



The GDST Bake-Off 2016

Following a school-wide bake-off earlier this term, and the heroic consumption of a great deal of cake by dedicated staff judges, Imogen Laurence and Li An Tan, both in Year 8, were crowned NHEHS star bakers.



On 14 October they headed off to Portsmouth High School for the day to represent Notting Hill & Ealing in the semi-final of this year's GDST Bake Off competition.

Semi-finalists were set the task of baking a special version of a lemon Victoria sandwich with lemon curd filling. The unique recipe they followed was specially created for the GDST by alumna,

Mary Berry, for the Trust's 140th anniversary celebrations in 2012.

As in the TV show, the girls also had to take part in a technical challenge, bringing with them a design/style sheet illustrating how they would bake and decorate cupcakes in honour of a favourite heroine, real or fictional, contemporary or historic, if they succeeded in getting through to the finals.

The competition was stiff and the standard of baking amazingly high with the judges, Portsmouth's Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, having a difficult job in choosing those who would go through to the final.

Our congratulations go to the winners from Oxford High, Portsmouth High and Royal High School Bath and well done to Imogen and Li An who as you can see had a great day and who, along with their fantastic cakes, rose wonderfully to the challenge.

Backstage Pass

Anna Whittock



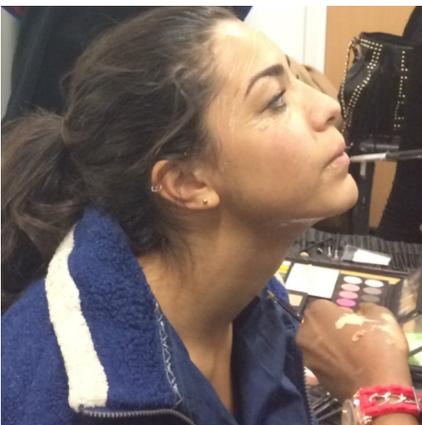
Backstage Pass is a NHEHS drama tec club which teaches you technical skills and qualifies you to work behind the scenes in drama clubs and on school productions. I joined Backstage Pass in Year 8 and I have learnt lots about set, lighting and sound.

There are two skill levels and great care is taken that we really understand how to use all the various technology and equipment effectively and safely. We look at lighting, and different coloured gels to put in the lights and how they might affect the

performance. We assess risks on stage and also in bringing the set on and off the stage. In one session the studio was set with various risks as and we had to identify them and say what we would do about them.

For our Level 1 assessment we were given the theme of 'Alice in Wonderland' and had to produce five lighting states, music and a sound effect, a piece of projection, costume, props and a set design and then run the piece as in a technical rehearsal. This experience and knowledge has allowed me to become an Assistant Stage Manager in the school production of *The Crucible* in November.

Make Up



Those of us in the makeup team for *The Crucible* had the opportunity to attend a workshop run by four

professional makeup artists.

The makeup for the show is complex and the team needs to be able to execute many designs – from aging faces to torture wounds. We have built up a strong tradition of stage makeup in the school with regular opportunities to train with professional artists. There is also a fundamental understanding that make up is a rigorous and integral part of the imagination it encourages

production process; as well as technical precision and collaborative work, planning and leadership skills. Older girls train and guide younger makeup artists and it is so nice to see girls form a range of year groups working together.

The cast and crew of *The Crucible* have already become a tight-knit community and the makeup team are proud to be an important part of that!

GCSE and A Level Art Trips

Sophie Plowden



Year 10 artists began their GCSE course with a trip into central London and a lecture on the portrait at the National Portrait Gallery. They were also able to take the opportunity to sketch from the permanent collection. We then visited the Royal Academy to see David Hockney's striking series, '82 Portraits and 1 Still Life'.

To provide inspiration for their art project: 'Surface, Structure, Shape', Year 12 art students and

their teachers went on a sketching trip to the Hunterian Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons.

The Hunterian is an extraordinary collection of specimens, models, instruments, painting and sculptures that reveal the art and science of surgery from the 17th century to the present day. In the afternoon, we visited the exuberant and breath-taking Abstract Expressionist Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Cross Country

Nic Evans

The NHEHS team put in a great performance at the Ealing Borough Schools Cross Country Championship on 6 October. A clean sweep of 1st, 2nd and 3rd places went to Jasmine Palmer, Eva-Marie Weintraub and Natasha Jones in the Year 7 and 8 race with lots of the rest of the Year 7 and 8 squad finishing in top twenty places. In the Year 9 and 10 race, Fiona Coutts, Anna Mackenzie and Victoria Newton finished in 3rd, 4th and 5th places.



