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9 June 2017

Issue number 1/T6

Ofsted visit

Parents and carers will be aware that around 12 months ago, the school was inspected by Ofsted under section 5 of the Education Act 2005. This led to a judgement by Ofsted that John Cabot Academy was 'Requiring Improvement to be Good or Outstanding' as a school.

On Friday of last week, JCA was visited by Ofsted as part of the monitoring arrangements following the previous inspection. On Friday 9 June, two senior Ofsted Inspectors visited the school to meet school leaders and consider: the evidence of progress made since last year, student learning, the view of students, observations of learning in lesson time and also to meet members of the Academy Council and Cabot Learning Federation Board and Executive.

We were very pleased with the feedback received from Her Majesty's Inspectors and will, as soon as we receive official communication, share the feedback offered to us by Ofsted at the end of their visit. We would hope to be able to do this by 23 June.

Year 11 Exams

I would like to take this opportunity to express how pleased I am with the way that our Year 11 students have conducted themselves during this exam period. It is undoubtedly a challenging time for our students but they have approached the exams in a very mature and thoughtful way and the hard work of students will doubtless pay off when the results arrive in August.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind you that our Year 11 students are no longer required to attend lessons, although we will make provision for any students who wish to continue their exam preparation from the Academy. Students **must** be in full uniform for all exams but will no longer be required to wear uniform if carrying out private study or attending any exam preparation sessions here.

Please can I ask parents to pass on our congratulations to students in Year 11, and encourage them to keep up the good work - the end is in sight! A reminder of the exam and revision schedules are below:

[w/c 12.6.17](#)

[w/c 19.6.17](#)

[w/c 26.6.17](#)

Uniform

A communication has gone home to all parents and carers via email regarding changes being made to our school uniform in September. This change effects our current Years 7-9 and follows the wider consultation which took place in December 2016.

During this term, there will be opportunities for students to try on blazers and other uniform items during the school day. Sizes will be confirmed on a slip of paper that will go home with your child. Opportunities for parents to see the uniform and try on blazers will also be advertised this term.

Paper copies of our uniform requirements will also be available for collection from our main reception for families who would welcome this.

Our website also contains the information that parent/carers need to know regarding uniform changes for September and how to buy the new uniform. You can click to this webpage [here](#).

Our New Uniform



1. Blazer shirt, tie and black trousers



2. Blazer, shirt, tie, skirt and optional blue jumper

FAQs

- The new uniform will be required for all students who will be in Years 7 – 10 from September 2017.
- Any parents/carers concerned about their ability to meet this deadline should contact the school, confidentially, if they wish.
- The new uniform will consist of a blazer, a white shirt, a tie, black trousers, blue skirt (one style only) and shoes (not daps or trainers). An optional jumper layer will be available but this is **not** to be worn in place of a blazer.

- During this term, there will be opportunities for students to try on blazers and other uniform items during the school day. Sizes will be confirmed on a slip of paper that will go home with your child.
- The uniform is available to purchase in Term 6 and into the summer holiday. Parents are advised to buy uniform by the end of the first week in August to guarantee delivery.
- The uniform is available from: www.trutextdirect.com
- The LEA code required to register with Trutex is: LEA00918CH.
- The new blazer is machine washable (wash inside out at 40°).
- At the discretion of the Principal, students will be allowed to take off blazers in hot weather. A common sense approach will be adopted to ensure student comfort.
- The shirt is plain white and can be purchased from many different retailers, often at low cost, allowing students to change their shirt regularly throughout the week.
- Our current PE kit will remain the same for students in Years 8 – 11 for at least one year.
- New Year 7 students will wear a new PE kit which will be available from the same stockist. Students in Years 8 – 11 will be able to buy the new PE kit if they wish for September 2017.
- Current polo shirts (worn as our daily uniform) can be worn in PE lessons by students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 from September 2017.
- The uniform policy will be followed rigorously in September and we would not want any student to be in a position where non compliance would lead to a student being out of lessons or excluded due to a refusal to follow school rules.
- The letter sent home to parents/carers is available [here](#).

New Year 7 Students

It was a delight to welcome families to JCA last week as part of our transition arrangements. Parents had an opportunity to meet staff, listen to a talk from the Principal, hear arrangements for Communities, Tutor and learning groups and see the new uniform and PE Kit. A copy of the presentation given by the Principal can be found [here](#).



Left: New PE kit including optional items (rain jacket, mid layer and tracksuit bottoms).

Above: Embroidered logo on the new PE kit and school blazer

Y10 Geography Field Trip

Y10 Geography Field trips are taking place at the end of this term. For clarification, Miss Riddell's class will be going from Thursday 13 July – Saturday 15 July and Mrs Fudge's class will be going from Monday 17 July – Wednesday 19 July.

CLF Regatta

Huge congratulations to the Year 8 and Year 9 students who were involved in the CLF regatta during Term 5. Throughout Term 5, twelve students trained at the All Aboard Centre in Bristol to develop their skills in kata-kanu and rowing. Each student was given the opportunity to trial both boats and decide which discipline they would like to compete in. On Thursday 25 May, students were involved in the CLF regatta where we had amazing success, winning every race and bringing home trophies for both events. I want to congratulate the girls on their efforts and the fantastic teamwork they displayed throughout the whole term.



