



NenePark Academy

life

MERRY CHRISTMAS



AUTUMN 2025



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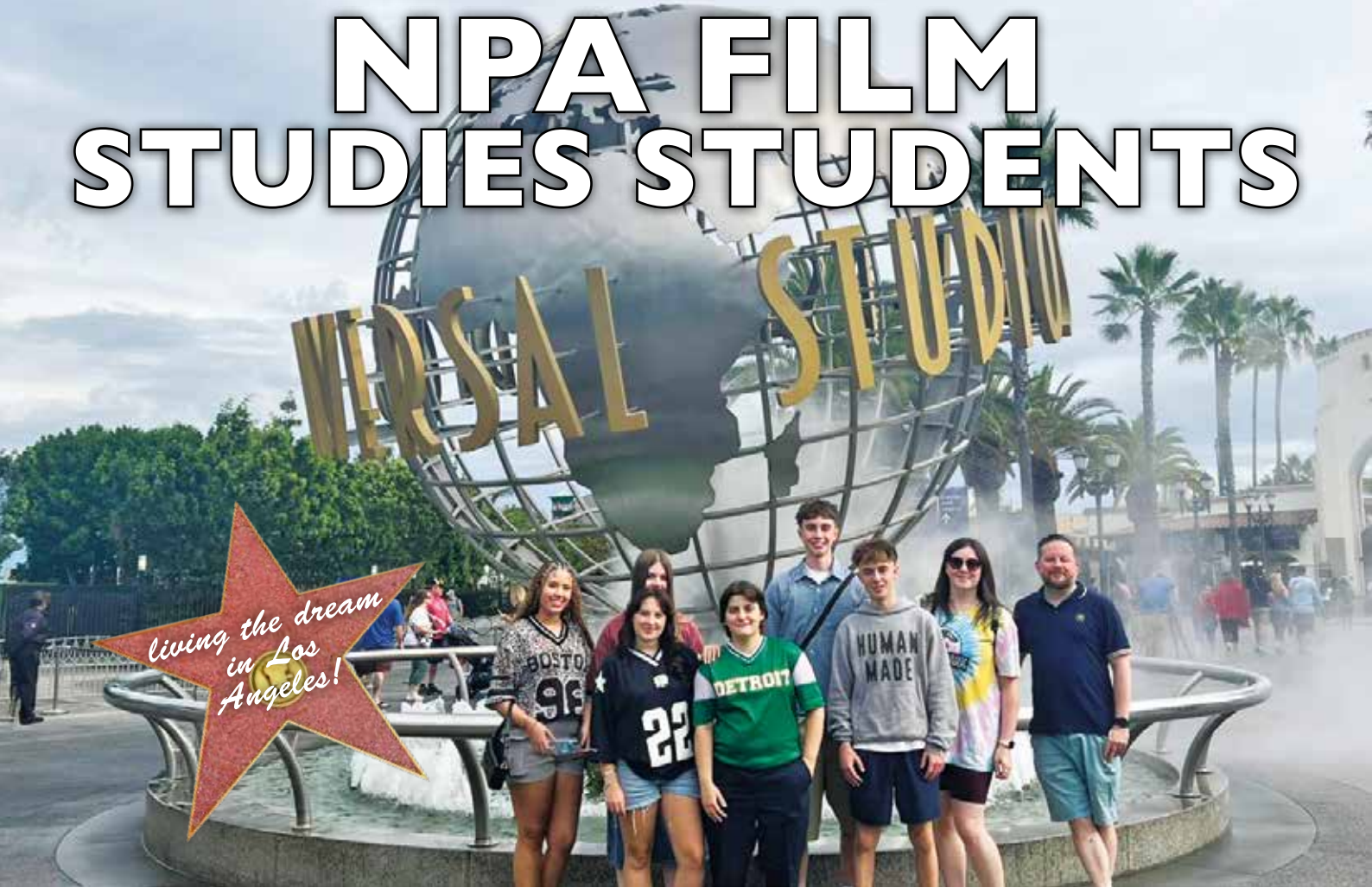


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NPA FILM STUDIES STUDENTS



Living the dream in Los Angeles!



Geography – Iceland

CHARITY SPONSORED WALK



NPA OPEN EVENING

High quality education at the heart of the community

MERIDIAN TRUST NEWS



As we approach the end of 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a busy and productive start to the academic year across Meridian Trust.

We were pleased to welcome several new schools into the Trust this term. The OWN Trust schools in Peterborough (Nene Valley Primary School, Orton Wistow Primary School, and Woodston Primary

School) became part of Meridian on 1 November, following Crosshall Infant and Junior Schools in St Neots, who joined the family at the start of the academic year. We are proud of the strong ties we already have with these schools and look forward to building together on the great foundations already in place.

Across our schools, open events have once again offered valuable opportunities to connect with families and showcase the strengths of each school. It has also been encouraging to see many examples of pupils and staff supporting their local communities, through activities ranging from Macmillan Coffee Mornings to fundraising for Young Minds. These efforts

highlight the shared values that sit at the heart of Meridian Trust.

