

## **Parent Update – Friday 25 January 2019**

### **Holocaust Memorial Day Commemorations at the Scottish Parliament**

This week, the Humanities faculty was honoured to be invited to attend the Scottish Parliament's annual commemoration of the Holocaust. The 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 will mark 74 years since the liberation of the notorious Auschwitz concentration camp.

Mrs Brownlee and Miss Anderson attended the event, along with our Lessons from Auschwitz Ambassadors – S6 pupils Sophie Aitken and Campbell Notley – who gave an outstanding, emotional and thought-provoking opening speech to the large audience, recounting their experience from their recent visit to Auschwitz.

We were then privileged and very humbled to hear the testimony of Holocaust survivor Janine Webber, now 84 years old. Janine talked openly about the horrors she experienced at the hands of the Nazis during her childhood in WWII. You can read more about Janine's experience on the school website.

The key message from the night was, **'those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it'**.

Campbell and Sophie will now continue to share their experiences with NBHS pupils during assemblies next week.

### **DYW Jobs Roadshow**

We have a number of places available to senior pupils who wish to attend this year's DYW Jobs Roadshow on Wednesday 6 March at the Corn Exchange in Edinburgh. Pupils will have the opportunities to meet employers advertising live jobs, apprenticeships and intern opportunities across a variety of industries. We have arranged for free travel to and from this event. Pupils who would like to attend should complete this survey by following this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/juxFKC18vCJpINTN2> If you have any difficulties accessing this link, please contact us at [communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk](mailto:communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk) and we will forward the link to you directly.

### **Library Update – Overdue and Damaged Books**

A plea for our librarian to encourage pupils to search out any overdue library books they might have, as we currently have a whopping 500 books overdue, 340 of which are over 3 months out of date. All pupils with overdue books will have an email sent to their edubuzz account either today or next Monday, so please do ask them to check and try to get any outstanding books back to the library as soon as possible.

Our librarian has also reported that many books are being returned damaged, most of them irreparably and therefore unsuitable for further lending. Since the October break approximately 25 books have had to be removed from circulation due to significant damage – this represents about £200 worth of stock. In some cases, the book has been especially ordered in from the public library system. Clearly, this is unsustainable as the library does not have the funds to replace the books, therefore if a pupil returns a book too damaged to be used again, a letter will be sent home

requesting either a replacement copy of the book or the cost of a replacement. Our librarian is happy to provide a bag or plastic folder to pupils who are concerned that their books will be damaged while carrying them to and from school.

### **Harry Potter Quiz**

Calling all Potter-Heads! There will be a Harry Potter themed quiz at lunchtime on Thursday 7 February, in the library. All year groups are invited to take part, with a maximum of 4 in each team.

### **Referencing Drop-In Sessions for Higher and Advanced Higher Pupils**

This term, our librarian Ms Wilson is offering drop-in referencing sessions. Ms Wilson will be offering help with all aspects of referencing and citations for essays, dissertations and reports and can also advise on Harvard, Vancouver or footnoting styles. The first session will be held at lunchtime on Monday 28 January in the library. All senior pupils are welcome to attend and should bring a copy of their essay / bibliography / referencing issue to work with, in either printed or digital format.

### **S2 Activities Week**

While some of our S2 cohort has been away on the annual snow-sports trip, many of our S2s have been enjoying a week of varied activities. It has been a fantastic week for everyone involved – the pupils have jumped at Gravity; scored some strikes at ten-pin bowling; used their map-reading skills to orienteer around the North Berwick Lodge; then relaxed with a film before baking their own beach-themed cake and designing a box to match! The final day has involved some speedy rockets, short animation films, enjoying some retro-gaming with Atari and Space Invaders and burning some energy of in PE. The staff who organised the week would like to thank the pupils for their perfect behaviour and ‘have a go’ attitudes, which has helped to make the week a great success!

### **Skills Framework – last few days to complete the survey!**

North Berwick High School and our cluster Primary Schools are in the process of creating a Skills Framework. This will help students identify key skills that they are gaining throughout their time at school, including outside activities. We want to make this framework relevant to our students within the North Berwick Cluster and so we are asking for your input in to which skills that you think your child should focus on moving forward. Employers, both national and local, will be consulted as well as staff in school, to create a framework that works for our pupils and is relevant.

To access the survey, please copy and paste the following link into your browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Q3KXHSC> . If you have any problems opening the survey please let us know at [communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk](mailto:communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk) and we will resend the link directly. The survey closes on Monday 28 January 2019.

### **HPV Vaccination Forms**

Forms for HPV vaccinations have been handed out to all S1 girls and any catch-up pupils from other years. It is important that we receive these forms back as soon as possible and by Friday 8 February at the latest.

### **Football**

The NBHS U18 football team play Royal High School in the Lothians Cup on Friday 1 February. Kick-off is at 2.15pm, on the Recreation Park 3G pitch. We would love to see as many people as possible there to support the team – do come along if you can!

**Should you have any queries about anything covered in this email, or any general enquiries, please contact the School at: [communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk](mailto:communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk)**