



CAMPSMOUNT ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 | Autumn Term | October 2020

As we near the end of our first full term of running as a COVID-safe school, I would like to thank every single member of our wonderful community for their support, tolerance, patience and understanding.

We have had very few cases in school and whilst it is not possible to be absolutely certain, we have no evidence to suggest that there has been any in school transmission. Our students have shown so much resilience and have adapted brilliantly to the changes. They have embraced the new way of working and have successfully engaged with virtual learning to support homework and revision tasks. The students are focused in lessons and have learnt new knowledge, skills and most importantly the students have made progress. Staff are learning new ways of teaching and students are having to learn to be more independent in their learning.

Our new Year 7 have settled in well, despite the circumstances and it has been lovely to welcome them to our school. They haven't yet had the opportunity to experience our extra-curricular activities but there are many years to come where they can engage with this.

The global pandemic has, rightly so formed the main source of my communication to you over the past 7 weeks as the safety and wellbeing of the staff and pupils will always be my priority, however I want to take this opportunity to share with you some of the term high points and achievements of the students.

I would like to wish all the community of Campsmount a restful and safe break. I hope you all find the space to spend some time with your loved ones, albeit perhaps online!


Elizabeth Browne

Principal




Community Pride Ambition Responsibility

POST 16



SHOUT OUT



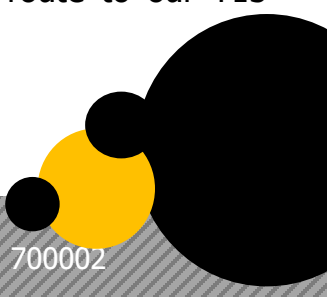
A massive well done to Emily Thompson, Owen Jones, Mitchell Wilson and Harry Gowthorpe in History and Abbigail Myers, Maisy Alderson, Joseph O'Grady and Elisha Connnor in Geography for completing all of their work on Seneca and totaling 15 hours and 30 minutes of work with Emily Thompson in the lead completing 52 sessions! Well done to each and every one of you; the effort, commitment and determination you are showing is fantastic and will support massively going forward with your exams!! – Mrs F Reith

Post 16 has welcomed back over a third of last year's Y11 cohort and they have settled well into life as Post 16 learners. The Post 16 Centre is buzzing again with energy and hard working young adults who are taking the next steps towards their future aspirations.

Blended learning was a key feature of Lock Down for our older students, who are in a really healthy position as they prepare for the final exams and assessments this year. Staff are working hard to develop students' skills with Teams to ensure that no matter what the coming weeks and months bring us, learning can and will continue for all in A Level and Applied subjects.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) has launched with Y12. The students focused on developing their key questions and researching them during the recent Aspire day. It's lovely to see the varying range of interests our Campsmount students have, and we are looking forward to supporting them with discovering more about their chosen project and presenting their findings to us. This will then provide students with a qualification to support university applications or employment as it develops key transferable skills.

Year 13 are currently preparing their UCAS applications. Supporting our students with these difficult decisions is something Campsmount Post 16 does really well. In the Summer we celebrated 70% of our Y13 students making the transition to University life, all secured places at their first choice university. We are proud to see students travelling away to Durham, Hull, Portsmouth and many moving a little closer to home in Sheffield, Lincoln and Nottingham. Apprenticeships is another route our students take after completing their Level 3 qualifications with us and we hope our guest speaker on Wednesday evening helped to explain the key aspects of this exciting career route to our Y13 parents.



UNIFORM

Student uniform has been excellent since returning to the Academy and we have received positive feedback about the new tartan style skirts. We want all our students to wear the Campsmount uniform with pride and be responsible for following the uniform policy. Can I take this opportunity to remind you that all students should be wearing black school shoes and that no boots or trainers are allowed.

Now the weather is getting colder, we recommend that students have an outdoor coat or jacket to keep them warm during breaks and lunchtimes. The Covid 19 guidance advises schools to increase ventilation indoors which creates colder temperatures, the students may choose to wear a plain black v neck jumper underneath their blazer, however students are not allowed to wear hoodies or sports style jumpers whilst on site to ensure students continue to look smart when in uniform.



BLENDED LEARNING

Microsoft Teams is the online blended learning platform that the Academy are using to ensure students can progress whether they are in school or at home. Staff are sharing lessons through their Class Teams so students can access all learning and tasks that take place each day either to work remotely or more importantly to revisit learning, so it is embedded.

Students are set assignments by their teachers, some for completion in lessons and others as extended learning tasks. Work set in this way can be assessed by staff to provide your child with feedback and how work can be improved so they can make further progress. Each Team enables your child to communicate with their class teachers so they can be supported with their learning and access support with set work. Interactions between teachers and students have been positive, with students taking an active role in developing their work after receiving developmental feedback. This is enabling our students to make even greater progress and therefore will potentially achieve better outcomes. It has also ensured students isolating at home have been able to continue their learning.

