



Castle Donington College

Principal: Mrs Julie Sheppard

Vice Principal: Mr Nathan Barratt

Assistant Principal: Mr Ben Wilkinson

JS/LD/SMEHCP

20-06-22

Dear Castle Donington College Community

Several weeks have passed since I last wrote to you. In the interim, we have been very busy at the College. There are a number of key events calendared for the Summer Term and it is also a time to consolidate our planning for the new academic year. I am delighted to say, once again we have a full cohort of excellent teaching staff from September.

Staff Changes

In a few weeks, we will say goodbye to three wonderful staff at the College. All retiring, and ready to start a new chapter in their lives. Lorraine Deley, Personal Assistant to the Leadership Team, leaves after nearly eleven years of dedicated service to the College. Kevin Leckie departs as Head of Science after six years and Ben Wilkinson, Assistant Principal, retires after five years with us. All three have made a huge contribution to the College whilst here and will be missed very much.

We are also saying goodbye to Claire Hobby this week. Claire takes on a promoted post in a new school. Claire has been our Wellbeing Manager since the start of this academic year and has been an invaluable support to staff, pupils and families in our community. Alison Perry, teacher of Science, covering a maternity leave, also finishes with us in July. We thank all these staff for their work and commitment to the pupils at the College.

These departures have provided an opportunity to review staff responsibilities within the College and we are very excited to have created new posts for our existing staff. From September, Kate Eaton, Paul Daly and Martin Elks join the Leadership Team and Steve Blood, Laura Mills, Hayley Charlton and Laura Jenkins take on middle leadership roles. In addition, we welcome Julie Walmsley, as our new Head of Science and Rahib Ali as a new teacher of Maths.

I feel very proud to lead such a great team of staff. Hopefully the disruption of the last few years is behind us and we are in a strong position, as a College, to excel and achieve great things for our pupils.

School Day Changes September 2022

Staffing adjustments are not the only changes to take place next year. We are changing our school day, extending it by 15 minutes, in line with the Government recommendation. The start of the day remains unchanged- our doors open to pupils at 08.35 and we expect them to be in classrooms by 08.45. **The end of the day will now end at 15.15.** School Transport will be adjusted accordingly.

End of Term

With just under three weeks to go, we still have much to pack in! This week we say goodbye to our Year 11 pupils. What a wonderful co-hort they have been. Incredibly resilient and hardworking to the end. We will miss them all. Next week, is Work Experience for most of Year 10. Only 4 pupils were unable to secure a placement this year which is an incredible achievement and we thank all those employers in our community who have offered their support. We also welcome Year 6 pupils for their two days of Induction. This is the first proper induction to take place since 2019 and we are really looking forward to meeting our new Year 7 cohort. Once again, we are the school of choice for many families and as a result are already oversubscribed at the start of the year.

Continued

For pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 we see the very welcome return of our annual Sports Day. Every child will be involved in some way and we anticipate fierce competition. Especially in the staff race!

During the final week, we will be celebrating the achievement of pupils in our Awards Assemblies and reflecting on the incredible progress they have made in this unusual school year.

Final Day

The final day of term is **Friday 8th July**. Our School Council invite pupils to participate in a non-uniform day, for £1, towards the School Council fund. School finishes at 3.00pm on this day.

As always, I thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year. Please get in touch if you think we can support you in any way.

Best wishes,

Julie Sheppard
Principal