

A Specialist Humanities College

# NEWSLETTER

No. 74

SEPTEMBER 2010



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## WELCOME

I would like to start by welcoming all new students to the school. As well as Year 7, we have new students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 12. I hope that they thoroughly enjoy their time at John Colet.

At this time of year, we also welcome new staff to the school:-

Miss Aldred, Learning Support Assistant

Mrs Bull, part-time English

Miss Cundiff, Learning Support Assistant

Miss Harling, Science teacher

Mrs Jenkins, Matron

Mr Khan, ICT teacher

Mrs Leather, Head of Maths

Mrs Price, Cover Supervisor

Miss Robinson, Cleaner

Mr Scarth, Cover Supervisor

Miss Shillitoe, Science teacher

Mrs Wells, part-time Science teacher

Mr Wilson, Business Studies teacher

We also have some internal staff changes from September.

Mrs Simpson is Head of MFL

Mr Davies is Head of Year 10

Mrs Walker and Mr Myatt are joint Acting Heads of Science for the year

Mrs Readhead has stood down as Acting Head of Maths

Mr Downes will be doing 1-1 teaching in Maths

## Farewell

During the holidays, Mrs Collings resigned as Cover Supervisor. She had worked in this capacity at John Colet since 2005. As well as covering lessons, Mrs Collings helped out on a lot of school trips and in Reprographics. We wish her well for the future.

## External Exam Results

Over the summer, a lot of our students received external exam results.

### A Level

**Special Congratulations must go to Jonathan Page who with A\* in Maths and Biology and As in Chemistry, Geography and Further Maths is going to read Natural Sciences at Cambridge.**

The pass rate was 99% with nearly 40% of the grades at A\*-B. Despite what you will have read in the national press about university places, almost all students got into the university of their choice.

Other top results were Georgie Crook who achieved A\* in Psychology and As in Sociology and Sport. Beth Halls achieved 2As in Art and English and a C in ICT, Jamie Parsonage achieved 2As in Business and Sport and a B in Sociology.

Special congratulations to those who achieved 100% in some of their modules: Lana Innes (Product Design) who was commended by the exam board in their feedback for the extremely high quality of her coursework; Winson Lau (Product Design and Art), Jenny Oliver (Art) and Aggie Dunlop (PE)

In Year 12, Stuart Creed achieved 3As in Product Design, Film and Maths and 2Bs in Physics and Further Maths. Cont'd....



## SCIENCE TEXTBOOKS

If you have any Science textbooks, could you please return them to the Science Department as they are needed. Please return them via the school office or the Science prep. room as soon as possible.

Thank you.

**Mrs M Mooney**  
**Senior Science Technician**



## GCSE

Year 11 did really well this year. We achieved our externally set target of 60% of students attaining five or more GCSEs at C or above including English and Maths. 66% of students achieved five or more GCSEs at grade C or above. These results will put us in the top three of the highest performing Upper Schools in Buckinghamshire.

You read in the press of so many students leaving school with no GCSEs at all. At John Colet, 99% of students attained five or more GCSEs at grade G or above including English and Maths.

Special congratulations must go to:

Jordan Ellis with 9 A/A\*, 2 B

Lauren Hall with 8A/A\*, 3B

Laura Goodall with 8A/A\*, 2B

Ronan Coffey with 8A/A\*, 2B, 1C

Ela Aksoy with 8A/A\*, 1B, 1C

Three students sat GCSE Spanish, which they studied for in their own time with the support of Mrs Simpson: Amanda Sanchez (Year 10) grade A\*, Jacob Hodges (Year 8) grade A\* and Fern Spurdun (Year 11) grade B.

Also, a special mention goes to the following students who achieved 100% in a paper: Amanda Sanchez (Spanish), Fern Spurdun (Spanish), Ela Aksoy (German), Jordan Ellis (Art), Beth Cox (Physics), Robert Emmerson (Chemistry), Lauren Hall (Chemistry and Humanities), Alex Monit (Chemistry), Jack Pettiford (Business Studies), Laura Goodall (Business Studies) and David Cooper (Humanities).

