

# Newsletter - March 2018



## Message from Lindsey Hull – Headteacher

We have had so many great things happen throughout this Spring term. We have had snow, school photography, World Book Day, visits to Wiltshire college, exciting reward trips and whilst all of these events happen, our staff and students, KS4 especially, are continuing to work tirelessly towards exam season.

A special highlight for me this term, was a five day residential to Jamie's Farm. Students and staff had a fantastic week, working on a farm and building relationships across our team. We are now planning for our own 'Notton Farm' with the first animals, some lovely chickens, arriving just after Easter. We look forward to more new animal arrivals over the Summer term. Let's hope we have some more sunshine to help our vegetables grow.



We say goodbye and thank you to Claire Preece, our art teacher, for her ongoing hard work in art and for supporting the development of teaching and learning at Notton House. We welcome Julie Caswell as our new Curriculum Lead for Creative Arts. Julie will be delivering art, photography and food technology. We also welcome Paul Kearney, who joins us as our new Science and Maths Curriculum Lead.

Thank you to Suzie Sylvester for organising some wonderful coffee mornings and extra-curricular activities for parents and carers. We believe the stronger the relationship between home and school, the more successful our young people will be. We would like to see more parents and carers at these events, please do get involved. Families do find the opportunity to meet each other a great source of support.

After Easter we will be activating our new Notton House Academy website to keep you all informed of all our policies, events and news. It is looking great and we are very proud of it. A special thank you to the students who were part of the photography shoot that we held to capture brilliant images of our school community in their new uniforms. We hope that you like it and will share it with others. The new uniform will be ready to collect at your Curriculum Review appointment.



*Happy Easter to all and I wish you all a fun and safe great break. We look forward to seeing you all in the new term.*

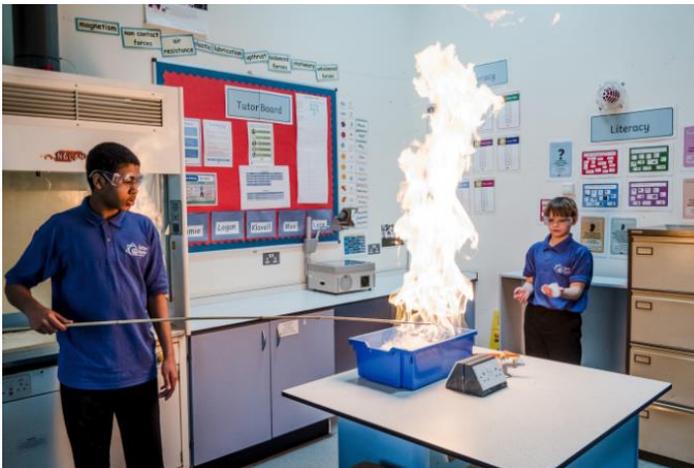
## Options 2018 – It's YOUR Choice!

Message to ALL Year 9s and their families...

We would like to **find out** which courses you are **interested in** taking next year. We will **try to offer you** your chosen subjects, but it will depend on **how popular** each subject is.

So what's on offer;

- ✓ Maths and English are Core Compulsory Subjects – you have to do them!
- ✓ Science will be taught as part of the core curriculum, but students will be guided to the most relevant course for their academic ability and future pathways.
- ✓ European Computer Driving License (ECDL) and Pixl Edge are two accredited qualifications that all students will be required to participate in.
- ✓ Students need to choose 5 vocational options, only 2 or 3 will be offered on the final timetable.
- ✓ Options should be placed in order of preference, 1 being your first choice.
- ✓ If there are other courses that you would like to see offered, please state them in the 'other' box.
- ✓ All options sheets need to be brought to your annual / academic review meeting for the first day back after Easter.



Courses at Notton...

- GCSE Combined Science
  - Entry Level Science
  - GCSE Astronomy
  - GCSE PE
  - BTEC Level 1 / 2 Awards in Home Cooking
- Skills
- GCSE Media Studies
  - GCSE Art and Design
  - GCSE Religious Studies

Courses at Wiltshire College...

- Health and Social Care
- Motor Vehicles
- Construction
- Landbased Studies
- Animal Care
- Hair and Beauty
- Engineering
- Agriculture
- Public Services

Courses at KnowLEDGE...

