

JOHN COLET SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

NEWSLETTER

Vol 2, Issue 3

February 2020

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

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Our Year 13 students returned to school after the Christmas break to sit their Mock Exams. This is a very busy time for the and the first time they see whether their revision strategies have been effective. Alongside the exams, students finalized their UCAS applications, with 64% of the cohort submitting an application. The students who are pursuing alternative paths are currently undergoing assessment as part of their apprenticeship applications with companies such as Sky, American Express and smaller, more local companies too. Please get in touch with the Form Tutor, Teachers or myself if you have any queries or concerns around your child's progress, attitude, attendance or well-being.

Attendance and punctuality of our students has been a focus for the Sixth Form team this last term. Thank you for your communication regarding the absence of those under 18 and your help in ensuring timely arrival at school. Attendance is currently 93% Y12 and 91% Y13 and the number of lates has reduced in both groups.

Events of the half term

Thank you to Mrs Tuffin, a Sixth Form parent, for giving a very engaging talk to two Sixth Form tutor groups during JCS careers week about her career in the police service. The talk was fascinating and gave a real insight into the variety of roles available in this sector. There is always an open invitation to parents/carers who would like to give a short talk to students about their jobs and career paths – if our students can't see it, they can't be it so exposure to as many roles as possible is key to raising their aspirations!

Well done to the students in the Sixth Form who donated an item to the Reverse Advent box. An overflowing box of food items and sundries was donated to a local food bank just before Christmas. Your donations were appreciated.

You may recall the Year 12 team who submitted an excellent entry to the **National Film and Television School Challenge**. Max, Amy, Becky H, Pearl and Josh worked hard to create a great advert for the school. Whilst unsuccessful in the final this time the NFTS congratulated them on an engaging and professional advert. Well done to the team!

This week we had an assembly by a representative of the Anthony Nolan Trust, the blood cancer charity. Our students will have the opportunity to join the donor register by providing a non-invasive cheek swab on Thursday 13 February. Thank you to our three volunteer ambassadors, Robyn, Chloe and George who have been raising the profile of 'The Hero Project'. If students did not join the register this time, they can join at any point in the future until their 37th birthday. More info: <https://www.anthonynolan.org/how-we-help/education-hero-project>

Tinsel Tuesday was a success with students raising money for the Prom. Lots of fun events were held for the lower school and the doughnuts proved very popular! The students learned that many hands make light work and hopefully next time there is a whole Sixth Form event, they will all participate in order to maximise the success of the event. When students come to write their personal statements or talk about how they have exemplified teamwork, leadership, communication or organisation, it is their role in events like this which can provide practical illustrations of their skills and will impress interviewers!

A **BIG** thank you to all the students who have volunteered to support our Parents' Consultation Evenings across the school. Sixth Form helpers have been welcoming parents and carers, signing them in, organizing collection of data sheets and surveys and promoting the Sixth Form. There are more of these evenings throughout the year running from 4-7:30pm.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Congratulations to the LIBF Financial Studies students in Year 13 who secured 70% A*-B and 100% pass rate in their recent external exams. Year 12 students also put in very promising performances!

At the halfway point in the academic year the Recognition points stand as:

6O – 599 points

6L – 567 points

6H – 529 points

6B – 527 points

Students in the Sixth Form are being awarded bronze, silver, gold or platinum star badges for the lanyards when they hit personal thresholds of R points.

Top three in Year 12 are Emma Mohammed (63), Rebecca Ashford (57) and Adam Galloway (55) and in Year 13, Luke Russell (67), Tanya Chineka (63) and Sam Walker (57).

The annual Careers Fair 2020 is organised by Mrs Fanchi and Mrs Sinacore and provides students in all year groups across the school an opportunity to meet with employers, apprenticeship and training providers, universities and colleges in the Hall. Year 12 students should be starting to think seriously about the route they wish to take when they leave JCS and in the coming term they will all be introduced to UCAS, the University and Colleges Advisory Service, which is the body to handle all University, and some degree apprenticeship, applications. Year 12 students will all be expected to register on UCAS initially and will all complete a personal statement in the Summer Term.

Well done to Hannah Griffiths who has been successful in being selected to play rugby for the Under 18 Buckinghamshire Rugby team. We look forward to hearing how she performs in future competitive games. Great effort, Hannah!

The World Challenge Team are beginning the final phase of expedition preparation with less than 170 days to go until they fly. They have a fitness test and training weekend in Snowdonia to complete as well as pre-departure meetings and vaccinations to organise and attend. Alongside this, some are completing their fundraising too! #Namibia 2020



Kate, cooking with insects as a source of protein for her EPQ!



Robyn and Chloe as Anthony Nolan ambassadors

The Head Student Team are in the early stages of planning the Year 13 Prom, which is always a wonderful way for the students to celebrate the end of their exams and time at JCS. The date has been set for Friday 19 June at The Crazy Bear, Beaconsfield. The event is being subsidised by the fundraising that the students have undertaken this year. The process for choosing the next Head Student Team will begin shortly after half term. The current team have a role to play in selecting their successors as they know the skills needed and the challenges which lie ahead! An important aspect of the team's role is their fortnightly meeting with Mr Harty, where the students can share their views and ideas on improvements for the Sixth Form and discuss relevant issues. They will also have the opportunity to meet with the Full Governing Body at the end of the year.

PARENTS OF YEAR 12

Sixth Form Parents Consultation Evening takes place this year on **Thursday 27 February, 4-7:30pm**. You will be able to meet with subject teachers, for a 10 minute appointment to discuss progress, ATL and how to support your son/daughter. Appointments will be bookable online from **Friday 14 February**.

Encourage your child to engage with 'super-curricular' resources; subject linked podcasts, online learning and MOOCs all count and look great on applications!

Year 12 must secure a work experience placement for 29 June – 3 July. Please support them with this.

PARENTS OF YEAR 13

A reminder of the Parents Consultation Evening which takes place on **Thursday 27 February**. Appointments bookable from **Friday 14 February**.

All students have set themselves 3 targets for improvement following mock results. Please discuss targets at home to support your child.

Students will find out more about Student Finance for Uni during a talk on Thursday 5 March. You can find out more here: <https://www.ucas.com/student-finance-england/student-finance-guidance-parents-and-partners>

Contact Mrs Fanchi via the main office or dfanchi@johncolet.co.uk or Mrs Sinacore tsinacore@johncolet.co.uk