Sustainability and the improvement of school facilities remain important priorities. It has been positive to see progress in our energy-saving work, which is helping schools to manage costs while reducing their environmental impact. Earlier this term, we were also proud to host the Whole Education Learning Exchange, bringing together school leaders from across the country to share ideas and reflect on how we can continue to strengthen our approach to learning and leadership.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and involvement in school life. I hope that the festive break provides a joyful time with family and friends.

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

YOUNG MINDS



ME Woods

Mark Woods
Meridian Trust CEO

Print  Box















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A Message From The Principal

Sue Ryder

As we reach the end of a busy and successful term, I am delighted to introduce this festive edition of Parklife. It is always inspiring to reflect on the achievements and experiences that make Nene Park Academy such a vibrant community, and this issue is packed with stories that showcase the talent, dedication, and spirit of our students and staff.



Among the highlights, you'll read about:

Film Studies students living the dream in Los Angeles, exploring Hollywood studios and gaining invaluable insights into the world of filmmaking.

Our Geography students' unforgettable trip to Iceland, where they witnessed stunning natural wonders and even glimpsed the Northern Lights.

The annual sponsored walk, which raised nearly £3,000 for Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice—a cause close to our hearts.

Year 11 and 13 linguists immersing themselves in Spanish culture during their visit to Madrid, embracing language learning in real-world settings.

Fantastic sporting achievements, including Orleigh's five-medal swimming success and Harrison signing for Corby Town FC, alongside an incredible start to the season for our academy teams.

Updates from our Sixth Form, including students winning the "Building a Sustainable Future" conference and visiting Christ Church College, Cambridge.

Creative highlights such as preparations for our Academy musical, *Beauty and the Beast*, and the launch of our Music Session 6 Rock Orchestra.

Plus, a look back at Results Days celebrations, Open Evening, and so many examples of students going above and beyond in their studies and community contributions.

We are also thrilled to be welcoming some of our feeder primary schools into the Meridian Trust family. This closer partnership will strengthen our collaboration and ensure an improved transition for pupils moving from primary to secondary education. We believe this will enhance their overall experience and success, creating even stronger foundations for learning.



As we head into the festive season, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to every member of our community—students, parents, carers, staff, Academy Councillors and members of our newly formed Parent Friends Association (PFA)—for your hard work, kindness, ambition and support throughout this term. Your commitment makes Nene Park Academy a truly special place.

On behalf of everyone at the academy, I wish you a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

"Christmas is not as much about opening presents as opening our hearts." – Janice Maeditere

We look forward to welcoming you back in January for another exciting term.

Warmest regards,

Rob Grover
Principal





LOS ANGELES!!

Some of our Year 13 Film Studies students were lucky enough to visit Los Angeles in September for a once in a school lifetime experience. This is what some of them had to say about the trip.



Los Angeles, an active real-life movie set. Seeing authentic film sets and studios where movie magic happens was mind blowing! Universal Studios blew me away with its mix of thrilling rides and the 'behind the scenes' magic of the backlot tour. Witnessing iconic sets in person was like stepping into another world. It's one thing to watch a film, but being surrounded by the actual scenery and feeling the energy of a working studio was inspiring.

Being in the heart of the industry fuelled my admiration for the craft. Every corner had a story, and you could almost hear the echoes of famous scenes being shot. It gave me an appreciation for the incredible amount of work and dedication required.

The whole trip was like living in a movie, an experience I won't ever forget.

Nadia M





Film being both of our favourite lesson, Los Angeles will forever be our favourite school trip. Through both Miss Nash and Mr Bruce's organisation, the excursion exceeded all of our already high expectations. Los Angeles being the home of Hollywood allowed us to gain further understanding of topics we study in the classroom. For example, The Academy Museum gave an insight into the filmmaking process such as script work, prop design and the importance of good cinematography alongside the Studio Tours we took around Paramount, Universal and

Disney, which further developed our knowledge of what it takes to move a story from script to the big screen. As well as the experiences regarding our course, we also got to explore the city further by visiting landmarks such as the Universal theme park, Santa Monica Pier and Griffith Observatory, the latter being a significant location in one of the films we study in school, 'La La Land'.

We also visited the world-famous Hollywood Boulevard, where we saw the stars that decorate the pavement as well as the Chinese and Dolby Theatres, where the yearly Academy

Awards (Oscars) are held. Aside from the activities to do with our course, we also embraced the city's food scene and tested out popular fast food chains like Raising Caine's & Jack in the Box, also the Grand Central Market, known for it's wide range of varying cuisines, but we settled for a Spag Bol..... very exotic.

It may sound cliché, but LA was an experience that will stick with us forever, and it would be a great opportunity to put on more trips like this to allow other students to have as much fun (whilst still learning) as we did.

Jasper & Toby



Sponsored Walk

On Friday 26th September hundreds of Nene Park students and staff completed their 8th annual sponsored walk. This year it was a 14km route which started at NPA, looped around Ferry Meadows (Nene Park) and the rowing lake before returning to the academy.

