



Newsletter for Families 3rd May 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

As an educational institution where we help shape the future of the students who attend Coleridge, we recognise the importance of the school values. In this newsletter I would like to discuss with you a fundamental value that resonates deeply within our school community: integrity.

Integrity, often described as the backbone of character, embodies honesty, sincerity, and moral fortitude. It is the steadfast commitment to uphold principles of truthfulness, righteousness, and fairness in all endeavours, irrespective of circumstance or consequence. At our school, we hold integrity in the highest regard, recognising its transformative power in shaping not only academic success but also personal growth and societal contribution.

As your child navigates the dynamic landscape of adolescence, they are confronted with myriad choices and challenges that test their moral compass. It is during these formative years that the seeds of integrity must be sown, nurturing a sense of responsibility and ethical consciousness that will guide them on the path to becoming conscientious citizens of tomorrow. This week our assemblies, led by Mr Baynes, focused on integrity, appropriate behaviour and language and protected characteristics.



In the classroom, integrity manifests through the diligent pursuit of knowledge and the acknowledgment of academic personal excellence – we ask students to always try their best, work hard and be the best version of themselves. Our teachers impart not only academic lessons but also moral lessons, emphasising the importance of original thought, intellectual honesty, and respect for the ideas and work of others.

Beyond academic pursuits, integrity permeates every facet of school life, from interpersonal relationships, achievement in lessons and extracurricular activities. We encourage our students to demonstrate integrity in their interactions with peers and teachers, fostering an environment of trust, respect, and inclusivity.

As parents, your role in cultivating integrity within your child cannot be overstated. Engage in meaningful conversations about the significance of honesty, integrity, and ethical decision-making. Encourage them to take ownership of their actions, to always try to do the “right thing” even when no one is watching, and to champion integrity as a guiding principle in all aspects of their lives.

Over the coming weeks I will discuss our other values of contribution, caring and ambition, the role they play in school and the impact they have on students and our wider school community.

Canteen Cards

A reminder that all students must have a canteen card to pay for food at school. We are experiencing delays in serving food due to the number of students seeking alternative methods of payment. We therefore ask that you please ensure that your child has their canteen card, and these are topped up. If your card does not have a canteen card, please email col-enquiries@coleridgeecc.org.uk so we can issue your child a new card.

Year 11

This week some of our Year 11s have sat their first GCSE of this season. We have been really impressed with the hard work shown by all our Year 11s in the run up to their exams and know that they have been preparing hard to achieve the very best grades this summer. We will be delivering many last-minute revision and intervention sessions for students and this information has been shared with students.

Prom tickets are now also available for purchase on ParentMail, so please do check and make sure you have purchased your child’s ticket for the Prom.

PE – Mr Dixon (Head of PE)

Please find attached to this week’s newsletter, an update from the PE department.



Year 8 – Mr Wyatt Moon

It was great to see so many of you at year 8 Parents' Evening this week. I enjoyed seeing all the conversations celebrating successes as well as staff, students and parents working together with the common aim of helping students achieve excellence.

As I drop into year 8 lessons, I continue to see them throw themselves into their education and show a real drive for learning. This week I particularly enjoyed dropping into Mr Maherban's science lesson to see students getting involved in a demonstration about pressure in fluids, as seen in the image at the start of this week's newsletter.

On the 25th of April, more than 40 year 8 students showed ambition and determination by taking part in the Junior Maths Challenge 2014. Well, done to everyone who took part.

In PE lessons, year 8 are focussing on the track and field events of the Olympics. This also forms part of a current house competition. Year 8 have engaged particularly well with this.

This week a group of primary school students visited the school for the Friendship Games, covering several Olympic and Paralympic events. This event was organised and delivered by our student sports ambassadors which included many year 8 students. They did an excellent job and were an absolute credit to our school and themselves.

With half term fast approaching, I wanted to let you know that the end of year exams for Year 8 will be starting immediately after half term. More details of this will come in due course but 2 good resources for revision are the usual homework platforms (Seneca, Sparx, Language Nut, Bedrock) and there are video lessons available here: [Curriculum - Curriculum \(continuityoak.org.uk\)](http://Curriculum - Curriculum (continuityoak.org.uk))



Finally, thank you for all you do to support the education of your child including ensuring they are in school every day they can be. Year 8 currently have the lowest level of absence across the school.

