



NOTTINGHAM



Newsletter
March 2022

Nottingham Girls' Academy

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We believe in creating a community empowered with the qualities, skills and qualifications to enter the next phase of life with confidence and ambition

Key Dates

What's coming up?

Spring Term 2021/22

Last day of Spring term: Friday 1 April

Easter holidays: Monday 4 April - Monday 18 April

Summer Term 2021/22

Pupils return on Tuesday 19 April

Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud: Wednesday 20 April 4:30pm-7pm

Monday 2 May: May Day holiday

Last day of half term: Friday 27 May

Half term holiday: Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June

Pupils return on Monday 6 June

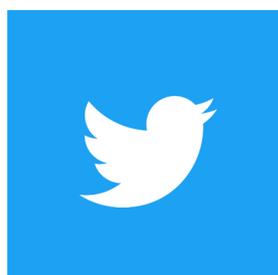
Year 8 Virtual Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud: Wednesday 13 July 4:30pm-7pm

Last day of Summer term: Tuesday 26 July 2022

Staff INSET day - no pupils in school: Wednesday 27 July 2022

Twitter/Facebook

Keep up to date with all the news and exciting events happening at NGA via our Twitter feed and Facebook page by following: @NottmGirlsAcad



We value high standards, hard work and a ceaseless desire to improve

NFFC Trip

By Mrs Heron, Acting Assistant Principal

On 16 March, 14 pupils took part in a Think Big trip; this is a partnership between Nottingham Forest Community Trust and Ideagen to promote the benefits of a career in tech for young people. Pupils met NFFC staff and asked questions around job experiences and how they got into their roles which gave them ideas for careers moving forward. They looked at the different amounts of technology around the stadium and what it is used for and how the stadium has developed. They were asked to think about what they saw before, during and after the game, it was inspired by tech-based jobs, both on the pitch and off the pitch. The pupils were also able to watch NFFC play QPR. Pupils embraced the experience and enjoyed the match.



Celebrate Science Poem Competition

By Miss Green, Second in Science and STEM Coordinator

To celebrate the Nottingham Festival of Science and Curiosity pupils had the opportunity to write a poem on science based on a topic they enjoy, a cool science experiment, current science issues or why they love science.

The winning poem was written by Safa in year 8. Safa has won a selection of amazing books; well done Safa!

The Circulatory System

*First, Deoxygenated blood enters from the veins,
The Vena Cava are the specific names,
It goes through the Right Atrium then to the Tricuspid Valves,
From the Right Ventricle through the Pulmonary Valves,
The Pulmonary Arteries bring the blood to the Lungs,
Gets Oxygen from the Alveoli that are Capillary strung,
This repeats on and on and forevermore,
Until the Heart can no more.*



The Big Bang at NGA



SAVE THE DATE
NOTTINGHAM GIRLS ACADEMY




AT	THE BIG BANG AT NOTTINGHAM GIRLS ACADEMY
WHEN	12TH JULY 2022
WHERE	<i>Robins Wood Road, NG8 3LD</i>



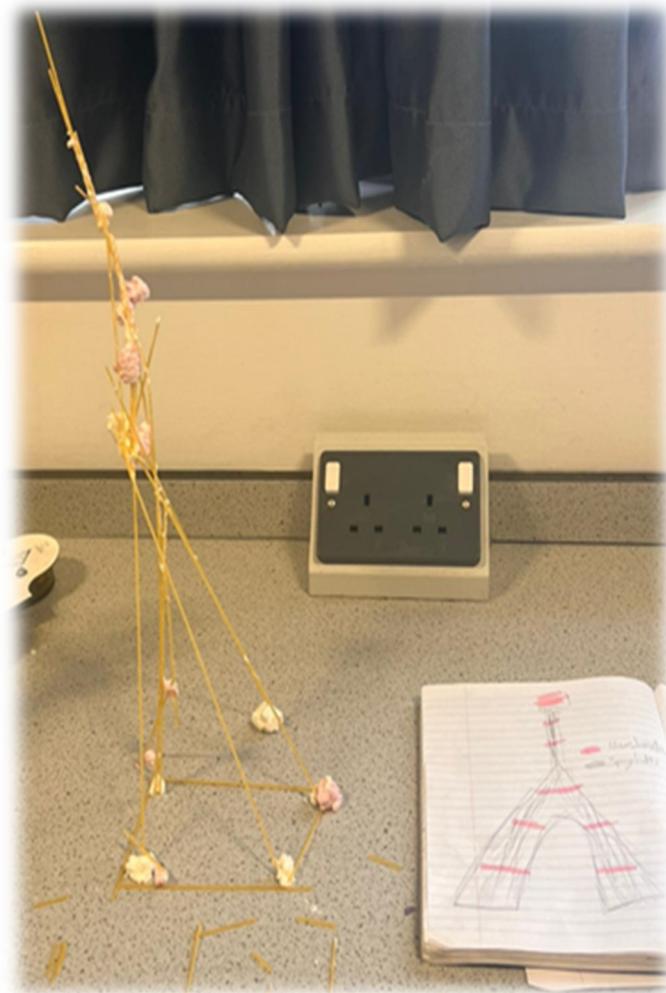
We strive to fulfill everyone's learning potential

