



MESSAGE FROM THE **HEADTEACHER**

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to welcome our students back to school with a renewed energy and readiness to embrace the new term. We've enjoyed seeing their happy faces and listening to their stories from the holidays.

Despite students only being back a couple of weeks the Junior and Senior schools have been hives of activity, with off-site trips, music recitals, sports matches and exciting learning taking place.

I am pleased to share some exciting news about NLGS recognition in a recent article from **The Telegraph**. This feature highlights the value and impact of our school community, and I encourage you to take a moment to read the article and see how NLGS continues to stand out.

Looking at the term ahead, I look forward to seeing families at the 'Coffee Morning with SLT' on Wednesday, 29th January and other events we've arranged in the coming months.

*Mr. Fatih Adak* Headteacher

## The Telegraph

### North London Grammar School recognised as one of UK's "best value-for-money private schools."

At a time when affordability in private education is on everyone's minds, **The Telegraph** article underscores how NLGS shines as one of the **UK's "best value-for-money private schools."** The Telegraph's analysis evaluated numerous independent schools, considering factors such as; fee increases projected for 2025, average fee changes since 2022, and 2023 GCSE performance. In 2023 NLGS students achieved 46.6% of GCSE grades at 7-9. This achievement further improved in 2024, with 54% of GCSE grades awarded at 7-9, placing NLGS in the **top 1% of schools nationwide for GCSE performance.**

The article highlights NLGS's **'Very Good' ranking along with the lowest in fees** compared to other local schools. This recognition reflects our commitment to delivering exceptional education that balances excellence and affordability. We deeply appreciate your trust and ongoing support, which enable us to maintain the thriving, diverse, and exceptional community we cherish.

Year group (must select one)	School type			
Year 13 <input type="radio"/> Year 11 <input checked="" type="radio"/> Year 8 <input type="radio"/> Year 6 <input type="radio"/> Year 2 <input type="radio"/>	Boys <input type="radio"/> Girls <input type="radio"/> Mixed <input type="radio"/>			
School name	2025 Fees	2024 Fees	Change	Value for money
North London Grammar School (<1mi.)	£5,490	£4,575	20%	Very good
North London Collegiate School (3mi.)	£10,217	£8,514	20%	Very good
Mill Hill School Foundation (3mi.)	£10,150	£9,025	12.5%	Fair
The King Alfred School (3mi.)	£9,249	£8,043	15%	Below avg
Harrow School (3mi.)	£20,528	£17,850	15%	Fair
St Margaret's School (4mi.)	£7,499	£6,817	10%	Very good
The John Lyon School (4mi.)	£8,818	£8,090	9%	Good
University College School (4mi.)	£10,457	£8,937	17%	Very good
North Bridge House Senior School (4mi.)	£9,861	£8,315	18.6%	Below avg
Bales College (4mi.)	£6,840	£5,700	20%	Poor

A hyphen '-' denotes that a school has not yet publicly announced its 2025 fees, so our value for money verdict and other analysis can't be completed

Source: **The Telegraph** article 'Labour VAT Raid: Does Your Private School Still Offer Value for Money?'



## IMPORTANT DATES

24th Jan	Year 9 Film Night
27th Jan	Chinese Lunar New Year Celebrations
29th Jan	Coffee Morning with SLT
31st Jan	Year 9 - Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio & Meningitis ACWY
	Children's Mental Health Week
3rd - 9th Feb	Scholastic Book Fair
12th Feb	Year 3 & 4 Trip to the British Museum
17th - 21st Feb	Half Term Break (No school)

## Welcome our new Art Teacher



**Ms De Vito**  
Art Teacher

My name is **Sophie de Vito** and I am going to be teaching Art at North London Grammar. I have previously taught in Bahrain, Dubai and Bangkok as well as Kent and Surrey in the UK. I am half British and half Australian. A fun fact about me is that I have three dogs. I am most looking forward going on a trip to the Henry Moore Foundation with Year 8 in the Spring Term at NLGS.

## Join Us for

## Coffee Morning with the Senior Leadership Team



**Mr F. Adak**  
Headteacher



**Mrs G. Erdil**  
Senior Deputy Head



**Mrs L. Drona**  
Deputy Head

**Date:** Wednesday, 29th January 2025

**Time:** 8:30 - 10:00 am

**Location:** Dining Hall

**Parking available at pick up/drop off area**

A wonderful opportunity to meet our Senior Leadership Team and connect with fellow parents. Share your thoughts, build friendships, and have discussions about our school community.



