

News from Acting Vice Principal Mr Peter Williams - Weston (Year 9, 10 & 11)

What a busy, eventful and successful term we have had at KS4 Voyage Learning Campus.

Nearly 80 per cent of year 11's have had the opportunity of work experience. Some have been so successful that apprenticeships have been offered if they keep the good work up! This year has been a record breaker with the year 10 group. Every single year 10 has had at least one placement, ranging from gardening, catering, mechanics, hair and beauty to dog grooming.

The theme for the Year 9 Enrichment activities has been Art, Literature and History. As part of this, we have visited graveyards, telling ghosts stories on the

way, Bristol Museum, and learning about local historic sites.

Some students went to The Odeon to watch Jurassic World Fallen Kingdom, courtesy of The Odeon. Students were chosen as a reward for their good behaviour throughout the term.

Art Mocks will be starting soon. This will be this year's 11's first experience of exams and we wish them luck!

May we at Voyage Learning Campus take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Message from Abbe Hayward, Exams Officer

Please take GCSE dates into account when booking holidays for next summer.

GCSE exams start on Monday, 13th May and run until Thursday, 20th June. However, Wednesday, 26th June has been designated as a 'contingency day' by Exams Boards so this day should also be kept clear.

Online Safety Advice

Gaming can be a great way for young people to relax, socialise with their friends and have fun. Children can play on games consoles, apps or websites, and chat to other players or watch them play through live-streaming.

But there are some dangers. And with so many games available online, it can be hard for parents to know how to keep their child safe.

That's where we can help. Our tips and advice will keep you up-to-date with the most popular online games, help you decide what's appropriate for your child - and help them play safely.

This term we have produced guidance on a popular online game, Fortnite, and social media app Tik Tok.

You can find this guidance in the Online Safety bulletin inside this newsletter.

Student Art Gallery



A selection of artwork from our very talented students!



Term 2

Wednesday, 19th December

NEWSLETTER

A few words from Acting Principal, Tony Hill

Dear Parents, carers and students,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students and families a Happy Christmas. It has been another successful term for our students with many engaging fully with the enrichment activities across all of the centres. These included We The Curious, The Big Pit and Icescape.

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday, 7th January 2019.

Tony Hill

Management Committee - Parent Representative Vacancy

The Management Committee is looking for a volunteer willing to serve as a parent / carer representative on the Management Committee (the equivalent of a Governing Body). We do not ask for a huge commitment from you just a willingness to attend meetings regularly. Our Committee meets six times a year, once a term, for approximately two hours and meetings are usually held on a Wednesday alternating between our three sites in Weston, Milton and Nailsea.

Our Members are passionate about ensuring that the highest standards of education, care and support are offered to our children and young people and as such you would join a Committee of professional, enthusiastic and dedicated individuals committed to securing the best possible outcomes for our students. Attendance at meetings is subject to a satisfactory DBS clearance.

If you are interested in joining the Committee or you would like some further information please contact Emma Smith, Principal's PA and Clerk to the Management Committee on 01934 425522 or by email to: emma.smith@voyagelearningcampus.org.uk

Message from the Management Committee

As a Management Committee we continue to be immensely proud of the achievements of our students and of the hard work and commitment of our whole staff team too.

Last year I said I wanted to take some time in 2018 to look at the way we operate and how we can support the VLC to the highest level. We have made visits to centres and met lots of students and parents which has been great. On 12th December we held a Management Committee development session to make sure we continue to operate as effectively as we can be.

As 2018 draws to a close I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Gill Scott, Chair of Management Committee



Important dates for your diary

Last Day of Term	Friday 21st December
First Day of Term	Monday 7th January
Next Inset Day	Friday 5th April



News from Lead Teacher Miss Ashlee Copeland - Nailsea Year 7&8

Term 2 has flown by and been very productive!

Our students have enjoyed many creative and educational activities. We have had two visits from local PCSOs who lead discussions about 'Halloween and Bonfire Night' and 'Drugs and Alcohol Awareness'. Our students have engaged well with these sessions where there were plenty of opportunities for them to ask questions. Further talks are planned for early next year to cover the 'Effects and Consequences of Bullying' and 'Safety on the Internet'.

