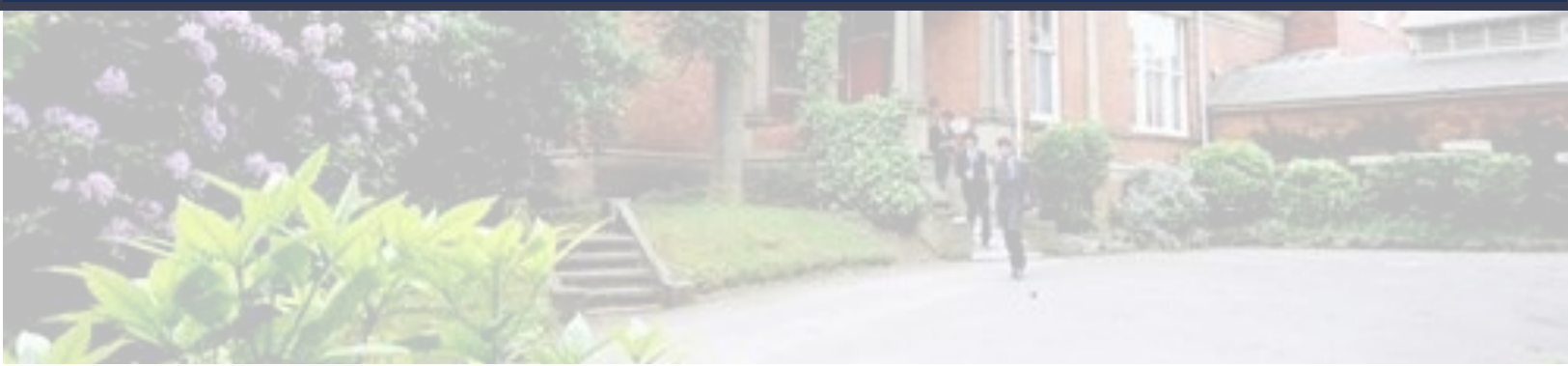




NEWSLETTER

24 February 2023



Head Master's Message:

Welcome back after the half-term break. I hope pupils were able to find time to rest and recharge their batteries.

We are always reflecting on our processes in order to improve. As part of this we invite the Executive Head, Mr Gartside, to carry out a series of 'deep dives' into our daily operations. Mr Gartside is well used to this as an Ofsted inspector, so his observations and insight are valuable. 'Deep dives' is the vernacular term for the new Ofsted framework for scrutiny of schools: rather than data and fleeting observation, it's a chance to discuss at length the experience of pupils and teachers within the school. Pupil voice is really important, and it was very encouraging to hear how the pupils were embracing the Cestrian Way so positively. The 'deep dives' will continue next week.

Strike Action

There is a further planned day of strike action on Tuesday 28th February. Parents have received an email about this, and full details are on our website. Essentially:

Pupils in Year 11 doing their mock exams must attend school as normal with the following adjustment: 8.30 am Y11 Geography pupils only; **ALL Y11 pupils in for 11am** Physics exam. All Y11 to return home after Physics exam.

School will otherwise be open only **for vulnerable pupils and pupils of critical workers.**

If your child is not in Year 11, you may apply for a place by completing this form: [Vulnerable pupils and pupils of critical workers](#) This must be completed by 1.30pm Monday 27th February. The form is also available on our website. We will notify you by the end of the day if the place is available. We cannot guarantee all places.

Cestrian ABC

Academic. All pupils are issued with a Learning Journal. The inside page shows the mainstay of our monitoring and reporting learning framework. Within the classroom, the bottom line is that pupils use every minute to promote their and others' learning. At a simple level, the issue we have with chatter is that it hinders learning. So in the first instance, we remind the child that their attitude is hampering progress – bottom right of the grid. We correct them and lead them to better learning. After that, if they choose to still misbehave and chat and disrupt, then a B2 behaviour point is issued, with a consequence of a breaktime detention. So, we see the issue not so much as the chatter, but the disruption to learning and the poor choice to continue to do so.

Behaviour. I hope parents appreciate the fortnightly pastoral report home sent via Arbor. We give far more positive feedback than negative – over 30 000 instances of feedback given already this year. Please take time to review this fortnightly report and whatever is happening, aim for even better next time!

Character. Parents and pupils may well remember last year's Culture Day when many students dressed in costumes reflective of their own cultural backgrounds and there was a food feast of savouries and snacks testifying to the cultural mix of the school's population. This day is repeated this year on March 13th. Look out for further details.

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Important Calendar Dates

- Tuesday 28th February: scheduled teacher strike. Mock exams will continue as normal. However, note the following instruction that applies to this day only: 8.30 am Y11 Geography pupils only; **ALL Y11 pupils in for 11am** Physics exam. All Y11 to return home after physics exam. I will send a form as last time for pupils who are vulnerable or children of key workers.
- Thursday 2nd March - WORLD BOOK DAY
- Tuesday 14th March: Pi Day!
- Tuesday 14th March: Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening. Rescheduled from 28th February 2023.

