



Dear Parent/Carer

Well, another half term over and we are well into 2020!

The hard work continues as we support the Year 11s and 13s in the final weeks and months of their time in school.

Attendance is one of the keys to success and I know that parents are all working hard to make sure the children in their charge are in school ready to learn at every opportunity. Our ambition is to work towards 100% so it is really important for everyone to try and improve their attendance further, whatever the starting point.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our recent, very successful sixth form open evening. Applications are now open and a number of students have already applied to join the sixth form in September. If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more about our sixth form and the courses/support on offer then please contact us on 01768 210206 and ask to speak to Mr Jackson, or alternatively email: admin@ullswatercc.co.uk.

We remain committed to our firm stance on standards and behaviour and the fact that every student deserves to be in a disruption-free classroom where they can be safe, happy and successful. The new year has brought with it a further step towards our ambition of being the 'Best in County' and your ongoing support and the attitudes of the students continues to be the key to our ongoing improvement.

We want every student to access and participate in as much as possible of what we have to offer at UCC, including the activities inside and outside the classroom: breakfast, lunch and afterschool clubs, trips and visits and take every opportunity to expand their horizons.

Thank you once again for everything you bring to the UCC community, let us know your thoughts through our staff, parent and student questionnaires recently shared and together we will make this another fantastic and sUCCessful year!

Mr Gilby, Headteacher

RECORD-BREAKING NUMBERS APPLY FOR UNIVERSITY!

The UCAS application process to university degree courses has now closed with a record breaking 80% of Year 13 students applying this year. Some of the degree courses successfully applied to include:

Accounting	Fine Art
Astrophysics	Geography
Business	Human Resource
Business Management	Management
Chemical Engineering	Journalism
Civil Engineering	Law
Criminology	Marketing
Drama	Media
Economics	Motorsport
Electrical Engineering	Nursing
English & Film	Outdoor Education
English & History	Philosophy
English Literature	Physics
Fashion	Planning

Primary Education
Psychology
Sport & Exercise Science
Theology & French



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CHILDCARE PLACEMENTS

Thirty-three Year 10 students enjoyed a 2-day placement in a local nursery or primary school as part of their Child Studies course.

Placements and work experience offer a golden learning opportunity and are an incredible chance for students to explore the world of work, in the childcare sector, in a way that they otherwise wouldn't be able to access.

Students learned first-hand that working with children comes with a high level of responsibility. They also discovered how they have the potential to inspire minds, shape young lives and support a child's physical and emotional well-being.

The feedback received from each placement setting was quite simply glowing, we are proud of each and every student for being a credit to themselves and to our school.

Mrs McCormick, Head of Department

SIXTH FORM ACTIVITIES

Pastoral activities this term have included:

- CPR First Aid training
- Prevent Training and radicalisation awareness
- Employability workshops with the Right2Work charity and with Morrisons

Students have also had talks on BAE Apprenticeships and by the Eden Valley Hospice.

Our charity focus this term is the Ankoma Outreach Project in Ghana, where one of our students is volunteering over the summer holidays.

Mr Jackson, Head of Sixth Form



a WORD FROM THE HEAD OF YEAR 10!

It's been another full-paced half-term for the Year 10s.

The presentation of 51 well-earned "Student Leader" golden ties was a particular highlight and demonstrates what brilliant role models we have in the year group.

The Y10 parents' evening was a hugely successful event with brilliant attendance and a really positive feel offering a great opportunity for students, parents and teachers to discuss progress and look at how to make further improvements as we head towards those all-important final exams.

There have also been some amazing achievements outside the classroom. Those students who were involved in the incredible "We Will Rock You" production were absolutely brilliant and a credit to the year group. There has been continued success on the sporting front also, with our netballers competing at the North England finals, our football team securing a comprehensive 5-1 win over arch rivals QEGS and seven of our rugby players securing places in the early stages of the Newcastle Falcons academy.

It is an absolute pleasure and privilege to work with these young men and women as they strive towards their goals, which – I have no doubt – they will achieve!

Great work Year 10!

Mr M Castle, Head of Year 10

TRIP TO INDIA

In July 2020, the RE department at UCC is leading a school trip to Northern India. This will be an incredible educational opportunity to learn about the diverse religions, lifestyles and cultures of this beautiful country. We depart on Sunday 5th July and return on Thursday 16th July.

Nineteen students from Years 10 to 13 are taking part and the trip promises to be an amazing enrichment opportunity for our students, with some planning to come back and share their learning with the school community and others going on to university with a much broader understanding of global issues and cultural awareness. Part of the experience involves visiting a rural school in a Rajasthani village, where our students will spend time learning, teaching and having fun, and visiting Father Ravi's shelter in Delhi to see the great work carried out to help homeless children.

FUNDRAISING!

To support the trip, on 20th March we are holding a fundraising evening at UCC with music, food and a raffle and we'd like to extend an invitation to you all – bring your dancing shoes because it should be a fun evening! The event starts at 7pm and tickets can be bought from Mr and Mrs McCanny; can be reserved by emailing Mr McCanny at m.mccanny@ullswatercc.co.uk or you can pay on the door.

If you are able to support our fundraising efforts in other ways, please get in touch with Mr McCanny – it will be much appreciated!

Mr McCanny, Head of RE



SIXTH FORM ENRICHMENT

Super-curricular enrichment opportunities are a focus for Year 12 students this term. According to Oxford University:

“super-curricular activities are those that take the subjects you study further, beyond that which your teacher has taught you or what you’ve done for homework.”

Universities are looking for evidence of this type of engagement in the UCAS personal statements and at interview. One great way of demonstrating super-curricular enrichment is by taking an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Students have been encouraged to start the free Future Learn EPQ course run by the University of Bath (www.futurelearn.com) and then to sign up for an EPQ. Wider reading, podcasts, journals, TED Talks and university reading lists are all fantastic ways to explore subjects in greater depth and breadth.



Mr Jackson, Head of Sixth Form

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK – Check out our new Facebook page!



PARENT SURVEY

Please don't forget to complete the survey we e-mailed to you – we're interested in your opinions and value your input. The responses we receive will be used to generate priorities as part of our evaluation and development process and the better the response, the more effective and reliable the survey will be and the more useful the information we collect.

We intend to issue this survey once a year to monitor the views of the different stakeholders at UCC – parents, students and staff.

- All replies are totally anonymous
- The estimated time to complete the survey is 5 minutes
- This link will be available until Friday 28 February 2020.

Contact us (details below) if you need to have the link re-sent.

LOOKING FORWARD...

Week commencing 24 February: Year 11 mock exams

Wednesday 26 February: launch of Branch Out

Thursday 27 February: Year 8 parents' evening

Friday 28 February to Friday 6 March: French exchange to Cumbria

Week commencing 2 March : National careers week

Thursday 12 March: Year 12 parents' evening

Friday 20 March: India fundraiser – Curry and Ceilidh

Wednesday 25 March: French exchange to France begins

Friday 27 March: break up for Easter holiday

WELCOME BACK!

We look forward to welcoming students and staff back into school on Monday 24 February 2020.

CONTACT US

We are always pleased to hear from parents. Please get in touch with us if you have any concerns:

E-mail: admin@ullswatercc.co.uk

Or visit the school website:
www.ullswatercc.co.uk