

# The Phoenix



We were thrilled to welcome Castle Donington Fire Brigade to the College. They led a fabulous demonstration on home fire safety and how to manage in the event of a fire.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we enter into the final weeks of an extraordinarily long term, you will see the pace of activity continues. As always, the Christmas period brings a range of festivities that our students enjoy; some of which we share in this edition of the Phoenix. The end of term brings tests and assessments and most students have been discovering just how much they know and understand. You will receive a Progress Report showing how well your child is doing towards their Milestones. For Year 11 students the New Year brings Mock Examinations. Two weeks of exams that mirror the actual GCSE examinations in May and June. We welcome our new Invigilators who will be ensuring all protocols are followed during this period. We wish the students luck and hope they will find time over the next few weeks and Christmas break to revise and prepare.

Our key focus continues to lie within the classroom and we are continuously looking for ways to stretch our students to achieve their full potential. We appreciate as ever your support as parents in the role you provide in ensuring that your children come to school with a positive attitude and willingness to learn, please continue to offer this support at home by talking to your child about their classwork and homework and ensuring they have the structure at home to extend their learning. Research shows that by doing as little as an hour per week of work, over and above set homework, achievement and progress can be dramatically improved. This takes dedication and resilience and your support will make a huge difference to your child's success. Thank you as ever for your continued support.

**Mrs J Sheppard, Principal**

# SPEAKERS FOR SCHOOLS



ITV News' Rajiv Popat came to talk to some of our year 9 students about life in the media and the fast paced world of news broadcasting. Rajiv came in to College as part of the Speakers for Schools program, where public figures come in to schools to talk about their careers or life story. Rajiv has been a local news reporter and presenter on ITV news for over 20 years in the midlands, and he shared tales of interesting stories that he has covered and how he got in to broadcasting. Rajiv also talked about how careers in television have changed and how he has had to continue learning throughout his career. He brought along his camera and allowed students to have a play with it, despite it being worth £10,000.

*N Barratt, Vice Principal*

# COMMUNITY FIRST

At Castle Donington College we believe very strongly that it is our duty to prepare young people for life after school. A large part of this is ensuring they have good knowledge of future career opportunities and the skills they need to be successful. You will have read, in previous Newsletters, some of the ways we do this and we are very proud that our Year 11 cohort are well on the way to ensuring they have a good post-16 destination in place for when they leave us. This could be college, sixth form, work with further training or apprenticeship. We also work hard to ensure our young people become good citizens who make a contribution to their local community. If your child has been involved in, charity work, volunteering or supporting a community initiative please let us know. Within College we celebrate good citizenship with our Phoenix and Golden Phoenix Awards.

# COLLEGE PE KIT

## College PE Kit

In our drive to raise standards we would like to remind all parents and carers that we have been phasing in a College uniform for Physical Education and that the official College PE top **must** be worn in all PE lessons for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Students who do not comply and wear incorrect kit will be viewed as out of uniform and a department sanction will be implemented.

Students in Years 10 and 11 may still wear a white t-shirt for Core PE and GCSE PE. However, this will be phased out completely by September 2019 and all students will be expected to wear the College PE kit for all PE lessons.

## GCSE PE Kit

In addition, we are introducing an option for Year 10 and 11 students, who follow our GCSE PE course, to purchase a Nike long sleeved sports top (£25.75) and or a Nike T-shirt (£14.99) to wear during their GCSE PE lessons. Both tops feature the College logo and student initials. If you would be interested in purchasing one/both of these GCSE PE tops, please use the link below. **Click on the image to access the order form.**

<https://www.lissport.co.uk/CastleDonington>

We have secured a College discount on these items, to help keep prices in line with our regular PE kit providers. The GCSE PE kit is **only available** to those following the GCSE PE course.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Daly  
Head of PE

# BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

Congratulations to the Year 8 and 11 Boys' Teams and the Year 8 and 10 Girls' Teams Who all competed in the North Charnwood Tournaments. The Year 8 boys won the event and are now in the County Finals. The Year 8 and 10 Girls lost narrowly in the finals and the Year 11 boys came third overall.

Well done to all involved!

The PE Department

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Event	Date
Year 9 Options Evening	5 December 2018
Year 7/8 Theatre Trip	7 December 2018
Christmas Concert	11 December 2018
Christmas Jumper Day	14 December 2018
Lego Trip	18 December 2018
Carol Services/Christmas Lunch	19 December 2018
Break for Christmas	21 December 2018

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### LATES

Many of our students travel a long way through heavy traffic to make sure they are here on time for the best start possible to a school day. They hear important messages in Tutor Time and receive vital information and teaching in school assemblies.

However, there is a small minority of students who are regularly late for school – and they are generally the ones who live closest to College! Where a student is late without good reason, a text message will be sent to parents and carers and students will make up the missed time after school or at lunchtime. We ask for your support in ensuring your child arrives on time every day.

## CHILDREN IN NEED

Over £170 was raised at our Cake Sale in aid of Children in Need this month, so thank you so much to those of you who contributed and bought something. At an average of 40p per slice, we sold 425 slices of cake! That's a lot of cake!

