



"Through hard work, inspiration, mutual respect and enjoyment, we will achieve success together."

FEBRUARY 2017

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Dates for your diary:

Parents evenings.

Y12/13 Thursday 2 March 2017
Y7 Thursday 16 March 2017
Y9 Thursday 20 April 2017
Y10 Thursday 27 April 2017

Easter Holiday

School closes 2:55pm on Friday 31 March 2017
School re-opens 8:30 on the morning of Tuesday 18 April 2017

Lost Property

Matron has an accumulation of unnamed lost property. If your son or daughter has lost anything since Christmas, please ask them to check in Matrons room.

News from the Headteacher

Welcome to Sarah Gottschalk and Rachel Bennett who are joining us in Maths for this half term as part of their training. Mariam Siddiqi is joining Science for this half term. We would also like to welcome John King who has joined us as our new Caretaker. We hope you all enjoy your time at the John Colet.

Model United Nations (MUN) trip

Last half term, 9 Year 9 students went to Amersham for part two of the MUN project.

We started by entering the building which was designed as a modern church and we were delighted to be offered some biscuits and refreshments. We then sat at our countries designated table where we would discuss the homework we had received earlier on. We were tasked to answer 15 questions about our country and its government. We started our tasks with a mock debate to prepare us for the real debate. We had to talk about our countries position on the legal arms trade and our countries view on it, we had to prepare an opening speech and decide whether to politically attack other countries.

After the activity it was break where our form regrouped and discussed what was happening in their groups. After the break we went back to our countries and chose which countries we would like an alliance with to help us in the mock debate. We were given 10 minutes and then it was time to debate, Countries would talk about their opinion on selling arms.

We then had lunch where we could go to the café outside of our room and buy food or just have some more biscuits. The final event was Oxfam talking about the crisis in Yemen and how they supply water and food to the victims of the crisis. We were well educated of the hardship that people in Yemen have to go through, Oxfam, and how Oxfam is helping. As the day ended we were given free t-shirts to support Oxfam and a pen. Elliot 9R

Dear Parent/ Carer

I thought the start of a half term would be a good time to thank you all for your support in ensuring that students arrive at school prepared, with the necessary equipment to learn. If students fail to have the correct equipment in a lesson it can create unnecessary disruption for the whole class, whilst the teacher has to find the basic materials needed to proceed. I know that with the best will in the world sometimes students start the term well equipped and then lose what has been provided. Please can you make sure that everything is named and encourage your child to regularly check they have everything necessary to learn. The list below is a reminder of the equipment every student is expected to bring to school. This is also on p17 of the student planner.

Equipment List:

- 2 x Blue or Black pen
- 1 x Red pen
- Pencil
- Sharpener
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Reading book
- Planner
- A Highlighter

For Maths:

- Protractor
- Calculator
- Pair of Compasses

Extra (useful but not essential):

- Coloured pencils/pens
- Highlighters

Sports success

The U13 girls football team have their semi-final Thursday 23 February away to Cottesloe.

The U13 girls won their Dodgeball tournament and are now through to the School Games.

The U13 girls won their Cricket tournament and are now through to the County Cricket Finals.

Well done to everyone involved.



Sainsbury's Active Kids tokens 2017

The school is collecting 'Active Kids' tokens that are currently being issued from Sainsbury's for Sports Equipment. Please send any donations to the school office. Thank you.



WORLD BOOK DAY

On the 2nd March the world will be celebrating the joy of books as it is World Book Day!

Studies have shown that regular reading habits can slow down or prevent the onset of Alzheimer's and Dementia. Regular reading can dispel personal stress by transporting and distracting us when we get lost in a good story.

There are other benefits, the acquisition of knowledge and vocabulary gained through reading regularly stays with us all our lives

Regular reading improves memory e.g. plots and sub plots, characters and their histories. In the internet crazy world it is easy to develop attention deficient disorder, when you are reading a book all attention is focused on the story, if you can do this every day, when travelling for instance, for just 20 minutes, it's surprising how focused you are when you arrive at your destination. Writing skills improve with the expansion of our vocabulary and often we can feel tranquil and relaxed after reading a good story.

As you can see there are many benefits from being a regular reader.

Here in the Library this year for World Book Day we are running a "Guess the Book" competition which is on display outside the Library, entry forms are available from the desk. There are other events planned and of course, staff will be dressing up as characters from books.

Looking forward to a great World Book Day!

