



Christmas Newsletter

John Spendluffe Technology College



Headteacher

As we finish 2014 we can reflect on another successful term at John Spendluffe. We started the year with some superb exam results, which put us comfortably above the national average, and in September we held the official opening of our new buildings and refurbished facilities. To support the excellent results and facilities, there have been numerous successful trips and events already this year, including a Leicester Tigers Rugby Trip, Geography Field Work, Pantomime Trip and Cadbury World and Ice Skating visits to name a few.



returned to attend an Exams Celebration Evening when they collected their GCSE Certificates and caught up with former classmates and teachers.

The school has also participated in events around the centenary of the First World War and a visit to the Battlefields in France will take place next spring.

As we finish this term there will be some staffing changes. Miss Blackshaw has been promoted to another role and will leave us as Assistant Head

In November our former Year 11 students

of Discovery House at Christmas and we wish her every success for the future. Mrs Vowles will join us in January as Second in the Maths department and we look forward to welcoming her.

After another busy term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year. As always, we have ambitious plans for the future and I look forward to keeping you informed of our developments and success over the coming months!



Steve Beverley

Year 11 Prefects Team Building Day

In early November our Prefects took part in a team building day at Market Rasen. The purpose was to encourage interpersonal skills, develop understanding, confidence and work as a group. There was an archery competition with



Mr Nickson proving to be particularly adept. Groups also took part in an orienteering challenge. The highlight was an

extensive high ropes course which took real courage and dexterity. A great day was had by all and a definite for 2015!

The JSTC Christmas Show

Tuesday
16 December 2014

Starts at 7 pm

Tickets £4 available from Reception



JSTC Christmas Newsletter



Future Chef Contest

JSTC were delighted to welcome Lincs FM's DJ Rob Hammond as the Guest Judge for the annual Future Chef contest in October. The standard of dishes was extremely high from all students with Jenna Short's delicious 'Hunters Chicken with

Healthy Chips' being crowned the winner, with Charlie Nairn a close second with his dish of 'Lemon Chicken Risotto'. Both Jenna and Charlie qualified for the local finals which were held in Stamford at the end of November.

Year 7 student Charlie, made his pork and apple main dish followed by chocolate caramel - which the Stamford Judges particularly enjoyed and commented on. Well done Charlie!



JSTC dances around the world with their Primary Schools

John Spendluffe Technology College staff and students have been dancing around the world with 13 local primary schools throughout November and December. Primary Schools were invited for the day to travel around the globe visiting different countries and their dances.

Their first stop was over in America where everyone learnt the Line Dance to Kesha's Timber before moving straight over to the Brazilian carnival demonstrating some smooth salsa skills.



Their final dance took us all the way over to India where they performed their best Bollywood moves to Slum Dog Millionaire's hit Jai Ho!

Each primary school group were assigned two JSTC dance leaders from Year 9 and 10 who helped them create and choreograph three

different dances to perform at the end of day!

The Festivals were a great success with everyone singing along with the songs while performing the dances. It was great experience for both Year 3 and 4 pupils to use the facilities at JSTC and a fantastic opportunity for our own students to lead and create dance routines using the skills they have learnt across many subjects.

Geography students pay a visit to Chestnut Homes Housing Development

Over 60 of our Year 11 Geography students visited Chestnut Homes' Willoughby Chase development in Alford as part of their controlled assessment studies on sustainable development. They had the opportunity to look around homes under construction and explore two show homes on the site.

The students looked at how Chestnut Homes make and design homes that are of high quality but

also environmentally friendly and sustainable. They could see the empty homes being completed and compare them to the finished show homes which were decorated and carpeted.

The students gathered lots of valuable information which will help them in their assessment and saw sustainable development in a real life setting.



Our thanks to Chestnut Homes Director Rob Newton and Land and Development Director Neil Kempster, who toured the development with the students and explained the process of designing and building new homes to them.

JSTC Christmas Newsletter



Success in the Young Musician of the Year Competition



In November Kira Roberts entered the Intermediate class of the Louth Young Musician of the Year competition. She competed against many accomplished musicians of a similar age and although she was the only brass player she was able to secure a place in the finals.

