

# WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

WORK HARD. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. BE KIND



27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our weekly bulletin, providing you with a range of general information and forthcoming events at the college.

All years	<p><b>Communication with the college</b></p> <p>If you need to contact the college, you can telephone on 01332 810528</p> <p>You can also contact us regarding <b>general queries</b>: <a href="mailto:postroom@cdcollege.uk">postroom@cdcollege.uk</a> Please include the nature of your enquiry in the subject line of the email. You can contact us regarding <b>absences</b>: <a href="mailto:attendance@cdcollege.uk">attendance@cdcollege.uk</a> Please include full details and attach/screenshot appointment cards for our records.</p> <p><b>Student records</b></p> <p>We are in the process of updating our student records. Your child will bring home a form for you to complete in the next few weeks. Please complete all the questions and return to the school reception.</p> <p><b>Homework at Castle Donington College</b></p> <p>Homework is strategically planned by school departments to maximise the impact of independent learning at home. Homework will always have a purpose and be linked to learning outcomes. All homework will be set on Satchel One, our online homework management system.</p> <p>If you have any issues with Satchel One, please contact <a href="mailto:postroom@cdcollege.uk">postroom@cdcollege.uk</a> support. Please type "Satchel One issue" in the subject box.</p> <p>The homework will have a deadline and clear instructions of how the work should be carried out. The homework will also be explained in class.</p>
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Students who do not have access to the Internet at home will have opportunities to complete their work in school during lunchtime sessions. These should be arranged via discussion with the subject teacher/Head of Department.

Satchel One can be accessed by students either via a browser or via a dedicated app. Search for 'Satchel One' in the **Google Play Store** or the **Apple iOS store**.

Homework should have a clear purpose:

It should encourage students to become independent learners. Independent learners are self-motivated, self-confident and resilient individuals who can manage their own time. Homework set will encourage this growth as the students progress through the school.

It should develop and strengthen learning activities undertaken at school.

It should enhance and extend the range and variety of learning activities.

It should further opportunities to work on coursework and projects, especially for examination subjects.

Since homework is normally undertaken at home, it provides a genuine opportunity for the parent/carer to be directly involved in the child's work. Parents are asked to show positive support and interest. Enable your child, wherever possible, to work on his/her/their own. We encourage parents to monitor the time taken on homework and note any difficulties your child has. When concerned about problems with homework, please inform either the subject teacher or the Tutor/Head of Year by email to [postroom@cdcollege.uk](mailto:postroom@cdcollege.uk).

The work set is intended to be appropriate for your child's age and ability. Homework may come in a variety of forms including, but not limited to, written tasks, reading, investigations, watching video, listening, translation, discussion and extended projects.

Many students in year 7, at the start of their secondary school life, may not be used to regular homework. Teachers will, therefore, introduce homework gradually over the first term and ensure that all students are clear about what is expected of them.

Homework must be completed and handed in according to the instructions from the subject teacher. Some homework can be handed in online directly via Satchel One. Departments will encourage students to meet deadlines, and some may use lower grades to reflect when work is handed in late. Many

departments run weekly homework clubs for students who are struggling with homework, and students should plan to access these if they need help. School sanctions, such as detentions, will be used to motivate students to meet deadlines and produce work at an appropriate level.

If your child, for any reason, is unable to do or complete the work set, you are asked to write to contact the subject teacher at the earliest opportunity via [postroom@cdcollege.uk](mailto:postroom@cdcollege.uk). However, every effort must be made to do the work set. When, therefore, homework is not completed on time it will normally have to be done as soon as possible thereafter.

Marks for homework, classwork and assessments can also be viewed, by both parents and students, in Go4Schools. Please ensure this is done via a web browser rather than via the app as the latter can result in limited functionality.

### **Parental access to Satchel One**

As a parent or guardian, you can log in to Satchel One and have oversight of your child's homework. It's a great way to stay up to date and allows you to keep track of the work set.

To create a Satchel One account, you will need a Parent Code. You can obtain this from your child's Satchel One account.

The link below explains how to obtain the Parent Code

<https://help.satchelone.com/en/articles/2912165-logging-in-as-a-parent>

### **Student access to Satchel One**

When students first join the school their Form Tutor will issue them with their login details for Satchel One. The username for students will be their school Email address. Their password will be the one used to access the school systems.

When logging on to Satchel One students, should use the option to "Sign in using Office 365". Students may find they need to scroll down past the initial log in section if viewing Satchel One on a mobile device.

