

# This Week

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## From the Principal:

This term involves important deadlines and decisions for students in Years 9 and 11. In Year 11, we are trying to help every student to achieve her best through good teaching and support and by providing opportunities for exam practice. The message is that to achieve their best possible grades, students need to follow this basic recipe for success:

- Maintain a positive attitude
- Be well organised
- Attend College every day
- Work hard
- Make time to relax.

If you think there is anything we can do to support your daughter better at this key time, please contact the College. Over the next few weeks, Year 9 students will be receiving information and advice about GCSE option choices for Year 10. Parents and students are invited to attend the Key Stage Four Information Evening after half term, on Thursday 5 March. This will be an excellent opportunity to ask questions about courses in Years 10 and 11, and to speak to staff.

Alison Merrills

## COLLEGE CHEF'S WINNING MENU

We are very pleased to announce that Sir Jonathan North's chef, John Morrey, has won the East Midlands round of the Chef of the Year award. John impressed regional judges with his menu of Tikka Ravioli served with coriander and Red Leicester flat bread with Summer Berry Pot for dessert. The brief was to create a meal that would appeal to a twelve year old using a certain number of Nestle products and to spend no more than £1.90 per head. John created his own recipes using pasta pillows stuffed with chicken tikka in a masala sauce and his own flatbread with local cheese. This was followed by a light mousse flavoured with summer berries and served with mini cookies made from Shreddies.

The next challenge for John is to tempt the judges with his menu at the final and to win the prestigious National School Chef of the Year award. He is no stranger to winning and won the East Midlands heat in 2013. He was also highly commended in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Good luck to John for the finals in May.

Alison Merrills

## ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

We would like to remind parents of the arrangements in place in the event of adverse weather conditions. Should we judge the weather conditions on site and/or in the local area to be a health and safety risk, we may be forced to close the College.

You will find information on this by:

- visiting the College website [www.sjncc.leicester.sch.uk](http://www.sjncc.leicester.sch.uk)
- listening to BBC Radio Leicester or by visiting its website: [www.bbc.co.uk/leicester](http://www.bbc.co.uk/leicester)

In the very unlikely event that the College is forced to close before the usual time of 2.55 pm, we will inform parents by text message. Should you prefer your daughter to remain in College until 2.55 pm, a record of this will have been kept in the Main Office.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Lent – traditionally a time for giving up rich foods in preparation for Easter. Think about choosing to do something positive instead.'

## COLLEGE CALENDAR

Term dates for 2014-2015 are available on the College website: [www.sjncc.leicester.sch.uk](http://www.sjncc.leicester.sch.uk)

9 February Progress Evening for Targeted Students  
13 February Kingswood Residential Visit  
13 February College closes for Half Term

## ATTENDANCE Who did well last week?

	Year to date	%	w/e 30/01/2015	%
Year 7	7.8	99.1	7.8	98.8
	7.5	98.5	7.5	98.0
	7.4	97.7	7.4	97.8
Year 8	8.5	98.9	8.8	98.7
	8.1	98.4	8.5	97.6
	8.4	98.2	8.4	97.2
Year 9	9.6	97.6	9.6	98.1
	9.8	97.3	9.8	97.8
	9.5	97.2	9.2	97.3
Year 10	10.3	98.2	10.3 & 10.7	98.8
	10.7	97.2	10.4	97.1
	10.4	96.8	10.5, 10.6 & 10.8	94.6
Year 11	11.5	99.1	11.3	99.3
	11.4	98.7	11.5 & 11.7	98.8
	11.7	98.5	11.2	98.5
Overall College attendance		95.6		95.4

## ACCESS TO THE COLLEGE SITE

Please be aware as part of the next phase of the construction of our new entrance road, the entrance to the College site is once again much narrower than usual. This will be the case for the next 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.

Thank you for your support.

## THIS WEEK'S GREAT GRADE GRABBER!

Here are the command words used in **Science** exams;

- **Complete:** Answers should be written in the space provided, e.g. on a diagram, in spaces in a sentence or in a table.
- **State, give, name, write down:** Only a short answer is required, not an explanation or a description. Often it can be answered with a single word, phrase or sentence.
- **Calculate:** Use numbers given in the question to work out the answer. Show your working and give the units when asked to do so.
- **Describe:** Recall some facts, events or a process in an accurate way.
- **Suggest:** Apply your knowledge and understanding to a new situation. There may be more than one correct answer. Useful words to use are 'may', 'might', 'could' and 'I think that'.
- **Compare:** Describe the similarities and/or differences between things, not just write about one. Use comparative words such as 'better'.

