

NENEGATE NEWS

Edition: 7

Date: 12 March 2021

Welcome back!

It has been a busy, brilliant week! It has been fantastic to see the students back in school and settling into new routines. Thank you to all students for trying their best to follow the COVID rules. I am also incredibly pleased with the uptake for COVID tests, with most students having received two tests this week. They are not pleasant, but students have understood why it is important to take part. What has been particularly heart-warming has been watching students supporting each other to manage the process. Thank you to families for their support and to all our staff in school for rising magnificently to the challenge.

Home Testing

A letter has been emailed home this week about home testing kits. We will be issuing them next week for students to use for the first time next Thursday or Friday.

There are instructions with the tests about how to register a test result with the government website. There is also a Microsoft teams form to complete for the school. The QR code for this is below and it will also be on our school website. We will also email a link to you. You can use the same QR code / link to report each test result.



Face Masks

Just a reminder that for a limited period the government is advising that students of secondary age and their teachers should wear masks in lessons as well as in corridors and other communal spaces. **We will be adopting this guidance until the end of term and expect all students to wear a mask on school transport and then bring a second mask for use in school.** If students are medically exempt from wearing masks please contact us in advance. Face coverings should be plain and appropriate for use in school. Hub students do not need to wear masks and nor do their teachers.

Routines

Some of our routines are still not back in place because of COVID restrictions. Students arriving in the morning are being offered breakfast, but they will have this in their classrooms. Students arriving in the afternoon will be offered a cereal bar.

Squash will be offered at breaktimes but in order to support social distancing this will be given in classrooms just before Lesson 3 begins.

Lunch is now being eaten in the Dining Halls with students being kept in their bubbles and supervised closely.

Welcome back Purdy!

Last week Miss Parsons came into school with Purdy, the lovable Labradoodle, after nearly a year's absence. She enjoyed the pats and treats and Purdy got some too! A letter has gone home about Purdy and students have been reminded about the rules around her visiting classrooms.

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Staff Hero of the Week



My staff hero for this week is Miss Wye. She has been really looking forward to having the students back in and has worked tirelessly this week to support students and staff as we all step up a gear. Thank you Miss Wye.

Head Teacher's Star of the Week

This week **Jordan** is my Star of the Week. It was quite hard to choose one student because so many have returned in such a positive manner. However as well as approaching school in a very positive manner I noticed that Jordan shared his delicious strawberries with the rest of his class, without being prompted or asked. I think every school should have kindness at the centre of the values they teach and I am a great believer in being kind and celebrating unprompted acts of kindness. Well done Jordan.



CATHERINE WILSON

Key Stage 2

We have really enjoyed having everyone back at school for the first time in a long time and it has been great to see all our friends. We went on a scavenger hunt in Outdoor Learning and worked as a team to win a prize!! In Science we did a really cool experiment about reversible and irreversible states of matter. In addition we are still completing our interventions and key lessons and even have time to learn about Pirates in Topic!!

Students of the week:

Anthony, Kyle A

Key Stage 3 News

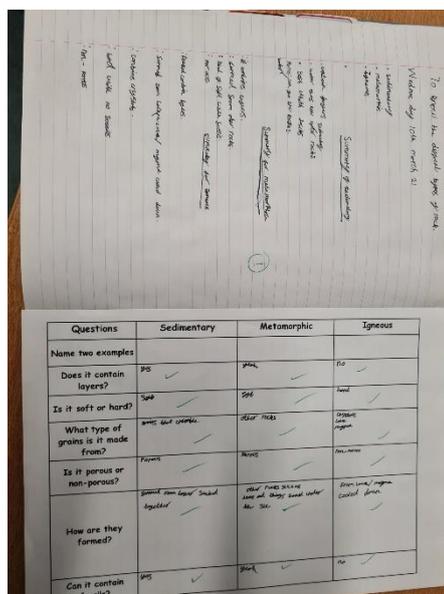
Ferrari

The morning group welcomed Sean back to school. It was really impressive how the students supported each other with the testing, which not everyone was keen on doing. Cameron in particular was an amazing peer support to members of the group.

The afternoon group gradually settled in and got back down to learning, with Rocky in particular having an amazing week.

Phoenix

Phoenix began a topic on modern Europe, with Taylor producing a great piece of Monet inspired artwork and Nathan producing an amazing piece of research on London. The group also worked hard on their Science and found plenty of time for other stuff. Subhaan was brilliant at Uno and Bryn showed off his amazing magic tricks.



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Falcons

This week the Falcons were reintroduced to each other following the lifting of lockdown. With it being so long since we were last united, we decided to spend the morning at Ferry Meadows on Tuesday, where the boys could take off their masks and get that much needed bonding time. It is great to all be together again and we will soon all be back to our usual routines, where their learning can flourish.



Student of the Week

Nathan

Key Stage 4 News

It has been nice to welcome the rest of the year 11s back this week, as they approach the end of their time at NeneGate. We have completed practice exam papers in Science, English, Maths and Film Studies, alongside completing our college applications. The students don't want to leave NeneGate (I can only imagine it is because Mr Leeman and Mrs Dooley are so wonderful), but are generally excited about the courses they have chosen. Choices for post-16 education include photography, construction, and mechanics.

This week we have also enjoyed football (staff may have won convincingly in staff vs students), playing 'The price is Right', revising magnets in science, music (Maccy taught Myles how to play the drums), seeing our friends, breaktime snacks and our speaking and listening in English. The returning students have also enjoyed meeting our new Head Teacher.

Students of the week:

Myles, Josh