- Performing Arts
- Motor Vehicle Maintenance
- Construction



*For more information please contact your child's tutor.*

## Lower School

By Caleb

This term, in Lower School, there have been a few changes.

Sarah works in Maple Class with me, and Helen and Anna work in Oak Class with Callum. Suzanne is really busy because she helps in both classes!

We have also made some changes to our classrooms to help us learn. Here are some pictures so you can see our rooms.



Maple Class is set up with lots of different areas to help us know when it is time for learning or play. We also have a new Dark Den with sensory balls in to help us feel calm if we are feeling wobbly or need a brain break.

I even have my own office with a tray for the work I need to do. This helps me understand what we are learning today and how we will be doing it. Once I have completed my work, I can put it in the 'Finished' tray.



Lower School have made lots of exciting plans for next term.....we are really looking forward to learning through play and to our Outdoor Learning lessons!

By Caleb

Dear Kemble Airfield,

I would like to say thank you to all of the staff that let me in the control **tower.**

The men told me lots of information about the planes and the **tower.**

I found out that the **red arrows** used to be based at Kemble airfield and lots of planes and helicopters land here to be recycled.

The men told me they used to have planes land here and go back up to fill up the bombs for the World War 2.

There is a **big silver** party plane too!

I was really lucky because the kind man took me inside the helicopter hanger and they let me and Suzanne sit inside the helicopter.

**Wow! What a day.**

My favourite thing was going inside the helicopter hanger and going in the control **tower!**

Many thanks I hope I can come back,

Caleb Haines



During the last week of term 3, some of our boys had an exciting opportunity to take part in the Jamie's farm experience. Jamie's farm is a charity run organisation with the aim of providing a unique combination of 'farming, family and therapy' through a short residential stay and follow up programme. Helping to re-engage children with educational life, and enable them to fulfil their potential both in school and the wider social setting.

They were organised each morning with specific jobs to be completed before having breakfast learning that on the farm the animal always comes first. A team was used to create fantastic food for breakfast, then two teams used to cater to the animals morning needs, feeding and mucking out...!! After breakfast the boys went back to work, some of these jobs required key skills from the boys, ranging from fence pitching to wood chopping. Every evening was filled with more fantastic food, also prepared by the boys. Before the traditional 5 mile walk before the chance to lay down tools for the day and relax with games, films and camp fire singing.



Every boy showed how much potential they have and how dedicated they were to the jobs set for them. It was a great experience for staff and children alike. Every boy had so much fun through the whole week, coming out of their shells and really expressing themselves and who they are.

It's also created a great opportunity to bring some farm life to us at Notton. Over the Easter some plans are being put into place to work on the poly tunnel and bring in some feathery friends. Watch this space...!!



## We Can DIY!

Four of our mums have now joined our parent / carer DIY class at Rocksteady on Wednesday afternoon's from 3-5pm in Bristol, Temple meads. They have been learning construction skills such as tiling, carpentry, brick laying, and plastering. It is a 32 week self-funded course that parents can pay weekly for. When the course is completed, parents will achieve an accreditation certification.

There are 12 spaces if you would like to join please speak to Suzie for more information.

### Quotes

"This course has taken me out of my comfort zone and helped with my self-confidence."

"I can do DIY and I am looking forward to learning new skills."

"I leave Rocksteady on a high. I love the course, I'm learning so much and will be able to do some DIY at home."



## World Book Day 2018

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018, Notton House Academy celebrated World Book Day. Year 9s were taken to a performance of Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes. Staff dressed as characters from novels. Students were given book tokens.

