



NATIONAL
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ACADEMY

Pentecost Newsletter

Summer address from Mr Brailsford - Headteacher

As we reach the end of another year here at National, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly successful and memorable year for our academy community.

This year has been filled with achievement, perseverance and growth. Our students have continued to impress us with their dedication to learning, their willingness to embrace new challenges and their commitment to living out our ARCH values each day. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, on stage, or representing the academy in the wider community, they have made us incredibly proud.

Our academic successes have been significant, but equally important are the qualities our young people demonstrate every day: kindness, resilience, respect and compassion. As a Church of England academy, we remain committed to ensuring that every student is known, valued and encouraged to flourish, and it has been wonderful to see this reflected in the life of the academy throughout the year.

There have been countless highlights. Students have enjoyed educational visits such as the Germany and Hagg Farm residentials which have recently returned, enrichment opportunities such as Duke of Edinburgh – which set off again this week, sporting competitions – including a County Cup Win for Year 10, performances like 'Our House' and community events that have broadened horizons and created lasting memories. I have been continually amazed by the talents of our young people. One of the joys of being a Headteacher is discovering that our students can excel at almost anything—often while simultaneously insisting they have "literally done no revision" or that a homework task set three weeks ago came as a complete surprise!

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to our exceptional staff. Their commitment, expertise and care make a tremendous difference to the lives of our students every day. They consistently go above and beyond, and they are certainly looking forward to the summer break.

My thanks also go to our parents and carers for their continued support and partnership. The success of our students is built on the strong relationships between home and school, and we are grateful for the encouragement and trust you place in us every single day and for the occasional email that keeps us going.

To our year 11 and year 13 students, congratulations on reaching the end of an important chapter in your education. For our year 11, yes, I am going to mention it again – we have an incredible Sixth Form offer for you, we know you and want the very best for you - we will be here on results day to see you and guide you through that exciting and nervous time.

Thank you to all of our incredible pupils for being themselves. Speaking to so many of you this year is always an absolute privilege and highly enjoyable. Yes, sometimes things don't go to plan and there are

ups and downs, but that is normal. What is important is that you know you are loved and valued and we are here for you. I remember one peak heatwave lunchtime; a pupil came running over to me and in front of everyone asked 'can I wet myself'? Everyone, including the boy laughed and we knew what he really meant.

As the summer holiday begins, I hope everyone has the opportunity to rest, spend time with family and friends, and enjoy a well-deserved break. Students, please remember that five weeks is just enough time to relax, recharge and perhaps locate that piece of equipment you've been telling your teacher is "definitely at home somewhere" since September! You have 5 weeks to get your rooms tidy as well – there are no excuses over summer!

Thank you for making this another wonderful year at The National Church of England Academy. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, growth and achievement.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Mr Brailsford



'Life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Year 7 Residential At Hagg Farm

What an incredible week our 41 year 7 students enjoyed on their residential visit to Hagg Farm in the heart of the Peak District! From the moment they arrived, they embraced every challenge with enthusiasm, determination and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones.

From Sunday 12th to Friday 17th July, their week was packed with exciting outdoor activities. Students explored underground caves, conquered their fears while abseiling, completed a demanding 14-mile expedition over Win Hill, cycled 10 miles around the beautiful Ladybower Reservoir, built survival shelters, canoed on the water, enjoyed a refreshing swim at Hathersage Outdoor Pool, and worked together to solve clues in a treasure hunt around the village.

Throughout the week, our students truly lived out our ARCH values. They showed Aspiration by persevering through demanding activities, Respect for each other, the instructors and the environment, Compassion through the kindness they showed every day, Humility by recognising and celebrating one another's strengths, Service by encouraging and supporting their teammates and Wisdom through problem-solving and making sensible decisions.

We are incredibly proud of the resilience, teamwork and positive attitude shown by every student. They represented our school brilliantly, built new friendships and returned home with memories and experiences that will stay with them for many years to come.

Mrs K Marshall - Head of MAC



Germany Residential

In the early hours of Monday 13th July, 43 year 9 students and staff set off to Germany, travelling by coach and ferry to the Hotel Adler, in the quaint spa town of Bad-Salzig, in the UNESCO designated Rhine region. Students were very happy to be greeted on arrival by Renata, our host and a home cooked meal of Spaghetti Bolognese, after a long journey through England, France, Belgium and Holland!

