

Parent Update – Friday 27 September 2019

GTCS Excellence in Professional Learning Award Ceremony

In May, we shared our pride and pleasure at achieving the GTCS Excellence in Professional Learning Award following a one-day visit to the school from the GTCS Panel. Last night, a delegation from NBHS was hugely proud to be presented with our award at a ceremony in the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Glasgow, hosted by broadcaster Dougie Vipond. We were one of only ten schools in Scotland to receive the award this year. The awards were presented by Clare Adamson, MSP and Convenor of the Scottish Parliament's Education and Skills Committee, and the keynote speaker was Professor Margery McMahon of the University of Glasgow. While it was a lovely event, what is most important to us is that the award recognises the commitment of our staff to professional learning day in, day out, here at North Berwick High School. Do have a look at our Twitter account for more details!

Scottish Learning Festival

The annual Scottish Learning Festival took place at the SEC in Glasgow this week. NBHS were asked by East Lothian Council to man a display stand where we could share our practice in professional learning, critical enquiry and leadership. It was a pleasure for us to do so, and our display certainly sparked interest: we had many interesting conversations with conference participants over the course of the two days.

Rotary Club Young Musician / Vocalist of the Year Competition

There is now a sign-up sheet for this competition in the music department corridor. Pupils should add their names if they are interested and would like further information.

Overdue Library Books Reminder

A reminder from our librarian for all pupils to check whether they have any overdue books and to ensure that they are returned before the October break. Pupils will receive an email by Thursday 3 October to their edubuzz account, listing any outstanding books they have. There are no late fees or fines – it doesn't matter how long a pupil has had the book (some of our S6s still have books they borrowed in S1 and S2!) – they just need to be returned in a condition suitable for lending out again. Any school library books can also be handed in at any East Lothian Council library.

These are the current numbers of outstanding books:

S1 = 109
S2 = 105
S3 = 166
S4 = 146
S5 = 66
S6 = 47

So please do urge pupils not to worry that they are going to be told off for handing in their books late – we would much rather have them back on the shelves available for someone else to discover.

Theatre Trip for Higher Drama Pupils

Earlier this week, our Higher Drama pupils attended an evening performance of "A Taste of Honey" by Shelagh Delaney at the Kings Theatre. It was a great production with fantastic examples of theatre arts, which the pupils will be able to incorporate into the essay in the Performance Analysis section of their Higher exam.

Future Asset Conference

A number of our S4-S6 girls attended this event on Tuesday 24. The conference aimed to:

- Raise aspirations and confidence in girls in S4-S6.
- Encourage girls to choose ambitious career paths.
- Provide information about rewarding career opportunities in asset management.

The day involved a programme of:

- Inspirational speakers including Jo Swinson on equality, diversity, overcoming challenges and making a positive impact.
- Networking with successful individuals in a range of careers.
- Industry experts running practical workshops on companies and sectors to invest in. They will introduce key issues in researching, analysing and comparing companies and the girls will get a chance to present their findings.
- Personal development sessions – helping girls to develop confidence and communication skills.
- Launch of the Future Asset Investment Competition!

The girls had a fantastic day and found the speakers truly inspirational. The organisers commented on what wonderful ambassadors the girls were for the school.

Our S6 student Zoe Myles took on an additional role as an audio journalist. Prior the event she prepared interview questions for the speakers and conducted interviews on the day. She will shortly be working with producers at Bauer Media to create a podcast of the interviews. The organisers and interviewees were very impressed with her attitude and work - thank you very much Zoe for your hard work and representing NBHS so well.

Look out for coverage in the following papers – the Scotsman [dated 24 and 25/09/19], the Herald [dated 12/09/19] and the Evening Times [dated 25/09/19].

If you are a guardian of one of the girls who was in attendance can you please reinforce the request for feedback from Future Asset to help develop their events further?

Link: eventmobi.com/futureassetconference

Thank you very much to Future Asset for providing this opportunity to our students. Finally, thank you very much to the girls who represented NBHS.

Mrs Fox

Business Education Teacher

Harry Potter Studios Trip Payments Due

Just a reminder that the deposit and second payment for this trip are now due. Payments can be made using SchoolPay, the school's online payment system.

Board Games & Lego Club Moving to New Day

After the October break, the Board Games & Lego club will be moving to Monday lunchtimes, in the library. All year groups welcome to attend!

Parents' Evening Dates 2019-20

- S1 Tuesday 19 November
- S2 Wednesday 15 January
- S3 Thursday 6 February
- S4 Wednesday 19 February
- S5/6 Thursday 27 February