An assembly was held for students led by 'Kooth, from Xenzone' who offer an online counselling and emotional well-being platform for children and young people. This is accessible through mobile, tablet and desktop and is free at the point of use. We have now set up a 'Kooth Booth' in school for students to access where they will have allocated time and privacy to discuss their concerns. XenZone is a provider of online mental health services for children, young people and adults. For more information about XenZone, please visit xenzone.com. You can also obtain more information about Kooth by emailing: parents@xenzone.com

Students still enjoy the opportunity to cook at school and take part in sports activities at the Scotch Horn Leisure Centre on Monday afternoons. If you have any suggestions or feedback regarding activities please do not hesitate to contact us.



News from Acting Head of Centre Ms Kate Angus - Milton (Primary)

VLC Primary has had a busy term, the topic in Science has been Light and Sound. I have seen some wonderful 'light up' pictures and caught various pairs of people talking through string telephones. There have been many gingerbread men decorated and I have read different variations on the 'Tale of the Three Little Pigs'.

We have all had another opportunity to visit Icescape at Tropicana for ice skating. I am always amazed at how confident some of our children are when they go on the ice and just zoom off, others are not so brave but they all gave it a go. Thank you, Icescape, for another great session.

Dressing up for Children in Need was fun and the Bring and Buy sale was a success, lots of our children made donations of their unwanted items and they were snapped up by others. We managed to raise £39.43. Well done School Council for organising the day and helping us make a valuable contribution.

Christmas is fast approaching and we have a number of activities planned to celebrate the

season. I need to give my huge thanks to our wonderful school lunch supplier 'Aces and Eights' (from Banwell) who are going to be cooking us a Christmas Lunch. I am looking forward to sitting down and enjoying this with all the staff and children.

Penguins class has organised 'Reverse Advent' where they have collected items that would be useful for homeless people. There has been a fantastic response and we were very happy to hand over socks, scarves, toothpaste, shower gel and many other donations. Thank you to everyone who contributed, I am sure the gifts will be well received.

Sadly, we have to say goodbye and a big thank you to Paul, our bus driver, who has served us well for many years. North Somerset have decided to replace our bus with taxis. I know you will join with me to wish Paul all the best in the future.

Thank you all for all your support this year. Please have a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you and your children in the New Year.

News from Assistant Vice Principal Mrs Nicola Young - Nailsea (Tuition)

It has, as always, been a very busy start to the Term 2. We have had a number of new starters, who have settled in to centre very well and have started to join in with a range of activities during break time. We also have two students who are starting a re-integration back to school, so we wish them luck with their progression. I feel very proud of what the staff and students are achieving and how positive the atmosphere around Tuition is. We continue to build on the great improvements we made during the previous term and we also had an opportunity to celebrate with a certificate presentation evening for our former Year 11 students.

Student reviews are coming up, and at these sessions, parents/carers will be able to discuss student work and achievements. We will also be able to talk about enrichment opportunities and ways in which parents/carers can help support their child's progress and development.

In Science, we have been very busy developing our practical skills by dissecting sheep's eyes in Biology; it looked like a task from Celebrity Jungle! We have also been learning about Energy types and energy changes.

In Art, Year 11 student James, has been developing a portrait of his favourite 'RedBull' Australian Trials rider; Fabio Wibmer. James's artwork was inspired by Bristol-based artist Sophie Long, who has shown her approval by commenting on our Instagram page!



commenting on our Instagram page!

Sophie says: 'I am a Bristol artist who mainly works in Acrylics, exploring the boundaries of expressive art, usually in the way of exuberant animal portraits.'

You can see more of our artwork at:

www.uk.pinterest.com/VLC_Art/

www.instagram.com/student_artwork_VLC/

Year 10 and 11 GCSE Citizenship students had a visit from North Somerset Unitary member, Cllr Roz Willis.

Part of their qualification requires them to work in the UK. Roz was able to talk to the Somerset Council. Roz explained that from her was nominated for a position at the Council balance. As the local elected representative and groups on a wide range of different issues leadership roles. She also contributes to the including budget setting, and is involved in decisions on many different matters. Roz also talked about what motivates her and how our students could take part in decision making in the future.



study and understand democracy at students about her long career at North many successful volunteering roles; she where she has many different roles to she is required to engage with residents and take on an important community development of policies and strategies, scrutinising council decisions or taking

Next term, we are looking at holding a number of workshops run by Revealed Projects. The workshops selected will promote self-esteem and positive relationships. The project is managed by Adele Sutton, a qualified full-time youth outreach worker with a background of working with young people. She has previously developed accredited courses for young people around healthy relationships and has experience in mentoring and delivering preventative education sessions.

We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2019.