



NEWSLETTER

23 June 2023



Head Master's Message:

It was great to see so many – nearly a third – of our Year 9s completing their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards last Saturday and Sunday, hiking and camping in the Peak District. Youth was certainly in evidence as, after a 16km walk and a brief rest, they were then playing ball games and running up and down the hillside. Many of these pupils will strive to attain their silver and even their gold awards in future years. I've been in the teaching profession a long time and I have every confidence in our future generations: I can be as curmudgeonly as the next person, but the truth is, the energy, hope and fun of children puts a spring in the step. As always, I thank Mrs Stevenson for her drive in organising and supporting the Duke of Edinburgh scheme at school. Our providers are GRIP Adventure. We are looking to further our relationship with them and make fuller use of our extensive sports fields and pavilion. *(See page 2 for recent expedition photos).*

A further testimony to the skills and dedication of our pupils is the prospect of a great evening of music as our students showcase their talents in the Summer Music Concert on Thursday 29th June, 7-8pm in the Vanstone Hall. I hope many of you attend the evening and support our young people. I am grateful to Mr Wilson for his enthusiasm in organising this event.

Cest Fest on 8th July fast approaches and it's good to see applications for stalls being submitted. Encourage your children to take part: a table fee of just £5.00 allows pupils to sell, promote and cajole sales of activities, competitions and goods. Pupils may keep every penny of profit – so let's see Dragon's Cest entrepreneurs making lots of cash!

Planned Strike Action

School has been notified of planned strike action by members of the NEU on two days: Wed 5th and Frid 7th July. The NEU represents a large proportion of teaching colleagues at NCS, so there is likely to be significant impact. However, we are looking to increase provision where we can safely and reasonably do so. As a minimum, we will remain open for vulnerable children, and children of key workers.

Key Dates:

- **Thursday 29th June – Summer Music Concert, 7-8pm Vanstone Hall**
- **Monday 3rd July – Sports Day Y7&8**
- **Tuesday 4th July – Sports Day Y9&10**
- **Wed 5th July – Planned NEU Strike**
- **Thur 6th July – New Year 6->7 Transition Day**
- **Fri 7th July – Planned NEU Strike**
- **Sat 8th July – 12 – 3pm CEST FEST**

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Calendar Dates:

- 29 June
Summer Concert
- 3 July
Sports Day
- 5 July
Bag2School pick up
- 17 July
Y7 & 8 Trip
- 18 July
Y9 & 10 Trip
- 21 July

DUKE OF EDINBURGH



DEPUTY REFLECTIONS - CHARACTER EDUCATION

"...who continue to make the Windrush in their own way, carving an even fresher path for others. You have reached the kind of heights your grandparents couldn't have imagined"
David Harewood talking about today's black Britons descended from the Windrush.

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

m.bell@

This week we have enjoyed a character education assembly showcasing our pupils and the events of the week. The role for the audience was to write down pieces of evidence as they saw or heard proof for each of our character traits. Eleora played the piano as we entered the hall, Max and Shashank celebrated pupil leadership opportunities and our charities available on Going Green Day and Sarri, fresh after his year 11 exams spoke to us encouraging the youngsters to take all the opportunities of a rich and fulfilling North Cestrian life earlier than he did. (he showcased a lot but mostly from his Y10 and 11).

I showcased the book I am reading from the NCS100. All staff will enthuse pupils by kindling conversations on what we are reading. If your son / daughter has not yet borrowed a book from the NCS 100 then visit red reception at break time and loan a book until we see you in September.

We then accessed some cultural capital on The Titanic and why it was in the news this week, ultimately encouraging pupils to watch the news on the missing submersible.

Finally, almost all pupils showed that they had knowledge of the Windrush generation.

Mr Bell

I Am Malala

NCS 100



I chose this book because Malala was voted for by NCS pupils to be one of our school's character role models. As a Geography teacher I am fascinated by Human Development Indicators and unleashing the brain power, health, welfare, and economic advantages of educating girls in Low Income Countries is the major force in the 21st century. Malala's example is massive: resilience, passion, purpose, hard work...

Why not ask him about it?



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

Build your Character Benchmarks Certificate

To read more about NCS Character Education click the poster!

Enter the Character Education Website by clicking the photo of the British Museum below. You will find the Character Development opportunities, news of pupils thriving and leading rich and fulfilling lives, and hooks for your curiosity hooked in the Cultural Capital opportunities.

Know someone building their Cultural Capital? [Click to nominate.](#)

They were secure in some of the key cultural capital recalled from Language for Winning lessons. As Thursday was the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush bringing a generation of 500 Caribbeans from the empire to the mother country, we have the opportunity to increase our understanding.