STOP PRESS

Oxford Union Debating Competition – North Cestrian Success

Each year, over a thousand students are invited to participate, and last year had over 350 schools competing. The competition offers students an excellent chance to develop their skills and confidence in public speaking, thoughtful argumentation and analytical problem solving, and is open to students of all ages.

The best performing teams in the competition compete in Finals Day, held at the historic [Oxford Union](#). The Union is one of the most prestigious debating societies in the world, with an unparalleled reputation for hosting renowned speakers from around the globe. Established over 195 years, the society has a long tradition of challenging thought and aiming to promote debate and discussion not just in Oxford University, but around the world.

The topics were:

"This house believes that the narrative that people should pursue doing what they love as a career does more harm than good."

"This house believes that Eco-Terrorism* is acceptable."

This year, we are very pleased to note that the North Cestrian team of **Jafar B** and **Tilola A** (*pictured l,r*) were **placed second out of 36 teams** in the North West Regional Finals of the Oxford Union Debating Competition and as such will compete in the finals on March 11th held at the Oxford Union in Oxford. This is a fantastic achievement, and we wish them luck for the finals next month.



Fantastic

DEPUTY REFLECTIONS - CHARACTER EDUCATION

“To choose the line of greatest advantage rather than yielding in the direction of least resistance.” George Bernard Shaw

Arbor keeps a record of Character development. Click 'Statistics', 'Character Points' - expand menu.

You can prepare for your next Character briefings by reading and listening to [A Thorough Examination with Drs Chris and Xand](#). We will consider how the Cestrian Mindset and our character can develop our success habits and use of feedback. As ever, email me your reflection.

Pupils are guided in 8 character traits of NCS's character education programme. In lessons and beyond school, pupils have opportunities to pursue new discoveries and are assisted to own the next steps in the development. Click the poster!



Enter the North Cestrian School Character Education Website by clicking the photo below.

You will find...

- The Character Development opportunities and news of pupils thriving and leading rich and fulfilling lives
- Hooks for your curiosity hooked in the Cultural Capital opportunities and a chance to show off your sophistication.

Do you know someone who is building their character?
 Click to nominate a pupil.
 Investing in character development together!

Build your Character Benchmarks

Know someone building their Cultural Capital?
 Click to nominate.

A half term holiday full of pupils living their own rich and fulfilling lives

Jayan P (Y8) followed his passions in Art, whilst Yushay Z (Y8) visited Jerusalem and created a presentation on the cultural capital.

Look at the school website under 'Ethos', 'Character' to see a whole range of other sophisticated and curious character development. Next week we will see which pupils receive the latest investment to take their experiences further. Maybe you could invest in the tools to take you further like Tom P (Y9) did with new hockey boots or Eleora (Y9) did. "The books I bought with the prize money are all ABRSM books for grade 7-8. I'm using them for my grade 7 exam and to have a broader repertoire with the core classics. It will improve my musicianship with scales and arpeggios."



EXAM INVIGILATORS

Are you....

- ✓ Reliable and punctual
- ✓ Flexible, accurate
- ✓ Confident communicator
- ✓ Firm but fair
- ✓ Can work as part of a team



Exams are among the most important and stressful events in the life of any student. That's why it's so important that they are conducted in the correct way. Invigilators are crucial to this process.

Invigilators are there to ensure the whole process runs smoothly. They give out vital information such as start and finish times for the exams and ensure candidates have all the materials and information needed for each exam. They also ensure that all exam rules are adhered to.

Working as a team, invigilators contribute to ensuring a calm environment for the exams, giving candidates confidence in the process.

We are looking for invigilators to help oversee our exams. Invigilators need to be reliable and punctual, highly flexible, able to relate to students and comfortable in a high pressure environment. It is a part-time role, but one that can make a difference. Invigilators will be paid £10.50 per hour and full training will be provided.

Due to the nature of the role, a full enhanced DBS disclosure will be required. The School is committed to keeping students safe and stringently follow the procedures outlined in the 'Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education'. We expect all staff and volunteers to share our commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in our school.

If you are interested in being an invigilator, or would like to find out more, please contact the

Exams Officer, Mrs Leck & Mrs Carr on 0161 928 1856 or email: exams@northcestrian.co.uk



COMPUTING

KS3 Computing, GCSE Computer Science and
OCR Creative iMedia

Anumana Code Club

We now have our full cohort for code club. Your child will have received an email congratulating them if they have gained a place.

This club was heavily oversubscribed, if your child was not successful in gaining a place, they have been placed on a waiting list and you will be contacted if one becomes available.