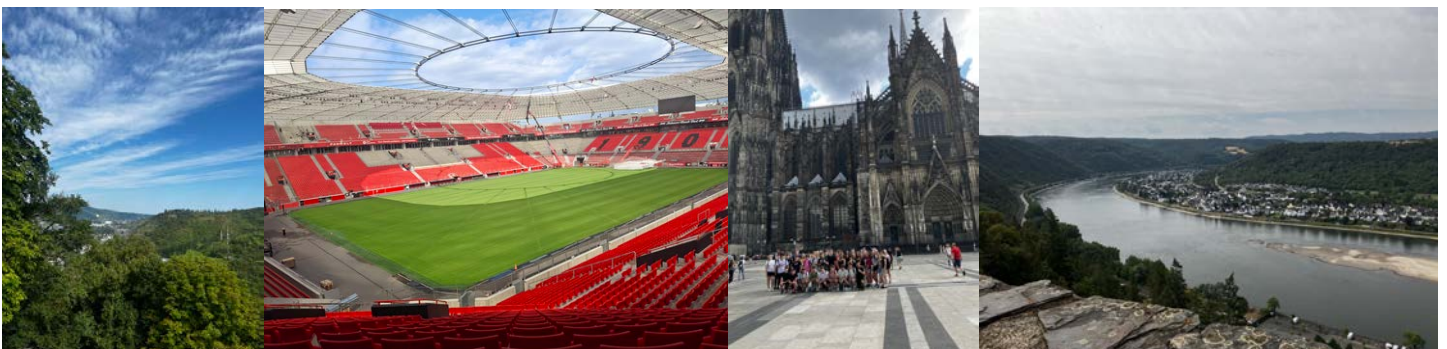
On the first day, students spent the entire day at Phantasialand, one of Germany's most popular theme parks, with thrilling rides for all to enjoy. Many students trying some rollercoasters for the first time and facing their fears. Ice cream and cold drinks were plentiful in the 34 degree sunshine. The evening was rounded up with a relaxing stroll along the Rhine in Bad Salz and seeing the 'Two Brothers' on the other side of the river.

Wednesday saw us visit the Deutsches Eck in Koblenz, where the Rhine and Moselle Rivers meet. We visited the huge Wilhelm monument for a group photo. Then we saw some fierce competition in "The Apprentice". Students received a text of 5 items in German and 10 Euros to buy the items, as quickly and cheaply as possible, including the most random item they could find. We saw an array of items such as lemon scoopers, squishy caterpillars and even Quark – with the winning item being a metal cut out of St Nicholas. Sadly no new school records this year, as the fastest group completed this in just over 10 minutes, and the cheapest bought all 5 items for €7.50. After this, we visited the stunning Marksburg castle, one of the only castles never to have been destroyed or conquered in Germany. Students had a guided tour of the different rooms and particularly enjoyed seeing the knights through the ages as well as the weapons and torture devices. Later, in beautiful sunshine students took a relaxing cruise along the River Rhine from St Goarshausen to Boppard, seeing lots of castles and hearing stories about them and the sirens along the way. It was a perfect chance to relax and enjoy the views. After dinner, we saw student's competitive streaks come out as they had time at the bowling alley. The day was finished with a return to the hotel and the England v Spain game – with a few tears at the result.

A very early get up and coach ride on Thursday saw the group visit the amazing city of Cologne. Firstly in the morning, a highlight for many, was a tour of the Bayarena, which is the home of Bayer Leverkusen 04, who completed the double back in 2024. Students learnt about the history of the club, were shown around the stadium seating, VIP lounges, dressing rooms, trophy area and the tunnel leading to the pitch, which apparently is the 2nd best in Europe. Students were able to see the press conference area and even saw the first team outside during a training session. This also saw the most random purchase of the trip with a student buying one of the old stadium seats – his own little piece of history. After a visit to the club shop we ventured into the city centre where students were able to visit the 778 year old Kölner Dom cathedral which dominates the skyline of the city and is a must see. Students had time to visit shops and sample Currywurst and local pastries before returning to Bad Salz.

On Friday, we made the long journey home during which we held an award ceremony on the bus to keep us entertained. Students declared that they had had a fabulous time, practised some German and made many special memories. The staff agreed that the students had behaved impeccably well and had made the most of their time in Germany.