British Science Week

By Miss Green, Second in Science and STEM Coordinator

British Science week is a celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths and this year's theme was growth. At NGA years 7 and 8 pupils celebrated by taking part in a week of one-off lessons which as a class they got to choose which 3 lessons out of 6 they wanted to have a go at.

They had the choice of spaghetti towers, climate change careers, developing medicines, growth mindset, growing crystals and bean here done that got the leaf.



GROWTH

STEM Club

By Miss Green, Second in Science and STEM Coordinator

During STEM club this term pupils have had a go at a range of activities including making marbled paper, mystery chromatography letters, lava lamps, bionic hands, and balloon rockets. We end each session with a Wizz bang activity that pupils won't always get the opportunity to experience in their lessons.

Next term the pupils will be working on their own projects which will be entered into next year's Big Bang competition.



Year 8 PSHE Day

By Mrs Gangneux, PSHE Coordinator

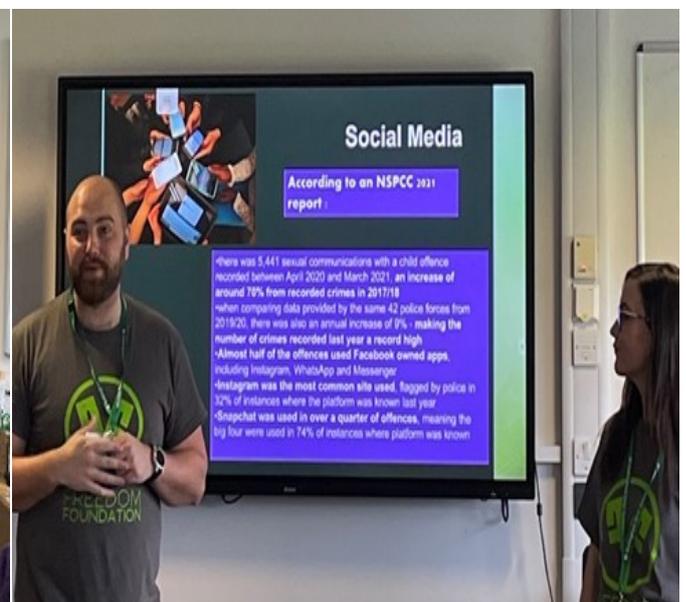
Pupils in year 8 took part in a fantastic day of workshops on 4 February covering some of our statutory obligations regarding the teaching of relationships and sex education, and also topics of wider concern for pupils of this age group. The pupils enjoyed a day off-timetable to explore issues such as healthy relationships, delivered by Nottingham based charity, Equation; basic information around contraception and the increasingly important issue of consent in friendships and relationships. Year 8 pupils also enjoyed a fantastic workshop on 'finding your voice', led by Heidi Shewell-Cooper from Nottingham Citizens. Our amazing year 10 Citizens' ambassadors, Hayat and Rasan, helped facilitate the sessions with Heidi, and even one of our ex-students and Nottingham Citizens' members, Sanaa Aalia, came back to take part.

This was a truly outstanding workshop as year 8 pupils got to voice what is really important to them. Comments such as, *'We feel we are really being listened to'* and *'It's the first time anyone has asked me what I think'* showed us that this type of 'listening' activity was long overdue.

The pupils have had so much to cope with over the past few years after all! The fantastic Freedom Foundation finished the day with their workshop on the harms of social media and, most importantly, teaching coping strategies, movement and breathing techniques for helping pupils cope with the anxiety that is increasingly common in our nation's young people.

Nottingham Citizens

Freedom Foundation



Year 9 - Prison! Me! No Way!

