

## **Parent Update – Friday 3 May 2019**

### **Tuesday 7 May - Rolling Monday**

A reminder to all our pupils that Tuesday 7 May is a Rolling Monday. Pupils should make sure that they have the appropriate text books (and PE kit if needed) to follow their normal Monday timetable when they return after the long weekend.

### **Urgent! S6 and Other Leavers - Library Books**

An urgent reminder to all pupils not returning to school after study leave, to please ensure that any outstanding library books are returned as soon as possible. Pupils can check with our librarian Ms Wilson if they are unsure about whether they have any books on loan.

### **NBHS Hockey Volunteers Update**

Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to assist with the extra-curricular hockey programme next year. I will arrange a meeting before the end of term, to provide more information on how new volunteers can assist.

As you may, or may not be aware, teachers are not required to do extra-curricular clubs, it is entirely voluntary. We are very lucky to have a number of staff who willingly give up their own time to provide opportunities for wider achievement.

We will be replacing Mrs Lovett for the year but there is no guarantee that her replacement will come with hockey expertise or indeed be able to offer extra-curricular support.

I think that it is important to make our hockey club sustainable, particularly when playing numbers are increasing each year. Creating a larger volunteer group - particularly for Saturday mornings - will enable us to continue developing this strong programme.

This is an exciting opportunity to extend the support network for hockey, and for the wider community to contribute towards sustaining an invaluable experience for our pupils. Any help you can offer, however small, will have a significant impact on our ability to ensure that hockey at NBHS continues to go from strength to strength.

**Alan Macdonald**  
**PT Health & Wellbeing**

### **Senior Phase Work Experience**

Senior Phase pupils who would like to take a work experience placement during the next window of opportunity – Monday 24th to Friday 28th June – should ensure that they have completed the necessary paperwork as soon as possible and **no later than Friday 10th May**.

Detailed information about our work experience programme and advice on how to apply can be found on our website: <https://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh/departamental-information/senior-phase-work-experience-2/>

## Classical Guitar Workshop

NBHS guitar pupils were treated to a visit from a distinguished classical guitarist this week. Alex



Komodore - an American virtuoso guitarist and Professor of Music at the Metropolitan State University, Denver - is currently on sabbatical and touring around Europe giving recitals. On Wednesday, Professor Komodore performed a charity concert at Dirleton Kirk for Muirfield Riding Therapy and then came to work with our pupils on Thursday.

After performing a variety of pieces and talking about their technical aspects, he gave a short masterclass, working with one of our S3 pupils Jason Lovell. After this, all our guitarists had the opportunity to perform together.

Professor Komodore had boundless enthusiasm and warmth and was keen to share advice about technique; posture and music training which will help our guitarists develop in their playing. There were entertaining revelations too, such as being shown his bag containing acetone, glue, false nails, and ping-pong ball remnants - used to make nail extensions for his right hand thumb!



The visit was a real treat for us all and an inspiration for our budding young musicians.

## S2 STEM Trip to the Forth Bridges

Earlier this week, a group of 45 S2 pupils had the opportunity to visit the site of the new Queensferry Crossing. They engaged in an engineering challenge, run by Transport Scotland staff, in which they practised their problem solving and leadership skills; learned how engineers work together to tackle large projects and the importance of good communication and teamwork in achieving a positive outcome. Additionally, the group enjoyed walking across the old crossing, which offered dramatic views of the world famous bridges and the local environment.



### **School Library Opening – Exam Time**

During the course of this year's study leave, to support pupils as in previous years, the school library will be introducing extended opening hours to allow access to a quiet supportive study space, with past papers and study guides to borrow and use. The extended opening hours are:

**Monday to Thursday:** 8.15am to 5.15pm

**Friday:** 8.15am to 2.15pm

It is recommended to avoid the library from 1-1.45pm, when the junior years have lunch, as it does become very busy and loud. Pupils are reminded that if they are coming in to school to study, they must wear appropriate school uniform and adhere to the normal rules of the school and library space. In addition, the public libraries at North Berwick, Gullane and Longniddry all have space suitable for both independent and group study. Opening times may vary, more details can be found at the following address: [https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/directory/10059/east\\_lothian\\_libraries](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/directory/10059/east_lothian_libraries)

### **S1 & S2 Sports Day**

We will be holding a Sports Day for all S1 and S2 pupils on Thursday 16 May. Pupils can compete and win points for their house and are able to choose:

- up to 2 events from the following track events: 80/100m sprint, 200m, 400m, relay;
- up to 2 events from the following field events: shot put, discus, high jump and long jump.

Interested pupils can sign up for the events with their Guidance Teacher during PSE classes.

### **Golfing Success**



Congratulations to S3 pupil Valdemar Hundebøll who is the overall winner of the East Lothian Secondary Schools Golf Order of Merit. Valdemar sealed his victory with a win at the final event at the Renaissance Golf Club, in a round which included two eagles, including his first hole in one! Valdemar will now have the opportunity to play in a Pro Am team at the Scottish Seniors Open, which will be held at Craighielaw Golf Club this August.

### **East Lothian Yacht Club – Push the Boat Out Open Weekend, 18-19 May**

East Lothian Yacht Club, North Berwick Rowing Club and North Berwick Kayak Club are hosting a 'Push the Boat Out' open weekend to encourage people of all ages to try water sports. You can try several different boats and sports – and all for free! For further details, visit the ELYC website: <http://www.elyc.org.uk/PTBO>

**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)**