

News-Bridge

Welcome to our third edition of News-Bridge. In our newsletter, we will aim to share relevant news, reminders, celebrations, achievements and/or let you know of any upcoming events for the diary!

Dates for the Diary

End of half term: Friday 14th February

Return to school: Monday 24th February

Friday 28th February: Poetry Day for KS3

Friday 7th March World Book Day (for Newbridge)

Last day of term: Friday 11th April

Curriculum Catch-up:

Students have once again thrown themselves into assessment fortnight really showing a positive attitude to learning. These weeks are designed carefully to support every student to access every subject assessment in knowing how their real exams would look and feel. We have found this to be highly beneficial in supporting students in knowing what to expect.

In other curriculum news, we continue to celebrate the importance of reading and improving the culture around 'reading for pleasure'. For every 20 reads, Newbridge students are rewarded with a £5 voucher that celebrates their engagement and achievement in this field. There are many benefits to reading for pleasure as outlined by the DfE (2012) who highlight 'A growing number of studies show that promoting reading can have a major impact on children and adults and their future'. This document lists the benefits as follows: Reading attainment and writing ability; Improvement in text comprehension and grammar; A wider breadth of vocabulary; Positive reading attitudes, Greater self-confidence; General knowledge; A better understanding of other cultures; Community participation; and a greater insight into human nature and decision-making.

DfE (2012) Research evidence on reading for pleasure Education standards research team. P9.

Achievers:

Initials only will be published in the newsletter to safeguard our students but rest assured, parents/carers will be messaged directly to say their child has been mentioned specifically.

Whole class reading Award: Class treat	Celebrating reading (Students who have achieved 20 reads): £5 voucher (already issued)	
KS3B – for their innovative approach to reading for pleasure	JB KS3A HI KS3C ED yr10	
Extended writing: (KS4 GCSE prep & diary entry writing KS3) (already issued)	Curriculum awards: (assessment focus) £5 voucher (already issued)	
1 st Prize £20 TK KS3 2 nd Prize £10 HF KS3 3 rd Prize £5 MS Ks3 1 st Prize £10 JC yr11 2 nd Prize £5 LGD yr11	English – LMcd yr10 Maths – LH yr11 Science - ED yr 10	
Attendance rewards (£5 voucher) already issued		
MA – KS3 HI – KS3 RMS – KS3	WC – year 10 TGo – year 10	SA – year 11 LM – year 11 MO – year 11

Behaviour Blog:

As we approach the mid-way point of the academic year, we'd like to remind parents/carers and students of a few housekeeping rules that help to keep learning and daily routines smooth. Ultimately, this helps to maintain the safety of our students and supports everyone to access their learning in a safe and learning-centred environment.

Firstly, we have noticed a few students not coming into school on time. We'd like to remind everyone that the school day starts at 8:45am with registration, breakfast and securing student property for them in the view of learning starting at 9am. Therefore, students need to be coming through the gates and handing in their property not later than 8:45am.

As we start 2025, we also wanted to highlight that SLT have noticed a small increase in persistent disruption and inappropriate language including verbal abuse to staff by some students. Persistent disruption and verbal abuse are not accepted at Newbridge. We know that learning can be tricky and that students may often need adaptive and supportive measures in place to make learning achievable and we want to reassure you that we are committed to making the education journey successful for every student. We'd really appreciate your support in reminding the children of the home school agreement made on enrolment that supports a safe and respectful learning environment.

Safeguarding Subject – Healthy Relationships for Teenagers

Many teenagers or young people struggle to recognise what a healthy relationship looks like. This can be especially challenging because relationships are complex, and sometimes it's hard to tell the difference between healthy behaviours and unhealthy ones.

A healthy relationship is based on mutual respect, trust, and open communication. It involves both individuals feeling safe, valued, and supported. In contrast, unhealthy relationships may involve control, manipulation, disrespect, or fear. As a parent or carer, you can help your teenager by having open conversations about relationships, helping them recognise signs of a healthy or unhealthy dynamic, and encouraging them to trust their instincts. If they feel uncomfortable, unsafe, or unsure about a relationship, they should feel empowered to reach out for support. Remember, it's essential that young people know where to seek help if they find themselves in an unhealthy relationship. Services like Childline, NSPCC, and local support networks can offer guidance and confidential advice. It's important that your young people and teenagers know how to access support if they ever feel unsafe, overwhelmed, or unsure about a relationship. Services like NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) offer confidential advice and support for young people facing difficulties in relationships. They can reach out to Childline at 0800 1111, or visit the website for online chat services.

Worcester also provides resources like *Young Worcester* for mental health and relationship support, where young people can connect with counsellors and find helpful resources tailored for teenagers. Additionally, *ChatHealth* offers a confidential texting service for young people to get advice on relationships and well-being, available at 07507331750. If you have a child or young person who is between 11-19 years old they or you can text **07507331750** to speak to your [School Health Nurse](#) for confidential advice and support around a variety of issues, including bullying, emotional health, relationship problems, alcohol and drugs. The service is available between 9am-5:00pm Monday - Friday

For more information, please visit our school's webpage [Newbridge – Inspiring Change](#)