



## Newsletter for Families 15 December 2023

*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

This will be our last newsletter of this term and I would like to pass on my personal thanks to students, staff, and parents for such a successful start to the year.

We held our final Tea and Tours this week for Year 9 and Key Stage 4. Many thanks to those parents who joined us. As with previous Tea and Tours, parents were impressed by the calm and purposeful learning climate in classrooms coupled with the warmth of relationships that they saw between teachers and students. We will be repeating this process in the Spring Term, and I would encourage all parents to take up this opportunity.

This week every Year 9 visited Anglia Ruskin University which provided them with a valuable insight into the workings of the university and what being an undergraduate involves. My thanks to those staff who supported this event but especially Mr Robinson for facilitating this.

We held our annual WinterFest which was amazing – it was lovely to see our wider school community come together around the Performing Arts. We are so lucky to have such a great team of staff and students who put this together. My thanks in particular go to Miss Lewis for her ongoing dedication to developing the musical and performance talents of our students.

Our Celebration Assemblies are being held next week and we are very excited to be able to recognise the achievements of our students across all subjects and areas within the school.

Our return to school for students after Christmas will be Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of January. A reminder



that we expect all students to be on site by 8.25am so that we can have a prompt start to form time.

All that is left for me to do now is to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a wonderful new year. I hope this holiday is filled with laughter, fun, love, and peace in the wider world.

## **Homework**

Following feedback from students and parents, in January we will be updating our homework structure and guidance to support our students in getting the most out of their homework. We believe homework is an important part of the learning journey for all our students as it gives them the opportunity to consolidate their learning and retrieve knowledge they have learnt previously from their memory. This process increases the connections between the knowledge students are taught, which allows it to go into their long-term memory, which is where knowledge is then retained for use as and when it is required.

To support this process, our homework is built around allowing students to practise and retrieve key knowledge that they have learnt in lessons. This may be through [Sparx](#), Seneca or other online platforms, or could be using knowledge organisers that students can use to as part of the look, say, cover, write, check strategy to allow them to practise retrieving this key knowledge. If you would like further guidance on how this strategy works, please watch the first few minutes of this video that will take you through this step by step: [Look, cover, write, check! \(Knowledge Organiser Revision Strategy #1 \) \(youtube.com\)](#)

An updated copy of the homework timetable is included below for your reference. This will begin in January. This timetable is designed to show students which tasks they should be completing each night of the week, not the day it will necessarily be set, staff may share the homework tasks with students in advance of this. Tasks are also set on Teams so students can access these and any additional guidance from their teachers on how to complete their homework tasks. Parents can track the completion of any tasks on Seneca by setting up a parents account. Further information on how to do this can be found here: [How to connect my parent account to my child's account? | Seneca Learning Help Center](#)

If students are struggling with their homework, please do encourage them to speak with their teachers before it is due in, this will allow them to get the support they need to complete this work. Our Library is also open at lunch time and after school to allow them to complete this work. Staff are also available to support students during this time.

If students do not complete the homework tasks set, they will be issued with a catch-up session which takes place after school. This is an opportunity for them to work with staff in these sessions to complete the missed homework. We believe all of the work set for students to complete outside of lessons is important as it will support our students in developing the positive learning habits, they need to be successful learners and make the most progress in their studies.



Thank you for your feedback on the homework system and for your ongoing support in encouraging students to complete these tasks.

	Key Stage 3		Key Stage 4	
	Up to 60 mins every night		Up to 90 mins every night	
<b>Monday</b>	Sparx Maths	Science	Sparx Maths	Option A
<b>Tuesday</b>	Bedrock (Literacy)	Geography	English	Option B
<b>Wednesday</b>	Sparx Maths	History	Sparx Maths	Option C
<b>Thursday</b>	Sparx Reader	Spanish	Science	Option D
<b>Friday</b>	Bedrock (Literacy)		English	

### Uniform Expectation

We politely request that parents use the holiday period to update any uniform items that do not currently meet our uniform regulations. Our uniform supplier is Sportswear International Ltd (SWI). Orders can be placed online at [www.swischoolwear.co.uk](http://www.swischoolwear.co.uk) or by phone on 01928 752610 (Option1). Enquiries can be sent to [customerservice@swi.co.uk](mailto:customerservice@swi.co.uk)

Our full uniform regulations can be found in the '[Parents](#)' section of the school website, but your attention is drawn to the following key points:

#### All Students:

- **School shoes should be professional in style, leather, and polishable.**
- **Black polishable shoe, professional in style**
- **No trainers or shoes that resemble trainers, no polishable trainers or trainer style shoe.**
- **Nike, Addidas, Puma and other sportswear brands are not acceptable as school shoes**
- **There may be trainers labelled as shoes in some shops so please contact the school for support if you are unsure.**
- **Facial piercings of any kind are not a permitted part of our uniform.**
- **Socks or tights. Plain black with no patterns or frills. Not to be worn together.**
- **Students are allowed to wear one studs per ear. Students' nails should be neutral. No false nails, gel nails or acrylic nails are permitted.**
- **Leggings are only permitted under a skirt and do not count as trousers**

Thank you for your support in ensuring our pupils look smart and are well kitted-out for school.



