

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11



We would like to begin this week's newsletter by thanking all parents of Year 11 who attended last night's Parents' Evening. We hope all parents found their meetings informative and helpful as we prepare for this final phase in your child's preparations for summer examinations.

This week has been a busy but productive one for Year 11. Our form time revision programme started this week, with a series of English exam technique sessions. These will continue next week in Science, **so please ensure your child arrives at school on time (8.45 start) to make the most of this offer.**

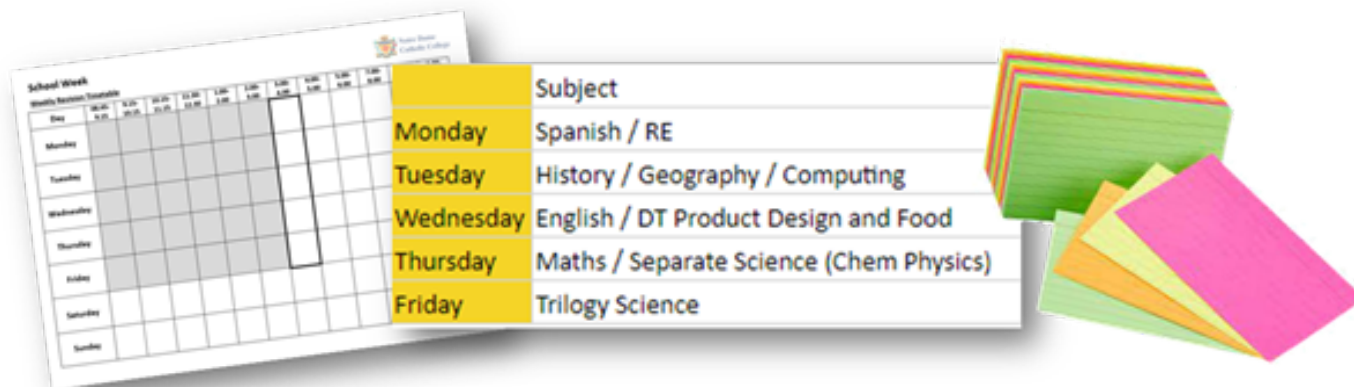
IN THIS ISSUE

- HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE (P.1-3)
- SIXTH FORM NEWS (P4)
- SPORT NEWS & LFC TRIP (P5)
- PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT (P6)
- CHALLENGES & NOTICES (P7-P8)
- SAFEGUARDING (P9)



MR DUFFY
HEADTEACHER

Our after school revision programme also kicked in (timetable below). This means **Year 11 students should be in school until approximately 4.15pm each day** (or 3.20pm on Fridays for Trilogy Science).



Today, Mr Duffy held a motivational assembly, re-examining our shared, intrinsic motivation to succeed and this afternoon, all Year 11 students were provided with a blank revision timetable to plan and complete over the weekend and a pack of blank 'flash cards' to create and use to test their memory of core knowledge and facts [These can be bought from Amazon online in packs of 6 – [click here for more information](#)].

NEU Teachers' Strike Days

As parents will be aware, on Monday, the National Education Union (NEU) announced a round of national and regional strike days. To confirm, these dates are:

| |
|------------------------------------|
| Wednesday 1 st February |
| Tuesday 28 th February |
| Wednesday 15 th March |
| Thursday 16 th March |

College leaders are now in the process of planning these days based on the number of teachers who are in the NEU and will therefore not be able to teach on those days. We can confirm that **Year 13 and 11 will still attend school and receive face-to-face teaching on these days.** However, it is highly likely that some year groups will be asked to learn from home on these days and work will be set centrally via Class Charts.

FRI 20TH JANUARY
2023



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Once the final plan for Wednesday 1st February has been completed, it will be shared with parents and carers to support your childcare arrangements. In the meantime, parents can click on the image below to watch a help parent's guide to teacher strikes.



**WE WISH EVERY NOTRE DAME FAMILY
A PEACEFUL AND SAFE WEEKEND.**

Mr Duffy

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Sixth Form Interviews – Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th Jan 2023

Our first wave of interviews for Year 11 students joining us at Notre Dame Sixth Form College will take place next week.

Students will be invited for interview by our Sixth Form Team - **Good Luck to all!**

If your child would like to apply to continue their Sixth Form study with us from September 2023, [they can apply online here.](#)

NOTRE DAME
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**OPENING
DOORS**

Save the Date! Sixth Form Taster Evening, Thursday 2nd March 2023

We will be holding a Taster Evening for Students and their Parents to attend on **Thursday 2nd March 2023 (5.30-7.45pm)**. This will be an opportunity for students to gain a full understanding of the subjects we offer at Sixth Form including what they will learn, how they will be taught and how they will be assessed. It will give them a flavour of subject content to help students decide their final option choices and also explore new subjects they may not have had the chance to study before.

