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Key Dates

25 th April	UKMT Junior Maths Challenge
28 th – 29 th April	Year 9 Bronze DofE
28 th – 30 th April	Year 10 Silver DofE
1 st May	Future Brunels
3 rd May	Year 9 Inter Community
6 th May	Bank Holiday (School closed)
7 th May	Year 7 Inter Community Day
8 th May	Year 8 Inter Community
10 th – 12 th May	Netball Tour
15 th May	Year 10 Parents Evening


18 th May	Spring Fair
24 th May	Last Day of Term
3 rd June	First Day of Term 6

JCA Routines: Arrival To Lessons

Welcome back to Term 5. Last week our students began the term in tutor groups to give them the best possible start to the day (and term ahead). We reminded them of our routines and our assemblies this week have focused on feedback from the student council.

We are entering the official exam window which affects Post 16, Year 11 and Year 10 students; it's really important we consider what others might be doing as we move around the school to give them the best chance of success through a focused and calm environment. Where there are signs on the doors and in corridors about exams, students must ensure they move quickly and quietly past these spaces and must NOT enter them for any reason. Our community is aware that, even just to enter, an exam room might affect the scores of all students taking that exam.

Students have been reminded that they should show respect to each other in the corridors as they move between lessons. We do this to empower ourselves as well as our community; we raise each other up by being kind and aware of our surroundings.



Arrival to lessons

- We care about our learning:
- You arrive promptly to all of your lessons.
- You walk with purpose along the corridors (and use break and lunch to socialise with friends). We walk quietly as others are in lessons when we changeover.
- If you are more than 5 minutes late to your learning, you will be sent to the SLR. You will attend restores at the end of the day.

Lockdown Drill & Safeguarding Education

Last Friday morning we conducted a very successful lockdown drill. The students, who had no warning that

the drill was going to take place, were excellent, reacting calmly and patiently throughout. The purpose of these drills is to be prepared for an extra-ordinary event, everything from a stray dog in the school to an intruder.

Lockdown drills are just one part of our wider Safeguarding Education for students. Much of it is taught in our PSHE lessons (the full curriculum map is [here](#)) and in our daily tutor sessions and weekly assemblies. Three times a year we have our Safety Days. These allow us to be responsive to local and national safeguarding issues as they arise. In light of the recent tragic events in Bristol, we are working especially closely with the local police teams. If you do see the police at the school gates, that is them being proactive in supporting us with any concerns raised in the local community. We really do appreciate it when parents tell us about issues you are aware of, it allows us to act quickly to keep our children safe.

To build upon the lockdown drill, we worked with students in tutor time on how to keep themselves safe outside in the community as well as in school, which feels especially important given the longer summer evenings may mean they are out later. I have repeated them here for you to discuss at home:

- Road Safety
 - If you ride a bike or scooter to school, please ensure you wear a helmet and don't wear headphones so you can hear traffic and noises around you
 - Please be aware of roadworks for example at the end of the road, the layout has changed and can cause confusion and people are unsure of the right of way
 - Look left, look right, look again
- Walking home
 - Always use pavements and footpaths, rather than being in the road, crossing safely if need to get onto a path at the other side - look left, look right, look again
 - Where possible always good to walk with friends and peers or if walking on your own using busier streets, paths for instance past shops, houses
 - Be aware of your surroundings and refrain from using headphones, restrict looking at your phone as you will not be paying attention to things going on around you
 - Ensure if you are due home after school you let home know if you are not going straight there

As always, if you are ever worried about anything on the way home from school always come back into the school building.

Attendance: Important Reminder About Term Time Leave

Attending school every day helps children and young people maximise their learning and enjoy the benefits of their education. It really does make a difference.

For that reason, the academy will not authorise any leave of absence in term time, unless satisfied the reason is exceptional.

We ask parents and carers to request permission in advance, and only if absolutely necessary. Any requests should be put in writing via the appropriate form available online at <https://johncabotacademy.clf.uk/our-academy/attendance/> or from the Attendance Officer and wherever possible with **at least four weeks' notice**. The parent or carer who the child normally lives with should make the application.

We also ask parents and carers not to make plans without discussing with the academy first, so that we can make good decisions together.

Family emergencies also need careful consideration. It may not always be appropriate, or in the best interests of the child, to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members. Wherever possible, please try to make alternative arrangements for your child so they can still attend school.

It is really important that we know where children are, as we have a duty to ensure they are safe. If we don't know why a child is absent, we will follow our safeguarding procedures.

Parents/carers are reminded that unauthorised term time leave may result in a penalty notice or prosecution.

