



NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"

8 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 9 Cultural Arts and Careers Week: Thursday 10 – Wednesday 16 July 2025

Our Cultural Arts and Careers Week each summer is an opportunity for all students to engage in a variety of creative and enriching learning experiences and enjoy opportunities for growth and career development beyond the curriculum. Please note that normal lessons are suspended for this week.

Workshops and activities are led by external providers and staff teachers at Newstead with opportunities to take part in visits out of school for each year group.

We have an exciting programme of events planned and I am delighted to be share this:

Day Trip – Thursday 10 July

Students are able to choose between the Aqua Trip involving water sports activities (e.g. paddle boarding, raft building, dinghy sailing), the drama Globe Theatre trip, and the botanical Kew Gardens trip. Each has a separate cost explained below. These are run on a first come, first served basis. Students wanting to go on the Aqua trip must be able to swim.

8BillionIdeas Careers Day – Friday 11 July

This should be an interactive and informative day, led by our partners from the 8BillionIdeas Team. Students will be divided into groups and work with their mentor for the day alongside our Careers Team.

Visit to Krakow and Auschwitz – Sunday 13-Tuesday 15 July

If students have opted to take GCSE History in Year 10, they are encouraged to visit Krakow and Auschwitz and see for themselves the memorials and museums which give an excellent perspective on World War II. The guides on these trips are very knowledgeable and will help them to understand some of the key elements which underpin the GCSE History course. This is an important part of GCSE. Mrs Smith leads our visit to Auschwitz trip and a separate letter with further details will be shared regarding this trip.

Drumming Workshop – Monday 14 July

Steel Pans are a musical instrument originating in Trinidad and Tobago and students will learn how to perform as an ensemble with our facilitators. We also have Japanese Taiko drumming, Iroko West African Drumming, and African Tembe drumming.

Haiku, Yoga and Dance Workshops – Tuesday 15 July

Led by our English Department, students will learn about and compose their own Haiku, a type of short form poetry originally from Japan. Traditional Japanese haiku consist of three phrases that contain a kireji, or

Headteacher: Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

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Newstead Wood School
Avebury Road
Orpington
Kent

t: 01689 853626

e: office@newsteadwood.co.uk

w: newsteadwood.co.uk



"cutting word", 17 on in a 5, 7, 5 pattern, and a kigo, or seasonal reference. Similar poems that do not adhere to these rules are generally classified as senryū. On this day we also have the Primrose School of Dance and Jack Petchey Foundation running a number of Dance sessions, and finally there is a taster Yoga session.

Performing Arts Festival – Wednesday 16 July

All Year 9 form groups will be preparing for our Annual Performing Arts Festival throughout the year. Their final performances will take place on Wednesday 16 July when they will perform to Year 8 students and judges in the afternoon, then for parents and carers in the evening. We are looking forward to their fantastic productions!

The charges for the activities are indicated below. Please make payment for *Year 9 Cultural Arts Week* via WisePay. Please note, payment constitutes permission to take part in all activities. If you have any financial concerns regarding payment for these activities, please contact finance@newsteadwood.co.uk in confidence.

- Instalment 1 - £26 (Kew), £30 (Globe) or £90 (Aqua), by Friday 31 January 2025
- Instalment 2 - £25 for students not going to Krakow, by Friday 4 April 2025

Payments for the Krakow trip will be handled separately and details will be sent in a separate letter.

We hope you are as excited as we are about all these fantastic enrichment activities planned during our Cultural Arts Week.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at mbournat@newsteadwood.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Bournat
Assistant Headteacher