



ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE

A CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

CONTACT





For Year 11 students, the summer exam season is nearly upon us. Over the last five years students will have been working towards this moment, building on their subject knowledge and understanding, in order to perform at their best during this time.

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people. At St Catherine's College, we are committed to providing an education of the highest quality, and we endeavour to provide an environment where all students feel valued and welcome.

Parents and students play a part in making our school successful, and share the responsibility for supporting and promoting excellent school attendance and punctuality for all.

Remember, it is not only important to come to school every day, it is equally important to arrive on time! Punctuality for exams and for the school day is crucial to ensure that your child's day starts smoothly and that students are in the right mindset for learning and achieving.

ATTENDANCE FACTS

- Above 97% is less than 6 days absence a year.
- 95% is equivalent to missing 10 days.
- 90% is equivalent to missing 19 days, students are missing nearly a whole month of school and will struggle to make progress.
- 85% is 29 days absence a year! This is nearly six weeks of a school year!
- 80% students with this attendance are missing a day for every week of school, that's 38 days absence!

Every school day counts towards your child's future. Did you know that there are a total of 175 non-school days in a year? This gives families the opportunity to spend time together; have days out; go on holiday; and have social time.

'Attend today. Achieve tomorrow.' Getting these important habits established early on will make a difference to a student's life, both academically and in their future chosen workplace. Attendance incentives, rewards and support are provided by the School to help students make every day matter.

Thank you to all families who work hard all year to ensure their child's attendance and punctuality is high.

Lee Watts, Assistant Headteacher

Easter is a season associated with new beginnings and with hope. How true is that at St Catherine's College this year?

After two years of Covid bubbles, the summer term has started with a return to all subjects being taught in their specialist rooms. Years 7 and 8 are now able to explore corners of the school they have never been to before, whilst older students are discovering just how many rooms have been refurbished since they were last in them. However, it's not 'back to the old ways'. We have created an organisational structure which is perhaps unique in England; merging the way schools were always set up with some of the opportunities which Covid management forced upon us. Therefore, at St Catherine's College:

- Every year group has its own dedicated outdoor play space.
- Tutor rooms remain located in year group 'schools', strengthening the sense of community and giving easy access to the services and pastoral care of their year group leaders.
- To ease movement around the school, we have created a number of one-way systems. If you are passing the school during the day, you may see the new lollipop-controlled crossing of students from the Bedewell site; the skywalk bridge being reserved for students moving in the opposite direction.
- Most toilet facilities are available to all students, but we have some which are age-restricted for certain year groups only.



At the beginning of term, it was a privilege to welcome students in the hall for a traditional assembly and Worship. Mr Berhane spoke to the students about the changes in school organisation and I spoke about the Easter message. Students learned the grim history of crucifixion before hearing John's account of the resurrection of Jesus. The Worship concluded with a personal challenge about how we control the transition from our hopes to a reality. We look forward to working with students to create a productive and successful summer, most especially for our Year 11s as they approach their GCSEs.

Nigel Jewell, Deputy Headteacher

CCF SPECIAL PARADE

A report from Miss Haggart:

In celebration of our cadets, it was lovely to see so many family members join us for a special CCF parade at the end of last term. It began with cadets showing their fantastic drill skills followed by a parade. Paige and Freya were then promoted to Lance Corporals. Huge congratulations to them both on joining the senior cadet team.

After the parade, we celebrated the achievements of our most senior cadet, Michael Easter. Michael left St Catherine's College last year and will be joining the Army at the end of April. We thanked him for all his hard work and support with our contingent. He has been a great role model to our cadets; helping to mentor and develop them alongside learning new skills himself.

Michael was presented with a trophy for 'Best Sharpshooter' and the CCF Michael Easter Cup for most improved cadet. This trophy has been named after him, as the positive changes in Michael since joining the CCF have been phenomenal! When accepting the trophy, Michael said that he was regularly excluded from school yet when he wore his uniform, it helped him focus on his behaviour and attitude and step up as a role model.

In turn, Michael chose to nominate and present this trophy to Hayd'n. Michael has been mentoring Hayd'n who has also shown great improvement since joining our CCF contingent.

Huge congratulations go to all our cadets, we are very proud of you!