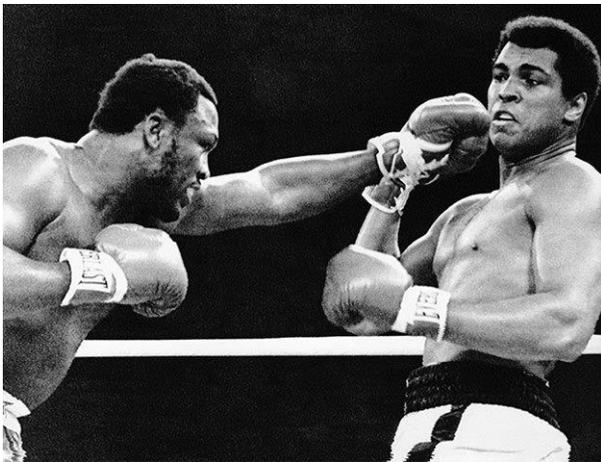
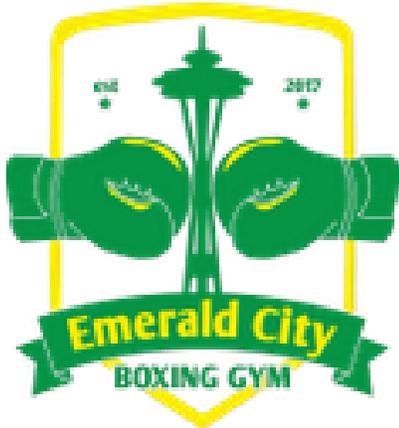
There was a 'Guess the Staff Reader' quiz and a book swap had been organised for after school in the English room. Forecasts were for a fun day promoting reading and stories throughout the school. Unfortunately, forecasts for the weather encroached

somewhat on the celebrations, as staff and students were sent

home early to build snowmen and drink hot chocolate! As a result of this, the book swap is an ongoing venture and the celebrations, whilst short-lived, were enjoyed by all.



## NEW CARE ACTIVITIES



Tuesday's and  
Thursday's

Ages 12 – 15

6pm until  
7.30pm

Boxing helps  
teach Kids  
Respect

Confidence  
Building

Boxing Helps  
Kids to Relieve  
Stress

Fighting  
childhood

OTHER ACTIVITIES ALSO AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO ACHIEVE  
THEIR POINTS THIS MONTH ARE:

***LAZERQUEST, BOWLING, CINEMA, SWIMMING, FREEDOG,  
WALKS, FOOTBALL, TABLE TENNIS, TENNIS, MOUNTAIN BIKING,  
TABLE FOOTBALL, POOL, PS4, XBOX, NETFLIX MOVIES,  
CRICKET, DODGEBALL AND MANY MORE!***

NEW ACTIVITY  
AVAILABLE  
TRY  
SOMETHING  
NEW,  
ALL ABILITIES  
ARE  
WELCOMED  
AND  
ENCOURAGED



**Sports Relief** was celebrated at Notton House on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March to raise awareness of the work being done across the country to help those who are less advantaged in society.



## School Council Conference

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March, three intrepid student councillors set off for the heart of Bristol-more exactly City Hall- to take part in the first ever-special school student council conference. Klavell Wilson, Lee Smith and Haruun Mohamoud had to present to a crowd of over 100 students and staff from other schools and inform them of the job that they do for the school as school councillors. As well as helping create the PowerPoint, the boys conducted themselves superbly gaining praise from other staff and organisers alike-and despite a few nerves coped well with being up on stage and using microphones. The event was rounded off in the only way it should be-free pizza!!



The boys also had a unique opportunity to see inside the historic city hall chambers and pretend they were part of the real Bristol City Council, debating over the microphones like true pros. A great representation for the school and a fantastic experience for three very brave young men!

## Terms 3 and 4 Celebrations!

### Subject Awards

Maths – Jamie W  
English – Haruun M  
Science – Cody U  
Art – Lee G  
Food Technology – Kieran M  
PE – Jay C  
Outdoor Education – Patrick A  
Pixl Edge – Ryan H

### Specialist Awards

Neatest Uniform - Klavell W  
Super Reader – Callum W  
Marvellous Mathematician – Caleb H  
Most Improved Student – Lee S  
Jamie's Farm - Star Performer – Alfie S



### 100% Attendance

Kieran M  
Haruun M  
Ben H  
Lee G  
Jay C



### Top Points Scorers terms 3 and 4 – pupils with over 1000 points! Well done!

Ben H  
Lee G  
Jack W  
Cody U  
Haruun M  
Lee S

### Green Token Winners – Go Karting Trip

Kieran B  
Kieran M  
Haruun M  
Callum W  
Ben H

# Spring Term Art Gallery