OGA vs Sixth Form Netball

A win for the sixth form in a match which took place on the hottest September day for 100 years.



Ealing Schools Cross County

Medal winners Jasmine Palmer, Eva-Marie Weintraub and Natasha Jones in the Year 7 and 8 race.



Westminster

Year 12 and 13 Politics Student at the Houses of Parliament where they listened to debates in both Chambers.



Messages

Ellen Vince



Tea Time Concert

The concert season of this Academic Year got underway with a Tea Time Concert. This is our most informal event, but an excellent opportunity for girls with less experience of performing publically, to make a start in front of an audience of friends, staff and family members.

It was a encouraging start to the year with a very varied programme and performances including several from girls who had never performed publicly before: Olivia Grimwade (violin), Lily Doyle (piano), Lina Mengrani (voice) and Angelina Koval who sang and played the violin in two separate performances.

Maanya Patel,(Year 10), gave her first, and very impressive, performance of the first movement of a Mozart Violin Sonata and Miranda Simmons provided a distinguished performance of some unaccompanied Bach.

Caroline Watts

In the weeks preceding National Poetry Day, girls were tasked with writing a poem on this year's theme of 'messages'. A winner was then selected from each year group, and they had the chance to read their poem in assembly. The assembly also included a talk from Mona Arshi, our visiting poet.

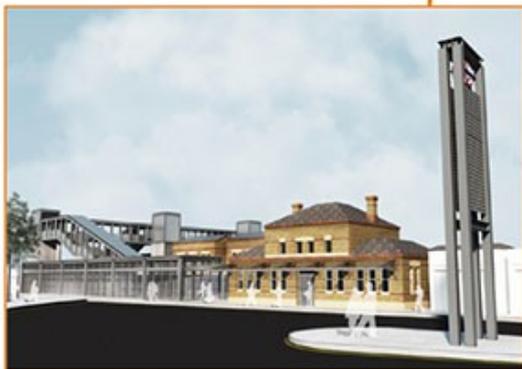
Throughout the day, Mona ran poetry workshops with small groups of Year 10 students. She introduced us to styles of poetry that were new to us, such as specular poetry, and gave us an insight into her personal writing process. She then challenged us to choose an object from an unusual selection of items which she had brought along, and which included things such as a

lizard and a glass angel, and then spend 10 minutes on a free-write. The aim of the free-write was to compose a poem on our chosen object, writing continuously during the 10-minute time period. However, our task was made more difficult as we had to include off-topic words in our poem, such as 'finger bones'. When the 10-minutes were up, Mona gave us individual feedback on our poems, and encouraged us to finish them.

The workshop gave us a better understanding as to how poetry is created and, as most of us had never tried free-writing before, we left the workshop with a new technique to use in future.

Engineering NHEHS

Josh Schneider



We were delighted to welcome Taylor Woodrow Site Engineer, Aurore Vertueux, and Carillion Assistant Project Manager, Lucky Sahota, who spoke in assembly about the role of women in engineering and the Crossrail programme. They also spoke to sixth form physics students about career opportunities for women in their industry. Our sixthformers particularly enjoyed the question and answer sessions, which provided insight into careers in engineering as well as more information on project sites in west London.

Following the presentation we were delighted that Crossrail West Stations (CWS) agreed to

sponsor and mentor our team of six NHEHS sixthformers through their participation in this year's Engineering Education Scheme (EES) a national scheme which links Year 12 students with local companies to work on real, scientific, engineering and technological problems.

As part of EES, CWS has provided the NHEHS team with a real-world engineering problem centered on improving Crossrail West Station's BREEAM rating. This will form the basis of the girls' six-month EES project which is now underway, and which will allow them to apply for a BA Crest Gold Standard Award. The students are being mentored by