I hope you enjoy the long bank holiday weekend.



Careers

On Thursday 2nd May, we held the first of our Aspire to be... lunchtime careers talks.

In these talks, students will have the opportunity to meet with a range of different professionals. Each talk will include an introduction to the industry, the professional's route into their current role and what a day in their role looks like.

This week, James from Metro Bank came to share his career in banking, the range of customers served and roles such as managing safe deposit boxes.



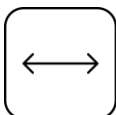
Upcoming talks are as follows:

- **9th May** – Aspire to be an Engineer (Axis Europe) – restricted to Years 10 and 11 with a specific focus on apprentice roles.
- **6th June** – Aspire to be a Business Leader (CPCA)
- **20th June** – Aspire to be an Editor (Publishing House)
- **TBC** – Aspire to be a performer (Cambridge Junction)

If you are available to present your industry to a small group of students, please contact Mr Robinson on stephen.robinson@coleridgecc.org.uk

Revision Tips

As End of Year assessments approach for our students in years 7 – 10, staff have been preparing revision guidance for all subjects to share with students to help them target their revision. Some further advice on the most effective ways to revise is included for you here.



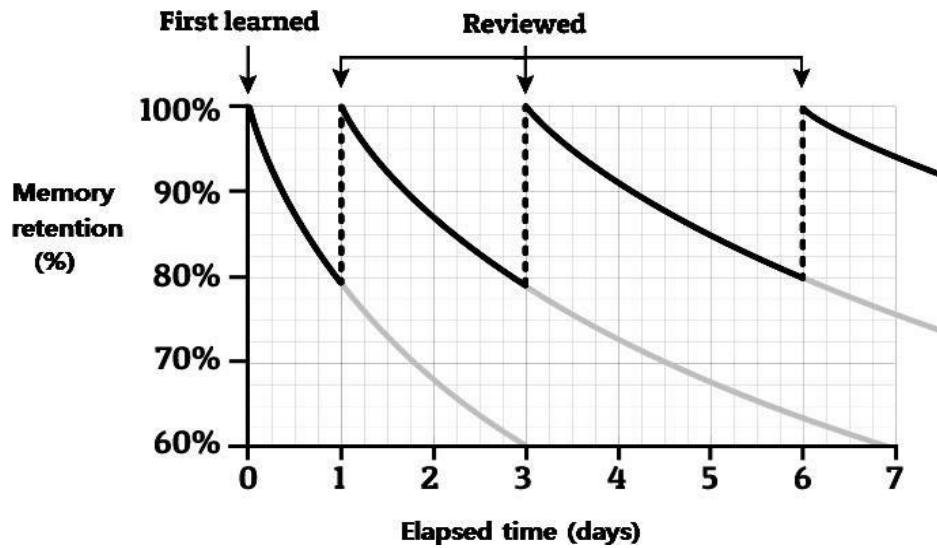
Space out your learning on a subject

Spacing out your learning over time is far more effective than last-minute cramming. This is based on research into how we forget and how we remember. The speed at which we forget something will depend on many factors such as the difficulty of the material, how meaningful it was to us, how we learned it and how frequently we relearn or remember it.

The last factor tells us that when we learn something for the first time, we need to review it quickly afterwards. The more times we force ourselves to remember something, the longer the gap between reviews, which the diagram below illustrates nicely. Flashcards, mentioned in last



week's newsletter, provides a wonderful way of achieving this, but the principle applies to all of the learning strategies mentioned in last week's newsletter.



Don't study one topic at a time – mix it up!

It's better to mix up your learning within a subject instead of focussing solely on one topic at a time and block studying that. So, rather than studying AAA BBB CCC (each letter represents a topic within a subject), there is a significant benefit in approaching it as, say, ABC BCA CAB because you're more likely to see connections between topics, which will result in a better grade.

Safeguarding

All schools in the country have been sent information from the National Crime Agency regarding the rise of financially motivated sexual extortion which is targeting young people. Please read the information found in the letter accessed by the link for more information: [click here](#)

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