Star Learners

KS3	Cyrus H, Gaby R, Oliver P, Will H, Max L, Kiera S, James T, Eddie L, Imran N, Hana A, Ciaran C, Hassan A
GCSE Comp Sci	Amy P, Sura M, Angus K, Hallie R, Angel G, Tom J, Vincent E
Creative iMedia	Hana H, Mina A, Jasmine H, Harry P



Year 10 Creative iMedia

Year 10 have just started their first piece of coursework. This is 30% of their final GCSE grade.

All coursework must be completed in school and the rules surrounding this are very clear.

Please find useful resources here:

[Student Guide to completing the NEA](#)



ESports Fixtures

Our first ESports Competition with launch on Monday 27th Feb with the Year 10s.

Other year group competitions will be announced through Arbor 1 week in advance and in the newsletter on the Friday before the fixture.

Character - iDEA Award

A great opportunity to improve your knowledge of Computer Science, Creative iMedia, ICT, Business and a range of other subject areas. Character points will be awarded for those who complete the badges and Queue Skips will be given to those who gain bronze or silver award each half term.

To sign up and take part go to look out for the Arbor Notification this weekend.



Esafety tips for Parents

With more and more online tools and platforms being made available every day, stay up to date with tips to keep your child safe online. There are a range of guides for different platforms and games available here:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>



ESPORTS FIXTURES

T1

HASEEB A, XAVIER A, CONNOR A

T2

JAMIE M, KEYAAN A, ZIKORAH I

T3

MYLES S-S, FINDLEY G, BOBBY T-M

DATE:

MONDAY 27TH FEB 3.30 - 4.30PM
ROOM - U2



Looking Ahead to **PI DAY** (March 14th for 3.14...)

Pi is the most famous irrational number with its ongoing decimal places. We look forward to our upcoming annual celebration of Pi Day as we plan activities, competitions and celebrations. We encourage students to prepare for these now. Activities include:

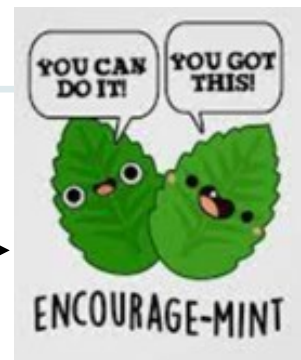
A **Pi Recital Competition** which gives students (and staff) the chance to show off how many decimal places of pi they can recall as they aim to beat their own personal records. An email was sent providing many decimal places of pi with paper copies also available in the Maths Department.

Pi poster opportunity creating a poster showing uses of circles in other subjects and the world around us. [Earn a](#)



Enter our **Pi Pun Competition** by submitting a pi pun which you have created yourself. It must have a Cestrian theme.

Here is an example of a non-pi pun to get you in the pun mindset



We will also have a **Bake Sale** (or pi/pie sale) starting on **Monday, 13th March**, alongside Culture Day and continuing into Pi Day. Please send in baked goods whether home made with a pi theme or shop bought. And, please have students bring money to spend on fun treats while at the same time supporting charities doing incredibly worthwhile work.

Are you Pi Day ready?



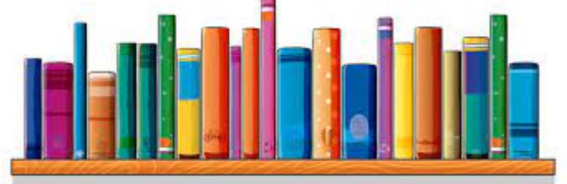
DO YOU HAVE ANY SPARE CHESS SETS?

OUR SUPER ENTHUSIASTIC CHESS CLUB NEED MORE SETS TO ENABLE MORE GAMES TO BE PLAYED.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SPARE SETS, PLEASE LET MRS BRADFORD OR MR DOHENY KNOW (U5)

THANK YOU!

Can You Help?



Don't forget!

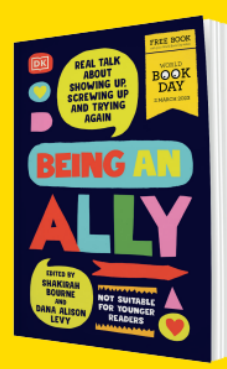
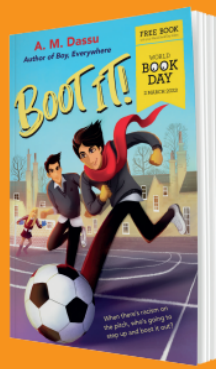
Students can dress up for World Book Day..pick an outfit which reflects your favourite character or author!
They'll be lots of activities in School, GUESS THE TEACHER, BOOK CAFÉ, QUIZ AND A WHOLE SCHOOL STORY!!



Join us on 2 March 2023



WORLD BOOK DAY



SCAN the QR code to get your World Book Day book token!



Get one of these books for FREE with your token.