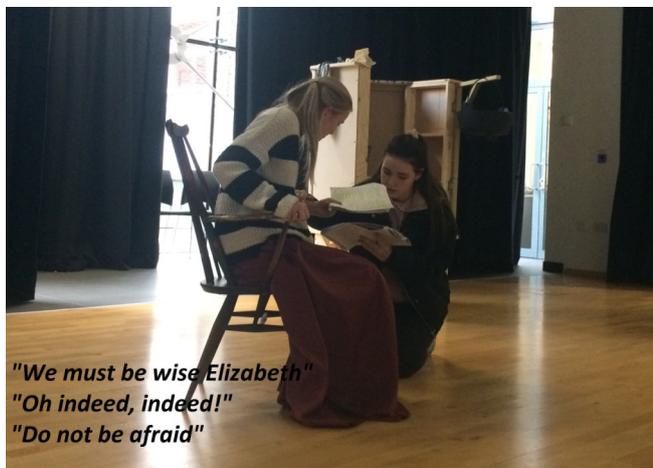
Network Rail Project Manager, James Bowry, and from Taylor Woodrow: Senior Design Manager, Jon Tree, Design Manager, Brooke Knight, and Site Engineer, Kristina Rorsman.

The Scheme was launched at CWS central office in Haven Green on Thursday 20 October 2016 and will run through the Autumn and Spring school terms, ending with a Celebration and Assessment Day (around Easter time) where CWS and NHEHS will be joining other schools and employers who have participated in EES this year.

The girls are looking forward to working with CWS and ideas are already flowing from the team!

The Crucible

Debbie Whitmarsh



A study in the hysteria which led to the 1692 Salem witch trials, *The Crucible* concentrates on the fate of the key figures caught up in the persecution. Miller's timeless play written in 1953 as a parable for the events of the McCarthy era in the USA, considers and attacks the evils of mindless tyranny and the terrifying power of false accusations.

In our production we aim to highlight the chilling effect of institutional arrogance and ignorance that can threaten civil

liberties in any age. When the dividing lines separating politics, religion and the judiciary become blurred, space is created for episodes of mob-mentality to take hold. This cautionary tale remains a pertinent comment on humanity and is a trenchant reminder of how a community can be shattered by paranoia.

Eschewing our existing end on auditorium, we have hired seating blocks to create a thrust stage where the audience is on three sides, to enhance the intimate

nature of the play and allow the audience to witness at close quarters the twisted, visceral and ultimately destructive relationships between the characters.

The performance starts at 7pm and the foyer bar will be open each night from 6.30pm with drinks and snacks available. From the cast to the design and technical teams, the students have been working with relish to realise this very special play.

The Crucible Thursday 24th, Friday 25th and Saturday 26th November.
Tickets: from school

Year 7 at The Tate

Melanie Di Paola



On Monday 17th October our Year 7 girls headed off to Tate Modern. We took the tube to St Pauls followed by a scenic walk over the Millennium Bridge.



In The Tate's Turbine Hall we were greeted by the work of the artist Philippe Parreno and his site specific exhibition called 'Anywhen'. This comprises a collection of moving images, sound and light. Visitors lie on a carpet and experience the ever changing space around them.

The girls were given a booklet of tasks and a trail to follow around the galleries, exploring some of the permanent galleries such as Artist and Society, Materials, Objects and Media Networks. It was also a chance to explore some of the galleries in the new Switch House building, crossing a suspended walk way on the fourth floor to get to the Cities exhibit.

However, the undoubted highlight of the day was the chance to visit to the Georgia O'Keefe exhibition.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable day out and the girls embraced the tasks with such imagination and enthusiasm. Look out for their postcard responses around the school.



Yerma

At the beginning of the Autumn Term a group of sixth form students of Spanish and their teachers went to the Young Vic to see Simon Stone's 21st Century adaptation of Federico García Lorca's classic text *Yerma*.

The play winds its way through the heartache and desperation of its protagonist, a young wife, who is unable to bear a child; she is called Yerma, which in Spanish means barren.

Through this female figure as allegory and cipher, Lorca is able to place centre stage his native region of Andalucia with its dry, hostile and arid earth.

Simon Stone has rewritten the text entirely to set it in present day London undeniably losing the poetics of place so key to the original. In doing so however, the story of maternal loss penetrates across time and cultures and this, coupled with Billie Piper's outstanding performance, gives the classic and canonical text a visceral and raw immediacy. Stone incorporates the analogy of woman and nature by including a decaying tree on stage and the honour code of Andalucian society finds representation in the confessional blog written by the 21st Century Yerma, in which she compromises her husband's privacy leading to embarrassment and shame for him at work.

It was a really inspirational evening and will complement further studies of Lorca undertaken by our NHEHS students.