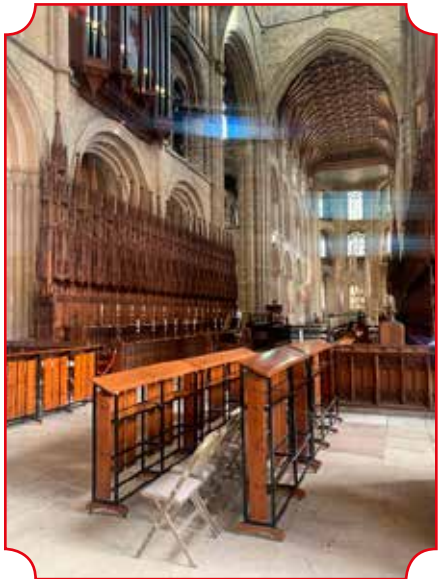
Raising funds for Sue Ryder holds special significance for the school and for Meridian Trust. The Thorpe Hall Hospice cared for two much loved colleagues: Mr Martin Bacon, former Principal of Swavesey Village College and founding CEO of Meridian Trust, and Miss Cat Black, former English teacher at Orton Longueville School. Both received palliative care and support from Thorpe Hall during their illnesses, and the academy community continues to honour their memory through this annual walk.

£2,981 was raised for the Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice. Students behaved impeccably; it was a fantastic day.



Graduation Ceremony at Beautiful Peterborough Cathedral

Year 9 students and their parents and carers spent a lovely sunny September afternoon at Peterborough Cathedral celebrating their graduation to GCSE studies.

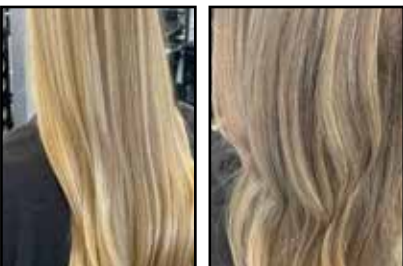


Geography Trip

Year 13 physical Geographers spent a wonderful few days in Hengistbury Head, Dorset collecting data for their NEA Coursework.



Senior Stylist at Nene Park Academy – Amelia Smulka



**Availability
Mon-Fri
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RESULTS DAYS 2025

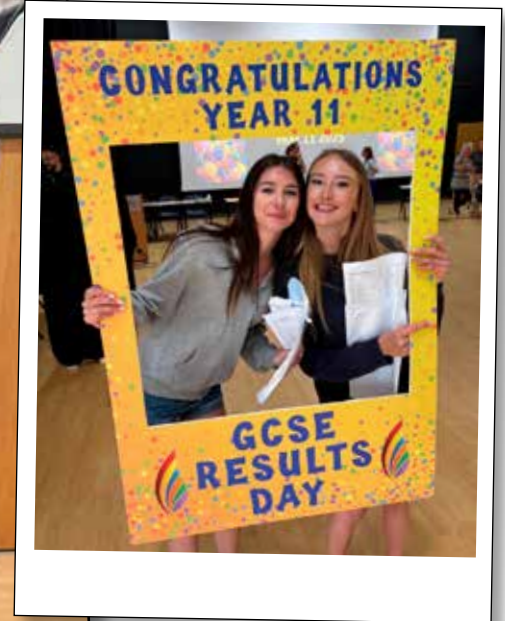
We celebrated two wonderful results days at NPA. Students and their parents came in droves to collect their results and celebrate with us.

Student interviews were on Greatest Hits Radio and on Heart Dance Toby Anstis gave us a shout out.

We wish all our students the very best of luck in the

next phase of their education and training whether that be at NPA, another establishment or with an employer.

Go and grab all the opportunities that come your way! Be relentless in your pursuit of excellence and become the happy successful people we know you will be!



LENNON

A Warm Welcome to the New Academic Year from Lennon Senior Tutor

Dear Lennon Students,

The academic year is off to a fantastic start, and I am delighted to share some of our recent achievements and celebrations across Lennon House.

One of our standout moments has been the incredible fundraising effort by Piotr B, who completed the Great Eastern 5K Fun Run in support of our house charity, Anna's Hope. Piotr raised an amazing £570, and we are extremely proud of his commitment and generosity. Well done, Piotr!

I would like to recognise students who achieved the highest number of achievement points in their year groups. Congratulations to:

- Y7 – Piotr B L-MWR – 405 positive points
- Y8 – Jossiyah P – L-ESA – 408 positive points
- Y9 – Jacob H – L-CBR – 328 positive points
- Y10 – Riley S – L-EJO – 332 positive points
- Y11 – Lontien W – L-CBR – 366 positive points
- Y12 – Josh D – L-RJO – 218 positive points
- Y13 – Millie M – L-EBO – 194 positive points

Your hard work and dedication set a wonderful example for the rest of the school – well done to all of you!

We are also pleased to introduce this year's House Captains, who will be leading Lennon House with enthusiasm and pride:

- Y13 Emma A – L-LHN
- Y13 Karolina M – L-RJO

Supporting them are our four newly appointed Deputy House Captains:

- Y10 Alice N – L-DBT
- Y10 Leila B – L-LHN
- Y10 Isobel W – L-RDA
- Y9 Laya R – L-RJO

They have already shown great promise, and I look forward to working closely with them on exciting projects and fundraising events throughout the year. We have already got off to a brilliant start, raising over £100 for Children in Need in our first charity event.

A special mention also goes to Maria-Charlotte M, who recently met astronaut Tim Peake and has now set her sights on becoming an astronaut herself. Who knows – maybe one day she'll be flying the NPA flag in space! Keep dreaming big, Maria-Charlotte.



