



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

SEPTEMBER 2017

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Dates for your diary

5 October—Year 9 Parents information evening
9 October—Inset day (students not in school)
12 October—Year 7 Parent taster sessions. Further information to follow.

Lost Property

All lost property gets handed in to Matron. Anything that is named will be returned to the student, so please ensure that you name all of your child's property. Anything that does not have a name on will be kept in Matron's room until the end of the half term, when it will be put out in the hall for students to check through.

If your son/daughter has lost or misplaced anything, please ask them to check with Matron.

Welcome to John Colet

I am delighted to welcome everyone as Acting Headteacher to John Colet for the new academic year. At this time we welcome our new Year 7 students, and students who are commencing their A Level studies. I hope that you have a successful and enjoyable education at John Colet. As well as welcoming students, we also welcome a number of new staff. Mrs Chadwick, Mrs Hutchinson, Mrs King and Mrs Vosper join the English department, Miss Elliot, Mrs Ferreira, Mr Kirilov, and Mrs Norris join the Mathematics department, Mrs Butt, Mr Kenny and Miss Stankard join the Science department, Miss Clarke joins the Business Studies department, Mr Marriott and Miss Tal-lyn join the Physical Education department, Mr McCulloch joins the Design and Technology department, Mrs Gutjahr joins the Modern Foreign Languages department and Mr Gilbert joins John Colet as the Interim Deputy Headteacher.

John Colet teachers are supported by a dedicated team of non-teaching staff and we welcome Mr Kenyon and Miss Law as Learning Support Assistants, Mrs Miller as a Family Liaison Officer, Mrs Burge as Secretarial Assistant, and Mrs Matthews and Mrs Greenland as Science Technicians.

We are a successful school with highly motivated students, teachers and support staff, I hope all new members of our community enjoy working in a supportive and aspirational environment.

Sarah Palmer—Acting Headteacher

Mobile Phones

At John Colet we have a 'no see, no hear' policy for mobile phones while students are on school site. Students are asked to turn off their phones and put them away before walking through the school gates and are only allowed to use their phones once they leave the school site at the end of the school day. Students staying to after school clubs and activities are permitted to use their phones on the school site after 4.00pm. Outside of lessons, time before school, at break and lunchtimes is important for socialising and meeting friends; we want to encourage students to talk to their friends rather than being attached to their mobile phones.

If a student needs to contact their parent/carer, they should go to student support where they will be allowed to ring home. Should you need to contact your son or daughter, please contact the school office and we will get a message to the student. Unfortunately at times parents try to contact students directly which causes their phone to go off during lessons, resulting in the student having their phone confiscated as per school policy. Students are in school to learn and should not be distracted from this, hence we ask that you do not contact them directly during the school day.

Spelling Bee

On Wednesday 12 July 2017, the annual Year 7 Spelling Bee took place. 14 brave students took to the stage to show the rest of the year group their spelling prowess. After practising for weeks leading up to this event using only their brains, they tackled this challenge with gusto. An exciting hour of spelling fun ensued and after stiff competition only 2 contestants remained.

Katie from 7P went head to head with Niamh from 7G and finally a winner emerged. Niamh triumphed for 7G to top the list. For her victory, she received a £10.00 Amazon voucher and a certificate. Everyone who participated was given a packet of Wispa Bites.



Overall, all were impressed by the commitment shown by these deserving students.

Congratulations to all those who took part; and a massive thank you to Ms.Simpson and Mrs.Fanchi for making it all possible.

Katie 7P



This article is about the Spelling Bee and how I felt about it. The Spelling Bee is basically a competition consisting of 12 (6 pairs from each class) people competing with their spelling skills. It is a bit nerve wracking looking at the audience. I managed to get through the rounds due to the fact that I realised that eventually the Spelling Bee would end. This went through my head after seeing 5 competitors knocked out after hard words. Some competitors coped with hard words such as encyclopedia, while other were knocked out because of an unfamiliar word such as sonar. I relaxed a bit after round 1 when I got used to the procedure of the Spelling Bee. When there were only 5 people left in, the tension was increasing and the pressure was mounting between the contestants. My favourite part was when there were only 2 people left. I was glad I wasn't one of them!