To assist parents/carers in booking holidays and arranging other events, please find the term dates and inset days for this academic year on <https://johncabotacademy.clf.uk/our-academy/term-dates/>

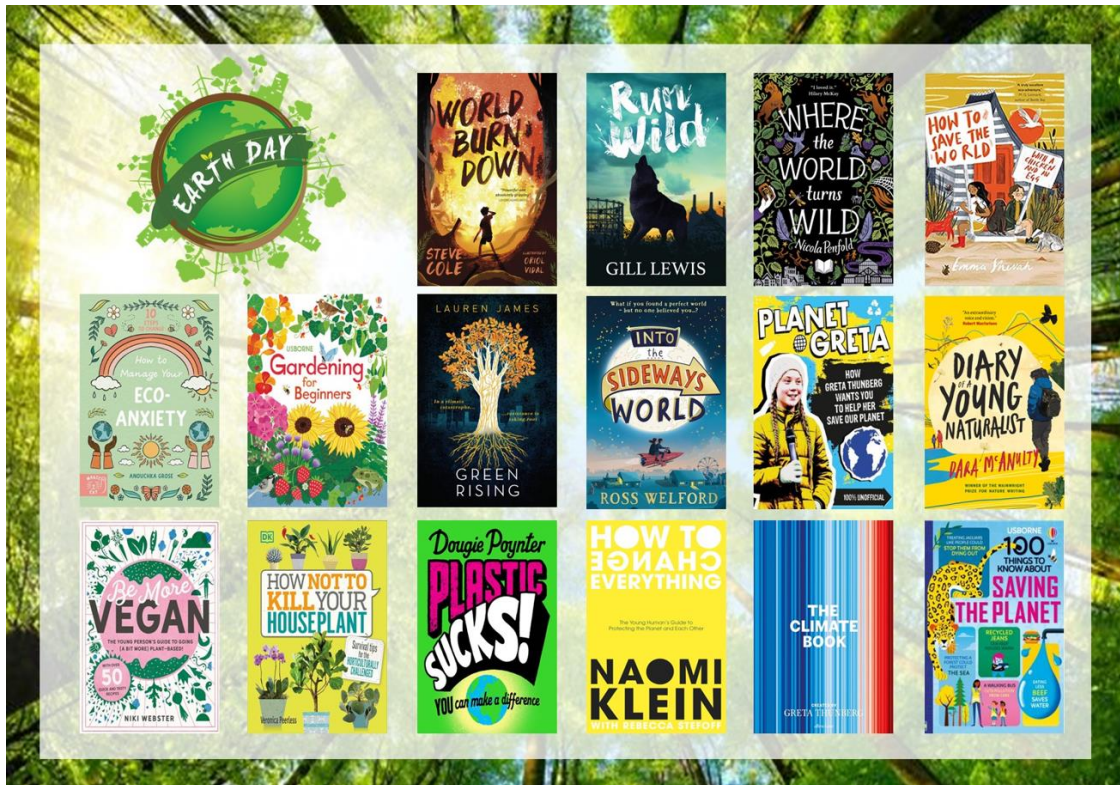
Culture Day 2024





Students and staff had a fabulous day trying new foods from different countries, wearing amazing cultural clothing and hearing from a variety of guest speakers talking about culture, diversity and the Arts. Babbasa, Integrate UK and west of England Music & Arts were in residence for the day, speaking to students about opportunities across the city.

Library Reading Lists



Chess Tournament

The 2024 Library Chess Tournament begins this week. This year's event will follow a Swiss-style tournament, which means each player will have several games before competitors begin to get eliminated or promoted to the finals. Matches will take place in the library at lunchtimes every week. Competitors only are welcome to bring their lunches with them on game days. Game days will be as follows:

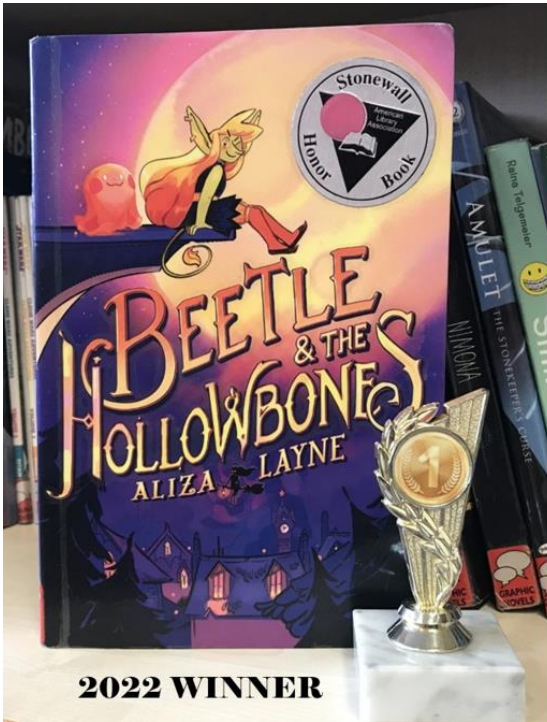
Year 7 - Mondays,
Year 9 - Tuesdays,
Year 8 & 10 - Wednesdays.

The tournament and matches can be followed via the newsletter, our Instagram account @jcalibrary, and the display board in the library.

Graphic Novels

Graphic Novel readers, assemble! Ahead of our annual Comic Con event in June, the library is looking for enthusiastic comic fans to join our Graphic Novel Prize reading group to help choose our favourite book of 2024. For the next two months you'll have exclusive access to our long-listed titles to read and review, whittle down to a short-list and ultimately select our winning comic. If you would be interested in taking part please speak with Mrs Harnell in the library.

*image of previous years graphic novel winners below



South Gloucestershire Family Support

South Gloucestershire are offering free online support for parents, carers, grandparents, and teens. There are a variety of courses available which you can access if you are a resident of South Gloucestershire (access code on Poster below).



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THE STATION (BS1 2AG)**

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