



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

21st November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

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

Castle Donington College PTFA presents.....

Quiz and Curry Night

Friday 28th November 7pm

£15 per person

Main Hall Castle Donington College

Tickets can be purchased using the QR code or link below:



<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/97307>



Christmas Quiz & Curry Night Raffle Prizes 2025

Continental Breakfast for 2 – Strawberry House Interiors

Carvery for 2 & Bottle of Red Wine – The Nags Head

Pizza & Bottle of Wine – The Castle Inn

2 Pizza's & 1 Salad (Free Home Delivery) – Piazzeria
Fiammia

Lunch for 2 – Swarkestone Nursery

Afternoon Tea for 2 – Tylers Tearooms

Gift Voucher – The Beauty Lounge, Kegworth

Gift Voucher – Tracey Bainbridge Beauty

Gift Voucher – Antony Scott Hair

Gift Voucher & Cuticle Oil – Hidden Gems, Mobile
Massage Beauty & Nails

Hair Products – Hairport

£10 Voucher – Clip n Climb

Small Gift – Craft-Tea

Christmas Cupcakes – Cupcakes & Doilies

1 x Free Car MOT – Allens Autocentre

Gift Voucher – The Workhouse Gym

Two Free Entry Passes – Roller World Derby

Purchase your raffle tickets online now

www.trybooking.com/uk/FNYP



All Years

Change to the school day during Mock Exams

From **Monday 17th November to Friday 28th November**, the timing of lunch and Lesson 4 will change to accommodate the year 11 mock exams:

Lesson	Start Time	End Time
Tutor Time	08:45	09:10
Lesson 1	09:10	10:10
Lesson 2	10:10	11:10
<i>BREAK</i>	<i>11:10</i>	<i>11:30</i>
Lesson 3	11:30	12:30
<i>LUNCH</i>	<i>12:30</i>	<i>13:15</i>
Lesson 4	13:15	14:15
Lesson 5	14:15	15:15

PE lesson during Mock Exams

During the period from **Monday 17th November to Friday 28th November**, some of our indoor PE spaces will be utilised as examination halls. **Consequently, we request that pupils in years 7 – 10 attend school in their CDC PE kit on their designated Core PE days, but only on days when they have practical PE.**

During this fortnight, pupils will remain in their PE kit throughout the entire school day and will participate in inter-form sports competitions, primarily utilising our new 3G astroturf facility. For these PE sessions, pupils should ensure they have appropriate footwear - either trainers or football boots - depending on the planned activity. Additionally, pupils may wear their school jumper as an extra layer to provide warmth during potentially cooler outdoor activities.

Pupils in year 11 should wear normal school uniform every day throughout the mock period.

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

Responsible Parking Reminder

We kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring responsible and considerate parking when collecting or dropping off pupils at Castle Donington College.

We have received concerns from local residents, including families with accessibility needs, about blocked access on roads approaching the college. We understand parking can be challenging at busy times, but please be mindful of residents' driveways and access points.

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.

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.

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](#)

	<p><u>Satchel One Login Reminders</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>MFL Film Club</u></p> <p>Every Thursday, we watch a foreign film at lunchtime. We are currently watching Despicable me in French, with English subtitles.</p> <p><u>Warhammer Club</u></p> <p>Every Wednesday after school in the Hub, 3:15 till 4:00.</p> <p>Building, painting and playing. We are currently making our way through the Warhammer Alliance schools project. Speak to Mr Bell if interested.</p> <p><u>Puzzle Club</u></p> <p>Puzzle Club (Tues lunchtimes in the library) needs donations – jigsaws, crosswords, sudoku, word searches, Rubik’s Cubes. Any other puzzles you can think of. If you have any taking up space at home, please think about donating them. Thank you.</p>
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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>
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>
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>

