

Sixth Form Bulletin

February 2024



Dear Parents, Carers, Students,

Welcome to the first Sixth Form Bulletin of this year. It has been a busy start to 2024 with BTEC and Level 3 external examinations for both year groups, the conclusion of the UCAS University application process for Year 13 and preparation for mock examinations for Year 13. We have launched the Wellbeing Champion role for Year 12 and welcomed back the Anthony Nolan Trust to both year groups to raise awareness of blood, organ and stem cell donation.

Oxford University Summer School Opportunity

Year 12 students are being encouraged to apply to UNIQ. UNIQ is the University of Oxford's access programme for UK state school students. It prioritises places for students with good grades from backgrounds that are under-represented at Oxford and other universities. Definitely worth applying to, each year we have at least a couple of successful applicants.



Step Up Programme

27 Year 11 students attended the first phase of New College's Step Up Programme in January. This involved a residential visit to the college, a series of workshops on personal statements and the Oxbridge application process and some excellent question and answer sessions with current undergraduate students. The college and everyone involved were incredibly impressed with the engagement and thoughtful questioning from our students.



Wellbeing Champions

Our next cohort of Sixth form Wellbeing Champion volunteers from Year 12 have been confirmed this month. They will be trained by Louisa Waite, a qualified and experienced Occupational Therapist and will work closely with the school's health hub to support younger students who are finding life difficult. This long-term project has a lasting and positive impact on both the students and the champions themselves.



Mock Exams



Year 13 mock exams take place during the two weeks either side of half term, **5th - 9th & 19th - 23rd February**. The timetable for these exams and the external summer exams, can be found on the Year 13 Google Classroom.

Anthony Nolan Charity

To support students in learning about ways that they can be potential lifesavers, a presentation was delivered by The Hero Project, an education programme run by blood cancer charity Anthony Nolan. After the presentation, students were encouraged to reflect on what they heard and discuss this with their family and peers. They were signposted to www.anthonynolan.org/heroes, where they could view more information and sign up to the stem cell, blood or organ donor registers, if they wanted to.



UCAS

The current round of University applications has now closed. 40 students sent applications to 190 different undergraduate courses from Brighton University to St Andrews, ranging from Accounting to Zoology. With an increase in admission tests and online interviews, preparing students for this additional layer to the admissions process has been critical this year. An expert from the University of Cumbria is coming to UCC this week to discuss Student Finance applications with Year 13.

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