

This Week

Volume 18, Issue 1

4 September 2015

From the Principal:

The new academic year has started positively. We would like to congratulate all of our Year 11 students on their GCSE results. Students worked extremely hard to achieve these results and should be very proud of their achievement.

We are pleased to report that 68% of students gained 5 or more GCSE A* - C grades in all subjects and 63% of students achieved 5 GCSE A*-C passes including English and maths; 98% achieved 5 A*-G GCSE grades.

We were delighted that so many students will now progress to the course of their choice at a local Further Education or Sixth Form College.

In assemblies on Tuesday we welcomed students in all year groups to the new academic year. They have been reminded of our expectations of them, particularly in relation to college dress, attitude and behaviour, organisation and homework. These are areas where support from parents is extremely valuable. Please ask your daughter for this newsletter each week (or alternatively read it on our website) when you see her planner as it contains important information to keep you well informed.

We look forward to working with you over the coming year.



Alison Merrills

GOVERNMENT RAISES THE BAR ON ATTENDANCE

From September, the Government is raising the threshold for what is considered to be acceptable attendance.

At the moment, students with attendance below 85% are considered to be 'persistent absentees'. From September, that will be raised to 90%.

In college, we will also raise our expectations of students.

Attendance of **at least 95%** will be required for students to be invited to termly reward events and to the end-of-year trip.

Of course, the majority of our students always have attendance above 95% but for some students, it will be a challenging target!

Aim for excellent attendance next year!

Alison Merrills

ROAD SAFETY

Knighton Lane is very busy with traffic, especially in the mornings when the College opens to students and in the afternoons when the College closes. We are concerned that some students are not making use of the two pedestrian crossings outside College and would like to reiterate the importance of being safe at all times whilst crossing this busy road.

Thank you

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

'To succeed you need to find something to hold on to, to motivate you, something to inspire you.'

Tony Dorsett

COLLEGE CALENDAR

Term dates for 2015-2016 are available on the College website.

www.sjncc.leicester.sch.uk

07 September	College Photographs
17 September	Open Evening
24 September	Year 11 Transition Parents' Evening

COLLEGE PHOTOGRAPHS

Student photographs will be taken on Monday 7 September. As in previous years, we will be using a local firm of photographers, 'Professional School Portraits of Leicester.' Parents will have an opportunity to order photographs later this term when they receive proof copies.

FEEDBACK FROM THE PARENT/CARER QUESTIONNAIRE 2015

Thank you to all the parents/ carers who completed our questionnaire last term to give us feedback about how well the College is doing. Overall, responses have been very positive:

- 96% of parents agree their daughter is happy at college
- 97% of parents agree their daughter feels safe at college
- 97% of parents agree their daughter makes good progress at college
- 98% of parents agree their daughter is well looked after at college
- 99% of parents agree their daughter is taught well at college
- 90% of parents agree their daughter receives appropriate homework for her age
- 94% of parents agree the college makes sure its students are well behaved
- 93% of parents agree the college deals effectively with bullying
- 99% of parents agree the college is well led and managed
- 95% of parents agree the college responds well to any concerns they raise
- 95% of parents would recommend this college to another parent.

Thank you again for taking the time to give us your views. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us to evaluate and improve our practice.

Alison Merrills

SPORTS DAY 2015

On Wednesday 8 July the entire school headed to Saffron Lane Stadium for the college's annual Sports Day. The theme was 'This Girl Can', with each tutor group having a different female sports star.

As always, the theme was embraced fantastically well with tutor groups creating amazing banners and some even dressing up for the occasion!

The competition on the day was as competitive as always with some very close events.

As a PE team, we are proud of all the students who participated. They definitely gave it their all - well done to all involved! However, there has to be a winner and the winning tutor groups are as follows:

Year 7 **7.8**
Year 8 **8.9**
Year 9 **9.8**
Year 10 **10.9**

Overall tutor groups: **8**

PE Team



END OF YEAR REWARD TRIP



On 9 July we had our annual reward trip to Drayton Manor Park. A fabulous time was had by all – staff and students alike and the weather was wonderfully warm all day! It is always a pleasure to reward students for hard work, good behaviour, attendance and

punctuality and this was no exception! Students braved the most daring rides and filled up their tummies on lots of ice cream and sweets – many finishing off the day with a wander around the zoo.

We are looking forward to seeing even more students on the trip at the end of this academic year – along with their first rewards at the end of the autumn term, so watch this space.

Sadie Ram, Senior Assistant Principal

SPELLING COMPETITION

Annie McChrystal in 7.2 came in the top five of a national foreign languages spelling competition entered by 75,000 children. The final was held on Friday 3 July in Cambridge. The competition – which is sponsored by the European Commission – involves Year 7 pupils competing to correctly translate and spell the most number of words in

French, Spanish or German in just 60 seconds. Annie's performance was truly amazing and we are looking forward to entering her for the Year 8 competition next year.



Mrs Lopez-Correia, Modern Foreign Languages Team

WELCOME TO OUR NEW YEAR 7 2015

Our new Year 7 intake have made a great start to the term. They have started with enthusiasm and are ready for all the excitement of a new school, new friends, activities and new subjects.

At Sir Jonathan North we do our best to make the transition as smooth, enjoyable and worry free as we can. Some of the girls will already have been involved in taster sessions in years 4 and 5. Many of the girls have attended summer schools, some of our community arts activities or have visited us on Open Evening with parents or carers.

Our transfer day was a great success and we had many pictures showing what a great day everyone had culminating in an evening when parents met their tutors.

Tuesday 1 September, the big day arrived for Year 7 2015 starting in their new tutor groups. The girls spent their day with their tutor groups taking part in treasure hunts and Murder Mystery activities working in teams to win prizes. Students had a fabulous day and the feedback was brilliant especially about lunchtime as they all had a free meal to test out our great menu!

The girls have settled well and already showed they were very sensible and responsible during our very first Fire Drill on Wednesday.

We are now looking forward to our Team Building trips at The Outdoor Pursuits Centre at the end of September.

We hope that your daughter has enjoyed her first few days at Sir Jonathan North and has settled in well and we really look forward working with and supporting her through the next 5 years.

Mrs Thornber, Year Team Leader



Sir Jonathan North
Community College



Principal: Alison Merritt



Innovation built on tradition

Open Evening

Thursday 17 September 2015 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm