



16/02/24

Dear Parents, Carers, Students,
Staff and Friends of the School



This week I praised staff for their contribution to one of our key aims, **'life to the full'**.

Exemplifying this...on Wednesday we marked the start of Lent with a wonderful Ash Wednesday service led by Deacon Anthony. I was proud to see students leave the site with the ashes still marked on their foreheads. As we know, in the modern world public displays of faith can require courage. I was also touched to hear that students leaving on one of the school trips had sought out a way to receive the ashes before they left. It's great to hear that students take real ownership of their faith, which we aim to nurture throughout their time at the school.

Pupils left for Japan, A-level English students went to see the Colour Purple, A-level dramatists went to see Metamorphosis at the Lyric Theatre London, the English department invited in DJ Taylor, an award winning George Orwell Biographer. He spoke with several Y10 classes studying Animal Farm. The biology department held the Olympiad—see below. The technology department entered the F1 challenge—see below. We have had inter house football, inter house basketball, auditions for the talent show and this evening over 40 6th form pupils will sleep out on the school grounds in order to raise money for St Martins Housing Trust. If you wish to donate and send a supportive message, click the link: [NDHS Sixth Form is fundraising for St Martins Housing Trust \(justgiving.com\)](https://justgiving.com/NDHS-Sixth-Form-is-fundraising-for-St-Martins-Housing-Trust)

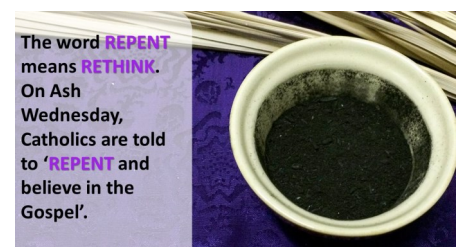
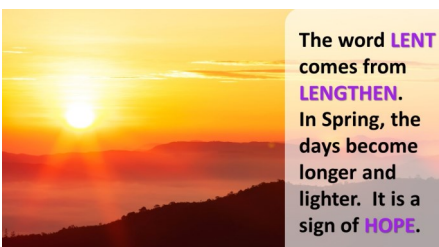
Educating beyond the 'written' curriculum requires energy and commitment. I hope all staff, pupils and where possible, families will be able to re-charge their batteries next week.

Best wishes,

Tom Pinnington—Headteacher

"Lent is a time of grace, a time for conversion, a time to come home to God."

St. Maximilian Kolbe





Holocaust Memorial Day 27/01

On this day each year we remember the millions of people murdered in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur.

This year a group of our students were invited by the Mayor of Norwich to represent our school at a Civic Service. Along with students from other schools and representatives from different faith groups within the city we reflected on the lives of people who experienced the atrocities of genocide.



The service brought our different communities together and united us with a common goal. After lighting candles, we read out a statement of commitment which inspired us to speak out against persecution and hatred. We also promised to strive for peace throughout the world.



NDHS University Applications News So Far

We send our best wishes to all Y13 with their plans for life after Notre Dame. The UCAS application window has just closed, and in terms of university routes, we are delighted that 207 students have already had offers, opening up new paths for their futures.

Included among these are many gaining Russell Group offers, and 8 who have been given offers at Oxbridge, including two with offers for Oxbridge Medicine, which is an especially rare achievement.

...with our thanks

University applications are one of the most team-based activities in the school, being collated from a wide history of GCSE results, wider activity, A-level references, careers advice, and subject specialists inspiring and supporting (and parents/carers no doubt!),

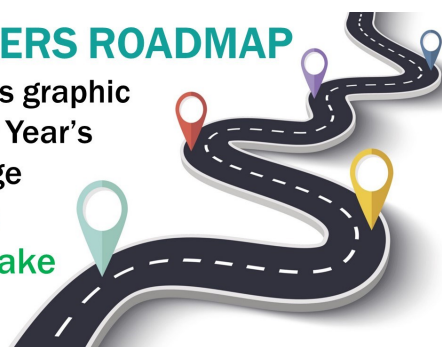
Special thanks to the excellent support from Norfolk County Council "HAS" Scheme, our connection with Caius Cambridge, and our close partnership with New College Oxford's excellent "Step Up" project

Some of our Y11 are due to start their journey into what university might include for them with the annual trip to New College Oxford on 13th February. Our thanks to all the above support sources, and our best wishes to every single NDHS student with their futures.



CAREERS ROADMAP

Find this graphic on your Year's webpage
Where will it take you?



Careers Advice

Siobhan Whiddett is our Careers Advisor.

