



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

WORK HARD. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. BE KIND



10th October 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	<p><u>Half Term</u></p> <p>A reminder that college is closed for half term the week beginning 20th October.</p> <p><u>Non Uniform Day</u></p> <p>Next Friday, 17th October, all pupils can wear non-uniform. We are encouraging pupils to 'wear something yellow' as the proceeds from the day will go towards both the Young Minds charity and the School Council fund. £1 can be paid in cash on the day, or on ParentPay.</p> <p><u>PTFA Annual General Meeting</u></p> <p>Date: October 14th, 2025 Time: 7-8.30pm Location: School Library</p> <p>This year's Annual General Meeting is your chance to discover what the PTFA is all about and how we're working together to enhance our children's educational experience. Whether you're a longtime supporter or completely new to our school community, we'd love to see you there!</p> <p>More details are available here: download.asp</p> <p><u>Communication with the College</u></p> <p>If you need to contact the college, you can telephone on</p>
-----------	--

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.

MFL Film Club

	<p>Every Thursday, we watch a foreign film at lunchtime. We are currently watching Patchamama in Spanish, with English subtitles.</p> <p><u>Warhammer Club</u></p> <p>Every Wednesday after school in the hub, 3:15 till 4:00. Building, painting and playing, currently making our way through the Warhammer Alliance schools project, speak to Mr Bell if interested.</p> <p><u>INKTOBER</u></p> <p>The big drawing competition which runs throughout the month of October! All students (and staff) are welcome to take part. Participants need to register their names in the library, pick up a 'drawing strip' and fill in a drawing a day for the month of October. Prizes will be announced for the winner of KS3 and a winner of KS4.</p> <p><u>Supporting the Local Food Bank</u></p> <p>There is another chance to support this great cause as we move through October and name another form as the most charitable. Any donations can be brought down to Mrs Eaton in English.</p>
Year 7	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>Year 7 'Settling In' Parents' Evening</u></p> <p>This will be taking place on Thursday 16th October. Please see the separate letter for details of how to book an appointment.</p> <p><u>Maths</u></p> <p>A maths letter has been uploaded to Parent Pay. The letter gives information about Mathematics in Year 7 and explains how you can help support your child to learn at home as well as in school. In addition, pupils are welcome to attend Maths club if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their maths homework or classwork. Maths Club runs every Tuesday 3.15pm-4.15pm in room M2.</p>
Year 8	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p>

	<p><u>Maths</u></p> <p>A maths letter has been uploaded to Parent Pay. The letter gives information about Mathematics in Year 8 and explains how you can help support your child to learn at home as well as in school.</p> <p>In addition, pupils are welcome to attend Maths club if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their maths homework or classwork. Maths Club runs every Tuesday 3.15pm-4.15pm in room M2.</p>
Year 9	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>Maths</u></p> <p>A maths letter has been uploaded to Parent Pay. The letter gives information about Mathematics in Year 9 and explains how you can help support your child to learn at home as well as in school.</p> <p>In addition, pupils are welcome to attend Maths club if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their maths homework or classwork. Maths Club runs every Tuesday 3.15pm-4.15pm in room M2.</p>
Year 10	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>French revision sessions</u></p> <p>Students doing GCSE French in Year 10 are being invited to attend a revision session on Wednesday lunch times. We will be starting by recapping the basics then working on topics and skills they need help with.</p> <p><u>Spanish revision sessions</u></p> <p>Spanish revision sessions for GCSE Spanish will be taking place Wednesday lunch time - this week we will be doing the Preterite tense.</p> <p><u>Maths</u></p> <p>Two maths letters have been uploaded to Parent Pay. The first letter gives information about Mathematics in KS4 and explains how you can help support your child to learn at home as well as in school.</p> <p>The second letter explains how the maths department is giving Year 10 pupils the opportunity to purchase revision materials, maths equipment and a scientific calculator.</p>

	<p>In addition, pupils are welcome to attend Maths club if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their maths homework or classwork. Maths Club runs every Tuesday 3.15pm-4.15pm in room M2.</p>
Year 11	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>French revision sessions</u></p> <p>All year 11 pupils doing GCSE French have been given the list of revision sessions that will take place until Monday 1st June (also attached at the end of this bulletin).</p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>Maths</u></p> <p>A letter has been uploaded to Parent Pay explaining how the maths department is giving Year 11 pupils the opportunity to purchase revision materials, maths equipment and a scientific calculator</p> <p>Year 11 pupils have been given their individual Pinpoint learning booklet to complete for homework. This personalised booklet has been created based on the 5 weakest topic areas from their most recent assessment in Maths. The front cover of the booklet also includes a list of linked MathsWatch videos to watch. Solutions to the booklets can be found if pupils log into their PinPoint Learning account. Login details are on the front cover of the booklet.</p> <p>The video link below explains how the PinPoint learning programme works.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Supporting Year 11 Pupils with GCSE Maths final (youtube.com)</u></p> <p>In addition, Year 11 pupils are welcome to attend Maths club if they are having any difficulties and would like support with their maths homework or classwork.</p> <p>Maths Club runs every Tuesday 3.15pm-4.15pm in the maths department.</p>

Y11 French revision sessions. Monday lunch.

Date	Skill practice/focus	Tier
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



CASTLE DONINGTON PE EXTRA CURRICULAR
TIMETABLE



PE	Lunch Turn up and play.	After School (3.15 – 4.10)
Monday	GCSE NEA support (PE1) (AD)	
Tuesday	Basketball Club (DH/DW)	KS3 Fitness (new fitness suite SG/NN) Fixtures (Netball/Football)
Wednesday	GCSE Volleyball (AD/OW/DH)	KS4 GIRLS FITNESS (new fitness suite OW) KS 3 Football (Astro) (AD)
Thursday	Netball Club (GYM) (OW)	Fixtures (Netball/Football) KS4 BOYS FITNESS (Fitness suite ME/NB/AD)
Friday	GCSE Ever-learner catch up (<u>PE1</u>) (AD)	