



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

Spring 1 2020

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Focus Week:

Monday 29th June:

Year 8 Willen Lake

Year 9 Leicester Space

Tuesday 30th June:

Year 9 Oxford Museums

Wednesday 1st July:

Year 7 Neasden Mandir

Hindu Temple

Year 8 Imperial War Museum

Year 9 Oxford Museum

Thursday 2nd July:

Year 8 Imperial War Museum

Year 9 Green Park

Friday 3rd July

Year 7 Whipsnade Zoo

Year 9 Leicester Space

Don't forget to return your forms as soon as possible!

Note from the Headteacher:

The return from Christmas seems only yesterday and here we are marking the half-way point of the academic year. Thank you to all parents who completed surveys at the Parent Consultation Evenings this half term, just under 300 surveys have been returned so far with the remaining three year groups to be seen on the dates below before the Easter break:

- Thursday 27th February 2020—Sixth Form Parent Consultation Evening
- Thursday 12th March 2020—Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening
- Thursday 26th March 2020—Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening

Year 8 students have had plenty of opportunities to hear about their GCSE options and will by now have opted for their top four subjects along with one reserve. The Options Evening was extremely well attended and feedback positive. As promised on the evening the presentation from Miss Smith, Head of Year 8, is on the school website: www.johncolet.co.uk/parents/ - along with those from the information evenings for other year groups earlier in the year.

Well done to Year 13 students on completing their mock exams, the results of which have been published. This half term break should be seen as an excellent opportunity for students in Year 11 and Year 13 to make headway with their revision spending at least five hours per day (the same as the time spent in lessons on a normal school day) revising—the exams seem a long way off, but the more times a topic is revisited the greater the chance of it becoming deep knowledge and at hand for retrieval when it is most needed.

Mrs Sinacore and Mrs Fanchi worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the recent Careers Fair, which was attended by all Year 10 and 11 students with their teachers and many from other year groups during lunchtime. The feedback from the businesses and employers was very positive and it was great to see so many students come away with ideas confirmed or fresh routes opening up.

By the time students return after the half term holiday, our reception area refurbishment will be almost complete and the electrical and fire safety works that commenced in August will be drawing to a close. We will be testing the new systems in the coming weeks before making full use of the additional functions and improved security over the summer term. Have a restful half term break.

Mr Harty, Headteacher



Sixth Form News:

Our Year 13 students have had a busy start to 2020 as they have taken the mock exams and many have finalised their applications to universities around the country. Those considering a different route are working hard to complete applications for jobs and training programmes. We wish them all 'Good Luck' for their various interviews and assessments.

Our Year 12 students are now settled into their Post-16 courses and many have also completed a number of hours of community service and varied enrichment activities alongside their studies. Year 12 are soon to take on the 'Big Bucks Sales Challenge' which sees the students working alongside industry experts to present a pitch to a panel in a bid to compete in the final round against other schools.

I am pleased to have received a high number of applications from our Year 11 students and students from other local schools who wish to join our Sixth Form in September. More information will be sent to those students in the coming weeks.

For more detailed information about life in the JCS Sixth Form please visit the JCS website and read the Sixth Form Newsletter issued at the end of each half term. Alternatively, follow us on Twitter @JCS_SixthForm.

Mrs Fanchi,
Head of Sixth Form

Unifrog:

A reminder to parents and carers that you can sign up for a free Unifrog account and support your child with their 'next steps' research into Post 16 courses, university and apprenticeship courses, careers and jobs and a whole lot more! The platform gives support in writing CVs, personal statements and application letters and provides top tips for finding and preparing for work experience and volunteering. Parents should visit www.unifrog.org and register for the first time using the form code '**parentsjohncolet**' to create an account.

