



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

OCTOBER 2017

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Term Dates Reminder:

Close: Tuesday 19
December
at 12.15 pm
Re-Open : Thursday 4
January 2018

From the Headteacher

I am pleased to say that our new intake of Year 7 students have settled well in their first term and I am encouraged by the Year 7 students who have been enthusiastic and keen to learn, and polite members of our community. John Colet is a very popular school and there has been a significant increase in the number of parents visiting the school on tours. During these tours parents comment on the focused and productive learning in lessons, the level of challenge, and the calm, purposeful environment in the school.

We welcome some new teaching staff to John Colet in October, Miss Monserate (Mathematics), Mrs Cheung (Science), Mrs Busby and Mrs Moogan (English). Mrs Fanchi has joined the Senior Leadership team as Head of Sixth Form in Mrs Remington's absence, Key Stage 3 will be supported by Mr Gilbert, Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Carter has joined our office team and Mrs Moore has joined us as a Cover Supervisor.

We say farewell to Mrs Dann from the school office and hope she enjoys her retirement.

I am delighted that the Parents' Association have a number of events planned for this year and hope that you will support their fund raising, the first being the Quiz night on Friday 10 November.

Uniform

John Colet students are looking very smart in their uniform and are wearing it with pride, however there are a small number who need to be reminded about a couple of aspects namely the amount of Jewellery permitted. They are allowed one pair of small stud earrings and a watch. Acrylic nails and facial piercings are not allowed under any circumstances. As the weather becomes colder, can I remind parents that students are allowed to wear a plain black V neck woollen jumper under their blazer and that they should wear a warm dark coloured coat to school. John Colet is an open site that requires students to move around outside and I am keen to ensure that they are equipped for seasonal weather, this includes suitable footwear. A hoodie, fleece or denim jacket cannot be worn as an alternative to a coat and coats or scarves of a supporter's nature, such as for a football club are best saved for match days.

Dates for your Diary

2 November—Year 7 Parents Information Evening
10 November— PTA Quiz Night
14 November— 'Into the Sixth' Evening , 7 pm—9 pm

Year 11 students, parents and carers are invited to attend our 'Into the Sixth' evening on Tuesday 14 November 7-9pm. Come along to hear from staff and sixth form students and to discover the exciting opportunities and varied courses our vibrant Sixth Form can offer to you.



On the 26 September my peers and I visited Warwick University to take part in the graduation ceremony as the final step of the Scholars Programme. It was an unforgettable experience and it really ended our journey on a positive note. The staff involved clearly spent a lot of time and effort ensuring this day ran smoothly and made each and every one of us feel as though we had made a real achievement.

Before the ceremony we had a chemistry lecture and it was both hilarious and informative and he had the whole audience hooked throughout. Full of fun facts, interesting stories and mind blowing but dangerous looking experiments.

After that we had a tour of the university which had an amazing sense of community and homeliness. With its modern and quirky qualities it tempted a few of us to start sending applications.

Overall, this experience has been an unforgettable opportunity, useful and enjoyable for everyone involved and on behalf of my peers I'd like to thank everyone who made this possible because it has improved many of our skills and inspired us to move on to great things.

Bryony



Day trip to Oxford University

Mrs Norris and 13 students (3 in year 12, 5 year in 11 and 5 in year 10) spent a day experiencing and getting an insight to life at Oxford University.

Firstly, we listened to a presentation about Oxford University as a whole and also aspects of applying to universities such as admissions and choosing from a broad range of subjects.

Secondly, we got a lecture on Egyptian history. As well as providing us with information about Egyptian History, the student presenting the lecture provide us with useful information about the university and the sort of activities that go on outside of the lectures.

After this we went for lunch (which was faultless) and were then taken for a tour around the campus. We all got a feel of the size of the university and got to see where the accommodation was, the various departments and then got a tour into the library.

We then finished our day at Oxford University by visiting the museum nearby as the university itself has close links to this museum. Here we learnt about how to tell an animal from only its bones.

Overall, it was an extremely beneficial day and has improved all of our understandings on life at university and what to expect if we were to come to Oxford University.

Sam

Transition workshops

On Wednesday 27 September around sixty Year 7 students took part in transition workshops run by Fiona Kinsman from 627transfer (<http://www.627transfer.co.uk/>). Our workshop on managing anxiety started with Fiona giving an example of what nerves are and how anxieties come about because we expect the worst. Fiona also explained some different symptoms of being worried including sweaty palms, difficulty sleeping and needing the toilet.

The workshop started with a puzzle piece game to calm our nerves and explain the symptoms in greater detail. After this Fiona moved on to explaining about your comfort zone and your stretch zone. Your comfort zone is a zone where you feel comfortable but your stretch zone is everything you could do outside of this. We compared the two zones and found the stretch zone is a lot bigger. If you go into your stretch zone then remember that you can always come back into your comfort zone. For example, when you catch the train to school or perform on a stage.