Of all the words Ms Simpson gave us, encyclopedia was definitely the hardest, everyone sighed with relief when they knew that word had gone.

Galyaan 7D

On Wednesday 12 July, I took part in the Year 7 2017 annual Spelling Bee. It was a mixture between intensity and excitement. All Year 7 forms competed putting two candidates forward from each form. Everyone sat nervously waiting for their words to be called out by the glorious Ms. Simpson.

As the words increased in difficulty, people were getting drawn out left and right. Unfortunately, my team mate Ewan spelt encyclopedia wrong, which left me by myself. More pass cards were being used and more people weren't on their 'A' game!

The time had come, only me and Katie left in the game. Sadly for Katie 'deterred' was her next word. The one word she struggled with. I heard the word 'incorrect'. As soon as I heard the word, I knew I had won. My form group bundled on top of me as I smiled with pleasure.

Congratulations to all competitors for participating in such an amazing event. I had a great day with loads of encouraging support from my form and amazing banter with Katie and all the participants. I am surprised that I won with no mistakes and my pass card still in hand

Niamh 7G



Welcome to new Year 7 Students

As we began the new academic year the John Colet community welcomed our new intake of Year 7 students and I am happy to share what a positive beginning it has been for them. The new students are smartly attired and enthusiastic to learn and are making a very good first impression with their new teachers. Many are already involving themselves in the wider life of the school by participating in a range of sporting activities and teams and volunteering their time to help at the Open Evening. It is clear that they already feel part of the school and proud to be John Colet students. Please can I take the opportunity to remind parents of new Year 7 students of our Parent Information Evening which is to be held on 2 November between 7:00-8:30pm; you are all very welcome to attend to find out more about what you and your children can expect this year.

Mrs Fanchi, Head of Key Stage 3

Superb Start to Sixth Form

The sixth form class of 2017/18 has started superbly, adding to the success of our new Year 13s. With the largest intake to our sixth form in over five years, our new Year 12s have impressed students and teachers alike with their commitment to their summer work over the holidays and their smart appearance.

This year the Speakers Trust delivered a day of workshops to our Year 12 during their induction day designed to improve their confidence in public speaking and prepare them for the interviews they will have soon for universities, jobs and apprenticeships. 76% of students felt the training was 'good' or 'very good' and quotes included: "It was really good and I feel much more confident and think I can speak to people now. At first I was nervous but as the session went by, my confidence grew" and "Considering I was looking for something to improve my confidence/performance skill, this really helped. Thank you!"

Our head student team have also been busy, recently appearing in the Wendover News. With other year 13 students, they have rejuvenated the Sixth Form Council forming greater links with the rest of the school, given up their time over the holidays to paint the common room and also organised a freshers event. We will also be seeing the first ever Sixth Form newsletter this half term which is aimed at informing and entertaining our upper school.



Our Into the Sixth Evening for those considering their options post-16 will be held on Tuesday 14th November. Details will be posted on the school website. Our sixth formers will be on hand to answer any questions about our vibrant and supportive sixth form.

Mrs V Remington
Head of Sixth Form

Cake sale at John Colet School on behalf of Goldenhar Family Support Group Charity.

On Tuesday 19th September I did a charity cake sale in order to support Goldenhar Family Support Group, which is a charity that offers confidential help and support to families who are affected by this rare syndrome.

Lots of people helped to make cakes and cookies for the sale, including my family, friends, my form group and my form tutors. I had help on the day by my form tutor, Miss Harling, and some of my friends in setting up the tables and selling the cakes. We did the cake sale at morning break and lunchtime and sold almost all of the cakes. We made a staggering total of £215.