Julia Sheikh



KEEP CREATIVE AND JOIN DRAMA CLUB

Drama Club

This year, as the Drama Secretaries, Molly and I head the Year 7 Drama Club. Both of us attended a drama club when we were in Year 7 ourselves, so we were looking forward to the exciting prospect of encouraging the youngest members of the school to take up theatre.

In our lunchtime sessions, we explored different performance ideas through improvisation games, freeze frames based on a single word and other activities to boost confidence. We also took inspiration from lessons we have had and which we had found particularly useful and fun. For example, we introduced our own spin on Reduced Shakespeare, a theatre company who perform fast paced comical versions of the Bard's plays. Inspired by this we did reduced fairytales, taking stories such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Three Little Pigs, performing them in under two minutes.

All our games and activities are working towards a final piece where the girls will write, direct and stage a performance. Those not keen on performing have the opportunity to get involved in costume, lighting and sound. When it is ready we hope that friends and peers will be able to come along and see the performance.

Maya Coomarasamy

Sixth Form Life

Jenny Bushell



As ever, the Sixth Form have made a lively and enthusiastic start to term. Kicking off with the Year 12 and 13 Film Workshop, the two year groups got to know each other better and learned about how to produce and direct a successful short film. They worked in small groups to produce their own film with the winning group being awarded an Oscar, which now stands on the front desk in the Sixth Form Centre.

The annual GDST Young Leaders' Conference took place in Bath in October. The Head Girl Team really enjoyed their weekend away, at which they worked in teams with Head Girls (and boys!) from other schools to develop a pitch for a charity fundraising event. They returned to school on Monday exhausted but full of ideas and plans, and are looking forward to telling the rest of the school about their

experiences in a special assembly.

We have also had girls making a huge variety of visits to university open days, taster lectures and workshops, and these have contributed to the fantastic set of UCAS applications and personal statements now being sent to universities all over the country. News of the first offers has been received with great excitement!

Amid the hard work being put into academic studies and personal statement writing, the sixth form has also found time to participate in the lighter side of school life. We have had the Year 13 vs Old Girls netball match (a resounding victory for Year 13), entries into the GDST Bake Off, and we ended the half term with a Halloween party complete with costumes, decorations and spooky baked goods.

Atomic

Fiona Johnson



Our Year 9 Chemists have been busy learning about the structure of the atom and were challenged to create a model to represent an atom of their choice.

The models submitted were made from a range of materials including pipe cleaners, plasticine, ping pong balls and some girls decided to bake a cake.



With strawberry laces to represent the energy levels and pink icing for the electrons, the cake model was topped off with a layer of white frosting. Well done to Grace Murphy, Florence Yost and Vicky Newton for creating such an imaginative and chemically precise model!

Geography in Dorset

Sarah Jones

In early September, 48 NHEHS geographers (plus Dr Jones, Miss O'Leary and Miss Parr) embarked on a GCSE controlled assessment trip to Lulworth Cove in Dorset.

Whilst the rest of the UK was engulfed by floods, the sun shone on us for the entire trip as students collected data investigating contrasting pressures in a rural area. These included second home ownership, environmental damage such

as footpath erosion and problems caused by increasing traffic.

A pleasant night, albeit in fairly basic accommodation, was spent at Brenscombe Outdoor Centre near Corfe Castle and we were delighted to receive a surprise visit from the Duke of Edinburgh girls who were in the area on their practice expedition.



Year 7 at Hillingdon

Elly Nicoll

Early in September, on a particularly gloomy morning, Year 7 set off for a day of team building at HOAC and not even the weather could dampen their spirits.

Divided into small groups to undertake the different activities, the girls impressed us with their enthusiasm. They excelled at the team-building activities, and their raft-building was equally impressive – not a single raft broke!

After a rafting race in which many girls cheerfully (and unnecessarily!) threw themselves into the chilly water, they were so quick at tidying everything away that there was also time for the rope jump. This provided another opportunity for many of them to leap into the water, with excited screams echoing around the lake. It was a happy day, with girls making new friends and having the opportunity to get to know more of their year group. Well done, Year 7!



GDST Art

Sophie Plowden



Girls from throughout the GDST were challenged to get creative on a postcard for this years' GDST art exhibition.

They were able to use any medium and the most original, imaginative and accomplished pieces were selected for display

at Gallery Different in London's west end.

The collection of nearly 1,000 exhibits included paintings, knitting, line drawings, poems, photographs, quotations, equations, embroidery, collages, recipes and origami.

