

## **Newsletter for Families 8th March 2024**

Our vision is to create an excellent school that gives every child no matter their background or beliefs, the opportunity to live happy and fulfilling lives, go to university or pursue the career of their choice.



# Principal's Message

Following on from Mr Baynes section in our last newsletter, thank you to everyone who has supported with our recent re-focus on uniform. We have high standards around the uniform we expect students at the school to wear, and the primary reason for this is to create an environment of social equity, one where learning is the key activity. Logos, jewellery and other non-uniform items distract from this focus, which is why we ask students to wear the school uniform to reflect the fact that we 'dress up' and 'look smart' for things that are important, and that includes school.

Our website outlines our uniform expectations, and while we provide other aspects of school equipment such as white boards, pens and knowledge organisers, we do ask families to ensure students are dressed in full uniform each day. This can be found <a href="https://example.com/here/">here</a>.

We have a supply of pre-loved uniform in school to lend out when items are forgotten, but it is so important that we get this back at the end of each day so that our supplies do not run out. If your child has borrowed an item from the uniform library, can you please ensure this is returned. We launder the items regularly so that they are fresh for students to borrow.

As a parent, I know it is frustrating to purchase items of uniform and to have them go missing at school. We often find items of uniform which are not named, and I know it might feel odd to name a child's clothing once they have reached the age of 11+, but I would suggest that you do as it helps us to ensure that blazers/ties/jumpers can be returned to their owner.

If you do have any uniform that your child has grown out of and would like to donate it to our uniform library, we would be delighted and grateful to receive any items - please drop them into reception. Thank you for your support with this.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we will be running our Tea and Tours again in April and I have attached a Teams form for parents and carers to use to sign up.



Fail of officed Learning		
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	KS3 Years 7, 8, 9	Tea & Tour Events Years 7 - April 2024
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April		
Click here to book.	KS4 Years 10, 11	

#### Year 11

Thank you to everyone who has so far contributed with donations of dresses, suits, shoes, and make-up for the Prom, we really do appreciate it. Please do keep bringing these items in and handing in at the office to support us in offering our students the very best Prom experience ever.

We have been exceptionally proud of our Year 11s over the last two weeks as they have been completing their second set of mocks. Students have worked really hard in preparation for these and we are looking forward to sharing the results of all of their hard work with students on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

We would also like to remind our year 11 parents of the Leavers' Hoodies that are available to purchase. The shop for these closes in 16 days, so if you haven't already placed your order for one of these, please do that by following the link below and using the code 30608YR11 to access our online shop.

Coleridge Community College Leavers' Hoodies 2024 - Fizz (fizz-group.co.uk)

#### 'Ramadhan Kareem!

Next week (w/c 11<sup>th</sup> March) many of our students will be partaking in the Holy month of Ramadhan and observing fasts for the daylight hours. To help facilitate those who wish to fast, we have a designated prayer room for students to use during lunchtime. An assembly will be held to share thoughts, experiences and what this blessed month means from our students. Mr Maherban will also be leading the Friday prayers here at Coleridge during this month.



We hope our students and their families enjoy the coming together of this month and self-reflection it brings.

Please do contact the school if you have any questions.



We will be supporting Comic Relief on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March with a non-school uniform event. A donation of £2 is requested if affordable to support this event. Full details of expectations of clothing and the link for the donation will be shared with you next week.

## History KS3 & KS4 - Peter Morris

In History we build on the progress made within the students' primary school experience and prepare our students to be lifelong learners. The skills of seeing different perspectives, constructing arguments with evidence, and understanding people's motives and intentions in history help prepare students to understand the modern world that surrounds them; how that global political landscape, for good or ill, has been shaped.

Our KS3 and KS4 begin over a 1000 years ago, students are entitled to enjoy a curriculum that both studies British history in depth yet also understands the interconnected stories of humanity over the ages. From Constantinople and Medieval Baghdad to the impact of Galen and Hippocrates from the ancient civilisation on British medicine, from Elizabethan England to Mary's Scotland and Philip II's Spain, from West Africa to the Americas there is a geographical range within a coherent chronological set of studies that occur in date order. We want our students to master new knowledge by opening their eyes to the interconnected histories around the world; whilst adapting our teaching to bring in local studies of local yet National figures such as: Ely's Oliver Cromwell, Olaudiah Equiano, who's daughter is buried in St. Andrews Church Chesterton and had the river bridge renamed in his honour less than 18 months ago. Being able to see our diverse community represented locally and national allows students to see versions of themselves as we educate with character; not shying away from debating historical controversy.

Coming up in the June 2024 will be the first annual Year 9 History trip to the battlefields. This will be a life changing opportunity for students to visit the war graves, both Commonwealth and German, and the monuments to the fallen. 35 students from Year 9 are taking part, potentially visiting members of their own family's history or taken part in the laying of wreaths such as at Menin Gate.

