



Northwood News
Issue 16
Tuesday 21st February

*** An Enrichment Edition ***

Headteacher's message

I would like to begin by thanking you all for your support for your children during the industrial action last half term. I appreciate that the partial closure of the school has brought many challenges for families but I assure you that colleagues remain committed to your child's education.

However, you will be aware further strikes are planned for 2nd, 15th and 16th March. We will of course aim to give you as much advance notice as possible regarding our plans.

On a lighter note, as I reflect on last half term, I recall the moment when our hall was filled with pupils from our local primary schools who came to watch the dress rehearsal of our school production of "Fame."

Months of work has gone into this production and I would like to thank the Performing Arts Team for all their hard work. A whole school production is no mean feat. However, the greatest reward is to see our students showcase their amazing talents. I do hope you were able to see this incredible performance.

Staying on the theatrical theme, we are hoping to take all of Year 8 to the Globe Theatre to see a production of the Tempest this half term.

Please do make sure you make your payment via

ParentPay by Tuesday 28th February 2023.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term.



Mr Anderson



Fame





Interview with Ms O' Hara



1. What interested you in becoming involved with the performing arts?

I always loved performing myself as a child: I played the piano from the age of six, and achieved my Grade 8 at the age of seventeen. I used to attend weekly dance classes for four styles and also attended stagecoach on a Saturday so my world was very much about dancing, singing and acting. I knew I wanted to pursue a career in it; be it as a performer or teacher. I ended up doing both. Performing and creating has also brought me such joy and I wanted to share that with others and help others experience it too.

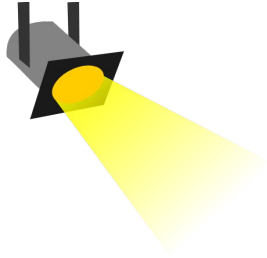
2. Why did you choose 'Fame' above all other drama productions?

I chose Fame this year because I felt it was a fun, relevant and timeless classic. It has great music and amazing opportunities for the fabulous dancers and singers and actors at Northwood!

3. What advice would you give to someone who is aspiring to become a director?

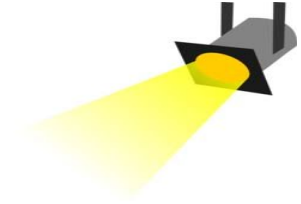
If you wish to become an aspiring director... get experience! Volunteer to help in Drama clubs or with shows and work with the Drama specialists here at Northwood. We had sixth formers direct scenes in Fame and they also helped with the choreography. They have said how much they have learnt and what an experience it has been for them.





Carmen Diaz - Tilly

I play Carmen. She is feisty, brave and outstanding. She wants her own way and thinks of the world as her oyster. I have enjoyed seeing the other side of performing arts and how much time, effort and commitment it takes to put on a musical. I look forward to playing Carmen because it is a big role and responsibility but also being practical with performing arts and being on stage feels like home and where I want to be.'



Tyrone Jackson - Ansh



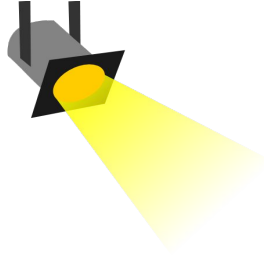
I play Tyrone Jackson in the musical Fame. He is a very talented hip hop dancer but he struggles with dyslexia throughout the play but he overcomes his reading disorder. He comes from a poor family so he usually spends his time dancing on the sidewalk to earn a bit of money from tourists. He also has a love-hate relationship with Iris. I have enjoyed working on Fame a lot because it has helped with a huge boost with my dance skills and drama skills.

I really enjoyed learning my song and performing to the whole school in assembly. I look toward performing as Tyrone Jackson because he really relates to my dance style.'

Mabel Washington - Jiya

Mabel Washington is a talented teenager that goes to the Fame high school in hope of being a famous dancer but cannot achieve that because of her addiction to food which resulted in her being overweight for being a dancer. She then decides to change her major and now wants to become an actress because she now thinks that dancers work hard but don't get any rewards. She is a funny and loving character and is portrayed like that too. She has no attitude and loves and cares for her friends.'



