

10 March 2023



Callington Community College Newsletter

Assistant Principal's Message

The ability to read is a fundamental life skill. It is essential to us all if we are to participate fully in society and the workplace. - Ofsted, 2022.

Dear Callington Community

I'd like to take Mrs Ainsworth's slot in the newsletter this month to talk to you about reading. Part of my role at the College recently has been to continue work on one of our key priorities across the trust: ensuring all children can read at or above an age appropriate level. Miss Campbell started this work two years ago, and has done a brilliant job of providing staff with a wealth of reading information on our students, especially as they come into the College in Year 7. This information is helping teachers to support weaker readers in their subjects, as well as recognise the abilities of our strongest readers and provide them with challenging texts in their curriculum.

We have worked extensively with the WeST Executive Director of English, Scott Davies, to improve the way all teachers, in all subjects, read with their classes and provide our students with interesting and enriching things to read. This work will continue, but in addition, we plan to expand our use of the College library, and look for even more ways to instil a love of reading amongst our students.

To that end, we have obtained a free parent login for 'The Day', an 'online educational resource that turns news into lessons'. Staff at CCC have been using this resource for some time in lessons and in DEAR time as it gives us easy access to a huge number of articles, all tailored to the reading levels of secondary students, and all accompanied by questions and tasks designed to provoke thought and further study.

As parents, you can also access this resource, and we would encourage you to build some time into your family routines to look at articles that are of interest to you as a family, or keep abreast of topical news stories. Just click on [this link](#) for access and save it to your favourites!



Furthermore, if picking up a hard copy of a book is more your thing, the team at World Book Day have given every student in the country the opportunity to pick up a free £1 World Book Day book, or use it to take £1 off any book or audiobook of their choice. Participating retailers include Tesco and Morrisons, but also independent bookshops in Liskeard, Saltash and Tavistock. [This map](#) will show you where your nearest participating shop is, and the virtual barcode and token at the end of this newsletter is all you need. You should just be able to show it on your phone, but it is worth checking with the retailer first. The tokens are only valid until 26 March, so don't leave it too late! Your child's English teachers would be delighted to see what the students have bought with their token!

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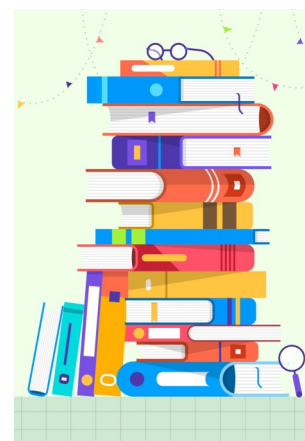
We are working on making the library more available to students in the coming weeks and months, and I have a dedicated team of sixth form students who are keen to support the library and its initiatives. They have been instrumental in setting up and running a small, but rapidly growing chess club that is attended by students across all year groups. Chess is an amazing leveller - each week I see accomplished players of many years sitting with beginners and patiently explaining the rules, and Year 7 students challenging sixth formers to a game. The hustle and bustle of break time can be tricky for some, and chess club provides a quiet space for students to come and interact with others in a safe environment. The sixth formers act as 'listening ears' and have been trained to support younger students if they need someone to talk to, and know which teachers to pass this information on to. In time, it is hoped that some of them will undertake anti-bullying ambassador training with the Diana Trust and help to lead and endorse the college anti-bullying strategy. Many of these students are also passionate about reading, and it has been wonderful to hear them recommending reads to younger students.

To coincide with World Book Day last week, Miss Smith delivered assemblies to Years 7-10, challenging them to pick up something new to read. She recommended social media platforms such as Pinterest, GoodReads and BookTok as ways to find out popular teen reads and get some inspiration. She also talked about the power of talking about reading. Hearing others talk animatedly about what they are reading, and sharing recommendations is surprisingly influential in getting young people reading. Classic texts are widely available online for free, both in text form and as audiobooks. Much like the benefits of reading subtitles on the TV to support struggling readers, listening to an audiobook at the same time as reading it in word form can be incredibly helpful for some.

