



NEWSLETTER

16 December 2022



It's been a lovely week, with the right balance of focus on work and the jollities of the Christmas period. Lots of pupils are braving the elements In Glan Lyn, there was a very successful 'Dragon's Den' entry, with the team winning Best Presentation (see the News section on our website), Kehan C was placed 8th *in the world* in the Junior Wushu (martial art) Championships in Indonesia, there was a fabulous staff and pupil Christmas Dinner on Thursday (big thanks to all the canteen staff) and today saw lots of prizes awarded during Honours Assembly. The warmth of the applause to celebrate pupils' achievements was a joy to behold.

We all deserve a good rest over Christmas, to return Wednesday 4th January.

We say a sad farewell to Catherine Kenny who will be moving to another school after a term with us in History and RE subject areas. We wish her well.

Mrs Helen Holmes, will also be leaving us as SENCO and member of the Senior Leadership Team. Helen has been an amazing colleague and advocate for all matters SEN. Her passion, good humour and common sense will be missed greatly. She has, without any hyperbole, enhanced the lives of so many young people.

REMINDER

We return to school on Wednesday January 4th.

Year 9 Parents' Evening is Tuesday 24th January: parents have already been sent invitations and booking can commence from 1200 on Friday 6th January.

It remains for me to wish you all a peaceful and happy time over the Christmas period



Greetings from Glan Lyn, 2022

Dates for Diary:

16/12
Finish term
1220

Return to school
4/1/23

24/01
Y9 PCE

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Merry

Christmas!

SCIENCE - DR. RODGER

It has been a busy term for science extra-curricular activities:



Groups of students have been working on a range of STEM research projects. Illes, Tom, Arabella and Sam have designed, built and are testing a steady-hand game. Amme, Paige and Sura have been investigating the reaction between citric acid and sodium bicarbonate in bath bombs. Ashaar has been investigating the best way to lift and record fingerprints from surfaces and Arinee and Haysten have made paint using ancient recipes. Farrow has been researching design of gaming controllers. When pupils have written up their projects, they will be submitted for CREST Awards.

Dr Saker-Clark and Dr Askey's Curie-osity club regularly attracts 20-25 passionate Y10 and 11 pupils. Sophisticated discussion topics have included "discoveries we wish had never been made" "does the multiverse exist?" and "what will artificial intelligence look like in the future".

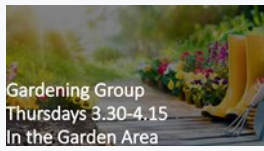


Science books on the NCS100 reading list have been added to the science library outside S4. Any pupil can borrow a book, just make sure to sign it out in the blue exercise book.

Joseph, Daniel, Omar, Hebe, Jack, Ollie, Sophie, Jayden have been reading and reviewing books on the short list for the Royal Society's Young Person's Book Prize. In January we will send our final votes to the official judging panel. These books will also be in the library after Christmas. Beetles for Breakfast (... and Other Weird and Wonderful Ways to Save the Planet) is the favourite to win our votes so far!



Gardening group have started to make the garden area productive. Leeks, garlic, radicchio and daffodil bulbs have been planted. The two large blue planters on wheels have had been planted with winter bedding plants and a selection of herb plants donated by Mr Millard. A rainwater collection system has been installed on the gazebo and a small pond in the garden area. In the last garden group of the term pupils made beautiful Christmas wreaths which they took home to proudly hang on their front doors.



This term Astronomy Club have been researching the Lifecycle of stars, learning to use astronomical observational software and creating our own planispheres. We entered a competition to name an exostar and exoplanet that has recently been discovered by the James Webb telescope.

‘Exostars and Exoplanets are stars and planets that are not located within our solar system. In the Astronomy Club this term, we have found an exoplanet and exostar to name as our own - we have picked the theme of the Lake District to act as our name guide for our exostar and planet. We have dubbed our exostar ‘Galleney’ after Galleney Force or ‘The Fairy Glen’, which are a series of waterfalls in the Lake District, and our exoplanet is called ‘Eskdale’. Eskdale is the most vibrant and thickly grown forests in the Lake District, and has a famous poem written about it, by Dorothy Woodsworth (William Woodsworth’s sister). **(Grace Allen 11JBA)**

We also attended an Astronomy film screening on Asteroid Hunters in Manchester, a documentary looking at how scientists are preparing for a potential asteroid heading towards Earth.

‘I didn’t know that on February 15th 2013 a small meteor hit Russia. Whilst this meteor was small in comparison to others found in space it left a huge impact. I was relieved to hear that this is unlikely to happen again, but we can redirect any that may come our way with the technology that has already been created.’ **[Cara Byers 8RDO]**

‘It means instead of just changing the asteroid orbit a little, a gravity tractor beam could, in fact, move the asteroid completely out of our universe, meaning that we would never have to care about the asteroid again. It would only move the asteroid 0.22 microns in velocity a day. This doesn’t sound like much, but over time this would add up and save us from disaster’ **(Tom Porter 9MWO)**

Next term we will be completing Mission X run by The UK Space agency - Astronauts need years of training and preparation for their missions to space. Learn the key elements to keeping fit and staying healthy in space and on Earth with Mission X.

And will be using Liverpool John Moore’s telescope in La Palma (virtually!) to complete our own astronomical research. Astronomy club is on Monday evenings 3:20-4:20 in S2.

In the meantime, in the sky this month:

21st December is the Winter Solstice- the shortest day and longest night of the year. Plenty of time for sky gazing!

And

3rd/4th Jan: Quadrantid meteor show will peak. This is one of the strongest and most consistent meteor shows, and is famous for blue meteors and fireballs.

BOWLING COMPETITION

NCS Bowling everyone over....

NCS had 2 teams that competed against other school teams. Our team came 2nd place overall with Findley G achieving a gold medal for joining the 100 club with a score of 125 in the game. All the pupils were outstanding in terms of their team spirit, supporting each other and their competitiveness. There was an array of strikes and spares across the scoreboard from all the pupils.

Pupils that took part were Yara A (Y8) , Jason C (Y7) , Micah C (Y7) , Holly F (Y7) , Aidan F (Y7) , Darcy H (Y8) , Josh H (Y11) , Keshavi N (Y10) , Carys P (Y7) , Myles SS (Y10) , Bobby TM (Y10) , Finley G (Y10) .



PTFA NOTICES:

North Cestrian School PTFA

New 100 Club

2 Draws Annually

£250 prize

ANNUAL ENTRY IS £12 WHICH GIVES YOU
ENTRY TO BOTH DRAWS IN JULY & DECEMBER

THE MORE ENTRIES YOU HAVE THE MORE CHANCE
OF WINNING VIA PARENTMAIL PMX

PTFA NORTH CESTRIAN SCHOOL,
DUNHAM ROAD, ALTRINCHAM
WA14 4AJ

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North Cestrian School



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