

Applications for places in Year 7 in 2018

We would like to offer a thank you to all parents, friends and prospective new parents who may have visited our open evening on Tuesday.

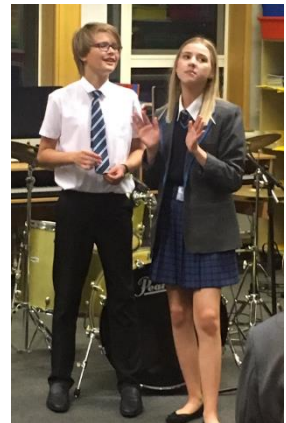
It was a pleasure to welcome new families to the school as well as current families who are also considering applying for a place for September 2018.

Thank you for the incredibly positive comments received during the course of the evening and to the wonderful students and staff who make this happen.

We will be offering opportunities for parents and students to come and visit the school during the morning on the following days:

Tuesday 10 October
Thursday 12 October

Wednesday 11 October
Friday 13 October



Visits will be strictly by appointment only so please contact our Admissions Officer, Sue Ford, to book onto one of these mornings.

Careers drop in slot – Wednesdays 12.20 – 1.00 in the library

From next week (20 September) JCA's careers advisor, Catrina Holmes, will be running drop in support sessions for students in the library on Wednesdays.

These are suitable for quick questions and application support. There will be a small stock of prospectuses and careers resources in the library as these are received. Students can also drop into the careers office in SF6 to pick up information and request a careers appointment on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Parents are welcome to attend careers appointments and can request information by email (Catrina.Holmes@jca.cabot.ac.uk) or by phone (ext 1126).

A Hugely Positive Start to the School Year.....



Well done to our students for amassing over 7000 achievement points in the first few days of the school year. A hugely positive start for so many students. It's great that classroom staff have recognised these positives and fed back the good news to students.

Parent Parking

Our local residents are excellent neighbours and are very supportive of the school.

In turn, I would be grateful if our parent community could be respectful of our neighbours and ensure that all parking on Woodside Road is safe and legal. A neighbour recently wrote to us as follows:

"I have found myself in gridlock today when trying to leave my home ...Unfortunately parents continue to block driveways whilst waiting for their children ..."

Our neighbours understand that there will be an increased volume of traffic on local streets at certain times of the day. They have requested that parents are reminded not to block driveways whilst waiting for their children to leave school or dropping them off at the beginning of the day.

Food Allergens

The company that provides school lunches and general catering (Sodexo) have asked us to make parents aware that they are introducing an enhanced process to ensure that they can keep children who have food allergies safe.

Sodexo have informed us that if they do not have any medical evidence from a doctor or dietician regarding the allergy then Sodexo will only be able to offer a plain jacket potato to students who may have an allergy.

If your child suffers from food allergies and the company is already aware of the issue then Sodexo will write to parents directly to ensure they have accurate information from parents/carers before they can serve food from their full range to your child.

If your child has a food allergy and is likely to buy food in our canteen then please contact the catering manager (Mrs Louise Caines) to confirm that we hold the correct information. You can contact Louise on 0117 9882511 or by email at: louise.caines@sodexo.com

Y7 Meet the Tutor – Thursday 21 September, 3.30 – 4.30pm

Your son / daughter will be asked this week if they would like to book a short appointment that will last no more than 10 minutes.

This is an opportunity for you to discuss how your son / daughter has settled in and to ask any questions. All meetings will take place in tutor bases and students should be in attendance. If you are unable to attend, tutors will attempt to contact you to discuss how your son / daughter is progressing.

Achievements

In the first two weeks of the new term, students have made an excellent start with over 7000 achievement points being given out.

These points will be used as part of the rewards programme throughout the year. Parents can also view the achievement points by logging into the parent portal [INSIGHT](#).

Attendance

As with the achievement points, students have made an excellent start to the year with regards to attendance.

It is vital that students are in school every day so that they do not miss out on learning time and personal development opportunities. Research suggests that for 17 school days missed, students will drop a GCSE grade. If you have concerns about attendance, please contact your son / daughter's Head of Community.

