

Newsletter for Students and Parents

Friday 7th December 2018

Riddlesdown Collegiate



Learners of today, Leaders of tomorrow.

The Principal writes

For a number of years now, the Collegiate has enjoyed a strong relationship with the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation and we were privileged again, this week, when Daniel's mother, Fiona, visited us to deliver a powerful message to Year 10 students. Daniel lived in Croydon, attended a local school and was a bright and popular young man. He died, nearly five years ago, after taking a lethal amount of the drug, MDMA. His tragic story led to the inception of the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation, whose purpose is to make sure that no harm happens to another young person through drugs or alcohol. Daniel, like the vast majority of our students, was usually responsible and would have been one of the very last people anyone would have expected to come to harm from drugs. I know that Year 10 students took Fiona's words very seriously and, together with the follow-up work they will do as part of their PSHEE programme, I hope that their education and awareness will help to keep them safe from such dangers. For more information and advice for parents, please refer to the website: <http://dsmfoundation.org.uk/parents/>

Planning for life after school, we have been pleased that five Year 13 students who have applied to Oxbridge this year have been successful in gaining interviews. Each of them has been supported thoroughly with their preparation which has included specific advice on using personal statements and mock interviews with subject specialists for each candidate. We wish them the very best of luck and look forward to hearing how they have got on. Meanwhile, thinking ahead to future years, Mr Weeks, Director of Learning in College VI, delivered a very informative session to 50+ Year 11 students recently who may be considering Oxbridge applications in a couple of years time. He explained to students what top universities were looking for and how candidates could best prepare themselves to submit excellent applications and perform well at interview. It was great to see students thinking ambitiously about their futures and taking active steps towards improving their chances of success. Of course, as Mr Weeks said, there are many very good universities, both within and outside of the Russell Group, and so the advice that was offered will be useful no matter where students may decide to apply to in time.

This week, we began the Guidance Interviews for Year 11 students who have applied for a place in College VI next year. Students will have been made conditional offers, where appropriate, and will have an opportunity to reconsider their choices if necessary next month, following the publication of PPE results next week and Parents Evening on 8th January 2019. The deadline for applications from external students is next Friday, 14th December 2018.

Winners of the Jack Petchey Award were invited to receive their certificates at a special awards ceremony this week. Further details will follow, but I would like to thank and congratulate all the winners for the very positive contributions they have made and continue to make at the Collegiate. They act as great ambassadors and role models in our school and I am grateful.

Finally, I would like to thank and congratulate students in the Chamber Choir for their excellent performance at the Croydon Minster yesterday. The Collegiate was delighted to be invited to contribute again this year and, as always, our students' talents were noted and praised. Well done to all.

The last day of term will be Friday 21st December 2018. Students will be allowed to wear non-uniform (Christmas jumpers encouraged!) in return for a donation of £1 for charity (tbc) and will be dismissed at 12.15pm for the Christmas break.

Timetable:
Week commencing
Monday 10th December
will be
Timetable Week A

Forthcoming Events

Friday 14th December

- Y11 PPEs Home

Wednesday 19th December

- Christmas Lunch

Friday 21st December

- Years 7,8,9,10, 12 & 13 Reports home
- Last Day of Term

Monday 7th January 2019

- Return for Spring Term
- Year 8 Exams (Options)

Tuesday 8th January

- Y11 Parents evening

Thursday 10th January

- Y11/13 GCSE / A Level Theatre Trip

Year 7 Smarties Challenge
Well Done and thank you to all Year 7 students who have brought in their Smarties tubes. You still have time to bring them in and have until the end of next week.