Congratulations to those girls whose work was selected to represent NHEHS in the Senior School category:

Year 7

- Sylvie Reay
- Naina Mathur
- Angelina Koval
- Amy Sheridan

Year 8

- Evie Bryant
- Sabah Suterwalla
- Annika Malhotra

Year 9

- Zareen Hyatt
- Milli Datta
- Jennifer Wong

Year 10

- Zoe Mills
- Jojo Loxton
- Martha Price
- Lucia Hodgkinson
- Rosie Glenn (
- Ellen Vince
- Grace Fee
- Flossie Morris
- Ines Mubgar-Spencer



Duke of Edinburgh Silver

Paul Quarmby

The Silver Duke of Edinburgh girls in Year 11 went on their practice expeditions to the Isle of Purbeck. Glorious weather meant fantastic views whilst hills, overgrown paths and over-interested cows made the walking a true challenge.

The final day finished in the sunshine on the beach at Studland Bay and long dreamt of fish and chips at the National Trust café. Roll on Easter and the assessed expeditions.



Netball

Dianne Dunkley



10 girls from NHEHS have joined the Academy Netball Club which runs training sessions at school on Tuesday evenings.

The U14 team played a series of matches from September 2015

to June 2016, winning the West London Netball Junior League in an exciting final played at Reynolds Sports Centre in Acton on Sunday 25th September 2016.

GDST London Regional Sports Rally

Rob Bent

In September we took part in the GDST London Regional Sports Rally, hosted by Sutton High School. Many girls had their first chance to perform competitively in a new sport, while others were able to put some more familiar skills to the test.

The U15s took part in a very competitive water polo competition during which there were many close matches. Our NHEHS team came out eventual victors after beating Sutton High into second spot.

Well done to all the girls who took part in the day. Though the sport was played at a high level with some very competitive matches, students from different schools enjoyed getting to know each other and there was a friendly atmosphere throughout.

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AM I BAD 'BOUT THAT MOEY



Charities Update

The term kicked off in traditional style with a Harvest festival collection for the Ealing Food Bank in which Junior and Senior Schools collected hundreds of kilograms of items.

As always, Year 11 are the first year group to raise money for their chosen charities. This year The Refugee Council, Different Strokes, the Brain Tumour Research Campaign, and Girls Not Brides were the beneficiaries of the money raised.

As well as the usual cake sales, (with staff continuing their heroic consumption of all things sweet), main events this half term included a Staff Lip Sync Battle, a treasure hunt, and an own clothes day.

All events were, as we have come to expect, great fun and well attended.

Marina Heppenstall



Football

Dianne Dunkley



Our Year 8 Footballers were in action at the first ever GDST Football rally which took place at Streatham High School. They played 4 games, winning 2 and losing 2 which meant they just missed out on semi-final places. Congratulations to Sophie Claxton (Year 8) who was "talent identified" in the tournament by the organisers.

NHEHS Theatre Club

The NHEHS Theatre Club was set up to offer innovative and exciting theatre for very reasonable prices to pupils, parents, staff and friends alike. This term we offered Bated Breath Theatre Company in *Shakespeare his Wife and the Dog* and in the Spring term on 22nd March Splendid Theatre will present *Macbeth*.

We also now have a licence to stream productions which have been staged at the National and we will be showing a range of plays as part of this year's programme. On 28 September we screened *Frankenstein* and on 23rd January 2017 murder, money and mutiny will abound as we show Bryony Lavery's adaptation of the Robert Louis Stevenson classic, *Treasure Island*.

All events take place in our Studio Theatre. The screenings are free but booking is required to ensure we can accommodate the audience in comfort. The live shows often include a Q&A session with the cast and are an affordable £10 per person.

For more information contact the school, watch out for our SchoolComms messages or see our Firefly page.

Debbie Whitmarsh

The NHEHS Christmas Bazaar

The Parents' Guild invite you to the fabulous NHEHS Christmas Bazaar.

Come along for stalls, baubles, the famous Beauty Zone, food, Christmas treats and gifts for all ages, a festive shopping village lots of fun and Santa of course.