As we continue through the year, I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together. Here's to a year filled with hard work, success, and celebration. If your son or daughter achieves something special outside of school, we would love to celebrate it with the community. Please feel free to contact me with details and photos at jhooper@neneparkacademy.org.

Written by: Mr Hooper, Senior Tutor – Lennon House

WINSTON

A Wonderful Start to the Term at Winston

This term has been an exciting one at Winston, filled with achievements, new beginnings, and memorable moments. We were delighted to welcome our new Year 7 students, who have made a brilliant start to secondary school life. Their enthusiasm and confidence to get involved have already made them a valued part of Winston.

One of the highlights of the term was our whole-school sponsored walk, where students and staff came together for a fantastic day of fun and fresh air.

Our Year 11 students have also impressed us with the determined and focussed start they have made to their mock exams. Their commitment is clear, and we are proud of their hard work.



We've had plenty to celebrate in terms of individual achievements as well. Sofija (W-LAN) has continued to shine in ice skating, achieving outstanding success with her latest performances at the National Figure Skating competition in Cambridge.

Logan (W-TDW) has also enjoyed a brilliant moment in the spotlight with his recent performance at the Cresset, showcasing incredible talent and confidence.

Meanwhile, Maxim (W-HMC) has done the school proud by playing for the U18 POSH team – an exceptional accomplishment and a testament to his dedication to the sport.

It has been a remarkable term so far, and we look forward to even more achievements and experiences after a restful Christmas break.

Written by: Miss Mitchell, Senior Tutor – Winston House



KING

A warm welcome from the King Cobras as we start the 25/26 academic year with lots of achievements and highlights to share.

This half term we have focussed on maintaining the high standards in King house, especially amongst our new year 7 and 12 students and I have been impressed with students' readiness to learn with consistently good uniform and equipment. We thank those students who currently have attendance of 95% or above and have celebrated our students in King who currently have 95%+ attendance with no negative behaviour points with a breakfast morning (see picture). Our overall attendance sits at 93%, and we will continue to work on this (and punctuality) next half term to increase this to above 95%. Congratulations to K-CRO for being the form group with the highest attendance. Well, done to Mr Roberts and all his tutees for their excellent efforts.

King have achieved over 37,262 house points this half term, putting them in the 5th place in the school, we hope to take over Lennon next half term who are not far in front of us. Our year 7s are leading the way, bringing the most house points to our overall score, showing the incredible start they have had at the academy. A special congratulations to Jacob (Year 10 K-JBR), Melanie (Year 8- K-HNH), Finlay (Year 8 K-JBR) and Alfie (Year 7 K-HNH) who have achieved over 300 house points each. We are very proud of you.

We love to hear about all our students' achievements, hidden talents, and special moments in and outside of school. Please send us any information and pictures for us to celebrate and congratulate our students on. This half term Eleanor (Year 9 K-HNH) alongside Keira (Year 9 L-ESA) and Olivia (Year 11 R-CBC) performed at the O2 at the National Entertainment Awards and won two awards for best dance performance and community award. Well done Eleanor and all involved, an incredible achievement.

This half term we will be running a charity spinathon to raise money by competing against other houses as a house challenge. Keep your eyes peeled for more updates on this.

Congratulations King students for a successful half term; I look forward to being part of all of your achievements this year. Mrs B

Written by: Mrs Bvunzawabaya, Senior Tutor – King House



BRUNEL

We have been celebrating a lot of success in Brunel over the past term. Our new year 7 students have settled in well and are embracing all that comes with secondary school life.

Well done to the following year 7s for having the most achievement points. Gwen, Raincheska and Judi.

Students across all year groups are continuing to be ready respectful and safe on a daily basis and there are a lot achievement points being awarded.

The following students have achieved the most achievement points in their form. A massive well done to all of you

B-AKE - Safiyah
B-ASP - Sofia
B-DBU - Gwen
B-LMA - Cianna
B-LSH - Laila
B-NSA - Millie
B-PFO - Debbie
B-PRI - Lucy
B-SFR - Zac
B-SRO - Salome

Year 11 are underway with their mock exams and are conducting themselves brilliantly. Well done for all of your hard work and I am sure it will have paid off when you get your results.

Sporting success:

Kian (15) won the 54kg international gold medal after delivering dominant performances all week. Arago's ring IQ is fantastic. His ability to box on the front and back foot with ease, while reading his opponent gave him a comfortable week. Well done Kian, we are all really proud of you.

Written by: Miss Gleeson, Senior Tutor – Brunel House



ROWLING

Another busy term in the Rowling House office. We started an initiative this term to do some small celebrations for those students who are making excellent progress so far this academic term. Well done those who were invited to the Rowling breakfast who enjoyed some food and drink setting them up well for the day.

Our student council has been revived and our new representatives are; 8 = Fabian , 9 = James, 10 = Connie. Thank you already for your passion and drive to change things you feel will make a difference to all students in the house and the school. We would like to express thanks to our house captains who support the house, all in year 13: Sienna, Richard, Charlotte, Irfan and Issy.

A big thank you to all Rowling Students and Parents for your support so far in donations towards the house hamper competition. We are still welcoming additional donations, with a focus on anything you wish to donate that is in the colour orange! We will then be donating the hamper at Christmas to a local charity to spread some Christmas charitable cheer.