Achievement, Rewards & Recognition

Achievement Points: Top 10 Students

The following students scored the most achievement points this week. They have worked hard in and out of lessons and made excellent progress at the start of Term 6. Well Done!



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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Harry Bowley | 6. Andre-Jacobus Swanepoel |
| 2. Ashleigh Jefferies | 7. Will Brimblecombe |
| 3. Charlie Spavins | 8. Benjamin Cooper |
| 4. Lola Humphries | 9. Billie Gigg |
| 5. Ethan Leaman | 10. Emma Jane Smith |

Lesson Scores: Top 10 Students

The following students scored the highest lesson scores this week. They demonstrated a strong interest in their learning and made significant progress in lessons by behaving in a way that promotes effective learning. Keep up the good work!

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|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ria Silverthorne | 6. Thomas Stiby |
| 2. Aurora-May Thompson | 7. Cody Surr ridge |
| 3. Amber Smith | 8. Jaden Magloire |
| 4. Sam Shield | 9. Faraaz Ibrahim |
| 5. Will Powell (Jupiter) | 10. Poppy Gwilliam |

Duke of Edinburgh Award

It was really nice to receive this communication from a student recently:

"Over the past 6 months I participated in the Duke Of Edinburgh bronze award which took time and dedication.

Last weekend, we completed our expedition and thankfully all of us passed. There were ups and downs on the walk but we managed to get ourselves out of the situation independently. Even though this award faces you with challenges, it's still really fun and good for teambuilding and making friends. You also get the opportunity to learn new skills that may be necessary in the future.

This was a great experience and opportunity for us and will be for all the people who will do it in the future! So we are all hoping we will get to have another opportunity to do our silver.

Me and my parents would like to thank Mr Wilson and all the staff who gave up their time to run this and for all the support and dedication they gave."

Our DofE programme has offered students amazing opportunities this year. I am sure that parents and students who have benefitted from the exceptional work, time and dedication of our staff all feel the same way. If parents and students have the time, I'm sure that further messages and thanks would be very gratefully received.

Y9 Future Quest Project

Here are the details for the Y9 students who will be taking part in the Speakers' Trust day on Monday 12 June at Bordeaux Quay. We will meet in the Academy reception after registration at 9am.

- The event will start at 10:00am and finish at 2:30pm
- Students do not need to wear school uniform,
- Lunch, is not being provided on this day so the students will need to bring a packed lunch

Please do not hesitate to contact Mark Wright if you require any further information.

Sainsburys Voucher Collection 2017

Thank you very much to all the students and staff who have brought in Sainsburys Active Kids vouchers this year; so far as a school we have collected a total of **4733** vouchers and these will be used to order new equipment for the PE department. The collection box will remain in the main reception until **Friday 16 June**. Please can students & staff keep bringing in any vouchers they have until that date; they are greatly appreciated.

South Gloucestershire Athletics Trials

On Wednesday 24 May, a group of John Cabot students went to the South Gloucestershire Athletics trials in Yate. The aim of the trials was to select students to go forward and represent South Gloucestershire at the Avon Athletics Championships later in June. All the students performed really well at the trials and two John Cabot students managed to qualify for the Avon Athletics Championships; Ben Sale (Y7) who qualified in the 800m & Amari Richards (Y7) who qualified in the Shot Putt. This is a great achievement for both of them as the standard of competition was so high at the trials. *Mr Mark White.*

Dates for the Diary

Below are a number of key dates into the near future that parents may wish to be aware of:

Years	Event
All years	Sports Day, Wednesday 5 July CLF Inset Day, Friday 7 July – all CLF academies closed Learning 4 Life, Monday 17 July, pds 1/2 Term 6 ends, Friday 21 July – Community Day
Year 7	Y7 Music Festival, Wednesday 28 June Y7 Drama Festival, Tuesday 18 July
Year 8	Y8 Residential, 18 – 24 June Y8 Music Festival, Tuesday 27 June Y8 Drama Festival, Monday 17 July
Year 9	Future Quest trip, Monday 12 June
Year 10	Mock exam week, w/c Monday 12 June Y10 Geography Field Trip, 12 – 15 July Y10 Geography Field Trip, 17 – 19 July
Year 11	GCSE exams on all week
Sixth Form	

Lost property

Due to space constraints, we are changing our system for dealing with lost property. From now on:

- Items with students' names in will be returned to them.
- Valuables including waterproof/winter coats will be kept until the end of term, then sent to charity.
- Other lost items will be kept in student reception for *one week*, then recycled or thrown away.

We currently have approx. 30 high quality and expensive, premium branded winter coats in lost property. If your child has lost theirs, please encourage them to come and have a look. Or you can telephone the school and ask to speak to Miss Skuse in student reception with a description and she will see if she can find a match.

Best wishes

Mr S White
Principal