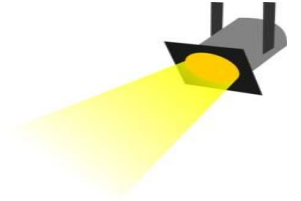


Serena Katz - Sahar

'I play Serena Katz. Serena is a young student at the high school of PA. She is an actress and thinks highly of herself however still maintains a calm and subtle aura as she is quite shy.

Whereas, along the way, she falls in love multiple times only to learn about herself.

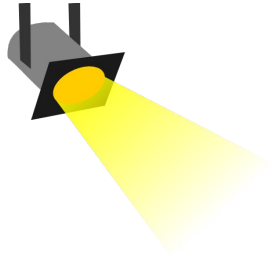
I have found it interesting yet exciting playing her role due to her characteristics and I have had a wonderful time in rehearsals with the rest of the cast and the amazing team of backstage, tech and teachers. I am looking forward to performing Fame in February to family or friends!'



Goodman King - Dillon

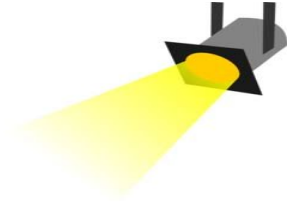
'I play Goody. He is very cheeky and loves music and is also friendly. I've really enjoyed working on Fame , I really enjoyed meeting new people and being able to experience a side of drama not a lot of people are able to experience. Also my speaking and acting skills have really developed. I can't wait to perform soon.'





Grace Lamb (Lambchops) - Yashna

*I play Lambchops. She is a school rebel and she loves to bend the rules sometimes .
She is also passionate about the drums . During the Fame rehearsals,
I have really enjoyed interacting with other characters
as well as rehearsing all of the dance numbers . I look forward to performing.'*



Iris Kelly - Skyla

Iris is scared to show her true self. She finally comes out when she confesses to Tyrone. She is a dancer who is very passionate about ballet and will persevere to get what she desires and work really hard for it . Fame has been such an amazing experience for me and I cannot stress how fun performing is and the thrill of being on stage . I can't wait to perform and the teachers have been wonderful.'

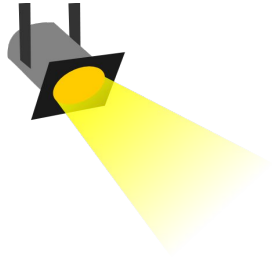


Joe Vegas - Anaya

I play Joe Vegas. He is a very funny and immature person who doesn't take anything seriously. I have enjoyed working on Fame because working with the cast has been a pleasure and we always joke around and enjoy ourselves. Since rehearsing from September the friendships between the whole cast have expanded so much.

I look forward to performing as Joe Vegas because he is such a funny character and always makes everything so uplifting.'





Nick Piazza - Luca

He is ambitious and enthusiastic about classical acting and very serious about his career. I

I have enjoyed preparing for Fame because it has been fun learning new acting parts and songs.

I really enjoyed going to the rehearsals and practising with everyone. I look forward to performing as Nick Piazza because doing Fame has been a good experience.



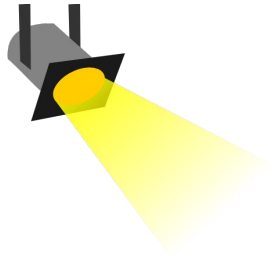
Miss Esther Sherman - Violet

My character is the English Teacher at P.A, she teaches most students in the play.

One, namely being Tyrone Jackson, a character I push academically

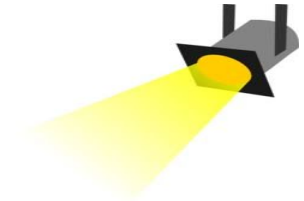
throughout the story. It has been really fun to play such an assertive character

and meet new people on the production team.'



Schlomo Metzenbaum - Marcus

I play Schlomo Metzenbaum. Schlomo is a Music student, constantly overshadowed by his famous father. He wants to be himself instead of just the son of a famous violin virtuoso and tries in any way possible to do so. I have enjoyed Fame so much! In particular I have enjoyed seeing the whole the show has come together since September and learned a bunch of new skills along the way. I am so proud of what we've achieved in the last 6 months! It's been tiring at times but the work has definitely paid off!