By Mrs Gangneux, PSHE Coordinator

The hugely reputed and highly sought-after organisation, Prison! Me! No Way!, came into school on Friday 25 February to deliver sessions to our year 9 pupils on the harms and dangers of life in the 'real world'. Ex-prison staff, police and fire officers, including the stand-out, unforgettable ex-offender, Jenny, all led workshops and sessions that left the year 9 pupils humbled and more knowledgeable about how the choices we make – sometimes in a split second - can have repercussions that can be felt for the rest of our lives. The pupils sat in total, captivated silence as Jenny told her story, and had the opportunity to ask questions that were answered with a heart-felt, genuine honesty. The session was truly mesmerising. The pupils also heard first-hand about the more recent phenomenon of county-lines drug smuggling, where criminals use young, vulnerable children to conduct their business, and also about child sexual exploitation, and the dangers and warning signs to look out for.



Year 11 PSHE Day

By Mrs Gangneux, PSHE Coordinator

Year 11 PSHE day, which was held on Thursday 10 March this year, was a little different to normal. We asked the pupils what they would like to do; the answer was, 'Please, not another session on sex education'! In one way, it shows that we are doing our job as this statutory information is well embedded by year 11. On the other hand, it highlights the need of our pupils for some light relief, they are clearly feeling the pressure of exams looming, constant Teacher Assessed Grade collections and the stress of thinking about their future.

So, this time round, although we still had to cover certain statutory aspects such as Consent and Child Exploitation delivered by Equation and the fantastic Vanessa from Mariposa RSE, we held workshops on more practical issues, such as Financial Matters led by Miss Elharm. Pupils had asked us for information on how to open a bank account, and how to plot salary against outgoings of bills and living costs. They had questions such as, 'What's the difference between a credit card and a debit card? What is an overdraft? What's the best type of student account?' This session was a real eye-opener for some of our pupils who are starting to think about life after GCSEs.

Mental health is also a huge issue for our pupils as it is across the country, and our pupils had highlighted this topic as something they wanted and needed to talk about.

Miss Gascoyne led an important session on recognising signs of anxiety and stress, the importance of communication and dealing with mental health issues including where they can get help if needed.

The stand-out workshop of the day; however, had to be the self-defence workshop from Gracie Barra Jiu-Jitsu. We had full use of the gym and we got the crash mats out to do some street self-defence which doubled as a handy stress relief exercise, and the opportunity to let out some latent aggression! The year 11s threw themselves into it, literally, as Jiu-Jitsu is a martial art which is based around grappling your opponent to the floor. However, our pupils left a little more confident than when they went in and were busy practicing on their unfortunate siblings during lunchtime!

As PSHE Coordinator, it never fails to amaze me how much the world throws at our young people; the dangers and issues they have to deal with when they are at their most vulnerable, and how very important our job is. We deliver information on topics and issues that are directly affecting them in and out of school, but crucially we also deliver on issues that *could* affect them or people they know, therefore safeguarding them against possible harms. Education is **the** most important weapon in our fight against these ever more present issues, and we thank you for the overwhelming support we receive in keeping our students safe and preparing them for the modern world.

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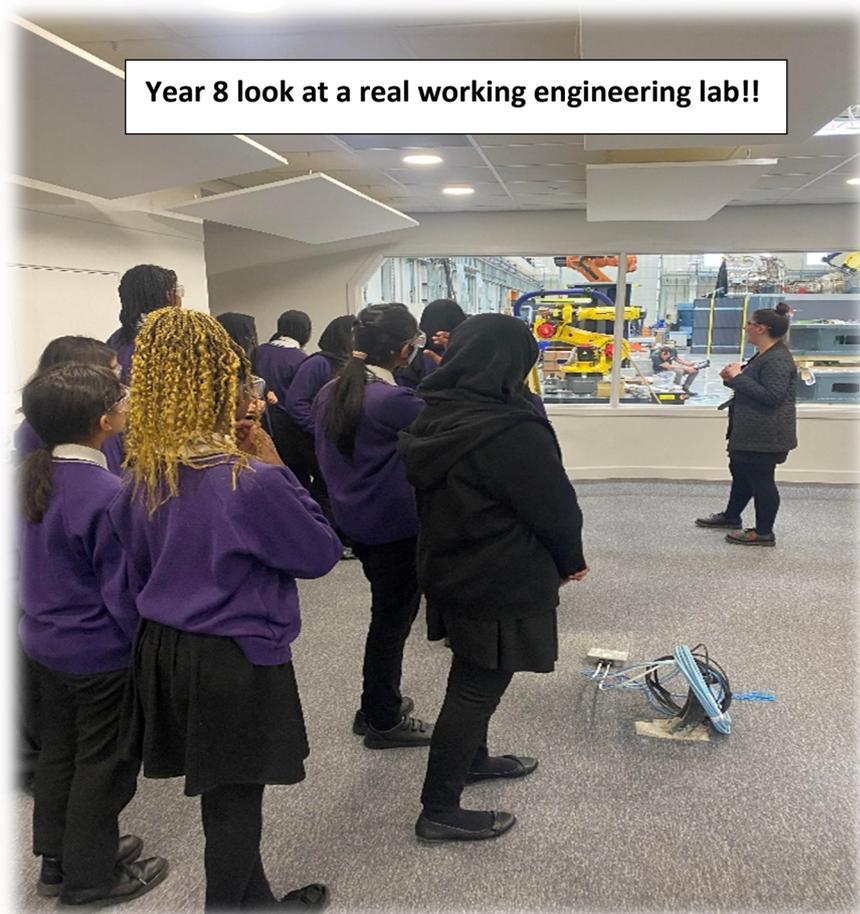


