

Collingwood

Winter Newsletter 2022



RDA Success More Inside...

The Collingwood community of parents, carers and staff continues to make regular donations to the Wansbeck Valley Food Bank.

Your kind donations are particularly important at this time of year. Watch this space for the next appeal for donations!



Collingwood was proud to have taken part in this year's Remembrance Service held at County Hall, Morpeth.

We fell silent to remember and honour the fallen, and all those who have served, and continue to serve in our armed forces. We created our own wreaths in school and our pupils laid them at the memorial.

Collingwood
School and Media Arts College

School opens
on Tuesday
Jan 10th

**DON'T
FORGET!**

Message from the Head

Another busy term at Collingwood with so many success stories to share.

In July, some of our pupils competed in the Riding for the Disabled Association nationals and gained individual successes. In September, Odin in Elephants came second in his class nationally. This is a huge achievement. In August, the exam results this year were superb with several pupils achieving GCSEs.

In October, we celebrated the first Collingwood awards evening and it was a very special occasion showcasing the marvellous achievements of our pupils as they moved into the 6th Form or left for pastures new. The event was attended by David Street, Deputy Director of Education who commented upon the outstanding successes.

The Harvest Festival was also a success and we received a lovely "Thank you" from Wansbeck food bank for our donations.

In November, we were asked to attend the Remembrance service at County Hall. Evan in year 9 read a poem and Ciara (yr13) and Ben (yr11) laid the school wreath which was made by the pupils across the school.

We have also had the Creative Arts Festival and the children have worked with numerous professionals within the creative arts industry.

We have also entered into several new partnerships;

- Signpost productions that are based at ITV.
- Stopping Grounds Forest school
- Blyth Tall ships

In total there are now 96 Collingwood Partners who enhance the curriculum offer for the students and pupils.

This week we have been celebrating Christmas with a lot of activities. The events started with a touring panto for Primary and Year 7. Christmas jumper day, the Christmas Fair, Collingwood's Got Talent, Christmas lunch, Disco, Nativity, Christmas pantomime at Alwick and winter wonderland were all successful events and it was so lovely to see so many parents and carers. Thank you again for your support.

In the new year we will be holding the Collingwood Great exchange where for a 10p donation to the Collingwood Foundation you can collect uniform and other items of clothing that have been donated. The event will take place at St Aidan's church hall in Stobhillgate – dates to be confirmed.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and the very best for 2023.

Mrs Linkleter - Headteacher.



Mrs Major's Update

It has been a very busy term, with lots of activities and exciting opportunities for our pupils.

It has been a pleasure to involve a number of external agencies to support our young people. The Police Community Support Officers have been involved in school life and have worked with a number of our learners. There has been a focus on anti-bullying, we are members of the Anti-bullying Alliance. We have also worked closely with Early Help and Children's Services.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask parents to ensure all new devices, including phones, tablets, games consoles have the correct parental controls in place.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Pastoral Update

This term we have continued to welcome parents and carers back into school. We have invited parents/carers in to discuss any extra support their child might need and we sometimes supply a pastoral plan or a behaviour support plan. This enables staff who work with the child to see what interventions or strategies may be used.

Christmas activities have been a great success - a very busy time of year for all staff and students. We always look forward to seeing our parents in school for the Fair, Collingwood's Got Talent and the Nativity. We are still promoting good attendance and our uniform. It is always so lovely to see all students wearing their school uniform. We continue to work with small groups and some 1:1 sessions. This promotes good social skills, friendship skills and appropriate behaviour.

We would like to take this opportunity wish you a safe and Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year

Fiona Sherman-Pastoral Manager

Wellbeing Update

Happy winter to you all.

This term has been a wonderful experience as the new Lead for Social Emotional and Mental Health in school. I enjoyed meeting parents at the opening evenings and getting to know more about you all and our students.

