

Coombeshead Academy Newsletter



October 2020

Thank you for all your support so far this term. As always, our students, staff and families have been amazing in their generosity of spirit in accepting the new regulations and following what is expected of them in order to keep our school safe.

There is no denying that the new regulations of the one-way system, face coverings and frequent hand-sanitising is challenging, but we do not feel that this is a distraction from learning. The Senior Team and I have been visiting lessons everyday since the start of term and we are pleased to see such vibrant learning following a wholesale review of our curriculum and assessment cycles over the summer term. Students are enjoying being back at school and learning after such a long break.

We have been pleased to welcome in our new Year 7 cohort as well new students joining us in Year 12. These new cohorts have settled well and are enjoying life at secondary school.

You will be aware that we have launched our Tutor Reading Programme this term. Each morning, during tutor time, our students are reading a range of challenging and inspirational books. Across 4 years we will expect students to read approximately 35 novels including *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Book Thief*.

You will be pleased to see that, after a carefully planned start to term, we have launched the extra-curricular clubs programme provided by our PE department. Please encourage your child to attend these clubs where possible. All the extra



The new Head Boy and Head Girl team

things that a school can offer is what makes a place like Coombeshead so special.

In terms of extra opportunities and the high emphasis we place on developing leaders for the future, I have been delighted to welcome the new Head Boy and Girl team into office. Oliver Taylor (Head Boy), Maisie Wilson (Head Girl), Thomas Taylor (Deputy Head Boy) and Olivia Walker (Deputy Head Girl). This new team have made a tremendous start by contributing to our first online virtual Open Evening as well as starring in our new promotional video.

Please stay safe and stay well.

Mr Coles
Headteacher

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

YEAR 7

STUDENT of the MONTH
OCTOBER 2020

LILLY PARKER



Lilly has made a fantastic start to the year and has displayed a real positive attitude. She often goes above and beyond what is expected of her and always works her hardest. Keep up the great work and positive attitude!

YEAR 8

STUDENT of the MONTH
OCTOBER 2020

HARLEY BOVEY



Harley has made an excellent start to Year 8. He has shown incredibly improved focus in his lessons, and has been an excellent role model for the Coombeshead Way. He should be incredibly proud of himself. Well done Harley.

YEAR 9

STUDENT of the MONTH
OCTOBER 2020

Clara Neagu



Clara is a hardworking and conscientious pupil. She sets the highest standards for herself and always completes her work to the best of her ability. Clara is always eager to help both staff and other pupils whenever possible. She is a role model to her peers, and has begun this year with a positive attitude.

YEAR 10

STUDENT of the MONTH
OCTOBER 2020

JOANNA ROLPH



Joanna is a model student who comes into school with the willingness to learn and embraces the opportunities that school offers her.

YEAR 11

STUDENT of the MONTH
OCTOBER 2020

ZANDY CALLARD



Zandy is a role-model to everyone around him. He is always conscientious and does everything to the best of his ability. He has many talents and interests including writing and astronomy. He shows kindness to others and is a great listener. Well done Zandy!

Contragulations to the
5 students nominated for
Student of the Month
by their tutor

FOCUS ON SAFEGUARDING

Mental Health and wellbeing information for parents/carers

It has been fantastic to welcome Coombeshead Academy students back to school following the lockdown period. We recognise however, that we remain in very strange times and that the ongoing Covid situation can be stressful for young people and their families.

The charity Young Minds is doing great work up and down the country supporting young people and their families with lots of practical support and advice. Please take a look at their website to get tips, advice and guidance on where to get support for your child's mental health during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic
<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

YOUNGMINDS

DRUMMING LESSONS

Matt Butlin will offer drumming lessons to students from November onwards. You can follow the link to see what Matt teaches in each in of his lessons
<https://www.facebook.com/devon-drumtutor>

UNICEF RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

Coombeshead Academy is extremely proud to announce that we are officially recognised as a UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Bronze Award (Right Committed). The Rights Respecting Schools Award puts children's rights at the heart of schools in the UK. Unicef works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. Unicef's Respecting Schools Award embeds these values in daily school life and gives children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

There are three stages to the Rights Respecting Schools Award. Its transformative and rigorous approach means the journey to the highest stage can take up to four years.

We have an incredibly active and driven student-led steering group committee who will now work towards Coombeshead Academy earning their silver award (Rights Aware)!

The journey to silver begins after the October Half Term break so please keep eyes and ears peeled for updates.