To book an appointment email swhiddett1@ndhs.org.uk


Siobhan will contact you to arrange a time to meet.



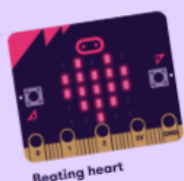
Women In Computer Science



wics_ndhs

Come to WICS, a club run by year 10 girls for year 7 girls! Learn how to... 

Make a cool looking website



Code a micro:bit

Improve your computer science projects

Code a racecar

and... Be the best coder in your class!

WICS is running for year 7 girls every Thursday lunch in L25 from 12:40. You can eat your lunch in the room, as well as the snacks which we will provide. Come along if you want to try something new! (We promise to make it better than the assembly)

F1 In Schools 2024— Regionals

On Thursday, February 15th, we took a group of 16 students from year 10 and year 12 who were studying Product Design or Graphics to compete in the F1 in Schools regionals.

We had a total of three teams participating, one at the development level and two at the professional level.

Our first team, MHTB Motorsports, consisted of year 10 students and they performed exceptionally well. They were awarded second place overall and received the trophy for research development across all classes.



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The professional level team, Aero, was a mix of year 10 and a year 12 student. They achieved great success by winning three trophies. Firstly, they had the fastest car in the professional class. Secondly, they were awarded for their lightning reaction time across all classes. Lastly, they received the trophy for the best engineered professional car.

The second professional level team, Fast Trax, was made up of all year 12 students. They also had a remarkable performance and were awarded second place overall. Additionally, they gained the sponsorship and marketing trophy for all classes. It was truly a wonderful experience to witness our students flourish and excel in their respective fields. The team spirit, collaboration, and work ethic displayed by all the teams are commendable.

Moving forward, both the Fast Trax and MHTB teams will be preparing for the Nationals in March. We hope that next year Aero will enter again as they are outstanding engineers. We are confident that they all will continue to showcase their skills and make us proud.

Mrs Holden

World Book Day

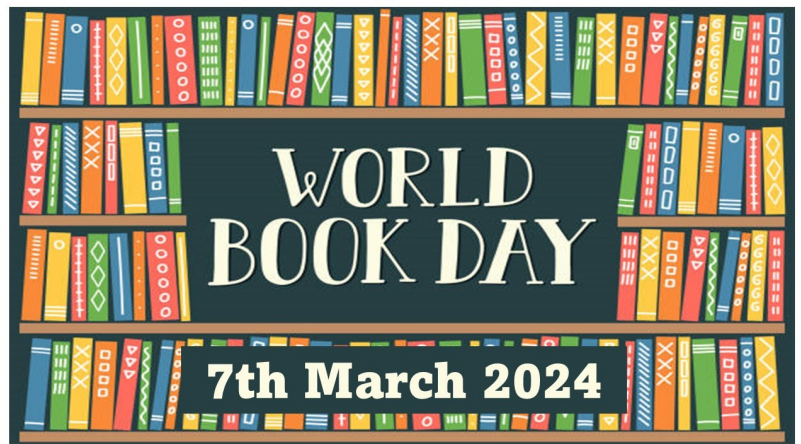
World Book Day is on Thursday, 7 March and this year's theme 'Your World Book Day'.

To celebrate this, staff across the school will be dressing as characters from Children's Classics so look out for their costumes and feel free to ask, guess and find out more about their book choice and characters.

There will be prizes for the best dressed member of staff and best dressed department, so see who you think will be the winners!

As per usual Year 7 will be invited to dress up as their favourite book characters. If you do not wish to participate, you must come to school in normal school uniform.

There will also be awards for the best dressed from each Y7 form, awarded by form tutors, as well as a best dressed Y7 form prize, awarded by HOY.



A Level Biology Olympiad:

52 Year 13 A-Level Biologists competed in the British Biology Olympiad at the start of February. Two students were awarded Gold, six students Silver and 3 students Bronze. These awards place them in the top 5%, 10% and 15% of entrants nationally which is fantastic news. Another 16 students received Highly Commended or Commended awards.

Our two students with Gold awards (**Joe Knee and Stella Mitov**) now have the opportunity to compete to represent Britain in the International Biology Olympiad in Kazakhstan in July.

