



"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Building on last week's assembly on super-curricular opportunities, challenge yourself to go beyond your A-Level studies. If a club you want doesn't exist, set up a new student-led society, or simply join an unfamiliar one to build vital independence. Also remember that the ultimate Sixth Form skill is **balance**. Choose enrichments that genuinely excite you, whilst protecting your study time and well-being.

Monday 21st	Notices
Tuesday 22nd	Assembly Year 13 only – Mr A McCall (Guest Speaker) in James Hall Year 12 – Complete Brainwaves questionnaire during extended Tutor Time
Wednesday 23rd	Super-curricular Year 13 PIP in James Hall, 5-6pm
Thursday 24th	Personal Development
Friday 25th	Quiz/news/debate/led by committee Lunch time: football from 12:20

Priority updates

Year 13 PIP: A reminder about the Parent Information Meeting on **Wednesday 30 September, 5-6pm**. The session will focus on the support provided for you throughout this important year, advice about UCAS and next steps, and a talk from Scott Douglas (Newcastle University). A reminder that two surveys have been shared: one for parents and another for Year 13 students, please complete them.

PHE lessons for Y13 students – this week will be Week Z.

UCAS early applicants – continue to monitor Teams messages. Your referee may contact you regarding the progress of your application.

Languages outreach opportunity – message from Miss Embleton.

There is an opportunity for any students who study French, German or Spanish to support in local primary schools by helping to deliver language sessions.

This would involve assisting with an after-school languages club at either St Margaret's Primary School or Bearpark Primary School.

Any students who are interested should let their Languages teacher know, so the departments can liaise with the primary schools and make the necessary arrangements.

An important message from Miss Davies regarding access arrangements:

This applies to all students, including those who attended Durham Johnston in Years 7 to 11 and those who have recently joined the school.

If you received exam access arrangements for your GCSE examinations and would like to be considered for similar arrangements at A Level, please see Mrs Hill in Lydia before the October half-term break.

Please be aware that access arrangements awarded at GCSE do not automatically carry forward to A Level. All schools are required to follow the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations and complete the necessary assessment and evidence-gathering process. If you do not request support before October half term, any later request may be declined in line with JCQ regulations

Careers and opportunities

Mini Medical School 2026

Bookings for Newcastle University's **Mini Medical School 2026** are now open.

Open to anyone aged 15+, this free online lecture series offers a unique opportunity to hear directly from Newcastle University experts about the latest advances in health and medicine. Please let any of your students interested in Medical Science know that they can book a place [here](#).

Please see below for details on all dates and the speakers and topics that we have lined up:

Date	Speaker	Title
Thursday 5th November 2026	Pratheeba Kumaravel	Paediatric Research at Newcastle
Thursday 12th November 2026	Ned Tilling	Bugs and the Bowel: Gastroenterology
Thursday 19th November 2026	Raj Maan	Research in Surgery
Thursday 26th November 2026	Laura Jardin	The Case of the Pregnant Patient with Leukaemia: How Doctors Approach Impossible Decisions
Thursday 3rd December 2026	Lizeth Slood	Human Movement Science: Measuring Balance to Prevent Falls
Thursday 10th December 2026	Mini Medical School Team	Applying to Medicine

All sessions are 5-6pm. Zoom links and details on how to join a session will be sent out in the week prior to each session.

Lectures will be uploaded to our YouTube channel as soon as possible after each lecture. You can [subscribe here](#). Please note that the lecture from week 4 will not be shared on YouTube.

University of Edinburgh Biomedical Sciences Online seminar, Wednesday 23 September:

https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/94ebc714-8284-4fa8-814c-85a8d067ba4e@2e9f06b0-1669-4589-8789-10a06934dc61/registration?utm_campaign=3541389_University%20of%20Edinburgh%20newsletter%20-

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The poster features several images: students in hard hats, students in lab coats, students in business attire, and a group of students posing together. It also includes logos for BT, HSBC, and the UK Government.

Career Days <https://www.careerdays.co.uk/apply-now>

Full day online work experience in the following areas. However, they do cost (£79).

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- Performing arts
- Psychology
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Law
- Business

Free virtual work experience can be found on Springpod <https://www.springpod.com/>

Inside Mishcon de Reya — a free law insight evening

Tuesday 29 September · Virtual.

Free insight evening with Mishcon de Reya for students in Years 12 and 13 who are considering a career in law. Click here to find out more: **[view and share this email here](#)**.

Many thanks for sharing,

Dan / Young Professionals