

This Week

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31 October 2014

From the Principal:

As we reach the end of the first week back after half term, we are pleased to report that our students continue to look smart and are excellent ambassadors for our College.

We would again like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support in ensuring that their daughters are wearing correct College Dress. We believe that appropriate College Dress is important in promoting a positive working and learning environment.

Alison Merrills

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'They died that we might live.'

Unknown

COLLEGE CALENDAR

Term dates for 2014-2015 are available on the College website: www.sjncc.leicester.sch.uk

6 November Achievement Evening, 6.30pm
13 November Year 11 Parents' Evening
20 November Year 9 Poole's Cavern Visit
26 November Year 8 Black Country Living Museum Visit

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Two parents have been nominated to stand as parent governor. A letter and details explaining the voting process along with the ballot paper have been sent home with your daughter today.

Completed ballot papers should be returned to the College by **Friday 7 November 2014**.

Alison Merrills

ACCESS TO THE COLLEGE SITE

Please be aware as part of the construction of our new entrance road, entrance to the College site is much narrower than usual. This will be the case for the next 2-3 weeks. A member of the construction staff will be directing traffic at the top of the drive at the start and end of the day. Please follow any instructions given.

Vehicles must not enter the site at peak times.

Thank you for your support.

Alison Merrills

ENERGY DRINKS

This week in assemblies we have been looking at the consumption of energy drinks. These drinks contain large quantities of sugar and caffeine. A one litre bottle of drink, purchased from a local shop, contained the caffeine equivalent of 9.5 cans of coke, together with 27 teaspoons of sugar. We are a healthy school and these drinks have negative effects on our students' ability to learn.

Energy drinks include a health warning advising they are not suitable for children. In fact, in the US there have been over 20 deaths linked to the consumption of energy drinks!

We therefore ask students not to bring these drinks into College. If we do see students with energy drinks at college, they will be invited to exchange them for a bottle of water.

Dr Thompson, Assistant Principal

ATTENDANCE

Who did well last week?

	Year to date	%	w/e 10/10/2014	%
Year 7	7.3	98.9	7.9	100.0
	7.2 & 7.5	98.6	7.5	99.2
	7.8	98.5	7.3	98.1
Year 8	8.1	98.1	8.1	100.0
	8.5	97.2	8.6	96.8
	8.8	97.1	8.5	96.2
Year 9	9.6	97.3	9.6	99.2
	9.8	97.0	9.8	97.8
	9.5	96.4	9.9	96.3
Year 10	10.6	97.0	10.6	99.2
	10.4	96.4	10.4	97.6
	10.5	96.2	10.9	96.7
Year 11	11.3	97.2	11.2	98.1
	11.5	97.8	11.4	96.3
	11.2 & 11.7	96.7	11.5 & 11.9	96.2
Overall College attendance		95.7		94.1

YEAR 11 ASSERTIVE MENTORING

The second Assertive Mentoring track for all Year 11 students will begin shortly. This enables us to look at a whole range of information, including the levels that students are currently working at and what they need to do to make further progress. Mentors will then be meeting with all Year 11 students to discuss the progress they are making and any areas where they might be having difficulties. The Assertive Mentoring programme is an important part of all students' academic career and we value the positive way that students are approaching the meetings.

In addition to this, we are always looking for new ways to ensure you have up-to-date information regarding GCSEs, especially in Year 11. If you are on Facebook, why not add yourself to our group page where you will receive regular updates about key dates and events concerning Year 11? We will be posting revision-session information, news about Assertive Mentoring and anything else which is important for achieving the very best results. You can find the group page on Facebook by searching for "SJNCC Raising Year 11 Achievement" and clicking "Join Group."

Kai Sheldrake, Assistant Principal

MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

On Wednesday 29 October I was invited to attend a Ministerial roundtable discussion with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Sam Gyimah, at the DfE in Westminster.

Sir Jonathan North was invited along with other schools and partner agencies from across the UK who have been identified as having excellent practice in the area of supporting Mental Health within schools.

The group discussion will contribute to policy and practice to improve the prevention, recognition and treatment of Mental Health issues for children and young people.

Mrs Mason, Student Support Manager

YEAR 9 VISIT TO DEMONTFORT HALL TO SEE WILLY RUSSELL'S 'BLOOD BROTHERS'

On Wednesday 29 October, set 1 of English population A in Year 9 went to see the musical Blood Brothers with Mrs Taylor and Mrs Allen at DeMontfort Hall.

After all the walking and dull weather we finally arrived, and it was worth it! It was very busy because a lot of schools came to see the play too. We found our seats and enjoyed the show.

The first act was really long and lasted all the way up to the intermission, which was when some of us went to get some food. The second half was more interesting and funny because there were a lot of funny moments. Of course, because Blood Brothers is a musical there was a lot of singing and some of the songs were really good.

Overall, the show was brilliant and highly enjoyable. It was much better than we expected.

Beth Willis and Chloe Wardle, 9.1

LITERACY LEADER BOOK REVIEW

The Northern Lights

(An advanced read- Reading age of 13-15 years)

The Northern Lights by Philip Pullman is a very enjoyable read. It is about a girl called Lyra Bealequa who lives in Oxford in a parallel universe to this, where there are witch clans who rule the skies, and armoured polar bears who roam the ice.

She lives with her daemon, Pantalaimon. All humans have daemons, even if you cannot see him or her. Daemons take the form of animals which suit your personality and can change shape as they please until you are the age of 13- adulthood in Lyra's world- when they settle in one form forever.

Lyra has a very happy childhood, playing in the clay beds with the Gyptians, and climbing the roofs of Jordan College with her best friend, Roger. It all changes, however, when she cannot find him anywhere. You see a rumour has been filtering through the streets for some weeks: a rumour that made some people laugh and others grow silent, as some scoff at ghosts, and others fear them. For no reason that anyone could imagine, children had begun beginning to disappear!

This book is one of the best books that I have ever read and was filmed as The Golden Compass. However, unlike the film, there are two more adventures in the trilogy, which are possibly even better to read!

BONFIRE NIGHT SAFETY

Bonfire Night is a fun and exciting time for many people and for children in particular.

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service recommends that people attend an organised Bonfire Night event.

To stay safe on 5 November, follow this advice:

- always wear gloves when holding a sparkler
- keep a safe distance from fireworks and bonfires
- never go back to a lit firework
- never hold or throw a lit firework
- keep pets inside
- don't set off fireworks in the street or busy places - you could seriously hurt yourself or somebody else
- never put fireworks in your pocket
- light fireworks at arm's length with a taper
- don't set off noisy fireworks late at night. It's an offence to set off fireworks after midnight
- remember that it is illegal to possess fireworks if you are under 18 years of age.

**Or you could just remember one thing...
the safest way to enjoy Bonfire Night is to go to an organised event.**



Autumn Photography Competition

Students are invited to submit their best photos based on the theme of autumn.

We are looking for photographs of any aspect of the natural world, the people or the city which have an autumnal theme taken in Leicestershire

To enter please email your entry to Mr Herickx at aherickx@sjncc.leicester.sch.uk by the 5th December 2014