week period all Y11 students will complete exams in their subjects, set up as if they are the real thing.

Students will be expected to follow full exam procedure, being on time and fully equipped for all their exams. Leading up to the Mock exams each student will be issued an individual exam timetable, detailing where and at what time they need to be for each of their exams.

SEND café

Tea, juice, Coffee, cake, chat.

4 - 5.30pm next Thursday 19th October at the student development centre

GOOD REVISERS	by @Inner_Drive www.innerdrive.co.uk		POOR REVISERS
Eat breakfast		Skip breakfast	
Sleep 8-10 hours a night		Get little sleep	
Have regular bed times		Have Inconsistent bed times	
Get fresh air each day		Stay Indoors all day	
Exercise regularly		Do no exercise	
Do past papers		Mostly revise highlighting "key" passages	
Spread out their revision		Cram their revision	
Keep a diary to capture negative thoughts		Dwell on worst case scenarios	
Revise in a quiet environment		Revise while listening to music or TV	
Drink water regularly		Forget to stay hydrated	
Put their phone away during revision		Revise with their mobile phone next to them	

Year 7 Teamwork at Whitehall

Early on Thursday October 5th, every student in Year 7 set off excitedly to The Whitehall Centre in the knowledge that the forecast was for a dry day of outdoor fun, solving problems together and getting to know each other on the first secondary school trip for the group. Whilst the promised sunshine never materialised, the damp air did not dampen enthusiasm across the range of activities undertaken and everybody had fun trying to find orienteering posts, overcoming challenging obstacles on the ropes course, supporting each other to climb a wooden wall and, perhaps most terrifyingly, succeeding on the 'Leap of Faith'.

Staff from the Centre and School were all impressed by the positive attitude of everyone during all of the activities, as well as the support and teamwork that were evident throughout the day. Well done Year 7!





New Mills Secondary and Sixth Form Art Department

Year 7 pupils have worked collaboratively with our artist in residence Amanda Whewell to create 'Shoal' inspired by the work of Turner and Japanese Gyotaku, a traditional method of printing fish, a practice which dates back to the mid-1800's. This form of nature printing may have been used by fishermen to record their catches, but has also become an art form of its own.

Pupils from 7LAS and 7EDO (now 8LAS and 8LGO) worked in watercolour, colour pencil, tissue and foil to create their own textured fish, each an individual and distinctive element of the powerful shoal. Year 5 pupils from all of our feeder primary schools had a go at this technique on their visit to New Mills school in order to experience working just like our ambitious year 7 pupils.



HELP REQUIRED:

At New Mills School we are committed to ensuring our students are best prepared for their lives in modern Britain and in order to achieve this we want to help the students to understand more about the world of work, the different possibilities out there and to get inspired.

We are currently planning our Year 9 Careers Awareness Day, during which students explore the options available to them to study at GCSE and consider the careers associated with different subject choices.

If you feel that you would be able to deliver a short talk about your career, business or industry we would love you to be part of the day. The talks will take place between 9.00 and 10.10 on Thursday 23rd November 2017 and if you are able to support this event please email me at Edavies@newmillsschool.co.uk.

We believe that your involvement could help ensure these events are more meaningful and insightful, and will inspire our young people to think about their future.

Art Department Lunch Time 3D Workshop Year 7 and 8

Artist in Residence Amanda Whewell came in to work with our talented Year 7 and 8 pupils through their lunch breaks to create an ambitious 3D cardboard sculpture and sketchbook. We aim to create as many opportunities as we can for pupils to experience working in a range of materials as a professional artist would do in a studio or gallery space. Students worked alongside our artist and sixth form students collaboratively sharing ideas, materials and coming up with fantastic results.



The Best that you can be



In August we found out that our Concert Choir had been selected to sing in a promotional film called 'The Best that You Can Be'. For the last 5 weeks we have been rehearsing the song in 3 part harmony and our Orchestra have been learning the parts. Today we took the singers and just 3 instrumental players down to The Torrs, near the Hydro, to perform the song. The film crew are filming across Derbyshire to capture backdrops iconic to our local area. Obviously, the River Goyt and path it has cut, with all the history still so visible, made The Torrs the perfect place for students from New Mills School to sing.