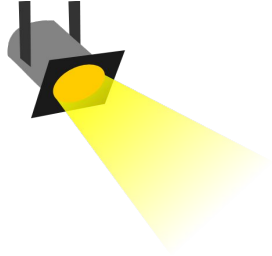


Mrs Sheinkopf - Aattifa



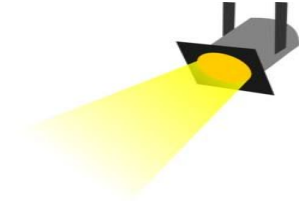
I play Mrs. Sheinkopf who is the music teacher in FAME. She's really stern and traditional in her musical tastes but at her core I believe that all she really wants is to see her students excel in performing arts and appreciate classical music just as much as she does! I have really enjoyed working in FAME because due to the pandemic I was unable to participate in any other theatre activities and have a chance to perform: something I love doing. I am looking forward to performing as Mrs. Sheinkopf because everyone involved in the production

I have worked really hard and I am excited to get a chance to act as a teacher!



Miss Greta Bell - Georgie

I play Miss Bell in Fame. She is the dance teacher at P.A. and can be quite strict, however she is kind. During the rehearsals, I really enjoyed the support everyone gave each other, and the encouragement and kindness from the other cast members, sixth formers, and teachers. I look forward to performing as Miss Bell because I love dancing and bossing people around!'

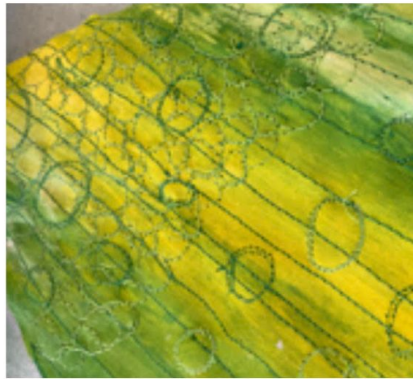


Mrs Myers - Safwa

I play the acting teacher - Ms Myers. My character is very enthusiastic about her job, loves to have fun in her lessons and overall has a really bubbly personality! I really enjoyed playing her as she has very similar qualities to me and I really feel like I can relate to her. The 'Fame' experience as a whole has taught me so much for the future and I can't wait to have so many more opportunities like this!

GCSE Textiles Club

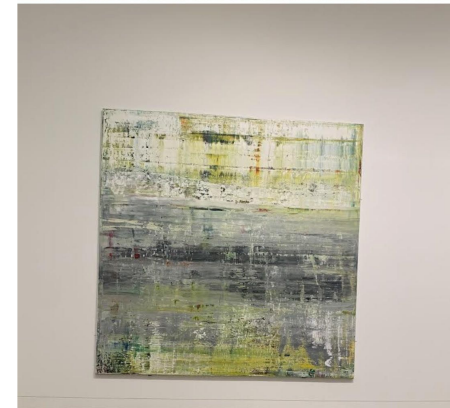
The talented Year 10 textiles students have been making use of GCSE Textiles Club to create these fantastically creative artwork designs using a variety of fabrics.



Trip to The Tate Modern

The Art Department had a fantastic day out at The Tate Modern with the Year 11 GCSE and A Level Art classes last half term.

The students were superb and enjoyed the opportunity to see live artwork. For some, it was their first time in a gallery. The students represented the school at a high standard and we couldn't be more proud.





Interview with Mr Abrahams



1. What do you enjoy about teaching history?

To summarise, the thing that I enjoy most about teaching history and teaching in general is interacting with young people. I aim to bring out the curiosity and enthusiasm that they already have within them in class by making a connection between the events we learn about in lessons to the present day.