Thank you to those who helped run and bought fizzy cans from the Rowling house stall on Friday 14th November. We raised £144 from this event, to go towards the school children in need total.

Yet again we have also had some fantastic contributions towards the super league points from all students; special mentions go to: Year 7 Kasper 393, Year 8 = Jamie 459, Year 9 = James 347, Year 10 = Olivia 376, Year 11 = James 416, Year 12 = Mary 210 and Year 13 = Richard 194. These students are leading by example, choosing to make positive choices and are being rewarded for doing so. Keep it up!

Written by: Mr Ogden, Senior Tutor - Rowling House

NIGHTINGALE

A warm welcome from Nightingale House again as we approach the Christmas period. This term we have welcomed our new Year 7 students, who have settled in well into the academy and we have already seen strong commitments to their learning and extra-curricular activities.

Our students in Nightingale house continue to show they are making excellent choices and demonstrating the key values of the academy. The students below have the highest achievement points in Nightingale for their year group.

Year 13 = Bartlomiej N-MPN
Year 12 = Jan N-MAK
Year 11 = Max N-MAK
Year 10 = David N-EAS
Year 9 = Caitlin N-MPN
Year 8 = Madlen N-MAK
Year 7 = Gracelyn N-HSH

Thank you for your kind donations so far this which have contributed towards the food bank and children in need. We have so far as a school managed to raise over £600 which is a fantastic achievement and last half-term, we also provided the food bank with 75kg of products as a school. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Sporting Achievements:

Carla graded to 6th Kyu green belt in GKR Karate, well done on this fantastic achievement which required a high-level of dedication and focus.

John raised over £500 for Sue Ryder by completing a charity bike ride to Essex, Maldon and John is pictured here following the presentation of the cheque to Sue Ryder which was held at Nene Park Academy. John and his younger sister Lillie competed in the cyclo-cross championships where Lillie had a great race, finishing in 4th place overall.

Written by: Mr Palmer, Senior Tutor – Nightingale House



NPA REMEMBERS



Whole School Musical - Beauty and the Beast, February 2026

Students have been hard at work rehearsing for our upcoming musical, "Beauty and the Beast". Whether singing in three-part harmony, practising choreography or learning to inhabit their character, students have already started to bring the French marketplace into view as Belle wonders if there can be more than this provincial life. Here are some quotes from students about the experience so far:

"It's great to see the people I only get to see when we do the musical. There's a

good sense of community as we work together." - India, AKA Cogsworth.

"It's nice to see the creative forces of everybody being used to bring something to life." - Charlotte, AKA Mrs. Potts.

The musical is taking place on February 24th, 25th and 26th and tickets will be available soon. Watch this space!



Music Session 6

Our Music **Session 6** programme has been running since September and many students have had the chance to try their hand at a new instrument for the past 8 weeks at our Rock Orchestra. We have several new guitarists, drummers, keyboard players and string players who are making good progress and enjoying playing alongside others. We also have several new music producers who have created original pieces in a range of different styles, as well as a weekly DJ session led by resident DJs Riley and Theo. Music **Session 6** is free to all and no prior experience is needed - please do come along!

ALTON TOWERS

PRINCIPALS REWARD TRIP



Great day! Great weather! Great students! 78 Pupils and 6 staff had a wonderful day at Alton Towers filled with fun, adrenaline and serene water rides.



Applied Science

Photos below of our Year 12 Applied Science Students gaining new skills by conducting an experiment on cooling curves of different substances. They did a fantastic job!





STUDENTS APPOINTMENTS ARE NOW OPEN !

Wednesday 9am till late Friday 9am till 11am!

👉 *Students need you!*

- 👉 All students are working at a level 2 and level 3, they need clients to help pass their qualifications.
- 👉 All students are supervised by experienced members of staff.
- 👉 Quality work is done at discounted prices.



For bookings or enquiries please ring us at 01733368303 or email us at OLewicka@neneparkacademy.org



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Your School Nursing service digital offer includes the **Healthy Child Programme website**, access to the **Getting Ready 4 Change (GR4C)** questionnaires and the **Young Persons Portal**.

You can also access targeted support on a 1:1 basis by completing a referral form. We offer support with lots of issues like health worries, bladder, bowel and continence, relationships and sexual health, transition to school and much, much, more.

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Complete our GR4C questionnaire to help you prepare for the next phase of your life



Digital Platform

Your one-stop shop for information and advice on all aspects of your health and growing up



Young Person Portal

Visit our Young Person Portal for lots of information on all aspects of your health, well being and growing up



cambs.pbورو.childrens.health@nhs.net



www.bit.ly/nhscambspbورو-hcp



@CambsPboroCYP

SAMARITANS

Young people can call 116 123 or Childline on: 0800 11 11 to speak to someone or text HEAR on: 85258

The following organisations offer support in your area:



www.kooth.com



<https://www.stopbreathethink.org.uk/>



<https://keep-your-head.com/>

Sexual Health support is available via ICASH: 0300 300 30 30



<https://www.icash.nhs.uk/find-us/icash-cambridgeshire/>

<https://www.icash.nhs.uk/find-us/icash-peterborough/>

Other sources of support:

For urgent help young people can contact their GP, or call NHS 111, option 2 who provide 24/7 access to mental health care, advice, support and treatment.

