



Every Student Thriving

4 July 2025

Well it's been a red hot week for activities and events.

On Tuesday and Wednesday we ran our Year 6 induction event. Despite the soaring temperatures on Tuesday the Year 6 pupils were magnificent in their resilience and spirit. They brought with them the usual mix of anxiety and excitement, but by breaktime it was like they had already started. We had a full house for the parents information evening and it was great to see a mix of new and older faces. Wednesday continued our mix of activities enhanced with a free roast dinner provided by our caterers Culinera. The pupils left with a spring in their step and we can't wait to welcome them back in September.

On Thursday we ran our first Culture Day. This has been coordinated by our counsellor Ms Parrott and was an absolute masterclass in thoughtful organisation. I am a huge supporter of dispersed leadership and I love to support and encourage new ideas, ways of thinking and initiatives. Ms Parrott's vision was a fine example of this.

Both students and staff shared their cultural dress, flags and most importantly a fantastic array of delicious culinary delights. The school uniform is a great leveller in terms of identity and equality but Culture Day allowed the true diversity of our school to spread its wings and show its colours. Poland, Italy, Turkey, Jamaica, India, South Africa, Romania, Ukraine, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Russia and the UK were just some of the countries represented. A seed has been sown and now we need to grow it and there is unanimous agreement that Culture Day will now become an annual event.

Transition continued on Friday with our new year 12 applicants joining us for a day of activities, challenges and orientation activities. Our entry requirements are higher than in previous years so it is delightful that we have over 85 students joining us for the day. The John Colet sixth form mantra of #GrowingLeaders will underpin our philosophy moving forward as we seek to equip our sixth formers to be thriving leaders of the future with a focus on high academic expectations and the provision of a wide range of leadership development activities.

All of this followed another highly successful Focus week which saw students involved in activities at home and away that enriched their skills set, developed their thinking and challenged their social skills. One common and extremely heartening piece of feedback that came from many staff was how fabulous it was to see young people involved in activities without recourse or use of their mobile phones. This was particularly notable on the residential.

In parallel to Focus week Year 10 were embedded in their work experience placements giving them invaluable insights into the world of work. A vast range of work was experienced and we would particularly like to thank the companies below for their support in hosting our students. I cannot emphasise enough how valuable such real world experiences are in developing both character and knowledge about the world of work.

Take Care - Ian Brierly

Ready - Respectful - Responsible



Every Student Thriving

REMINDERS & NOTICES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 11 farewell	-	7 July
Sports Day	-	8 July
Summer concert	-	17 July
End of term	-	18 July

CURRENT VACANCIES

- Cover Supervisor
- Geography / Business Studies teacher

Please check our website for further details [here](#).

SAFEGUARDING LEADS & INFORMATION

If parents have any concerns about this practice or, believe that any young person at John Colet School might be at risk, then please do contact one of the members of our Safeguarding Team via - safeguarding@johncolet.co.uk

JOHN COLET SCHOOL

Do you have any unused or unwanted school uniform or equipment?
Your donations are greatly appreciated and help us continue to support other students and their families.

GCSE and A-Level revision guides

calculators and stationery

Chromebooks

Blazers

Ties

Trainers, football boots and PE kit

Please drop off items at the school reception

Thanks For Your Support



Every Student Thriving

A BIG Work Experience Thank you!

A big thank you to the following local companies and organisations that hosted one or more of our students on work experience last week:

