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Summer holiday dates

School closes Friday 21 July 2017 at 12:15pm and re-opens on Wednesday 6 September at 08:30am
Sixth form induction days are 4 & 5 Sept

Sad News

Unfortunately we received the worst news about one of our students on Monday 10 July. Keelan MacKnight from Year 10, tragically died while playing football over the weekend. We send our deepest sympathy to Keelan's family at this time and thank everyone who has passed on best wishes to the school, its staff and pupils.

It is with great sadness that I write my final piece for the Colet Chronicle after fourteen years as Headteacher of John Colet School.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved with John Colet in any way over those fourteen years for their support. The staff at John Colet truly go the "extra mile", the students make it an enjoyable place to be, the parents are supportive and the Governors (who are all volunteers) give up so much of their valuable time; without all of this, I would not have been able to lead the school. I can genuinely say that I have thoroughly enjoyed being your Headteacher and wish the school every success in the future under the excellent leadership of Miss Palmer in September and Mr Harty from January.

We are also saying farewell to some other staff as well.

Mrs Shackleton is retiring following twenty six years of teaching PE of which twelve have been at John Colet. Mrs Shackleton has organised many extra-curricular activities and has been a committed Form Tutor which has been commented on to me by former students. We wish her well in her retirement.

Mr Phillips has been Assistant Headteacher for eleven years and has had a number of responsibilities including teaching/ learning, timetable and assessment. Many students have been taught German and/or Maths by Mr Phillips and also worked with him on their GCSE options. We wish him well on his promotion to Deputy Headteacher.

Miss Chris has been teaching Science for three years. Miss Chris has also supported in extra-curricular activities and has been a committed form tutor. We wish her well in her relocation.

Mrs Harrison our Cover Manager left in June for a new life in Malvern after 11 years at John Colet.

Mrs Rippington has been a Student Support Office since Jan 2014 after covering in IL as an LSA for 9 years before that. We wish her well for the future.

Mr Perrill has taught Technology for three years. He has been keen to organise activities outside of lessons to show how Technology is used within the workplace such as in Formula 1. We wish him well in his relocation to the Middle East.

Mrs Ellershaw has been teaching within the English Department for six years. Mrs Ellershaw's specialism has been in the Sixth Form where her results have been outstanding. Mrs Ellershaw has been Head of Year 9 this year and has worked closely with staff, students, parents and external agencies to support teaching and learning.

Mrs Dees has been a Learning Support Assistant for four years working particularly closely with the Humanities areas. Mrs Dees has supported many students in the classroom, in her daily after-school Homework Club and on school trips. We wish her well in her relocation.

Mrs Kambewu has been at John Colet for two years covering Maths, Child Development and Food Technology. We wish her well in her new post.

Mr Hemming has been teaching Maths and PE for the past two years. I know that he is very proud of the Year 8 boys' football team which he coaches being the County Champions this year. We wish him well in his new post.

Mr Kingsley has been teaching Business Studies this year. In addition, he has been a very committed Year 7 Form Tutor. We wish him well for the future.

Mr Palka has been covering temporarily in English during 2017. We wish him well in his new post.

Mr Turner has been covering temporarily in Science during 2017. We wish him well in his new post.

Mrs Pomery has worked in Reception and more recently covered as Matron. She leaves us for a full time Matron post. We wish her every success in her new role.

Mrs Birch has been a cover supervisor and supply teacher for 3 and a half years. We wish her well in her new post.

Christine McLintock

University of Bedfordshire Trip

On Tuesday 23 May, myself and 14 others were selected to visit the University of Bedfordshire and experience a science programme and what university life is like. We departed from school early in the morning and set off to Luton. Upon arrival, we were greeted and introduced to some students who would be giving us a guided tour around the campus and taking us to the science lesson.

