



Student Name _____

Newsletter

September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

There is a wonderful Finnish proverb that is so true: 'Education won't knock you down in the ditch'. I would, obviously, argue that all education is invaluable and there are obvious examples of education providing an escape to riches, careers and future happiness. Perhaps we should embrace the positive Finnish attitude that with a small country of only 5 million people, no one can be left behind and there is possibility for everybody. Education in this country is seen as the key to future wealth and happiness. I firmly believe that all students at Christopher Whitehead with the right parental encouragement have huge possibilities to experience life changing opportunities.

I was delighted with our A-level and GCSE results that were above the national average and compared favourably with local schools including those in the independent sector. Our second year of A-level results has seen all students secure university, apprenticeship or further education places. We have our first students successfully studying medicine at the University of Birmingham, which is an amazing achievement. Particularly pleasing were the students who initially struggled and either re-took or re-joined the school. Their success in year 14 is deserved. Hard work in overcoming initial disappointment is always rewarding. Similarly, GCSE results, 20 new courses, a plethora of grades, numbers and increase in exams saw students who attended and worked hard do well. There is a theme here, hard work, good attendance and a sensible lifestyle brings deserved rewards.

At a time of austerity, I continue to be impressed by the school support of local charities and initiatives. On the last day of the summer term we donated half a ton of aid to Worcester Foodbank, equivalent to 400 meals for the summer holidays. Further charity work during the last term saw £138.86 raised for Maggs Day Centre.

You will note the significant upgrade in security which has occurred with perimeter fencing

restricting vehicle and pedestrian access and additional CCTV. We have also had a change in offices with myself as Headteacher and Mr Farmer Deputy Headteacher based at Bromwich Road near the arts block reception and Mrs Clark Deputy Headteacher at Malvern Road near the science block reception.

We would encourage students to get involved in their House Council and the Student Council. It is their school and they do make key decisions. Their latest projects are for us to become more ecological – we have sourced school blazers that are made from recycled rubber and we are trying to find personalised water bottles for students to keep for the year. Girls have also requested they be allowed to wear school ties if they so wish.

A Warm Welcome to New Staff

They join a fabulous school where students continue to be at the centre of what we do.

- Mr Bengriche (MFL Teacher)
- Miss Broomfield-Gull (Art Teacher)
- Miss de Oliveira Certqueira (LSA)
- Miss Hatherell (History Teacher)
- Mrs Heron (Art Teacher)
- Miss Hunt (LSA)
- Dr Mason (Psychology Teacher)
- Mr Norris (Maths Teacher)
- Mr Regan (LSA)
- Ms Thornton (Science Teacher, KS3 Coordinator)
- Mr Waters (English Teacher)
- Miss White (History/RE/V&E Teacher)
- Ms Yates (English Teacher)
- Ms Zhang (Mandarin Teacher)

Staff name changes due to marriage are:

- Miss Coles in MFL is now Mrs Evans
- Miss Eathorne in Maths is now Mrs Sheward

Let's have a great year. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Impetus Programme

We have a series of informative, interesting lectures open to parents, the community and students in years 10 – 13. These will be held on Wednesdays from 3.20 – 4.20pm and will be based in the sixth form centre. Keynote speakers are presenting on a range of topics, providing information and careers advice. To book a seat please email Mrs Morgan, Assistant Head of Sixth Form, b.morgan@cwlc.email. The Impetus programme will be advertised on the website: <https://christopherwhitehead.co.uk/impetus-programme/>. Forthcoming speakers are:

3rd October – Nick Baxter, CEO and ex professional rugby player, recruitment consultant, motivational speaker, businessman, entrepreneur.

10th October – Dr Marc Price, senior lecturer in game development – ‘The Life and Times of Computing/Electronics from the Deprived Estate to Music, TV and Film’.

24th October – Mr Paul Jackson, author of ‘Sustainable Business’. He will be asking, “Is the food chain sustainable?”

The ‘Friends’ of CWLC Christmas Fayre

Saturday 24th November 11am – 3pm



Calling all crafters, bakers and candlestick makers... Book a stall (approx. 8ft table) at our Christmas Fayre for a small charge of £15. If you

are interested in running a stall please contact Claire Smith Tel: 01905 423906 ext 244 or you can email: c.smith@cwlc.email

Free School Meals

We are concerned that a number of parents are not claiming free school meals for their children. If you think you qualify, please ask for an application form at reception or you can complete it online by visiting the Worcestershire County Council website: www.worcestershire.gov.uk, click on Apply then click on the Free School Meals section.

The start of the year requires some reminders of key information / notices:

1. Please notify us of any change of address, telephone numbers, email address or circumstances - it is essential we have correct contact information – you may email any changes to Claire Smith, Student Records Officer c.smith@cwlc.email

2. Please ensure asthma inhalers and EpiPens are in-date and that students have them in their school bag.
3. All school uniform should be clearly named. Last term there were hundreds of unnamed items in lost property. Much of it worn once!
4. Ensure uniform is correct, sensible shoes are worn and expensive items and jewellery remain at home. The school will not be held responsible for loss or damage. Similarly, bikes need to be roadworthy, ridden sensibly and left locked in the bike racks at school and not at Sainsbury’s or St John’s Sports Centre where they risk being clamped. No scooters please!
5. Unhealthy ‘brain drain’ food from Sainsbury’s and other stores is not allowed and is monitored. In particular, so-called energy drinks such as ‘Red Bull’, ‘Monster’ and ‘Rock Star’ which contain 11 grams of sugar are banned and are confiscated if seen.
6. Please may we ask that parents who **bring or collect students by car do not come on to the school site**. Daily, we have 150+ staff and 1,300+ students on site and additional cars cannot be accommodated.
7. Personal phones. The need to have a phone for after school is desirable. However, students’ phones will need to be switched off when on the school site and expensive phones are the responsibility of the student, not the school. Research has found that teenagers desperately need a break from their phones. The average time a 14 year old checks their phone is sadly every waking minute! Please be aware of a worrying new ‘WhatsApp’ game called ‘Mono’. This is currently trending and encourages risky behaviour.
8. Students are not allowed off site between 8.30am – 3.20pm.

Dates for your Diary

Tue	18-Sep	School Photographs Y7, 9, 11 + 12 & 13
Thu	20-Sep	Open Evening 6.30pm ABH Additional tours at 9.30am, 4.00pm
Thu	27-Sep	Y10 Work Experience Parents’ Evening
Fri	28-Sep	Citizenship Day
Thu	4-Oct	Meet the Teachers Evening Y7 & Y12
Fri	5-Oct	TED (school closed to students)
Thu	25-Oct	Sixth Form Open Evening 6.30pm
Mon - Fri	29-Oct - 2-Nov	Half Term