During the finals Kira performed to a high standard, she held her own against older musicians and performed to a large audience. At the results the adjudicators congratulated Kira and spoke of her promise as a musician; Kira secured 2nd place in the final of the Louth Young Musician of the Year and is already looking forward to completing again next year.

More Able & Talented

To view all resources, factsheets and opportunities, ensure you check out the school website: www.jstc.org.uk There is a link on the right hand side of the Home page.



Young Artist in Residence

Year 11 student Mary Paice has been selected as the 'Young Artist in Residence' for the 'Spirit of Sutterby' project. It is a Heritage Lottery funded project together with 'Down Your Wold' to research and raise awareness for the abandoned Church at Sutterby. Mary has designed displays and her artwork will be on their website shortly.



X-Country Running Competition

On Friday 5 December, over 40 students represented the college at the Coastal and Wolds District X-Country at Hubbards Hills in Louth. A good time was had and a sense of achievement was earned after a series of hard fought competitive races.

A special mention must go to Mollymae Crashley who finished 9th in her race and has been selected to represent the district in the County Championship to be held in the new year.



Leicester Tigers Match Day Coaching Clinic

On the morning of the European Rugby Champions Cup match against French visitors Toulon, Leicester Tigers held a Coaching Clinic where students worked on their individual and team skills with the Tigers coaches, met players for a question-and-answer session and then joined a 22,000 strong crowd at Welford Road to watch the big match.

The Coaching Clinic tailored their session to the needs of the JSTC students identified beforehand by the PE Team; it was all handling skills but they also did work on running lines. Our students certainly improved throughout the practice.



However, our students couldn't wait for the experience of being out on the pitch itself and this will be something that will live with them for a long, long time!



School Uniform

A full uniform list is available on our school website under 'Administration'. Students really need **Astro** trainers for the Astro Turf (they can also be worn in the Sports Hall).

Most items of uniform can be purchased from our Main Reception, who now have in stock the new uniform items including a short sleeve PE polo shirt, new long sleeve PE tops, Year 10 & 11 girls hoodies and new rain jackets.



We are also grateful for donations of any second hand uniform and good quality shoes and trainers your child has outgrown but which are still fit for use. Please drop any items into Reception.

Attendance

As mentioned in previous newsletters, under Department for Education regulations schools are no longer allowed to routinely authorise leave of absence for family holidays. Leave can only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Good attendance is key to academic success at school and our school planner notes 94% as a minimum target for students' attendance. Clearly students are absent from school unavoidably due to illness from time to time. Please let the office know as soon as you are able if your child is absent due to illness.

Contact Information

Do we have your up to date contact details?

If you move house, change mobile phone number or email address please let us know. If your child's travel arrangements or bus journey changes we also need to be aware.

Please keep us informed; phone the Main Office on 01507 462443, or pop in, or send us a note or email office@jstc.org.uk.

If your child is ill or feels unwell during the day at school, please remind them to tell a member of staff and go to the Main Office. Staff will contact parents/carers.

If you receive a call direct from your child asking you to collect them, please ask him/her to go to the Main Office where one of the office team will contact you to discuss their illness.



Reading Buddy Scheme

We would all agree how important it is for children to develop a love of books and reading, without which it would be difficult to access many areas of everyday life.

As a school, we are always looking for ways to:

Help all students to become better readers and

Increase interest and enjoyment in books.

With this in mind, Mrs Cahalin, Lead Practitioner for Literacy, has launched a 'Reading Buddy' scheme to support some of our new Year 7 students.

Each week, 17 Y7 students meet with their Y9 Reading Buddy, who read with them and help them to improve their reading skills through sharing and discussing books.



The Y9 students are all committed to this scheme and have had training to help them be effective mentors to our younger students.

We are very proud of our students for giving up their time to take part in this valuable initiative.



Comments from our Y9 Reading Buddies:

'It made me feel that I had made a difference to someone's life. It also made me happy about reading with her as I'd love to boost her confidence.'

'I felt like I had done something good. I was really happy. I loved meeting my reading buddy because I feel like I can help him; it is a wonderful experience and I am grateful for the chance to take part.'

'I really enjoyed the session because I enjoyed speaking and interacting with my reading buddy.'

'It was good to know I helped someone.'

'I felt respected and happy to help and have an influence on someone.'

