CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

WORK HARD. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. BE KIND

5th September 2025

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	**Open Evening** For those of you with children in year 6, you can now register your intention to attend our Open Evening on Thursday 25th September. Click here for more information: Castle Donington College - Open Evening **Vacancy** We are seeking a reliable and enthusiastic Lettings Assistant to join our team to be the welcoming face of the school and help us provide an excellent service during community lettings. More details are available here. **Communication with the College** If you need to contact the college, you can telephone on 01332 810528 Email for general queries: postroom@cdcollege.uk Please include the nature of your enquiry in the subject line of the email. You can contact us regarding absences: attendance@cdcollege.uk Please include full details and attach/screenshot appointment cards for our records. For **all** communication with the SEND department, please direct emails to our central SEND inbox – send@cdcollege.uk

First Aid

Please update the college on any new medication that your child is taking. Please remember that if you are bringing any medication into college it needs to be in prescribed pack with the student's name and prescribed dose on.

We have a first aid email address where you can send any new or updated medical information for your child. This is helpful to enable us to help manage your child. firstaid@cdcollege.uk

Polite reminder: - We are happy for your child to carry a small amount of paracetamol or ibuprofen for their own use but please inform them not to give to other students.

Satchel One Login Reminders

Pupils should log in to their Satchel One account via the "Office 365" function. Their username is their school email address and their password is the same one they use to access the school computers.

Attendance

Thank you for your continued support with your child's regular attendance to school.

Regularly attending school has a positive impact on children and young people - academically, socially and emotionally. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best examination results.

Percentage Attendance	Number of Days Absence	Learning Missed in 1 Year	Learning Missed over 5 Years
100%	0 Days	0 Lessons	0 Lessons
97%	6 Days	30 Lessons	150 Lessons
95%	9.5 Days	48 Lessons	240 Lessons
93%	13 Days	65 Lessons	325 Lessons
90%	19 Days	95 Lessons	475 Lessons

Free School Meals eligibility

If your child isn't registered for Free School Meals and you receive any of the following benefits, your child may be able to get free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Follow this link to apply: Free School Meals

Uniform Standards

Thank you to all families for their continued support with uniform.

Clear guidance on what we do and do not allow students to wear can be found here

Please contact your child's Head of Year should you require further support.

School Council

School Council elections will be taking place next Monday (8th /9th) during student's Personal Development lessons.

This in an ideal opportunity to take additional responsibility and represent the views of their Tutor Group and help shape the future of the College.

Two representatives will be elected from each Tutor Group.

Please speak to you child and encourage them to run for these positions.

SEND Roadshow

Please see advert at the end of this bulletin for the next Leicestershire Local Offer Roadshow on 15th September 2025.

	MFL Film club If you like watching movies and/or would like to practise your languages skills, come to L3 at the start of Thursday lunch to watch a film in a foreign language (with English subtitle). The first film, Boule et Bill, will start on Thursday 11th September and will be in its original language: French. You can bring your lunch with you! **Macmillan Bake Sale:** On the 26th September, the college will be holding our annual bake sale to help raise funds for Macmillan. We ask for donations of cakes (no nuts and full ingredient list needed) – both homemade or shop bought – we will happily take them all. Students and staff will be able to buy cakes for 20p – 50p at break time. Any donations of cakes need to be brought down to the English Area during tutor time on Friday 26th September. We will also be holding a "Bake Off" style competition for any aspiring bakers: This year's theme is "The Beauty of Books".
Year 7	**Pastoral Support** Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Nelson) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.
Year 8	**Pastoral Support** Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Brown) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.
Year 9	**Pastoral Support** Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Canavan) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.
Year 10	**Pastoral Support** Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mrs Danes) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.

Year 11	**Post-16 Information Evening** Next week, on Wednesday 10th September there will be a Post-16 Information Evening between 6:30 and 8:30 where you and your child can speak to some of our local Colleges and Sixth Forms about their options when leaving the College. A letter should have been sent to you and more information is available by contacting Mr Hicken at the College. **Pastoral Support** Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Purkiss) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students. **French revision sessions** All year 11 pupils doing GCSE French have been given the list of revision sessions that will take place between Monday 8th September and Monday 1st June (also attached at the end of this bulletin). Please, encourage/remind you child to attend on the days that cover skills they need help with. Any external candidates are welcome to attend too. **Spanish Revision Sessions** Spanish revision sessions for GCSE Spanish will be taking place Thursday lunch time. Week 1 will be for Foundation tier where we will be recapping the present tense. Week 2 will be for Higher tier where we will be recapping the imperfect tense. **English Revision sessions:** All to take place at lunch in E1 Monday: Revision tips and tricks Tuesday: Jekyll and Hyde Wednesday: Merchant of Venice Friday: Animal Farm

Leicestershire Local Offer Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Roadshow

Monday 15th September 5.00pm - 7.30pm

Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, LE3 8RF

Come along with your child / young person to have a go at activities and find out about Local SEND services and support available

The Roadshow brings together information and services which support families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) all in one place. A chance to meet and chat with representatives from Leicestershire County Council and its partners.

We are inviting **children and young people** to come along to this Roadshow to have a go at some activities on offer. We can't wait to welcome you...

Please book your FREE tickets via
leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer-roadshows
Free parking available

Scan here to book tickets

To find out more about the SEND Local Offer in Leicestershire please visit

www.leics.gov.uk/send

Leicestershire SEND

YO247

Y11 French revision sessions. Monday lunch.

Date	Skill practice/focus	Tier
8/9	Writing photo task	F only
15/9	Speaking read aloud	F + H
22/9	Writing 50 words	F only
29/9	Speaking role play	F + H
6/10	Speaking conversation, understanding questions	F + H
13/10	Listening practice	F + H
27/10	Reading practice	F + H
3/11	Speaking photo card	F + H
10/11	Writing 90 words	F + H
17/11	Reading, translation into English	F only
24/11	Reading, translation into English	H only
1/12	Listening, dictation	F + H
8/12	Speaking conversation, answering questions	F + H
15/12	Writing, translation into French	F only
12/1	Writing, translation into French	H only
19/1	Speaking, pronunciation practice	F + H
26/1	Listening practice	F + H
2/2	Reading practice	F + H
9/2	Writing photo task and 50 words	F only
23/2	Speaking read aloud	F + H
2/3	Translation to English	F + H
9/3	Speaking role play	F + H
16/3	Speaking conversation	F + H
23/3	Listening practice	F + H
		F + H
Easter holiday 2 hr TBC	Speaking	F only
Easter holiday 2 hr TBC	Speaking	H only
		F + H
13/4	Dictation practice	F + H
20/4	Reading practice	F + H
27/4	90 words writing	F + H
11/5	Listening + reading practice	F + H
18/5	Listening, dictation practice	F + H
25/5	Writing, verbs and tenses	F + H
1/6	Writing 150 words	H only