



A Message from Mr Down

As we reach the end of our first term I wanted to thank all parents for their support. It has been an extremely exhausting term, but the students and staff have been incredible.

At the beginning of the term we celebrated our OFSTED 'Good' inspection and from this we have then moved week by week through amazing education experiences. The students at CVA never fail to amaze me, they seem to grow in confidence with each week and I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the hard work, determination and ambition evident in all of our lessons.

Thank you to all parents who contributed to the recent parent survey. The results will be out in early January and I am looking forward to sharing the areas that we need to address in the new year.

Like many schools, attendance and illness in particular has been a significant challenge this year. At times our attendance has dropped below 90%, which equates to over 100 students away from school in a day. This is extremely difficult to manage and means that the lost learning is magnified for all students away. I have talked before about how hard the GCSE's are and how much knowledge is required to be successful. Every lesson at CVA is fast paced and content rich. Being in every day is the only way students can be successful, so please do all you can to ensure your child is in school.

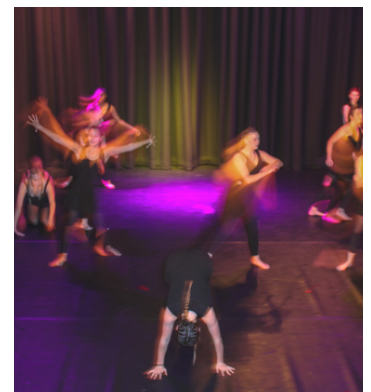
I hope that you enjoy the end of term round up and I wish you all a happy festive season and a productive New Year.

Winter Showcase Returns!

On Tuesday, 6th December over 70 CVA students rehearsed, refined and took to the stage in what was a fabulous sold-out show! The show consisted of BTEC Dance and Music students along with those that attend dance clubs, dance companies and rock band after school clubs.

It also saw the debut of our Mass Choir which involved a mix of both staff and students who performed the Greatest Showman ballad 'A Million Dreams'.

It was a fabulous night in which the students absolutely ROCKED the stage and performed their heart out, and as always, they did CVA proud!



End of Term Celebrations

Throughout the last week of term students who have 100% attendance have been rewarded. In assemblies students have received a certificate and a badge to recognise their excellent attendance. Students who achieved 100% this term were also rewarded with a Silent Disco!



Online Attendance Hub

Many factors can impact your child's attendance, which can include mental health, illness, bereavement and more. At CVA we place a high priority on achieving excellent levels of attendance and punctuality to enable students to achieve their maximum potential.

The attendance team have created this hub of resources to help you support your child:

www.castleviewacademy.org.uk/information/attendance

For further support, go to the Attendance Hub or contact the school to speak to your child's head of year.

Key Dates

Monday, 19th December to Monday, 2nd January	School Holidays
Tuesday, 3rd January	INSET DAY
Wednesday, 4th January	All Students Return

#CVAChristmasCountdown

During the #CVAChristmasCountdown students have been taking part in some festive activities including Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner and Christmas crafts run by the Art department.

On Friday, 9th December students and staff were invited to wear a Christmas Jumper and bring a £1 donation for Save the Children and we raised just under £400!

On Thursday, 15th students had a Christmas lunch served by staff.



Breakfast on the Bounce

After winning a £1000 Community Chest grant from Tesco North Harbour, we have been able to send home Breakfast Bags and Boxes to nominated students and their families to ensure that they have the opportunity to start each day the right way, with a healthy selection of cereals, plus fresh bagels and spreads.

A total of twenty-two families have taken advantage of this scheme which has run for the Autumn Term. A huge thank you to Tesco!

Tutor Reading

This term students have been developing their reading skills within our tutor programme. Tutor time has a bespoke program of reading to support every reader, with all students engaging and getting lost in the world of an excellent book. Each tutor group have been accessing an age and level appropriate novel that enables our readers to be challenged and excited by the world of fiction. We are #CVAproud of our students for the active engagement with this programme and can already see the impact it has on their learning.

