



NEWSLETTER

9 December 2022



Dates for Diary:

13/12
Y11 PCE

16/12
Finish term
1220

In this issue:

Deputy	2-3
Academic	4
Computing	5
Perf Arts	6
Cross Country	7-8
Notices	9
Charity News	10

Although I have said that I'm not a huge football fan, I think I'm being influenced. Can you tell?

I'll kick off with a note about security. The goal is to keep our staff and pupils safe, while ensuring North Cestrian remains a warm and inviting place. Staff are busy, so visitors should make an appointment: when they arrive, visitors ask reception (VAR) to gain access. Guests should behave courteously. Use of foul language or threatening behaviour is not acceptable and such persons will be asked to leave and in extreme cases, the police will be called. The penalty could be that the person is banned from the school grounds. I have asked pupils to not hold reception door open for guests, so please don't be upset by this – it's a further way we can tackle any unsolicited visitors. It's important to remain vigilant and not throw in the towel.

Extreme Weather

The current cold-snap is a reminder to inform parents of arrangements for extreme weather such as snow. School will endeavour to remain open but the first thing to do is to check the school website front page and the Trafford Schools Closure website. We will endeavour to post information by 7am. There is no need to contact the school.

Scarlet Fever and Group Strep A Infections

The country is experiencing increased cases of Group A streptococcus (Strep A) and scarlet fever. Symptoms are: sore throat, headache, fever, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. If a child becomes unwell with these symptoms, parents should contact their GP or contact NHS 111 to seek advice. If a child has scarlet fever, stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others. If your child is having difficulty breathing or skin, tongue and lips are blue or the child is floppy and will not stay awake, go to A&E or call 999.

Cestrian ABC

Academic We were pleased to receive the Ofsted Inspection Data Summary Report based on the GCSE 2022 results. The school performance all round was very good: our Progress 8 was ranked as 'significantly above national average' - the highest category. Special mention must go to Science, Maths and EBacc subjects whose 'value-added' or Progress 8 scores placed them in the top 20% in the country.

Behaviour I am pleased that a good number of trips are taking place; cultural, educational, adventure and fun. It is especially pleasing when staff receive thanks from pupils or parents showing their appreciation: trips are stressful to organise and supervise. Any pupil who does not maintain the high standards of behaviour expected by school may find themselves being withdrawn from a trip and being denied access to future ones.

Character Well done to all those who climbed the equivalent of Kilimanjaro last weekend. Their generosity of spirit, passion and perseverance was appreciated by the centre supervisors and by Miss Few, who organised it. Look out for Mr Bell's pages in this newsletter for the huge number of character-building opportunities available. Well done to Mr Wilson and the musical performers and readers at last night's carol service, which was a real taste of Christmas. Speaking of taste – thanks, as always to the PTFA for the refreshments.

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.

"The barriers to taking opportunities have never been fewer, but you have to find ways of standing out!"
Stuart Maconie.

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!

You can also show your rounded character and achieve your Character Benchmarks Certificate. Click below, read the instructions to build your evidence in 10 benchmarks.

Leisure Pursuits

Competitive Team / Individual

Volunteer Community Work Artistic Performing Debating Sporting see Cultural Capital

Build your Character Benchmarks Certificate

People are claiming their place in the December evidence charts! There is only a few days left to get your Character Points for this half term (deadline Monday)! This week has points from parent nominations, cookery in RE, wreath making in Gardening club, fieldtrips, guest speaker events, Year 7 and 8 class presentations on Black History month, regular club attendance. Plus, next week - BBC Careers present to NCS and Y11s hold a debate in assembly!

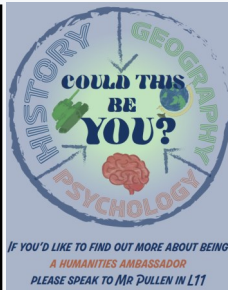
From Careers Adviser, Mr Gallamore: "21 Year 8 pupils experienced the brand new Aerozone facility at Manchester Airport. We researched the vast range of jobs available, listened to the Head of Security and Director of Finance. The pupils asked them many questions. The highlight was trying out practical activities and experiencing airport work like Check-in Desk, Duty Free Shop, Security Scanner, Firefighting and the flight simulator! Airport staff were impressed with NCS and we can develop key links and visit again. See pupils' own words below."