Mrs Fanchi,
Assistant Headteacher

Aylesbury Waterside Theatre: Reviewer Required

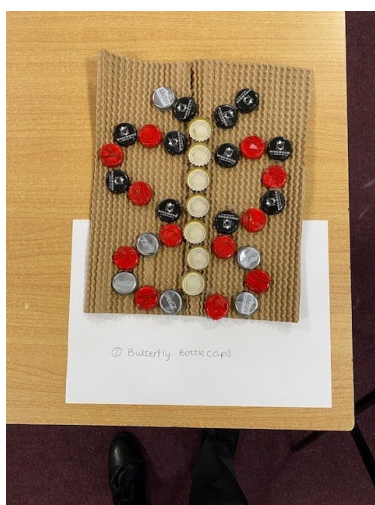
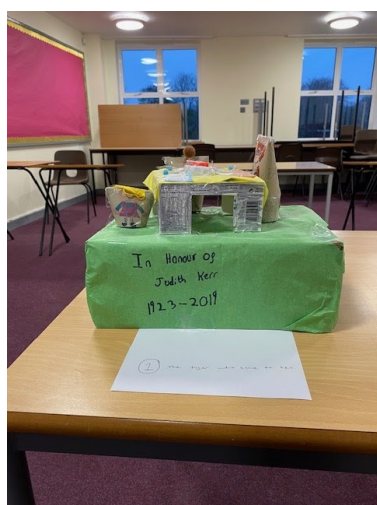
This is a great opportunity for those students wanting to practice non-fiction or transactional writing—please see Aylesbury Waterside Theatre's social media for more information.



Year 7 Plastic Art Competition

As part of a drive to raise funds for recycling bins around the school, the Year 7 council organised a competition on 15 January. Entrants were tasked with the challenge of converting materials that would normally be put into recycling bins into works of art.

The aim of the competition was to highlight that, if dealt with correctly, it is possible to create something useful out of our waste. Amongst the entrants were a tribute to Judith Kerr's 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea', a bottle top butterfly and an animal tower. The winning entry was Rhydian and Seren's model of the tiger drinking tea. Well done to the winners, everyone who entered and the Year 7 council for organising the competition.



Dr P Myatt
Head of Year 7

JCS Sports News

It has been a busy start to the year with badminton, netball and football fixtures. Please see our JCS Sports Newsletter for the latest news, results and successes of our students!

Adding to our extra-curricular sports clubs is our brand new 'Fight Klub'. This class is boxing/fitness to drum 'n' bass and commences after half term (Wednesday 26th February) in the sports hall from 3.15pm for one hour. It is a lot of fun and proved a real hit with students during last years' Focus Week! Don't forget you can also follow PE news on Instagram!



JCS Careers Week:

A huge 'thank you' to the parents and carers who gave up their time to come to school and deliver short talks to students about their jobs and experience in different sectors. If our students can't see it, they can't be it; so this was a very valuable way of broadening horizons and highlighting a variety of careers. From police officers to RAF personnel, IT industry experts to graphic designers, accountants and headteachers, the students really enjoyed all of the talks.

If you missed the opportunity to get involved on this occasion, please do look out for other opportunities or contact the school to offer your time to talk to students later in the year.

The headline event of our week was the JCS Careers Fair which saw more than 25 exhibitors gather in the Hall to meet students from right across the school. Students were able to talk to representatives from universities, apprenticeship providers, local employers and national organisations about future pathways, skills and qualifications. A thank you to all our visitors for coming to support the Careers Fair, which is growing each year.

**Mrs Fanchi,
Assistant Headteacher**



Average R and C points per student Autumn Term

September to December 2019:

Here is a table of the average recognition and consequence points per child per year group. This will enable you to compare the average points with your own child.

Mrs Gould,
Assistant Headteacher

Year	Recognition	Consequence
7	80	4
8	70	12
9	56	8
10	57	10
11	42	8
12	19	1
13	20	1

Wendover Junior School

This half term we have been busy working with students at Wendover Junior School. Firstly, Miss King and two of our Year 12 students went to the Junior School to judge their Year 5 slam poetry competition. We were very impressed with the quality of the poetry being produced.

Our Year 12 Biology students were also involved in helping to deliver a Year 5 forensic science day. Our students did an excellent job at bringing the topic of DNA to life for the students with them extracting DNA from kiwi fruits and linking DNA to crime scenes.

Finally, a number of Year 9 students have been working with students in Year 6 in academic mentoring in both Maths and English. Our students have been to the school every Tuesday afternoon since November and have worked hard to coach the younger students and build their confidence in these core subjects. This has contributed to the voluntary work needed for their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.