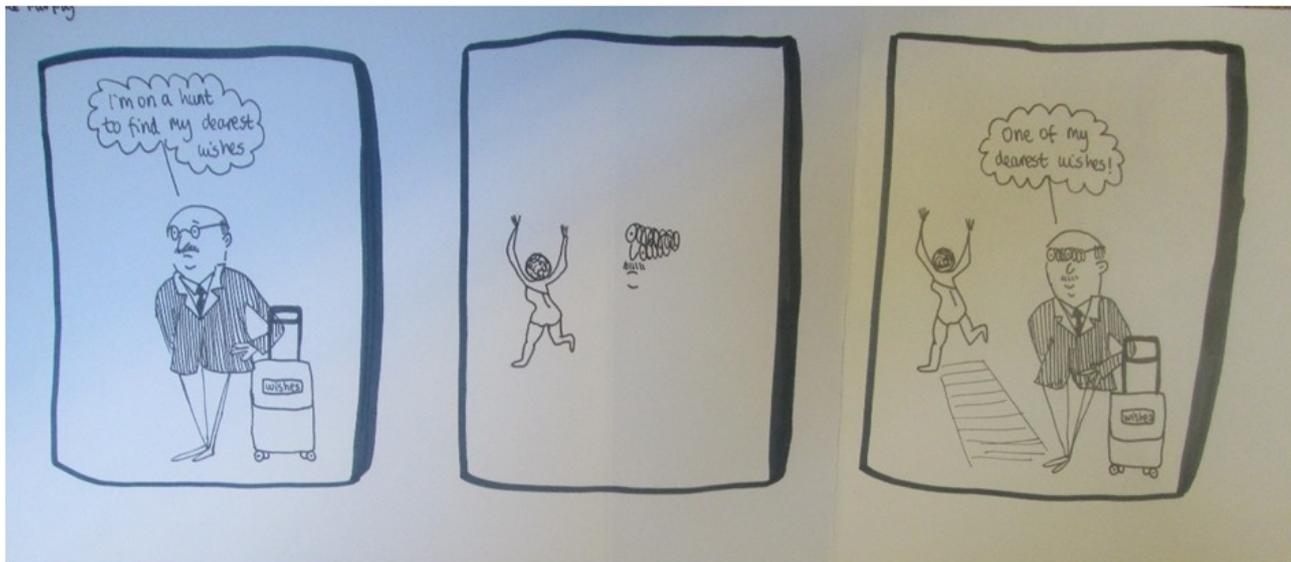
If you have ordered a Christmas Tree you'll be able to pick it up on the same day. More information on ordering your tree on the last of this Newsletter.



Saturday 3 December
12noon to 3.30pm
Friends and family welcome

Year 9 Art Trip

Grace Murphy



The Art Department took Year 9 Art students on a tour of Sir John Soane's Museum in Lincoln's Inn Fields. Now a public museum, the building was originally designed by Soane as his London home and also as a setting for his amazing and eclectic collection of antiquities and works of art..

Highlights included the Sarcophagus of Egyptian King Seti 1 and the picture gallery showing works by Carravaggio and The Rake's Progress by Hogarth. We then went on to the House of Illustration where we attended an illustration workshop and created fantastic sequential illustrations.

This is the UK's only public gallery dedicated solely to illustration and was founded by Sir Quentin Blake. It is the place to see, learn about and enjoy illustration in all its forms; from advertisements to animation, picture books to political cartoons and scientific drawings to fashion design.

OGA Tea

Natalie Burns Spence



The class of 2001 with Miss Ashley

We were delighted to see almost 300 Old Girls return to the school for the annual Tea Party on 15 September. We welcomed leavers from 1956, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2011 and many years in between! It was also lovely to see many former members of staff

Many thanks to the OGA Committee for arranging such a wonderful afternoon.

NHEHS

Christmas Tree Sale

These are beautiful trees - premium grade Nordmann Fir and better value than all local suppliers.
Please pass this offer on to friends and neighbours, as all profits go directly to the school.

Please tick the tree(s) you would like:

5 - 6ft (£35)

6 - 7ft (£43)

7 - 8ft (£48)

8 - 9ft (£53)

All trees are pre-wrapped and can be collected from school on the day of the Christmas fair – Saturday 3rd December

Please return completed orders to the School Office c/o Joe/Richard Parents' Guild trees

Name: Phone:

Email:

Daughter's Name & Form:

I enclose a cheque made payable to NHEHS Parents' Guild for £

Closing date for orders is Friday 25th November between 12 and 5pm

Please note that uncollected trees will be considered as donations and will be disposed of accordingly