2. In your opinion, what is the most interesting historical event of all time?

Well, if you ask what my favourite event is I would definitely say it's Martin Luther King Jr's 'I Have a Dream' speech in August 1963. It's all about unity and bringing people from different backgrounds together which is a message that is still relevant today. However, if you ask me what the most important historical event of all time is, I would say when Hitler became chancellor of Germany in 1933. This is because it is such a cataclysmic event that led to World War 2 where millions of people died; it also marked when colonialism and the beginning of the Cold War between the United States and the former Soviet Union.

3. What advice would you give to someone who would like to be head of a school's history department one day?

That's a really hard question, but I would say you should read widely around and immerse yourself in the subject. Resilience is definitely the most important quality to have, which is reflected in Northwood School's RECIPE for success, as being a teacher is very hard work and having a passion for history is absolutely vital. Work hard on trying to be the best teacher you can be and do what you love as it will truly inspire the young people you want to educate.

Debate Mate Club

We are pleased to report on a sterling performance from our Year 8, 9 & 10 students in the First Round of the Debate Mate Inter-School Cup, at Park High School.

Our four teams participated in two debates - 'Should Maths be made compulsory until the age of 18?' and 'The merits of the British monarchy'. The students managed to win all eight of the rounds that they competed in.

We are waiting to hear how Northwood ranks in terms of points in the national league table of schools.



Creative Clubs

Art Club!

At the incredibly popular Art Club, students have been looking at *Art Journaling!* Students have used acrylic paint and have been taught how to create washes for backgrounds as well as using unconventional tools to create markings on their pages. We have also looked at typography and students have had the opportunity to work over their backgrounds by drawing letters, adding quotes and even song lyrics!

Craftivism Club

We have been focusing on how we can make a positive, small impact through the world of craft. Our first project is to spread some positive messages about loving ourselves. In small groups, we made 6 large hearts with positive messages written across the front in banners. We used recycled materials which included lots of sweet wrappers so as to have a smaller environmental impact.

Our next project is top secret, so watch this space for our next bit of craftivism.



Interact Club

Interact Club has been working on fundraising for the British Heart Foundation's Heart Month:

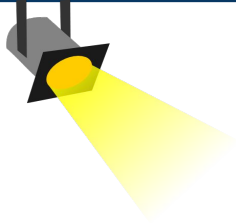
- They have launched Git Fit For February: this involves doing any cardio activity every day in February and raising money with sponsorships. Staff and students have been invited to take part and over 20 people have already signed up.
- Every Interact club is supported by a local Rotary club, ours being Elthorne-Hillingdon Rotary Club. On the 8th of February, 5 members from Interact Club attended the Rotary Evening and presented on what Interact Club has done so far this year at Northwood School.
- On the 10th of February, Interact hosted a Heart Month Bake Sale where they sold different red and heart themed baked goods to raise money for the British Heart Foundation.



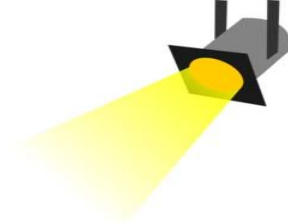
Interact and the Rotary Club

Every Interact club is supported by a local Rotary club, ours being Elthorne-Hillingdon Rotary Club. On the 8th of February, 3 members from Interact Club attended the Rotary Evening and made a presentation on what Interact Club has done so far this year at Northwood School. Members of the Rotary Club also presented on what Rotary Club is and how they have helped in the community. Rotary Club very kindly donated money to Interact Club to help support the great events and fundraisers. Our Interact members also took part in a music quiz and won with an impressive 18/20 correct answers!





Interview with Mr Younes



1.What fascinates you about teaching geography?

The main thing that fascinates me about geography would have to be helping students understand the world around them and all that's in it. Also, it would be helping them apply geography to the world around them. Lastly, it is a subject that will hopefully help make a difference in the world.

2.How might the subject of geography support young people in life after school?

It actually happens to provide a huge level of support.It provides valuable skills to young people in so many different ways. For example: students acquire graphing skills and mathematical skills.Students also develop their ability to evaluate information. Additionally, the content in geography makes students more aware of the environment and the importance of the natural world.

3.If you could teach only one aspect of the geography curriculum, what would it be and why?

