Welcome to our first Norwood School News for 2018-19
This summer exam season was the toughest yet with students taking up to 30 exams in 2 to 3 weeks!

With the introduction of the 9-1 grading systems, A*, A grades being the equivalent of grades 7-9, and linear examinations everyone was waiting in trepidation for results. We had stepped into unknown territory. The most tested group of students ever did not let themselves down achieving some excellent individual and subject results. I would like to draw your attention to two students in particular whose achievements were outstanding: 500,000 students sat their GCSEs and just 732 achieved 7 or more grade 9s. Katherine Garcia and Amanda Madrigano-Furlani were two of that number! Their achievements set against the national context are absolutely fantastic. Both will be returning to our sixth form, so grateful are they to the talented teachers who helped them achieve the almost impossible.

Against such good news, I was saddened to read that 9 out of 10 secondary schools have cut the Arts subjects, with many reducing time spent on Modern Languages and subjects like Technology too. That is not Norwood. We believe in the value of the Arts and in the importance of a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum that provides a proper education. Norwood’s excellent reputation and popularity with parents demonstrate how our ethos, vision and values are very well supported.

Best wishes
Denise Webster
Head Teacher
As a celebration of two years hard work, Yr 11 Visual Artists exhibited their work in the foyer in June.

The variety of styles, techniques and processes was inspirational, with complimentary comments from staff and visiting parents, we are all very proud of the beautiful work they all produced, and are looking forward to welcoming many of the students back into the Sixth Form to undertake A Levels in Art, Graphics, Textiles or Photography.
Sixth Form Progression
Good Bye and Good Luck!

Congratulations to our Sixth Form who worked so hard and have done so well! What an exciting variety of options our students have decided to embark upon. We wish everyone who has now left us to move onto work, an apprenticeship or university our very best wishes – keep in touch and let us know how you get on!

A Level Headline Figures
100% Pass rate!
A-B 42%
A-C 77%

BTEC Vocational Level 3
100% Pass rate!
46% D*D*/DiDi
72% D*D*/MM

Rosie Curran Crawley (A*AA)
I have got a gap year planned and will be travelling to South East Asia and Africa, then when I come back next year I will be starting my degree in Biochemistry at Bristol University.

Olivia Connolly (BBB)
I will be starting my Degree in Psychology at Loughborough.

Omar Hussein (BCC)
I am delighted that I am on my way to Brunel to study Engineering.

Phoebe Warren (D*A B)
I will be going to York University to take a Degree in Nursing (Mental Health). I am really looking forward to the challenges ahead.

Georgina Barker Woodward (BBC)
I can’t wait to start my degree in Biomedical Science at Portsmouth.

Keran Asubonyeng Amoako (AABC)
I am so pleased that my all hard work paid off and I am off to my first choice - Birmingham University - to study an Engineering Degree.

Diana Quatorze (BBB)
I am delighted I am on my way to Southampton University to study Medicine.

Morgan Hailston DD DM M
I will be combining a Degree in Japanese Studies and Business Management.

Jimmy Ijie
I have confirmed my place to study Law at Greenwich University.

Renelle
I’m starting an Electrical Installation Apprenticeship.

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Prom Celebrations
A night of celebrations!

There were numerous young people whose success is equally worth celebrating and we are so pleased that everyone had such a fantastic time at the end of Year 11 prom celebration on the Thames in July.

Year 11 Success

We have been delighted by how many students received Grade 9, the equivalent to an A**, and Distinction *s as well as 8s and 7s in a range of subjects.

Despite the increased challenge of many of the courses, we have seen many subjects continue to make significant improvements.

Drama had 13 Distinction *s

Katherine Garcia
6 Grade 9s, 2 D*s, 1 Grade 8 and 1 Grade 5

Amanda Madrigano
7 Grade 9s, 2 D*s, 1 Grade 8 and 1 Grade 7

Thea Morales
6 Grade 8s and 2 Grade 7s

Diogo Quatorze
4 Grade 6s 4 Grade 7s 1 Grade 6 and a Grade B

Preet Mhatre
3 Grade 9s 1 D* 2 Grade 8s 2 Grade 7s 1 Grade 6 and 1 Grade B

Oscar Lamptey
1 Grade 8 1 D* 5 Grade 7s 2 Grade 6s

Alice Haddock
achieved 6 good GCSE’s

Kirsty Hards
achieved an 8 in Photography, 2 Grade 7s, 4 Grade 6s and a distinction in Sport.