## **School Strategy**

Whilst we are achieving very good exam results, we are still focusing on the achievement levels of students this year as there is always room for improvement. In addition, we are expanding our work in the local, national and international community this year. More about this will be in future newsletters.

We rewrote our School Improvement Plan last year. This looks at the strategy which the school is going to follow over the next three years. A copy of the Plan is on our website and I would encourage parents and students to read it. It was developed by a group of staff, students, parents and Governors.

**Mrs C McLintock**

## Personal, Health and Social Education

Once again this year, PHSE will be taught in the fortnightly tutorial lessons. Below is a brief outline showing the topics that will be covered. Year 7 will follow their programme all year while Years 8-10 will have six sessions of PHSE and Year 11 four sessions.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Settling in at school linked into SEAL	Personal safety and keeping safe	Self esteem and personal qualities	Self esteem and personal qualities	Drug awareness
Friendships and bullying issues	Love and relationships	Teenage pregnancy	Drugs/Alcohol education including talks	Sexual health
Healthy eating	Smoking issues	Safety in the home	Sex and relationships	Alcohol awareness with input from AA
Drug education with input from Years 12 and 13	Alcohol awareness	Personal safety and making the right choices	Safety issues	
The dangers of smoking		Drugs/Alcohol education including talks		
Keeping safe				

PHSE at John Colet is supported by the Drugs Prevention, Education and Awareness Project, Alcoholics Anonymous, Thames Valley Police and the Bucks Schools' Health Service.

If you would like any further information about the programme please contact me at school.

**Mrs McGinnity**  
Assistant Headteacher

## Friends of Colet

Over the past year Friends of Colet have been raising funds for a Sublimation Printer for the Technology Department. We have not yet set our target for fundraising for this year. With the new building under construction on the site, it is likely that our funds will be needed more than ever for those all important extras that enrich the experience of the students at John Colet.

The first event on the Friends of Colet calendar for this year is the Year 7/8 Disco on Friday 15 October. This is a fun event always enjoyed by the students of the lower school. Please look out for our yellow flyer in the school bag later this month.

The Christmas Fayre is on Thursday 25 November. This will include fun stalls for the students as well as stalls selling gifts to help you with your Christmas shopping. This event is always a great success for us and enjoyed by everyone, so we hope to see you there.

At present we are a small committee, so have had to plan the number of events accordingly. If you would like to join us, or perhaps run your own event for Friends of Colet please contact us at [office@johncolet.co.uk](mailto:office@johncolet.co.uk). We need your help!

We are holding our AGM on Tuesday 2 November at 7.30pm in EN1 and would welcome any parent/carer who would like to come along to hear about our plans for the year ahead, or indeed join us as committee members or occasional helpers.

With your support we look forward to a successful year.

**Isobel Harrison**  
Chair - Friends of Colet

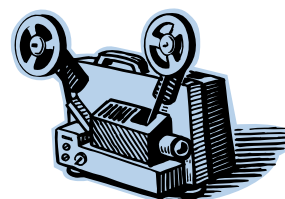
## Primary Liaison

This term begins with the setting up of a new Sixth Form Working Party and so far there are seven new volunteers and five members of last year's working party who want to stay on. It would not have been possible to have run the activities and projects so well last year without the help of this working party and I am looking forward to another successful year. The details of the new working party will be published in next month's newsletter.

There are lots of exciting projects lined up for this academic year and the first one is a **Making Movies Club** for Year 5 students from local primary schools. This will take place after school and I am really looking forward to working with the Year 5s and the John Colet students and staff who have volunteered to help run the course.

John Colet students who helped in literacy lessons at Halton School were so successful last year that there has already been a request for more regular help and the assemblies given by our students were so popular that they too will be repeated. I will be asking for volunteers over the next few weeks.

Thanks to everyone in anticipation of a busy and successful year.  
**Julie Caplan**



## Site Development - September 2010



There has been a tremendous amount of work on the school site during the Summer holidays to improve the school environment, which in turn will contribute to the student's learning.

