



Nicholas Chamberlaine School

# NEWSLETTER

*Successful Learners | World Citizens*

Friday 14 January 2022

Dear NCS Families,

Happy new year. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas break.

We are delighted by how students have returned this term. They look very smart in their uniforms, have been focused in lessons and shown kindness and respect towards each other.

Years 11 and 13 have completed their mock exams and results have been shared with parents. We very much hope that you will be able to support them in these last few months to organise their revision. All students will have an individual analysis of what they need to study. We will contact you later with details of the extensive support that we will be offering to help them to achieve their best.

We have been particularly pleased with the number of students who are now using the library and reading for pleasure. The vast majority of students in years 7-9 have made significant progress and improved their reading age beyond the chronological age. Encouraging your child to read every day is one of the best ways of supporting your child to achieve academically.

This term we have welcomed new colleagues who are already making a great impression: Danielle West (Head of Psychology and Sociology); Gurdeep Singh Kandola (PE teacher), Jonah Slavic (Librarian and Parateacher). It is always lovely to see new faces and fresh energy.

As always, I would like to thank you for your continued support in these unusual times.

Best wishes,

Executive Head

## Key Dates

Thursday 20th January—  
Year 9 Options Evening

Thursday 10th February—  
Year 9 Parents' Evening

Monday 21st-Friday 25th  
February—Half Term



## **Upcoming Opportunities for Democratic Engagement**

Nicholas Chamberlaine School and Co-db Collaborative Design and Build Ltd are working together on a long-term design project, aiming to transform the way our inside spaces look, feel and are used by students and other stakeholders. Our objective is to transform the inside of our school buildings so that every space becomes a place we can all enjoy spending time, whether we are learning, working, socialising – or all three at once.

As part of our democratic “**You said... We did...**” ethos, we would like to invite students to become active consultants in the design process, through participation in a series of workshops, site visits and consultation interviews with Co-DB designers. Participating students will be responsible for representing the views of their community and will directly influence decisions made regarding the future transformation of our buildings. Full details of the workshops can be found in the breakdown from Co-DB within this newsletter.

We have **twenty-one** student places available for this amazing opportunity to influence lasting, positive changes to our school environment. We are particularly interested in hearing from any student who is interested in a possible future career in Design, Architecture, Fine Art or Media, but welcome applications from all students.

### **How can I apply for this opportunity to design my own future school environment?**

- ◆ Applications are welcome from all students, Years 7-13
- ◆ Applicants are required to submit a formal letter of application, addressed to Mr J. Sale and Mr P. Walker

### **Letters of application should include the following details:**

- ◆ Your name, school year and Tutor group,
- ◆ An explanation why this opportunity is of interest to you and what you hope to gain from the experience,
- ◆ Describe **one** change you would make to our school environment if you were given total freedom, along with reasons why or how this would be of benefit to our school community

**Completed letters of application should be submitted to the school office by no later than Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Workshops will be held 3rd-4th February. For further details, please speak to Mr Walker.**

## Co-Design Development Workshops

**Creative design workshops to generate shared visual references and develop more deeply informed opinions and inputs into the development of the school wide colour and material scheme, focused initially on DAB curriculum areas, halls and the PE block.**

### **Propose workshop plan Jan/ Feb 2022**

Group of 15-20 interested students and staff from across the school work together with Co-DB across two intensive half-day hands-on workshops.

This might be particularly good for participants interested in architecture or interior design, as well as art students and those interested in local history and school culture.

The aim of the workshop is to inform the next stages of work:

- Design development
- Deliver presentation of proposed scheme
- Make any revisions following presentation
- Create detailed design guidance for each location

### **Draft Schedule**

#### **Day 1**

1250

James arrives and settles in

Lunch

1345 - Intros and discussion activity

Introductions, get inspiration, discover what's possible, discuss the initial questionnaire results and images, and explore further precedents through group discussion around a prepared slide-show, together developing a brief for the various areas and ideas about the role of colour and materials in that.