Shaira Mirembe
achieved 3 Grade 8s, 3 Grade 7s, 2 Grade 6s and a Merit.
Repowering London
Solar Energy Project for West Norwood

Momentum is growing for our community energy project. Zaira Rasool, the Youth & Community Officer, explained where we are in terms of the initiative: ‘Last term saw a graduation event for the youth training programme, which included six Norwood Year 12 pupils. Four of the six are also in the new student leadership team, including the Head Girl! They were all so excited to hear that their school had said ‘yes’ to the solar project, and have all expressed a strong interest in supporting the project to make it happen. This is wonderful, and I will be working closely with the pupils to roll out the community engagement and installation. This is their opportunity to put their training in to practice, I think it will be a great story to show the first pupil-led school solar project in the borough and possibly London!’

Lila Thompson - our Chair of Governors said, ‘We are delighted to be the first school to be invited to participate in this project and look forward to hearing from Lambeth Council on the next steps.’

Zaira, the students from the Youth Training Programme and staff welcomed members of the local area to our first Community Engagement Meeting in July and will be looking to generate further interest over the next few months – why not come along to our Open Evening Thursday 20th September to learn more about this interesting new initiative?

You can bring solar power to Norwood

The project will:
- Create a fund to benefit the Norwood area
- Provide work experience for youth and local tradespeople
- Offer 3-4% return on your investment

Repowering has already installed 234 kW of solar panels and raised £230,000 of investment to bring solar to communities in Brixton, Herne Hill and Vauxhall.

Battle of the Bands
Winners enjoy their experience of a professional recording studio in Brixton.

A big thank you to Mr Townsend and Mr Wolstenholme and all our amazing ‘peri’ music teachers who made the recent Battle of the Bands such a phenomenal success. As a permanent fixture now on the Performing Arts Calendar, this year’s event showcased the enormous amount of talent we are lucky to have here at Norwood. It was charming to see how confident and enthusiastic the younger pupil’s efforts were but also inspiring to see how the older pupils have grown in stature, giving truly professional performances.

The winners – ‘pH9’, featuring Francesca, Chloe, Kaedi, Lola, Geovanna and Kane were treated to a proper recording session at School Ground Sounds, Brixton.

‘It was a real treat to have access to industry standard studios, technicians and equipment’, said Kane. ‘Getting real studio experience is really helping us develop as musicians’, said Lola.

Take a look at the School Ground Sounds website on www.schoolgroundsounds.org to find out more about the charity and see the band in action during their session. As ever, thank you to all the supportive parents, staff and carers who helped make the evening so memorable.

Investors in Careers
Stage 3 Awarded to the Norwood School

Joanne Smith, from CSW commented – ‘You have clearly achieved so much recently and, not only is it a pleasure to see your efforts rewarded with successful completion of Stage 3, but also to know that external assessors leave with such a positive impression of the school in its entirety.’

Tina Beard from Investors in Careers was so impressed by everyone she met, staff, parents, governors and especially pupils, when she spent the day with us in July – assessing our Careers Provision.

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded Level 3 Accreditation. She said, ‘I admire how much you and the entire team do and manage to squeeze into each and every week! I was very impressed by all I saw and heard at The Norwood School.’

The report which can be seen in its entirety on the school website, highlighted our areas of strength and expertise and included:

The Norwood School delivers a broad ranging, timely and effective CEGAG programme across the whole school. Industry and employer links and career enhancing opportunities for students are constantly being sought by TNS, its staff and partners. The number and range of delivered provisions enable meaningful opportunities and an individualised, child-centred approach.

Communication throughout the school is a significant strength – the newsletters, posters, wall displays, notices, bulletin, information leaflets and internal communications amongst staff all contribute to an ethos of well-informed, collaborative co-operation.

The commitment, provision and evolution of a broad ranging CEGAG programme that embraces all learners (both students and staff) is abundantly apparent and encouraging to see. Through rigorous self-assessment the school has already instituted changes and improvements and are continuously identifying areas and measures for improvement.

