

Newsletter

April 2020



Message from the Principal

As we start the Summer Term, I hope that you and your family continue to stay safe and well during these very uncertain times.

While the term came to an unexpected and abrupt end, I would like to pay tribute to all of our staff who worked incredibly hard to set up the remote learning that we now have in place for our students. We also said goodbye to a long-standing member of our staff, Mr Fisher, who left us at the end of term. Mr Fisher joined New College as an Art teacher in 2002 and has been a loyal member of staff for all of these years. We hope that he has an enjoyable retirement—he has well and truly earned it.

For those families who are entitled to Free School Meals, we have been working hard to get access to the government scheme—Mrs Walker has been working throughout her Easter holidays to try to resolve the issues caused by this scheme. Hopefully she has now resolved the issues for us, so our thanks must go to her for her unwavering dedication to the students and families of New College.

I really hope that we can all be together again soon—we really miss the students—they make us smile every single day. We miss our whole New College family.

*Mrs Brown
Principal*

***Please remember to
stay safe and stay at
home***



New College Leicester awarded Artsmark Gold

Artsmark is the creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England.

The Arts Council praised New College for 'a very clear and well thought out five year strategic arts and cultural plan and for achieving many of its aims in the first two years as planned'. They also remarked that 'one of the most impressive things to read is of the positive impact your many partnerships with arts and cultural organisations has had on outcomes for your students and your practice'.

Kate Brown, Director of Learning for the Arts, is thrilled the ongoing hard work by students, staff and partners has been recognised. "Arts and culture are at the heart of what we do at New College Leicester and we witness the very powerful positive impact these experiences and opportunities have on our young people and our wider community, we are really excited for the next stage of our journey."



New College Leicester has state of the art Tennis and Netball courts to hire as well as a 1km purpose built

cycle track. If anyone wishes to use these facilities please do not hesitate to contact Mr E Hodgson on 0116 231 8511.



Curve Theatre Workshops

This term 50 students had the pleasure of working with the Curve Theatre Leicester to develop their skill set within the performing arts through workshops on West Side Story. Students had a two hour workshop where they were investigating the key characters in each gang and how they can develop a strong bond on stage through using different physical and vocal skills.

Students loved learning the backstory to the performance at the Curve whilst developing their knowledge of the script through taking on different roles and bringing them to life.



Leicester's climate emergency plan

Last term students at New College Leicester took part in the Young People's Climate Assembly, held at City Hall in Leicester. The event, hosted by the City Council, offered Year 9 and 10 students the opportunity to take part in workshops on finding solutions to climate change and to give their feedback on the Council's recent climate change consultation.

The students were excited to take part in the event because they have recently set up an Eco Team, which aims to reduce the College's carbon footprint and increase awareness about climate change.

Science week

KS3 students took part in off-timetable Science lessons where they completed several practicals around this year's theme of Science week "Our Diverse Planet".

Students participated in three themed lessons on; Bath bombs, Finger printing and Hovercrafts.

Students have had a really active week in Science and have had the opportunity to get involved with some new Science they haven't seen before.



New College Leicester at St James' Palace

New College Leicester were invited to St James' Palace to celebrate becoming a newly licensed organisation for The Duke of Edinburgh Award. At the Palace, DofE Manager, Mr Hepworth-Adcock, met a group of young people with their parents who were there to receive their Gold award from HRH The Earl of Wessex, Prince Edward.



History Trip to the Science Museum



Year 10 students recently visited London's Science

Museum. The Museum houses the newly refurbished History of Medicine gallery. This would become the focus of the trip with Year 10 students coming face to face with various examples of how medicine had improved throughout the centuries.



Rugby festival

Only a handful of Key Stage 3 boys attended the event but showed great resilience and bravery albeit having less players. However, thanks to the other

schools taking part we were able to have a few more players to make it even. As for Key Stage 4, our New College Leicester Rugby captain D.Wholton led his team to victory on 2 occasions. D.Wholton showed great leadership as he was able create enthusiasm to get everyone going. All of our New College Leicester students showed great desire to win and be the best.

Dance Collaboration



This term we were thrilled to welcome staff and students from De Montfort University's Dance Department to work with some of our Year 9 dancers. Students spent the day exploring choreographic ideas inspired by the (now rescheduled) 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. Mel Knott, Dance Lecturer from DMU, guided students through a series of creative activities that encouraged students to develop a movement response to some of the visual themes of the Olympics such as the Olympic rings.

