# Collingwood Easter Newsletter 2023



# **Mad Hatters**

Our annual Mad Hatter's tea party was a huge success. Parents and carers enjoyed tea, cake, and other refreshments as well as a tombola, a hat competition and a righteous cacophony of student-designed, homemade hats!





# **Keeping Up With Collingwood**

This year our Media options group are producing a TV show showcasing the events happening around school. Episode 1 saw interviews with staff and the band Aukestra. Episode 2 is well in the pipeline. Watch this space...



School opens on Monday 17th April!



# Message from the Head

It's been another busy term at Collingwood with lots of opportunities for the pupils and 6th Form students. We have continued to establish partnership links to enhance the curriculum offer across the school, thus further developing life skills and employability skills.

New provision news!

I also have some very exciting news to share with you...



In September we will be opening the Woodlands Centre which will be based at Hepscott Park. The Woodlands will be an outdoor and vocational learning centre. We have worked closely with NCC,

as part of the SEND strategy for Northumberland, to establish the provision which will also provide a 40 place SEND specialist provision, as an annexe of the main school site.

If you would like to find out more about the Woodlands, I will be holding parent information evenings on the following dates;

Wednesday 26th April – 5pm – 6pm

Wednesday 3rd May – 5pm – 6pm

Have a very Happy Easter and relaxing holiday.

Mrs G. Linkleter

#### **Mr Elliott - A New Addition!**

Hello everyone,

My name is Mr Elliott and I will be joining your school in May as Assistant Headteacher leading on behaviour, attendance, and attitudes. I am very much looking forward to this exciting new challenge and becoming part of your fantastic school.

It has been lovely to meet some of you in and around school so far, and I look forward to meeting everyone else when I start!

When I'm not teaching, I mostly enjoy being in the outdoors: hiking, sports, keeping my allotment and hens, as well as cooking and socialising, which I've noticed are also things you enjoy at Collingwood!

See you all soon!

# **Mrs Major's Update**

We have had another extremely busy term.

All of our pupils have been demonstrating fantastic behaviour and producing beautiful work this term. We recently celebrated National Careers week. Northumberland Zoo produced an exciting Q&A video for the primary department, answering all of our questions about becoming a zookeeper! The Elephant and Zebra Classes have been visiting the zoo this term, whilst the Giraffes have been working with Little Movers.

Twinkl Phonics is proving to be a big success and we can already see fantastic leaps of progress in phonics between Autumn and Spring term. Our primary pupils are enjoying the Rhino Reader phonics books which address all of the key sounds and tricky words they have been learning in their lessons.



As you all know, I am the Designated Safeguarding Lead; however we have a team of staff who are also trained. Mrs Askew is the Deputy DSL. The other DSLs are:

Mrs Sherman, Miss Nichol, Mrs Halliwell, and Ms Chalder-Wood.

Happy Easter!

# A message from Mrs Askew

This term we have been working with Jigsaw Therapy to further enhance our Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy support.

We have had the support of Amy, Sarah, and Liz Ann from Jigsaw to ensure that we continue to provide an excellent level of support for all of our pupils.

This is in addition to our existing therapy arrangements and we are very excited to be working with them moving forward.

As ever, thank you to all of you for your involvement with the annual review process; your insight and support ensures that we can continue to provide the best support for our pupils. It is lovely to have the

opportunity to reflect on the progress they have made.

As the opportunities for school trips open up again, it has been fantastic to see all of the visits that are happening and the learning opportunities that the pupils have experienced, from going horse riding to photography on Holy Island.

# **Mr Crawford's Catch-Up**

Hi everyone,

As usual it's been a very busy term with regards to curriculum, at Collingwood.

We've had Signpost Productions/ITV working with our 6th Formers at The Fuse the past term, planning a 'good news' segment, which they are going to shoot after the Easter break - watch out for the finished product!!

Some of our 6th Form students have been accessing Forest School at Stomping Grounds, which they have loved (no matter what the weather!) and NUFC have also been continuing to work with our students.

We will have our brand new music lodge open after Easter and everyone is really excited to see the subject and offer grow after we settle in - watch this space.

Thanks to Mrs Linkleter, we are continuing to forge new links with external partners, and we have some exciting plans in the pipeline which will benefit our pupils and students.

Everyone, both staff and pupils/students, have worked tremendously hard this term. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and hope you have a really enjoyable break.

See you after Easter!!!

# **Mrs Nocon's Update**

It had been another busy term at Collingwood. I have met so many parents through the annual review process, and it has been lovely to work towards good outcomes for all learners as part of this.

Transition time is approaching and so visits to new learners who will be joining us in September will begin soon, as well as internal transition for our existing learners. This is an exciting time of year to support learners to prepare by looking ahead.

I hope you all have a great Easter break and I look forward to working with you all in the Summer Term.

# **Pastoral Update**

We have had a busy term supporting pupils and planning whole school events. We have continued to produce pastoral and behavioural support plans to make sure students have suitable interventions and strategies in place so they are ready to learn, which have included small friendship and social skills groups. We have continued to enjoy whole school events where we have supported various charities including Red Nose Day and the fantastic CHUF at the RVI. We are looking forward to our Mad Hatter's Tea Party which is always a lovely end to the term and events in the summer term which will include our Movers and Leavers Celebration which was a great success last year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your fantastic support as always and we look forward to hopefully seeing you at an event in the new term.

# **Wellbeing Update**

Happy Easter to you all!

We have had a great start to 2023 with the development of our 'Well-beeing' theme. The 'Well-beeing' room has definitely gone into 'bee' mode! We have a lovely 'Bee' theme. Students have been developing their resilience skills and learning about strategies to manage times of difficulty and emotional overload. Beeing a young person or teenager can bee challenging from a personal point of view. Parents have enjoyed a number of sessions including crafts, massage and aromatherapy. You are all welcome to join us. Please send us any ideas that you have for future sessions. Keep on buzzing and bee happy in yourself!

Bee kind to yourself and others over Easter time. Bee amazing and beeautiful in all that you do! Bee well.



# **Media Update from Mr Dunphy**

Events and exciting developments continue to take place in our busy department. Partnership work is flourishing as we continue to work with The Alnwick Garden, the BBC, Ballet Lorent, Cresswell Pele Tower and numerous others. A new development is the project work which we are commencing with Stobhillgate First School. Another is the exciting work our Sixth Form students are doing on a weekly basis with ITV Signpost Productions. This will incorporate music, visual art and media in preparation for the Morpeth Big Sing in July.

We continue to improve our facilities, with new lighting installed in the Media Studio, and plans in place to hugely improve the main hall as a performance space.

We have identified a talented team of film makers among our students. Our new team is in the process of filming and producing a new TV programme - "Keeping Up With Collingwood", which will be available for you to view when ready.

Watch this space!

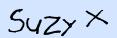


#### Suzy Says...

Snowdrops and baby lambs in the fields!

It feels like spring has sprung. Time for some long walks in the countryside!

Happy Easter!





# Collingwood

# **Contacting Us**

Collingwood School and Media Arts College Stobhillgate Morpeth NE61 2HA

Tel: 01670 516 374 admin@collingwood.northumberland.sch.uk