The assessor heard positive feedback from students about the school provision and help they were receiving. The range of input and opportunities to encourage and stimulate personal research and future career planning was evident. Examples included students speaking enthusiastically about the Oracy Programme, Debate Mate, visiting speakers, assemblies, links with Dulwich College, University trips, Performing and Visual Arts opportunities, Arts Week, Work Experience, Employability Skills workshops and Introduction to UCAS.

Well Done Everyone!
MFL Residential: Opal Coast (France)

This year’s MFL residential took a wonderful collection of Year 7s, 8s, 9s & 10s to Boulogne Sur Mer, on the aptly-named Opal Coast.

Day One took us on a coastal drive, where we indulged in some well-earned sea padding, before checking into the hostel, dinner and evening activities.

Day Two was spent on the white-knuckle rides of the Bagatelle theme park, before dinner back at the hostel and an evening trip to watch the sunset on the beach.

Day Three was the busiest day by far, involving a trip to the local sweet factory (where we learnt how traditional sweets are made and got to sample a fair few!), a guided visit of a bakery (where we made our own croissants and sampled the goods) and a trip to the local centre sportif! Alongside the whole of Boulogne Sur Mer, we got the chance to watch France brush Belgium aside to reach the World Cup Final: allez les bleus! After a well-earned rest, our final day took us to an authentic French market in the town, as well as a visit to the old castle ramparts of Boulogne Sur Mer, where we learnt why Napoleon’s statue shows its back to the English, and had one last chance to pick up some souvenirs for our friends and families. After a long (and only slightly delayed…) crossing back to Angletterre, we arrived safe and sound in Norwood early evening, just in time for the England-Croatia match (ah non!).

A big thank you to Ms Johnson, Ms Wilmot and Mr Clements for their tireless work co-running the trip, and to Ms Patel for organising the trip. Most of all, thank you to the lovely students who made this residential so memorable.

Mr O’Sullivan

The weather was so lovely that we could see the white cliffs of Dover from the sandy beaches we visited!

The PAPA Awards
Red Carpet Glamour and Excitement!

The efforts students and parents went to to celebrate another wonderful year of Performing Arts events and shows did not disappoint! The much sought after snow globes and certificates were clutched tightly by the winners on their way out of the theatre. Congratulations to everyone who has taken part in any of the numerous productions this year but a huge well done has to go to some of the most talented winners we have ever had!

Here are just a few:

Production of the Year
Norwood Factor

Best Comedy Performance
Jesse Amoah

One to Watch Drama Year 8
Rosalea Draper

Male Actor in a Supporting Role
Shaquan Nila-McLean

Female Actor in a Leading Role
Zoe Cameron

Ignite Speech of the Year
Lara Cetin

Most Promising Newcomer: Music
Alexandra Dumitrache
Sports Day

Norwood School
Sports Day 2018

We were blessed with glorious summer sunshine at Tooting Bec this year for our annual celebration of Sporting Talent.

With everyone there to cheer on their team mates – the atmosphere was electric.

A huge thank you to the PE Department for all their organisation and hard work, but to especially to everyone who participated, summed up the energy to hop, skip or jump in the heat or ran, leapt or threw a personal best!

Some notable results included:

Best overall male performer
Amarri Charles 9PRI
Gold – 100m, 300m, relay, shot put, javelin and long jump

Best overall female performer
Rasheeda McDonald 8KGA
Gold – 100m, 200m, high jump & long jump

Fun run record
Sammy Morgan 8RUO
(9 min, 2 secs) Gold - 1500m & 800m

Individual Star Awards
Year 10 Danny Evans
Gold - shot put, Silver - 800m & javelin, Bronze - 1500m & high jump, 4th in fun run

Year 9 Maya Walks
9DWO Gold – 1500m & fun run

Year 8 Ruben Semedo
8WMA Gold – long jump & relay, Silver – 100m, 200m & 800m

Year 7 Keeley Clark 7NE
Gold – 800m, Silver - relay & fun run, Bronze – 200m

The English Department have been instrumental in enriching our extra-curricular program this year, here is just a snapshot of some of the many fascinating visitors that they have invited into school over the last couple of months.

