



NEWSLETTER

14 October 2022



Head master's Message -

Pupils in my Language for Winning course know my predilection for referencing Greek or Latin. The art of rhetoric – the art of effective speaking or writing – was itself described by Aristotle. The very concept of knowledge – what it means ‘to know’ - was discussed by Plato. But my opening ramble, in this the last newsletter of the first half-term, refers further back in time than ancient Greek philosophers. In fact, to the very dawn of time. To the ancient Greeks, time had several aspects. One of them is embodied in the god, Chronos, from which we get the word ‘chronology’. In this aspect, time is linear; things happen in chronological order. To pupils, this is perhaps how they see time. To them, the end of this half-term means they are 6 or 7 weeks closer to Christmas, and then the end of their school year, and then the end of their time at North Cestrian. To teachers, within the frame of school life at least, time is less linear and more circular. ‘Here we are again, in the run up to Christmas’. The Greek god associated with this circular aspect of time was Aion. Aion is sometimes linked with four children, representing the four seasons. So, as this term has its half-term break, I wish to all a well-deserved rest, ready to begin the next part of the cycle on Monday 31st October, which will be a Gold Week (this is indicated in pupils’ learning journals).

Academic

Today is an INSET day. The business of learning is a constant stream for teachers. Our curricula, teaching methods and subject content are constantly evolving to try and improve step by step. Our pupils deserve no less. Much of teachers’ learning is self-reflection or peer led. Some aspects are driven by the latest developments in cognitive science. Today we are covering all three, from ways to enhance memory to avoiding teaching pitfalls.

Behaviour

A reminder that, as we approach wetter and colder seasons, please do not see this as a reason for pupils to wear boots. This is inappropriate for school. Stout black shoes are sufficient. In any event, please label all items of school wear. NAMED ITEMS - These will be brought to office staff who will send a message to the student and their guardians advising to collect from the office within 2 school days. If not collected, the item will be taken to the cellar for storage and students can collect at a time convenient to staff members. UNNAMED ITEMS - These will be brought to office staff who will keep in the office for 2 school days. If not collected, the item will be taken to the cellar for storage and students can collect at a time convenient to staff members. Any items remaining at the end of each half term will be classed as unwanted and donated or disposed of as applicable

Character

It was a joy to see most of our Year 7s at the school disco yesterday evening. Although I didn’t recognise any of the music played, clearly the youngsters did, and they danced and joined in the party games with enthusiasm. This forging of friendships, tempering one’s behaviour and learning social interactions are all important parts of character development. I am once again indebted to the PTFA for their generous support.

Dates for Diary:

31/10
Term resumes

11/11
Remembrance

18/11
Y7 Social Eve



DEPUTY REFLECTIONS - CHARACTER EDUCATION

Let's encourage investment in discovering opportunities and taking ownership for a rich, fulfilling life.

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

*"Good character is not formed in a week or a month. It is created little by little, day by day.
Protracted and patient effort is needed to develop good character." Heraclitus*

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

Plan to experience and act on opportunities that build a rounded character. Send me genuine, sustained and significant examples of your pursuits rooted in the categories below. Your examples should contain a photo, written reflection referencing character traits, and evidence or certificate or reference from leaders.

Volunteer

**Community
Work**

Artistic

Performing

see Cultural Capital Page

Debating

Leisure Pursuits

Sporting

Competitive Team / Individual

This half term's celebrations

As always at the beginning of a school holiday I point the way to the opportunity for people to curate their own rich and fulfilling life and utilise the space away from the day-to-day school life to pursue character development and cultural capital—simply because it fuels passions as a human. Read these pages with this in mind.

It important to conclude the uniqueness of this half term. Teachers, pupils and parents all experienced for the first time in their lives the death of the British monarch. Queen Elizabeth's passing, the ensuing reflections and ceremonies had character as central a theme. Indeed, the theme was logical... Her Majesty served her people through the foundations of her character. Pupils continue to write news articles for the English Cultural Capital opportunity. Here we see some reflections of Cestrians showing their own royal connections add to their own character.

Sandra P Y10 in London.



Mr Pullen in London.



*Cestrians
Platinum
Jubilee.*

Mr Bell in awe, 1984



Click the image for this week's Character Development Opportunities.

Last chance for these!!

Passion, Purpose + Sophistication

**ET
CONNECT
N**

OXBRIDGE PREP
ONLINE TALKS & WORKSHOPS

Duke of Edinburgh



On Mondays in November at 5pm there is an opportunity to ask questions about studying at university, develop critical thinking and experience an academic tutorial. Follow the instructions on the link and copy me in. Together we can plan a rich and fulfilling future and talk about how NCS can help.

Email me outlining why you would like to achieve this award. How will it build your character? For Y9 only. Deadline 1 November

Read the News, Write the News
Thursdays 3.25pm to 4.25pm.
see Mrs Ritchie -
meet industry experts and aim for
BBC Young Journalist.



CHARACTER EDUCATION

Do you know someone who is building their character?