Pictures on the next two slides



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BIG FUTURES SHOW

Report from Mrs O'Connor

On Tuesday, I had the privilege of taking 147 Year 10 pupils to the BIG Futures Show. The BIG Futures Show is organised by Eastbourne Education Business Partnership in association with Eastbourne Borough Council and East Sussex College and is the largest employability, skills and jobs event in East Sussex. The Show is aimed at students (aged 14+) from across East Sussex as well as parents and anyone looking for work or training.

Students took part in a variety of different activities and competitions and talked with training providers and employers. Feedback from our students was very positive and we continue to work towards their future careers journey in PSHE. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs G. O'Connor goconnor@stcatherines.college.



YEAR 8/9 GIRLS' FOOTBALL TEAM REACH THE COUNTY CUP SEMI- FINAL!

A report from Mr Wenham:

Congratulations to our Year 8/9 Girls' Football Team who have reached the semi-final of the County Cup - the first time in the school's history!

The girls secured their place in the semi-final after a nail-biting win against Downlands School. St Catherine's College stormed to an early 2-0 lead with two impressive goals, the second being a well-worked team goal. The second half was much harder as Downlands had the wind in their favour, but the team defended brilliantly until an opposition equaliser just two minutes before full-time.

There were no goals from either team in extra time, so it was onto penalty kicks. The girls managed to keep their cool scoring all but one of the kicks with the opposition missing three!

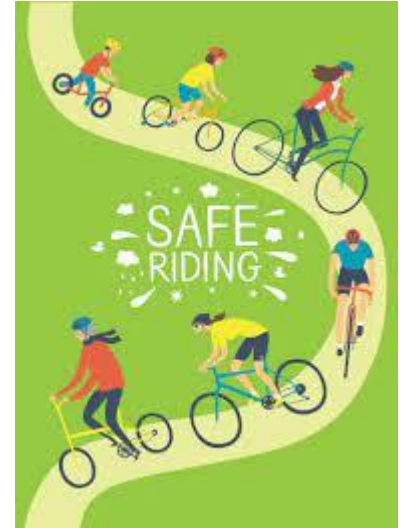
A huge well done to the girls and good luck in the semi-final against Warden Park!



SCOOTER AND BIKE SAFETY

We have received reports of dangerous situations involving young people on bikes and scooters in the local area. To keep safe when travelling to and from school it is important that students follow the following safety rules.

- Kick-scooters should be ridden on the pavement, footpath or in a cycle lane, and not the road.
- Kick-scooters do not have right of way on the pavement or footpath. Scooter-riders should always be prepared to stop or slow down to give way to pedestrians. Pedestrians *always* have right of way
- Kick-scooters should be ridden with caution. Riding that causes injury to another person could lead to a prosecution.
- When riding a bike, look out for pedestrians and vehicles.
- Wear a cycle-helmet for your protection.
- Don't listen to music when riding on the road; you need to use all your senses to keep yourself and others safe.
- Follow the rules of the road, eg give way at junctions, use hand signals when turning.
- Look out for potholes, cars leaving driveways, pedestrians walking out between parked vehicles and overtaking vehicles.



STAFF PEN PORTRAITS

WHO ARE WE?

This week is all about Mr Wilson. Mr Wilson is Head of Computer Science. This is Mr Wilson



I left Newcastle when I was 18 to go to university in London.

I was born in the North East, close to Tyne – I am a Geordie! I am very proud of my heritage and the beautiful place I grew up in.

Outside of school, I enjoy being with my friends, eating and cooking and of course, watching Newcastle United!

I follow the Harlequins rugby team which is another very exciting element of my life.

I loved living in London where I met my wife.

I love being on holiday with my family and our lovely dog, Clara.

I have been teaching for 33 years!

Despite being a teacher of computer science, there was only one PC in my first school, no internet, mobile phones or Wi-Fi!

Between 1996-1998, I was lucky enough to go and teach in Madrid for a couple of years; it was nice to experience a bit of manana culture.

Whilst in Spain, I was paid in, what felt like monopoly money, which went a long-way to putting petrol in my van and gave me some spare cash to explore.