I am very proud of all the contributions our students have made and look forward to the next round of primary liaison work, including our Year 5 quiz in March 2020.

Mrs Norris,
Assistant Headteacher





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John Colet School

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Let's feel good

Clarks

H&M

sky

The Works



Over **£30 million** raised



1.6 million users



130,000 causes



TERM DATES 2020

SPRING TERM

Half Term	Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February
Last Day of Term	Friday 3 April - finish at 12.15pm

SUMMER TERM

First Day of Term	Tuesday 21 April
Half Term	Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May
Last Day of Term	Friday 17 July - finish at 12.15pm

AUTUMN TERM

First Day of Term	Thursday 3 September—Transition Day for Years 7 and 12 Friday 4 September—Term starts for Years 8-11 and 13
Half Term	Monday 26 October— 30 October
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 December

Staff Training Days:

Monday 20 April 2020
Tuesday 1 September 2020
Wednesday 2 September 2020
Friday 2 October 2020

Bank Holidays in Term Time:

Friday 8 May 2020

Please call 01296 623348 or email office@johncolet.co.uk in every day that your child is absent from school to help us keep our records up to date -
Thank you!



Don't forget to bring your water bottle to school EVERYDAY!!!

Keeping hydrated increases focus, energy and relieves fatigue. It boosts your immune system and prevents headaches.

Make sure you refill your bottle before school, during break time and at lunchtime.



Thank you - Matron



HOW HEALTHY IS YOUR START TO THE DAY?



There is no better way to start the day than eating a healthy breakfast as it will lift your mood and get you ready for the day ahead.

Eating breakfast kick-starts the day and..

- Provides the body with essential nutrients and vitamins
- Boosts energy and concentration levels
- Helps stabilise blood sugar levels, which regulates the appetite



Including breakfast in your daily routine will become part of a healthy lifestyle



Thank you - MATRON





We have numerous items of lost property including coats, odd shoes and trainers. If you are missing any, please ask your son or daughter to come to Matron's Office - all unclaimed items will be donated to charity at the end of term.



Thank you - Matron

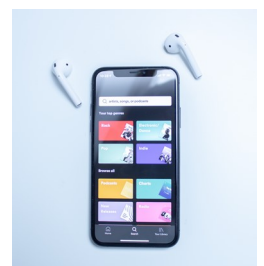


Mobile Phone Policy

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 after the final morning bell and are only allowed to use their phones after the final bell of the day as they leave.

Students going 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.



Attendance Matters...

We are now reaching the half way point in the year, and I hope we will soon begin to say goodbye to the coughs, colds and sickness bugs that have been so persistent lately.

Please remember that it is normal to send in your child if they have a cough or cold but not if they have sickness or diarrhoea (please allow 48 hours). It is a great idea to encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly—this goes a long way in preventing the spread of germs.



We still see a large number of students arriving late for school each day.

Students should be on site at 8.27am and in their form rooms ready for registration at 8.30am.

We do appreciate that traffic is often heavy in the morning with roadworks adding to the congestion.

Please bear this in mind and allow plenty of time for your journey each day to ensure students arrive on time. Please note, that from Monday 24th February 2020, there will be a change to sanctions as a result of lateness. For every two 'lates' in a week students will be issued with a C3 – after school detention. This may mean that students may receive more than one detention per week if lateness continues. Where a student is late twice or more in a half term, this will also result in a C3 – after school detention.

Good attendance is directly linked to academic achievement and you can support your child in achieving their very best by:

- Not keeping them off school unnecessarily
- Encouraging them to arrive at school on time
- Not booking holidays during term time
- Booking medical appointments outside of school where possible
- Not keeping them off school for activities such as shopping, looking after other children, birthdays or other events
- Not keeping them off school to avoid detentions, test or where they are reluctant to attend for any reason

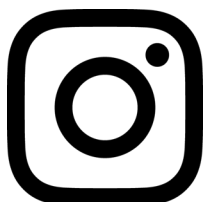
If you have any concerns about your child's attendance—please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a great half term.

Mrs Bull

Attendance Improvement Officer

Give us a follow us on Social Media!



We have presence on Social Media— you can find all the latest news and highlights on Instagram and Twitter.