I am very grateful for all the help I had to achieve this fantastic result and I am sure that the charity will also be extremely happy to receive these funds.

Becky Hyams. 10L.



John Colet Celebrates excellent examination results

The performance of students at John Colet continues to go from strength to strength. In 2017 we are celebrating continued improvement in GCSE examination results, rewarding the exceptional hard work of students and staff. In a year of changes to performance measures as well as curriculum requirements, both students and teachers have responded effectively and the school has seen a significant increase from 2016 on all key measures. In comparison to 2016, there has been a 10% increase in the percentage of 5 A*-C including English and Mathematics, with 75% of students now achieving this measure. 20% of all grades were at the highest grades of A*/A, 15% of grades were at 9-7 in English and Mathematics.

The core subjects achieved exceptional results of 92% on the new measure of 9-4 (A*-C) in an English, 87% in English Literature and 86% in English Language, and 82% in Mathematics and 86% in Statistics. Students excelled in Triple Science; 100% A*-C in each of the Triple Sciences, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with 60% achieving A*/A in Physics. Core and Additional Science also performed well with 80% of students achieving a high grade in Science overall.

At A Level 63% of the grades were at A*-C and the pass rate A*-E was 92%. Notable performances were achieved in Art and Design, Business Studies, Communications, English Literature, Film and Sociology.

Acting Headteacher, Miss Sarah Palmer, commented, 'These results highlight the effective partnership between students and teachers who share high aspirations, and are guided to achieve exceptionally good results. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum which includes the arts, music and physical education and celebrate both academic and non-academic achievements including community involvement and student leadership. Core to this, is the desire of all our students to achieve their potential through hard work and dedication. These results ensure that a greater proportion of our students have the opportunity to pursue their dreams and fulfil their capability.'

I am proud to work with such committed staff, supportive parents and motivated student body. There is a shared purpose within the school and I continue to be impressed with the students' determination, work ethic and approach to learning.

Some of the notable successes at John Colet:

Our top performers at GCSE achieved a combination of results of A*/A or 9-7 in at least 9 subject areas are Isabel Addison, Lucy Clarke, Marcus Davis, Tom Doherty, Anithra Geddes, Tim Hall and Samuel Mohammed.

Extremely good results were achieved in the non-core subjects including: History 82%, Music 88%, Religious Education 91% and Textiles 82% at A*-C grades.

Top performers at A Level were, Joseph Menzies: History A*, ICT A, Business Studies B, Cameron Jackson Rowe: Biology A, Psychology A, Mathematics B, Abbie Law: English Literature A, Sociology A, Psychology B, Sally Sharp: Art and Design D*D*, Communications B, Photography B and Josie Mullins: Art and Design D*D*, Art B.



National Enterprise Challenge

On the 4th July, six Year 9 boys represented the school at the national final of the Ryman National Enterprise Challenge. The team were chosen to compete for the school following their victory in the school round of the competition.

This year teams had to design and pitch their own app for Ryman that would enable Ryman to reach a new audience and not replicate the function of their website. The Colet boys delivered on this front by developing an idea for an educational revision game aimed at students in years 7 to 11.

The competition all began in March in the school's main Hall when 72 Business Studies students took part in forming their own ideas and pitching to a panel of judges including Mrs McLintock. The winning team consisted of Benjamin Randrup, Oscar Strange, Joshua Day, Sam Winter, Kieran Green-Garendel and Robbie Dawson; otherwise known as 'Stationery Strike'.

The competition came to a climax earlier this month at the Telford International Centre in Shropshire.

The team left school early on a warm Tuesday morning for the 2 hour journey to Telford which flew by with the help of lots of practicing of their pitch and some renditions of various Adele songs. Parked up, the boys had their arrival photo taken by the organisers and made their way to the registration desk, the venue was huge!