Careers - Year 8 Careers Day

By The Careers Department

This term, it was the turn of year 8 pupils to have a day off timetable for all things careers! The whole year group had a live Teams delivery from Capital One about setting SMART goals and knowing their strengths. Pupils had some amazing ambitions such as architect, race car driver, actor and paramedic. They also had a chance to ask real employees at Capital One any questions they had.

The pupils then did a carousel of other activities, including speaking to the police and fire service, using our careers platform Startprofile, speaking to representatives from Nottingham Trent University and engaging with a workshop about money and bank accounts with Miss Everard. Pupils most enjoyed meeting the Police and Fire Service; who spoke about their careers, training opportunities and the importance of having smoke alarms fitted! However, the pupils deemed the workshops on money to be most useful, when surveyed, as they had learnt about important themes such as gaining/ paying interest and how to avoid unsustainable debt.



Careers - Trip to the University of Sheffield

By the Careers Department

Year 12 students went on a trip to the University of Sheffield for the UK University and Apprenticeship fair. Students were able to speak to a number of institutions including Russell Group universities and apprenticeship providers. They also attended a number of seminars around choosing a university course, accessing apprenticeships and writing a personal statement. Student conduct on this trip was exemplary and we felt very lucky to have such a fabulous group of Year 12s representing our school.



Careers - STEM Educators Project

By the Careers Department

As some of you may have heard, a group of Year 8 pupils were on the TV last week! This group have been taking part in a project to promote women in STEM careers, led by Nottingham Academy alum, Frida Nzaba. The pupils benefitted from workshops with STEM ambassadors, a visit to the University of Nottingham and an ongoing mentoring programme. At one point, they were able to learn how to pilot a miniature drone! Frida works for Rolls Royce which meant that the girls involved on the project were featured on an episode of We Are England, a documentary series which featured Rolls Royce, which can be accessed here if you're interested- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0015qwh?scrlybrkr=6a61e65d>. Miss Green and Mrs Saunders were very proud of pupil conduct on the day that the BBC visited!



Screencaps from 'This is England' featuring Year 8 pupils



We strive to fulfill everyone's learning potential

OUR SILVER CITY 2094 FUTURE OF FUTURES EXHIBITION

Silver City

By Mrs Pye, Teacher i/c Art

Nottingham Contemporary



Five of our **A Level Art students** will be lucky enough to exhibit their work at **Nottingham Contemporary** this Spring! They have also been invited to a **Private View on 30 March**, ahead of the exhibition being open to the public.

As part of the current 'Silver City' exhibition Sigal, Kyra, Zainab, Hawwa and Naomi took part in a workshop in the Gallery, with resident artist Charlotte Tupper, and created a response exploring 'Nottingham of the Future'.

They participated in a series of workshops, creating stories and weather predictions as well as Silk-Screen and Polyprints.

The Printmaking produced will be exhibited in **Gallery Zero** as part of a joint exhibition with the six other schools that participated in the programme.

There will be a professionally printed publication of this project, which will be available to the public as part of the wider exhibition!

For more information about the Silver City Exhibition follow this link

<https://nottinghamcontemporary.org/whats-on/our-silver-city-2094/>



Year 9 Street Art Project



Easter Holiday Activity Clubs across the City

FREE Fun and Food!

This Easter school holiday, pupils entitled to Free School Meals can receive:

1. Weekly £15 supermarket e-vouchers. Ask your school for details.
2. Holiday Activity Clubs in venues across Nottingham. Free food provided.

Book your place: www.asklion.co.uk/funandfood
Some places are available for pupils who aren't eligible for Free School Meals.

SCAN ME TO BOOK A PLACE

WWW.ASKLION.CO.UK/FUNANDFOOD

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- ✦ News about supermarket e-vouchers
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- ✦ Free skills & training courses
- ✦ Mental health advice services
- ✦ Support services for families

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