If it's an emergency dial 999 or visit A+E

Year 6 Open Evening

Tuesday 7th October saw the Academy open its doors for our annual Open Evening. Hundreds of parents, carers and potential students visited.

Curriculum Area's showcased their subjects, current NPA students did a great job as tour guides and the principal's talks were full with people eager to hear what Nene Park Academy is all about.

We very much look forward to welcoming these young people into Year 7 Class of 2026.





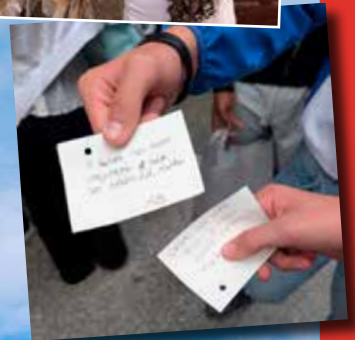
Madrid: A Linguistic Adventure for Year 11 & 13 Spanish Students

Last half term Year 11 and 13 Spanish students embarked on a journey to Madrid, diving headfirst into the language, history, and spirit of Spain's capital.

From the grandeur of the Palacio Real to seeing Picasso's Guernica at the Reina Sofia, students explored iconic landmarks while practicing their Spanish with confidence and flair. They even rowed across the lake in Retiro Park and paid homage to footballing greatness at the legendary Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, home of Real Madrid. Navigating the city via metro and on foot, students impressed us with their spoken Spanish and their adventurous palates, embracing local cuisine with gusto.

Sunday was a cultural highlight as we celebrated El Día de la Hispanidad, a national tribute to Hispanic heritage. At El Rastro, Madrid's largest open-air flea market, students showcased their negotiation skills and conversational Spanish in real-world settings. A visit to La Tienda de los Deseos offered a magical moment: students used the conditional tense to make heartfelt wishes for the future - many aspiring to be kind, hardworking, and ambitious.

On our final day, we indulged in a sweet tradition at Madrid's oldest churrería, ordering churros con chocolate entirely in Spanish. Our A Level students led a walking tour around Puerta del Sol, sharing historical insights in Spanish and guiding their peers through the city's most emblematic sites. At Kilómetro Cero, the symbolic centre of Spain, students took "foot selfies" with some placing one foot (a promise to return), others both (a wish to stay forever). It was a weekend filled with laughter, learning, and linguistic growth. We couldn't be prouder of our fantastic linguists, who embraced every moment with enthusiasm and excellence.



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY

The best approaches to conflict resolution are restorative. This means that rather than adults imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them. Allowing them to handle it can feel empowering to young people and will hopefully teach them to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.

2 ACTIVELY LISTEN

Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.

3 BE CURIOUS

Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a mature and empathetic mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. Model this by asking inquisitive-yet-respectful questions about the issue at hand. Really try to understand where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other sides of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.

4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES

Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates and embraces diversity in all things – including diversity of opinion – means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.

5 BE SUPPORTIVE

Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.

6 MENTALLY PREPARE

Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and finding somewhere quiet to relax. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, fed and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to remember that physical discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.

7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.

8 STICK TO THE POINT

Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral chairperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points, detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.

9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED

It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others ladders to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good – and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.

10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT

No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and mistrust, and ultimately doesn't help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. These should help you find a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with mediating overall.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and advisory teacher. She founded her company, Neuroteachers, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>

Iceland!!

Our Geography students had an amazing time in Iceland and packed so much in to their time there. Their first evening was spent visiting the bridge between continents and volcanic sand, followed by a virtual Flyover Iceland experience.

This was followed by a busy and snowy morning in Thingvellir National park, walking between the Eurasian and North American Tectonic plates and experiencing the wonder of Oxararfoss Waterfall, a viking made waterfall that diverted water to the home of Iceland's first parliament and was a filming location in Game of Thrones.



The following day saw a stop at Geysir. Students were then in awe at the power of Gullfoss Waterfall, admiring the rainbows and icicles forming along side the tremendous volume of falling water. This was followed by a visit to Hverageri hot springs, feeling the warmth of the geothermally heated natural springs and a very lucky ending to the day was a glimpse of the Northern Lights.





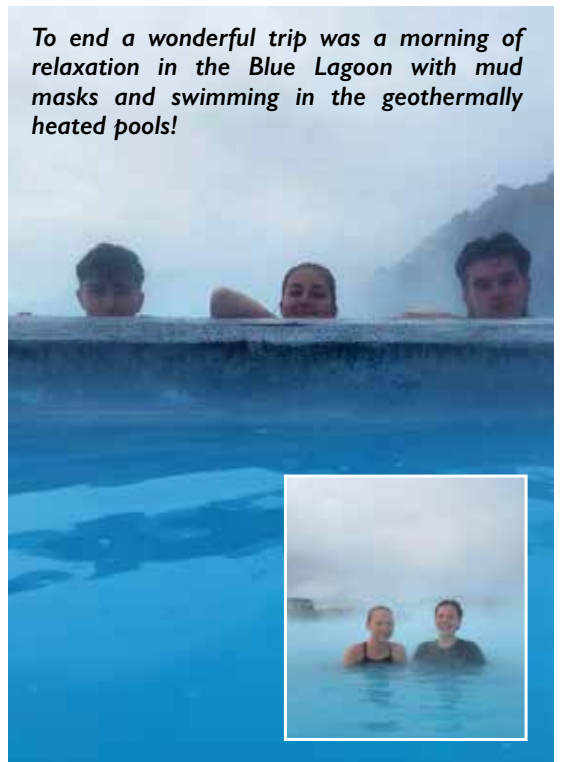
Day 3 started with a hike across Solheimajokull Glacier equipped crampons and ice axes, then a visit to a black sand beach and the day ended with a stop at the mesmerising Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss waterfalls.