Mrs A Guest - Teacher of German



Year 10 Photography Trip

Year 10 photography students enjoyed an inspiring educational visit to Belton House on Wednesday 21st April as part of their GCSE coursework. The trip provided a valuable opportunity for students to engage with photography in a real-world setting, while drawing inspiration from the historic house and its stunning grounds.

During the visit, students met with a professional photographer who spoke candidly about his career and experiences within the industry. He offered valuable insights into life as a working photographer, discussing different career pathways, creative challenges, and the importance of perseverance and passion. Students also received practical advice on how to take strong images, focusing on composition, lighting, perspective, and storytelling through photography. This session helped students to develop a deeper understanding of how professional photographers approach their work.

Following the talk, students were given time to explore the extensive gardens and parkland surrounding Belton House. Armed with their cameras and new knowledge, they applied the techniques they had learned to capture a wide range of photographs. The diverse surroundings allowed students to experiment with architectural details, landscapes, textures, light and shadow, providing excellent material for their ongoing coursework projects.

The visit was an invaluable experience, helping students to build confidence in their photographic skills while encouraging creativity and independence. Many students commented on how motivating it was to work in such a historic and visually rich environment, and how the professional advice had already influenced the way they see and compose images.

Overall, the trip to Belton House was both educational and inspiring, supporting the students' coursework while giving them a valuable insight into photography beyond the classroom.

Mr A Cockerill - Teacher of Photography



National Crowned Double Champions

County Cup Final

The National year 10 boys team emerged victorious after a tense County Cup final against Christ the King, sealing the title with a dramatic late winner. The match began as a cagey affair, with both sides struggling to create clear opportunities in a tightly contested first half. However, National made the breakthrough when Liam N was expertly slipped through on goal before calmly finishing into the bottom left corner to give his side the lead. National had chances to extend their advantage before the break, but Christ the King remained in the contest thanks to an outstanding one-on-one save from Max A, ensuring the score stayed at 1-0 heading into half-time.

National started the second half brightly and felt they should have been awarded an early penalty when Dylan T burst through on goal, only to be denied by the referee. Christ the King responded strongly and gradually took control of the game, eventually finding an equaliser with around 20 minutes remaining. Despite the setback, National continued to push forward. Drama followed late on when they were awarded a penalty with five minutes to go, only to miss the chance to retake the lead. Undeterred, National found the decisive moment just two minutes from time. Rafe H delivered a perfectly weighted ball across the box for Blake H, who made no mistake in converting and securing a memorable victory. The final whistle sparked celebrations as National were crowned County Champions after a hard-fought and thrilling encounter.

South Notts Cup Final

After being rearranged twice, the South Notts Cup Final finally took place, with National taking on South Notts Academy – and what a game it was! National almost got off to the perfect start inside the opening minute, but Dylan was denied by a superb save from the South Notts Academy goalkeeper. South Notts took the lead after capitalising on a mistake at the back, but National showed great character to fight back. With just five minutes remaining in the first half, Liam kept his composure to slot home from close range and level the scores at 1-1. National came out flying after the break and deservedly took the lead when Matei found the back of the net to make it 2-1. A determined defensive display saw National withstand late pressure from South Notts Academy to secure a fantastic 2-1 victory and be crowned South Notts Champions!

This means that National have done the double, winning both the County Cup and the South Notts Cup, which is an incredible achievement.

A huge congratulations to all the players, your hard work, resilience and teamwork have paid off – Champions!

A huge thank you to Mr Crossland for his time and dedication with the year 10 boy's team, what an outstanding achievement.

Mrs M Jones - Head of PACE



Making A Difference In Our Community

Students from 9C have truly lived out our academy values by donating essential provisions to the Beacon Project in Mansfield.



The Beacon Project provides vital support to members of our community who are homeless, vulnerable, or at risk, and our students were proud to play their part in helping those who need it most.

This initiative was part of our academy's Make a Difference project, which encourages social action and empowers young people to see the positive impact they can have on others.

We are incredibly proud of 9C for showing such compassion, generosity, and commitment — you are making a real difference!

Year 10 Futures Day

On 29th June, our year 10 students took part in an engaging and informative Futures Day, designed to help them explore the wide range of opportunities available to them after year 11. Throughout the day, students were given the chance to learn about different post-16 pathways, including A Levels, vocational qualifications, apprenticeships and further education options. A key feature of the event was the opportunity for students to independently select some of the sessions they wished to attend, allowing them to focus on areas that matched their interests and aspirations.

