



## February Half term – Everything you need to know

Headteacher's address, Vocational Offers, Case study, Safeguarding update, Blog and so much more!



Keep posted on IG

## Headteacher Update

**Wow, wow, wow!!! What a whirlwind that was. A very short 6 week ½ term and so many things to talk about.**

Firstly, thank you to all parents and carers who have been supporting us with

making sure that uniform is meeting school expectations. It makes such a difference when all children wear similar clothing, **removing the issues around branded clothing levels the playing field and helps us to be more inclusive.** Just to confirm, it is Black/Navy bottoms (Trousers/Joggers/Skirts), Black/Navy sweatshirts/jumpers, white shirts/polo tops and black shoes/trainers. Please remember, we do have spare, used uniform in school if pupils do not have correct clothing. You can find a link to the uniforms shop at the end of this newsletter.



Food – the school provides breakfast and a hot lunch free of charge. We publish a ½ termly menu to inform pupils (parents and carers) of the meal for each day which is **designed to cater for all students with allergies, religious, and additional needs. If your child does not like the meal on offer, please provide them with a packed lunch.** As part of our safeguarding arrangements, we do not allow children offsite during the school day to purchase food or drink and we do not permit external deliveries of takeaway food.

Onto teaching and learning, and our KS4 pupils have been busy in their final preparations for external exams due this summer. **We have completed our final round of mock exams and I have been extremely proud at the way all pupils have conducted themselves during exam conditions.** All pupils due to sit exams, attended and sat mock exams, making the best use of the allocated time and really applying themselves – **well done KS4.**



Our visits to the community have continued and this half term has seen a number of exciting trips take place. **KS3 Nurture groups visited the National Art Gallery**, inspiring them to create some superb works of art as part of their Spring Art Project. **KS3 Nurture groups have also visited The Sea Life Centre in Central London**, expanding their knowledge of the natural world and testing their social skills on public transport and in busy locations. **KS4Y took part in an Escape Room experience as part of their enrichment programme, whilst KS4Z have revisited the outdoor Go-Kart Track** to challenge lap

times and driving skills. Our enrichment programme is aimed at stretching

comfort zones, enabling pupils to participate in something different and hopefully demonstrate that learning, in whatever environment, can be fun. **As Spring and the fine weather approaches, we will be looking to plan more exciting trips out, including overnight camping and residential adventurous activities.** Watch this space for more news soon!

Pupils have been making furry friends, Poppy the Cockapoo has visited the school and has been very excited about making human friends. **The pupils were amazing and made Poppy feel very welcome, she wants to visit more often.** We will look to increase exposure to pets as it adds to our therapy offer and provides pupils with an added sense of responsibility, empathy and fun during break times.



# Vocational Offers 16-18

We have exciting news about KS5, our new Post 16 programme launches this September and will be an exciting vocational offer for those wishing to follow a post 16 pathway into one of 3 career sectors: Motor Vehicle, Business Administration or Hair and Beauty. Each programme will have limited spaces and formal interviews will take place to ensure that we match students to the right programme. Each pathway will attract formal accreditation at Level 1 and will prepare each student for life at college or on an Apprenticeship.

**Click the images to read the full description, entry requirements, topics and progression opportunities.**



## **Mechanics**

Extended Certificate and Diploma in Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Repair 603/1782/6 and 603/1783/8



## **Hair & Beauty**

Certificate in Vocational Studies (Hair and Beauty) 601/8933/2



## **Business Admin**

Certificate in Vocational Studies (Business & Administration) 601/8933/2



# Case Study

This month we have listened to the experience of one of our pupils and their incredible transformation as told by them, their family and the tutors that work with them every day.

**From shy and anxious to confident and happy through supportive tutors, an engaging environment and therapies.**

When they joined us, they were timid, easily overwhelmed and they were not comfortable interacting with their peers. Thanks to the incredible work and understanding approach of our staff and tutors, combined with targeted help and support from our therapies offer, they are now a much happier, bubbly and confident young person both in school and at home.

## Safeguarding update

Finally, safeguarding – during ½ term there will be an on call member of the team available for any matter of a safeguarding nature. Please feel free to call one of the numbers:

**11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023** – Lana Philippon

**13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023** – Kevan Wayne-Morris –

**17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023** – Lana Philippon

## Key upcoming dates

**20<sup>th</sup>**

**20th February**

Return to school

**30<sup>th</sup>**

**30th March**

Final day of term, finish at 12.40

**22<sup>nd</sup>**

**22nd March**

Parents evening 16.00 – 18.30

**31<sup>st</sup>**

**31st March**

INSET DAY – No pupils in school

# Don't want to miss anything?

Check out our blog! Here are our latest posts.



January 31

## **A snapshot of our 2022 – everything you want to know!**

With the upcoming first governors' meeting of 2023, it's time to review our 2022 – challenges, successes, changes and a look into the future.



February 2

## **Mentoring programme 2020-2022 – empowering Croydon's young people with YLF**

The mentoring programme with YLF has come to an end in 2022: this was our journey towards empowerment and prevention amongst Croydon's youth.

[Check out the Blog](#)

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## Helpful links

[Get your uniform here](#)

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### The Write Time

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