Mrs Clark -Librarian



CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

The 2016 Chess Championship was a great success once again. 12 competitors started, ranging from Year 7 all the way up to our members of staff. The games were of a high quality, with high amounts of concentration. Each competitor put up a good match, showing that no one wanted to be knocked out of the competition. As it went on, the number of competitors shrank, and the competition got tougher. The final match was between Sociology teacher Mrs Abslom and Year 11 George. It was an intense game, with each player knocking the other down before they could get back up. Towards the end, both Mrs Abslom and George were on equal grounds. They were both playing strategically. The game ended with a stalemate, as both players had the same pieces in play. Instead of a rematch, Mrs Abslom forfeited as she was unable to play a rematch naming George as the 2016 Chess Champion!

This is the 15th year of the John Colet Chess Competition played every year in the Library and overseen by Mrs Clark. All games are played with good sportsmanship and humour from both the participants and the adjudicators.

Chess is a game of mental gymnastics enjoyed by many well-known celebrities such as Bono, Madonna, Sting, Will Smith, Sylvester Stallone, Heidi Klum and Lennox Lewis to name but a few.

By Ffion 10G and Alyssa 10J (Organisers and adjudicators)

Revision Tips

1: Create a revision timetable: This helps you to prioritise your tasks, and accomplish one thing at a time. They are simple to make on excel or on the student room website. It will also help to motivate you to revise!

2: Practise as many past exam papers as possible: This helps you to become familiar with, exam format, question style, and time pressure. If you study maths especially, physics and maths tutor.com is really helpful, all past papers can be found on AQA website.

3: Remember to have breaks: Leading up to exams is a stressful time and having regular short breaks during your revision eases the stress. Exercising regularly will also help improve exam performance in the long run.





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Staff Vacancies

Supply Teachers

We are looking for qualified teachers to join our bank of local supply teaching staff.

Would you like to join our team?

You would be engaged on a casual basis covering for absent teachers, delivering pre-set cover work across any subject.

If you are interested in the role please contact Claire Knott cknott@johncolet.co.uk or fill in the Teacher Application Form on the school website.

The John Colet School takes the safeguarding and wellbeing of students seriously and this post is subject to an enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service check and Qualifications check.

Learning Support Assistant Permanent post(s) starting Easter or September 2017 Range1B ISN6 39 weeks a year, 34.5 hours per week

Do you want to work with young people and help them to fulfil their potential?

We are looking for enthusiastic and committed people to join our friendly and supportive Individual Learning Team. The team supports students across the age range (11-18) in the classroom under the guidance of the teacher. Reliability, patience, flexibility and a good general knowledge are essential. Candidates must have a minimum of Mathematics, English and a science GCSE level at grade C or above and be prepared to work across the entire curriculum. Some experience of working with secondary age students is desirable.

If you are interested in the role please fill in the Support staff Application Form on the school website and return it by 9:00am on 7 March 2017

Reprographics Technician

We require a Reprographics Technician to run our reprographics room during term time. An advert will be on our website in the next few days if you are interested.

Interested in becoming a teacher?

The John Colet School works alongside a range of other local schools both primary and secondary to provide a teacher training programme for graduates. Trainees are based in schools with one day a week studying with a Higher Education Provider. There are a variety of salaried and non-salaried training places on offer for 2017-18.

If you, or anyone you know is thinking about teacher training, please attend a *Train to Teach Information* event from 6.00pm – 7.30pm, on **Wednesday 15 March 2017, at Wycombe High School**. You will be able to find out more about what is on offer, eligibility criteria and pick up some top tips for putting together an application. There will also be an opportunity to talk to some of the current trainees.

Anyone is welcome, but please e-mail the School Direct Administrator, Victoria Plunket, at schooldirect@whs.bucks.sch.uk to book a place. It would be helpful if you could indicate which subject you are interested in.

Paul Phillips, Assistant Headteacher

Little Acorns Kindergarten calls out for votes to bag a share of bag charge fund

Little Acorns Kindergarten, Wendover is bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the **Tesco** Bags of Help initiative. Three groups in every **Tesco** region have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and Little Acorns is one of the groups on the shortlist hoping to raise a whole bag of cash to improve their outdoor play area.

Voting is open in stores throughout March and April and Little Acorns would be so grateful to receive your vote. You are able to vote in **both Aylesbury Stores and Jackson Road and Wendover Metro stores**. If you do not use any of these stores or shop online, Little Acorns are able to exchange your till receipts or Delivery Notes for tokens, so please feel free to drop these into them or contact them so they can collect them from you.