Maisy C (Y8) purposeful: "I asked many questions as my career choice is related to the airport (flight attendant) and got loads of information from guest speakers. It was really inspiring to me and I loved knowing more about the career I want to pursue. Big fun too!" **Jayden M (Y8) purposeful:** "So many interesting facts and new knowledge and lots of opportunities. I really enjoyed scanning bags for dangerous weapons. The trip was amazing and I hope to get a job in the airport. Thank you!"

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

Pop/Chamber Choir
KS3 - Thursday lunch (5a)
from 13:00 - 13:30



KS4 - Thursday lunch (5b)
from 14:00 - 14:30

ROYAL SOCIETY
YOUNG PEOPLE'S
BOOK PRIZE 2022

Y7, 8 + 9 are the judging panel on Fri lunch 13:30 to 13:40 in S3

Science Library - Friday lunchtimes. Outside S4.

Business passion? Year 9 Wed / Friday break. Must attend to prove your option choice!



Gardening Group
Thursdays 3.30-4.15
In the Garden Area

Read the News / Write the News 12:50 to 13:20 Gold Wednesdays. Y7-9 try out your skills as a journalist. The Write Way is at 12:50 to 13:20 on Blue Wednesdays. Write stories, poems and scripts. See Mrs Ritchie.



Wednesdays 3.30-4.40pm in S3
28th Sept - 14th December
Earn a Bronze CREST Award
Teams of students design their own investigation and record their findings, giving them a taste of what it is like to be a scientist or engineer in the real-world.

Reading + in S1 at break

Astronomy Club
Monday 15:30 - 16:30 S2

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

Our **passionate, purposeful and resilient** Dragons Den pupils selling at Tesco!



Daniel H (Y7) resourceful: could get a job in Santa's Workshop! "my wooden train I built with a year 11 engineer. It took me a whole weekend!"

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.

“It’s never been easier to get your ideas out there, but never been harder to earn a living from it”
Stuart Maconie

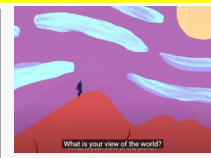
Pupils are guided in the acquisition of cultural capital both in lessons and beyond school. It may be the origins or foundations of thought. It may be the deeper broader details or the where next and what ifs. It may be beyond the lesson or exam but yet essential to kindle passion, discover purpose,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

Know someone building their cultural capital? Click to nominate.

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.**

Stuart Maconie, radio DJ, TV presenter, writer and journalist enthused pupils through kindling career ambitions and showcasing some significant JB Priestly cultural capital. Priestly wrote ‘An Inspector Calls’ and the Y10s + 11s exchanged some highly sophisticated analysis of the play. His tips were full of character development advice “Keep trying, do your research and follow things through to the end! With passion, purpose and perseverance you are making your own luck... step in the way of luck and it hits you!” Stuart is making a programme about Priestly using cultural capital and standing on the shoulder of giants. Stuart has retraced his steps told in the 1934 publication ‘English Journey’. More on this show and NCS pupils’ sound bites later!

Celebrating pupils who represented Community Groups in the Remembrance Events



What is your worldview? Where do you stand?

Room:	Everyday:	ALL
T2C	Lunch	Welcome
Thursday:		
Hindu and Sikh society:		
Break		
Friday:		
Islamic reminder:	Congregational	
Break	Jumma Prayer:	
	Start of Lunch	

Click the underlines / images below for beyond lesson, topical and contemporary cultural capital. Pursue what you are most curious about. Email me with your reflection on the source material. Write 100 words summarising the main points. Then 100 words analysing why it is important? Why is it cultural capital? Are you inspired? Teachers guide next steps.

Business: CEO Secrets - Which Cestrian character traits can you identify?
Thinking of Business for GCSE? Drop in to U3 Wed/Fri break

Choose Your Influential Musicians

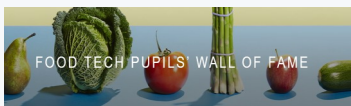
Statistics: Is the collective wisdom of a crowd smarter than an individual expert?

English: November is the month for remembrance,

- 1) **Research a war poet and present your exploration of their life, experiences and works.** (Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, John McCrae, Rupert Brooke).
- 2) **Record or live present a poem from memory showcasing dramatic expression.** (*Anthem for Doomed Youth* by Wilfred Owen, *The Hero* by Siegfried Sassoon, *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae)
- 3) **Write your own war poem.**

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

Humanities in the News: See the Cultural Capital on the corridor.



Food: we use the best theory, watch the best skills, then create amazing products!



Can you make Art History?

