

1. A Reminder that Year 9 Vaccines Take Place on Friday 1st March.

Your child should have brought home a vaccination consent form for you to sign. To ensure your child is vaccinated against meningitis, polio and diphtheria, please make sure this form is returned to tutors or reception by Monday 25th February.

2. Please Observe JCA's One-Way System and 5MPH Speed Limit.

We enforce these restrictions to ensure the safety of everyone on the JCA site. Please follow them and be considerate of local residents, parents, students and staff.



3. Congratulations Shakur, Bristol's New Voice of Youth Parliament!

Shakur Grant in year 10 was one of several JCA students to run in the recent Youth Parliament elections. Shakur has plenty to say about his winning campaign, and the exciting things he will do as a Youth Parliament member:

I first heard about the UK Youth Parliament elections because my mum told me about them. I thought running for a post would be a good idea because I like trying new things and I'm really into politics – and because I really want to change things within and outside of Bristol.

In the end I decided to run for the role of Voice of Youth Parliament in Bristol as well as running for Youth Mayor, and it turns out that running for two roles is a lot of work! I won my election campaign for Voice of Youth Parliament for Bristol, and my term will last two years. The best thing about this role is that I will explore the country and even travel abroad to express my opinions and try to bring about the changes I campaigned on. I'm in the role for 2 years and in November 2019 and 2020 I'll be making speeches in the House of Commons, and I'm very excited about that – it's always been a dream to visit Parliament, and especially to speak there.



As a Youth Parliament rep, there are three changes I want to see locally and nationally. First, we need to do a lot of work to reduce knife crime. Marvin Rees has been focusing on this already, but I want to use my platform to campaign for more Youth Centres in Bristol to help this effort. I think this will benefit a lot of young people who would otherwise have nowhere to go and risk being groomed into gangs. It's better to find somewhere for them to be themselves without feeling they have to defend themselves. Second, I want to look at how to motivate positive behaviour in schools at both the local and national level. Third, I want to promote organisations that support the mental health of young people. Youth mental health is a huge issue among young people, with a lot of stigma attached to it. Many young people don't know how to deal with the pressures and expectations of society, even though there are some great facilities out there such as the school counsellor, Off The Record, and Childline. The solution is a stronger public awareness campaign on a national scale. Overall, my political focus is on helping people grow up to live happy, healthy, respectful lives. SG

Find out more about UK Youth Parliament by visiting ukyouthparliament.org.uk



4. JCA Years 7s and Year 8s Play the Formidable Bristol Cathedral Organ.

On Monday 4th February, we were fortunate enough to be welcomed to Bristol Cathedral on College Green for an organ lesson on the infamous Cathedral organ.



Callum, Teana, Jacob, Ahmed, Jack, Billy and Addi travelled to the Cathedral excited to see the surroundings which were once host to monks in the 1300s. The students were given a tour of the Cathedral by local history enthusiast, Frank. He told us about the history of the building, its connections with the city and even about famous visitors such as the Queen!

Students then were given a full tour of the choir and the organ loft, even getting to try out the century old pipe organ. Many of the tourists visiting that morning were treated to renditions of In The Hall of the Mountain King and Bach's Toccata in D minor by the students. Addi then gave a debut performance of Seven Nation Army by rock band The White Stripes on the hundred year old organ!

Overall, a lovely morning exploring the history of the building and learning how the organ works. Many thanks to Kingswood Holy Trinity organist, Mr Williams, for organising this event for us.

5. Celebrating JCA's First Ever Acoustic Night.

Monday 11th February saw our first ever Acoustic Night at John Cabot Academy.

Students from years 7 to 11 showcased their talents and skills on a variety of instruments, with many giving solo, duet and group performances. The event was well attended by students, parents and staff, and we would like to extend a special thanks to former student Eloise Vickers who returned to John Cabot to perform an atmospheric duet of Space Oddity by David Bowie, with her younger sister Delaney. Thanks also to the Friends of John Cabot for providing refreshments for the evening.



All of the students gave outstanding performances to their audience and really demonstrated a huge amount of talent. Very well done!

We hope to host a similar event later in the year, so please encourage your children to approach Miss Grierson if they wish to participate.

6. Don't Forget: Hairspray Tickets Now Available; Rehearsals on 26th February.

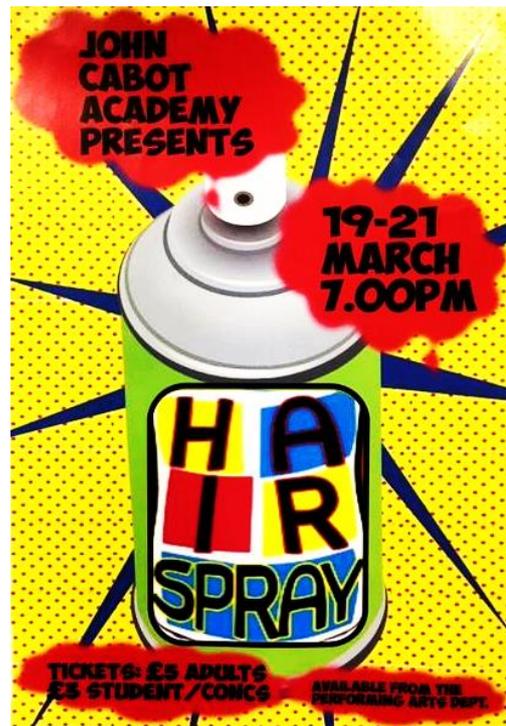
Want to see Hairspray? Tickets are available now from the Music and Drama offices. Alternatively, email charlotte.grierson@jca.cabot.ac.uk.

Evening performances are on Tuesday 19th March, Wednesday 20th March and Thursday 21st March from 7pm.

Pricing: Adults £5; Students/children/concessions £3.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Students: A Rehearsal for the FULL CAST of Hairspray (including dancers) takes place on Tuesday 26th February from 3pm - 5pm.



7. RSPCA Cake Sale!

Mr Clarkson's Enrichment group will be holding a cake sale to raise money for the RSPCA at lunch time on Friday 1st March.

8. Uniform Pricing News.

Trutex have informed us that they are increasing their uniform prices by 2.5% from Easter 2019. In real terms, this equates to increases of 13p-85p per item. However, many items which do not feature the school logo can be purchased from supermarkets and department stores as long as they align with our school expectations regarding length, style, colour and material. This includes shirts, trousers, socks and shoes.

9. Any Lost Property Left in Reception will be Donated to Charity at the End of T4.

There is a very high volume of leftover property from Term 3 (and even Term 2) which has not been claimed. This includes everything from water bottles and coats to blazers and glasses. If you suspect that you may have an item of lost property behind reception, please come and look for it as soon as possible.

10. Dates for the Diary.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Event</u>
Year 7	Y7 Reports arrive w.c. 18 th March.
Year 8	Y8 Reports arrive w.c. 4 th March.
Year 9	
Year 10	Y10 Parents' Evening: JCA, Thursday 14 th March, from 3:45pm.
Year 11	CLF Post 16 Information Evening: JCA, Wednesday 27 th February, 6-7pm.

Best Wishes,

Kate Willis
Vice Principal