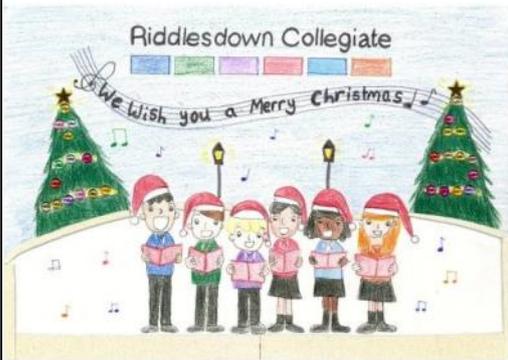
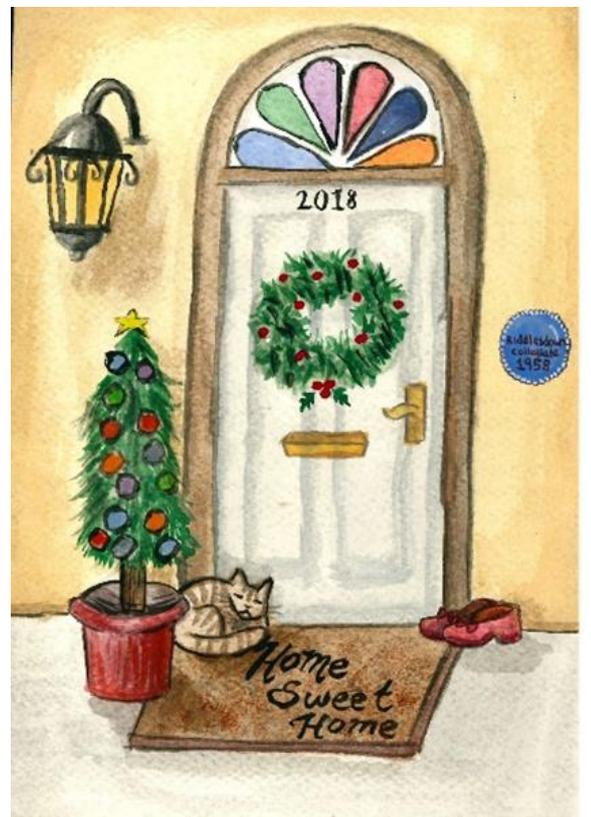


AQUILA ORION PEGASUS PHOENIX CPA COLLEGE VI



CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

This year's Christmas Card Competition received lots of artistic and imaginative entries and as usual, it was very difficult to judge. Well done and thank you to all entrants. Congratulations to students who were shortlisted and our four winners. Their winning entries will be printed and sent to friends of the Collegiate this Christmas.



Art trip

On Monday 3rd December, Year 12 and 13 Art and Photography students went to Friends House to hear various speeches from renowned artists, organised by Education in Action. Artists such as Grayson Perry, Simon Roberts, Emma Hart and Jock McFadyen gave talks on how they got into the art world, what inspires their work and why they are passionate about it.

Grayson Perry was captivating with his astounding passion for his search for identity through art, Simon Roberts was composed with his incredible account of life as a photographer, Emma Hart wowed us with her wonderfully creative sculptures and Jock McFadyen truly explained what it means to be an artist and how you can get yourself to that point.

Overall, it was a truly eye-opening trip that gave us a view into the life of some artists and insights into their work.

Wizard of Oz Art Competition

- ▶ Most of the settings for the Wizard of Oz will be big projections on the screen at the back of the stage
- ▶ We would like students to design these backdrops
- ▶ Your entry should be A3 size and must be handed in to Student Services **BEFORE** the end of term on 21st December
- ▶ The best entries from each category will be displayed in the foyer and the winners will be used for each scene in the show

Riddlesdown Collegiate Sports Fixtures

10th—15th December

Monday 10th

Football: Year 10A v Grey Court away 2.30pm start

Tuesday 11th

Football: Under 16 Girls v Glenthorne away 2.30pm start

Basketball: Year 11 Boys v St Marys @ home 4pm start

Netball: Year 7 & 8 v Old Palace @ home 3.30pm start

Rugby: Year 8 v Wilsons @ home 3.30pm start

Wednesday 12th

Handball: Year 10 Tournament @ Harris CP 3.30pm start

Football: College VI v Gordon's away 2pm start

Thursday 13th

Netball: Year 7 A & B v Wallington @ home 4pm start

Football: Year 9 A v The Beacon @ home 2.30pm start

Friday 14th

TBC

Saturday 15th

Rugby: Year 7 & 9 v Glyn @ home 9.30am start

PE Fixtures Round Up

Winter has arrived, but this hasn't stopped our athletes from competing at the highest level over the past week. Last weekend Thiago and Alyze Gentles took part in the Sevenoaks Swimming Club Championships. Thiago won one bronze medal and several 4th place finishes and Alyze won 9 gold medals to make it 15 gold medals in consecutive weekends. The success didn't stop there for both of these students, as Thiago was representing his rugby club and was selected for the Surrey under 14 development pathway and Alyze took part in her gymnastics club competition, where she won another gold medal.