Students demonstrated excellent engagement throughout the day and responded very positively to the experience. The event encouraged them to think carefully about their future plans and provided valuable insight into the choices they will soon be making.

As part of the programme, students were also able to visit our new Sixth Form building, helping them to envision what studying at the Academy's Sixth Form could be like. In addition, representatives from local colleges and other education providers attended the event, offering students the opportunity to discuss their options in small group settings. These informal discussions allowed students to ask questions, gain first-hand advice and learn more about the courses and opportunities available to them.

Futures Day was a fantastic opportunity for year 10 students to develop their understanding of post-16 education and begin planning for the exciting next stage of their educational journey. We would like to thank all of the external providers and staff who contributed to making the day such a success.

Mr J Parker - CEIAG Lead



Year 11 Prom

This year's year 11 prom was held on Wednesday 1st July at Goosedale, and was one of the best attended in recent memory, with an incredible turnout from both students and staff. It was a wonderful occasion and a fitting celebration of everything this remarkable year group has achieved over the past five years.

As their Head of Year, I could not be prouder of this group of young people. The atmosphere throughout the evening was fantastic. There was a real sense of joy, pride and togetherness as students and staff came together to mark the end of an important chapter. Our students looked absolutely amazing, with everyone making a tremendous effort in their elegant dresses and sharp suits, creating a truly memorable event.

Congratulations to this years award winners:

Best Duo – Preston E and Rhuen S

Best Leader – Taylor D

Most likely to be a celebrity – Elsie G

Funniest Person – Jacob M

Hardest Working – Ruby H

Life of the party – Sam C

Most likely to become a millionaire – Jonah A

Shoulder to lean on – Amy E

Smartest person – Taye AL

Sports personality – Olivia J

Prom King – Dylan M

Prom Queen – Daisy L

Mr J Gilham - Head of Year 11



10 Hours Of Sport

Our annual 10 Hours of Sport proved to be another outstanding success, bringing together students and staff for a fantastic day of challenge, teamwork and fundraising. We are incredibly proud to announce that the event raised an amazing £2,212.50, with £1,106.25 being donated to Cancer Research UK and £1,106.25 will be supporting our school's Ghana Trust partnership.

Throughout the day, students embraced the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of sporting activities, many stepping outside their comfort zones to try something completely new. From testing their skills in golf to experiencing the excitement of trampolining, students approached every challenge with enthusiasm and a willingness to learn whilst supporting each other's development with positive feedback and insight. Some students even took to teaching some members of staff how to play golf (the students really did become the teachers).

The event was a wonderful showcase of our ARCH Values. Students demonstrated resilience by persevering through ten hours of physical activity, commitment by giving their very best throughout the day, and respect and collaboration by encouraging and supporting one another. Their positive attitudes and determination made the event an enjoyable and inspiring experience for everyone involved.

A huge thank you goes to all the staff, volunteers and supporters who helped make the day such a success, and to our students, whose energy, generosity and outstanding commitment made a real difference. Together, they have not only created lasting memories but have also made a meaningful contribution to two incredibly worthwhile causes.

Mr N Hunt - Teacher of PE



Giving Back To Our Community

On Tuesday 30th June, Mrs Newns had the pleasure of accompanying four of our key stage 3 students as they volunteered at a local food bank.

They made a fantastic contribution by organising shelves, sorting a Tesco delivery, and preparing essential food parcels. Along the way, they asked thoughtful questions and gained a real appreciation of the vital support the food bank provides to some of the most vulnerable members of our community.



They were a true credit to the Academy, showing kindness, compassion, and a genuine commitment to helping others.

News from NSFC

Year 13 Leavers Celebration

On Friday 22nd May we gathered for our year 13 leavers service and celebration event. This year 13 cohort have transitioned the sixth form back to National and set the tone for a productive and vibrant sixth form. After the service, students took some time together to enjoy ice creams and other refreshments in the sunshine before heading off on their study leave.



Year 12 UCAS Fair

On Tuesday 23rd June our year 12 cohort travelled to the NEC in Birmingham to attend the UCAS Fair. This event is designed to allow students to meet representatives from a wide range of universities, apprenticeship providers and employers to help them in considering their options for after sixth form. The students gathered a lot of information to consider as part of our current topics of post-18 options in their personal development lessons.