Students really rose to the occasion today. Particularly noteworthy were the contributions from our 6th form and instrumentalists who worked very maturely for additional shots the film crew requested.

Sadly, we were unable to take Year 7 to this event as they were already on a trip to Whitehall. However, we look forward to Year 7 getting involved in Concert choir this Friday when we'll be working to include them in our choir with the orchestra parts for our own recording.

It was a fantastic experience to prepare for this film. In a short space of time, we had to learn how to maintain 3 part harmony and choreography to go with it. The film and audio recording will now be in the studio editing stages and we'll have another bulletin when it is released so that you can pick up a link to see it.



New Mills School is proud to be a 'Good' school;
"A place where learning is valued and high expectations are prevalent."

Ofsted 2017

Celebrating Achievement in Science

Our GCSE Astronomy students produced fantastic results in the summer term. These students followed the course over a period of two years and sat the exams at the end of year 10 which makes their stunning results of A*, A and 2Bs even more impressive. We have a new class of 24 students who started in September on the new specification. We would once again like to thank Dr Marshall for his time and commitment in helping our students to achieve so well.

Our GCSE Triple science students once again beat national AQA averages for the second year running in the summer 2017 exams in Biology, Chemistry and Physics for A*-C grades. Alongside their fantastic results, students also participated in a number of STEM activities during their studies to show them where a STEM career could take them. They were involved in a variety of workshops at the Manchester Museum, Salters Chemistry Camps at The University of Manchester, and during a STEM careers day in the science faculty. They also visited local business Dow Chemicals to experience how chemistry is used in industry. Many of them have moved on to study STEM related subjects and we wish them the very best of luck for the future



Science Trip to the Bay of Naples

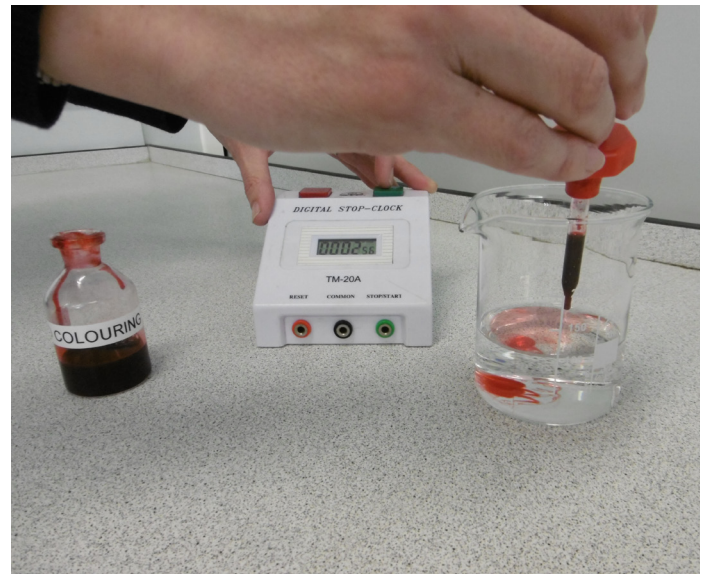
This half term sees 30 students heading off to Italy to visit the Bay of Naples for a science related trip. Alongside visiting the Naples Science and Natural History museums, students will also be walking up Vesuvius volcano and examining the damage that pyroclastic volcanoes can cause to humankind at Pompeii and Herculaneum.

The group will be staying in Sorrento and plan on sharing their activities on Facebook each day so keep watching out for the latest news from Sunny Sorrento!