The Science Team

## JOSIE'S WRITING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Josie Thornton in Year 8, who has received a certificate and cheque for her winning entry in the 2014 Vaughan Centre for Lifelong Learning Writing Competition. The judges said of her first-place-winning story:

*'This is remarkably assured fiction from a young competitor with a strong voice, and a good sense of prose rhythm. Well-written, strange and original, with effective present tense narration. A great read.'*

Josie also received copies of the anthology. As the entire judging panel agreed, Josie is an extremely talented writer. Congratulations to Josie once again.

Alison Merrills

## SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 11



As Year 11 students continue to focus on revision, parents can help in a number of ways:

- Reward your daughter's efforts to revise
- Reduce the number of chores that she has to do so she can be fully prepared for when exams start
- Make sure that the whole family keep disturbances to a minimum
- Make sure that time is built in for exercise and recreation
- Respect your daughter's growing independence
- Help her to keep things in perspective
- Have a copy of the exam timetable at home so that you can provide encouragement for each exam

Studies show that high parental interest is linked with better exam results than for children whose parents show no interest. How will you be supporting your daughter to give her the best chance of achieving success?

### Here are some useful websites for past papers and revision

- [bbc.co.uk/schools/parents](http://bbc.co.uk/schools/parents)
- [bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize)
- [gcseguide.co.uk](http://gcseguide.co.uk)
- [gcse.com](http://gcse.com)
- [gcsepod.com](http://gcsepod.com)
- [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)
- [edexcel.org.uk](http://edexcel.org.uk)
- [ocr.org.uk](http://ocr.org.uk)
- [wjec.co.uk](http://wjec.co.uk)

## COURT CASE TRIUMPH

On 31 January, fifteen Year 10 students took part in the Leicester Schools Trials Competition. The competition required students to take on all of the roles in a law court (excepting that of judge) and try two cases. Students took on the roles of advocates, witnesses, jurors, a witness care officer, clerk and usher and a journalist.

Twelve city schools participated in the competition held at the Leicester Crown Court in front of serving judges. Much hard work went into preparing for the competition - we could not have done without the professional support of solicitor advocates Nicki Agalamanyi and Hannah Price, nor the support of Hannah Hussain, a law graduate.

The competition was fierce and the competing students from other schools were impressive. However, our students were outstanding and through their excellence, we won gold as Best Competing School. Phoebe Raleigh, who was described as 'brilliant' by one of the judges of the competition, won an individual trophy as Best Witness Care Officer and Isabella Guzy-Kirkden won Best Advocate. Her 'strong voice, ability to control the witness and good sense of timing' were commended.

Well done to everyone who took part:

Lizzie Stapleton, Isabella Guzy-Kirkden, Evelyn Forey, Lauryn Philip-Blakey, Neelima Miah, Phoebe Raleigh, Kara Gill-Harrison, Kaya Heaton, Mugabi Musinguzi, Esher Bahra, Zainab Dhariwal, Imogen Webb, Rebecca Cundill, Tafadzwa Chadenga, Lily Hill

'It was a fun opportunity and it was great to learn hands-on how a court is run.' **Kaya Heaton 10.6**

**Ms Guzy, Kara Gill-Harrison and Rebecca Cundill**



### Study Support Programme: Week Beginning 9/2/15

	Subject	Topic	Room	Subject	Topic	Room
	Lunch 1.10 – 1.55 (45 minutes)			3.05 – 4.05 (1 hour)		
Monday	Business Studies	Growth, integration and location	W14	Science	Chemistry	L10
	Physical Education	Unit 1 - Development of skills, techniques and motivation	W10			
	Food	Coursework completion				
	Textiles	Coursework completion				
	Biology		L13			
	Health and Social Care					
Tuesday	Geography	River features e.g. meanders OVER/UNDER POPULATION (ONE CHILD POLICY)	W7 & W8	Mathematics	GCSE Exam Topics	
	History	Unit 1A: Medicine and Treatment	W3, W4, W6			
	Leisure and Tourism	Coursework catch-up.				
	Sociology					
Wednesday	French Spanish	Appointments to be booked with teachers		Dance Drama		Dance Studio Drama Studio
Thursday	Religious Studies ICT / Computing			English	Reading: Tackling the Comparison Question	M14
Friday	PE activities	See Ms. Hunt for Details	Main Hall			