Year 12 Work Experience

Our year 12 students undertook their work experience week from June 29th to July 3rd. They secured a varied and exciting range of placements including the NHS, accountancy, legal services and education. Work experience is incredibly valuable in securing future employment and university places and we are incredibly grateful to the local businesses that gave our students these opportunities.

Student Leadership Team

During this term, we have received applications, interviewed for and appointed a brand new Student Leadership Team who will be in place for the next academic year. Our three Head students showed real passion and insightful ideas during their interviews and we are excited to see how they lead the student body next year. We have also appointed a range of other leaders with specific portfolios including Mentoring, Raising Aspiration, Diversity, Global Awareness and Wellbeing.

Sixth Form Induction Day

On Tuesday 30th June, we welcomed some of our future NSFC students to live life as a sixth former. The day gave the students the opportunity to experience lessons in the subjects they have applied for. They were also able to make use of the NSFC facilities and take part in team building activities. We look forward to meeting all of our new students for enrolment on Thursday 20th August.

Ms J Cliffman - Head of NSFC



Chaplaincy

Happy birthday!! Well, almost, I am approaching the end of my first year here at National Church of England Academy and what an adventure it has been.

Over the year there have been 150 ducks hidden, 50 pumpkins, 75 stars, 50 clouds, 45 crosses and 8 eggs, in fact, some people are still bringing the ducks to me that were hidden at the start of the year! You may wonder what that is about, but over the year at different points I have hidden these items for the students (and some staff) to find and bring to me. It's a great way to get to know people but also notice the little things in our school, in the environment and to appreciate where we are. But it also reminds us that sometimes the treasures aren't easy to notice, they are harder to see or in unexpected places. That is so true at the end of the year, looking back to achievements that look different for each person but realising we all have gifts and talents, purpose and value (Jeremiah 29:11).

This term we have relaunched our ARCH Ambassadors, a small group of students committed to recognising and promoting our ARCH values in all areas of school. This included them doing an incredible job on transition days, helping students feel confident, comfortable and welcome. Next year we will be starting the ARCH Ambassadors Award which will formally recognise the fantastic work this group does.

Throughout the year, members of our Chaplaincy Team lead different activities, including Encounter which offers a focused tutor time, specifically for the group and offering space to explore the big issues of life and faith. We also have volunteers and students helping with Rooted, our lunchtime club, that is a space to "chat, play and pray". On some lunchtimes I hold a drop-in space for students who may want someone to chat to, somewhere to eat lunch or just need a bit of time and over the year 45 different young people have attended this.

It was interesting saying goodbye to our year 11 students and to share in their different events, shirt signing, the leaver's service and the prom and although I have only known them a short while, what a privilege and so proud of the different stories and journeys reflected in those individuals. So comings and goings, new starts and endings, but all of us on a journey, sometimes realising faith within that and at other times walking a different pathway. It truly has been the most incredible year, I feel so blessed and grateful to get to share in the lives of the students, staff and families that are part of this community and my prayer is that you all enjoy and safe summer, making precious memories in the small things and the big and that you see glimpses of wonder in the world around you.

Lucie Hutson - Academy Chaplain

Geography Fieldwork

Our year 10 Geography students recently completed their compulsory fieldwork, visiting two contrasting locations: Hucknall town centre and Sherwood Forest. During the day, students put their classroom learning into practice by testing a range of human and physical geography hypotheses. They carried out several data collection techniques including environmental quality surveys, footfall counts, and vegetation sampling.

A special well done to all our students for representing the school so well. They were polite, respectful, and engaged throughout the trip exactly the sort of attitude that makes these experiences successful and enjoyable.

Fieldwork is a vital part of the GCSE Geography course, and our students should be very proud of themselves. Well done everyone!

