



CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE

A Multi Academy Company



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St John Fisher Catholic College

Newsletter: Issue 34

Easter 2016

Welcome back to the third term of the academic year. This term is always busy with a wide range of events and activities including the annual Awards Evening on 27th April. The main focus for Y11, Y12 and Y13 will be the GCSE and A level examinations. Do check on the arrangements for many extra revision and support sessions provided by departments before and after school and at lunchtime. Revision and examination preparation are skills that can be learned and improved, so please do make use of the opportunities available.

Ms F Hegarty

Y11 MOCK RESULTS EVENT 2016

We held our Y11 Mock Results event on 9th February. Y11 students were invited to the Library, in small groups, where they collected a results slip which contained details of their current progress, mock exam results/grades and in some cases actual GCSE examination grades in Science.



Students were asked to complete an exercise whereby they compared the requirements of their chosen course or apprenticeship with their predicted, mock or actual grades to establish if they were on course to achieve their expected grades. Advice and guidance was available from representatives of the Trinity Sixth Form, Newcastle-under-Lyme College and Stoke-on-Trent College.

Entrust Careers and Participation Service were also on hand to support students and facilitate applications for post 16 options.

The event was intended to provide students with the opportunity to reflect on their performance and likely achievements this summer, giving them the opportunity to carefully consider their options and inspire them to achieve their potential.



Y11 MOCK RESULTS EVENT 2016

“I found the mock results day really useful. We hadn’t experienced anything like it before so it prepared us for the reality of the consequences of our exam results in the summer. I was surprised in a good way by the results I got and it made me more aware of the subjects I need to work on for the summer” **Caitlin Murton** 11O

‘I found GCSE mock day to be informative, it has given me specific areas to concentrate on and I feel more focused as a result of it. I liked the fact that the colleges and careers advisors were available to speak to as well.’ **Joe Daniels** 11H

“I found the mock results day to be useful as it made me aware of the subjects which need the extra work. Also, I think it has prepared me for the real results day in the summer, and have time to make sure I do even better for the real one.” **Anna O’Leary** 11H

French Department news

Seven of our adventurous Y10 French students jet off to Limoges in France on Saturday 2nd April for ten days, on the first leg of the French exchange trip. They have been busy making contact with their exchange partners as well as English students from other local Staffordshire schools who will be based at the same French school. Their French families will meet them at the airport and they will spend the weekend getting to know one another and experiencing typical French family life. On Monday they will be given tour of their schools before joining lessons, with lunch in the canteen. Our students will spend three more mornings in school followed by planned afternoon activities. These include a visit to a famous glove factory which supplies fashion brand Hermès, a French bread-making workshop, local treasure hunts and a picnic in Limoges' famous gardens. There will be visits to various museums to find out about local resistance campaigns during WWII, when Limoges was occupied by the Germans, and to view fine arts such as Renoir paintings and the porcelain/enamels for which the town is renowned. Bon voyage!



Are you in Y8 planning on taking French? Or a Y9 French student? Next year's French Exchange 2017 could be just the experience that you are looking for to perfect your language skills. Watch this space for updates!

Here's a link:

<http://www.staffordshire-limousin-experience.org.uk>

LOST PROPERTY

If a child returns home with a piece of uniform/PE kit that is not theirs, we ask that parents continue to return it to the main office. Please make sure you child's name / initials are on all items of school uniform / PE kit.

We have a large amount of lost property in school. Pupils are free to enquire about items they have lost at break or lunch times.

CHANGE OF PARENTAL DETAILS

If there are any changes of address, phone numbers or emails, please let the office know as soon as possible. We **MUST** have up-to-date contact details for all pupils.

Maths News - Intermediate maths challenge results

Gold and best in school and qualifies for next round **Eddi Macleod**

Silver and qualify for next round **Seth Kemball** and **Carina Lucas**

Silver certificates

Anna O'Leary, Ewan Hayes, Juwairiya Ahmed, Joseph Parry, Kieran Jones, Eunice Leong, Katharine Fairweather, Samuel Brookes, Peter Hall, Leo Plummer, Elizabeth Bridgewater

Bronze certificates

Joseph Daniels, Megan Bayley, Emily Johnston, Valentine Uche, Jacob Plummer, Rosanna Hughes, Matthew Box, Rosie Teague, Wilf Morris, Kim Murray, Karyn Chung, Skye Wiggins, Ruby Harvey, Alex Chmielecka, Sky Rollings, James Tomkinson, Cara Shipman, Daisy Stace, Adam Lamb, Thomas Hurst, Melwin Baby

Changes to GCSE and KS3 curriculum

The present Y11 will take a terminal GCSE examination and still be awarded A*-G grades.