When we reached the classroom, we were told what we would be taking part in. We were informed that we would be taking on the roles of forensic scientists. These are investigators who look at and examine crime scenes to retrieve valuable information such as finger prints, objects and any particles which may contain any leads as to who or what was responsible for the crime. For our investigation, we had to investigate the mystery of a stolen bunny who went by the name of 'Flopsy.' To get us started we received a clue which was a note.

We were led to rooms which had evidence of who stole Flopsy. In those rooms, we had to collect pens because later we would examine the ink to see which one matched the ink on the note. However, before we could enter the rooms we had to put on gloves, shoe covers and body suits so that we would not leave any of our marks (such as fingerprints) behind so that we would not be accused of contamination of the crime scene. Later we were back in the lab examining the evidence we retrieved.

Throughout that process we were taught how real forensic scientists examine the information we collected. We used microscopes to look at different hairs and we used magnetic fillings to search for fingerprints. This experience was fascinating and everyone appreciated everything we learnt. Since we worked up an appetite we headed for lunch! And fortunately, Flopsy was not on the menu!

Once we finished we were taken on a tour of the campus led by the students we met earlier and they made it a very pleasurable event. Throughout the tour we learnt some very engaging facts about the university lifestyle. For example, we looked at student's accommodation and how they must organise their day-to-day lives.

Overall the trip to the University of Bedfordshire was very intriguing and provided us with some very amusing facts, such as the famous fictional character Sherlock Holmes used forensic science as one of his methods for investigating crimes. The trip was quite inspirational and took us beyond our capability in the scientific aspect of learning. All the staff and students were very nice and provided us with some memorable information which we will probably consider for our futures.

Julia 7L



Water bottles

Please can you remind all students to bring a refillable water bottle into school every day. This is particularly important during the hot days over the summer, but should be routine.

Thank you



Year 8's Fabulous Forensic scientists

Some of our fabulous year eights went on a day trip to the University of Bedfordshire. They became forensic scientists for the day and had an amazing day altogether.

Their day started at 9am when the minibus left school. By the time they got to the university they were full of energy and enthusiasm (maybe because they had lots of snacks on the bus!).



When they got to the university the first thing they did was enter the science labs and went through some brief papers of what had happened at the crime the university had set up for them.

Once they had got use to the way the university teach and their environment they went and got suited up ready to enter the scene of the crime. They had

to wear white overalls, face masks, hairnets and shoe covers so that their DNA didn't get onto the crime scene.



The university set up the crime scene for them and the year eights were all ready to investigate. So they split up into teams with four people in each room. They looked for strands of hair for DNA and pens for identifying who wrote the note left at the scene.

Once this was done they analysed the handwriting and the hair samples to determine who had committed the crime. They got to use the professional equipment of the university, which was really exciting. They discovered that the criminal was Marsha Withering!!

After their time in the labs, they got to talk to some current University of Bedfordshire students and ask them questions about life at university. They then embarked on a tour of the campus and even got to pet some of the animals they had on campus! The temporary petting zoo had been set up to help relieve students of some of their exam stress!!



Overall, the students had a really enjoyable day and it opened their eyes to the world of forensic science and university life!

By Ellie 8P



School term dates 2017-18

	Open	Close
Autumn Term 2017	Wednesday 6 September	Friday 20 October, 2:55
	Monday 30 October	Tuesday 19 December, 12:15
Spring Term 2018	Thursday 4 January 2018	Friday 9 February 2018, 2:55
	Monday 19 February 2018	Thursday 29 March 2018, 2:55
Summer Term 2018	Monday 16 April 2018	Friday 25 May 2018, 2:55
	Monday 4 June 2018	Tuesday 24 July 2018, 12:15

Heads of Year 2017/18

We are delighted to confirm the Head of Year team from September. Whilst we do look to minimise changes to promote consistency for students we have made some small changes. Mrs Ellershaw current Head of Year 9 is taking up a new role at Tring School and we thank her for all her hard work this year and wish her every success in her new school.