History Curriculum Plan KS3 & KS4



#### **Head of Year 8 - James Wyatt Moon**

Year 8 is a significant year in the social, emotional and cognitive development of students. As part of this, students have been using Tuesday's form time to explore tolerance and religious prejudice. As the year continues students will move on to explore homophobia, the Equalities act and teenage discrimination.

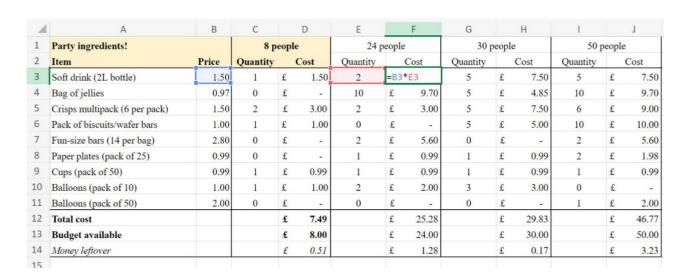
In art lessons, year 8 have been looking at the role of are in social change specifically looking at Environmentalism. Here is an example some of this work in production:



Year 8 students have started their studies of Excel spreadsheets. They have been learning about **cell references**, and how these are used to make a **formula**.

Students are working towards planning an event (such as a prom), looking at how the rates of fundraising and ticket prices can influence the quality of event.

In their previous topics, students have been learning about **flowcharts, python programming** and binary.





We are privileged to live in a city with a world leading university and multiple cutting-edge businesses. We are increasingly looking to explore and make use of the enriching opportunities that this may offer students. Do let us know if there is something you may be able to offer.

One such enrichment opportunity has been working with a Psychology and Education researcher from the University of Cambridge. A small group of year 8 students have spent the last 5 weeks taking part in a philosophical inquiry-based psychoeducational group intervention. During the sessions, the students are presented with a stimulus and a philosophical question.

They then collaborate in order to answer the question. The process is dynamic, and encourages listening to others, taking their perspective and building on it, and modification of own perspective as needed.

#### Music - this week's Big News!





#### **Cookies and Cream at the Junction Fiver**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, Y10 band **Cookies and Cream** played their first full set/gig at the Junction's **Fiver** event. The boys attracted a huge audience and performed a superb set which included classics such as *Can't Stop* by the Red-Hot Chilli Peppers and Green Day's *Basket Case*. The boys did us proud and after a fantastic gig, guaranteed themselves a second Fiver performance later in the year. Thanks to all who came and supported and huge congratulations to **Cookies and Cream**.

Next month 2 of our Y11 bands will be performing at the Junction Fiver. We will let you know when tickets are released. See below for dates.



#### Carnival Crew 1 drum up support at the TTP Cambridge Half Marathon





**Carnival Crew One** (Y9 – Y11 students) made a huge difference to thousands of runners as they drummed for 2 hours and 45 minutes at the TTP Cambridge Half Marathon on Sunday. Runners were visibly energised by the driving beats of the Coleridge Carnival Crew and were encouraged by the rhythmic chants and constant support of our wonderful musicians.

Members of public who ran in the event have since been in contact to thank the Crew for their support. Here are a few of those messages:

'Your support was immense. It was much needed. I was struggling at that point'.

'Loved the drumming – it gave me such a lift'.

'I don't think I could have finished the race without your power boost at that point. Thank you so, so much.'

'It was fantastic to see the Carnival Crew at the Cambridge Half. I was running and I can't express what a real pick me up it was'.

Carnival Crew 1, you were fantastic! Thank you so much for giving up so much of your time on Sunday to make a difference to the local community. Thanks to everyone who came to support us ... and HUGE congratulations to all the amazing Carnival Crew parents and friends, and Coleridge staff who ran the event! You smashed it!

#### Can you help?

We are in need of guitar strings (acoustic, classical and electric) and violin strings. If you have any spare at home and would like to donate some to the Music department, we'd be very grateful. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Miss Lewis on Rebecca.Lewis@coleridgecc.org.uk



We now have a double bass teacher on the peripatetic team, if your child would like to have double bass lessons (or lessons on any other instrument), please complete the form linked below:

https://forms.office.com/e/LDr7p3AX05

#### **Save the Date - Upcoming Create Events**

**Friday 19**<sup>th</sup> **April** – the fantastic **Vintage Rec** will be performing again at the Junction! **Cleen** will also have their Junction Fiver debut at this event so go along to see how they do.

### To get a £2.50 discount on your ticket use code VINREC

Website + ticket link: https://www.junction.co.uk/events/the-fiver-april/

Keep an eye on our Twitter / X account (CambsCreate) where we will post regular updates of what our students are getting up to, across the Performing Arts at Coleridge and in the Cambridge Cluster.





Dates for your Diary:		
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7 Parent Evening	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Comic Relief – Non-Uniform Day	
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Italy Ski Trip	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	24 hour Musicathon	
29 <sup>th</sup> March – 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holiday	

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An archive of our weekly bulletins can be found on our website.