The present Y9 and Y10 will be on the new number system from 1 to 9 with 9 being the top and 4 being a C equivalent. The government have just announced that a grade 5 will be considered as the "good pass " grade.

Y7 and 8 are now following the new national curriculum that can be found on government websites.

Primary school gifted and talented

Pupils from our partner primaries have been coming in to work on the harder elements of the curriculum over this last term and have been working very hard.

Help and Support

Remember that www.mymaths.co.uk can be used at home to help and support in lots of ways and it's not just for homework tasks. We also use the schools VLE moodle for some homework tasks where you will find PDF files of books. The BBC website www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize also has many things to help for all ages.

Mr D Bailey



Yr7 girls Netball Team are Newcastle schools tournament netball champions. The girls will now represent Newcastle at the summer school games. (pictured)

The U16 girls Netball Team have won the Newcastle schools and league netball tournaments.

The Y7 boys Football Team who became Newcastle League Champions this week.

This follows on from their success at the Newcastle/County Futsal Tournaments – an undefeated season – well done to all!



Olivia Chorlton 8H is a member of the Porthill Cricket Club and has enjoyed success with both bat and ball. She has been recently selected for the Staffordshire Girls U13 Cricket Squad for the forthcoming season 2016. We wish her continued success!

Attendance Updates

Home visits will continue for first day absentees (our Education Welfare Officers, **Lesley Hogg, Karen Wood, Louise Evans and Jeanette Carter**, will be responsible for these and will be able to provide you with appropriate identification as a representative of our school as they will have an ID badge with them when they visit you) and pupils will be interviewed by these representatives (with Ms Megyesi or another member of SJF staff also present) about any issues around poor attendance or punctuality. We may invite you into school - if you cannot attend for any reason, please contact us and we will be happy to rearrange the meeting.

Could all parents please be aware that from September 2015, a persistent absentee is classed as a pupil whose attendance percentage stands at 90% or less, for whatever reason. This is a change from last year when it used to be 85% or less. The Government have increased the expectation. This means that it takes far fewer days of absence to become a persistent absentee and we as a school are expected to take action with all pupils whose attendance falls below 90%.

We are here to support you in your role as a parent, however, and if you have any concerns or worries about this, please contact us on 615636 and ask for Ms Parsons or Ms Megyesi. We also have a designated Education Welfare Officer (Lesley Hogg) whose contact details are available from us, if you prefer to discuss any issues with her directly.

Please remember that all leaves of absence must be formally requested using our proforma (available from the Attendance Office) and that all these requests are considered by our Headteacher. The expectation nationally is that leaves of absence, except in exceptional circumstances, will not be approved and will therefore be unauthorised. Any pupils whose attendance is below 95% at the time of the request will automatically be refused.

Leaves of absence (both extended and repeated) and persistent absence can both result in a request for the issuing of a penalty notice by the Local Authority. Penalty Notices are issued to all individuals who have Parental Responsibility for the pupil in question.

Thank you for your continued support in attendance and punctuality matters,
Miss Parsons and Ms Megyesi

Attendance Updates and Reminders

We have started to display the best Form each week for both Punctuality and Attendance in each Key Stage (3 and 4). These are displayed on the large screen outside the hall for pupils to see. This is designed to encourage pupils to improve their attendance and punctuality.

Could all parents/carers please be reminded that they are to contact us each day their child is absent from school, not only on the first day of the child's absence. An Education Welfare Officer is asked to visit as standard for all pupils on their first day of absence.

Active Kids : ANNOUNCEMENT



St John Fisher Catholic College is taking part in Sainsbury's Active Kids 2016. We are looking to massively increase our intake of vouchers this year because we are looking to start to kit out a **mini gym** for use by students in and out of PE lessons. This is a big project that we are undertaking and only can be realised with the support of students and their families. We know that the impact of having a mini gym in school will be fantastic on our students' health and wellbeing.