[Click to nominate a pupil.](#)

**Investing in character
development together!**

**Character nominations from
parents, family + friends!**

Leo B Y9, from family, **purposeful
and **passionate**:**

"In August, I started kickboxing and am now up for my first grading - yellow belt.

Last Thursday, I started to learn new moves in a two-hour training session with the head coach.

Naomi A Y10, from teachers, **growth mindset:** an excellent use of feedback after an RE test. She made a small misinterpretation of a question so got extra revision materials and worked again at home. She attempted another 12 mark evaluation question and showed great understanding!





DEPUTY REFLECTIONS - CULTURAL CAPITAL

Cultural Capital is the essential knowledge that we need to be educated citizens. It is the best that has been thought and said, and helps to grow an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

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

"No-one ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and they are not the same person"

Pupils are guided in the acquisition of cultural capital both in lessons and beyond school. It may be the origins or foundations of thought. It may be the deeper broader details or the where next and what ifs. It may be beyond the lesson or exam but yet essential to kindle passion, discover purpose, broaden horizons and enable sophisticated discussion.

Plan to take these opportunities that build your cultural capital. Then make use of it. When you do this in lessons, teachers will award points. They will guide your next steps to go deeper and develop further. They will test your sophistication - is it genuine, relevant and significant? rounded character. **Subjects will use lesson based cultural capital opportunities.**

Let's focus the opportunity of a break away from the grind of school by visiting, watching, listening and doing things that build your cultural capital. You're the boss! To make your reading a way of building cultural capital...

Your Reading Plus Log in - <https://student.readingplus.com/seereader/api/sec/login>
Site code - rpncestrian1 AND Y7 + 8 can finish off your Bookbuzz books and write 50 word reviews in your learning journal! Show your Form Tutor! Tick the title off your NCS 100 challenge list. Complete the [NCS100 Survey](#) by 30th October.



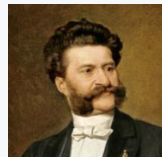
What is your worldview? Where do you stand?

You can also explore the images below for beyond lesson, topical and contemporary cultural capital.

Pursue what you are most curious about. Email me with your first reflection on the source material. Write a 100 words summarising the main points. Then 100 words analysing why it is important? What is means for the future? Why is it cultural capital? Are you inspired? Again, our experts will guide next steps.



Business: What impact will this have on ASDA's reputation?



Music: Composer of the Month - Strauss

English: create a newspaper front page reporting the death of Queen Elizabeth OR Write a letter to King Charles thanking the Queen for her service and work.



Engineering: What is a Design Engineer?



MFL: topical challenges every month

Humanities Breakfast Movie Club Wednesday's 8am. Sign up on U12 Door



Engineering: Women in Engineering



Food: would showing carbon emissions on menus affect our choices or footprint?

Computer Science Share and discuss articles, videos & podcasts that you find that support legal, ethical, cultural & environmental aspects of technology.

Email me with how you are building your cultural capital in your own way



Science: How have different scientists contributed to our understanding of cells?

Curie-osity Club - discuss big science in T2 KS4 lunch Gold Thursdays



Maths: How did Pythagoras help saves whales?

Festivals are a big part of religious life. What festivals are happening from now to the end of the year? Identify the religion, the celebrations and any diversity of traditions that exist.

Reading	novels	specialist magazines	journals	newspapers
Visiting	museums	galleries	museums	theatre
Listening	orchestra	choir	podcasts	
Watching	films	Current affairs	documentaries	
Doing	volunteering	Creative writing	Making / designing	Sports
Experiencing new places and cultures		Getting a head start on next year's study		

Know someone building their cultural capital? Click to nominate.

Nominated Achiever Luke D (Y8)

I completed a 4-week photography course and qualified in using different angles and images of outdoor life, reflective surfaces, creating the right lighting, movement, self-portrait, and textures. "Lighting is a photographer's best friend! You will always want the sun behind you unless it is sunset or sunrise". The course put the focus on mindfulness too!

Want more big ideas for curious minds? Click the link. Hooked? Email me.



PTFA NOTICES

NORTH CESTRIAN SCHOOL PTFA

Year 7 Parents

SOCIAL EVENING

FRIDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2022

7:00pm - LATE

VANSTONE HALL

TICKETS VIA PARENTMAIL PMX

£5

Welcome drink on arrival with
cheese & biscuits included!
there is also a bar available for
the night

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS AN
ADULTS ONLY NIGHT

BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



North Cestrian School



Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



By using this paper leaflet we are helping to reduce unnecessary extra plastic. Please use your own bag or bags (there is no limit). The leaflet is FSC accredited, please recycle it.

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

The more we weigh the more we pay!

Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit

Please return your Bag2School on:

PLEASE DROP OFF AT THE FRONT DOOR OR GATE DURING SCHOOL HOURS. OR CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU

North Cestrian School Presents

Joseph AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOP DREAMCOAT

LYRICS BY
TIM RICE

MUSIC BY
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

Tuesday 7th – Thursday 9th February
2023 – 7PM

Adults £8

Concession £5

NCS Student £3

Tickets available via ParentMail or boxoffice@northcestrian.co.uk