Playwright, poet, short-story and children’s writer John Agard joined Year 10 for an afternoon of poetry in June.

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**Identity: Arts Week 2018**

We all want to be ‘liked’ and ‘followed’, but what effect does performing for the camera have on our lives? We hosted film installations from The Vincent Dance Theatre throughout the week and challenged student perceptions and misconceptions of identity, gender and sexuality.

Year Groups were divided into single sex groups and worked with tutors and visiting London based rapper, community organiser and spoken word artist – Potent Whisper and Vincent Dance Theatre’s Sian Williams. The project culminated in yoga, mindfulness and reflection sessions with Felix Price.

The first piece was called ‘Shut Down’ and was played across six screens in the gym. The work investigates the pressures, contradictions and confusions of being a man.

The second installation – Charlotte Vincent’s ‘Virgin Territory’ – took a bold and uncompromising look at our hyper-sexualised culture and the impact it is having on girls and young women growing up today. Students were genuinely moved by the work and responded to the themes by developing incredibly sensitive, thoughtful, emotional written responses that we have already decided we would like to develop with a second residency planned for the Autumn term.
Junior Maths UKMT Challenge

Ethan Bryan’s achievement in particular stood out. Pupils at Norwood School achieved 1 gold, 4 silver and 15 bronze certificates in this year’s UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

Over 260,000 pupils from across the UK sat the Junior Maths challenge, with roughly the top 6% receiving a gold certificate, the next 13% silver and the next 21% bronze.

Ethan Bryan scored best in Year 8 and best in the school gaining a gold certificate.

Emmi Leppanen and George Bendel scored joint best in Year 7 and gained silver certificates. Ethan Bryan scored in the top 3% of UKMT entrants and was entered for the UKMT Kangaroo Challenge, which he sat in the hall alongside Y11 GCSE students. He gained a merit certificate for the Kangaroo Challenge which meant that he scored in the top 1% of all entrants.

Classical Civilisation GCSE

We have partnered up with Steatham and Clapham High School. I am offering an additional GCSE in Classical Civilisation to our most able Yr 10’s.

Students took part in a taster session here at Norwood delivered by Specialist staff from S and C High School and have signed up for the course that will start in September – with sessions running weekly on a Thursday throughout Year 10 and into 11, when successful candidates will then take their exam.

Food Glorious Food!

What an excellent effort the students made to complete their practical exam earlier this year. Miss Acham was right to be proud of their hard work and excellent presentation skills.

Alexandre Morais I was praised for making a special effort with my tableware. I presented my dish on a wooden board, thought carefully about the colour scheme and used Japanese bowls.

Tyrese Hussain I told Miss Acham that I loved the course so much I was even thinking about changing my options for college – to change from Mechanical Engineering to a catering course.

Hannah Lainty Nishiyama I think my pickled ginger and chicken katsu sauce was delicious! Everyone else loved it too and I know that I will be making it at home for my family.

Speakers for Schools

We were delighted to welcome Sir Ian Cheshire, Chairman of Barclays UK and of Debenhams PLC into school this summer, one of the many high profile, inspirational visitors that we have as part of the Speakers for School Programme.

Students learnt about his accomplished career; working with government departments across Whitehall in his role as Government Lead Non-Executive, 7 years as Group Chief Executive of B&Q, his role as trustee of Business in the Community, Chair of the British Retailing Consortium, and as Chair of the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership Advisory Board. Sir Ian currently sits on the World Wildlife Fund’s Council of Ambassadors and is a trustee of the Prince of Wales’s Charitable Foundation.

Sir Ian discussed the changing world of careers and emphasised the importance of work experience and the Arts within various industries. Sir Ian emphasised the need for passion in the student’s future career choices and highlighted the importance of team work and social skills.

Papys Nsingi Sir Ian was very helpful and friendly and discussed the possibility of me gaining work experience with him which would be a great opportunity.

Emma Hasakova Because we are thinking about work experience in September, Sir Ian’s visit was very helpful; you don’t have to know what your future career is now and that’s okay.

Sir Ian was incredibly impressed with the students he met, their mature questions, genuine interest and ambition. As a result of the visit, Barclays kindly agreed to take Bartosz and Papys for work experience this September at their Canary Wharf offices.