

CVA ROUND UP

November 2021 - Issue 2

A message from Mr Tucker

As we approach the halfway point of the last half term of 2021, it has been fantastic to see the number of students walking around the Academy with 100% attendance badges. These have been earned from having 100% attendance in the first half term and were awarded to them in the celebration assemblies. The same thing will happen this half term along with another attendance event similar to our 100% summer party at the end of last year. Students have been told that to gain entry they must have 100% attendance, no excuses, no exceptions.

It seems that our messages around the importance of attendance are having an effect as we still have some of the best attendance of all secondary schools in the city. It is also coming through as a strong area in the parental survey that has recently gone out and I want to thank all parents who have provided such positive feedback through this. We really do take the survey seriously and I am grateful to all those who have filled it in with such positive comments as well as constructive areas that we can improve on further. Some feedback has noted that sometimes communication does not get through and I would ask all parents to regularly check that we have correct contact details. The best way to do this is through the Parent Portal App where you can update this information live. We often find that where communication has failed it is because we hold incorrect e-mails and mobile numbers. Your support with this would allow us to ensure that communication always gets through.

I also want to raise the importance of homework. We have recently launched our new homework strategy which for Year 7,8 and 9 is built on their new Knowledge Organisers. Guidance for the use of these can be found on our website and it is important that students are supported at home to find both the time and space to complete the work set. After attendance, ensuring that children are encouraged and supported at home to do this independent study is so important if a child is to reach their full potential. I know that many parents work hard to establish this culture in the household and the school can support and offer guidance if this is a challenge. Please contact the form tutor or Head of Year if you need further support.



Student Council



Five members of the student council were fortunate enough to participate in the first summit for the Council of Portsmouth Students 2021/2022 (CoPS). The summit was held in the newly refurbished Changemaker Studios in Portsmouth Guildhall and we were one of eleven schools taking part. After a very entertaining ice-breaker activity the day was jam-packed with activities which varied from building the tallest tower only using paper and sellotape to discussions on communication and listening. Members of Youth Parliament gave talks on their roles and the students were left really inspired on how they can make a change in their community. After lunch, action-groups were formed; a special mention to Joseph Ball (Year 7) who was nominated as Vice-Action Group Leader for Diversity and Inclusion which is an amazing achievement, well done Joseph! Overall, it was an amazing opportunity to work in a fantastic space with students from all over the community and we can't wait for the next summit on 10th February.

Welcome!

We are really excited to welcome Coach Ash to the Academy staff. Coach has been brought to Portsmouth from the London based charity Greenhouse Sports. He brings with him an insatiable passion for table tennis and he cannot wait to share this with our students. Look out for the opportunities to work with a professional coach who will develop life skills within our young people and will be on the look out for the next Kelly Silby and Liam Pitchford!



Dates for the diary

Inset Day - Monday 29th November

We Value Vocabulary!

This year at CVA we have introduced 'Words of the Week', whereby students in Years 7, 8 & 9 are explicitly being taught two pieces of higher level vocabulary every week. Students have been enjoying learning the words in creative ways in their English lessons and have been challenging themselves to remember the definitions and use the words in their written work. Already this year, students have been taught the following words: appease, diligent, crucial, abundance, fabricate, distribute, abolish, turmoil, feasible, commence, consistent, clarify, hypocrisy, impeccable, oblivious, quaint, turbulent, confidant, contribute and attribute. Mr Tucker has also been sneaking these words into his addresses at roll call!

Spanish Success

"I would like to highlight the excellent progress made by our students in Spanish. In less than three months, using Languagenut as our official platform for homework, Castle View moved up to position number 40 out of 2000 worldwide! Our aim as department is to get CVA to the top 20! Also, I would like to congratulate set 7_2 as our top class in the academy. In addition, out of UL schools, we are in position number 7 out of 17."

Vocabulary Learned 122149	Sentences Learned 5109	Grammar & Verbs Learned 29443	Exam Skills Learned 1552
Total Gold 6610	Total Silver 2751	Total Bronze 1478	School World Ranking 40

School World Ranking	Students School Ranking	Classes League																																													
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Young Carers

We have started up a Young Carers group for students to come along to have a chat, sit and play games and to just chill out from a busy weekend. The group takes place on Monday lunchtime in HU1. Young Carers are individuals that help other individuals at home with health issues, such as mental health, Autism, anxiety, ADHD and a lot more. Students who are Young Carers are encouraged to pop along have some time to just chill and maybe even talk to a member of staff about any issues they may have. Being a Young Carer is a powerful but sometimes can be a hard thing to cope with.

Children in Need Bake Off

We raised £182.07 for Children in Need through our Bake Sale on Friday, 19th November!



Y11 Raising Standards Trip



Several students from Year 11 have recently been visiting a number of Private Independent Schools, with students vying for prestigious scholarship places that have been offered to the school.

Students have visited Portsmouth Grammar School, Portsmouth High School, St John's College and are due to visit Embley Independent Day School shortly.

PE Students of the Month

- Year 7** Skyler - for outstanding effort, attitude and really getting stuck in within Football.
- Year 8** Jessica - showing great ambition throughout Basketball, developing her skills and techniques making fantastic progress.
- Year 9** Maisey - for excelling within Badminton, making excellent progress and being a superb partner for me to demonstrate skills with for the class.
- Year 10** Danielle - for making fantastic progress within Basketball, showing ambition, and wanting to progress further through a Basketball club.

Chefs of the Month

- Year 7** Julia for her excellent use of the bridge & claw grips.
Bradley Lashley for his excellent teamwork.
- Year 8** Liam for making the best roux base and bechamel sauce
- Year 9** in the Year group.
Morgan for keeping up with the lessons despite being in hospital/at home recovering.
- Year 10** Katie for the outstanding standard of coursework that she is producing
- Year 11** she is producing

CVA is now on TikTok!

Follow us on TikTok @castleviewacademyul

Girls Football

Castle View Girls U12/13 first league and home game of the year ended in a defeat to Springfield. The girls, as always showed immense character and determination to work for each other. With the majority of the team being beginners, the girls are showing fantastic resilience to learn and improve week on week at training and in games. We look forward to the next game and continuing to move forwards. Player of the match goes to Eva in goal for making some super saves!!

Year 7

Year 7 continue to impress with their commitment to learning in lessons and in the way they conduct themselves around the Academy. Baseline tests have been marked and analysed and it was lovely to welcome 84% of our parents/carers into the Academy on Thursday evening for the Year 7 Parent Event. We really value the parent/school relationship and we know how important this is to the progress and well being of our children.

New timetables were handed out at the Parent Event and these took effect from Monday, 22nd November. Please check these carefully and make sure that children are equipped for the day.

Attendance, as always, is paramount to success and as the mornings get colder and darker, please ensure your child attends every day. Common colds, aches and pains can be managed here at the Academy so please send them in as normal where we can help them to manage their day and ensure they don't miss out on key learning.

Year 8

Year 8 are working hard in lessons and ensuring they prepare themselves for Rank Order Assessments (ROAs) which will take place in 6 school weeks! In order to prepare for ROAs a new homework strategy has been launched to students during an assembly with our Senior Leadership Team. Students are now required to use Knowledge Organisers to learn specific subject content and they were taught how to do this during the assembly. Please support at home by quizzing your child on the sections they have been asked to learn. You can find a new homework timetable on the Academy website.

We can all feel the mornings get colder and see them getting darker but attendance remains the key to success. With this in mind please ensure your child attends every single day. Common colds, aches and pains can be managed here at the Academy so please send them in as normal where we can help them and ensure they don't miss out on key learning.

Boys Football

Year 8 Football away to Miltoncross Acadmey: An early lead with a slotted finish from Jarell following a mazy run into the 18 yard box. The opposition scored two goals in quick succession to take the lead before half time. CVA came flying out the blocks second half with two excellent taken goals from Billy and a Miltoncross own goal forced by Jarell. Unfortunately, Miltoncross showed courage and determination and fought back to earn a 4-4 draw. A memorable game and some great performances from our CVA students. A special mention should go to the Year 7 boys who stepped up to help out the Year 8 team.

Final score: 4-4

Man of the match: Billy Starks



Year 11

I would like to take this opportunity to say how impressed I have been with Year 11 after their mock examinations. Students have clearly prepared well for these assessments, and it has been really encouraging to see students working right up to the end of each exam, making the best use of their time.

I talked to the year group in Assembly about how important these exams are in giving students a clear guide on the areas of the curriculum they have been successful in and the topics that students will need to focus on between now and the final exams which begin in May.

The results for these examinations will be released to students at the Year 11 Parents Evening which is taking place on Wednesday 15th December, between 3.30pm and 6.30pm. As well as receiving their results for each subject, students will be getting clear feedback from teaching staff on what the areas of improvement are they need to focus on to ensure they reach their potential in the summer. Colleges and local Apprenticeship organisations will also be present at this event. More details will be released shortly and I look forward to seeing you all at this event.

Careers meetings continue to take place until every Year 11 has had their own personal 1-2-1 meeting with Mandy Haddigan, our Careers Advisor. Students have found these meetings to be really useful so far and I hope they are giving them the extra motivation to ensure they are able to access the appropriate courses next year.

If you wish to discuss any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me on: dan.waldren@castleviewacademy.org.uk