A little bird told me gallery https://www.alittlebirdtoldmegallery.com/	The Chandos Arms 01296 613532
Bucks Goat Centre https://www.thebucksgoatcentre.website/	The Flower Gallery https://www.wendoverflowers.co.uk/index.html
Buds that Blossom https://budsthatblossom.co.uk/wendover-nursery	Wendover Pre-school https://www.wendoverpreschool.org.uk/
Cafe in the Park https://yourcafeinthepark.co.uk/	ZKS Martial Arts https://www.zksma.co.uk/
Carl Knight Motor Services 01296 620096	Perrys Aylesbury https://www.perrys.co.uk
Cherry Trees https://salveocare.co.uk/our-homes/cherry-tree-house/	Ashmead Combined School
De Soutter Medical https://www.de-soutter.com/	Aston Clinton Preschool
Ercol https://www.ercol.com/en	Aston Clinton School
EKFB https://www.ekfb.com/	Bearbrook School
ESRI https://www.esri.com/en-us/home	Bedgrove Infant School
Florence Nightingale Charity https://fnhospice.org.uk/	Bedgrove Junior School
Gusto https://gusto-world.com/gallery/	Booker Park Primary School
Halton Stores and Post Office 01296 696910	Halton Combined School
Halton Tennis Centre https://haltontennis.co.uk/	John Hampden Infant School
Harringtons Hairdressing https://www.harringtons.com/find-a-salon/wendover-hair-salon	Kingsbrook School
Jack in the Box https://www.jackinthebox-preschool.org/	Kingsbrook View Primary
Little Acorns Kindergarten https://www.littleacornswendover.org/	Stoke Mandeville Combined School
Pegasus Gym https://pegasusgym.co.uk/	The Works Aylesbury https://eatattheworks.co.uk/
Perrys Dog Grooming https://laybyfarm.co.uk/perrys-dog-grooming-salon/	Three Crowns Askett https://threecrownsaskett.com/
Pips Pals https://www.pipspals.co.uk/	Turnfurlong Junior School
Print World https://printworlduk.co.uk/	Wendover Junior School
Red Carpet Hairdressing https://www.redcarpethairdressing.co.uk/	Wendover Parish Council https://www.wendover-pc.gov.uk/
Rennie Grove Hospice https://renniegrovepeace.org/	Weston Turville Primary School
Rumseys https://www.rumseys.co.uk/pages/rumseys-wendover	Simon Taylor Furniture https://www.simon-taylor.co.uk/

Ready - Respectful - Responsible

Every Student Thriving

PARENT SUPPORT : Click [HERE](#) for practical tips

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

APPLE IPADS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®



Every Student Thriving

TOOLED UP - PARENT SUPPORT



It might be surprising to learn that **the worldwide video games industry is** estimated to be **worth double the value** of the **movie and music businesses combined**. That means that gaming is no longer a niche hobby - it has become well and truly mainstream.

Given its proliferation, parents can be very wary about their children spending time gaming, with concern about its impact on reading and other hobbies when competing for attention.

Tooled Up has enlisted gaming experts to explore what the research tells us about gaming and young people.

You've probably heard of **Roblox**, one of the most popular games in the world. Roblox isn't just a game in the normal sense: it's an online platform containing a host of experiences and interactions. The webinar [Everything Parents Need to Know About Roblox](#) explores its **features, potential risks**, and **how to protect your child**.

Should we worry if our teens spend hours a day gaming? In our podcast [Is Heavy Gaming Detrimental to Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing?](#) Dr Skripkauskaite of Oxford University **explores the impact of heavy gaming** on young people **and the results might not be what you think**.

Gaming today **overlaps** significantly **with** other spheres of **digital life** including social media, which all bring benefits and risks. Dr Kathy Weston's webinars on [Raising Boys in the Digital Space](#) and [Raising a Girl in the Digital Age](#) are filled with **practical advice** surrounding **social media, smartphones** and more.

Ready - Respectful - Responsible



Every Student Thriving

COMMUNITY SUPPORT / ACTIVITIES



Wellbeing Online Course and Workshops

To book your **FREE** place, contact our enrolment team on 01296 383582, scan the QR code or click on the [link](#).
For more information call/text Kathryn on 07770 641997



SCAN ME

Y7,8&9- Support Your Child's Mental Health and Wellbeing([FMWB057](#)) 5 weeks

24 September - 22 October 2025
7pm-9pm

Y10&11-Help your child build Confidence, Friendships and Manage Stress. ([FMWB022](#))

Monday 13 October- **7pm-9pm**

SCAN ME



[Support your Autistic Child at Home \(FMAC134\)](#)

**Thursday 25
September**

7:00pm - 9:00pm

[Support your ADHD Child at Home \(FMAC135\)](#)

**Monday 6
October**

7:00pm-9:00pm

SCAN ME



[buckinghamshireadultlearning](#)



[BucksAdLearning](#)



[adultlearningbc.ac.uk](#)



Funded by
UK Government

Ready - Respectful - Responsible



Every Student Thriving



Proud to be part of
**Family Hub
Network**
Buckinghamshire



How to...

Move up to Secondary School Course for year 6s

Getting ready to move up to secondary school? Not sure what to expect? Our 6-week course could help.

We will cover:

- what to expect at secondary school
- making friends and dealing with peer pressure
- tackling your fears and worries
- getting organised

For more information and to book your place scan the QR code.

If you need help email:
familyhubgroups@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



**Monday 9 June
to Monday 14
July 2025**



**Aylesbury
Southcourt
Family Centre
Plus**



**4:00pm
to
5:00pm**



SCAN ME

Ready - Respectful - Responsible