I challenge pupils to be curious and develop their sophistication by reading and watching the two BBC sources and David Harewood's brilliant address at the Richard Dimbleby lecture. Email me with your reflection.

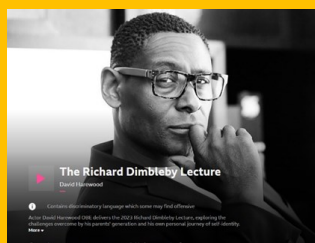
All character traits were on show in this assembly! Email me with a short piece of

evidence for each character trait.

Windrush 75: What is Windrush and who are the Windrush generation?



Windrush: Hundreds with chronic and mental illness sent back to Caribbean



DEPUTY REFLECTIONS - PART 2

Caring for the Community

The reputation of our gardening is spreading into the community! Fresh from being awarded the Level 3 School Gardening Award we were approached by Woodend Care Home, Altrincham.

Masterminded by the leadership of the green-fingered, identify any plant in the world, specialist, Dr Rodger and supported by the passion and generosity of spirit of 6 gardening club pupils.

Mr. Bell also got his hands dirty too!

Here you can see (Sharon please check spelling cut to name and initial and year group) Lilyana Payne, Jayan Panghrani, Alice Roberts, Cameron Capp, Naomi Mann, and Tzeyan Bamber planting seeds for vegetables, herbs, and flowers.

The residents and John (staff member) loved watching and help and asking loads of questions to the youngsters. I must also give a big thanks to Alan who attempted to find out school a greenhouse, unfortunately it needed dismantling and collecting from Oldham.

So if you can donate a greenhouse (8ft by 4, perspex) to school we will pay you back in veg and fruit crumbles! Let me know.

This fun and easy task really shows how communities can work together and build the character of youngsters. Dr. Rodger and I were very proud of how the wisdom and hard work flowed across the generations!



North Cestrian Curriculum & Setting – Part 2: Personal Development

In addition to the academic curriculum, North Cestrian offers a broad range of personal development opportunities, including the statutory personal development topics and an increasingly diverse range of extracurricular clubs, trips and visits.

Personal Development lessons further broaden the curriculum via a sequenced, age appropriate, programme incorporating SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Cultural, Social) themes, British Values, citizenship, careers, and wellbeing. Relationships and sex education (RSE) is an important part of PSHE education and is compulsory for all secondary school pupils. Our policy is on the school website.

Our mission is to thrive together, through the equality of opportunity, celebrating diversity and uniqueness through a curriculum which aims to:

- Prepare the pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of adult life so that they may make a positive and respectful contribution to society and keep themselves safe.
- To encourage health-promoting behaviour.
- Ensure students have the information to make informed, healthy, and safe life choices.
- Develop pupils' understanding of personal responsibility.
- Ensure pupils learn to show respect and consideration for others and alternative points of views.
- Provide support and information for young people and their parents.

Our PD curriculum is designed to enable holistic personal growth, with opportunities to explore, question, and debate issues relating to pupils and the world around them. It extends horizons across and beyond the subject-based curriculum, building confidence to ask questions and talk openly about complex personal, social, and moral topics.

Pupils will learn to champion and protect wellbeing, mental and physical health, to have the resilience and tools to face the realities of modern life. It builds informed views and character to enable a safe, happy, and successful, life and career. Knowing more, and being able to do more, is central to your rich and fulfilling life.

Personal Development is delivered through lessons, assemblies, guest speakers, extracurricular clubs, character, and leadership development opportunities.

| Personal Development - All pupils (age appropriate) | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| British Values | Social & Emotional development | How We Learn | Health & Wellbeing |
| The Law | | Reading & Debating | Relationships & Sex Education |
| The Media | Bullying | Character Education | Mental Health |
| Futures & Careers | Respect & Consent | Formality & Conduct | Physical Health |
| Finance | Equality | Personal Responsibility | First Aid |
| Online Safety | Digital media | KS4 - IT skills for life, Computational Thinking | |
| Cultural Capital - Extra Curricular Clubs, Teams, Visits and Trips | | | |
| Astronomy Club | Debate Club | School Bands, Choirs | Outdoor Activities Trips |
| Rendezvous Cafe | Drama Clubs | School Sports Teams | National & International Trips |
| STEM & Curiosity Science Clubs | Chess Club | Inclusive sport activities | Theatre Trips |
| Journalism & Writing Clubs | Gardening Group | Sports e.g. Football, athletics, tennis, basketball, swimming, table tennis, badminton, netball, lacrosse | Curriculum enhancement Trips |
| Warhammer Club | Kindness Club | | Subject Drop in & Revision |
| Anumana Code Club | eSports Club | | Y7 Head's Table Lunch |
| Reading Groups & Book Café | Zumba | Y10 Work Exp. & college trips | Summer Reward Trips |
| Extra Responsibility & Leadership Opportunities | | | |
| Subject & ACEF Ambassadors | Duke of Edinburgh Awards | Y9, 10,11 Prefects | Head Boy/Girl |
| Form Captain / vice-captain | Science Librarian | Music Lessons & Grading | Sports Captains, Charity Reps |
| Presentation in Briefings | Reading Buddy | Involvement in interviews & open days: pupil voice tasks, tour guide | |
| Character Development & Cultural Capital opportunities from our website menu | | Recognition for involvement in external clubs/teams, hobbies | |