Year 7 - Dr Myatt. Due to the specialist nature of the Year 7 role ensuring the smooth transition of students from local junior school's Dr Myatt will continue in his current role.

Year 8 - Mrs Brown. Having joined the school earlier this year, we are delighted to welcome Mrs Brown onto the KS3 team. Mrs Brown has significant pastoral experience and is familiar with the Head of Year role. Mrs Brown will hit the ground running.

Year 9 - Mr Clarke. Already leading the current Year 8 group since Easter, Mr Clarke has made a great impression on the students and is ideally placed to provide continuity and stability.

Year 10 - Mrs Froggatt. Our most experienced Head of Year Mrs Froggatt is ideally placed to take over the Year Group from Mrs Ellershaw part way through their GCSE's.

Year 11 - Miss Wilkinson Will guide the current Year 10 group through to the end of their GCSE's and onto their Prom in June 2018.

Years 12 & 13. Mrs Remington will continue as Head of Sixth Form from the start of the Autumn Term. Mrs Fanchi will assume acting responsibility as Head of Sixth Form and take the role of Acting Assistant Head Teacher upon the commencement of Mrs Remington's maternity leave scheduled during the first half of the Autumn term.

Should you have any queries regards the Head of Year team for next year please do not hesitate to contact me at probinson@johncolet.co.uk

Mr P Robinson

Food Technology

Despite the heat Year 9 Food Tech students have been working very hard on their Pastry assessments, as you can see the results are fantastic. Well done Becky, Elliot, Hayley and Lily.

Miss Owen



Safeguarding

Snapmaps:

SnapChat, used regularly by many children and young people, have launched a new feature. SnapMaps allows users to see the location of their contacts. This feature allows others to accurately pinpoint where you are. There are three possible privacy settings:

- Ghost mode, where only you can see your position;
- My Friends mode, where any contact can see your location; and
- Select Friends mode, just those who you choose can see you

ChildNet have posted a thorough explanation of SnapMaps and how to ensure users stay safe. Well worth a read to share with anyone you know who uses the app.

Further reading: [Introducing SnapMaps \(ChildNet\)](#)

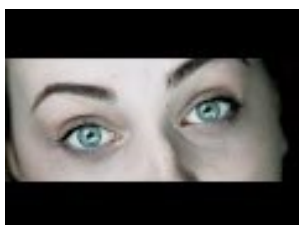
Blue Whale suicide game

This is a challenge that uses social media to encourage young people to take their own lives and has resulted in the deaths of many teenagers. While there have been no deaths in the UK linked to the game, police officers hope to prevent the game from becoming viral and being the cause of any deaths.

Kayleigh's Love Story

This is a chilling 5 minute film to show young people and adults the dangers of grooming and sexual exploitation. It documents the true story of the murder of Kayleigh. Kayleigh, a 15yearold school girl, was groomed online via facebook over a 15 day period before being raped and murdered. The film has been made by Leicestershire Police with the support of Kayleigh's family. If shown in the cinema this film would have a 15 rating.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsbYHI-rZOE>



Under 13 Rounders

The Under 13 Girls won their end of term Rounders tournament. The team were Poppy, Phoebe, Megan, Sophie, Niamh, Tasmin, Lianne, Katie and Emily. Well done to everyone involved.



First World War history trip to the Somme and Verdun

On Saturday morning we arrived John Colet at around 7:00 to begin our journey to France to see the battlefields of the First World War in the Somme and Verdun. The weather was fantastic and we arrived in Albert around lunchtime. Our first stop was the Lochnagar crater; our guide Andy explained that this huge crater was created by a mine that the British exploded under the German front line on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. It was so interesting to see the actual fields where men had fought and died 100 years ago and to get an idea of the scale of this conflict. After this we stopped at a cemetery and heard some of the personal stories behind the men who fought. We saw some graves of some Indian soldiers which made us appreciate that this really was a global war.