To end a wonderful trip was a morning of relaxation in the Blue Lagoon with mud masks and swimming in the geothermally heated pools!



The penultimate day was a day of human Geography, it started with a talk at the Hellisheoi Power Station, students then explored the capital Reykjavik. They finished the day visiting the Perlan Centre exploring the volcano and glacial ice cave exhibitions.



PE & SPORT AT NPA

It has been great to see the continued fantastic engagement in all things PE and sport over the past term. Please read on for some highlights -



Sports Fixtures Update

A fantastic start for our teams — only 1 loss in our opening 20 fixtures!

This term has been an outstanding showcase of skill, determination, and teamwork across all year groups. Our sports teams have kicked off the autumn season in spectacular fashion, securing 19 wins out of the first 20 fixtures played across football and netball fixtures with dates for cross country, basketball and table tennis imminent.



From nail-biting last-minute goals to defensive masterclasses, students have been demonstrating not only talent but commitment and pride in representing NPA. Teachers have praised the enthusiasm and teamwork shown by our students when pulling on the NPA jersey — particularly our new Year 7 cohort who have settled into school life brilliantly and are already shining on the pitch and court. We have been thrilled to see over 100 students across all year groups representing us in

sporting opportunities outside of the classroom so far.



Parents and carers have also played a huge role. Thank you for all your support in ensuring students are prepared for fixtures, cheering from the sidelines, and encouraging regular attendance at session 6. We look forward to keeping this incredible momentum going into the next half-term!



Spotlight on Student Achievements

Harrah puts pen to paper for Corby Town FC

Huge congratulations to Harrah, who has signed with Corby Town FC following an exceptional start to the season. His commitment to training — often balancing club fixtures alongside school competitions with the Peterborough United FEP — has been inspirational.

We are all incredibly proud and can't wait to watch him progress further in his football journey. Well done Harrah!



Orlaigh continues swimming success with five medals!



Swimming superstar Orlaigh has once again made waves — securing three silver and two gold medals to qualify for the Swim England Para Talent Programme for the third consecutive year.

Her hard work in training, drive to improve and consistent

competitive performances have firmly established her as one of the most promising young para swimmers in the region. A huge well done, Orlaigh — keep aiming high, we are cheering you on every step of the way!



NENE PARK ACADEMY

—2025/26—

PicDay

Exam Preparation Tips

With assessments approaching for GCSE and Post-16 courses, now is the perfect time to form strong study habits and access the support available. Here are some recommended strategies for each qualification:

GCSE PE

- Revise body systems, movement analysis, and sport psychology little and often
- Use past papers to practise command words such as describe, explain, analyse, and evaluate
- Apply theory knowledge to real sports examples

BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Sport — Component 3

- Reinforce key content on fitness training, body systems, and principles of training
- Use your notes and completed assignments to support extended-writing tasks
- Practise planning suitable fitness programmes for different performers

AQA A-Level PE

- Break topics into manageable study chunks — e.g. Skill Acquisition, Biomechanics, Exercise Physiology, Sport & Society
- Build detailed case studies of elite sports performers
- Focus on essay writing structure — clear introduction, linked arguments, evaluative conclusion — Remember to use your extended writing and long answer study booklet to support with this
- Use podcasts and YouTube videos to review key topic areas and effectively build evaluative skills for AO3

BTEC Level 3 National Sport — Units 1, 2, 19 & 22

- For Units 19 & 22 Create revision sheets summarising key vocabulary and processes
- For Units 1 & 2, practise exam-style questions to build applied knowledge

Using PE Classroom & The Everlearner

To support learning both in lessons and at home, all students have access to:

PE Classroom — A fantastic tool for:

- Short topic videos
- Quick quizzes for recall
- Revision flashcards

The Everlearner — Ideal for:

- Detailed theory lessons
- Self-paced study
- Tracking personal progress and exam readiness

Students should aim to complete short sessions on these platforms 2–3 times per week to complete homework and independent study tasks that are set weekly.

Parents and carers — supporting your child with a structured revision routine will make a huge difference as we move further into the academic year.



Challenge 25 — Supporting Children in Need during PE lessons

This November, all students took part in the Challenge 25 initiative as part of our fundraising efforts for Children in Need. Each class set themselves the task of completing a series of 25-repetition fitness challenges — from star jumps and push-ups to speed bounce and shuttle runs.

PE staff were hugely impressed by the positive attitude and resilience shown during every session. Students encouraged each other to keep going, celebrated personal bests, and reminded us why physical activity is such a powerful way to build confidence and community spirit.