TOKENS VALID:
Thursday 16 February – Sunday 26 March 2023



WHAT IS PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING?



Hi! I'm Mrs Iqbal and I manage all aspects of Pupil Premium subsidies. Here is an informative guide explaining what Pupil Premium funding is, the aim of the funding and how it is spent on students at North Cestrian School.

If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals or for further information, please contact Mrs Iqbal: s.iqbal@northcestrian.co.uk

The Pupil Premium Grant A Guide for Families

What is the Pupil Premium Grant?

The funding the school receives to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. If you think that your child should qualify for the grant, please contact Mrs. Iqbal on s.iqbal@northcestrian.co.uk

Who is eligible for Pupil Premium funding?

Pupils who receive free school meals (FSM) or even if the pupil qualified for free school meals at primary school.
Children who have been adopted from care or have left care.
Children who are looked after by the local authority.
Children whose parents serve in the armed forces.

Why does the school receive the funding?

Disadvantaged pupils face additional challenges in reaching their potential at school and often do not perform as well as their peers.

Our job is to work with you to identify and remove any barriers to learning. This may include, small group tutoring, support getting to school, ensuring all pupils have the correct stationery and resources, and access to supportive staff.

What is the main aim of the funding?

The main aim is to **raise attainment**; this is supported not only through academic strategies both in-class and beyond school, but also by improving personal development (Cestrian Behaviour and Cestrian Character) including mental health, better attendance, extra-curricular opportunities, trips and cultural capital, and your future in education and careers.

Please see the 'Ethos' section of the school website and for more details on North Cestrian's Pupil Premium under 'Academic Life' at: www.northcestrian.co.uk

For further information relating to Pupil Premium funding and support we may be able to provide, please contact the Pupil Premium Coordinator, Mrs Iqbal.
Email: s.iqbal@northcestrian.co.uk
Tel: 0161 928 1856

Examples of how PP funding is spent:

- Free school breakfast!

This is not deducted from the FSM allowance. Helps your attendance, punctuality, fuels the brain, and a time to look at your Prep again!

- Subsidised or free extra-curricular trips that build your experiences and character
- Tutoring Programmes to help pupils build their confidence, resilience and progress.
- Latest revision workbooks and guides to ensure pupils effectively develop their independent practise
- Help with school uniform costs
- Transport to and from school
- Pastoral support – focusing on welfare, behaviour, and support for learning
- Reading materials and support.
- Summer School to help new Y7 pupils transition to secondary school
- Unifrog – Online careers platform to help pupils decide on their futures and pathway to a rich and fulfilling life
- Homework club to provide additional support with completing prep
- Stationary Packs for pupils

We place great importance on our vision and ABC toolkit: Cestrian Academic, Behaviour and Character to enable pupils to thrive and lead rich and fulfilling lives.



I'm a Parent...

Get me out of here!
2023

A 6 week course for parents with children 11+
Fully funded for parents and carers of children attending Trafford Schools.

Have an understanding of where your child is developmentally

Learn the importance of self-care

Have an understanding of the development of the teenage brain

Learn skills to apply in any situation

Learn how to listen to your teenager

Improve how you navigate conflict with your teen

Learn to 'let go' whilst still maintaining boundaries

[CLICK HERE](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PTFA NOTICES

NORTH CESTRIAN PTFA
MARCH 24TH

CESTRIAN FAMILY Easter BINGO



DOORS
OPEN
6.45PM

BAR
OPENS AT
7PM

EYES
DOWN
7.15PM

FAMILY TICKET
UP TO
4 PEOPLE £5

SINGLE TICKET
£2 VIA
PMX.PARENTMAIL

PLEASE NOTE CHILDREN MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Tickets go on sale this week for Family Easter Egg Bingo taking place on **Friday 24th March**.

So what exactly is it? As the name suggests it is a Family Bingo event, with an Easter twist.....

Families buy tickets in advance (£2.00 per person or £5.00 per family of up to 4 people) to come along to play some fun Bingo. Children **must** be accompanied by an adult, especially the younger children who may need more help.

Doors open at 6.45pm, bar opens at 7pm, eyes down by 7.15pm. We hope to play up to three games of Bingo, as well as one or two other activities, finishing around 9pm.

Bingo cards are provided to everyone with a ticket. We ask that you try and remember to bring your own pen, however there will be some daubers (Bingo pens) there to buy.

Unlike normal Bingo sessions, there are multiple line and full house winners and we ensure that most children go home with a prize. The rules are explained at the start of the session.

The Bingo caller goes through at a slow and steady pace so that the event is is suitable for all students and younger siblings, giving them a chance to find the numbers and have fun!

Refreshments will also be available to purchase; hot dogs, crisps, snacks and drinks.

We hope to see many of you there. Tickets are limited, please buy them via Parentmail pmx. PTFA funds raised go directly back into school to benefit all students.