We arrived at our hostel in late afternoon and were assigned our rooms, we had a few hours to ourselves to make our beds and chill out- there was a games room which is where my friends and I spent a lot of time in having competitive table-football tournaments. In the evening we walked through the town to a restaurant for dinner and after that we got a little more free time back at the hostel before bed.

On Sunday we were up and out early to learn about the events of the first day of fighting in the Battle of the Somme; 1 July 1916. Our first stop was the Thiepval Memorial, which bears the names of 72,000 men whose bodies were never found after the Battle of the Somme. Andy explained that bodies are still being found today and he showed us some graves of men who had recently been found and buried in their own plot after 100 years. We then walked across what would have been the battlefield and heard lots of stories about the brave men who fought there. In the afternoon we visited Newfoundland Park which is a memorial to the Canadian men who fought on the Somme.

On Monday we visited a memorial to Australian soldiers who fought in World War I and also heard the story of the Great Great Grandfather of a John Colet student in year 9 who won the Victoria Cross for bravery. We then began coach trip to Verdun, it was a really hot day but we made plenty of stops for cold drinks and luckily the coach had air conditioning! Once we got to the hotel, we checked in and had some free time. Then we went out for dinner at a local restaurant which was lovely.

On Tuesday we focused on the Battle of Verdun, which is where the French fought the Germans and was one of the costliest battles of the war. We visited Fort Vaux and had a look inside and then we went to the largest French cemetery at Douaumont with 16,000 graves as well as a mass grave for men whose bodies could not be identified. We climbed the tower but had a shock at the top when the bell struck at midday, it was pretty loud! In the afternoon we had some free time in Verdun town centre and for our last night we all went bowling.

On Wednesday we began our long journey home, we had a quick stop at Cite Europe for last minute gifts before boarding the ferry home. It was a great trip.

By Abigail (10R) and Hannah (10L)





**The
Scholars
Programme**

Year 10 Scholars visit Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford.

We started the day by embarking on a coach journey, lasting around an hour, we arrived in Oxford at around 10 o'clock, where we gathered in the Lady Margaret Hall with other peers attending the scholars programme from different schools, the man leading the programme stepped forward and talked to us about we'd be doing.

Next, we split off into two groups, the first group received a tour around the university, we saw the library which had an array of books, and was really quiet. We also saw the gardens, which were very pretty, and a small meadow, and learnt about how students can spend their leisure time when not studying. We also got to see the church, where we got to meet the college chaplain and talk about our plans for the future, also we asked questions about the university.

The second group embarked on their first tutorial with our PhD tutor, Lucinda Borkett-Jones. The lesson was about the meaning of propaganda and how we classify it. We talked about the differences between propaganda and advertisements. We also compared the uses of propaganda in the First World War and modern times. We looked at a poem by Rudyard Kipling where he used propaganda to persuade people to enlist in World War One. We were set homework to compare the analysis of the poem with another poem.



Overall, Lady Margaret Hall was a very beautiful and impressive college. We really enjoyed our time at Oxford University and would love to consider it as an option in the future!

By Theo and Luke Year 10



The 12 students now embark on their 5 week tutorial programme. They will be submitting their final 2,000 word dissertation during the summer holidays – watch this space for details of their success and graduation event in October.

Applications for pupils in Year 8 will opening in the Autumn term. Current year 7 students are welcome to speak with previous students or Mrs Abslom to find out more details of this highly selective programme.

Lost Property

All un-named lost property that has not been claimed will be on display in the hall over the last couple of days of term. If your child has lost something please ask that they take a look as anything that is unclaimed will be disposed of over the summer.

Thank you

Lockers

Please remind all students to remove all padlocks and contents from lockers as they will be emptied over the Summer and reallocated in September.





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John Colet School PTA

We are delighted to let you know that the PTA is now formed and will be sending out more information via a separate communication. We wish them every success and hope that you will support them when you can.

Thank you.