Staff have been working hard to incorporate Teams into their lessons and if possible, to set extended learning. Staff who have been working from home have taught our students remotely to ensure they, as the expert, are facilitating high quality learning every lesson, every day. After the half term staff will be working with our department champions to develop the use of Class Notebook, another feature of Teams, to further support all students in their learning.

Teams is easy for students to access. They need to log into their Office 365 account which is linked to the school webpage, all students know how to do this. Teams can be run through the internet browser Chrome although we recommend that students download the Teams App to their phone, device or PC. If your child is struggling with this, remind them to access Teams as they would in school during lessons. Should your family require further support please contact the Academy reception and we will work with you to resolve the issues.

We are really proud of how quickly our students and staff have embedded this new technology into their teaching - well done to everyone!



HEARTS PLUS MINDS

The main aim of our Hearts plus Minds curriculum is to support our students in their emotional wellbeing and help in their return to life at school.

All students have Hearts plus Minds sessions delivered by their form tutors during their PLL/tutor time in addition to our recent ASPIRE Day 1.

Sessions are based upon the key themes and guidance provided by the NHS and the mental health charity, Mind. The key themes include:

- 1 **Connect** with other people – Explore sharing positive experiences with others, spending time with people, emotional support to others
- 2 Be **physically active** – Explore the benefits of physical activity in improving mental wellbeing, setting goals and challenges
- 3 **Learn** new skills – Developing a sense of purpose in learning something new, boosting confidence and raising self-esteem
- 4 **Give** to others – Develop an increased understanding of the benefits of kindness, charity and saying thank you
- 5 **Mindfulness** – Support students in understanding current events and issues in the world around them

Extra support is available to any of our students who are finding the current



ASPIRE DAY

Our ASPIRE days are opportunities for our students to immerse themselves in wider curricular activities such as Personal, Social, Health and Economic education. The theme for our first ASPIRE day this year was Mental Health and Wellbeing.

All years groups experienced great sessions from our Hearts Plus Minds curriculum covering the importance and benefits of physical activity. This included keeping a weekly log to help them be more mindful of their activity so that they can look to set targets to increase their physical activity where needed. Students across different year groups also covered topics on personal hygiene, the importance of sleep as well as the management of anxiety and exam stress.

Year 9 were also presented with the challenge of assembling a tent in readiness for the launch of their e-DofE qualification on ASPIRE day 2. For the third year running our Year 9 students are privileged to receive sponsorship for this highly regarded qualification from REJUS, a local commercial cleaning and maintenance company to whom we are very grateful for their support.

This day also saw our post 16 students working towards planning their Extended Project Qualification. An EPQ can be worth anywhere up to 28 UCAS points, the equivalent to half an A-Level. Successful completion of an EPQ demonstrates an ability to take on high workloads, it shows initiative and the ability to work independently. Both universities and employers look for these qualities, so we really value providing our students with this opportunity. We can't wait to read the product of their efforts!

The theme for our second ASPIRE day on 7th December is 'Support' so watch this space!

FAB FRIDAY!!

On Friday 16th October, we celebrated the achievements of our students by selecting a winner from the nominations in each year group. Our first prize winners obtained a £10 voucher and £25 for the key stage 3 and 4 winner. Congratulations to all our students that were nominated. Well done!



Year 7.
£10 Amazon Voucher - Ruby Newman
Box of Celebrations - Rhys Gilbert

Year 8.
£10 Amazon Voucher - Theo Pashby
Box of Celebrations - John Brodie

Year 9.
£10 Amazon Voucher - Lauren Carr
Box of Celebrations - Alex Colley.

Year 10.
£10 Amazon Voucher - Jessica Crick
Box of Celebrations - Millie Sayles

Year 11.
£10 Amazon Voucher - Emily Thompson
Box of Celebrations - Frankie Wilson

Year 10 and 11 £25 Amazon Voucher - Kaydee Emberton

Year 7, 8 and 9 overall £25 Amazon Voucher - Ricky Hilton Year 7.

YELLOW DAY

This year has been a tough one for us all and had a huge impact on our mental health. To support world mental health day on Friday 9th October staff and students had the opportunity to wear something yellow. All voluntary contributions were donated to young minds, a charity that supports young people with mental health problems. At Campsmount, we have created a new hearts plus minds curriculum to raise awareness of mental health and develop support strategies that students can adopt during these difficult times.



GREEN FINGERS

McKenzie Lingard and Cody Paton have just started to work on a makeover of the SEND garden. They are doing this during an enrichment lesson one day each week with the support of their LSA, Mrs Kilby.



PAINTBALL

Some of our year 9 boys participated in the Doncaster Rovers schools outreach programme which looks works on improving boys ATL and boys school experiences through experiences and workshops.