Finally, I urge you all to make a reading habit part of family life. We talk a lot about habits at CCC: behaviour habits, study habits...but reading is central to all of this. Studies show that after primary school, the hours children and parents spend reading together drops off quickly, and once this habit is lost, children quickly find other ways to fill their time that do not have such a beneficial effect on their learning and general wellbeing. Scientific studies have suggested that reading not only has mental benefits such as improving vocabulary and focus, but it also has a physical effect - reducing blood pressure, alleviating symptoms of depression and aiding sleep. There is even one study on [Healthline.com](https://www.healthline.com) that suggests it can lead to a longer life! I know, from personal experience, that making time to read is something you have to plan into your routine: my daughter is in Year 6, and now that she has mastered the mechanics of reading, there are not so many books coming home in the book bag each week like there used to be. Instead we plan in 'family reading time' - she takes away our phones, we all grab a book and sit under the blanket to read our separate books, but together. She loves it, and so do I. Reading is a habit that is easily lost, but oh-so-rewarding when we get it back.

No doubt I will be back in touch again to update you on library and reading news in the future but for now thank you for allowing me to give you a glimpse into the brilliant work happening with our staff and students to engender a culture of reading at CCC.

Mrs Kate Lamb
Assistant Principal for Culture



Key Dates

- Tuesday 14 March: Parent Forum
- Tuesday 16 March: Pre-Prom Evening 6.00 pm
- Thursday 23 March: Y10/Y11 Parent Study Support Session
- Friday 31 March to Friday 7 April: Ski Trip
- Monday 3 April to Friday 14 April: Easter Holiday
- Monday 17 April: INSET Day



The Brilliant Club

HARD-WORKING Year 10 and 11 students at Callington Community College are celebrating their graduation from The Brilliant Club national Scholar's Programme.

The Brilliant Club is a charity which works with schools and universities across the UK to increase the number of pupils progressing to highly-selective universities. They do this by running programmes in schools, where the students are taught by PhD students.

The group of 14 Callington students completed a six-week course on post-natal pelvic girdle pain, run by Bradley Halliday from The University of Plymouth .

They were asked to complete a 2,500-word assignment with proper referencing, which was at the same standard as a piece of university coursework.

Pupils assignments were marked and graded in line with university coursework, with them gaining either a 1st, 2:1, 2:2 or 3rd.

The standard of the work submitted was fantastic and 3 students secured a 1st - an amazing achievement for their age group.

Matthew H (Year 10), who took part in the programme, said he really enjoyed the project and found it inspirational to visit the Universities.

Mrs Bagshaw (Head of Year 10) said: "This was a life-changing experience for the students involved and we are very proud of what they have achieved."

Clare Mitchell, the teacher who coordinated the programme at the College, said: "Our wonderful students showed a real dedication to the programme, spending time after school studying, attending sessions with the Tutor and visiting two Universities within the South West."

"To secure the grades they did is a testament to their perseverance and intrinsic drive to achieve. It is also indicative of the wonderful opportunities that will be available to them in their futures. The chance to visit prestigious Universities has piqued their interest and really fanned the flames of ambition."



Year 11 Final Examination Preparation

Our Year 11 students continue to be very busy as they prepare for their final examinations.

They were a credit to themselves in terms of their excellent preparation and positive approach to our recent mock examinations and as such, they have built a strong foundation as we enter the final approach.

As a College, we have lots on offer to develop and support all of our students over this crucial period of time. Next week we are delighted to see the return of Positively You into the College who will be delivering an 'Exam Buster' workshop to all of Year 11 to help students in everything from how to design an effective revision schedule (and stick to it) to what to do the night before an exam.

In addition to this all parents and carers of Year 11 and Year 10 students are welcome to attend a Study Support Session on Thursday 23 March from 5-6pm in the Hall to learn some effective revision techniques.

Parents and carers of Year 10 and 11 will also receive a copy of our Callington Community College guide to effective learning with clear information and guidance on how to support independent study and revision at home.

