

Newsletter

December 2019



Message from the Principal

As Christmas approaches it is often a time to reflect on the year.

We have seen a number of achievements as a college—we were runner up in the “School of the Year” Award at the Leicester Mercury Education Awards, we have achieved the SENDIA (SEND excellence) Award and the Inclusion Quality Mark Centre of Excellence Award.

We have also been informed by the city council that this school is well over-subscribed for September next year as well as having a waiting list for all current year groups.

Last week we were delighted to celebrate the talent we have within the college in our Christmas Concert—and it was lovely to see so many parents/carers joining us and enjoying it so much.

However, none of this would have been possible without the hard work of our amazing staff and your support as parents/carers—thank you for making this school so successful.

We hope you have a lovely, peaceful Christmas and we look forward to welcoming students back in the New Year on Tuesday 7th January at 9 am.

Mrs J Brown



Christmas Coffees with Our Volunteers



One of the very special things about New College Leicester is our wonderful group of volunteers. Our volunteers come from all over Leicestershire and each week share their time and expertise with our students. Never missing a day and

always supportive of staff and students, the reading volunteers are an important part of our New College Leicester family.

By way of a small thank you for the huge contribution that our volunteers make, we held a Christmas coffee morning; mince pies, fresh coffee, pots of tea and a special surprise! Our volunteers were treated to a private musical and theatre concert starring our amazing students! It was a thoroughly enjoyable morning topped off with a small gift of appreciation!



In September, New College Leicester and Sport England officially opened the brand new tennis and netball courts on the school site. If anyone wishes to use the fully floodlit courts please do not hesitate to contact Mr E Hodgson on 0116 231 8511.

Dates for your diary

- **Thursday 9th January 2020**
Yr11 BTEC Music exam
Live tour of New College Leicester
- **Friday 10th January 2020**
Yr11 BTEC Hair and Beauty exam
- **Wednesday 15th January 2020**
Yr9 Science and Technology challenge day final
- **Thursday 16th January 2020**
Yr11 and P16 Parents evening
- **Thursday 23rd January 2020**
Yr7-10 Rugby Festival
- **Thursday 30th January 2020**
Yr9 Parents evening
- **Monday 3rd February 2020**
Yr11 BTEC Business exam
- **Thursday 6th February 2020**
Live tour of New College Leicester
Yr10 Pathways Virtual Reality Website workshop
- **Friday 7th February 2020**
Yr9 Imperial War Museum trip
- **Thursday 5th March 2020**
Live tour of New College Leicester
Yr7 Parents evening
- **Saturday 14th March 2020 - Saturday 21st March 2020**
Yr8-10 Ski trip
- **Friday 20th March 2020**
Yr7-10 Rugby Festival
- **Tuesday 24th March 2020**
Yr10 Geography trip
- **Wednesday 25th March 2020**
Yr10 Geography trip
Yr9 Frantic Assembly performance at the Curve
- **Thursday 26th March 2020**
Yr8 Parents evening
- **Monday 30th March 2020**
Yr9 and 10 London Parliament trip
- **Thursday 2nd April 2020**
Live tour of New College Leicester



Accelerated Reading takes off at New College Leicester

Accelerated reading has got off to a fantastic start. There was great competition between all three year groups with year 8 taking the top spot with their word count of 10,029,980 and over 250 books read! Year 7 were second place with 7,930,739 words and year 9 come closely behind with 7,860,826 words.

ZooNation Hip Hop Workshop

We were thrilled to welcome a member of the original cast from the West End sensation 'Some Like It Hip Hop' to our school. Professional dancer and choreographer, Rowen Hawkins, worked with our year 9 dance students for



the day. Students learnt styles such as street dance and locking whilst exploring some challenging and innovative choreography. During lessons this term students have been applying their new skills to create their own pieces for the Christmas Concert.



Arts Ambassadors & New College Leicester

New College Leicester students visited De Montfort University for The Mighty Creatives conference to promote our Arts and Culture Strategy. Our students stood on stage in front of 100 people to feedback their experience.

Quotes from organisers:



"The school is brilliant for having such a huge commitment to the Arts"

"It was really interesting to work with New College Leicester"

"The pupils gave us hope"

"Such polite, well mannered and mature students"

We would like to wish all our parents/carers a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Healthy and Prosperous New Year!



Look Mum, No Hands

We were excited to welcome The Spark Arts for a fun filled weekend of practical workshops with artist Daryl Beeton and London based Mimbire Acrobats. Young people enjoyed movement and acrobatic sessions and experimenting with their own ideas. We look forward to hosting more free workshops for our local community soon.



War Horse

Some of our year 8 students had the opportunity to discover what goes on backstage at the Curve Theatre.