Fiona then told a story about a boy and a biscuit. The boy had put the biscuit just out of reach and he stretched for the biscuit and learnt how to crawl. The moral of the story was that if you stretch into your stretch zone you will always find something to take back with you to your comfort zone.

Lastly Fiona told us about strategies to stop you from being anxious. One of these was to think of five people on your fingers and thumb that you can talk to about stress, such as friends, family and teachers. We found the workshop enjoyable and interesting.

Rebecca, Sam and Matilda

Ronald McDonald House Charity, anyone heard of it? Well, The Ronald McDonald House Charity is a trust that raises and uses money to build houses for children that are away from home. If your child is needing close clinical attention, you might end up living in one of their houses. The houses give the children and accompanying family the space and abilities to function as they would at home. A home away from home- cool, right? 9C decided that for our MAD Week, we would like to raise money and awareness for this wonderful charity and do this by going on a sponsored walk. Here's what happened...

Friday the 6th of October, the pupils of 9C, joined by Ms Simpson (their form tutor), Mrs Abslom (Head of the English Department and Assistant Head) and Mrs Slater (Student Support Officer), all met outside the John Colet School office just as 4th period began. During the week, we had been collecting donations from the forms and teachers, and raising awareness by producing assemblies to the Year 9s and below. We also asked for sponsorship money from our families and friends.

Our walk was to Coombe Hill and back for 14:45. We walked through Wendover town, past Costa Coffee and then past the 'Shoulder of Mutton' pub. When we got to the end of the town, we crossed the road and we were officially off. We were in the woods. However, the journey was still ahead of us as we had to reach the top of the hill for lunch.

Eventually, at everyone's own paces, we reached the top, where we roamed around for a breather. The boys had brought up a football but everyone had a good go though. We all enjoyed lunch and when we were feeling refreshed, we were prepared to leave and march back down.

We all made it back down and through the town and back in time for the buses. We were all glad that we made it and glad we had raised money for this wonderful charity.

Amie

On Thursday 19 October, some Year 10 and 11 students went on a trip to Cadbury World and enjoyed a fun (and chocolate) filled day. Students were left full of information about the industrial manufacture of food and the processes taken to develop a new product.

Lawrence and Jack are pictured next to a factory worker filling chocolate moulds for Christmas products!



AUTHOR VISIT FOR Y7

On the 26 of September we had a visit from Marcus Alexander a fantasy writer. He spoke to all Year 7s in the hall.

Marcus's presentation was challenging, exciting and very loud! He spoke of his life and travelling experiences all round the world. The Year 7s were shown all the martial arts that he had learnt from his travels and how he had incorporated them in his main character Charlie Keeper a girl like no other!

Marcus showed them all the different types of food he had eaten on his travels and some looked really disgusting but were the local dish in the countries he visited.

The main message to Year 7s was to be brave and adventurous in your life, go out and find out about different countries, peoples and cultures and then write about it!

He was passionate in encouraging them to read as much as possible, opening the mind as it does to so many different possibilities.

At break time Marcus was mobbed in the Library where he came and signed books, posters and book markers for the students and did loads of selfies! After break he did a workshop for a few selected Year 7s in the Library to help them think about character development in their writing.

Marcus is a young, energetic, inspirational and charismatic speaker and was thoroughly enjoyed by all the Year 7s.

Year 7s Visit From Marcus Alexander

On the 26 September, Year 7 had an exciting visit from an energetic, bubbly author called Marcus Alexander. Marcus Alexander has written the Keeper of Realms Series but not only has he written a book Series, he is also a Parkour Expert. Unfortunately due to a shoulder injury, Marcus couldn't do any tricks for us but he did show us some extraordinary videos of him in action! After the interesting talk in the hall, some of us were lucky enough to have an inspirational workshop with him. During the workshop we all had the chance to turn one of his book characters and change them into anything we liked. The last part of this amazing experience was having Marcus Alexander sign things and take selfies with him. Over all it was a great day from a very inspirational man with a huge imagination.

By Saoirse 7C



Consideration for our Neighbours

Can we please request that you and your son/daughter show consideration and respect for neighbours to the school.

- Please consider where you park and ensure our neighbours can access their property at all times.
- As the clocks change, the reduced visibility of students should be considered and appropriate reflective/protective clothing worn, e.g. cycle helmets.
- Students are ambassadors of our school and their behaviour in public should reflect the pride they have in being a member of our community.

Year 7 Parent Taster Lessons

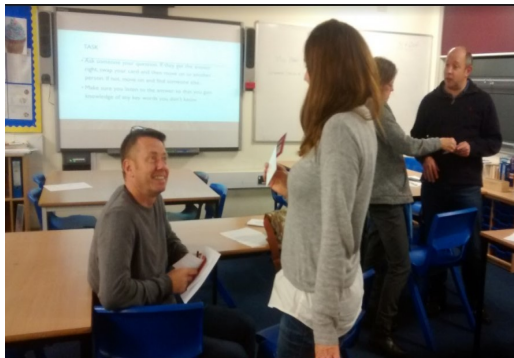
On Thursday 11 October a number of brave parents joined us at John Colet to take part in some student-style lessons. The aim of the evening was to help parents understand how their children are taught in the 21st century education system.