That is most definitely a difficult question to answer as there are so many topics that I enjoy teaching about geography. However, I would have to say that the most valuable part of geography for me to teach would be the topic of climate change. I think it's an important topic because the students will be the ones to inherit this earth in the future. Therefore, they need to understand the topic of climate change.



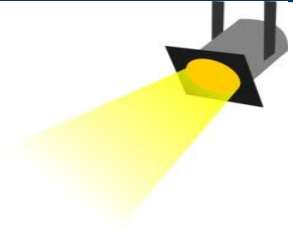
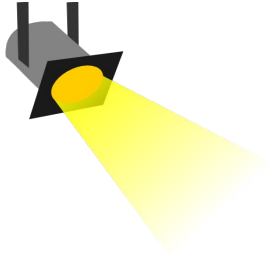
Science Club



Our ever popular Science Club runs every two weeks on a Friday after school for any students in Years 7-10. We focus on the practical elements of Science - which is always lots of fun! Recent activities have included a heart dissection and making a model of a DNA helix out of sweets. While having fun at Science club is important, the ideas and theory of the activities are also conveyed to the students to enrich their understanding in key Science topics.



Bletchley Park Trip



Thomas ~ Y11

Upon arrival at the historic and incredibly important Bletchley Park on Tuesday the 24th of January, we were greeted by the very attentive and polite staff on hand at the site and were prepared for our tour of the facility. We began by watching a short cinematic masterpiece on The D day landings at normandy and were intrigued to learn of the intelligence behind the operation which could be directly credited to Bletchley Park and their hard work. We later walked around the facilities of Bletchley and were introduced to a code breaker machine called 'The Bombe'.

Bletchley Park Trip

After a pleasant lunch in Hut 6 we met with our tour guide Bob who proceeded to take us around fascinating areas of the site which included looking at old war vehicles such as ambulances and motorbikes which he expertly described whilst also cracking some jokes. Afterwards Bob escorted us towards the cinema room where we enjoyed watching a slightly longer film detailing the genius behind the Bletchley Park team and their role in the allied troops successfully landing on the beaches of France. Bob was very knowledgeable of Bletchley during the 1940's recalling to us the names of famous codebreakers who worked behind the scenes for allied victory in the second world war and who were crucial in cracking the German code. On top of this our group was also pleasantly surprised to hear about the role of women at Bletchley during the war as $\frac{3}{4}$ of the 9000 workers at the site were women. After Bob concluded our tour we headed to our final activity of the day which was a workshop in which we learnt about the brilliance of the Enigma machine and even had a go at breaking codes ourselves in smaller groups.

Overall we had a fantastic day at Bletchley Park and we could not thank the staff enough for their efforts to make us feel welcome at the facility and many of us will certainly consider revisiting Bletchley Park in the future.

Achievements outside of school

I would like to share my experience on attending six Engineering Masterclasses at Brunel University. My first Masterclass started with looking at the ginormous Sound Lab in Brunel and how sound affects our daily lives. We also got a chance of winning a mini sound lab kit which made all the participants a bit competitive and, at the same time, very excited. Furthermore, we learned about aerodynamics in planes and how engineers plan something before building it and how maths can be used in real life to solve problems which can help lots of people. We also did a fun experiment with Coco-Cola or Pepsi to see which one is better. In addition, we also learned about how gravity can affect a bridge: we were encouraged to think about the science behind it is rather than the design of the bridge.

Furthermore, we got to use 3D printers and make keychains and learn about how 3D can be a better way of manufacturing lots of products at the same time. On the final day of the masterclasses, we got to build a bridge and put weight on it to see if it can withstand it. Our last session was great fun because we got our 3D keychains and certificate of completion.

Overall, it was a very pleasant experience and I got the opportunity to learn new things and meet new students from different schools. I would like to thank Mrs Adams and Mrs Seagrove for giving me this wonderful opportunity.



Coming soon...

- Year 7 Parents' Evening ~ Thursday, 23rd February
- Year 9 Options Evening ~ Tuesday, 7th March
- Year 7 Parents' Evening ~ Thursday, 9th March
- Year 8 Parents' Evening ~ Thursday, 23rd March
- Year 8 Parents' Evening ~ Thursday, 30th March