If you wish to find out more about the Rights Respecting Schools award, please take a look at the website:

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/>



GOVERNANCE VACANCIES

Do you enjoy working at a strategic level?
 Are you committed to the education and well-being of all young people?
 Could you help us achieve our vision to be an outstanding 11-18 school?

If so, we could offer you the opportunity to join our Governing Body. Volunteering as a governor is a great way to contribute to the local community and use your skills and experience to improve the lives of local children.

What is the commitment involved?
 6 meetings per year, usually in the evening, plus visits to the school during the school day 2 or 3 times per year. There is an expectation that you would also attend training as required.

The role of school governor is a public duty, and you should be entitled to reasonable time off to perform it (this may be unpaid). Check with your employer on your company's policy.

What we offer
 This is a voluntary role. Induction training is available and ongoing training and updates are provided.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Caroline Battong on 01626 201800 or caroline.battong@educationsouthwest.org.uk You will also find further information about the responsibilities of governors and the work of the board at www.coombesheadacademy.org.uk

To apply for this opportunity, please send your CV, together with a brief statement of what you could bring to the role, to Caroline Battong (caroline.battong@educationsouthwest.org.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you.

PE AND SPORTS AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

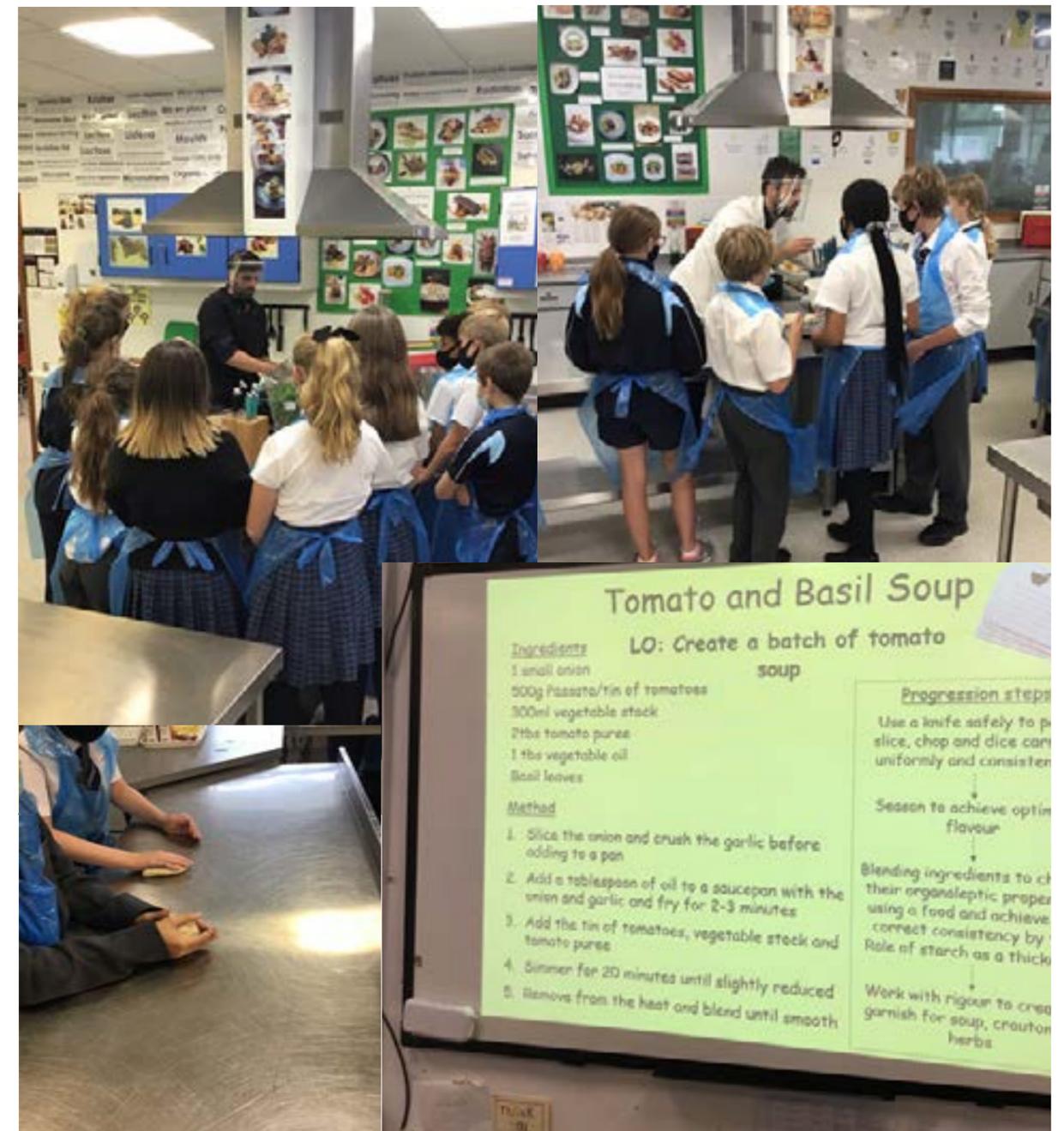
Week A		Week B	
Tuesday	Year 9	Tuesday	Year 11 GCSE
Wednesday	Year 10		
Thursday	Year 8	Thursday	Year 7

