

Bulletin

January – March 2024



Year 13 Student Finance Talk

On Thursday 11 January in PD, students learned about the process of applying for Student Finance. Applications are made to Student Finance independently from College, however we will provide information and guidance to support you with this process. Links which have been shared are also below for your convenience. Please remember that the deadline for applications is Friday 17 May 2024.

Student Finance 2024 Explained:

<https://youtu.be/l-ohAdv5CiY>

How and When to Apply:

[How and when to apply 2024 to 2025 \(youtube.com\)](https://youtu.be/l-ohAdv5CiY)

Start your application:

[Apply online for student finance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Important Reminder:

After the Easter break, Year 12 students will be issued their Gold Cards, which means they are able to leave site at both breaks and free periods.

Gold Cards are issued once students have completed their leadership, have above 90% attendance and have completed / are completing their enrichment

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Sexual Health led by The Terence Higgins Trust

On Thursday 25 January we invited The Terence Higgins Trust in to deliver a session on Sexual Health. As a follow-up, we invited them back on Thursday 1 February where students could seek advice from the Trust and also have access to free contraception and testing kits.

Further information can be found at [Home | Terrence Higgins Trust \(tth.org.uk\)](#)

Apprenticeship Showcase Evening

On Tuesday 6 February, we hosted an Apprenticeship Showcase Evening for students and parents to attend appointments with various employers to find out about their apprenticeship opportunities. A range of employers including Milestone Infrastructure, Saffrey, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, NHS, Perkins and Bakkavor. The Year 13 Business students ran the evening to gain experience in event planning and did a fantastic job. Thank you to Growth Works for working collaboratively with us on this project to provide students with a wealth of valuable information.

Year 12 Revision Workshop led by Positively You

As part of our Personal Development programme, on Thursday 8 February, students attended revision workshops led by an external provider Positively You. We have used this provider for the last few years, and they provide great strategies and resources to support young people with revision. The revision workshop was a huge success and students have been sent details of how to access resources online too to support them with preparation for examinations. Students have also been given the opportunity to put these strategies to use in PD sessions with their tutor.

Further information can be found at [Positively You - A leading provider of student workshops](#)

Year 13 University Study Skills led by University of Exeter

On Thursday 8 February during PD, The University of Exeter led a Study Skills talk to give students an insight. She gave students a lot of information about how university learning works (lectures, seminars etc). She also gave us some great tips for revision and time management, which are really useful in preparation for exams.

UK Youth Parliament Election, Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 February

On Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 February Sixth Form students took part in the 2024 UK Youth Parliament elections and Make Your Mark vote. Students watched clips of the candidates standing for election talking about their manifestos and then voted using our school polling station and ballot box, provided by Peterborough Council, to vote on the issue they felt was the most important to address, and the candidate they wished to represent their voice.

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Year 13 Preparing for University led by University of Leicester

In PD on Thursday 29 February The University of Leicester led a Preparing for University session. The guest talked about how timetables worked and life as a student. As a recent graduate the speaker provided a lot of up-to-date information about life as a student and we are now all going to join the extreme ironing society!

Sushi Making and Tasting by Cucina

As part of Cucina's added value as a contract caterer, where possible as a company they like to get pupils excited and involved with food tasting and the making of food. On Thursday 14 March, we invited some chefs from Cucina into the College to make sushi tasters, and get students involved in making their own sushi. Year 12 and 13 were invited to take part to encourage the use of basic well priced ingredients to make a healthy snack or dinner as they prepare to move out of home / go off to university.

The Year 12 and 13 students loved getting involved and making their own sushi for lunch, they were so busy at first lunch that students were booking their slots to come back for second lunch to have a go!

Mock Examinations

From Thursday 14 – Thursday 28 March Year 12 and 13 have / had their mock examinations. Students are approaching these with the gravitas required and have been showing real determination and resilience. It has also been so lovely to see students having real independence in their approach to their studies after school in the Sixth Form Centre. They should be really proud of themselves. These mocks give us an indication about students' forecasted grades for their qualifications, and where applicable, their suitability to continue with the course.

These results will be shared via a report with you after the Easter break.

Year 13 Yearbooks and Hoodies

Yearbooks

You will have received a letter with the information about how to purchase a Yearbook. Orders for these closed on Thursday 21 March and will be delivered to the College before students leave.

Hoodies

Students will be able to purchase hoodies directly from the company, Total Clothing, and the link will be live for 2 weeks from Tuesday 16 April to Tuesday 30 April. We will send the link from the company as soon as it is available.