The County under 14 football team played at the weekend, as they took on Middlesex in the National Cup at Brunel University. Riddlesdown had David Ozoh, Aron Sasu and Hugo Fisher representing them and Surrey did exceptionally well to win 3-2 in a tough fixture, with David Ozoh scoring his first goal. Hugo Fisher saved a penalty on the day to ensure Surrey progressed. Surrey are now through to the quarter finals and will find out on the 10th December who they play.

It was a big week for handball at Riddlesdown with the Year 8 & 10 girls in action and the GCSE students. On Monday the GCSE PE Year 11 students took on Oasis Coulsdon in two extremely competitive fixtures. These are our most experienced squads at Riddlesdown and both boys and girls played fantastically. All the Year 11 students are looking to improve their handball grades for their practical assessments and the standard was excellent. On Tuesday the Year 8 girls travelled to Harris Crystal Palace and on Thursday the Year 10 girls played at Riddlesdown. Both year groups were playing against Harris Crystal Palace, Harris South Norwood and Archbishop Tennison's in what was their first ever fixtures against other schools. The girls had to learn the hard way by picking up as they went along. Both sets of girls showed great progress throughout the tournaments although they didn't manage to get their first wins. It was great to see so many females students experimenting with a new sport, which is the fastest growing sport at Riddlesdown.

On Tuesday our Year 8 A team hosted Tunbridge Grammar in the last 64 of the National Cup. Riddlesdown started very slowly and this cost them eventually, trailing 2-0 at half time. Although Riddlesdown dominated the second half and Daniel Murray scored an absolute screamer. Riddlesdown couldn't capitalise on the chances they created and lost 2-1. The basketball season kicked off on Tuesday with the Year 7's playing their first ever game. Riddlesdown travelled to Shirley High school to play their strong Year 7 team. Taking into account our boys had not had much training, they put in a great performance losing 36-21. The Year 11 Basketball team were in action on Wednesday with their first game of the season against Archbishop Tennison's. Ex-student and coach Ruvhi Chinaire was very optimistic about these boys and going into the last quarter they were leading by 2. Unfortunately missed chances cost them and Tennison's came out winners 28-23. A special mention to Rio Goulding and Yash Singh on excellent performances. The season has high hopes for these boys and we hope they bounce back next week against St Mary's.

The Year 7 and 8 netball teams were back on the courts this week, with the Year 7's travelling to Woldingham and the Year 8's hosting Wallington. Both A & B teams were in action and so unlucky to miss out on winning. Both age groups have lots of potential but came up against very strong sides. There are plenty more games coming up and we hope to see the girls getting back to winning ways.

The Year 7 A & B football teams were in action this week, with the Year 7 B team playing Quest A team in a league game on Wednesday night. In very wet conditions the boys were up against a good quest side and unfortunately lost out 4-1. The Year 7 A team took on Whitgift in the National Elite Cup on Thursday and these were their toughest opponents of the year. Whitgift took charge of the game early leading 4-0 at half time. The second half Riddlesdown got back into it but couldn't get on the score sheet and eventually lost 5-0. Although we didn't win either game, both sets of boys played fantastically well and should be proud of their efforts.

The Year 7 swimming trials took place this Thursday at Whitgift School and the season ahead looks positive. The 14 students who took part performed all four strokes and times were taken for each event. The times were very competitive and the squad looks like it will be very strong this year, building up to The Croydon Schools Swimming Gala in January. Thank you to Mr Brennan, Mr Martin and Mr Gentles who were a huge help on the day and College VI students Jamie-Lee Hanmore and Tilly Watson who supported the girls.



The final fixture of the week was the Year 10/11 rugby team who took on Ravensbourne School at home. In muddy wet conditions, the boys played some excellent rugby to dominate the game from the first minute. The game was very short because of the light, but the boys showed excellent progress to seal a 24-5 win.



Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 19th December 2018

Roast Turkey

Quorn & Vegetable Wellington

Roast Potatoes, Pigs In Blankets

Sage & Onion Stuffing, Parsnips

Brussel Sprouts, Carrots, Peas & Gravy

*Chocolate Fudge Cake & Cream
or Fruit Cake Slice & Vanilla Sauce*

Fresh Fruit Available

£3.00

Christmas Cracker Included With Your Meal