The new building is now well underway and we hope to move in towards the end of this term if all goes well. The building will house a Sixth Form Common Room, Sixth Form Computer Study Room, Drama Studio, Sixth Form Seminar Room and five English classrooms.

One of the English huts was demolished during the summer to make way for new car parking and access to the new building. Once the new building is completed the other three huts will also be demolished. Because of this, the old Music 2 classroom has been completely refurbished and is already in use as the Inclusion Unit. The old Drama room has been refurbished and is now being used mainly as a second Music room. The main Music room has been re-carpeted and the Music Practice rooms have been completely refurbished. Many of the main corridors and some of the classrooms were redecorated.

We have continued with the upgrading of the computer systems and have added to our provision of laptops.

Bucks County Council organised the replacement of some of the windows in the English block, the large windows in the main hall and the window above the main door into the school. They are also installing a lift next to the main Reception building to enable access to areas of the first floor including Science laboratories, Administrative Offices and ICT classrooms. The lift should be completed in November.

I would like to thank all of the Site, Cleaning and ICT Teams for their hard work during the Summer, which has enabled the above improvements to the School.  
**Janet Campbell, Business Manager**

## MESSAGE FROM MATRON

I am Mrs Jenkins and the new Matron at John Colet School. My main role is to deal with medical issues and injuries incurred during school time, together with monitoring attendance. To enable me to be efficient in my role I would like to request the following:-

- Please can I remind parents to complete the appropriate medicine administration form annually and supply the appropriate medicines if these are likely to be needed. (Any questions / queries please feel free to email or discuss with me).
- Also, to remember to ring or email on the first morning of a student's absence with appropriate details. We need the pupil's name, form, and the specific reason for absence. This is to ensure we only chase pupils who are absent without reason. This should also be followed by a letter of explanation with details of NAME and FORM upon their return to be given to the Form Tutor.

Thank you to the parents of Year 8 girls who have returned the HPV consent forms so promptly and can I encourage everyone to return the form as soon as possible.

Should you have any medical concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via the School Office.

**Mrs M Jenkins - Matron**

## CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION EVENING

**FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2010**

**7pm - 8pm**



*In the past students certificates have been lost due to problems with the postal service. To try and overcome this we are now going to arrange a Presentation Evening.*

*Details regarding this presentation evening were enclosed with your results in August together with a reply slip, it is **important to complete this and return it to school by the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2010.***

*Hopefully all students receiving certificates will look forward to the opportunity of catching up with teachers and fellow students during an enjoyable evening.*

## Charity Cycle Ride

Mr Date has completed a charity cycle ride across France and Belgium. It started on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July in Le Touquet and finished on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July in Ypres. The total distance being covered by the cycle group was about 200 miles. He was taking part in an attempt to raise money for the 'Mines Advisory Group'. This group helps clear up what is left over from wars including land mines, cluster bombs and other weapons. They do this because every half hour someone dies from treading on a mine or an explosive.

Mr Date travelled with a group of about 50 people including a bike mechanic and a medical team.

They travelled 80 miles the first day which took 6 hours, 60 miles on the second day taking 5 hours and another 60 miles on the third day which also took 5 hours. Mr Date spent a lot of months in the gym getting fit and building up stamina; he had been doing this since October.

All the riders raised money for the same charity and they raised a total of £70,000. This is enough money for MAG to clear an area of about 50 square miles of mines. The weather was mostly good but it rained once for about 20 minutes. For the rest of the time it was hot and very windy. Mr Date said that he found it really hard when he had to cycle directly into the wind.

Mr Date himself raised £2000 for the MAG Charity. This was how much he was hoping to raise when he started the cycle ride. Mr Date found the bike ride tiring and strenuous, but he was alright and not too tired when he arrived back at school the next day.

The reason why Mr Date entered the cycle ride was because he liked the idea of a challenge and changing people's lives for the better.