The parents of the new Year 7s were split into groups and taken off around the school by our wonderful Year 8 guides. They undertook lessons in Maths, English and Science just as their children do. They worked in pairs or small groups to tackle a range of problems from negative and positive numbers, finding out the energy mass of a Dorito crisp and teasing each other with grammatical terms!

The parents' faces changed from fear and apprehension to laughter and competitive excitement! Parents told us it was a fabulous evening, described by many in their evaluation forms as "a really enjoyable and informative". Overall, 94% of those that attended rated the experience as good or excellent.

I would like to thank the parents for attending and the staff for "going that extra mile" to deliver the classes.

Here are a selection of images from the evening:



Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 29 September the staff had a Great British Bake off to raise funds for Macmillan

Several members of staff contributed some amazing cakes which were sold in the staff room at break and lunch. In total just over £100 was raised.

Thank you to everyone who baked and to everyone who brought some cake

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT



QUIZ NIGHT

TO BENEFIT THE



John Colet School
P.T.A.

Friday 10 November 2017 - John Colet School

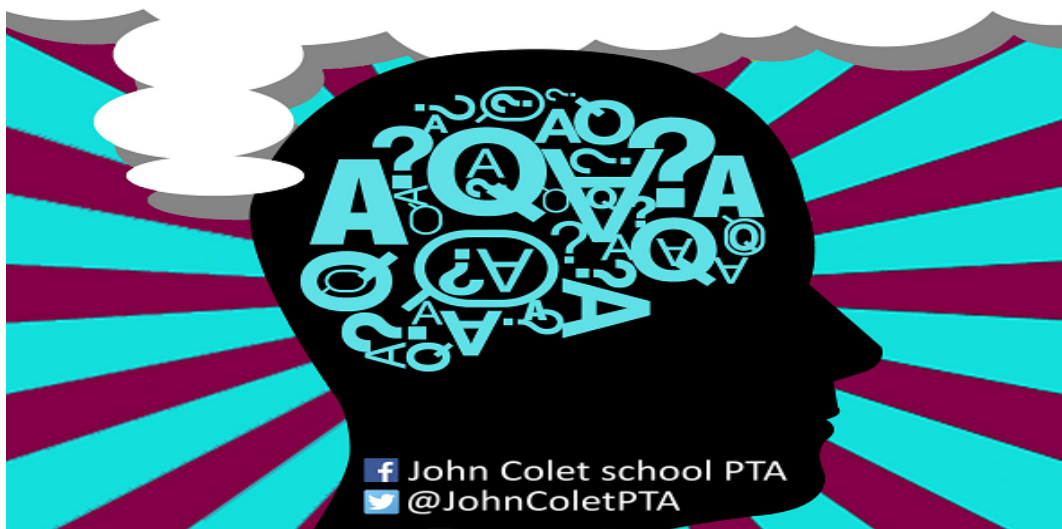
Doors open at **6:30pm** - Quiz starts at **7:00pm**

£10 per person / teams of 8-10 players

Cash bar - Thai supper included

Download Ticket Order Form from

www.johncolet.co.uk/parents/John-Colet-PTA



JoAnn Latus SCHOOL OF DANCE



Book Your
Free
Trial Lesson
Today

The JoAnn Latus School of Dance offers a range of different dance classes for children aged 3 years and upwards.

The school was first established in 1987 and has venues in **Weston Turville, Aston Clinton, Stoke Mandeville and Eaton Bray**. We teach a variety of styles of dance: **Ballet, Tap, Modern, Jazz** and also a **free style street dance class**.

- ▶ *Royal Academy of Dance - Ballet syllabus*
- ▶ *Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance - Tap, Modern and Jazz dance*
- ▶ *Fully qualified teachers that also hold Chaperone Licences*
- ▶ *Professional Standards & Safeguarding Children policy*

We Provide:

- ▶ *Classes for girls and boys aged 3 years and upwards*
- ▶ *Regular examinations*
- ▶ *Summer schools and theatre trips*
- ▶ *School performances at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre*
- ▶ *Opportunities to dance at The Royal Albert Hall, Disneyland Paris and other prestigious venues*

For more information about our classes please contact Jo Latus on:

T: 07800 518 654

E: info@jolatusdance.co.uk

www.jolatusdance.co.uk

Find Us on Facebook: facebook.com/JoLatusDance



Dance School Locations: Weston Turville • Stoke Mandeville • Aston Clinton • Eaton Bray



Are You Struggling



Understanding how to keep your
CHILDREN SAFE ON-LINE?

Thames Valley Police's School Officer will be attending the library to talk to parents and provide practical information

Come and Join us at Wendover Library

11th November 2017

11:00 –12:00

Please do not bring your child to the presentation as there may be content shown that may not be appropriate for them.

0845 230 3232 / 01296 382415

Calls to our 0845 numbers cost a 7p per minute service charge

