



## Every Student Thriving

7 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have nearly run a full week now of the **single breaktime** and so far so good! **On average students are getting through the canteen in about 13 minutes.** Our outside **catering pod** has taken some pressure off the canteen and, as is often the case, student's are adjusting their own behaviours to manage the new timings which is also helping. More staff have been available for the break duties and that has led to different forms of interactions which aid the building of **positive relationships and community spirit.** Additionally it has also allowed staff to have a **common break time and this not only helps with well-being** but also with staff networking, sharing of ideas and general staff cohesion.

In many respects this change is about raising expectations by sending out the message that we can all commune **positively with each other across all years groups.** There is nothing to fear about that and it combats student fragility whilst building resilience. Instead of a slightly fractured day **we are moving towards a more cohesive community feel.** One might say back to 'how it was' pre-Covid.

A huge shout-out to the **twelve students** across the school who attained awards or had honourable mentions in the **UKMT Junior Maths challenge this year.** Their dedication, perseverance and passion for mathematics shone through and as a result they were recognised for their efforts. Well done to all of them!

I'm sure you will have noticed the large amount of scaffolding that has been erected in and around the school in the last few months. This is a capital improvement project focussed on **replacing inefficient roofing across the school.** Music has been completed and Maths is in progress. When the exams have finished the main hall roof will be replaced. Once completed we will have **more energy efficient roofs and combined with a whole new heating system we hope this will make us greener and more cost effective.** Staff and pupils should be commended for how well they have adapted to the room changes that have had to occur as the work has progressed.

**Examinations** are now in their latter stages and will soon be paving the way for celebration occasions and **final farewells.** This in turn will make space for the beginning of the transition of our new Year 7 students into the school and **a new sense of energy and vitality** as we power towards September. Staff have been out visiting our new students and laying the foundations for their initial visit towards the end of this term.

Careers information is critical in schools and I couldn't end this briefing without mentioning the **exceptional careers programme** we have at John Colet school run by Mrs Sinacore who presented **nationally at the UniFrog conference just before half-term.** She was held up as a prime example of how careers education should be run in schools and we are lucky to have her on the team.

Take care - Ian Brierly

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## Every Student Thriving

# REMINDERS & NOTICES

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 9 Futures Day  
Focus week

19 June  
24 -28 June

### PARKING - REMINDER

**A PLEA :** Please could you ensure that you do not park in or block access to the Wendover Health Centre. **IT IS NOT A DROP OFF ZONE** and car issues are beginning to impact significantly on the centre's ability to operate effectively at key points in the day.

### SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

#### SEXTORTION

Young people are more vulnerable than ever due to the amount of time they typically spend online. With this in mind, the National Crime Agency (NCA) has, earlier this week sent an alert out to all schools nationally regarding "sextortion" and its prevalence. [Please see this link](#) for further information about what it is, what the signs of it are and how you can support your children to remain safe online.

### OPPORTUNITIES

**COVER SUPERVISOR REQUIRED :** An excellent opportunity for any person who has just finished education or any who may be considering a future career in education, or for anyone who would like a role which can fit around their family life. If interested please contact Mrs Perry:  
[cperry@johncolet.co.uk](mailto:cperry@johncolet.co.uk)

**MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES VOLUNTEERS:** If you speak French or Spanish and would like to support our MFL department please contact Mrs Simpson, our Head of MFL, directly:  
[isimpson@johncolet.co.uk](mailto:isimpson@johncolet.co.uk).

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SAFEGUARDING ADVICE FOR PARENTS : Click [HERE](#) for a higher res version

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# POP-UP ADS

Pop-up advertisements have been a staple of the internet since they were first introduced in the late 1990s. This form of advertising causes a small window or banner to appear in the foreground while someone is browsing a website. Although these adverts are merely irritating for most people, pop-ups can present more severe risks to younger users.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### DECEPTIVE TACTICS

Children sometimes don't understand that adverts (including pop-ups) are designed to sell a product – and can't distinguish between a legitimate feature of a site and an advertisement. Video games, for example, can be full of pop-up ads that tempt users into spending money, yet they might take the form of a mini-game or extra level.

#### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While some adverts are targeted based on a user's interests and activity online, that isn't always the case. This means that children may unfortunately be exposed to ads for age-inappropriate goods or services such as tobacco products, alcohol and gambling sites.

#### MALWARE RISK

Most pop-ups from reputable advertisers are safe. However, in some cases, pop-ups can trick you into downloading malware – whereby cybercriminals install software on your device, allowing them to access your sensitive data. It can be difficult to know if malware has been installed on your device, so your best option is to avoid engaging with these pop-ups altogether. Be wary of sites that suddenly bombard you with ads or try to prevent you from leaving.

#### PRIVACY RISK

Many app and game developers will collect their users' personal data, such as their name, address, email address, geolocation information, unique numerical identifiers, photos and payment information. If a child clicks on an illegitimate pop-up laced with malware, all this information could be put at risk.

#### RACKING UP BILLS

If a child has access to a payment card on their device – be it a smartphone, laptop, or tablet – they could very quickly rack up a massive bill by interacting with pop-up adverts and buying products shown to them. Try to keep a close eye on their spending.

#### BEHAVIOURAL IMPACT

Research has found that pop-up ads can even have an impact on children's behaviour. Some of these adverts use manipulative tactics that take advantage of children's developmental vulnerabilities, intentionally or otherwise. This approach may cause a child's mood to shift: becoming more stubborn, for example, if they begin wanting their parents to buy a specific product for them.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### START A CONVERSATION

It's important to have regular conversations with children about online advertising so that they understand the risks of interacting with pop-ups. For example, if a child asks for a product which has been advertised to them online, ask them why they want it and how they found it: this will present an opportunity to talk youngsters through the tactics used in online marketing.

#### SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child may be following pop-up ads to make online purchases or viewing content that could be harmful, it's important to be able to spot the signs. Due to the often-manipulative nature of these adverts, children who interact with them regularly may show signs of distraction, stubbornness and an increasingly materialistic worldview.

#### MONITOR CONTENT

It can often be difficult to spot when a pop-up advert is malicious – even more so for impressionable younger users. It's important to monitor the content they're consuming to prevent them from clicking on something dangerous. If a pop-up ad seems too good to be true – promising a free iPad, for example – it probably is.

#### PRIVACY SETTINGS

Most modern devices have privacy settings that let you limit the amount of advertising a child is subjected to while using apps or browsing the internet. You may also want to speak to teachers about avoiding sites and apps with advertising, as well as adjusting digital privacy settings on any education technology they use.

#### LIMIT SPENDING

Try to stay aware of what children are spending and ensure that payment details aren't linked to or saved on the gaming platform that they use. Most video games and internet-enabled devices have settings that can help you manage what children can or cannot purchase online.

#### CUT DOWN ON SCREEN TIME

Given the prevalence of pop-up ads (which can appear on everything from smartphones and tablets to internet-connected toys and games), it might be beneficial to limit the time children spend on digital devices to curb their exposure to digital advertising.

#### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/pop-ups>





# Every Student Thriving

NEW FOOD & MENUS FROM OUR CATERERS



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## Every Student Thriving

### SAFEGUARDING LEADS & INFORMATION



**Mr Crawford**  
Deputy Headteacher  
DSL



**Be Safe,  
Be Kind**



**Mrs Rowland**  
\*Operational Safeguarding Lead  
DDSL

If parents have any concerns about this practice or, believe that any young person at John Colet School might be at risk, then please do contact one of the members of our Safeguarding Team via

[safeguarding@johncolet.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@johncolet.co.uk)

### TEACHER TRAINING

## **ASTRA School-Centred Teacher Training**



#### Teacher Training opportunities with Astra SCITT from September 2024

Whether you or someone you know is a recent graduate or potential career switcher, teaching offers a rewarding, challenging and varied career. **John Colet School** works in partnership with [Astra School Centred Initial Teacher Training](#) to provide training for new primary and secondary teachers on a full-time or part-time basis. Astra works in partnership with over sixty local schools across Buckinghamshire and all courses lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and most applicants also study for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). Generous tax-free bursaries are available in many secondary subjects and all courses are eligible for student finance.