Our current whole school attendance is **96.9%, which is excellent**

Y10 Options

The vast majority of our Year 10 students are very happy with their option choices.

However, a very small number of students have approached Mrs Willis, the Vice Principal, requesting a change in options. A change will be considered if there is space in the new class and if the change is in the best interests of the student. In order to facilitate a change, a form (available from Mrs Willis) must be completed by teachers and parents. The final deadline for changes will be Friday 22 September. After that, changes will not be possible as students will have missed too much of the course to catch up.

Y9 Meningitis ACWY vaccinations

All Year 9 students will shortly be receiving a letter and consent form regarding Meningitis vaccinations that are being offered in school on Tuesday 17 October.

On this occasion, Y9 students will also be offered the Diphtheria/Polio and Tetanus vaccination at the same time. Parents should sign and return the consent form to the Academy as soon as possible; it will not be possible to give a vaccination if we do not have a signed consent form. Please can we ask that all forms are returned, even if you are declining the offer of a vaccination.

Parents should be aware that this particular programme of vaccinations is NOT available from your GP so having it in school is the only way to ensure your child can be immunised.

'Grease' auditions

'Grease' auditions on Monday 18 September, 3-5pm in the Main Hall for T-Birds and Eugene.

T-Birds will be asked to sing 'Greased Lightning' and/or 'Magic Changes'. Auditions for people wanting to be in the chorus, Cha Cha, Miss Lynch or Vince Fontane are on Wednesday 20 September, 3-5pm in the Main Hall. People wanting to audition for Cha Cha should bring clothes they can dance in.

We hope to have a final cast list put up on Friday 22 September.

Exciting opportunities in PE

There are a few exciting opportunities available to students at JCA that we don't want you to miss out on.

- CLF Fencing Academy: From Friday 15 September, there will be an opportunity to join a fencing team. The coaching happens at BMA and students are transported over at the end of the school day. Posters are up in PE for more information. The course is free and will culminate in a competition against other schools.
- Netball and Rugby clubs are on for all year groups - please see the clubs posters up around school.
- GCSE PE academic support is on a Monday and GCSE practical sport is on a Wednesday (this term doing badminton, table tennis and rock climbing).

PE Kit: We have already collected several ties, blazers and PE kit which has been misplaced without names in. Please can we ask again that parents put their children's names in all kit - SOCKS included! It will save you money.

Bikeability: This is a course for Year 7 students where they are taught how to ride a bike and be safe on the roads. JCA PE work in partnership with the local council to provide this facility to keep our children safe. Please can parents return the permission slips to Mr Wilson in the PE office. Students come out of PE for a couple of lessons during the year to get 1-2-1 or small group teaching.

Open Evening: There were 37 students who volunteered to stay behind school for over 4 hours to take part in the open evening events. The students did gymnastics, table tennis, badminton, football, basketball and bench ball. The behaviour was simply exemplary. Effort levels were incredible and so many students led the Year 6s to have a go at some of the PE activities on offer. All the PE department were very proud of them and how they represented the Academy! Well done!

Old football boots? At this time of year, we start to need football boots for rugby, football, inter community competitions, etc. Please can we ask if any parents have old football studded boots that are no longer needed by their children, they can be brought to school so we can share them out and recycle. It would allow more students to access PE and take part in lessons if they do not use them outside of school. Thank you very much in advance.

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	Friends Meeting, Tuesday 26 September at 7pm Admissions Open Mornings, Tues 10 Oct – Fri 13 Oct Term 1 ends, Thursday 19 October Inset day for staff, Friday 20 October CLF Conference, Monday 30 October (all CLF academies closed) Term 2 begins, Tuesday 31 October
Year 7	Y7 Meet the Tutor Evening, Thursday 21 September, 3.30pm – 4.30pm
Year 8	
Year 9	
Year 10	
Year 11	
Sixth Form	P16 New Parents Welcome Evening, Tuesday 19 September, 6pm – 7pm P16 Open Evening at BBA, Wednesday 11 October

Best wishes
Mr S White
Principal