**By Alicia Fewster, Kerri Barber and Samuel Bailey - Yr. 9**



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - AUTUMN 2010

	LUNCHTIME – 1.10 – 1.50 pm	AFTER SCHOOL
<b>MON</b>	<p><b>DODGEBALL</b> – Yr 7 &amp; 8 – Gym</p> <p><b>CHESS CLUB</b> – Library</p> <p><b>TECHNOLOGY SESSIONS</b> – All year groups taking Technology – TE2 &amp; TE6</p> <p><b>BADMINTON</b> – All – Sports Hall</p> <p><b>SWIMMING CLUB</b> – All years and abilities. Max 20</p>	<p><b>NETBALL</b>- Year 7 – MUGA 3-4.15 pm</p> <p><b>X-COUNTRY</b> – All years, 3-3.30 - Field</p> <p><b>HOMEWORK CLUB</b> – All – Library until 4pm</p> <p><b>STAFF BADMINTON</b> - Initially from 4.00 pm</p> <p><b>IL HOMEWORK CLUB</b> - IL</p>
<b>TUES</b>	<p><b>CHESS CLUB</b> – Library</p> <p><b>JUNIOR CHOIR</b> – Yr 7 &amp; 8 – MU2</p> <p><b>CHOIR</b> – Yr 9-13</p> <p><b>TECHNOLOGY SESSIONS</b> – All year groups taking Technology – TE2 &amp; TE6</p> <p><b>BASKETBALL</b> – All – Sports Hall</p> <p><b>SWIMMING CLUB - NON-SWIMMERS</b> – <u>Invitation only</u></p>	<p><b>JAZZ BAND</b> – Yr 7,13</p> <p><b>HOMEWORK CLUB</b> – All – Library until 4pm</p> <p><b>NETBALL</b> – Year 8, 9 - MUGA 3-4 pm</p> <p><b>URBAN STRIDES STREET DANCE</b> – GYM - Yr 7,8,9 – 7-8.00 pm – Yr 10+ - 8-9 pm</p> <p><b>IL HOMEWORK CLUB</b> - IL</p>
<b>WED</b>	<p><b>DANCE</b> – Yr 7 &amp; 8 - Gym</p> <p><b>CHESS CLUB</b> – Library</p> <p><b>KEYBOARD CLUB</b> – All – MU2</p> <p><b>TECHNOLOGY SESSIONS</b> – All year groups taking Technology – TE2 &amp; TE6</p> <p><b>HISTORY FILM CLUB</b> – Yr 7 &amp; 8 – HU4</p> <p><b>BASKETBALL</b> – All – Sports Hall</p>	<p><b>SAMBA BAND AND STRING GROUP</b> – Yr 7-13</p> <p><b>HOMEWORK CLUB</b> – All – Library until 4pm</p> <p><b>BADMINTON</b> – Sports Hall – All – 3-4.30 pm</p> <p><b>HARLEQUIN GYMNASTICS</b> - GYM – 4.15-5.45 pm</p> <p><b>IL HOMEWORK CLUB</b> - IL</p>
<b>THURS</b>	<p><b>CHESS CLUB</b> – Library</p> <p><b>WOODWIND ENSEMBLE AND THEORY</b> – All – MU2</p> <p><b>TECHNOLOGY SESSIONS</b> – All year groups taking Technology – TE2 &amp; TE6</p> <p><b>TABLE TENNIS</b> – All – Sports Hall</p> <p><b>TRAMPOLINING</b> – Sports Hall – Yr 8 – 10</p> <p><b>HANDBALL</b> – Gym – Year 9</p>	<p><b>MUSIC GCSE DROP IN</b> – Yr 9 -11 - Mu 1</p> <p><b>HOMEWORK CLUB</b> – All – Library until 4pm</p> <p><b>FOOTBALL</b> – Yr 7,8,9 - Field 3-4.15 pm</p> <p><b>KARATE</b> – Yr 7,8 - 4.30-5.30 pm - Gym</p> <p><b>IL HOMEWORK CLUB</b> - IL</p>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<p><b>ROCKETBALL</b> – Yr 8 – Gym – 15 max</p> <p><b>NETBALL</b> – Yr 10,11 – Sports Hall</p> <p><b>CHESS CLUB</b> – Library</p> <p><b>FRENCH HOMEWORK CLUB</b> – Yr 7 – LA2</p> <p><b>TECHNOLOGY SESSIONS</b> – All year groups taking Technology – TE2 &amp; TE6</p> <p><b>DRAMA CLUB</b> – All – Drama Studio</p>	<p><b>HOMEWORK CLUB</b> – All – Library <u>until 3.30pm</u></p> <p><b>RUGBY</b> – Yr 7, 8 – 3-4.15 pm</p> <p><b>GIRLS BASKETBALL</b> – Yr 9,10,11, Sports Hall, 3 - 4.15 pm</p> <p><b>ULTIMATE FRISBY</b> – GYM – Sports Hall</p>