Sixth Form Key Dates

- Wed 22 Mar: The Big Gig
- Fri 24 Mar: Sixth Form Trip: Warner Bros Studio
- Fri 26 May: Year 13 Masquerade Leavers Ball
- Mon 17 to Fri 21 Jul: Y12 Work Experience
- Jun: Year 11 - Sixth Form Induction Programme

Easter Hamper to be won!

A tasty Easter hamper filled with chocolate, Easter decorations and crafts, a fleecy hoodie and a bunny drinks holder could be yours! It's filled with over £50 worth of Easter family food and fun.

This prize will go to the student with the highest number of points for positive classroom learning behaviours:

Contributor,
Effortful Home Learning,
Endeavour,
Reflection,
Exploration,
Craftmanship,
Participation,
Perseverance,
Resilience and
Resourcefulness.

Prize will be drawn in the last week of this term...



BBC Young Reporter Competition

Entries due by Friday 31 March! See Mrs Edwards at breaktimes in D5.



British Values: 'How we do things here'

By now all students should have seen this poster in every teaching space across the College. The 4 statements shown on the poster present the 'Team Callington' interpretation of our fundamental British Values, which are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs



Each of these human values underpin 'How we do things here' at Callington. Being 'Committed, Respectful and Safe' is an essential part of this. I would like to take the opportunity now to focus on **commitment**. As 2023 races onwards, I would like to see and hear more students commit themselves to creating opportunities to demonstrate our values. This doesn't have to be anything complicated; simply be their fabulous selves but let's get loud and proud about it! We'd like to encourage students who have an idea or a strong belief in something important, to please exercise their student voice! It is very likely that there will be others who share their beliefs.

So far many students have put themselves forward as student leaders in the form of ambassadors in different subject areas, and within our sports academy. I would like to invite more of them to get involved with student voice activities. And remember, 'student voice' doesn't always have to be serious, it can be about having fun, and doing things for a good cause. If they want to set up a club, or host a fundraising event, then let us know. We already have a new Chess Club run by our wonderful 6th formers!

Our student leaders and the student voice team are currently working on our next community event. Towards the end of this term we are hoping to have a special 'Charity Day' where students and staff will be able to take part in fun, money raising activities during break times. The day itself will be mostly created and run by students, and students will get to decide which charities we will donate to. If you would like to find out more, and perhaps get involved, please speak to me, Mrs Lamb, or any of the student leadership team.

After Easter, myself and the student voice ambassadors will be talking to students more in assemblies about why it is so important to develop our shared values, and build a community based on understanding them. Remember: We know what it is to have freedom, We take responsibility for our own actions, We celebrate diversity and We see everyone as equal.

So, to our students *I* say this: If you want to have *your* say, simply come and talk to me and the student voice ambassadors in B18 any Tuesday lunch time, or send me an email at scarson@callingtoncc.net.

Together, 'everything is possible'.

Thank you for reading,
Mr Carson

"Callington Couture"

Pre-prom Evening - Thursday 16 March 6.00 pm

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!








We have received over 60 dresses and they are still coming in. The support we have received has just been incredible and emphasises the community spirit here at Callington. Now for the fun part...

We are delighted to be able to invite you to our 'Pre-prom Evening' where you will be able to look at the dresses, try them on and purchase. We want to make this a night that you won't forget; the night that you said 'Yes to the Prom Dress'.

World Book Day Token

Please note this voucher cannot be redeemed on line. Show the digital book token on your mobile phone/tablet at the checkout to exchange the book token for a free World Book Day £1 book, or to get £1 off a full price book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more.

The World Book Day digital book tokens are valid from Thursday 16 February to Sunday 16 March.

 WORLD BOOK DAY 2 MARCH 2023	 VALID FROM 16 FEBRUARY - 26 MARCH 2023	 SPONSORED BY NATIONAL BOOK tokens	YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES: Participating retailers undertake to redeem this token as described, subject to the terms and conditions: worldbookday.com/terms-conditions Find your nearest participating bookseller at worldbookday.com/participating-retailers RETAILERS: Retailer's full terms and conditions: worldbookday.com/resources/booksellers PROMOTER: World Book Day is co-ordinated by World Book Day Ltd, registered charity 1079257 (England and Wales), registered company 03783095 (UK).
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