New Mills Science Practical support for Primaries

New Mills School were very pleased to welcome back the local Primary school teachers to share practical expertise with the aim of enhancing students' experience of science education. Mrs Boyle ran a workshop on planning an investigation using a number of different experiments including Meteor impacts, shark attack and cupcake case parachutes; all of which can be used in the primary classroom. Mrs Boyle said: "Feedback from primary school teachers was extremely positive and they have plans to visit the faculty with their pupils in the near future. Over the last two years we are delighted to have developed strong links with many local schools and community groups, where they have been able to share our resources or use our facilities.



The English Faculty are Doddling

Please be aware that The English Faculty are now using Doodle to set and monitor homework. To access Doodle log on at www.doddlearn.co.uk/app/login

We feel it is an excellent tool and here are many resources and quizzes available to help students revise.

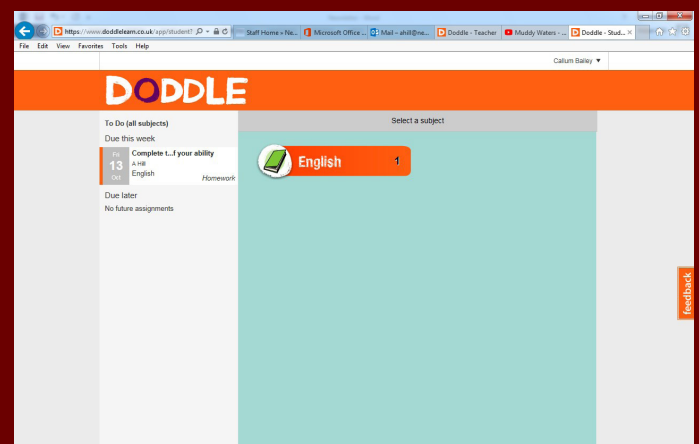
Our institution is New Mills School and Enterprise College SK22 4NR (it will automatically fill this in as soon as you begin typing.

The username is your child's name and the year their cohort started so a Y7 student would be JamesSmith17 and a Y11 would be SarahSmith-Jones13 (please not the capital letters and hyphens where necessary).

The password is set to a default of newmills (lower case and all one word). We recommend that this is changed as soon as possible.

Students have been made aware of their log in details and how to use Doodle.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr A Hill at ahill@newmillschool.co.uk



Year 13 – Field trip to North Yorkshire

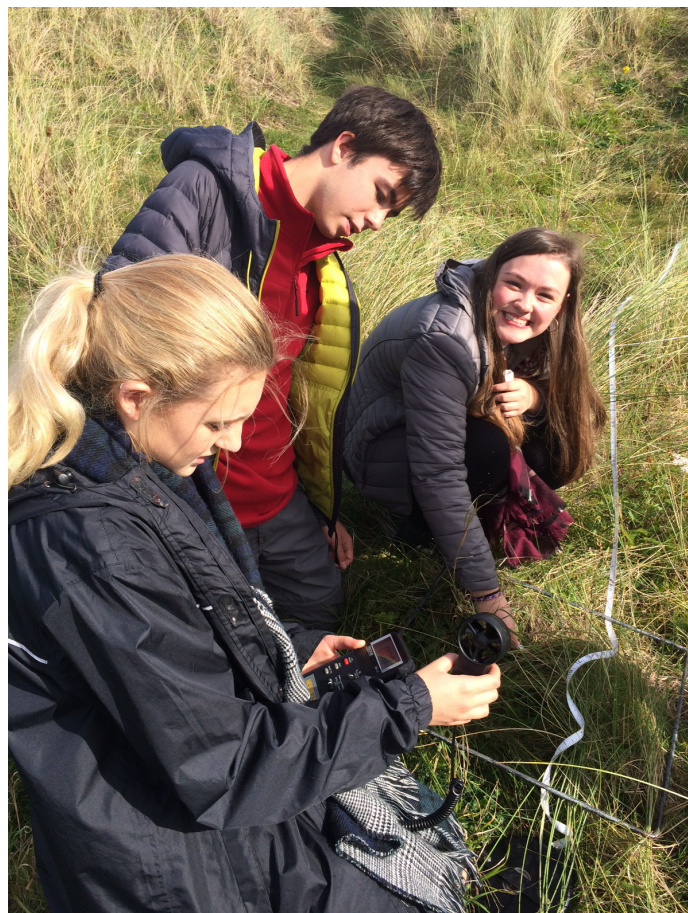


On Wednesday 4th October, 5 dedicated students made off for the North Yorkshire coast. As part of the A level qualification, students must experience 4 days of field work, and collect primary data for their independent investigations. This meant 3 days spent on the east coast studying in Robin Hoods Bay, Whitby, Scarborough and Teesmouth.