Frances Goswell, Head of Biology

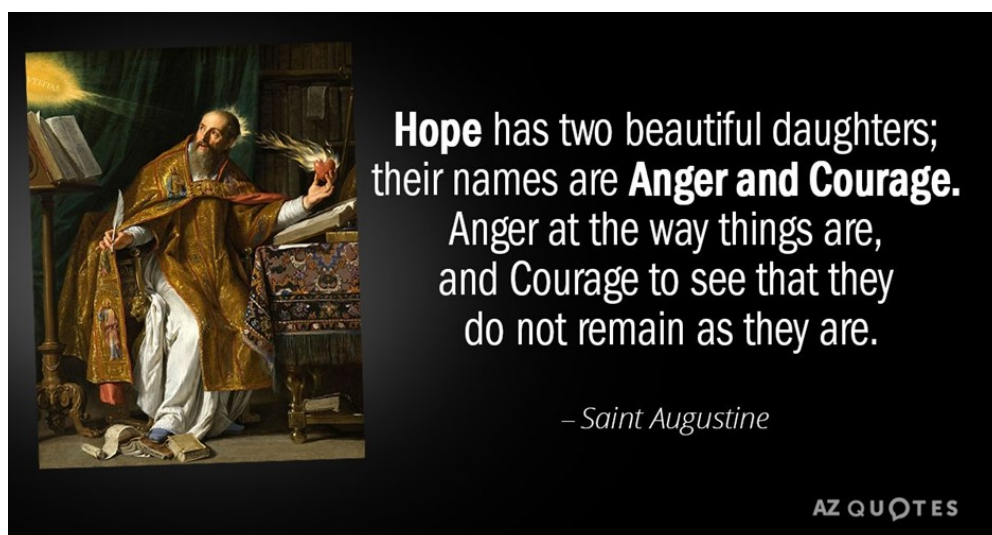
Stella Mitov	Gold
Joe Knee	Gold
Charli Joseph	Silver
Leah Walker	Silver
Ellie Wagstaff	Silver
Florence Adams	Silver
Nicole Kaszczak	Silver
Isobel George	Silver
Ethan Cubero	Bronze
Louis Howard	Bronze
Demi May Wright	Bronze

An Assembly Reflection on Hope, Anger and Courage

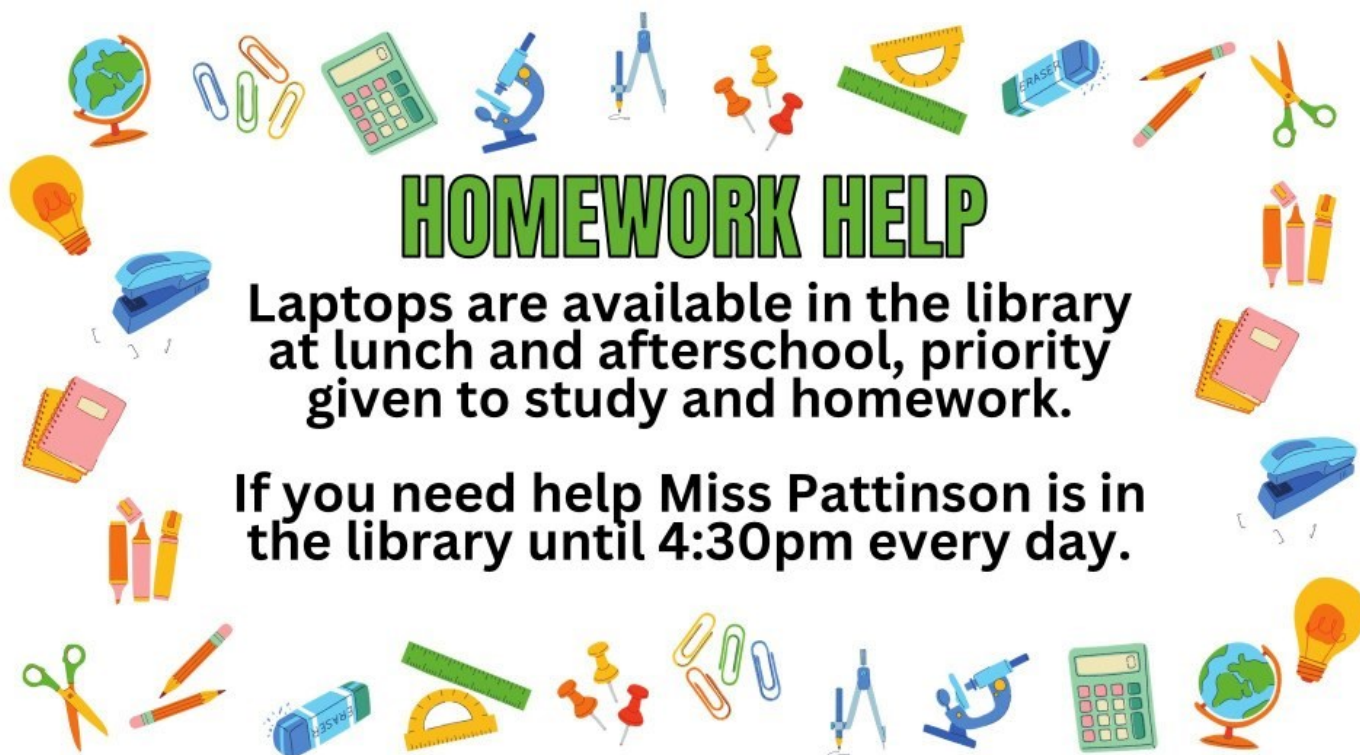
Through a recent assembly with Mr Stevens, Key Stage Three students reflected on a reading from the Gospel of Mark (1:29-39). In the gospel, Jesus sets an example by 'preaching' and 'casting out devils'. In our assembly, Mr Stevens encouraged students to think about how we might follow Jesus' example by confronting hatred or unkindness in our modern lives. An action students can sometimes take is to make use of the tools online that help to block and report bullying, trolling or online abuse.

