

Notton House School

Term 1 Newsletter

23rd September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome new and current families to the community of Notton House School. With the start of a new school year comes new hopes and new challenges.



Firstly I wish to congratulate the boys who completed their national qualifications in June, especially Ashley Leighton who achieved a 'C' grade in Maths GCSE, and Jesse Goodwin who achieved a 'C' grade in Science GCSE. Three students have returned to join us in our Sixth Form.

I also wish to give a warm welcome to the new boys who have recently started at Notton House School and look forward to seeing them grow and progress in all aspects of their learning.

As well as new school starters, we welcome a host of new staff across all key areas of the school. Our staff details can be found on our school website at www.nottonhouse.bristol.sch.uk.



Along with the more established staff, this new team are keenly anticipating a successful and exciting year ahead for the school.

Finally, I must thank you for helping us make a positive start to the new term with all the boys looking so smart in their correct uniform. The boys are also accepting some new responsibilities such as their own door access cards as well as their new

departments.

We look forward to working closely with you all in the year ahead.

With best wishes

Peter Evans

Executive Head Teacher

Lower School Newsletter September 2016

We have all made a great start to the new term. We have settled in to our new classes and have enjoyed meeting the new boys and teachers.

As a group we have made our class contract so that we can all work better together.

In Class we have been learning about Ancient Greece which is our topic. We have made a fact file about Greek Gods.

To find out about our peers we have made an 'All About Me' to get to know each other a bit better.

This term we are going to work really hard so that we can do well in the future.



'I flattened the ground at the farm to stop the moles getting to the ducks.' Jay

We are looking forward towards spending time with Caroline on the farm and working with the Wiltshire Wild life Trust to create a beautiful nature garden in our school grounds. We will also be learning new exciting skills during outdoor activities, like kayaking, canoeing and rock climbing.

By Haruun Maple class

Middle School

Pupils in middle school have started working with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust at their Green Lane Wood nature reserve near Trowbridge.



Wiltshire Wildlife Trust are passionate about getting children outdoors exploring, learning about and conserving our wild places. Their experienced education officers deliver a wide range of practical activities that bring young people closer to nature and develop respect and understanding of their local countryside. Pupils will be involved with a variety of conservation activities to help protect, maintain and enhance the reserve. Such activities include coppicing,

habitat creation (dead hedges), building woven hurdle fences and removing/erecting deer fencing. Pupils will also develop their bush craft skills, learning to build shelters, forage for wild food, and construct campfires in the woodland. By placing emphasis on the journey rather than the outcome the conservation project will help our young people develop;

- A positive mental attitude, self-motivation and independence
- Resourcefulness, self-regulation and resilience
- Perseverance, self-confidence and communication skills

In Humanities this term our topic is "Under the Sea". Pupils will have the opportunity to identify our planet's main oceans and sea and discover the wonderful creatures that live in this vast underwater world. We are hoping to plan a visit at the end of term to a large aquarium so pupils get the chance to view some of these wonderful creatures up closely.

This term in Science we are studying the "Solar System", looking at the planets but mainly how our planet is affected by the sun and moon, giving us the seasons and showing spectacular events such as the solar eclipse that we were all lucky enough to view in school last year.

Dallaglio Foundation

Geraint Lewis from Up and Under Sports will be working with Middle School pupils again this year. Geraint is delivering the Rugby Works Project for the Dallaglio Foundation. The Dallaglio Foundation delivers a long-term intensive skills development



programme, based on the values of rugby, to young people outside of mainstream education. Their main goal is to ensure young people achieve sustained education, employment or training.

PE Update

The physical education department celebrated some success during the summer as Winston Donaldson and Brandon Lee Weston gained 2 good 'D' grades in their GCSE. Well done to those boys!

Lessons have started well this term with a keen interest in the new football season and trampolining. As I write this, our school pitch is being marked out and freshly cut, ready for some fixtures I'm planning to organise against other schools.



Last week we had the pleasure of a visiting speaker, ex-Manchester United school boy player Raphael Burke. Please look him up on the internet! So hopefully we can begin working with him and his team of coaches throughout the year.

I plan to also get fixtures and competitions in Basketball, dodgeball and badminton at least, with the possibility of some boys entering a few Trampoline competitions. So exciting times ahead and I look forward to adding to the newsletter again with match reports and feedback on positive performances.

Alan Burchell, Head of Physical Education.

Interventions

This year pupils will benefit from a number of interventions. These include sessions with Caroline Cunningham looking after her animals and working on the farm, meetings with Chad Ferron, a mentor who works two evenings a week in school, and Nurture sessions for the lower school pupils. We also will be continuing with the good work provided by our learning mentors, specialist literacy and speech and language learning facilitator and more parent coffee mornings and family intervention from Suzie Sylvester.