We are asking if you know anyone who shops at Sainsburys to pass on their vouchers to our school, no matter how few vouchers they have. Every little helps! (wrong supermarket!). Nick Hughes from Sainsburys

Newcastle under Lyme will also be coming into school to promote this and speak about what we can achieve through Active Kids scheme. We are working closely with Sainsburys and look forward to a fruitful relationship with our school community.

Active Kids runs from 27 January until 3 May. You can collect vouchers at Sainsbury's and donate them to us by 8 July. Every time you shop in a Sainsbury's Supermarket, you'll get one voucher for every £10 you spend but what's new this year is you'll receive them all on one piece of paper. In Sainsbury's Locals you will get one individual voucher every time you spend £5 (the same as last year). Please drop off any vouchers you have in the collection boxes in the main office and in the library. Last year, we collected 6,000 while other schools nearly collected 5 times this amount! We know that we can collect a lot more vouchers than last year, so our aim is that by the end of the Spring term, we will already have exceeded last year's number. Thank you for your support in advance!

If any parent (or family member!) or the company they work for, are able to support us in our project with sponsorship of the mini gym, or even 1 piece of equipment, please drop an email to our bursar Mrs Bowers bursar@sifcc.net to discuss involvement. Again thank you for your support.

U6 English Literature Trip: Love Through the Ages

On the 10th March students had the pleasure of visiting Birmingham for a series of lectures on Love Through the Ages to supplement their A-Level studies and further prepare them for their unseen examination in the summer. Students experienced a taste of university life as they listened to a range of lecturers discuss the presentation of love in Literature ranging from early Chaucer in the 13th Century to the current Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy. Furthermore, Jon Rich, a senior AQA examiner, imparted his 'Top Tips' for exam success which proved to be memorable and informative. Overall, it was a very productive day and the students gained a lot from this in terms of knowledge, skills and confidence.

Mrs L Farrington

School Terms and Holiday Dates 2015 / 2016

Spring Term 2016:

Staff: Monday 22 February - Thursday 24 March
Pupils: Tuesday 23 February - Thursday 24 March
Holiday: Friday 25 March - Friday 8 April
Easter Sunday: Sunday 27 March

Summer Term 2016:

Staff & Pupils: Monday 11 April - Friday 27 May
May Day: Monday 2 May
Holiday: Monday 30 May - Friday 3 June
Staff & Pupils: Monday 6 June - Friday 22 July
Holiday: Monday 25 July - Friday 2 September

School Terms and Holiday Dates 2016/2017

Autumn Term 2016:

Staff: Monday 5 September - Friday 21 October
Pupils: Wednesday 7 September - Friday 21 October
Holiday: Monday 24 October - Friday 28 October
Staff & Pupils: Monday 31 October - Friday 16 December
Holiday: Monday 19 December - Monday 2 January

Spring Term 2017:

Staff & Pupils: Tuesday 3 January - Friday 17 February
Holiday: Monday 20 February - Friday 24 February
Staff & Pupils: Monday 27 February - Friday 7 April
Holiday: Monday 10 April - Friday 21 April
Easter Sunday: Sunday 16 April

Summer Term 2017:

Staff & Pupils: Monday 24 April - Friday 26 May
May Day: Monday 1 May
Holiday: Monday 29 May - Friday 2 June
Staff & Pupils: Monday 5 June - Friday 21 July
Holiday: Monday 23 July - Friday 1 September

Pupil absence line

If your child is ill please ring the school pupil absence line 01782 346333 - which is available 24 hours a day. Don't forget to send a note in when your child returns after an absence.

RULES FOR USERS OF AFTER SCHOOL LIBRARY FACILITIES

Students are able to read and do their homework in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere in the after school club.

Students who use the after school club need to comply with the following rules:

- Students **MUST** sign in and out of the library in order to comply with health and safety requirements.
- Students need to work quietly and respect the needs of other library users.
- Mobile phones are not to be used in the library. (except to receive / make a text / phone call to say whoever is collecting is outside for example)
- No food or drink (except water) allowed in the library.

If students choose to disregard our code of conduct then future library access will be restricted.

Ms Hanrahan - Deputy Headteacher

Ms Lambe and Miss Mountford - Librarians

Editor:
Ms Hanrahan

Articles contributed by staff and students
Compiled by Ms Lambe

The newsletter is available in full colour on the school website. If you would like the newsletter in a printed format, please let the office know.

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