Activities will include: volleyball, table tennis and badminton in Sports Hall 1 & 2
 The club will run from 3.15-4.15. These are the days you already have PE, so you don't have to worry about bringing in PE kit. You MUST only arrive on your year groups selected day to ensure you stay within your year group bubble

FIRST ASPIRING HIGH ACADEMY 2020-21

Monday the 28th September found the first Aspiring High Academy Masterclass. The first masterclass was in the food and nutrition department, run by Mr Thomas and Mr Stevenson. 30 Year 7 pupils took part in the class and their task was to create a delicious Tomato and Basil Soup. As you can see by the photos, they achieved this with great success. Both Mr Thomas and Mr Stevenson were amazed with the cooking skills of these pupils! Well done to all!

There are many more amazing masterclasses through-out the year. So, if you're in the aspiring high academy keep an eye out for your invites coming out soon!!



Tomato and Basil Soup

LO: Create a batch of tomato soup

Ingredients
 1 small onion
 500g passata/rin of tomatoes
 300ml vegetable stock
 2tbs tomato puree
 1tbs vegetable oil
 Basil leaves

Method

1. Slice the onion and crush the garlic before adding to a pan
2. Add a tablespoon of oil to a saucepan with the onion and garlic and fry for 2-3 minutes
3. Add the tin of tomatoes, vegetable stock and tomato puree
4. Simmer for 20 minutes until slightly reduced
5. Remove from the heat and blend until smooth

Progression steps

Use a knife safely to slice, chop and dice carefully and consistently

Season to achieve optimum flavour

Blending ingredients to check their organoleptic properties using a food and achieve correct consistency by Role of starch as a thickener

Work with rigor to create garnish for soup, crouton herbs

TUTOR READING PROGRAMME

This year we have introduced a new Tutor Reading Programme for all Year 7 to Year 10 students, where tutors read to students 4 days a week during registration. We believe it is a vital part of our young people's education that they are exposed to a wide range of reading materials. Within the English Literature curriculum we are able to open a small window onto the varied and exciting world of the written word, but students are studying these texts rather than reading for the simple pleasure of opening a book.

For each year group we have selected ten titles from a mix of genres – dystopian stories, adventure, historical fiction, titles celebrating diversity, non-fiction and more. While not every student will love every book, we hope that everyone will find something to enjoy and explore books that they may not normally have read. Some of the titles cover challenging issues, from loss, grief and racial inequality to gender identity and living in different cultures. It may be that some will find the issues raised challenging but, ultimately, we hope everyone will find the experience stimulating and rewarding as well as building their cultural awareness.

It is wonderful to think that all our students have the opportunity to discover an author or a genre they wish to explore further and we sincerely hope that they may embark on a life long journey of reading for pleasure.



KEY DATES



Monday 2 November	First day back after Autumn Half Term (WkB) Year 11 PPE week
Tuesday 10 November	Year 8 pre-options assembly
Thursday 12 November	Sixth Form Opening Evening Year 9 options information
Thursday 19 November	Year 11 PPE results Year 11 Parent evening
7 - 11 December	Year 8 Touring Show
Tuesday 15 December	Careers Day
Friday 18 December	Last day of term
21 December- 1 January	Christmas Holidays
Monday 4 January	First day back after Christmas break (Wk A)
4 - 8 January	Year 9 Option booklets available
Thursday 7 January	Year 9 Options evening
11 - 15 January	Year 13 PPE Week
Thursday 14 January	Year 9 Parent evening
25-29 January	Year 11 Practical Food exams - Wk1
Thursday 28 January	Year 13 PPE Results Event
1 - 5 February	Year 11 Practical Food exams Wk2
Thursday 4 February	Year 8 Parent evening
Monday 8 February	Year 9 options forms due in
Wednesday 10 February	Parent Forum
Friday 12 February	School closed to students - Teacher Training-Day.
15 - 19 February	Spring Half Term