**Register Here**

## Top Tips - Hear From Our Staff Experts

**This time of year, with the colder temperatures the spread of colds, flu and other seasonal illnesses can be particularly challenging. Here are some tips from Mrs Statovci to help your family remain in good health.**

**Tip 1 - A healthy diet is key to a strong immune system.** Encourage children to eat a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. Foods high in vitamin C (like oranges, strawberries, and broccoli) and zinc (like nuts, berries and seeds) are excellent choices and can strengthen the immune system.

**Tip 2 - Good hygiene habits can significantly reduce the spread of germs.** Reinforce the importance of regular handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing, sneezing, or touching surfaces in public areas. Provide tissues and remind them to cover their mouths and nose when coughing or sneezing.

**Tip 3 - Rest is crucial for your child's health and well-being.** Ensure children get enough sleep each night, (recommended 9-11 hours) as proper rest is essential for a strong immune system. Encourage moderate daily physical activity to keep their bodies active and healthy.



**Mrs Statovci**  
Receptionist,  
Administrator,  
Assistant to SLT &  
Headteacher.

# OPEN MORNING



We're excited to announce our upcoming Open Day at NLGS. If you know any family or friends who would be interested, or for Year 5/6 parents to come and visit our Senior School please register on our website.

**12 MARCH 2025**  
**9am - 11am**



**SIGN UP HERE**

## Value Of The Month



### Generosity

#### The Gift of Giving

A tiny spark, a simple start,  
A generous act can warm the heart.  
A hand extended, a smile to share,  
A moment to show someone you care.  
The more we give, the more we grow,  
A truth that every heart will know.  
For kindness blooms, and love expands,  
When giving flows from open hands.

### NLGS Sponsors:

## New Years Goods Fair

We were delighted to be the main sponsor and host a stall at the New Year Goods Fair 2025 on 4th January. The event, organised by UKHker CIC and UK Hker Neighbourhood CIC, provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with our local community and celebrate the New Year in style.

A heartfelt thanks to our parents, students, alumni, and special guests: **Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Tony Vourou, Councillor Nagus Narenthira, and Councillor Humayune Khalick** for visiting our stall and showing their support. The day was a joyful celebration of collaboration and community, showcasing the inclusive and diverse spirit that makes NLGS truly special.



# Maxwell Prize

## FOR YEAR SIX PUPILS

Celebrating the achievements of Year 6 pupils at ISA Members' schools. The prize is non-academic and rewards commitment to school and community life.

To find out more and nominate an excellent student, visit the ISA website

[www.isaschools.org.uk](http://www.isaschools.org.uk)

**Deadline:**  
**Friday 23 May**



# Junior School Visit Parliament

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the Junior Team for organising such a fun & insightful trip.



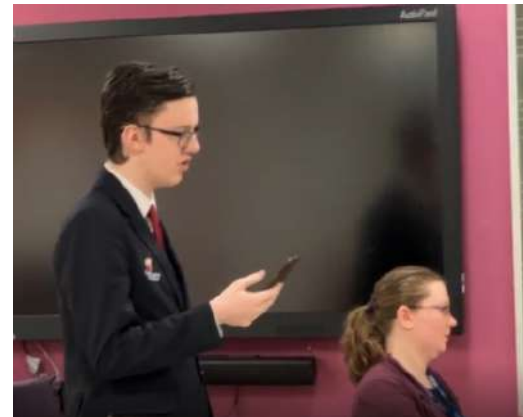
We travelled to the Houses of Parliament on Friday, 17th January using the London Underground, a journey that encompassed sixteen stops on the Northern and District lines. Fortunately, we had an entire carriage to ourselves, and several of the children took the initiative to read during the trip to pass the time.

Upon arriving at the Houses of Parliament Education Centre, we embarked on a guided tour of the House of Commons. During the visit, we had the opportunity to sit in the gallery and observe a debate on the 'New Homes (Solar Generation) Bill,' which proved to be highly engaging. Following the tour, the children participated in a workshop where they gained a deeper understanding of Parliament and the principles of democracy.



## Year 11 GCSE Music Recital

On Friday, 17th January, our Year 11 students presented a music recital for family, friends, and staff in the music room. Each student showcased one of their GCSE performance pieces, featuring performances on piano, guitar, and saxophone. The afternoon offered a glimpse into their hard work ahead of their final recordings. Thank you to everyone who attended in support our student musicians!