Update from Jon Gibson, Deputy Head

Curriculum Update

Welcome back to a New Academic Year at Notton House School. I hope you have had a wonderful holidays.

Examinations

I am pleased to note that many Notton House pupils achieved GCSEs and other qualifications. These included C grades in GCSE Mathematics and Science. There were also GCSE grades in English, Art and PE. Not forgetting the vocational qualifications in subjects like Motor Vehicles and Construction.



Upper School

The academic year has got off to a good start:

Year 11 are continuing their studies and we are currently working on building in work experience for them. This is their GCSE year and we wish them the best of luck in their studies this year.

Year 10 have already started to study courses such as: GCSE or BTEC English, Mathematics, Science, PE, Art & Design, Food Tech, Motor Vehicles and Construction.

The teaching and LF Team in this area are:

Maya Bar-Tor, Mandy Anstee, Jackie Shaw, Ashley Wicheard, Rob Holbeche & Pete Young.

Middle School

The Wiltshire Wildlife trust have started to work with pupils from this area on a Tuesday afternoon. They are working towards the John Muir Award and we are sure the boys will thoroughly enjoy this work.

The teaching and LF Team in this area are:

Steve Thomas, Becky Roberts, Alan Burchell, Luke Harty, Andy Witcombe & Sharon Malin.

Lower School

The Wiltshire Wildlife trust have started to work with pupils from this area on a Thursday afternoon. They are working in the poly tunnel and we hope to see the 'fruits' of their labours in the spring.

As well as this we are also running sessions with a local PCSO who will be looking at issues personal safety with the pupils.

The teaching and LF Team in this area are:

Sarah Flay, Chloe Gibbins, Sasha Perriam, & Ollie Rew.



4YP for Parents

Do you sometimes wonder how to talk to your children about alcohol? Public Health Bristol has added a new section to the 4YP for Parents website to support you with this. It gives you information and advice and provides activities that you can share with your children. You can find it all at <https://www.4ypbristol.co.uk/for-parents/for-parents/alcohol/>

In fact, most teenagers don't drink alcohol and those who do usually don't drink it very often, but a new report shows that some teenagers in Bristol drink more than their peers in other parts of England. This can cause problems for their health both now and in the future.

As a parent or carer **you** are in the best position to help your child stay healthy and safe. Research has shown that it is important for parents to have conversations with their children about the enjoyable side and risky side of drinking alcohol and that this can help children to stay safe. Ideally these conversations should begin before they start drinking, but

it's never too late, and you can still talk to them, even if they are drinking already.

Once you have visited the website and read all the information about alcohol and teenagers please click on the section called 'Was this useful?' to tell us what you think.

You may also find some of the other 4YP pages for parents helpful. You can find them at:

<https://www.4ypbristol.co.uk/for-parents/>

Parents' Coffee Morning

Tuesday 4th October 2016 11am-12.15pm,
here at Notton House School

All parents are invited to come in and see how their son is settling in to their new care areas and to get an update on how school is coming along. The boys look forward to these coffee mornings as parents may take their sons out to lunch from 12.30 – 1.25pm

If you'd like to attend, and require any more information, please contact us on 01249 730407

Dates for your Diary:-

26th Sept: - Inset Day – School Closed

27th Sept: - Inset Day – School Closed

4th Oct – Parents' Coffee Morning

21st Oct: - End of Term Term 1

31st Oct:- Start of Term 2

21st Nov: - Inset Day – School Closed

30th Nov: - Christmas Coffee Morning

16th Dec:- End of Term 2



Should you wish to purchase any new uniform, please contact the school office. The details are as follows:-

School Uniform - Price List September 2016

Item	Size	Total Cost	Trousers	31	£16.00
Polo Shirt	XS	£5.50	Trousers	32	£16.00
Polo Shirt	S	£5.50	Trousers	34	£16.00
Polo Shirt	M	£7.50	Trousers	36	£16.00
Polo Shirt	L	£7.50	Trousers	38	£16.00
Polo Shirt	XL	£7.50	Trousers		
Sweat Shirt	XS	£7.00	PE Kit		
Sweat Shirt	S	£7.00	Polo Shirt	XS	£5.50
Sweat Shirt	M	£10.50	Polo Shirt	S	£5.50
Sweat Shirt	L	£10.50	Polo Shirt	M	£7.00
Sweat Shirt	XL	£10.50	Polo Shirt	L	£7.00
			Polo Shirt	XL	£7.00
Trousers	24	£13.50			
Trousers	25	£13.50	Green Shorts	XS	£5.00
Trousers	26	£13.50	Green Shorts	S	£5.00
Trousers	27	£13.50	Green Shorts	M	£5.00
Trousers	28	£13.50	Green Shorts	L	£5.00
Trousers	29	£16.00	Green Shorts	XL	£5.00
Trousers	30	£16.00			

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