

The Principal's Weekly Update

Term 2 - Issue 7

This newsletter is issued weekly in order to celebrate the achievements of students and staff as well as to thank those who put so much effort into ensuring that students at John Cabot Academy continue to have opportunities to try new things and to maximise their achievements, are recognised and appreciated. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter as much as I enjoy receiving and collating each item. Please do continue to inform me of any students' achievements and experiences that I am unaware of so that they can be included in future editions.

The Deloitte ParaSport Challenge (STEM Challenge 8 - Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

Over the course of Term 2, Ms Rogerson and Mrs Porter have been running the Deloitte ParaSport Challenge as an after school club on Mondays. The project is one of many that students can take part in as a club or in part of a lesson, and is open to any student aged 11-14. The aim of this project is to learn about opportunities available for disabled people to take part in Paralympics sports and to help disabled people in John Cabot Academy take part in sports. The judges came to school to view the presentation put together by Matthew, Mia, Daniel, Charlie, Eloise and Rees. The students were confident, made a great presentation and represented the school very well. The winners of the competition will not be announced until next year so keep your fingers crossed for the team.



BBC Interviews

Huge congratulations go to the nine Year 12 students who were interviewed by the BBC this week for work experience opportunities as part of the new Talent Ticket scheme. The BBC has confirmed that they have accepted all 9 students. Well done!

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Outstanding Teaching and Learning
Outstanding Curriculum
Outstanding Assessment

Business Studies students visit Rolls Royce

On Monday this week, Y13 Business Studies students spent their normal lesson visiting the new state of the art Rolls Royce site in Filton. Guided by Chief Engineer Jon Rhymes, they visited a variety of manufacturing environments and got to see one of the most successful British businesses in action. The sixth formers observed engines from the Red Arrows and passenger jets being built and watched teams refurbishing engines recently used in the Libyan War. In addition, they were introduced to some of the latest projects being undertaken by the company involving huge underwater turbines designed to produce environmentally friendly electricity. Jon Rhymes also added some reality to the theory by taking the sixth formers through the design and new product development cycle used by Rolls Royce. An excellent trip, and our thanks to Jon and to Rolls Royce for making it possible.

Maths Challenge

On Tuesday 8 November 2011, students from John Cabot Academy took part in the UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge. We obtained 5 bronze certificates and 2 silver certificates this year (which will be presented in community assemblies). Cory Withers and Harry Parker also received the "Best in Year" certificate. It was a challenging competition but they all performed very well. The following students are to be congratulated for being brave enough to take part as well as for their success in the competition:

Year 13	Year 12	Year 11
Cory Withers	Matt Brydon	Harry Parker
Matthew Robbins	Mark Graham	Samuel Ferris
Alex Priest		Samuel Marks
Samuel Stone		Charlotte Humphries
Aditya Soenarjo		Dareece James
		Timothy Moller
		Matthew Owen

Sports Personalities for Term 2

This term, the following team and students have been nominated by members of the PE department. Well done to all the winners this term.

Team of the Term: This term, the team award goes to the Girls U13 football team for their positive attitude and commitment. They managed to reach the 4th round of the county cup which is an excellent achievement.

Girls: The girl's sports personality of the term is Lucy Watts; for a number of reasons. Her outstanding netball performances, her great work organising for swimming and her all round positive attitude towards all aspects of Core PE, GCSE PE and TEAM CABOT Sport.

Boys: The boy's sports personality of the term is Sean Marvin; for his constant performances and commitment playing in goal for the Year 8 football team. Sean was a key part of the team which managed to reach the 3rd round of the National Cup.

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Ice Skating Trip

On Monday this week, a very excited group of students (and staff!) were taken on a reward trip to the outdoor ice skating rink at the Mall, Cribbs Causeway. It was a fantastic afternoon with everyone enjoying the chance to 'show off' their skills on the ice! The cold weather only added to the atmosphere. Despite sore ankles, cold fingers and the occasional pigeon droppings on heads, there were lots of positive comments from the students on the journey back to school. A big thank you to Rachael Nash and Andy Watch for organising the trip.



Sports Tour Holland 2011 DVDs

The Sports Tour 2011 DVD has been finished by Mr Ballard and is now available to buy from the PE office, at a cost of £3 each. It is 40 minutes long with lots of pictures and videos from the tour. Highlights include Kara Ping's winning netball shot, the disco, quiz, post match interviews, goal celebrations and of course the party bus. There are also some extras on the disc as well. Those students who are thinking about going on the 2012 Sports Tour should try to watch it as it will give you an insight into what an amazing experience and opportunity the sports tour 2012 will be.

Olympic Mascots around the Academy

The Olympic Mascots designed by the different tutor groups have been hanging above the street for several weeks. Now there are smaller versions hidden around the Academy; if you find a small Mascot you need to bring it to the PE Office to receive a prize. You can bring back any of the Mascots, not just your own tutor group one, but you need to be quick because several have already been found.

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Business Studies Workshop

The Business Studies department recently organised a morning workshop, run by staff from BP, for their Y12 BTEC and Y10 BTEC Business Studies groups and for Mr Miles's Y12 Maths group. The students thoroughly enjoyed the session and were a credit to the Academy! Here is a brief description of the event written by Ashley Beck, an A Level Business Studies student, who successfully won the competition.

“BP visited the school to run a workshop based on buying and selling commodities, more explicitly crude oil. The workshop consisted of buying and selling oil at changing prices influenced by events. The events were expressed by news reports which gave inclinations on the possible change of prices. The groups consisted of 4 roles; chairman, accountant, market trader and market analysis. The aim was to make the most profit in 6 rounds, with each round featuring a news event which would affect the next round. Some news events were more difficult to interpret than others which proved the deciding factor on when to sell some or even all your oil to ensure that you made maximum profit. Overall, the workshop expressed leadership, teamwork and communicative qualities. There was a close finish with a joint second place achieving \$202,000 profit but the winning team ‘Pb’ snatched it with \$204,000 profit.”



Library Christmas Quiz Prize Winners



Year 7: Thomas Moller
Year 8: Will Townsend
Year 9: Alex Kettle

Prize for the highest score goes to: Thomas Moller

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Coming up early next term

Below are some of the main events taking place early next term.

Early next term:

03/01/12	Term 3 begins
05/01/12	Y8 Parents' Evening
09/01/12	A Level & GCSE exams begin
12/01/12	Gambia trip Information Evening Spanish Exchange Information Evening
19/01/12	Y8 & Y9 Options Evening
20 – 29 Jan	Spanish exchange students here
26/01/12	Learning for Life morning
w/c 30/01/12	Y10 Work Experience all week

Please remember to check the website each week for the weekly newsletter as well as forthcoming dates.

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