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Option 2: Foundation: 1.30pm to 5.00pm
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Marc Ackland, I Get Maths Ltd (no. 0086577201, 174 Long Meadow, Aylesbury, HP21 7EB)

Sacred Space

Starting back on 13th Jan
and is on Mondays of
term time 3-4.45pm
(not 20th Jan)

Wendover Christian Centre
Aylesbury Road, HP22 6JG

For everyone in year 6 and up.
This is a space for you
to unwind and relax and
take part in some guided
meditations.

For more information please contact Becky or Remco
youthminister@stmaryswendover.org
minister@wendoverfreachurch.org.uk

John Colet School PTA Multi Terrain Run...

If you are looking for a challenge while raising some much needed funds then look no further!

John Colet School PTA is hosting a 5k or 10k multi terrain run Sunday 3rd May and your school needs you!



The run starts and finishes at school while running through the fabulous Wendover Woods—if you book online now you can take advantage of the early bird discount.

Join Mr Harty, other staff and students in this worthy challenge! **See page 17** for the details.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK



MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are lighthearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others' videos on the app.

TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into a 45-minute visit.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips For Parents

TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.

ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.

EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.

LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.

Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



SOURCES:

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Twitter - @natonlinesafety

Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.01.2020





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S.P.A.C.E is a **FREE** programme of events to give parents and carers the tools they need to help their children through secondary school. The programme will also explore higher education, further education and the opportunities available to young people.

If you would like more information or would like to attend, please email Hannah or Kat:
space@studyhigher.ac.uk

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Where: Wing Village Hall,
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Cost: Free + refreshments

Young children welcome to come along and enjoy the craft table.

SATURDAY 29 FEBRUARY
1.30-3pm

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SATURDAY 28 MARCH
1.30-3pm

Mindfulness & Resilience

This is an uplifting and interactive session which focuses on providing you with an overview of how you can support your child in building their personal, emotional, academic and social resilience.

Delivered by Positively Mad

SATURDAY 25 APRIL
1.30-3pm

University Myth Busting

Address any concerns you may have about your child going onto higher or further education. Ranging from student finance, how to apply and more.

Delivered by Study Higher

As a thank you for your time, each parent or carer will be given a **£20 Amazon voucher** for each session attended!



www.studyhigher.ac.uk



Children's Pancake Party

Come to St Mary's Church, Wendover
to enjoy delicious pancakes and play
some fun games!

Tues 25th February
4 - 5pm

**SUNDAY
3RD MAY 2020**

WENDOVER WOODS MULTI-TERRAIN RUN

5K & 10K RUN



Sweeney's **Budgens**



**SUNDAY 3RD MAY 2020 - 9.30AM START (REGISTRATION 8.30AM)
WENDOVER MULTI-TERRAIN RUN 5K & 10K RUN INTO WENDOVER WOODS
STARTING & FINISHING AT THE JOHN COLET SCHOOL.**

**EARLYBIRD PURCHASE BEFORE 14TH FEBRUARY 2020 - ADULT £12 CHILD £5
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(UNDER 12'S ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)**

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Business mileage and parking fees will be reimbursed. A background in either retail or financial services is advantageous.

If you'd like to join our team, we would love to hear from you!

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Monday - Friday

Closing Date

28 February 2020

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Recruitment@harpendenbs.co.uk

Science

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Biology and Chemistry A level, GCSE Science and all **exams** - getting ready? Want to **improve** your grades? Are there topics you find really **difficult**?

I can help you!



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Call or text Mrs Smith on 07503 646 507

or email: sandymail7@talktalk.net

Pop-Up Art Exhibition Weekend

Our Year 12 Art students will be exhibiting their work at the forthcoming Pop-Up Art Weekend at the Chiltern MS Centre over the weekend of the 6th-8th March 2020. Their work will be shown alongside professional and semi-professional artists.

This event is now in its 15th year and it has raised almost £120,000, providing the Centre with an incredible 3,420 hours of physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, oxygen treatment, occupational and complementary therapies to people in the local community living with MS.

Not only can you view the work from our students, you can watch demonstrations from some of the artists or simply enjoy lunch, refreshments and delicious cakes from the café.