It was great to see the impact of our Sports Leadership qualification with sixth form students leading the design of the challenge and being in regular attendance in PE lessons to support students with their efforts. They all did an exceptional job.

We are proud to say the challenge not only helped develop fitness levels across the school and apply their knowledge from fitness lessons across term 1 — it also contributed to a great cause. Well done everyone who took part!



NPA students shine in Posh U18 FA Youth Cup success

It has been fantastic to see our partners at Peterborough United FC excel in the early rounds of the FA Youth Cup. The team has secured convincing victories over Lincoln City FC and Boldmere St Michael FC, progressing confidently in the competition.

What makes this success even more special is the key involvement of our KS4 FTTM students, who have played influential roles in each match. Their technical ability, tactical awareness and professionalism have stood out, proving they are ready for high-level performance environments.

We look forward to cheering them on as their FA Youth Cup journey continues — well done to all involved!



A final note...

We are incredibly proud of every student who represents our school through sport and physical activity — whether in lessons, clubs, or competitions. Let's keep building on this brilliant start and finish 2025 stronger than ever!

If you have sporting achievements outside of school you'd like to celebrate, please let the PE team know — we love sharing your success!



SECOND CHANCE UNIFORM SHOP

FREE!

A vibrant community hub led by Roland from Djiboart RB7 Art Centre CIC

GIVE SCHOOL UNIFORM A SECOND CHANCE!

SWAP:

Swap school uniform for different sizes/items

DONATE:

Donate good quality spare school uniforms

TAKE:

Need school uniform - take what you need



Monday - Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 10am-4pm



Root and Rise, Queensgate Upper Level
(between New Look/Primark)



TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE - ONE UNIFORM AT A TIME!

Food Tech Students help break a Guinness World Record



On 1st July 2025, 30 of our students broke a Guinness World Record with Jamie Oliver for the largest cookery lesson.

There were a total of 10,515 participants from 42 countries over 6 continents. Students made their own pasta and were shown three ways of shaping it and then they topped it off with a homemade tomato sauce. It was a speedy but fun lesson, and everyone made a fantastic dish.

CCF @ NPA



Combined Cadet Force

CCF Update

Since the last magazine the CCF have been busy. At the end of last term we spent a day in Ferry Meadows using the orienteering course to practice our recently learnt navigation skills, taking it in turns to map read, pace distances and identify species for a scavenger hunt, before completing the problem of getting the team from the wrong side of the inverted life raft to the correct side of the life raft, without 'swimming'.



This term we have had a day of watersports (rowing, paddleboarding and kayaking) with the brilliant team at the Peterborough Sea Cadets, a field weekend including a night stalk (sneaking up on staff members in the dark without getting caught) and have represented the contingent at remembrance services at both POSH and Peterborough city centre. We also have a new structure for our hierarchy, are setting up a logistics team, have welcomed new recruits and are planning activities for the rest of the year.

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Careers

To start off the academic Year, six Year 13 students attended the first careers focussed sessions 'Building a Sustainable Future' Conference 2025. This was based at ARU Peterborough and was the first time NPA has been in attendance. Miss Thomas accompanied the students who through their enthusiasm, knowledge and competitiveness came away with the title of Project Winner 2025. Students received a certificate and a monetary voucher. Thank you to Miss Thomas for organising and taking our students to this event and to the local companies who enabled this experience to go ahead. We look forward to attending next year where we will compete to retain the winning title.



NenePark Academy

YOUR PILLARS TO SUCCESS AT Nene Park Academy

Academic Achievement

Personal Growth

Leadership & Service

<p>Excellent Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Quality Teaching Expertise Excellent Learning Resources Pathways to Leading Universities, Apprenticeships and Employers Online Learning Platforms Extensive Learning Outside the Classroom to Embed Learning 	<p>Deliberate and Biased Group University Applicant Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Quality Courses & UCAS Outcomes Extensive Super-Quintile Activities, Events and Visits University Trips & Career Days High Quality Personal Development Curriculum Self-Form ESAS 	<p>Academy Representative Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Leadership Membership Student Societies, Clubs and Teams Community Volunteering Academic Mentoring of Younger Students Dates of Exchange Accreditation
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World Class Schools | GATSBY | Tower UK Work

Visit from UCL

The regional road show hosted by University Centre London visited our Sixth Form students last half term, delivering talks on supporting their next step destinations, whether that may be university applications, apprenticeships or the world of work. These sessions are really valuable for students to hear delivered by professionals from higher education providers. Year 12 discussed how to choose the course suitable for them at university, looking at entry requirements and course requirements and how and where to find this information. Year 13 delved into the details of applying for student finance and money management a skill all students no matter the destination can apply to their future destination choices. More workshops will follow....



CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE VISIT

Friday 17th October Dr Thorne and Mrs Howell took 25 Year 12 students to a next steps function event at Christ Church College Cambridge University. Students participated in sessions led by their admissions team on early applications to Oxbridge and Russel Group Universities, a question-and-

answer session with current students as well as a tour around the college campus site, which is a beautiful historic setting. The University put on a buffet style lunch for students to enjoy. Sixth Form students will all have the opportunity to attend University ran events throughout the two years of study.