1415 - Site visits

Walk to various locations around school, make notes and hold discussions about ideas for each site, thinking about the key learnings from previous exercise in context, including both during lesson time and between periods.

1510 - Close day 1

Return to classroom, discuss findings and the next day's activities.

#### **Day 2**

0900 - Visual media activity

Good morning, work in groups to develop a range of ideas for each space, creating multiple quick collages of the spaces using cut out magazine images, drawings and printed photos, annotated and titled.

1045 Break (20mins)

1105 - Group discussion

Discuss collages together and work collectively on creating colour palettes using painting and material samples, refining and combining ideas from across the group.

1130 Close day 2

Discuss next steps and James leaves



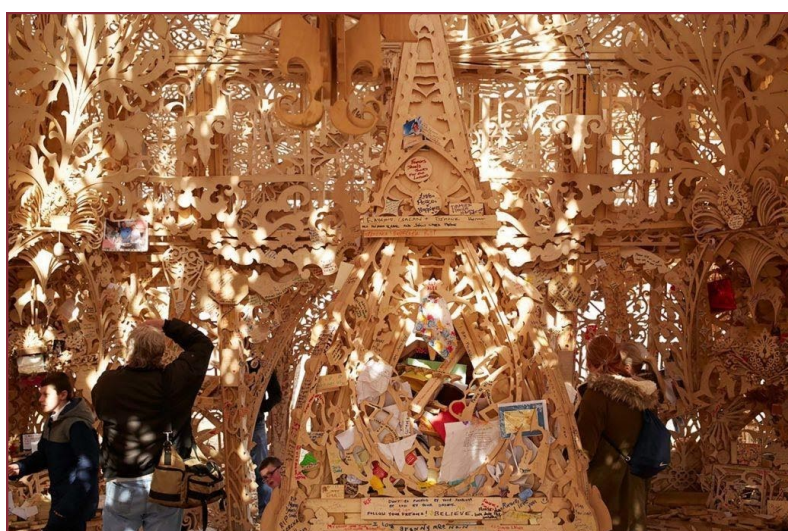
## Collaborative Community Work with Artichoke

### Sanctuary - An Extraordinary Artwork by David Best

In March 2022, a temporary commemorative public artwork will come to Nuneaton & Bedworth. On the second anniversary of the COVID pandemic, Sanctuary will recognise the losses left in its wake, offering a moment to remember loved ones and acting as a beacon of hope to mark the rebirth, recovery and regeneration of the whole community.

Nicholas Chamberlaine school and the Bedworth community have been selected to participate in this exciting project.

[sanctuary-event.com](https://sanctuary-event.com)



**Participants sought for ground-breaking temporary public artwork and memorial in Nuneaton & Bedworth.**

***Paid and volunteer opportunities*** exist for local people from a wide range of backgrounds. (Taking place first week of January- applications need to be in by the 31st of December)

To find out more, visit: <https://sanctuary-event.com/>

See Mrs T Johnson for applications [t.johnson@nicholaschamberlaine.co.uk](mailto:t.johnson@nicholaschamberlaine.co.uk)





## Extra Curricular Activities

As a school Nicholas Chamberlaine prides itself on the wide range of extra curricular activities (ECA) offered to all students. These are free of charge and allow students to participate in diverse opportunities - from art to astrophysics and drama to dodge-ball.

The current ECA list is being amended for the Spring Term and will be available for all students from the 17th January. Activities take place before and after school and during break times. We encourage all students to take part in at least one activity as part of their enrichment programme.

## BBC 100 - Share Your Story

2022 marks the centenary of the BBC and as part of their celebrations, the BBC has created a programme called 'Share Your Story'. Over the course of the year, a quarter of a million students will be encouraged to either share their story or to hear from BBC employees about how they have changed their lives.