We'd love for you to ask your child what they have read. Let them tell you about the stories they have been immersed in during tutor time.

Here are some of the novels we have read this term:



Breakfast Club

The popularity of Breakfast Club remains strong. The "Grab & Go" bagel service offers toasted bagels that have a variety of fillings. It will continue in the New Year - students can continue to collect their bagels at 8.15 from the Food Room.

Year 11

"I have been incredibly proud of how Year 11 have conducted themselves over the period of their mock exams that have taken place recently. Students showed a great deal of effort and determination in their examinations and I hope the students continue to take this focus into their final few months at Castle View.

Students may not yet be at the grades they wish to achieve in the summer, however the results from these mocks, which will be released in January, will hopefully give students a clear indicator on the areas within subjects they need to focus on.

Students will be sitting more mock exams in February and so it is vital that between students returning in January and the exams in February, students are in the Academy every single day to ensure they can make the progress they require.

On a personal note, after 19 years of working at King Richard School and then Castle View Academy, I will be leaving the academy as the term closes on December 16th. I would like to thank all staff and students, past and present, as well as all the families I have worked with over this time for giving me such fantastic memories to take away". – Mr Waldren



In the Community

We recognise that this time of year can be difficult for many of our families for various reasons. Please take a look at our website to find out more about the support and activities available this Christmas period in the local community over the Christmas period.

<https://www.castleviewacademy.org.uk/news-events/latest-news/in-the-community>

Year 9

Another fantastic half term, Year 9! Well done you!

We've had some brilliant things going on this half term within Year 9 including: County Table Tennis championships, the Winter Showcase and most recently, work with Sammie and Duke from Pompey in the Community. It's so lovely to see so many of you getting involved in extra-curricular activities.

We've had a fantastic week celebrating those who have 100% attendance by holding the Silent Disco - who knew the Pastoral Team were such fantastic DJs?! Well done to those of you who turn up on time, every day - a big push to those of you who didn't quite meet the threshold to attend the Silent Disco. We'd love to see you there next time.

Merry Christmas to you and your families. Stay safe - and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. - Mrs Redman.

Year 7

I would like to start by saying how very proud I am of every single one of you. Your determination and ambition to succeed has amazed me every single day. I have spent time getting to know you all a bit more personally which has actually been the best part of my job. I love how enthusiastic and kind you are, and I really enjoy having our conversations at break and lunch.

The New Year is going to bring new challenges and will require lots of hard work and resilience...but remember we are all in this together. We are TEAM YEAR 7 and NOTHING will stop us from being successful. Being on time and in school every day is a massive part of making us successful, so please let's focus on 100% attendance.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you an absolutely wonderful Christmas with your family and friends. I look forward to starting the New Year with you and living the dream together.

Table Tennis Champions

A group of students competed in the County Table Tennis Championships. Congratulations to the girls who won the U16 event!



Year 10

I have enjoyed working with the Year 10 students this half term. They have all worked hard over these last few weeks and have adjusted well to having a new Year Leader.

I wish to congratulate the following students: Lennon M, Charlie O, and Isobel W who are the top 3 students in Year 10 for collecting Epraise points.

After Christmas, Year 10 will begin studying for their mock exams and they will need to be in school 100% of the time to help them be successful and achieve what they are capable of.

Our Year 10 attendance to date is 85% and this will need improving! However, I want to congratulate and say well done to all those students who have attended everyday and achieved 100% attendance for the whole term. Attendance, as always, is paramount to success and as the mornings get colder and darker, please ensure you attend every day. Common colds, aches and pains can be managed here at the Academy so please attend school as normal where we can help you to manage your day and ensure you don't miss out on key learning.

Finally, I wish all the students a Merry Christmas and Happy New year and I look forward to welcoming you back in January well rested. - Mr Aston