Sessions are being finalised and will be available to book online shortly. Watch this space for further details!

NOTRE DAME
SIXTH FORM
COLLEGE

SIXTH FORM
Taster
EVENING

THURSDAY
02.03.23
5.30pm - 7.45pm

Explore each Sixth Form subject, see what you will learn,
how it is taught and how you will be assessed.

Our Taster Sessions will help you to
confirm your option choices or to gain a
greater insight into new subjects that
you've not studied before!

Explore each subject!
Taster Sessions
in ALL
Sixth Form
subjects

Opening hearts, minds, and doors

LSSP Futsal Tournament

On Wednesday some of our Yr9 and 10 students took part in a LSSP tournament featuring many schools from across the city. The boys played fantastically well but unfortunately lost out on penalties at the semi final stage, after a 1-1 draw against Bluecoat Grammar school.



Games lasted only 5 minutes so things were fast moving and intense throughout each game. Due to the boy's success with topping their group and reaching the semi-final stage, they will go on to represent the school in the county finals. **Well done boys!**

Students develop skills with LFC

As part of our partnership Liverpool Football Club this academic year LFC are currently focusing on two cohorts of year 7 and Year 8. LFC deliver a classroom session every Thursday for both cohorts following a practical based session focusing on teamwork, communication and leadership.

At the end of the course all students that complete their work and participate in the practical sessions will be awarded a sports leader's level 1 qualification.

Our first cohort of students received a trip to Anfield for a stadium tour for their hard work and commitment last term during their LFC programme and the feedback was outstanding from all students and staff members of Liverpool Football Club.



Students develop Mentoring skills with MVP project

Our Year 10 students continued their work with Merseyside Youth Association this week, focusing on their project to become Mentors in Violence Prevention.

The scheme is a peer-led project, equipping our students in higher year-groups with the knowledge and skills to enable them to deliver sessions to students in our lower year groups and encouraging peer led support.

This week's session was for Year 10 to continue developing their knowledge and confidence in regards to empower them to deliver the MVP project. This is to provide young people with the language and framework to explore and challenge the attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms that underpin gender-based violence, bullying and other forms of abuse, while building resilience and promoting positive mental health.



LFC Foundation Wellbeing Sessions

Students are on their 2nd week of an 8-week programme with LFC Foundation focusing on positivity and well-being.

In the sessions this week, students explored how thoughts, feelings and actions are linked. They discussed how triggers can cause an emotional response and strategies to deal with situations that trigger negative emotions. They discussed their different responses and explored how to develop the skills to be able to approach difficult situations with a positive mindset.



Year 10 student Britney said,
"The sessions are really fun. I find it really useful as we get to express ourselves."



Student Maya said, "I am enjoying the sessions, it's really good to be a part of."

Spring Term Challenges

Year 11 – Points = PROM!!

We have launched a challenge for **ALL YEAR 11** students to be in with a chance of winning their Prom Ticket. This will work on a points based system with students given the opportunity to earn points from the first day back after Christmas and run up until the final day of the Spring Term.



- **1 point = 1 week 100% attendance (including form time, every lesson and PHSCE)**
- **1 point = Attendance to ANY Afterschool Revision Session - the more sessions you attend the more points you can earn!**

Any student who earns 50 points within the Spring Term will have their prom ticket paid for by the school (approximate value of £40).

Details of our Year 11 prom are being finalised and will be shared with you shortly and details of our programme of extra-curricular sessions are [available here](#).

| | Subject | |
|-----------|---|---|
| Monday | Spanish / RE | |
| Tuesday | History / Geography / Computing | *A small number of students may need to alternate |
| Wednesday | English / DT Product Design and Food | *A small number of students may need to alternate |
| Thursday | Maths / Separate Science (Chem Physics) | *A small number of students may need to alternate |
| Friday | Trilogy Science | |

Spring Term Attendance Challenge

Our Spring Term Attendance Challenge is now underway and will run from the beginning of this term, 4th January up until the final week of Spring Term (which ends on 31st March).

All KS3 & Ks4 students who achieve 100% attendance in this time will be rewarded with a cinema trip in the final week of term.



Good Luck all!

Children's Mental Health Week (6–12 Feb) – Parent Event

YPAS and the Education Mental Health Teams will be hosting a virtual parent/carer coffee event on Monday 6th February, 10am -12pm. Grab a hot drink and join two of Alder Hey's Parenting Practitioners for a discussion on secondary school Children's Mental Health week and it's theme which is connection. The conversations will be around connecting with others and supporting your children to navigate relationships.