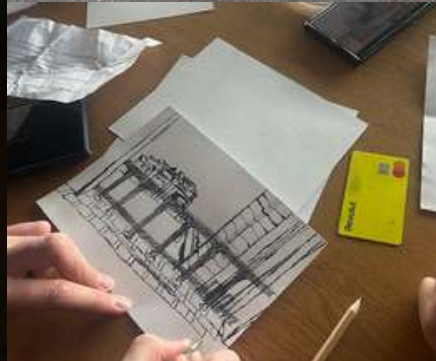
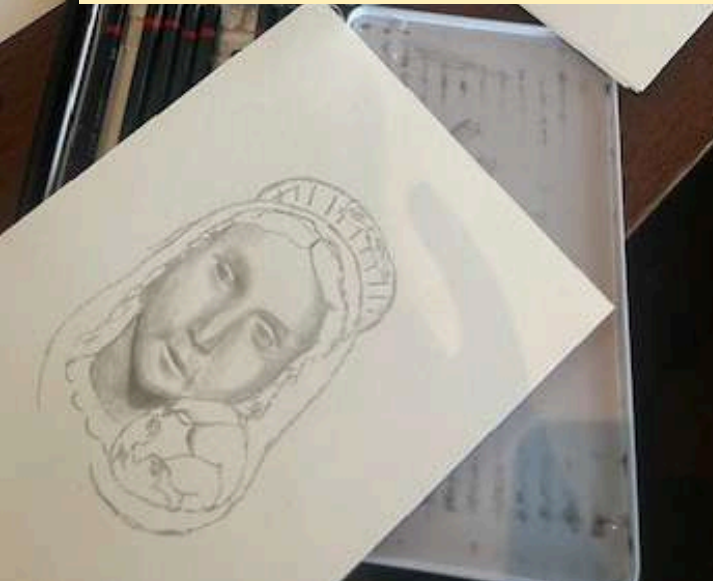


# Trip to Tate Modern

## Year 11 Trip: The Sky is the limit

On a sunny but cold January morning in first week of term, we set off with Year 11 Art and UFP students to the Tate Modern to kick start our GCSE exam paper. We explored the galleries for inspiration, taking lots of photos, and ended the day sketching the surrounding skyline on the 10th floor looking out to Saint Paul's Cathedral. Mr Gokcel gave us a guided tour back over the millennium bridge and the river Thames to Bank tube, going past St Paul's, we learnt more about the Blitz and how incredible it is St Paul's was never hit by a bomb during that time.

Keep working hard Year 11, we are nearly there!



# Careers Talk: Climate Change Committee

At last week's assembly, we welcomed **Ms. Hannah Williams, Senior Analyst at the Climate Change Committee.**

She shared her expertise, explaining the Committee's vital work in climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and produce statutory reports to Government and Parliament. She highlighted her key responsibilities include advising on carbon budgets, assessing climate risks, and monitoring progress toward emissions targets and adapting and preparing for climate change



Visit: [www.igolondon.co.uk](http://www.igolondon.co.uk)

22nd - 28th June 2025

## WHO ARE WE

The International Greenwich Olympiad is a project-based competition where students showcase their talents across Science, Technology, Engineering, and Art.

AGES 10-18



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO REGISTER

## Year 9 - 11 Assembly Careers Talk: Solicitor



We were delighted to welcome **Mr Naim Hasani - Solicitor** to share an insightful assembly on the

pathway to becoming a solicitor. Mr Hasani shared his personal journey, explained why he values his profession, and discussed the rewards of his career. The session concluded with an engaging and informative Q&A, which sparked great interest among students.

Many thanks to Mr Hasani for his valuable career insights!



Scholastic Book Fair 10th-14th Feb



# The 2025 Reading Challenge

Read a book or three books each month which fulfil the themes. You can read fiction or non-fiction books, magazines, articles, graphic novels, manga, poetry or blog posts. As long as it fits the theme, you can read it. One book per theme!

## January

- A book set in winter.
- A book based around mythology that is not Greek or Roman myths.
- A book which is popular on BookTok (TikTok) or Bookstagram (Instagram).



## February

- A love story.
- A book set in China or written by a Chinese author.
- A book with a dragon in it.

The challenge is open to students and staff to take part

## March

- A book set in Ireland or written by an Irish author.
- A book which takes place in a natural location (forest, ocean etc.).
- A book about books.