Students enjoyed the challenge of creating original and unusual movement ideas that suggested ideas and concepts to the audience. Mel was ably supported by two DMU second year students who were able to further guide and support NCL students which in turn strengthened our partnership with De Montfort University's Dance Department and upskilling our young people as innovative choreographers.

We have also been working closely with DMU, Stokeswood and Inglehurst Primary Schools this term on other dance activities. Final year DMU Dance students have worked with the schools to plan and deliver a series of dance workshops for Year 4 pupils.

Sports leaders' event



Another well run Sports leaders event by our Year 10 pupils. Thanks to Leicester City SSPAN for organising. It was a Primary school Boccia event where our Year 10 pupils took lead by explaining the rules and officiating the game.

RACE FOR THE LINE!



Nearly 200 Year 7 students took part in the nationwide 'Race for the Line', a project-based STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) activity linked to the curriculum. The students were taught about what makes a car go faster, weight, aerodynamics and velocity. The students built their cars in teams of 4 from a given selection of materials and a total of 40 cars were built. They raced over a 25mtr track using model rocket engines. The event was sponsored by local company, Lestercast Ltd who also funded the training and equipment. Lestercast Ltd are a leading UK Precision Investment Casting manufacturer based in Leicester. After this event the two winning teams will visit and work with staff at Lestercast Ltd to develop their cars further using 3D technology and experimenting with aerodynamics.



Hope meets Hope

Peter Barratt, great grandson of Alice Hawkins, Leicester's very own suffragette, visited New College Leicester to speak to Year 7 and 8 students about the women's suffrage movement and the struggle for the rights of women to get equal pay.



Inspired by the story of Alice, Peter's visit coincided with a visit from a life size Lego model suffragette on loan from Parliament Education Service aptly named 'Hope'. Hope is made of 33,000 Lego bricks and took 3 people over 71 hours to build.



This term we launched our campaign to try and provide a meal for 10% of the homeless population. 'Tin for the Tenth' is a campaign with a mission to get every student in the UK to bring in one tin for a homeless person that can then be donated to a charity.

MP Liz Kendall bought in some tins and was so impressed with the campaign that she pledged her support. We were also interviewed and filmed by BBC East Midlands Today. If you search #Tin410 on Twitter you can see all the activity going on.

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Nishan Canagarajah, newly appointed Vice Chancellor of Leicester University paid a visit to New College Leicester recently to speak to the Student Parliament about many issues that concern them. Professor Canagarajah was interviewed on many topics, including filming his responses around the issues of mental health.

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Our Parliament chair Luc has been nominated for the Lord Lieutenants Young Leaders Award. Luc has galvanised the Student Parliament. He always goes above and beyond to ensure that student voice is not marginalised in school and he supports younger students to shine. It is wonderful to watch him take the lead in meetings but

also encourage other students to speak. Luc cares, he wants to make a difference to communities but also to every member of our school. He is an outstanding leader, he is humble and he is committed and enthusiastic. Recently after planning and taking the lead on our campaign for the homeless, Luc became hospitalised. He was not able to give the TV interview that he had been rehearsing for several days. He sent an email, not to complain but to apologise for not being there to support the other students and for letting the school down. More recently, due to his own personal experiences he supported a film about mental health. Leading on this film, helping others to research and agreeing to be filmed has meant that his legacy in the school will go on. He has courage to talk about his feelings and genuinely wants to show other people that they too can seek help and not face stigma from within the school community. Luc is very much part of our New College Family and we couldn't be prouder of him and all that he has achieved during his time at New College Leicester.

IMPORTANT NEWS

Medical updates - Does your child have a medical condition that we are not aware of, or do they no longer suffer with a condition that we currently have on our system? If you answer yes to these questions please contact us so we can update our records.

Uniform

At New College Leicester we have high uniforms expectations. We expect all our students to come to school in the correct uniform every day. As a reminder of our uniform expectations please refer to our website www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Keep following us on Social Media!

To keep up to date with everything we do here you can not only visit our website www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk, but you can follow us on twitter @NewCollegeLeics, on Facebook @newcollegeleics and on Instagram @newcollegeleics



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