

# JOHN COLET SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

## NEWSLETTER

Vol 2, Issue 1

October 2019

A half termly update from the Head of Sixth Form & our Head Student Team

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### Welcome to all parents and carers of our Year 12 and Year 13 students 2019-2020

This is my first opportunity to communicate to you the varied and exciting events happening in the Sixth Form this half term. This update is designed to provide an insight into the Sixth Form programme, to enable you to share in the successes and achievements of our students and to advise how you can best support your sons and daughters. New this term is the Tuesday Enrichment session. The cooking session was a winner (see photo on p2) along with a variety of other activities offered for our students. Self defence, budget menu planning and yoga to follow next half term!

The Sixth Form team is led by Mrs Fanchi (Head of Sixth Form) and comprises four experienced form tutors with extensive experience of pastoral support, Post 16. Mrs Sinacore (Assistant to the Head of Sixth Form) supervises our study facility, assists students and provides administrative and pastoral support each day.

### Events of the half term

Our **Senior Prizegiving evening** in September was a great success and it was lovely to welcome back our Year 11 and Year 13 leavers to mark their achievements. The citations provided inspiration for the new students for the year ahead. Students should aspire to earn awards in 2020!

Year 12 began their Sixth Form journey with a workshop entitled '**Talk the Future**' which emphasizes the importance of confident oracy skills and helps students develop extended verbal responses. All students impressed with their early confidence and earned a certificate for their participation in the programme.

The Sixth Form were represented at the **Open Evening** this month by our Head Boy, Sam, and Head Girl, Tanya, speaking about their experience of John Colet School to a packed audience of prospective students. The Sixth Form tour guides did a fantastic job of escorting visitors around the site and answering their questions. Thank you to all!

Year 12 are participating in the **National Film and Television School schools challenge** and after a masterclass workshop with award winning film director, Ian Robertson, the teams presented their storyboard pitches to our judging panel. Congratulations to Max, Amy, Becky H, Pearl and Josh, who will now put their film into production to try and win a day at the NFTS in January. Good luck team!

We were privileged to welcome Charlie and Alice Robinson, JCS Alumni and Head Boy and Girl 2001/2 to present an assembly on routes into employment. Both left Sixth Form and went to work for local councils. It was helpful to hear their top tips for securing success at interview and to know that employment doesn't mean the end of learning as training is always on going in the workplace.

Mr Brand, Mrs Fanchi and Mr Stow lead the **World Challenge** programme. Our destination for 2020 expedition is Namibia. The challengers in Year 12 and Year 13 have been fundraising to meet their targets. With more practice walks, a kit talk and shopping event booked at Cotswold Outdoor and talk of travel vaccinations (!) the team are getting excited with only 9 months to go until we fly!

Year 12 students visited the **Bucks Skills Show** where 100+ employers, training providers and HE institutions were exhibiting. Students found out about potential courses, jobs and apprenticeships. We have a selection of these organisations booked to attend our very own 'Future Focus' Careers Fair on 5 February 2020, which coincides with National Careers Week – more to follow!

### CELEBRATING SUCCESS

As part of our focus on the 3Rs (Ready, Respectful, Responsible) Sixth Form students have been recognized and rewarded by staff with points which contribute to their houses and which are sent home to parents/carers by email.

Postcards have been sent to lots of students this half term; well done to you!

Attitude to Learning (ATL) reports have been sent out last week and display some excellent effort and attitude. There are 12 students across the Sixth Form who have been given the best ATL scores, showing exceptional ATL in 2 out of 3 subjects and a good ATL in their third subject.

Well done to Darcie J-R (Y13) and Jack T (Y12) who have significantly exceeded the recommended 10 hours of community service this term already! Groups of students are getting involved at a local infant school and care home in November.

Two of our students have volunteered their time this half term to organisations outside of school.

Sammy (Y12) was invited to attend the Barnardos AGM in London where the new President, Natasha Kaplinsky was attending the conference, hosted by the CEO of the charity. Sammy spoke in front of a large audience about the volunteering work she has undertaken for CAMHS (where she has developed garden areas) and for Barnardos, through her work on the Youth Forum. This event raised the profile of the work Sammy and her friends have done and their contribution was positively received.

Elenor (Y13) I was asked to attend a multiplier event in Hungary to represent my youth group Unite Ambassadors. This included attending a conference of their local organisations to gain inspiration and advice as well as create new partnerships for our organisation and present information on what we have done in the UK. It was an opportunity to expand Unite Ambassadors into their area. We also ran workshops for their youth groups and schools. It was a great experience where I met not only our partnership programmes in Hungary but people from countries such as Italy, Estonia, France and Germany.



NFTS Film Challenge – Year 12

The Head Student team have had a very busy time this half term. Sam and Tanya have planned an exciting 'Freshers' event giving all our students an opportunity to enjoy a social occasion together. The profits raised from this event are being used to improve student facilities in the Sixth Form and to support the prom at the end of the year. Abie has been organising the appointment of new mentors and Year 13 are fulfilling their leadership roles under a variety of banners; 'Equalities', 'Fundraising' and 'Social'. Devante will be leading on the new 'car park raffle' where our young drivers can win a much-valued space in the visitor car park for a short time! It is fantastic to see students taking ownership over their Sixth Form and working together to improve and build on what our Year 13 Leavers left as their legacy last year. Thank you to the team for all they are doing in their roles.

#### **PARENTS OF YEAR 12**

Encourage your child to talk to you about their subjects and what they are learning about. Find examples in the real world which they can link to their classroom learning. Encourage transformative activities with reading / class notes (just copying out more neatly doesn't help understanding – remind the students about their Independent Learning Books!!).

It is never too early to attend university open days. You can search for these at [www.opendays.com](http://www.opendays.com)

**\*\*'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' visit to the Wycombe Swan takes place on 5 November for all Year 12 students\*\***

#### **PARENTS OF YEAR 13**

If your son/daughter is applying through UCAS (deadline end of term!), you might find the link to the parent section of their website helpful:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/ucas-undergraduate-advice-parents-and-guardians>

If your child is pursuing an alternative route, you might like to look at [www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk) for some support.

**\*\*Mock exams take place for Year 13 between Wednesday 8 - Monday 13 January. Please encourage valuable revision for these at home\*\***

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