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

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



MFL: monthly topical challenges - win tapas, restaurant visits and certificates

Reading	novels	specialist magazines	journals	newspapers	
Visiting	museums	galleries	museums	theatre	Further education
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			

How do scientists allow us to celebrate Diwali and bonfire night?

Psychology

Tomorrows engineer's week watch the video and write an article reflecting on the role of engineering in our future.

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



COMPUTING

KS3 Computing, GCSE Computer Science and
OCR Creative iMedia

Anumana Code Club

This year and last year students from Years 9 - 11 have been working with Anumana, a data science company, to improve their programming skills and inspire them to consider a career within computing.

This has been a valuable opportunity and will continue in the new year with the addition of students from the University of Manchester helping out.

If you are interested in joining the club, please see Miss Collins. (spaces are limited)



Year 11 - Creative iMedia Exam

Date: Monday 9th Jan

Time: Afternoon

This is the 1st GCSE examination for these students. The Computing Team wish them the very best in this exam. They are able to access past lessons through Teams and we encourage them to do this to aid with their revision. Contact Mr Worswick for any questions before the holidays!

Star Learners

KS3	Will H, Ethan J, Nate K-S, Freya C, Sami A, Grace W
GCSE Comp Sci	Sophia A, Elliot C, Yashvi M, Amy P, Ian N, Victory O, Tyler B, Angus K, Nehir D
Creative iMedia	Karamkit S, Connor A, Mina A

E-Safety

At this time of the year, new devices often make their way into our homes as gifts. New apps spring up and new games are released.

It is important to recognise that as well as the entertainment and education that these can provide, they also open us up to threats to our personal information, and our mental health.

There is some great information for parents in the following website:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

In the pipeline...

Do you like Rocket League? Look out for an exciting opportunity launching soon. Keep an eye on Miss Collins' door (U2) for more information.

PLAY

Are you making good use of your amazing brain?

The brain weighs about 1.3 kg is about 16 cm long 14cm wide and nearly 10cm deep.

The human brain doesn't fully form until the person turns 25.

Every human loses some memory and cognitive skills by the time they are in their late 20s.

Dreams are proof that your brain is working all the time, even when you're asleep.

Your brain actually can't feel any pain as there are no pain receptors in it.

Brain tissue that is the same size as a grain of sand has more than 90,000 neurons and potential to make 1 quadrillion (1,000 billion) connections.

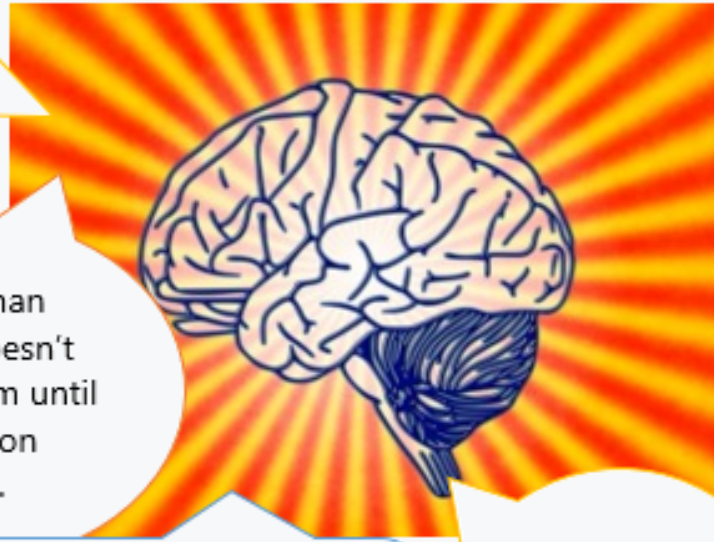
Even though the brain is just 2% of your body weight, it uses around 20% of all your energy from the blood and oxygen in your body.

There are so many brain cells (neurons) in your brain that it would take you over 3,000 years to count them all.

We've got loads of blood vessels in our brains and if we had to stretch them out flat they would be about 62,000 miles long (100,000km's)! We could wrap them around the earth four times.

The human brain can generate about 23 watts of power (enough to power a lightbulb).

Adequate sleep helps maintain the pathways in your brain. Sleep deprivation can increase the build-up of a protein in your brain that is linked to Alzheimer's disease.





What's been happening this week in the Drama Studio?...

