



Headmaster's Update

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Dear Parents,

It has been another eventful week here at Victoria College. We received some fantastic news regarding our Oxbridge submissions, and our Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) results. This week's newsletter is full of exciting new opportunities for our boys, ranging from extra-curricular courses, competitions and events.

SPECIAL MENTION – OXFORD UNIVERSITY OFFER

We are very proud of all the candidates who applied to Oxbridge this year. They have worked extremely hard and been through a rigorous selection process. On this note, we are delighted to announce that Lysander (Pippin) Mawby from Year 13, has received an offer from Oxford University to study Physics at Edmund Hall College in September. Lysander is currently studying Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry and is completing his Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) on 'Chaos Theory'. Congratulations Lysander.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

Alongside studying for A levels, students can choose to take an extra qualification that is recommended by UCAS as preparation for university – the EPQ. Students choose a topic, carry out research and either write an extended essay or create a unique artefact over the course of Year 12, learning essential research and essay skills. 12 Sixth Form students received their EPQ results this week, with a 100% pass rate and grades between A* and B. As a result of these brilliant grades some boys have received more flexible university offers based on their achievements.

STUDENT BUSINESS CHALLENGE 2020

The Channel Islands Student Business Challenge sees teams of students aged 11 to 16 start up and run their own businesses with an initial investment of £100.

Yesterday, our Student Business Challenge teams joined all the other secondary schools across the island for a business workshop at the Royal Yacht. The event was run by the Student Business Challenge and supported by CPA Global, Barclays and EY (formerly Ernst and Young). The corporate sponsors offered advice on sales & marketing, profit & loss accounts and the importance of team work. Our teams were assisted by 4 mentors from

CPA Global who helped the boys write action plans and carry our market research. The Challenge starts on Monday and we wish all our teams the best of luck.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION GCSE

If you have a son in Year 9 who is interested in the Ancient Greek or Roman world, then this may be of interest to you. We are hoping to launch a GCSE in Classical Civilisation as an extra-curricular and enrichment offering.

The course will start in the Summer term 2020 and will run for a year, with students sitting the examination in May/June 2021. Lessons will be held after school for two hours on a Wednesday and boys will explore the wonders of the ancient world- its history, literature and mythology. Students do not need to know Latin. Naturally, as they will be doing the GCSE course early and in one year, they will need to be able to keep up academically with the demands of this course. However, for those who can, this is an exciting new opportunity.

If your son is interested, please get in touch with Mrs Plummer (p.plummer@vcj.sch.ie) to register your interest.

FRENCH POP VIDEO COMPETITION 2020

Following the success of the 2019 French edition, the Institut Français du Royaume-Uni (with the support of Francophonie UK) has officially launched the French Pop Video Competition 2020, a video song contest for all primary and secondary school students in the national curriculum schools of England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, and the Channel Islands.

The deadline for submitted videos is before 3 April 2020. In May, local juries in 9 geographical areas (including 5 in England) will award qualified laureates with £100 worth of book tokens per winning regional entry. Regional winners will automatically enter the National final, and the UK grand winners, who will be announced in early June 2020, will win tablets and be invited to attend the Francophonie UK School Music Awards as part of a special guest concert on Friday 28 June 2020.

For more details please see <http://bit.ly/FRENCHPOPVIDEOCOMPETITION2020>

Following recommendations from our past students of French, we would like to inform you that French language and culture courses in the north of France are a wonderful opportunity and experience as well as value for money. There are still places for 2020 at Centre Le Page. For more information, please contact Ms Perestrelo or contact the centre direct <http://www.centrelepage@gmail.com>

3 COURSE DINNER AT HIGHLANDS

As part of our Food and Nutrition Course at Key Stages 3 and 4, a group of 8 students from Years 8, 9 and 11 would like to invite you to a 3 course dinner that they will prepare and serve at Highlands College. The event takes place on Thursday 30 January, with the first course being served at 7pm. The boys will be led by Chef/Lecturer Dom Farrell and Mr Gorman, and have been working hard over the last few months to put the menu together. Two of the dishes featuring on the menu were winning dishes in last year's House Food competition. The event will finish at 8pm.

Tickets for the meal will be available from Highlands College, priced at £30.00 per person. These can be purchased by contacting Mihaela Lazarescu on 01534 608560, or emailing academy@highlands.ac.uk.

Sample menu:

Bass

Pan roasted fillet of sea bass, roasted tomato and red pepper pesto, Mediterranean freekeh salad

Lamb

Cannon of lamb, onion puree, caramelised shallot, honey roasted carrots, fondant potato, red wine and juniper jus

Chocolate

Chocolate and hazelnut fondant, Baileys cheesecake ice cream, bitter chocolate crumble, fresh raspberries

Filter coffee and tea

MUSIC

“Stars of the Week” – covering weeks 13 and 14 are; Thomas Renouf, Daniel Kirkby and Gregory Hill.

And commendations for the following boys for their work this week go to; Adam Nash, Sean Neal, Cameron Duff, Ben Heelis, Cillian Mangan and Oliver Kowanacki.

CCF - Navy Visit to the RNLI

Last Friday, the RNLI very kindly hosted the Royal Navy Section at their St Helier Station. The cadets were given a tour of their museum, got hands on with some of the kit and had a chance to look around the All Weather Lifeboat and learn about what the volunteers do. A great session and thank you to the RNLI team.

CCF - L98 Training

On Saturday and Sunday, Lt Bish and RSM Fidrmuc delivered our two annual L98 Training Days. The course was attended by 45 of our newest recruits over the two days and they were taught everything they needed to know to be able to safely and effectively operate the L98 Cadet GP Rifle. The Instructors were supported by some of the cadet NCO's and the days went very well with the cadets showing a great attitude and approach to the training.

SIMS PARENT APP

Thank you to all 588 parents who have signed up to receive information about your son from the SIMS parent app.

We have made a couple of changes to the information you receive in the hope we lower the amount of email traffic into your email inbox. For queries relating directly to parent app, please contact Sue Watkins: s.watkins@vcj.sch.ie

YEAR 12 ENRICHMENT LECTURES – CALL FOR PARENT SPEAKERS

On Wednesdays from 12-1pm every week, we are running enrichment lectures for our Yr12 students to enlighten them about a range of different topics. So far this year we have had talks on: Endurance Events, Nutrition, Mental Health, Birds of Prey, Conservation and Hustings. We have some exciting topics lined up for the rest of the year, but also have a few spaces available. If you have a hobby, topic or life experience that you feel would be interesting for our Yr12 students to learn about, please contact our Head of Sixth Form, Mr Alan Falle (a.falle@vcj.sch.je).

CAREERS – CALL FOR PARENT SPEAKERS, ‘LOVE MY JOB’

Do you love your job? During National Careers Week (2-6 March 2020), we would like parents to come and talk during our Yr7-9 assemblies about what they enjoy about their job. Please email Head of Careers, Suzanne Job, if you'd like to take the stage and inspire the next generation: s.job@vcj.sch.je

Kind regards,
Alun Watkins
Headmaster