### **Next week:**

### **Open Evening Ambassador Celebrations**

	<p>By way of reward and thanks, we will be celebrating with our fantastic Open Evening Ambassadors next week (2<sup>nd</sup> October), offering an extended breaktime and complimentary pizza and drinks!</p> <p><b>Uniform</b> If you have any uniform you would like to donate to our school supply cupboard, please drop it into reception all donations gratefully received</p> <p><b>Flu Vaccination – ACTION REQUIRED</b> These are due to take place on <b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b> for all year groups. An email has been sent with details and a reminder will be sent this week. It is important that you complete the form even if you are choosing for your child to be excluded from the vaccination programme.</p> <p><b>Inktober 2024</b> Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER marks the start of <a href="#">Inktober 2024</a> (the drawing competition that runs through the month of October). It's open to all students and staff to take part in, with prizes to be won for 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places. Pop down to the Library or the Art room for more info.</p> <p><b>MFL film club</b> Every Thursday lunchtime in L3. We are currently watching Kleks Academy in Polish.</p>
Year 7	<p><b><u>English</u></b> Pupils will be bringing home their homework booklets this week. Please support your child in completing their homework tasks and ask them to seek support from their teacher early in the week if they are struggling. Tasks are set on a Monday and are due the following Monday. There is more information on Satchel One.</p> <p><b><u>Maths</u></b> A Maths letter has been uploaded onto ParentPay. The letter gives information about Mathematics in Year 7 and how parents and carers can help support your child to learn at home as well as in school.</p> <p>Pupils are welcome to attend the following sessions if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their homework or classwork. Computers will be available to use at these sessions. Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm in M2. Thursday lunchtimes in room M1.</p> <p><b><u>French and Spanish:</u></b> Pupils will be bringing home their homework booklets this week. Instructions on which task or tasks that they need to complete and when it will be due</p>

	<p>will be on Satchel One. If there are any issues with homework, please ask your child to speak to their teacher before the tasks are due.</p>
Year 8	<p><b><u>HOY:</u></b> 120 pupils in Year 8 did not receive any negative behaviour points last week. If any parents wish to contact the HOY, please do not hesitate contact Mr Canavan.</p> <p><b><u>English</u></b> Pupils will be bringing home their homework booklets this week. Please support your child in completing their homework tasks and ask them to seek support from their teacher early in the week if they are struggling. Tasks are set on a Monday and are due the following Monday. There is more information on Satchel One.</p> <p><b><u>Maths</u></b> Pupils are welcome to attend the following sessions if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their homework or classwork. Computers will be available to use at these sessions. Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm in M2. Thursday lunchtimes in M1.</p> <p><b><u>French and Spanish:</u></b> Pupils will be bringing home their homework booklets this week. Instructions on which task or tasks that they need to complete and when it will be due will be on Satchel One. If there are any issues with homework, please ask your child to speak to their teacher before the tasks are due.</p>
Year 9	<p><b><u>English</u></b> Pupils will be bringing home their homework booklets this week. Please support your child in completing their homework tasks and ask them to seek support from their teacher early in the week if they are struggling. Tasks are set on a Monday and are due the following Monday. There is more information on Satchel One.</p> <p><b><u>Maths</u></b> Pupils are welcome to attend the following sessions if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their homework or classwork. Computers will be available to use at these sessions. Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm in M2. Thursday lunchtimes in M1.</p> <p><b><u>French and Spanish:</u></b> Pupils will be bringing home their homework booklets this week. Instructions on which task or tasks that they need to complete and when it will be due</p>

	<p>will be on Satchel One. If there are any issues with homework, please ask your child to speak to their teacher before the tasks are due.</p> <p><b>PE</b> Y9 have their 2<sup>nd</sup> football tournament on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Letters will be sent home with all information needed.</p>
Year 10	<p><b><u>Spanish Revision</u></b> This Monday at lunch time we will be focussing on the Preterite Tense.</p> <p><b><u>Berlin Trip</u></b> Please ensure that all passports are dropped off at the office by <b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>.</p> <p><b><u>GCSE PE</u></b> The AQA GCSE revision guides will be available to buy from PE. A letter of how to purchase them will be send via Parent Pay next week</p> <p><b><u>Maths</u></b> Pupils are welcome to attend the following session if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their homework or classwork. Computers will be available to use. Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm in M2.</p>
Year 11	<p><b><u>Spanish</u></b> Optional lunch time revision on Wednesday - <b>Higher</b> students this week. All students are encouraged to attend.</p> <p><b><u>French</u></b> After school French revision on Wednesday. The focus this week will be on the general conversation part of the speaking exam and will be for <b>Foundation Tier</b> pupils only. Please bring speaking booklets if attending.</p> <p>GCSE French – lunch time revision sessions on Wednesdays. All pupils will be allocated a slot.</p> <p><b><u>English</u></b> Year 11 homework this week is to prepare for their Jekyll and Hyde assessment (taking place w/c 30<sup>th</sup> September). There is more information on Satchel One.</p>

**Maths**

Pupils are welcome to attend the following session if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their homework or classwork.

Computers will be available to use.

Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm in M1.

**Berlin Trip**

Please ensure that all passports are dropped off at the office by **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**.

**GCSE PE**

All students will be given 2 past papers to complete for homework over the next 2 weeks. They need to be completed and handed into their teacher before October half term

**GCSE Geography**

The fieldwork trip to Nottingham will be on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**. A letter has been sent home with pupils and is available to view on Parent Pay with all the information.