### Year 9 – Anglia Ruskin University

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December, every Year 9 student visited Anglia Ruskin University for the annual 'Eyes on the Prize' event. Students had the opportunity to have a tour of the university campus, talk to current students and meet a range of local colleges and employers.

Students had the opportunity to meet with representatives from:

- Anglia Ruskin University.
- University of Hertfordshire.
- Hills Road Sixth Form College
- College of West Anglia
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary
- Royal Papworth Hospital
- Wellcome Sanger Institute
- Eunoia Ink



### Bookbuzz Event

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, Year 7 students will be receiving an early Christmas present from the English Department: their free Bookbuzz Book!

This will happen during periods 5 & 6 in the Auditorium.

### Steel Pans at the Train Station

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December we took each of our 3 Steel Pan groups (KS4 Pandemonium, KS3 Steel Pandits and a debut for the Y7 Frying PANS) to play at the Train Station as part of the Christmas Markets. It was a wet and miserable day, but nothing was going to stop us. Members of the public spoke about how uplifting the performances were – and what joy and festivity we brought to the area. A great afternoon's work out in the community – and lots of fun!







## WinterFest23 – a huge success



Last night (Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> December) we held our first of two WinterFest concerts and it was a triumph. Almost 250 students from across the Cambridge Cluster of schools (130 students from Coleridge) performed an array of Music, Drama and Dance acts to friends and families in the Radekund Hall. We also had a lovely exhibition of Coleridge artwork which parents enjoyed perusing in the interval and prior to the show.

The concert, which involved students from Y7 – 11, included performances from around the world: Japanese Taiko drumming; Brazilian Samba drumming; West African djembe drumming; West African orchestral and vocal pieces; Trinidadian steel pans; American Jazz / Big Band inspired performances; and a Ukrainian folk song from the orchestra. We had performances from the pop culture (bands, musical theatre, pantomime) mixed with more traditional classical pieces from chamber choir, orchestra, and the drama ensemble. The whole evening was filled with variety, joy and a lot of energy.





Huge congratulations to all who were involved – and thank you to all those who came to support. We go again tonight with concert number two and look forward to seeing lots of you there – keep an eye on our Twitter (X) feed as more images and videos from each evening are uploaded.



### **Orchestra and Choir in the Community**

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, our wonderful Orchestras (PFO1, PFO2 and PFO3) and VOX (chamber choir) will be heading to Millcroft Court to bring some Christmas Cheer to some of our elderly community. Each year the residents of Millcroft Court look forward to singing Christmas carols accompanied by the orchestra – and enjoy sharing their experiences of being in choirs and orchestras when they were at school (many of them attended Coleridge – and their stories are fascinating)! This community event is always a highlight of our year.

### **Junction Fiver Events**

Whilst the **Junction Fiver** is a non-school event, we are proud that two of our Coleridge bands have been ‘scouted’ and invited to perform in this programme of events.

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> January** – the fantastic Vintage Rec will be performing, and we would love for them to have a huge and supportive audience. If you’d like to go along and support the boys, tickets can be bought via the Junction website. To get a £2.50 discount on your ticket use the code VINTAGEREC. DisFunkcional will also be playing in the Fiver that evening. [The Fiver - January 6th | Cambridge Junction](#)

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup> February** – the fantastic Cookies and Cream will be performing, and we would love for them to have a huge and supportive audience. If you’d like to go along and support the boys, tickets can be bought via the Junction website. To get a £2.50 discount on your ticket use the code CREAM.

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

**FIVER**

GRACE CALVER  
DISFUNKCIONAL  
ELGEEUU  
ZEPHYRUS  
VINTAGE REC.

CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION  
Saturday 06 January  
6:45pm (doors)  
£7.50

junction.co.uk



**Coleridge Community College**

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

### Season greetings from Adult Learn and Train

Looking for a New Years Goal? Courses you might consider; a [Yoga](#) or [T'ai Chi](#) course to get you moving, a 3-hour [Bread Making](#) course to get baking, a daytime [Silver Jewellery Beginners](#) course, or how about a course that gives you the skills and knowledge to start [Writing Life Stories](#)?

See our full programme of courses attached.

For course descriptions please visit the website: [Courses - Adult Learn and Train - Cambridge \(adultlearning.education\)](#)

Other Provision Coming Up in 2024 you might be interested in...

[Mindfulness Health - 8 weeks - Wednesday 6pm-8pm from 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024](#)

Funded *Venue: Coleridge Community College*

[Express Yourself Through Art - Thursday 7pm-9pm from 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024](#)

Funded *Venue: Coleridge Community College*

Can't commit to a weekly course? Take a look at our weekend courses.

Dates for your Diary:	
<b>Wednesday 20 December 2023</b>	Celebration Assembly and End of Term (students will finish at 12.40 pm)
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> &amp; Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>	INSET Days
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	Spring term begins

## Coleridge Community College

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Email: [col-attendance@coleridgecc.org.uk](mailto:col-attendance@coleridgecc.org.uk)

Website: [www.coleridgecc.org.uk](http://www.coleridgecc.org.uk)

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