**This list is still being compiled. Please see our website for additional activities.**

## HOLIDAY DATES

### AUTUMN TERM 2010

**October 1/2 term:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 22 October** and re-opens on morning of **Monday 1 November**.

**Christmas Holiday:** School closes at **12.10 p.m** on **Friday 17 December**.

### SPRING TERM 2011

School re-opens on morning of **Wednesday 5 January 2011**.

**February 1/2 term:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 18 February** and re-opens on morning of **Monday 28 February**

**Easter Holiday:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 8 April**.

### SUMMER TERM 2011

School re-opens on morning of **Wednesday 27 April**.

**May 1/2 term:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 27 May** and re-opens on morning of **Monday 6 June**.

**Summer Holiday:** School closes at **12.10 p.m.** on **Friday 22 July**.

### INSET DAYS: -

Tuesday 4 January 2011  
Tuesday 26 April 2011

Easter 2011: 22-25 April 2011  
Early May Bank Holiday: 2 May 2011  
Spring Bank Holiday: 30 May 2011

### AUTUMN TERM 2011

School re-opens on morning of **Wednesday 7 September**.

**October 1/2 term:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 21 October** and re-opens on morning of **Monday 31 October**.

**Christmas Holiday:** School closes at **12.10 p.m.** on **Friday 16 December**.

### SPRING TERM 2012

School re-opens on morning of **Tuesday 4 January 2012**

**February 1/2 term:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 10 February** and re-opens on morning of **Monday 20 February**.

**Easter Holiday:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 30 March**.

### SUMMER TERM 2012

School re-opens on morning of **Monday 16 April**.

**May 1/2 term:** School closes at end of afternoon on **Friday 1 June** and re-opens on morning of **Monday 11 June**.

**Summer Holiday:** School closes at **12.10 p.m.** on **Friday 20 July**.

**INSET DAYS :** Recommended in-service training days for teachers: Monday 5 September and Tuesday 6 September 2011; Tuesday 3 January 2012; Monday 23 July 2012 (plus one more, still to be decided)

Easter 2012: 06 - 09 April 2012  
Early May Bank Holiday: 7 May 2012  
Spring Bank Holiday: 4 June 2012 + 5 June 2012 (additional bank holiday)

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John Hampden Infant School

Wendover

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Wendover Bowls Club



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[sarahyoga@sky.com](mailto:sarahyoga@sky.com)



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## URGENT NOTICE FROM WENDOVER HEALTH CENTRE

We would like to stress the importance of parents not using the Wendover Health Centre Car Park as a drop off and pick up area because of the inconvenience this causes to others.

The peak times for those travelling to and from school coincide with the Health Centre's busiest time with patients. This means that sick, elderly and patients with mobility problems are not able to access a car parking space close enough to the Health Centre. This can cause patients to be late for their appointment time and sometimes even results in them missing an appointment.

We would appreciate your co-operation in this matter and a more suitable place for dropping off or picking up pupils should be found.

We do appreciate that Wharf Road becomes very congested at peak times but would ask that all parents who drive children to and from school are considerate of other drivers and park safely and considerately.

Thank you.