Sunday 29th May 2022



Westbourne House School, Chichester

RACES:

(Age on the 31st December)

			
Novice 1 8 - 10yrs	25m	665m	600m
Novice 2 11 - 14yrs	50m	1.3km	1.2km
TriStar Start 8yrs	50m	665m	600m
TriStar 1 9 - 10yrs	150m	2.0km	1.2km
TriStar 2 11 - 12yrs	200m	4.0km	1.8km
TriStar 3 13 - 14yrs	300m	6.0km	2.4km
Youth 15-16yrs	400m	6.0km	2.4km

A fun triathlon event designed for children

Race entry fee - £22.00 Novices / £27.00 TriStar & Youth

You can enter on-line (or scan QR code):-

https://www.britishtriathlon.org/events/chichester-junior-triathlon_13587

For further information please contact cwtctrstars@gmail.com



IN SUPPORT OF:

**CHILDREN
ON THE EDGE**



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Children's Services

Alison Jeffery

Director of Children's Services

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Parents and Carers

27 April 2022

Dear Families

Ukraine Crisis: how East Sussex is helping

We are all acutely aware of the situation in Ukraine and how it is impacting on families, including many across East Sussex.

School staff have, and will continue to, discuss the situation with sensitivity when talking to pupils. This includes those children from Russia who live in the UK and are part of our community here in East Sussex.

School places will be provided for refugees who settle in East Sussex, and we are working with schools to ensure that we meet the needs of all our children as they settle into their new schools. We will use our normal processes to ensure that all children are able to be placed within a reasonable distance of their accommodation.

Many of you have responded with donations, support or by offering to open up your homes to refugees. Thank you to everyone who is doing what they can.

These acts of kindness really help as Ukrainians have often fled with few possessions. Many will be traumatised by the war, and all have been through an ordeal.

Our county already has a proud record of helping people forced to flee wars, but this is the largest challenge we have had to rise to. Please bear with us as we work together to provide the checks, living arrangements, school places, support and welcome that new arrivals will need.

In turn, we know all communities in East Sussex will want to welcome and support refugees as they have done in the past.

Yours faithfully

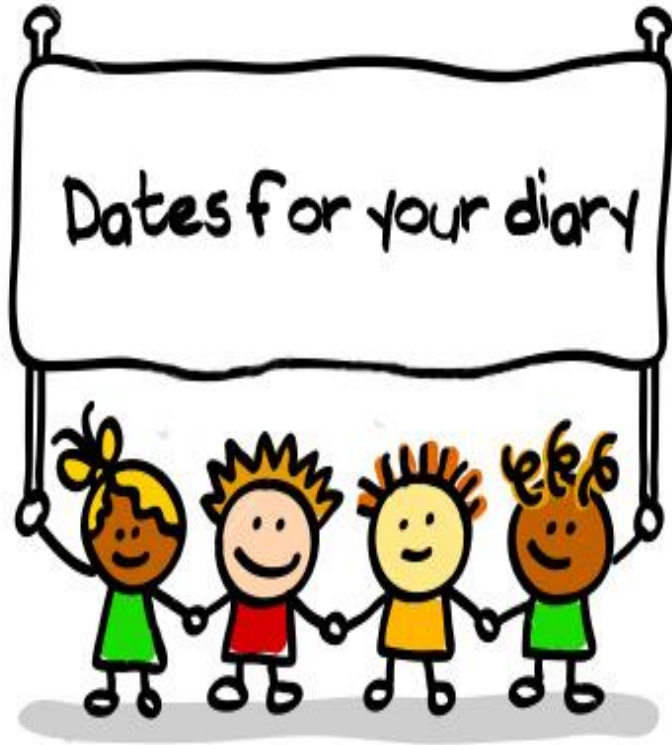
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Jeffery".

Alison Jeffery
Director of Children's Services



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TERM 5

Friday 29 April - Sunday 1 May: **DofE Silver Practice Expedition**
Saturday 30 April - Sunday 1 May: **DofE Bronze Practice Expedition**
Monday 2 May: **Bank Holiday Monday**
Friday 27 May: **Last day of Term 5**

TERM 6

Tuesday 7 June: **Year 10 Parents' Evening**
Friday 10 June - Sunday 12 June: **DofE Silver Qualifying Expedition**
Monday 13 June: **Year 9 Parents' Evening**
Saturday 25 June - Sunday 26 June: **DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition**
Thursday 30 June: **Year 11 Prom**
Monday 27 June: **Year 10 Work Experience Week**
Tuesday 5 July & Wednesday 6 July: **Year 6 Transition Days**
Sunday 3 July - Friday 8 July: **CCF SUMMER CAMP**
Thursday 14 July: **Summer Festival**
Wednesday 20 July: **Last day of Term 6**

New Academic Year

TERM 1

Thursday 1 September: **Inset Day**
Friday 2 September: **Year 7 and Year 11 ONLY**
Monday 5 September: **All years in school**