Nicholas Chamberlaine School is proud to have been invited to take part in this celebration and on 9th February, students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 will participate in a 'share your story event'. Hosted in school by the BBC, the event will allow students to explore how BBC employees' life stories have led them to work for this world famous organisation. Later this year, the event will be followed up by a BBC Bitesize careers event.



If you would like to know more about these celebrations, you can follow the link below to read more: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-58638702>

## University and Apprenticeship Programmes



As the country emerges from lockdown, universities and apprenticeship providers are beginning to offer more programmes for young people to participate in.

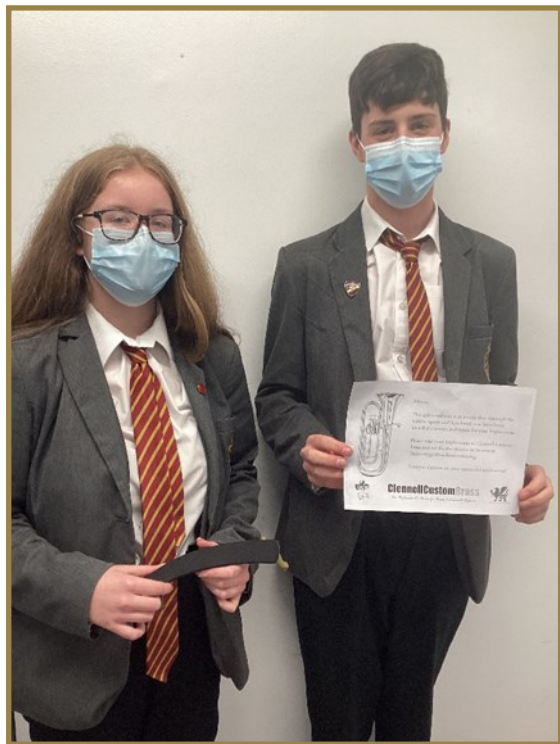
Our year 8 and 10 have been lucky to have been invited to take part in Unitracks, a scheme run by the University of Warwick. This programme will allow some students to attend workshops at the University of Warwick and, Covid restrictions permitting, to take part in a residential visit.

For students currently in Year 12, the Sutton Trust is also offering residential Summer Schools for students interested in attending either a selective university or completing a degree level apprenticeship. All students in Year 12 are strongly advised to apply.

Details of the schemes can be found here: <https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>

## Music at NCS

### The Griffin Schools Trust Sports and Art Fund



Rosie (Y9) and Oliver (Y10) both applied to The Sports and Arts Fund (SAF). The SAF was set up in 2018 for all students in Years 3 to 13 in the Trust to apply for support in funding extracurricular interests which they have already pursued for some time. Rosie was very grateful to receive a new shoulder rest for her viola and Oliver received a gift certificate for Clennell Custom Brass – this will pay for him to get his euphonium serviced.

The music department were also successful in applying for funding to pay for selected KS3 students to take their Grade 2 ABRSM exams.

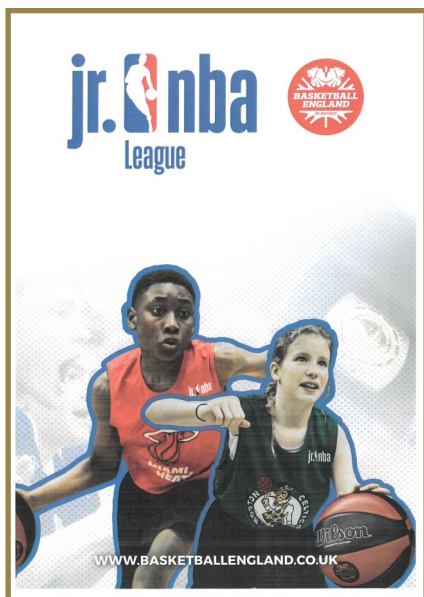
### Christmas Karaoke Competition

Over Christmas we invited Griffin families across the North Warwickshire Hub to enter our 'Last Christmas by Wham' competition. We have thoroughly enjoyed watching the performances. Mr Delivett, GST Director of Music, has chosen the winners and these will be announced on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January, on our school Facebook page. Thank you to everyone who participated.