YEAR 10 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

How to support your child with English Literature and English Language GCSE

Wednesday 12th July 2023 5:30-6:30pm

We will be inviting all parents of Year 10 pupils to an information evening where we will be sharing information and advice regarding the English Language and English Literature GCSE courses. With Year 11 approaching, we understand that it can be difficult for parents to know what is involved and how they best support their child in their studies.

We will:

- Give an overview of the specifications, exams and skills/assessment objectives .
- Explain what your child should be doing at home and how you can support and further their studies.
- Help you understand what the quality of work at certain grades 'looks like' and share examples of work at Grade 9, Grade 5 etc.
- Address any other queries and questions you may have about the course and assessment in English at GCSE.

We will shortly be sending out a letter with all the relevant information you will need regarding this event via ParentMail, where we will be asking you to confirm your attendance at the event if you wish to join us. We hope this will prove useful and look forward to seeing you then!

ENGLISH REWARD TRIPS



We have been delighted to be able to celebrate those pupils who have consistently worked hard in English, achieved well, made progress and shown commitment to English Cultural Capital and Extra-Curricular activities. Pupils have been nominated by their English teachers for the reward trips; this has been a really tough decision for us all as there have been so many deserving pupils! 30 pupils from across Year 8,9 and 10 have been selected to see a Royal Shakespeare Company performance of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* at The Lowry Theatre. 10 deserving pupils from Year 7 will be invited to watch *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory - The Musical* at The Palace Theatre.

Congratulations to all those selected. Watch out for news of future reward opportunities in English next year - we have lots of exciting things planned!

SUMMER READING

With the long summer break approaching, it is the perfect time to start thinking about dedicating some time to enjoying a good book. Take the opportunity to borrow a book from The NCS100 from the book trolley so you can ensure you have some great reading material to enjoy over the summer. The book trolley is available to access every breaktime in the Red Reception area, so feel free to come and peruse what is on offer and sign out a book. Ask your English teacher for more information or if you would like any recommendations!



Physical Education & Sport



Physical Education - Cultural
Capital



PE CULTURAL CAPITAL

We want to recognise your engagement in sport and physical activity outside of school! Use this form to record up to three external sports teams, clubs or societies that you attend.

An external club, team or society is any that you take part in outside of school. For example, Altrincham Swimming Club.

In addition to collecting Cultural Capital points for reflections on current issues in sport and physical activity, we would like to learn more about opportunities you are engaged with outside of school that influence how you act in PE lessons in school.

Celebrating success!

We are always exceptionally proud of the sporting successes of our students.



James W (Y7) pictured above representing Greater Manchester last weekend. James's team finished 2nd overall with James scoring a wonder goal to help secure the position!

Good luck to James representing the North West in a national tournament this weekend in Nottingham!



Angus C, Charlie C, Josh H, Harley C at Trafford Athletics.

Following success in their individual races which included 2 1sts and a 3rd place, the boys crossed the line in 1st place in their relay race.

Well done to the Y9 boys!



Shay B-D (Y7) represented Altrincham Dodgers at the National Dodgeball Championships where he faced the top 2 teams from all the Home Nations. His team was undefeated and came 1st overall! Well done to Shay and we wish him all the best next season!



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July 2023**

12 - 3pm

★
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&
£2 FOR ADULTS**



Summer CEST FEST

LOTS OF FUN FILLED THINGS TO DO!!!

★ **LIVE
MUSIC** ★

★ **BBQ** ★

★ **RAFFLE** ★

★ **GUNGE THE
TEACHER** ★

★ **PUPIL
STALLS** ★

FOR MORE INFO:
0161 928 1856 / VISIT US: WWW.NORTHCESTRIAN.CO.UK

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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:



9 JULY 2023