Our next Train to Teach Information Event will be held at The Misbourne School on Tuesday 14 May from 4.30pm to 6pm. Please see [here](#) for more information and details of how to register.

Applications for teacher training are made through [DfE Apply](#).

Do contact Astra ([hello@astra-alliance.com](mailto:hello@astra-alliance.com))/01494 787573 if you would like to know more.

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# Buckinghamshire Family Learning

## Help Your Child Manage Their Wellbeing with these FREE Online Workshops\*



### Years 7, 8 & 9, Tuesdays 9:30am to 11:30am

- 4 June: **Help your child to develop confidence and resilience** ([FMWB056](#))
- 11 June: **Help your child cope with stress and anxiety** ([FMWB081](#))
- 12 June (Wednesday 7pm-9pm): **Help your child manage their behaviours** ([FMWB099](#))
- 18 June: **Help your child to develop positive friendships and manage peer pressure** ([FMWB087](#))
- 25 June: **Happy, healthy and safe online-tips to help your child** ([FMWB092](#))



### Years 10 & 11, Wednesdays 7pm to 9pm

- 19 June: **Help your child to develop confidence and resilience** ([FMWB112](#))
- 26 June: **Help your child to develop positive friendships and manage peer pressure** ([FMWB113](#))

Also available . . . . .

**Everyday First Aid, Southcourt Family Centre** ([EMFA042](#))

- Wednesday 19 June, 9:30am to 12pm

**Thinking About Volunteering** ([EMVW018](#))

- Tuesday 2 July, 9:30am to 11:30am

\* For parents and carers with a child in Years 7 to 11 at one of the following schools: Aylesbury UTC, Aylesbury Vale Academy, Beaconsfield School, Bourne End Academy, Buckingham School, Chiltern Hills Academy, Cottlesloe School, Cressex Community School, Highcrest Academy, John Colet School, Mandeville School, Princes Risborough School, Sir William Ramsay School, Stony Dean School, The Grange School, Thomas Freemantle School and Waddesdon CofE School



SCAN ME



To enrol: **SCAN** the QR code, **CLICK** on the course code link or **PHONE** 01296 383582 with the course code (eg. FMWB000)

For more information, text Kathryn 07770 641997



[buckinghamshireadultlearning](#)



[BucksAdLearning](#)



[adultlearningbc.ac.uk](#)

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## LOCAL UPDATES / EVENTS

# AYLESBURY RUGBY WOMEN

ANY LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE  
AMAZING FACILITIES INCLUDING  
GYM AND PHYSIO  
NC3 MIDLANDS (SOUTH) LEAGUE  
WOMENSRUGBY@AYLESBURYRFC.CO.UK

TRAINING TIMES:  
WEDNESDAY 19:30-21:00  
SUNDAY 12:30-14:00



ARFC HP22 5RN

## WENDOVER SPARROWHAWKS NETBALL TEAM

### Fancy joining us for some netball?

***Everyone Welcome***

- Friendly ladies club with a good mix of age and ability
- Training every Tuesday with experienced coach
- 7.30—9pm at Aylesbury High School
- £5 per week (or save money and block book)
- Lots of coached drills and game play at training

Opportunities to join one of our 3 ladies teams for the upcoming summer league and 24/25 ADNL winter league



- Youth training Tuesdays at 6.15-7.15pm (school years 8-11 welcome)
- Opportunities to join a team for the summer league or just come for training

Email [wendoveryouthnetball@hotmail.com](mailto:wendoveryouthnetball@hotmail.com) for info

Interested? Get in touch...

E: [wendoverladiesnetball@hotmail.com](mailto:wendoverladiesnetball@hotmail.com)  
Insta: @wendoversparrowhawks




Florence Nightingale Hospice Care

## Midnight WALK Weekend

**Saturday 22nd June**

Celebrate, cherish and remember loved ones.  
Show your appreciation for our Hospice.  
Take part on your own or in a group.

[fnhospice.org.uk/midnightwalk](http://fnhospice.org.uk/midnightwalk)

ASM METAL RECYCLING | Aston | RADLEY | 