Once inside, the organisers had set up a huge trade area with a variety of stalls and information points that included a massive game of Jenga, a business giving out pork belly samples and even a formula one racing car. This was fun to look around; however, our team remained focused and rehearsed up until their 13:00 slot.

At 13:00 the team made their way into a small room, after confirming the school and team name, the door slammed shut and the pitch got underway. The team pitched for 4 minutes 30 seconds with style and confidence. The judges were impressed and commented on how well they did to present their idea without the use of a script or prompt cards. Having completed the presentation we all made our way to the food area and helped ourselves to a well-earned tasty burger.

The afternoon came around and it was time for us to all go into the main venue hall for meeting Theo Paphitis and listening to his stories about life as an entrepreneur. When we walked into the hall it was enormous with big screens, strobe lighting and hundreds of tables for all the guests.

The event was hosted by Sam and Mark, former pop-idol contestants who now work on CBBC; they kept the event lively and engaging playing various games and telling stories in between the different special guest speakers. Unfortunately, it all ended too soon and at 17:30 the event came to its end until next year we prepared for the long drive back enthused by the great day we all had.

Mr Adams

Year 8: The Scholars Programme

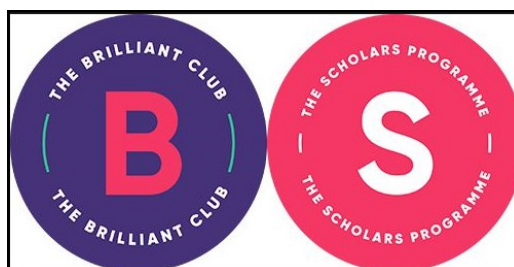
This September, Year 8 were invited to apply to take part in the Brilliant Club's Scholars Programme. The aim of the Scholars Programme is to support pupils in developing the knowledge, skills and ambition to secure places at highly selective universities. Around 40 students applied and 25 were interviewed based on their personal statements and their school progress levels. The quality of applications was exceptionally high and all staff interviewing were particularly impressed with the maturity and vision held by these young people during the stressful interview process.

I would like to congratulate the successful final 12 students on gaining their place on this Programme: Katie Astle, Louis Bailey, Niamh Dimes, Jessica Frear, Vincent Jensen Van Rensberg, Olivia Majidan, Jack Mathew, Harry McLoughlin, Hollie Stoker, Millie Street, Skye Thorpe, Jack Walker.

The first part of their Programme will begin in school before half term and then they will undertake their first university visit and meet their PhD tutor.

Watch this space for more information...

Once again, a big *Well Done to all students who were brave enough to take part!*



Last year's successful candidates

New
to Tring

art-K

TASTER
sessions
available

create | learn
paint | explore
experiment | imagine

Art club for children 6-16yrs

Children love to draw and paint but there's never enough time at school to enjoy all the different artists and media.

art-K is an art club setting up in Tring which provides the time for artistic development. It is a multi-age art club for 6-16 year olds, that has been running for 16 years. Our aim is for them to explore and experiment with a range of paints - watercolour, acrylics, pastels, inks- and to develop their drawing skills in many different ways. We also do 3D projects such as papier maché, story boxes, tunnel books, clay.

Session Times

Monday	16.30 - 17.45	6 - 16 yrs
Tuesday	16.30 - 17.45	6 - 16 yrs
Wednesday	10.30 - 12.00	Home-schooled
	16.30 - 17.45	6 - 16 yrs
Thursday	16.30 - 17.45	6 - 16 yrs
Saturday	09.00 - 10.30	6 - 16 yrs
	11.00 - 12.30	6 - 16 yrs
	14.00 - 15.30	6 - 16 yrs

Contact us...

Unit 9, Silk Mill Business Park,
Brook Street, Tring, HP23 5EF

If you are interested in joining art-K
please contact Steve on
07973 458961 or by email at
steve@art-k.co.uk. Please also visit
our website www.art-k.co.uk for
more information.

acrylic oil watercolour mixed media modelling collage clay