## Sport at NCS

### Basketball



We are delighted to be able to say that we have been successful in entering both Year 7 and Year 8 teams into the Jr. NBA Basketball England Leagues for the 2021-22 season. Matches start next week, and we wish our teams a happy, fun-filled, successful campaign.

#### Upcoming Fixtures

Y7 Tuesday 18th vs Sidney Strange @ NCSNBA  
Y8/9 Monday 24th vs Stoke Park @ Stoke  
Y8 Thursday 27th vs Barrs Hill @ NNCS NBA  
Y7 Thursday 3rd Feb vs Stoke park @ Stoke

### Girls Rugby

We are delighted to be able to say that we have been successful in entering both Year 7 and Year 8 teams into the Jr. NBA England Leagues for the 2021-22 season. Matches start next week, and we wish our teams a happy, fun filled, successful campaign.



## English—Spotlight on Key Stage 3

In the English department we are committed to making every student an Expert reader, Expert writer and an Expert Speaker. This is to ensure that we equip all of our pupils with the necessary skills to succeed in life.

Shining the spotlight on Key Stage Three: This academic our Key Stage Three Curriculum has been adapted so that all Year groups study a range of text types associated with a key theme from Literature. They do this across the whole Year.

So far our KS3 students have studied the units below:

### Year 7 – Power & Conflict

'A Monster Calls' – Patrick Ness.

### Year 8 – Gender and Power

'Animal Farm' – George Orwell.

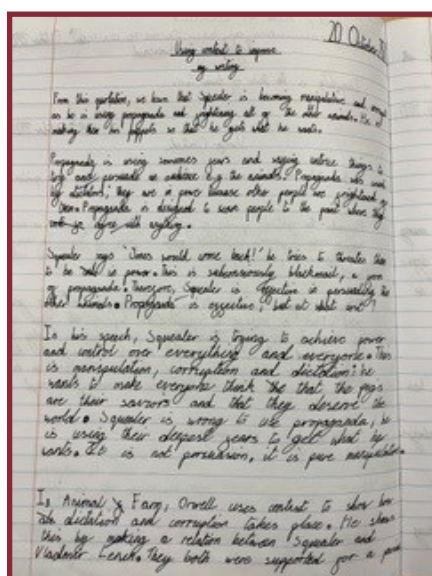
'Non-Fiction extracts.

### Year 9 – Prejudice and Discrimination

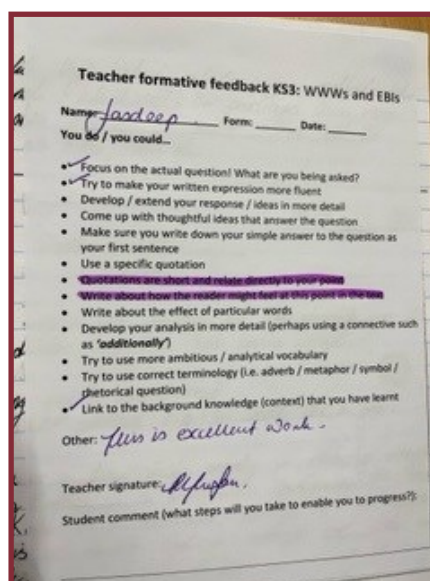
'Of Mice & Men' – John Steinbeck.

'The Art of Rhetoric.

As a department we are very proud to share with you all some detailed, exemplary analysis from Year 7; creative explorations of Non-fiction from Year 8; and perceptive responses to 'Of Mice and Men' in Year 9.