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Little Miracles Charity Event

On Friday 22 March we hosted a fundraising event in Sixth Form to raise funds and awareness for Little Miracles. This comprised of a non-uniform event sporting colours of the rainbow and a bake sale (featuring wonderful baked goods made by our students). This was led by a Year 13 student who also developed our British Sign Language Enrichment, Sense charity event last year and has put together a charity programme for younger students too. We thank her very much for her hard work and ideas putting this together to always think about how we can support others as a community.

Further information about the charity can be found at [Little Miracles - HOME](https://littlemiraclescharity.org.uk) (littlemiraclescharity.org.uk).

Easter Rewards Presentation

On Thursday 28 March, during their PD lesson, Year 12 will be in a Rewards Presentation where they will receive Easter eggs and vouchers for being brilliant. Awards include subject awards, tutor awards, Sixth Form leadership team awards and recognition for those with 100% attendance, and 100% attendance and no lates.

Healthy Relationship Sessions led by The Conversation

On Friday 26 April, we will be inviting The Conversation in to lead sessions on Healthy Relationships – firstly a talk, followed by smaller group sessions discussing what makes a healthy relationship and consent.

Further information can be found at [Home | The Conversation Stamford | Healthy Relationships and Identity](#)

Year 12 / 13 Buddies Training led by AMVC

As part of our Sixth Form Curriculum, our Year 13 students are Buddies for the new Year 7 students each year, meeting them weekly to support their transition to secondary school life, be a role model and give new students a familiar face in the College.

After Easter, our Year 12 students will begin their Buddy training in preparation for becoming Buddies to the new Year 7s in September 2024. They will have training led by a counsellor to support them with facilitating their weekly sessions and be equipped with the information and skills they need should they face challenges. They will then practice the techniques used with the current Year 7 students to gain first-hand experience before starting in September.



Key Dates

Year 13 Leaving Arrangements

It's always hard to write this, because it means that we have to accept that our Year 13s are leaving us!

Friday 17 May – lesson 4, 5 and 6 of this day will be a formal leaving presentation for our students and a food truck on the field to allow for students to be together, enjoy something to eat and celebrate their time here.

Friday 24 May – LAST OFFICIAL SCHOOL DAY. Registration, lesson 1, 2 and 3 will be a chance for students to enjoy a breakfast on us, get their Yearbooks and Leavers Hoodies (if they have purchased them) and have some fun in their tutor groups before being allowed to leave early at 11.30am.

Future Festival 2024

On Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 June we are hosting our annual Future Festival. We firmly believe that students do not have barriers to accessing expert advice, which is why we invite people into the College. Over the two-day festival, we welcome a huge amount of universities, apprenticeship providers, employers and gap year providers to provide students with a wealth of information about options for their future.

The event involves timetabled sessions looking at things like Interview Techniques, and Writing a Winning Personal Statement, as well as having the opportunity to explore the fair where students explore themselves.

UCAS Discovery, at University of Bedfordshire

On Monday 17 June, Year 12 students are invited to attend the national UCAS Discovery, Bedford. Information about how students can attend this trip will be sent in due course.

At UCAS Discovery, you can:

- chat to unis and colleges about their courses and uni life
- speak to employers about what an apprenticeship is like and the options available
- listen to talks from experts in their fields
- get dedicated support from UCAS experts about your options

Further information can be found at: [UCAS Discovery Bedford 2024 | Exhibition | UCAS](#)



Key Dates continued

Year 13 Leavers Ball

This year, the Year 13 Masquerade Leavers' Ball will be taking place on Friday 5 July 2024, at The Haycock Hotel, Wansford. Overall, the cost of the ball will be £45.00 per person, and this includes a welcome drink, a meal and all of the evening's entertainment.

The Haycock Hotel will be providing the meal for the evening and menu choices will be sent out for selection once the venue has confirmed these. If students would like to join us, please make payment via ParentPay no later than Thursday 18 April 2024.

Plus ones are invited to attend from 9.00 pm onwards at a cost of £10.00. You may only invite one 'plus one' to the event and submit their name when making payment on ParentPay.

If you have any questions, concerns or queries please contact sixthform@arthurmellows.org and a member of the Sixth Form Team will get back to you as soon as they are able to.

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| Mrs K Clennett | Head of Sixth Form / Assistant Headteacher |
| Miss J Stark | Assistant Head of Sixth Form |
| Mrs K Price | Assistant Head of Sixth Form |
| Ms H Sheen | Assistant Head of Sixth Form |