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 every other Wednesday lunch time. Last week we revised for the upcoming assessments and went through some tips for the writing assessment. Our next session will be on Wednesday 26th November.</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 Conditional Tense.</p> <p><u>GCSE PE</u></p> <p>All students should have completed section one of their NEA (skill strength) and emailed it to Mr Woolf. Section 2 (skill weakness) is due before Christmas (Friday 19th December). During the Mock exam period (from Monday 17th November) students will be completing their NEA during their practical PE lessons).</p> <p><u>Bronze Duke of Edinburgh</u></p> <p>Participants must ensure that they are progressing their Skill, Volunteering and Physical sections. At this stage, most of these should be ending and participants should be arranging for assessor reports to be written. This means the participants needs to actively seek out their Assessors and hand them a report template to complete or send them the link to complete these digitally. The DofE will not accept typed responses that do not include start and end points for the activity, a summary of achievements and progress made and the full name and contact details of the assessors. When submitting an assessor report as a photo via the app, participants must tick the “Assessor Report” tab. This will notify the system that an assessor report has been submitted. There have been several messages in assemblies about this. There is an issue with missing and incorrect assessor reports for the expedition element. ICY Expedition have been made aware of this, and the issue will be resolved. Participants do not need to worry about this element.</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>GCSE Textiles</u></p>

All students have been reminded that they only have a few lessons left until they complete their current project which is worth 60% of their final grade. Most students need more time to complete this work than that, and are encouraged to be working at home, coming to lunchtime interventions, or/and attend after school interventions on Wednesdays and Thursdays 3:15- 4:15.

Please speak to your child about attending these, or about completing more work at home.

Silver Duke of Edinburgh

Participants must ensure that they are progressing their Skill, Volunteering and Physical sections. At this stage, most of these should be ending and participants should be arranging for Assessor reports to be written. This means the participants need to actively seek out their Assessors and hand them a report template to complete or send them the link to complete these digitally. The DofE will not accept typed responses that do not include start and end points for the activity, a summary of achievements and progress made and the full name and contact details of the assessors. When submitting an assessor report as a photo via the app, participants must tick the "Assessor Report" tab. This will notify the system that an assessor report has been submitted.

T. Participants do not need to worry about the Expedition element. This will all be completed for them.

Year 11 Mock Exams

These begin the week beginning 17th November. The full timetable can be seen on the next page. Languages speaking mocks and Art / Textiles / Graphics mocks take place in December.

YEAR 11 AUTUMN MOCK

November 17th-28th 2025

School Week 1 Timetable				
	Start	Finish	Duration	Component Title
Mon 17th Nov	09:15	10:45	1hr 30	Maths Paper 1 - F/H
	13:15	14:45	1hr 30	Music - Listening paper
Tue 18th Nov	09:15	11:20	2hr 05	English Language Paper 2
Wed 19th Nov	09:15	10:30	1hr 15	Combined Science Chemistry Paper 1 - F/H
	09:15	11:00	1hr 45	Chemistry Paper 1- F/H
	13:15	14:45	1hr 30	Option A: Design
	13:15	15:00	1hr 45	Option A: Food and Nutrition
	13:15	14:35	1hr 20	Option A: Drama
	13:15	14:30	1hr 20	Option A: History
Thu 20st Nov	09:15	10:35	35/45 min	11A- Spanish Reading&Listening- Foundation
	09:15	11:00	45min/1hr	11A- Spanish Reading&Listening- Higher
	13:15	14:45	1hr 30	Option D: Computer Science
	13:15	14:30	1hr 15	Option D: Child Development
	13:15	14:30	1hr 20	Option D: History
Fri 21st Nov	09:15	11:30	2hr 15	English Literature Paper 2
School Week 2 Timetable				
Mon 24th Nov	09:15	10:45	1hr 30	Maths Paper 2 Calculator - F/H
	13:15	14:45	1hr 30	Option B: Geography
	13:15	15:00	1hr 45	Option B: Citizenship
Tue 25th Nov	09:15	10:30	1hr 15	Combined Science Physics Paper 1 - F/H
	09:15	11:00	1hr 45	Physics Paper 1- F/H
	13:15	14:45	1hr 30	Media
Wed 26th Nov	09:15	10:35	35/45 min	11B-French Reading&Listening- Foundation
	09:15	11:00	45min/1hr	11B- French Reading&Listening- Higher
	13:15	14:45	1hr 30	Option C: Design
	13:15	15:00	1hr 45	Option C: Citizenship
	13:15	15:00	1hr 45	Option C: Triple Science Biology F/H
Thu 27th Nov	09:15	11:00	1hr 45	Option C&D: PE
	13:15			Catch up Session
Fri 28th Nov	09:15			Catch up Session
	13:15			Catch up Session

Y11 French revision sessions. Monday lunch.

Date	Skill practice/focus	Tier
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)	