Complete a review of what you have read and hand it in to Miss Whitaker to earn extra points

## April

- A book where the main character has autism or is written by an autistic author.
- A book set in space.
- A book which has been translated into English from another language.

## May

- A book about family.
- A book with a bee on the cover or in the title.
- A book set in a country you would like to visit.

## June

- A book that has LGBTQIA+ representation.
- A book about friendship.
- A book set at sea.

There will be merits and prizes awarded!

Sign up with Miss Whitaker!

Each thing read earns you a point

## Paired Reading - Building Confidence and Literacy Together

Paired reading has now commenced during Friday form time in the library. The program pairs Year 10 students with Year 7 or 8 pupils, with the goal of supporting the younger students in enhancing their reading skills. During the sessions, the Year 7 and 8 students select a book, which they then read aloud to their Year 10 partner, who listens and offers help when needed. This collaborative approach not only builds the younger students' confidence but also improves their reading and literacy skills over time.

# Congratulations

to Ms Tosun and Mr Singh on achieving your Masters.



**Ms Tosun**  
STUDENT MENTOR

I completed my **Master's in Affective Disorders at King's College London**. I had the opportunity to learn about the treatment, causes, and different presentations of various mental health disorders, such as anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, schizoaffective disorder, and many more. One of the highlights of my course was the work experience I completed at the Maudsley Hospital, where I had the chance to learn about ketamine therapy for severely depressed and bipolar patients. It was invaluable to spend time with patients from different walks of life and to get to know their stories, rather than just focusing on their symptoms. I also had the chance to complete a systematic review on an area I was truly passionate about: the effect of early life stress on the functioning of the HPA axis in people with eating disorders. In conclusion, this experience truly deepened my passion for psychology and mental health.



**Mr Singh**  
MARKETING EXECUTIVE

I am thrilled to share that I graduated on 18 December 2024 from **Brunel University London with an Master's in Digital Design (3D Animation)**. During my time at Brunel, I had the opportunity to work on several exciting projects under the guidance of my supervisor, exploring areas such as film making, virtual reality, and artificial intelligence.

Additionally, I collaborated with my classmates, offering support and exchanging ideas, which enriched my learning experience. Working closely with my teachers and peers allowed me to deepen my understanding of digital design and expand my creative skills.

This journey has been both challenging and rewarding, and I am excited to continue applying what I have learned in the professional world.

## Workshops to Enhance Student Skills

On Tuesday, 14th January, students participated in Elevate seminars designed to enhance essential academic skills, with Year 9 focusing on memory mnemonics and Year 10 exploring time management.

Year 9 students learned practical strategies such as visualisation and association to improve recall, while Year 10 students gained insights into prioritisation and scheduling to better manage their time.

The sessions, delivered by Elevate Education, were highly engaging and practical, with 96% of students recommending the programme. Follow-up activities will take place during form time to reinforce the lessons learned.

Additionally, Elevate offers free parent webinars for participating schools, held fortnightly on Wednesday evenings. We highly recommend that you register for these webinars at <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukparentwebinar>.





# SPORTS FIXTURES

# SPORTS

## FOOTBALL FIXTURES

NLGS U12	Vs	Wetherby
20th January		
NLGS U16	Vs	King Alfred
21st January		
NLGS U15	Vs	Mount House
22nd January		
NLGS U12	Vs	King Alfred
29th January		
NLGS U14	Vs	Wetherby
4th February		
NLGS U14	Vs	King Alfred
13th February		

## NETBALL FIXTURES

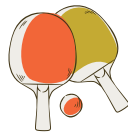
NLGS U15	Vs	Mount House
23rd January		
NLGS U13	Vs	John Lyons
27th January		
NLGS Year 9	Vs	King Alfred
30th January		
NLGS U15	Vs	Mount House
5th February		
NLGS U15	Vs	John Lyons
6th February		

## ISA North London Table Tennis Tournament.



Our U16 Year 10 and 11 girls competed at The King's School in Harpenden in the **ISA North London Table Tennis Tournament**. After a strong performance in the group stages, with all four players winning games, the competition moved into the Cup and Plate rounds. Zynah achieved 4th place in the Plate, Malaika finished 6th in the Cup, Cevdet reached the round of 16 in the Plate, and Taha put in a solid effort but was eliminated in the first round of the Plate. Congratulations to the team for their fantastic effort!





