



Nottingham Free School Newsletter

May 2015

From the Head of School

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

It has been another fast paced and busy half term for the school during which our students have had many opportunities to continue to demonstrate our school motto of 'Work Hard, Be Kind'. Our musical evening was full of performances to be very proud of. All students displayed courage and talent beyond their years and were so very supportive of each other. They also continue to support people across our world experiencing hardship and responded quickly to the Nepalese earthquake appeal with an amazing cake sale.

They are now focused on revision activities in preparation of the forthcoming assessment week which begins on Thursday 4th June. We wish all of our students a relaxing half term and every success in their assessments.

Kind regards

Mrs J Brown

Musical Evening

Our musical evening on Thursday 30th April was a huge success. A full audience supported the thirty students who performed to their friends and families. The various performances included solo and group acts which showcased many of the musical activities that students have been involved in this year. The evening started and finished with all students singing their pieces learnt in their weekly curriculum instrumental lessons. All performances were very strong and displayed the courage and confidence our students have.

Building update

Building work on the next stage of our huge renovation has started in earnest and we have all been amazed at how quickly the contractors have made a great deal of progress. The contractors, G F Tomlinson started this term by delivering a health and safety assembly to the school which was well received by students.



Last week a group of students interviewed some of the contractors to find out some more information about all of the different types of jobs involved in the construction industry. More of these will take place after half term and the results of the interviews will be displayed on our careers wall.



We are holding a drop in session on **Tuesday 23rd June** from 4.45pm – 7pm for parents/carers next half term to view the building plans and ask the building team any questions you may have.

Earthquake appeal

A very yummy cake sale and a craft stall all contributed to raising a grand total of £187.22 for the Earthquake appeal in Nepal. Thank you to those who contributed and to Miss Tervit and all of the students who organised the event.



NFS's Got Talent

The student council are currently recruiting acts for our Free School's Got Talent show which will take place next half term. Application forms are available in reception and should be returned to the office or Miss Tervit asap. We know there is a lot of talent in year 7 and are very much looking forward to seeing it!

Curriculum news

On Thursday 30th April some of our students took part in a recent national **maths** challenge run by the UKMT (United Kingdom Mathematics Trust). This is a test of student's problem solving skills and the ability to think in a more abstract way. We are delighted with the results which were as follows:

Gold award: Khulh Elgareidi

Silver award: Jack Rowley

Bronze award: Nasua Iyama Arbouin, Sophie Hayes, Molly Doran, Harri Grewel, Aamina Sharif, Fred Bamford and Luc Haynes Holloway

A huge well done goes to all who took part and especially to those who gained an award.

Can you answer either of the questions below which were in their paper?

The difference between $\frac{1}{3}$ of a certain number and $\frac{1}{4}$ of the same number is 3. What is that number?

- A 24 B 36 C 48 D 60 E 72

Knave of Hearts: "I stole the tarts."

Knave of Clubs: "The Knave of Hearts is lying."

Knave of Diamonds: "The Knave of Clubs is lying."

Knave of Spades: "The Knave of Diamonds is lying."

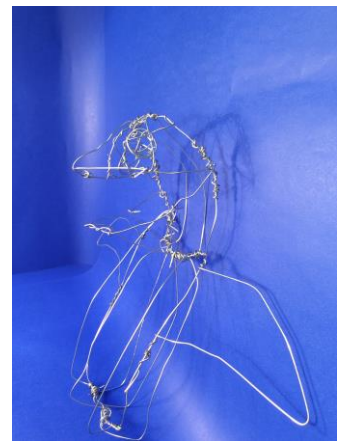
How many of the four Knaves were telling the truth?

- A 1 B 2 C 3 D 4 E more information needed

In **Spanish** students have been researching Spanish idioms. An idiom is a word or phrase which means something different than its literal meaning. One of the favourites was 'ser pan comido' which literally means to be bread eaten, but the idiom translates into English as 'a piece of cake'!

Having worked through the entire alphabet, we have come to the end of our '**word of the week**'. This week, we started with '**punctuation of the week**' and began with the comma. Staff will be starting some of their lessons this week with students having to work out where missing commas should be placed in a piece of writing.

Art lessons this term focused on sculpture inspired by animals and natural forms



Attendance

We are really proud of our whole school attendance of 97.2%. Thank you for your support with this, it truly is outstanding and we aim to stay above 97% every year.

Extra – curricular

Our extra-curricular sport continues to be popular and has been enhanced this term by the use of the Robin Hood gymnasium opposite our site. This has Olympic style equipment and our students have benefited from the expertise of their coaches. We will be incorporating these facilities into our PE programme for next year. We have also linked with the futsal academy at Nottingham University and some students have received some coaching and will be taking part in a tournament held on the Jubilee campus. We are also building links with other schools and have a rounders match this week and future plans for a cricket competition.

Other activities on offer this term include Zumba, bikeability, textiles workshop, drama, LAMDA and reading club. Mrs Inglis is working hard at sourcing many other exciting and productive activities for you next year. Through these experiences we aim to encourage wider skills such as confidence, teamwork and leadership as well as contributing to developing future hobbies and interests.

Calling all knitters!

A group of students are busy preparing pieces of art work to contribute towards Sherwood Arts week. We need help with some knitting and know, after our poppy appeal, that we have a secret army of knitters out there! If you are able to help us by knitting some blue, grey or white squares (approx. 15cm x 15cm) or pom-poms we would be really grateful.



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Library Books

If you have any spare books at home that you no longer need we would love to make use of them in our library. All donations to the school office are welcome!

Uniform

If you would like to purchase any additional items of uniform for September, please contact the school office on 0115 8964949 or via contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk. We will be holding some uniform shops in the summer holidays and will notify of these dates in due course.

Key dates

4th – 11th June	Assessment week
11th June	LAMDA Summer Showcase 6.30pm – 7.30pm for parents
15th June	LAMDA exams
17th June	Geography and Science Field Trip – details to be advised
23rd June	Drop-in session to view building plans 4.45pm – 7pm
2nd July	Parent forum – the new curriculum
7th July	Year 6 induction day
17th July	Last day of the summer term and Activities Day
2nd September	First day of the new term