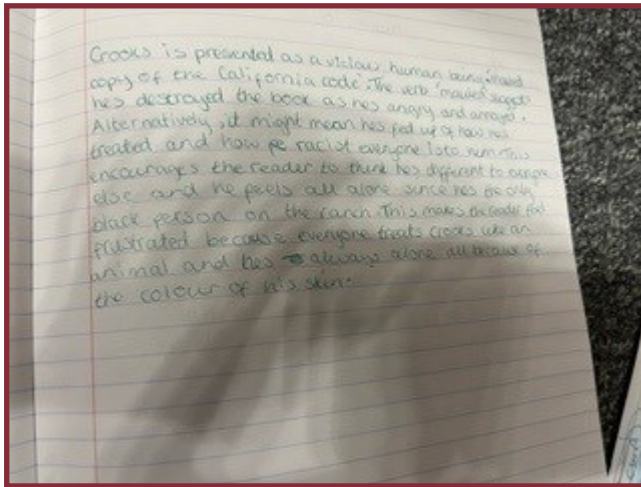


**Jasdeep M—8X1**  
**Animal Farm**

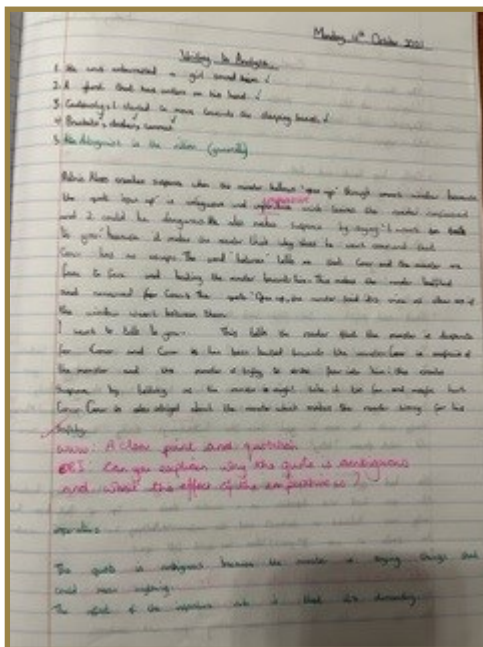
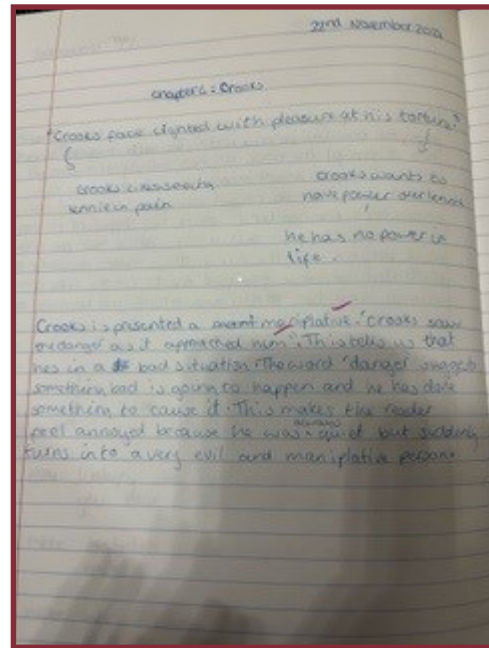




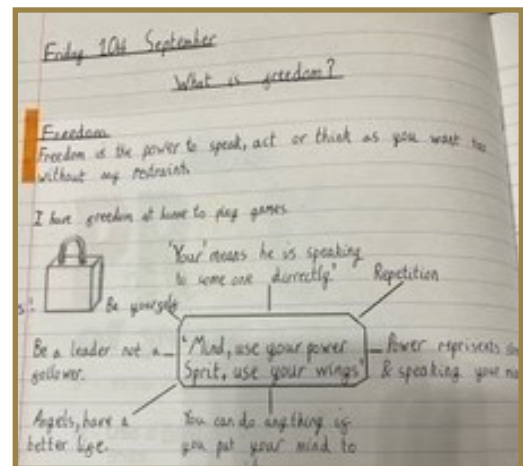
# High Achievement



Isabelle F—Year 9  
Of Mice and Men



Jake W—7Y4  
A Monster Calls



Evie T—Year 9  
Prejudice and Discrimination