

Northolt High School newsletter



Friday 16th July 2021

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Committed to excellence

Beginning and end of term arrangements

I've been approached by many students this week with the most important question of the term - are we having a non-school uniform day on our last day of the school year? The answer is yes! We will be fundraising for **Ealing Foodbank**. We're asking families to make a donation of £2 (£1 for students entitled to Free School Meals) as part of this event on **Wednesday 21st July**.

We will be finishing school early on Wednesday 21st July. Students will be able to have their lunch before they leave the school site and dismissal will be staggered. **Please see the last page of this bulletin** for details of which year groups will be leaving school at which times. All students will be leaving through the middle playground gate. If students need to wait for siblings, they'll be able to do so in school.

This is our last newsletter of the academic year. I will write to families in the middle of August to confirm the arrangements for the beginning of next term which are detailed below - these may need to change if Government guidance about the testing arrangements is updated. At the moment, the plan is as follows:

Date	Students come into school for lateral flow test only. They go straight home after their test.	Students onsite for lessons
Thursday 2nd September	Year 7 and Sixth form	
Friday 3rd September	Year 11 and Sixth form (QPR)	Year 7, 12
Monday 6th September	Year 8	Year 7, 11, 12, 13
Tuesday 7th September	Year 9 and 10	Year 7, 8, 11, 12, 13
Wednesday 8th September		All students in school

What a year it's been! The challenges of managing the pandemic are still with us but I am hopeful that students and families will see a more 'normal' school life returning next year. I've been asked by a parent to remind students that despite the easing of restrictions on Monday, face coverings still need to be worn on public transport. Please could you remind your children to do so when they leave for school in the morning? We will remind them in school for the journey home.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at Northolt High School, I'd like to thank you for your support during this year. I hope that you are able to rest and relax over the summer holiday period and look forward to seeing you all again next academic year.

Ms Marion Budd - Headteacher

Seizing opportunity

Instilling ambition

Realising potential

Golden Ticket Day – Attendance Rewards

Today was **Golden Ticket Day** and we celebrated all of our students with 99% or 100% attendance to school during this academic year (not including any COVID isolation periods). Not surprisingly, all the research indicates that students make the most progress when they are in school learning every day. Today we got to recognise and celebrate those students who had manage to achieve this.

What does a Golden Ticket buy you? Well, at lunchtime today, students handed their Golden Tickets to Ms Baker, our Assistant Headteacher in charge of School Attendance, and they were then rewarded with an ice-pop - a perfect treat on this lovely summer's day!

More Golden Tickets will be available at the end of next half term. What will the treat be next time? If you have any suggestions, please let Ms Baker know!



FREE Holiday Activities and Food Programme

The [Ealing brochure](#) of FREE activities available for all children over the summer holidays is now available.

Please take a look at the **41 pages** of FREE ACTIVITIES that you and your family can take part in and sign up to now.

There are so many wonderful activities for the whole family – please don't miss out!



Year 10 Football Stars

Thankfully restriction changes have meant we were able to hold the Year 10 Interform Football competition this week. After the national lockdown earlier in the year, it was a joy to see students running around and engaging in some healthy competition. We look forward with much anticipation to learning who the winning form group was when it is revealed at our celebration assembly next Wednesday!

We were also treated to a form tutor penalty shootout, enabling form tutors to earn extra points for their forms.

We all had a wonderful time and it was a lovely way to end our year.



PRIDE

COURAGE

RESPECT

A year in reflection – by Zahra'a in Yr. 9

We usually bring you a curriculum focus in each newsletter. For this edition we thought we would feature a piece of work from a year 9 student who has looked back over the last year.

This unprecedented academic year has given us many opportunities to reflect. Zahra'a has worked collaboratively with Miss Vaja to create a reflective piece of writing, sharing her thoughts and experiences about the past year. During a time when students have adapted so quickly, here is Zahra'a's reflection, giving us an insight into how resilient our young people are and how successfully they have adapted.

Online classes have been a really new experience for all of us. On an average school day, I would wait outside the gate with my friends, then outside my form room and sit down to get my equipment out to start the school day. However, due to the pandemic, I was not able to do that for a couple of months this year.

Personally, as an introvert, I enjoyed staying at home to complete the work. I didn't need to talk to people and could just get on with my learning. My average routine would be; to wake up, prepare my room for online classes and then grab my book, pens and laptop. Since I would use the internet to connect with my peers, I had to make sure it was working right before my classes started. In cases where it didn't work, I had to miss the live meeting and catch up by using the slides the teachers posted on Google Classroom and by asking my friends.



To be honest, there were moments when I did feel overwhelmed - having to catch-up on twice the amount of work seemed like a lot. But it's all still new to us and there's so much happening at the moment. Going forward, perhaps teachers and students could collaborate where we still continue to learn lots whilst incorporating time for ourselves too.



But it wasn't all too bad because I did become closer to my family, despite the situation. In retrospect, this was a huge positive. I've also taken the time to learn new skills such as stitching and I found ways to become more productive by organising and cleaning. Another positive outcome is that people are now beginning to learn how to use computers more efficiently. Before this year, not all of us were that skilful at using a computer but now research shows that 95% of the population can use a computer without the help of a millennial or young person!

Ultimately, this experience has shown me that I am capable of many things, particularly time management. I was not good at managing my time before the start of online learning however, this experience has helped me change my habits and become a better learner and person.

Thank you for sharing your reflection piece with us Zahra'a. We hope that everyone can find time to look back at this difficult year and focus on the positives, just as you have.

Summer Holiday Vouchers

Ealing Council will be offering financial support to low income families over the summer holidays as part of the Government's COVID Local Support Grant Scheme.

The grant funding has been extended to cover the summer holiday period and the council are intending to top up the funding available to enable them to provide families with vouchers worth £15 per week per eligible child for the 6 week summer holiday period.

If you are eligible you should have received [this letter](#) from Ealing Council. If you have not received a voucher code by 30th July 2021, please check your junk or spam mailbox folder. Otherwise, please complete the online contact form at www.select-yourreward.co.uk/ContactUs Please do not contact school directly regarding your vouchers.



Children &
Families Directory

Family information, advice and guidance

With school being closed over the summer, we would like to signpost families to support available from Ealing. Please click below to visit and search the section that best relates to your enquiry.

[Ealing Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme](#)

[Mental Health Support and Resources](#)

[Coronavirus- Latest Information](#)

[Coronavirus- Resources for Parents/Carers](#)

[Food Banks, Food Distribution Services & Food Bank Collections](#)

[Find out more about Free School Meals](#)

Speak CAMHS helpline

Call [0800 328 4444](tel:08003284444) and choose Option 2 for CAMHS.

Children and young people, parents and carers can call Speak CAMHS for support if you're worried about yours or someone else's mental health:

The helpline is open:
Monday to Friday from 8am to 11pm.
Weekends and Bank holidays from midday to 8pm

Don't forget our non-uniform day Wednesday 21st July!



Don't forget your £2 (£1 FSM students) on our last day of school to help raise money for our local foodbank.



Last Day of Term Wednesday 21st Dismissal
(the canteen will be open as usual)

Year 8	12:00pm
Year 10	12:25pm
Year 7	12:50pm
Year 9 & 12	1:15pm

HAVE A GREAT
Summer

CHARITY DAY
NON-UNIFORM DAY

PRIDE

COURAGE

RESPECT