Team Geography

Enrichment Day

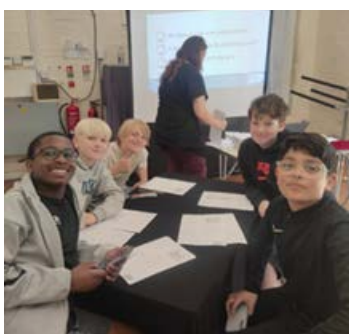
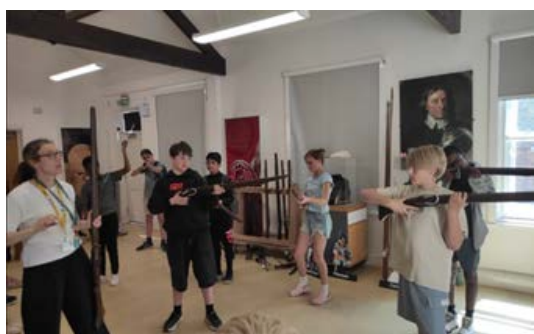
On Wednesday 16th July our students took part in our annual enrichment day, going out on trips to complement their learning and enrich their school experience.

For their first ever enrichment day at National, **year 7** spent a thoroughly enjoyable day at the **National Civil War Centre** in Newark, learning about the impact and events of the English Civil War – in preparation for a more in-depth study during their year 8 History lessons next year. The museum organised a selection of absolutely outstanding workshops – such as learning about the different weapons of the Civil War, putting King Charles I on trial (with period costumes to match) and trying to convince a jury that a Civil War individual whom they were representing, deserved a sum of money as compensation for the hardships they encountered during the conflict.

Year 7 behaved excellently during the day, with museum staff remarking to me throughout just how polite and engaged the students were and these sentiments were echoed by the wonderful staff from National who accompanied the students for their visit.

I especially would like to thank the students who were named by staff as showing outstanding behaviour and levels of engagement during the day. These are Emily W, Lewis D, Rosina L, Henry B, Nylah S-C, Scarlett B, Phoebe E, Zain A, Khloe E, Leon B, Isaac S, Amber G, Esmae L, Jacob T and Dexter B-S.

Mr T Horrocks-Taylor – Teacher of History



The **year 8** enrichment trip to the **Yorkshire Sculpture Park** was an enjoyable and educational experience. Our students spent the day exploring the park and observing a range of sculptures and artworks in the outdoor setting. They completed reflection activities based on the artwork they viewed, encouraging them to think critically about different artistic styles and meanings.

At lunchtime, students enjoyed a picnic-style lunch, with many choosing to purchase an ice cream as a treat. Throughout the day, students represented the school well, behaving responsibly and showing respect for both the artwork and the wider park environment.

Overall, it was a successful trip that provided valuable enrichment opportunities beyond the classroom.

Mr L Botham - Teacher of Religious Studies



Enrichment Day

Our **year 9** students enjoyed a fantastic day out at **Yorkshire Wildlife Park**, where they had the opportunity to see a wide variety of amazing animals from around the world. Throughout the day, students observed species including lions, tigers, polar bears, giraffes, meerkats and many more, learning about conservation and animal habitats along the way.

The visit was a great success, with students demonstrating excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout. It was wonderful to see them engaging with the exhibits, asking thoughtful questions, and gaining a greater appreciation of the natural world. A brilliant day was had by all, and the trip provided many memorable experiences for our students.

Mrs K Harrison - Head of Science

This year we took **year 10** on a STEM trip to Alton Towers. Before going to the park students learnt about the history of the Towers and the mechanics and mathematics behind how the rides work. It was particularly interesting to learn that the G-Force on Rita is higher than a shuttle going to space.

We all had a fantastic day despite the queues, even the staff that got soaked on the rapids!!

Mrs A Matthews - Teacher of Maths



Year 8 Theatre Trip

On Thursday 30th April, the year 8 students ventured to The Curve in Leicester for a fabulous foot tapping, neon filled, popstastic affair that was Here and Now (AKA Steps the musical).

The students were fabulous and had a fantastic day even though the return was quite late. It was a true celebration of pop following four close friends Caz, Vel, Neeta and Robbie who all work at 'Better Best Bargains' and feel stuck in their everyday routines. So to change their lives they commit to a "summer of love," hoping to find happiness, romance, and a fresh start. The day was enjoyed by all and it is always pleasing when members of the public compliment the behaviour of our students when out on a trip and many did.

Let's hope we can find a show to 'Stomp' to for our next trip and we avoid a 'Tragedy' when I look for a year 9 trip.

Miss C Hunt - Head of Languages



Elevate - Young Men's Mental Health Team



Elevate is National Academy's young men's mental health team, consisting of year 10 and year 11 students. We are striving to challenge stereotypes, change ideas and stop the negative stigma surrounding our mental health.