They visited the costume department, the props storage area and even went under the stage before taking their seats to watch the amazing show "War Horse".



When I Hear Music



In collaboration with The Spark Arts, 45 year 7 students enjoyed a day of creative writing and dance with professional artists Chad Taylor and Courtney Hayles. For most participants this was their first experience of working with

professional artists. Students explored ideas relating to the challenges of starting a new school and developing positive mental health strategies. Their ideas and creative work will be incorporated into the artists final performance piece which the students will watch in the Spring term.

Sports News

This term, the college participated in numerous sporting fixtures and tournaments in the county and beyond. Highlights included the Year 7 boys' football team playing against local teams; Babington and Beaumont Leys. Our Year 10 boys teams challenged Lancaster boys in their first match and Beaumont Leys in their second game!



Year 7 netball girls smashed the netball field winning two of their matches! Congratulations to this newly formed team! Our Year 8 girls won all three of their games, beating Sir Johnathan North, Soar Valley and St Pauls Catholic School.

This month, our Year 7 Basketball players completed in a local tournament with exceptional results!

We are so proud of all our students who work so hard at building their teams and who commit to representing the school come rain or shine!

Lestercast Visit

New College Leicester students, as part of the STEM programme, visited Lestercast which is an investment casting centre in Leicester.



Student feedback:

"Very informative. I had a really good discussion with the engineers and I thought about what my future may look like"

"I thought how important each stage of the process was, it is more complex than I thought"

"Really fun, I enjoyed seeing new technology and designs for the developed Bentley signature model"

Construction visit



Our year 11 students attended a live construction tour with Bowmer & Kirkland which is one of the UK's biggest construction companies around the new Fosse Park shopping site. The purpose of this visit was to inform the students about different careers and paths within the industry and how they could become part of the construction industry. The students met the Site Manager, an apprentice bricklayer and people from HR.

Health and Wellbeing



In the 2018/19 academic year, New College Leicester took part in the Route to Resilience programme - an evidence-based, NHS approved programme, supporting schools and families in their work, developing the emotional wellbeing and resilience of children and young people.

New College Leicester is one of 94 schools across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to complete the programme and we are now a Route to Resilience accredited school.

WHAT'S NEW



This term we welcomed Mrs Shortland who is responsible for the NCL Student Parliament. The parliament has over 65 active student members and is coordinated by the

year 11 leadership team.

Student voice is at the heart of New College Leicester and the parliament work hard to ensure that everyone has a say and that students are represented and heard. The parliament want to give students an opportunity to develop their leadership skills by organising and taking part in meaningful projects that support our community.

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This term the students took part in the UK Make Your Mark Vote. This enabled every student at New College Leicester to vote on issues that were important to them. These results were forwarded to the National UK Youth Parliament team and the students top three most important issues were - Protect the environment, end knife crime and support for mental health.

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The parliament team were also delighted to welcome a visit from the Ghanaian MP Hon. Elvis Morris Donkoh. Elvis spoke to several classes about his background and how he became where he is today.

We welcomed MP Liz Kendall, PS Adam Hastie and PSCO Pete Smith to a meeting in which we discussed our community and the barriers that young people face. We are now involved in a new campaign in 2020 called "Tin for the Tenth" which is a campaign where we would like every student in the UK to donate one tin for the homeless so that we can reach our goal of feeding 10% of the homeless population in the UK.

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The students supported World Aids day and sold red ribbons across the college to show our support and raised £40. Finally the students held a parallel election so they could experience what it was like to vote, they enjoyed this a lot.

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During UK Parliament Week, our student party candidates were nominated and each candidate stood up and gave their reasons why they deserved the vote. Every young person had an opportunity to question the candidates and to vote at the school ballot boxes which were placed around the college. A fantastic event learning about parliamentary democracy.

IMPORTANT NEWS

Medical updates - Does your child have a medical condition that we are not aware of, or do they no longer suffer with a condition that we currently have on our system? If you answer yes to these questions please contact us so we can update our records.

Due to the increasing number of students on roll here at New College Leicester we are changing some of our toilet arrangements for students. As from 7th January 2020, our new build south block student toilets will be re-designated as gender neutral. These toilets have floor to ceiling cubicles and are designed in an open plan format to face the corridor. This will mean that students will be able to access more toilets around the college site, rather than having to queue. There are still gender specific male and female separate toilets in the central block if students wish to use these.

Uniform

At New College Leicester we have high uniforms expectations. We expect all our students to come to school in the correct uniform every day. As a reminder of our uniform expectations please refer to our website www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk



Keep following us on Social Media!

To keep up to date with everything we do here you can not only visit our website www.newcollege.leicester.sch.uk, but you can follow us on twitter @NewCollegeLeics, on Facebook @newcollegeleics and on Instagram @newcollegeleics



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