Please note: this is a virtual event hosted via Zoom. If you are interested in attending, please use the link in this email to register your attendance and you will receive a link to your email address on the morning of the event itself.



[Click here for more info and to book online](#)

Cost of Living – Liverpool City Council

January can be a difficult financial month for many families. If you are struggling with the rising cost of living Liverpool City Council have various resources you can access for support.

Please see listed below:



Many residents are currently struggling with rising living costs. That's why it's important to know what help and support is available now that could benefit you, a relative, friend or neighbour.

liverpool.gov.uk/cpl

For more information visit:

[LIVERPOOLGOV.UK/CPL](https://liverpool.gov.uk/cpl)

Struggling with the cost of living?

If you need money to buy food, sanitary products, essential items for children, essential clothing or cover fuel costs.

If you need white goods, furniture or help to set up home after suffering an emergency or crisis, call our Liverpool Citizens Support Scheme on freephone 0800 456 1523

Check if you're eligible for benefits

We've helped our residents claim over £10 million in additional benefits in the past year through our benefits maximisation service.

Get benefits advice or help claiming benefits at liverpool.gov.uk/bms or check if you qualify online at gov.uk/benefits-calculators. You can also call freephone 0800 028 3697

You can also speak to your landlord if you're a social housing tenant.

Get help with rent or Council Tax

If you're unemployed or on a low income you may be eligible to receive Council Tax Support. If you already receive this and are still left with a shortfall, you could get extra help through a discretionary housing payment. Visit liverpool.gov.uk/housingbenefits or call free phone 0800 028 3697

You may also qualify for a Council Tax discount or exemption - find out at liverpool.gov.uk/counciltax or call free phone 0800 028 3686

Worried about debt?

The council has an agreement in place with Citizens Advice Liverpool for providing debt advice and signposting to other advice organisations

For Citizens Advice Liverpool call 0344 848 7700 or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money

Homeless or in rent arrears

Housing Options provides help and advice if you are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

Call us on freephone 0800 731 6844

Struggling to feed your family?

If you are struggling to feed your family, you can get a referral to your local foodbank for an emergency food parcel from a range of agencies including, Children's Centres, Job Centres, GPs and many local community organisations.

For more information and details of your nearest foodbank visit liverpool.gov.uk/foodbanks

Community Food Spaces are places where local people come together around good food. Scan the QR code to find your nearest one.



FRI 20TH JANUARY
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SAFEGUARDING UPDATES

If you feel a child is at risk (suffering harm, neglect or abuse) Any member of the public can contact Careline on 0151 233 3700 or Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

If you currently need support for your mental health or well being these are some of the organisations who are happy to listen and help:

Anxiety UK
03444775774 (Helpline)
075374160905 (Text)

Childline
0800 1111 (Free 24 hr helpline)

Papyrus Hotline (Under 35s at risk of suicide or concerned for another)
0800 068 4141 07786209697 (text)

The Mix (Support & Advice for under 25s)
0808 068 4994 85258 (Text THEMIX)

Young Minds
0808 803 5544 (Parent helpline)
85258 (Free 24hr crisis messenger, text YM)

Young Stonewall Information & support for young people who identify as LGBTQ
0800 050 2020

Samaritans Support for anyone who needs to talk
116 123 (Call)

Bullybusters
0800 169 6928
Please refer to the school website for further contact

If you feel a child is at risk (suffering harm, neglect or abuse) Any member of the public can contact Careline on 0151 233 3700 or Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010



<https://ypas.org.uk/services/whats-on-calendar/>



DOMESTIC ABUSE/VIOLENCE

Please remember, in an emergency dial 999 for immediate assistance. You can call 999 without speaking then pressing 55, or tapping or coughing into the phone. This will enable police to respond Women's Aid 0808 2000 247 (24 hr helpline) Men's Advice Line 0808 801 0327 Worst Kept Secret Helpline Merseyside

The Safeguarding Team

Headteacher – Mr P Duffy
Deputy Headteacher – Mrs AM Costello
Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs E Brennan

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads
Mrs J Littleboy – Assistant Head of Year
Mr A McVerry – Leadership – SENCO

PC P Wood – School Safer Police Officer
Miss H McCullen – Leadership/Alternative Provision
Mrs P Shrimpton – Attendance Officer
Mrs K Sweeney – Special Educational Needs
Miss C Lee Y7, Ms R Glorman Y8, Mrs S Doran Y9, Mrs J Littleboy Y10, Mrs E Garvey Y11 – Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year

www.notredameliverpool.com/safeguarding/