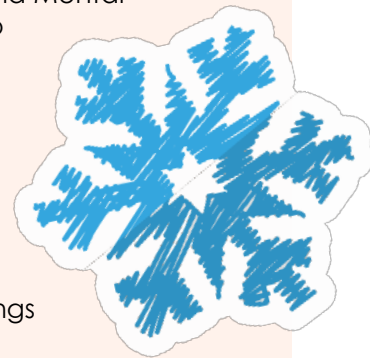
This term I have spent time supporting our young people to develop their ability to recognise issues and manage themselves with our support. Staff have developed their knowledge and experience around Thrive which will help all of us in our futures, especially our students.

Collingwood is an amazing place to be and I thank you all for welcoming me. Parent workshops have been going well and it has been great to share tips and things with you regarding our well being and mental health.

I look forward to working with you all in the New Year and wish you a calm and peaceful winter break!

Best wishes

Jo Chalder-Wood



Mrs Nocon's Update

This term has been a huge success. In September, we welcomed new learners to Collingwood after a thorough transition programme. New learners are now settled and established in school and making great progress towards individual goals.

There has been ongoing work towards updating learner EHCPs through annual reviews. I welcome the honest and supportive conversations I have had with parents and carers this term, drawing on successes and ways to move forward in order to continue improving provision for learners.

Our therapy provision in school is continuing to become embedded in classes and also individually for some learners. We welcomed our new physiotherapist in September and she has been very busy supporting individual learners with assessments and plans, as well as providing training to staff. It certainly has been busy this term!

I wish all families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Media at Collingwood

It's been a fantastic term for Creative Arts and Media, as the Creative Arts Network festival has provided our young people with an exciting and varied range of opportunities to experience the arts and culture. They have taken part in workshops and attended performances by the Laing Gallery, Meta4 Dance Company, Ballet Lorent, Aukestra, the Northumberland Theatre Company and Bare Toed Dance.

We are building lasting partnerships with some of the region's finest cultural organisations, and will continue to develop these. The festival ends with Collingwood's Got Talent, in which our pupils showcase their wonderful talents and abilities. We look forward to holding another CAN festival next year.

Mark Dunphy

Mr Crawford's Catch-Up

Hi everyone, it's been a very busy term with regards to curriculum, with lots of positive news to talk about.

The first thing I'd like to talk about is the return to our KS3 & KS4 pupils being able to return to moving around the school to lessons after COVID. The pupils have been fantastic and are really enjoying the normality. As usual we have lots going on with 'Options' and 'Enrichment' with the pupils focussing really well. Our 6th Formers are now based at The Fuse, in Prudhoe. At The Fuse they have that specialised college atmosphere and are reacting really well to the increased responsibility.

At the Sixth Form we have been working with lots of new partners. After Christmas, Signpost Productions/ITV will be working with some of our students - really excited!

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

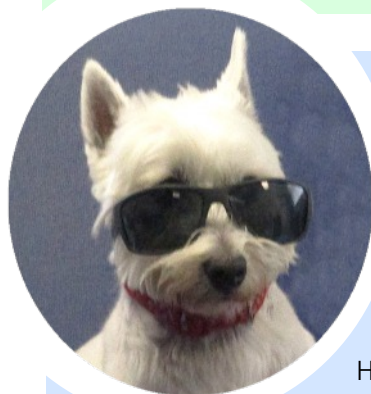
Mr Crawford

A message from Mrs Askew

It has been lovely to meet so many of you face to face as we begin to be able to put on events such as parents' evening and the information evenings again. I now oversee the SEND, Mental Health and Pastoral Teams and they have all been working together to ensure the best provision for the pupils and students in the school.

As ever, thank you for all of your support with the annual review process, and for your contributions to this, it is lovely to see the progress the pupils and students are making.

I wish you a restful and peaceful Christmas and New Year.



Suzy Says...

I love this time of year.

Getting snowy paws then snuggling up in front of the telly to watch Paw Patrol.

Have a great Winter Break!

Suzy X



Collingwood
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