Mr Stevens showed students a useful webpage on the Childline website that provides practical advice for how to block and **report bullying or sexting on each of the various apps** students might be familiar with.

This webpage can be found here: [Bullying on social media | Childline](#)
Mr Stevens also reminded students about the need to be responsible and sensible online – especially when many social media apps have age restrictions that mean they ought not to be using them yet at all.



The assembly included the quote from St Augustine above. We used it as an opportunity to reiterate our ambition for our young people – that they leave school with more than just exam results, but the moral character to change our world for the better.



HOMEWORK HELP

Laptops are available in the library at lunch and afterschool, priority given to study and homework.

If you need help Miss Pattinson is in the library until 4:30pm every day.

Our chapel is open to all students and staff before school, breaktime and lunchtime.

**PEACE
CALM &
PRAYER**



THURSDAY MASS

08:20
in the Chapel.
Celebrated by
Fr Walter.

ALL WELCOME



NORWICH SCIENCE FESTIVAL

17-24 FEBRUARY 2024



WELCOME TO NORWICH SCIENCE FESTIVAL 2024!

We have a jam-packed programme for you at NSF24 – which is designed to help you delve deeper into the science subjects that spark your curiosity!

There's plenty of big family shows to enjoy, featuring BAFTA-winning Maddie Moate, CBBC's Dr Daniel Olaiya and TV pyrotechnician Fran Scott.

I can't wait to see Strictly star and keen birder Hamza Yassin at Norwich Cathedral later in the week, encouraging us to take a deeper dive into the world of birds.

Make sure you check out our new strand of events this year – the Science of Self. Designed to fill your lunch hour, these talks are all about helping us to better understand ourselves!

You'll also find forensic science, AI, journeys into the Jurassic era and plenty of ocean exploration in this incredible week of events.

Book now to delve a little deeper!

Claire Mutimer
Producer, Norwich Science Festival

HOW TO BOOK

Don't miss out – book as early as possible to avoid disappointment!

We expect many of our events at NSF24 to sell out, so we recommend booking early if there are any events you'd like to attend. Tickets can be booked at: norwichsciencefestival.co.uk.

Scan the QR code to view event listings and to book.

Norwich Science Festival
is presented by:

the
forum

All event details correct at time of printing.
For the most up to date information,
visit norwichsciencefestival.co.uk.



NOT SURE WHERE TO START?

Here are our NSF24 top picks for:

Little ones

Explore the wonder of science in our dedicated sessions for Under 5s; WonderTots. Expect hands-on play and exploration and a dressing up station for budding scientists!

Dates vary. See page 7.

Those short on time

New for 2024 – a series of talks to dip into on your lunchbreak. From the science of love, emotions and grief, mental health and the body's physical limits – look out for our Science of Self series throughout the week. **Mon 19–Fri 23 Feb.**

See pages 21–45.

The tech savvy

We've lots of AI-themed events for you, from ChatGPT to the role tech can play in our workplaces. Don't miss Kate Devlin's CTRL-ALT-DELIGHT – an exploration of the impact of AI on our romantic lives.

Mon 19 Feb. See page 19.

If you can't wait!

We are launching a brand-new Satellite event Costessey, in partnership with **Ormiston Victory Academy**. Get stuck into some hands-on science fun, free talks and family workshops on **Saturday 20 January, 10am–4pm.**

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

norwichsciencefestival.co.uk/