The students conducted a range of primary data collection from questionnaires, to land use surveys, and sand dune succession. This was blended with some cultural experiences of course, such as fish and chips, ice cream and a quick trip into the Dracula experience!!

Our stay at the Scarborough youth hostel was fabulous, and we even think we may have bumped into Hagrid!

All students worked extremely hard, and are now setting about writing up their research.





A FEW REMINDERS.....

Vehicles on site: We kindly ask that parents and carers refrain from parking, waiting or turning in the School grounds at pupil drop off and collection times. This includes both our Church Lane and Arden Street entrances.

Please also be mindful that the zig zag markings are adhered to and that pupils are dropped off below the bus bay at the pedestrian gate. It can be very busy at these times and it is important to keep pupils as safe as possible.

When visiting the School throughout the day, parents should park either in the bus bay or on Church Lane and report to Reception.

Vehicles should not enter the site through the top gates. These are clearly marked with 'no entry' signs.

Dogs: Please remember that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds at any time.

Smoking: Smoking is not allowed on the School grounds at any time.

Uniform: We would like to remind students & parents that all items of school uniform should be named.

The Duolingo Challenge



The 26th of September is always a key date for the MFL department as we celebrate European Day of Languages. To mark the event this year, we launched a school-wide competition in which we challenged both staff and students to learn a completely new language. Using the Duolingo app to complete daily tasks and language games, pupils were able to develop new skills with a choice of over 30 different languages, from French, German and Spanish, to Swedish, Japanese or Swahili! Over 200 learners signed up to the challenge and were keen to share their latest fluency scores with classmates. A great buzz was created around the school as the leader board was published throughout the week. At the end of the week, runner up prizes were given to the top scorers in each year group, with the overall first prize of cinema vouchers going to Isobel Lewis in Year 8. Thank you and well done to everyone that got involved!

1st Prize:

Isobel Lewis 8LAS (Portuguese)

Runners Up:

Lily Longman 7LMU (Spanish)

Joseph Hall 9TWI (Spanish)

Sophie Blackmore 10SGR (Spanish)

Staff winner:

Ms Harwood (Spanish)



duolingo

Dare to Read



A 'Dare to Read' Halloween competition is taking place in the library. To be in with a chance of winning a Halloween chocolate hamper, students are reading spooky mystery books and writing reviews. One review will be picked at random and the prize presented on the 31st October.



New Mills School is proud to be a 'Good' school;
 "A place where learning is valued and high expectations are prevalent."

Ofsted 2017

English Schools Cross Country Cup



New Mills School Cross Country Team competed in first round of The English Schools Athletics Association Cross Country Cup at Mount St Marys School in Spinkhill against some of the best school teams in Derbyshire. The teams performed really well and were a credit to the school. The stand out performances came from Imogen Taylor who finished 14th overall and Jack Catterall who finished 3rd

in an event with more than 200 runners this is an outstanding achievement.

The team will now go on to compete in the individual event on 7th December where they will have the opportunity to represent the High Peak and hopefully Derbyshire in the new year.





New High Peak Football League Season is underway





Halloween
Party

YEAR 7&8

HALLOWEEN PARTY

VENUE: THE SCHOOL HALL

DATE: MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER

TIME: 6.45PM – 8.15PM

TICKETS: £3

(AVAILABLE FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE)

MUSIC, REFRESHMENTS & FANCY DRESS COMPETITION