Recently we were fortunate enough to secure a workshop with the company, Splendid Productions. Splendid Productions are a professional theatre company who create “challenging, entertaining and politically engaged theatre for young audiences”. Splendid Productions are a company we study in Year 10 and Year 11, learning about their use of Epic Theatre, and how they create and produce their work. Our session with Cordelia Stevenson was all about how to devise a piece of drama from a simple starting point. As Splendid’s style has a political angle, the students explored what politics is, and as they created their work, they discovered that political theatre didn’t need to be about what happens in Westminster, but it was about disagreement and what is important to them.

They started off creating a battle, presenting their ideas on what is better, a cat, or a dog? The students were empowered to grow their work further and started to look at divisive figures in society and history – presenting both their negative and positive points. By doing this, the work they were creating was no longer preaching to an audience telling them how they should feel toward a character, but challenged an audience so that they could forge their own opinion, and hopefully be engaged with social change.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Trafford Cross Country Championships



The Trafford Cross Country Championships, Thursday 1st December were a great success for all our students who performed exceptionally well in challenging conditions, showing impressive determination and resilience. They all thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. The spirit of the team was impressive, they were enthusiastic both in taking part in races and cheering on other runners.

There were some notable performances in particular Zach P, Lillia O, James T, Salma F, Maisie B, Owen H, Max F, Millie E and Ruby D. A special mention to Ava G in Year 7 who came fourth and Joud Al-S in Year 10 who came fifth and both have been asked to represent Trafford Schools at the Greater Manchester Cross Country Championships.

Year 7

The Trafford Cross Country Run was very enjoyable. We met up with old friends, who are now at different schools; we cheered on our school and competed with other runners. It was great running as it helps our mental health and builds up our stamina and resilience. The after-school training was fun as well. I would definitely recommend people to do it next time.

Zach P



I took part in the Trafford Cross Country competition and was delighted to come fourth. It meant half a day away from school with some of my friends and team. It was a hard course and I tired towards the end. I was in third place for most of the run until an old school friend pipped me on the line. I have been chosen to run for Trafford in February.

Ava G

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Trafford Cross Country Championships

Year 8/9



Team Results
Y7 Girls - 5th
Y7 Boys - 10th
Y8/9 Girls - 8th
Y8/9 Boys - 10th
Y10/11 Girls - 5th
Y10/11 Boys - 6th



The recent Cross Country Championships had an amazing atmosphere! Everyone was full of positivity, eagerness and support. North Cestrian as a school performed incredibly well, everyone showcased the Cestrian values by putting in their best effort and by cheering each other on. Joud Al-S

Year 10/11



NOTICES:

FILM CLUB



ALERT: CHRISTMAS SCREENING!



Monday 12TH December

After school: 15:25 – 1800

FILM: Home Alone with a side order of ELF!

Food provided – feel free to bring your own treats too. Discussion activities and a Christmas competition, plus an opportunity to vote on the next screening!

GET A PERMISSION LETTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND RETURN TO MISS JOHNSON BY THURSDAY 8th December



Home Alone/Elf	In L1 after school 15:25 - 1800	Get a permission slip from Miss Johnson soon!	Open to all years : film is a DE
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A quick reminder that the **Candy Cane Kindness** week is back!

Send a heartfelt message to a friend or member of staff to thank them or make their day during this last week of term and it will be delivered by the ACEF Ambassador Elf Team.

Details below:



Candy Cane Kindness is back!!

- When:** Friday 9th until Thursday 15th December
- Where:** in the canteen every break time or in the ACEF post box at the bottom of the red stairs
- What:** the ACEF team will once again be selling candy canes for 50p which will be hand-delivered with a lovely note from YOU.

So, if you have someone you want to thank ...

...THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY!

This can be for friends and teachers or anyone who you think is deserving of your gratitude or encouragement within the school.

Charity Check-in



acef

Providing dignity and opportunity
through education

Kilimanjaro Virtual Climbing Event

Wow! What an exciting day this was and I was so so proud of every one of our North Cestrian pupils who came to climb or to support with counting climbs. The pupils were impeccably well-behaved, incredibly enthusiastic and were fantastic ambassadors for our school. A huge thank you to the pupils who took part, their parents for supporting us in this venture and spending some of their Saturday running around and to the staff who came down to help, as well as the wonderful belayers who gave up their time for us.



We are still waiting for some of our sponsorship to come rolling in so watch this space next week for the final amount which will all be donated to ACEF to supporting the children in the



orphanage. If you would like to contribute to this, please use the QR code.

Here are a few photos from the fun-filled day!