We have already impacted boys' mental health around the school with a mental health survey for year 10, 11 and 12 boys, with follow up assemblies based on their feedback. We have also written to

the parents of year 10 and 11 boys advising them how to support their mental health, raised over £400 for Young Minds (a mental health charity for children and young people) with our Christmas jumper day, and we share weekly advice on the tutor group PowerPoint, which is shown to every tutor group each week.

Here are our top 5 tips to boost your mood:

1. Talk to someone you trust
2. Surround yourself with a positive environment
3. Distract yourself - music, sport or something creative
4. Spend time with positive friendships
5. Find a new hobby - the gym, something artistic or join an after-school club.

We are looking for more young men to join Elevate to bring some fresh ideas and continue the work we are doing.

Mr J Gilham - Head of Year 11

Year 7 Careers Day

On Wednesday 29th April, the Academy hosted a Careers Day for our year 7 students, which was designed to inspire our youngest students as they begin thinking about their future pathways.

This engaging event welcomed a range of external educators, employers, and training providers into school, and gave students the opportunity to explore a variety of career options and understand the many routes available to them after secondary school.

Throughout the day, students took part in interactive sessions and talks delivered by visiting organisations, including representatives from the Army, Amazon, local colleges, and our own sixth form provision. These sessions were designed to introduce students to different industries and progression routes in an accessible and engaging way. The aim of the day was to broaden students' awareness of the wide range of careers available, challenge stereotypes about different job roles, help students begin to link their learning to real-world opportunities and build confidence in thinking about their future from an early stage.

Students had chance to ask questions, take part in discussions, and reflect on their own interests, skills, and aspirations.

Mr J Parker - CEIAG Lead

Head of Year Highlights

Year 7

Year 7 have had an exceptional year and continue to lead the way with the best attendance in the school at 95%, outperforming the national average which is 93%. I am especially proud of the many students who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to learning and our school values throughout the year. Particular congratulations go to Ellivia B, who has amassed an incredible 908 achievement points, alongside Jemima A, with 694 points, Henry B with 664 points, well done to these three students!

I would also like to recognise students who have maintained fantastic behaviour records all year, including Edith B, Lilly B, Isabel D, Eliza G, Natalie G and Thea G, all of whom completed the year with 100% attendance and zero behaviour points. 7G stand out for the number of students maintaining exemplary behaviour records, with over half of the tutor group not getting a single negative point all year.

Year 7 have set a fantastic standard in their first year at secondary school, and we look forward to seeing them continue to thrive in year 8.

Have a lovely summer!

Mr K Mistry - Head of Year 7

Year 8

Celebrating a wonderful year - "Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." – Joshua 1:9

As we come to the end of the school year, I want to take a moment to celebrate all that year 8 has achieved. It has been a year filled with growth, perseverance, and many moments of outstanding behaviour that truly reflect our school values.

I am incredibly proud of the way so many students have demonstrated kindness, respect, and responsibility in their daily interactions: whether supporting classmates, contributing positively in lessons, or representing the school with pride.

As year 8 prepares to move into year 9, this marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter. With a new Head of Year and fresh opportunities ahead, it is a chance for everyone to reflect, reset, and aim even higher. A "fresh start" does not mean leaving the past behind, but building on all the successes and lessons already gained.

Year 9 will bring new responsibilities, challenges, and opportunities to continue growing academically, socially, and spiritually. I encourage our students to approach this next stage with confidence, courage, and faith, knowing that each day is a new opportunity to make a positive difference.

I am so proud of year 8 and all they have accomplished this year, and I wish them every success as I hand them over into Mr Gilham's safe keeping next year.

Ms S Craven - Head of Year 8

Head of Year Highlights

Year 9

As we reach the end of another successful year, I would like to congratulate all of our year 9 students on their hard work, resilience, and achievements throughout the year. Year 9 marks an important milestone in your school journey, as you now prepare to transition into key stage 4 and begin your GCSE courses. This is an exciting time, bringing new opportunities, challenges, and responsibilities, and I am confident that our students will rise to the occasion.

There have been many highlights to celebrate this year. A special congratulations goes to 9B, who were crowned Sports Day Champions, demonstrating outstanding teamwork, determination, and school spirit throughout the event.