# ISA NORTH LONDON TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2023

Our Year 7 and 8 boys and girls had a great time competing at The King's School in Harpenden for the **ISA North London Table Tennis Tournament!** After a strong performance in the group stages, with all four players securing wins, the competition moved into the Cup and Plate rounds. Leen put in a great effort but was knocked out in the first round of the plate. Siham made it to the quarter-finals of the Cup, Marti fought hard and reached the quarter-finals of the Plate, and Ethan showed fantastic determination. Still, he was unfortunately eliminated in the first round of the Plate. Huge congratulations to the team for their amazing efforts and sportsmanship!

Our Year 5 and 6 boys and girls also had an exciting and memorable experience at the table tennis tournament. After performing strongly in the group stages, with all players picking up wins, they advanced to the Cup and Plate rounds.

Charlotte fought valiantly but was eliminated in the first round of the Plate, while Selman made it to the quarter-finals of the Plate. Sultan displayed great perseverance but was also knocked out in the first round. Lina's performance was nothing short of remarkable! She battled to the semi-finals of the Cup, where she lost to the tournament winner. But that didn't stop her; she claimed an impressive 3rd place after a thrilling playoff, earning a well-deserved bronze medal out of 16 competitors!

What a fantastic effort from all the players! Well done, all competitors!



# Rachel Joyce: A Triumph of Ambition, Resilience, and Elite Athleticism

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**Pictured - Rachel Joyce**

Rachel Joyce is a super-elite British triathlete who represents a lot in the sports field. Despite her quiet rise to top-class competition, she has earned the respect of many fellow athletes. Rightly so, considering her success in the triathlon - considering her numerous setbacks. Countless impressive records have gone down in history in her name: to name a few, winning first place in the 2011 ITU Long Distance Triathlon World Championships, second place at the 2013 and 2015 Iron World Championships, the Ironman Mont Tremblant in 2017 and Challenge Roth in 2012. It is an exciting prospect to think that she has done all this, and more, in the forty-six years behind her. To name some, her ambitiousness and resilience as some key aspects of her character which has built her up to success as well as made her my favourite athlete.

Ambitiousness is an irreplaceable quality of Joyce, who came to become a professional athlete the long way round. In fact, she had studied law in university and become a successful construction solicitor, before her deliberate resignation to make way for triathlon. Deciding that her hobby could go much further than what it was, she purchased a racing bike and raced the London Marathon as well as continuing to train in the Masters swimming club, going on to compete as an amateur before finally turning pro. Aiming and striving higher is a difficult feat when already in a respectable position; most people would settle as a lawyer and enjoy sports as a hobby instead of taking the risk and using the energy for something higher.

Being ambitious is the first step to success – Joyce’s background proves this beautifully. Resilience is displayed throughout Joyce’s career, and makes a core part of who she is. This trait is a crucial aspect in endurance sports, which require solid work to see progress – triathlons not excluded. Joyce turned out to possess this quality in the months just after she decided to turn to pro in triathlon. Tragedy struck in 2008, when she herniated a disc in her back, starting a long chain of injuries that had a severe impact on her first professional race. Lower leg injuries, shingles, tonsil infection - according to interviews of herself, her coaches and friends, there were sessions where she couldn’t even push the pedals of her bike because of her unfortunate conditions. She even considered abandoning her hopes of becoming a professional. However, despite the odds against her, Joyce tackled rehabilitation with enthusiasm and managed 5th place in the Kona Ironman World Championship, displaying her incredible willpower and resilience.

In conclusion, Rachel Joyce has proved to the world over and over that she has what it takes to become a top-class athlete, what it means to be strong both physically and mentally. Her story is one which inspires the younger generation to put hard work into ambitions, and to continue to strive forward past what was thought the limit. I look forward to seeing Rachel Joyce commit to life in the future - the athlete who represents not only what has been achieved but the potential to achieve even higher.

Sep-25						
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Oct-25						
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Nov-25						
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Dec-25						
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Jan-26						
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Mar-26						
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Apr-26						
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May-26						
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Jun-26						
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Jul-26						
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Aug-26						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

 Bank Holiday

 Professional Development Day (No School for Students)

 Half Day

 School Closed / Holiday



## ARE YOU WORRIED?

All adults at North London Grammar care deeply about your health, safety, and well-being. We appreciate all children at our school, and we want to keep you safe and help protect your rights.

All adults at school are trustworthy individuals with whom you can speak at any time; the staff listed have been carefully trained to assist you and your family.



**Ms Dhrona**  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mr Adak**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mr Karatas**  
Boarding  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Ms Erdil**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead

