

Longbenton Community College



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November 2011

Newsletter

Dear Parents

It does not seem that long ago since we returned from the summer holidays, and now in this half-term we are beginning to think of our Christmas celebrations.

We had an excellent start to the new school year last half-term with the students taking part in high quality activities both inside and outside the classroom. Highlights included our Open Evening when our students performed to visiting parents and demonstrated to them what takes place within the college.

Another highlight was the event we held to raise money for St Oswald's Hospice with our choir singing along with Backworth Male Voice Choir. Both choirs put on very professional performances, and raised £1,400 for the hospice.

There are a number of events taking place over the next few weeks. Please do try to attend as many as you can.

Yours sincerely

J Cockburn
PRINCIPAL



PARENTS OF YEAR 9 P STUDENTS

We shall be holding a Parents' Information Evening for Year 9 students who are in the P groups for either Maths or Science on **Monday 28 November at 7pm in West Theatre**. This is to explain the curriculum that they will be following this year, particularly in maths and science, the exams that they will be taking, and what they will be doing in Years 10 and 11.

If your child is in one of the Year 9 P groups, do try to come to this information evening.

YEAR 7 PARENTS

We have two special events for Year 7 parents this half-term. The first is the **Year 7 Parents'/Tutors evening on Thursday 24 November at 4.30pm**. This will be a chance for parents to meet their child's form tutor and discuss their child's progress during their first few months in the college.

The second event is the Celebrating Success Event for Year 7 parents on **Thursday 15 December at 1.30pm in West Theatre**. Students will receive certificates for their achievement, attendance and involvement in activities. We are hoping that Mary Glindon, our local Member of Parliament, will present the certificates to the students.

Do please make sure that you come to these two special events

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

The Annual Christmas Carol Service will be held on Wednesday 7 December at 7pm in St Bartholomew's Church. Our highly acclaimed choir and orchestra will be leading the music, and there will be traditional Christmas Bible readings.

The Melrose Centre are putting on their second Christmas concert in West Theatre on Saturday 10 December at 2pm. Students and staff from the centre will be singing, along with the Newcastle Concert Band.

One of the major musical events of the year is the college Christmas concert. High quality performances will be given by the choir, orchestra, soloists and our rock bands. The concert will be held on Wednesday 14 December at 7pm in West Theatre.

These musical events are not to be missed and so please book the dates in your diaries.

PTA CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Our Annual Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday 19 November at 2pm in West Theatre. This is a major fundraising event for the college with a wide range of stalls. There will be lots to buy and lots of competitions to enter. Father Christmas will also be coming to provide special gifts for the children.

Do come along and enjoy the seasonal activities.



KEY DATES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE AUTUMN TERM 2011

Tuesday 15 November	Year 13 Parents'/Tutors' Evening at 5pm in the Sixth Form Centre
Saturday 19 November	PTA Christmas Fayre at 2pm in West Theatre
Thursday 24 November	Year 7 Parents'/Tutors' Evening at 4.30pm in West Theatre
Monday 28 November	Year 9 P Group Parents' Information Evening at 7pm in West Theatre
Monday 5 December	Intensive Study Week begins including Year 11 trial exams in selected subjects
Wednesday 7 December	Carol Service at 7pm in St Bartholomew's Church
Saturday 10 December	Melrose Centre Christmas Concert in West Theatre at 2pm
Wednesday 14 December	Christmas Concert at 7pm in West Theatre
Thursday 15 December	Celebrating Success event for Year 7 parents in West Theatre at 1.30pm
Friday 16 December	College closes for students at 2.30pm
Tuesday 3 January	College opens for students

Please note:

We have decided to postpone the Year 8 Parents' Information Evening scheduled for Monday 14 November

STAFFING CHANGE

We are making a change to the staffing of our pastoral system. Mrs Cooper will be moving from Lower School to Upper School as Assistant Head of School.

Staff with pastoral leadership responsibilities are:

Lower School

Mrs Skinner, Assistant Principal, Head of Lower School
Mr Harrison, Assistant Head of Lower School
Mrs Short, Assistant Head of Lower School
Mrs Symington, Pastoral Leader (Lower School)

Upper School

Mr Abel, Assistant Principal, Head of Upper School
Mrs Cooper, Assistant Head of Upper School
Ms Younger, Assistant Head of Upper School
Mrs Smith, Pastoral Leader (Upper School)