

STUDENT AND PARENT/CARER BRIEFING

Week commencing 5 October 2020

FRIENDSHIP – GOOD MENTAL HEALTH

*“Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honour.”
(Romans 12:10)*

Important Dates

10 and 11 October 2020 - Year 10 and Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Forward Notice

As we learn of further useful/important dates for you, we will put them here for you.

GCSEPod webinar

The team at GCSEPod are thrilled to be collaborating with Cameron Parker, a renowned motivational speaker for schools and colleges. Through this collaboration, we are recommending his free webinar to our students to inspire them to succeed and will include practical tips on how to use GCSEPod that Cameron will incorporate into his session.

On Tuesday, 6 October 2020 6.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m. for 60 minutes, students will be transported in to a fast paced and high energy webinar which will coach them on:

1. How to prepare for the new school year, so that you can get the grades you deserve.
2. How to get motivated, when you really can't be bothered.
3. How to bounce back from lockdown with confidence.
4. How to use anxiety and stress to your advantage.
5. How to use school, so that you CAN have the future you want.

Students can remain anonymous and parents can watch with them as Cameron makes goal setting, study strategies and building confidence seem easily attainable.

“Cam was great at tailoring his work with the group to suit their needs and was so relatable to the pupils and it was clear they were captivated.”

Joe Sayce - Progress Leader for Key Stage Four - Acle Academy

We have already had an overwhelming response to this webinar and places are limited, so register for this incredible opportunity today!

Students can register for the webinar via <https://www.gcsepod.com/free-resources/cameron-parker-webinar/> I also wanted to share a banner so that you can promote this fantastic experience on TV screens in school or use it as a poster.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/jucjd18c7s2gquj/Student-Webinar-poster-V2a%20%28002%29.png?dl=0>

Please note, this webinar is run by Cameron Parker and not GCSEPod, Students will register to his website and here is a copy of his privacy policy <https://dreams2-reality.com/privacy-legal-information/>

Library Book Returns

Although the library will remain closed until December at the earliest, the fast-return box is now back in the corridor for students to put their books into. Do so if you have finished reading them. Please return books this way and do not bring them directly to us in the library. You should also be aware that if the return box happens to be full you **should not** put your books in, and should come back another time. Please can you ensure that this return takes place during your break time or lunch time.

Year 10 and Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition – 10 and 11 October 2020

We are really looking forward to our expedition weekend – with a difference! Please make sure you check your emails this week for important information. Here are the timings for both days:

Saturday, 10 October 2020

Drop off at school - 8.30 a.m.
Pick up from school - 4.30 p.m.

Sunday, 11 October 2020

Drop off at school - 9.30 a.m.
Pick up from school - 1.30 p.m.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you all.
Miss McKenna

Pastoral Notices for Students

1. Now that all students have had the opportunity to purchase blazers for the new academic year we are expecting that this blazer will act as the additional layer students will wear around College during their PE days. Students should not be wearing hooded tops, non-regulation jumpers or sweatshirts during lessons or social time.
2. Students must only use the toilet block designated to their specific year group to avoid breaking the year group bubbles and risking the spread of infection. We have also had complaints to damage to the Year 11 toilet block. Toilets may be locked during lessons if this continues to become a problem, with students only being allowed to use them during breaks with members of staff on duty at the toilets.
3. Students must go directly to their classroom when they come into College and not sit at tables in the canteen nor congregate in groups in the street.
4. Please only use the staircases you have been directed to use. Students must walk, not run, inside the building.

Chaplaincy news

Please read through the reflection in the attached PowerPoint. This week it is based on the theme of Friendship.

Careers Notes

1. Apprenticeships: **a message for anyone in any year group** – If you are interested in finding out more about what an apprenticeship is and what is involved, please click [here](#). This will take you to Get My First Job, a website that belongs to a company that aims to link companies with the “talent” that they need. They specialise in apprenticeships. You can visit this site to find out what apprenticeships are available in a particular place and the type of apprenticeship. It might be worth exploring if you are interested in taking this route after your GCSEs.
2. Royal Wootton Bassett Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening – This will take place on Wednesday, 14 October 2020. Go onto their website to register your interest. All are welcome. Please see the poster attached to this briefing.

3. New College Swindon: Queens Drive and North Star Campuses – As you probably know by now, New College and Swindon College have become one institution. They had advertised that they were running physical and virtual open days in October and November. They have contacted us to say that, in light of recent advice, they are now only running virtual open days. These will take place on:
 - a. Thursday, 8 October 2020 – 4.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. (North Star Campus only)
 - b. Saturday, 10 October 2020 -10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. (Queens Drive Campus only)
 - c. Saturday, 7 November 2020 – 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. (North Star Campus only)There is still time for you to register for these events if you have not done so already (I would **strongly advise** that you do). Visit www.newcollege.ac.uk/open-events to register for any of these events.
4. Notice for Year 11 – Please make sure that you have completed the Academic Tutoring form, which you can access through clicking on the link in the e-mail Mrs Sanders sent you. The deadline is **Friday, 2 October 2020**.

The next briefing will be Friday, 9 October 2020