Well done also to 9F, who finished the year with the highest number of achievement points and the fewest behaviour points across Year 9. This is a fantastic accomplishment and reflects the positive attitude, commitment, and high standards shown by the tutor group every day. I would also like to recognise 9A, who achieved the fewest behaviour points across the whole of key stage 3. This is an exceptional achievement and demonstrates the respect, maturity, and excellent conduct consistently displayed by students in the group.

As we look ahead to year 10, I encourage all students to take pride in what they have achieved this year and use it as a foundation for success in their GCSE studies. Thank you to our students, staff, and families for their continued support throughout the year. I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable summer break, and I look forward to seeing all that our students accomplish in the next stage of their education.

Mr J Beaver - Head of Year 9

Year 10

That's another academic year over and out. When we return after the summer break, it's hard to believe that our final year in secondary school will be upon us. It feels like only yesterday that many of you arrived as bright-eyed year 7s, so small, so full of energy, and ready for the adventures ahead. Where has the time gone?

The mock exam results are now out, and we held our final Achievement Assembly of the year to celebrate the outstanding efforts of so many students. Particular congratulations go to:

- Ayo A for earning the most Stars of the Lesson
 - Edith J for taking 1st place in overall points
 - 10B for once again finishing the year with the highest overall tutor points – an impressive achievement!
- Can any form group beat them next year?

We also enjoyed a huge success on the sports field with our year 10 boys' football team. The boys played brilliantly throughout the tournaments. A fantastic team effort and a proud moment for the year group. Well done, lads!

A huge thank you to all students for their hard work and positive attitude so far this term. Year 11 is going to be demanding, but it is also going to be full of exciting opportunities. Keep striving, keep supporting each other, and let's aim high together.

Best wishes,

Mrs E Hopkin and Mr C Crossland - Head and Assistant Head of Year 10

Goodbye To Year 11

Congratulations to all of our year 11 students on successfully completing their exams and reaching the end of five years of secondary school. You have shown resilience, determination and maturity, and you should all be immensely proud of your achievements. We look forward to celebrating with you on results day and seeing all that you accomplish in the future.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to my wonderful team of tutors for their dedication, hard work and unwavering support for year 11 throughout their time at secondary school. Their care, commitment and guidance have played a significant role in helping our students reach this milestone, and I am incredibly grateful for everything they have done. A special thank you must also go to our caring and dependable Assistant Head of Year, Mrs Newns, whose kindness, reliability and constant support have been invaluable.

On behalf of all the staff who have had the pleasure of teaching and supporting you, I wish you every success and happiness in the future. Remember that you will always remain an important part of our school community, and we hope to hear about all that you achieve in the years ahead.

Mr J Gilham - Head of Year 11

Staffing changes

As we approach the end of the academic year, we take the opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to the following staff who leave us,

Mr O Ward - Teacher of Drama - who left us in May

Miss S Spencer - Teacher of English

Miss F Jardine - Teacher of English

Mr B Griffin-Smith - Teacher of Science

Miss A Clarke - LSA

Mrs L England - one of our Cover Supervisors, who retires from school after 20 years!

We offer warm welcomes to the following new members of staff who join us in September,

Mr D Bere - Teacher of English

Miss L Colgan - Teacher of Drama

Mr D Rhead - Cover Supervisor

Finally, in May, we welcomed back Miss Austin to the English department, after her maternity leave.

Dates to remember

Thursday 3rd September 2026 - Year 7 and year 12 return to school

Friday 4th September - All year groups return to school

Friday 18th September - School photograph day

Thursday 24th September - Year 6 open evening

Thursday 8th October - NSFC open evening

Wednesday 14th October - Friday 16th October - Battlefields trip

Academy holiday - Monday 19th October - Friday 30th October 2026

Wednesday 2nd December - Year 9 AMP evening

Thursday 3rd December - Year 7 theatre trip

Tuesday 8th December - Year 8 theatre trip

Wednesday 16th December - Christmas dinner day

Academy holiday - Monday 21st December 2026 - Friday 1st January 2027

Monday 4th January 2027 - All year groups return to school

The National Church of England Academy
Annesley Road | Hucknall | Nottinghamshire | NG15 7DB

Phone: 0115 9635667

Email: adminoffice@nationalacademy.org.uk

www.nationalacademy.org.uk



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