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May Newsletter

The examinations for Years 11 and Year 13 have now formally begun and will continue for most of June. Parents, please remember we do not operate study leave for students; all students are to attend up until their last examination. Whilst students will not have their usual lessons once the examination has taken place, we will provide an alternative timetable to focus on additional revision for those subjects where the exam has yet to have been taken. Full details are available on our website.

I am delighted to say that so far we have had fantastic attendance at all examinations; students have been on time with large numbers attending the 7.30 am revision sessions, which have been great for settling last minute nerves. Again, we will hold revision classes during the Whitsun break - **please ensure that your child attends**. I know that those students who attended these classes have benefited a great deal from the additional support. The first week back after half term will be very intense, with further examinations in English, Maths and Science as well as many other subjects, at AS and A2, as well as GCSE.

At the end of this very busy period, we will say a formal goodbye to the class of 2017 when we hold our annual Prom at the Crown & Mitre

Hotel on Friday 23rd June. This is a fantastic opportunity for the students to celebrate the end of their examinations and their time together as a year group. I have been delighted with our current Years 11 and 13 who have approached their final terms with so much determination to succeed; they have tried their very best - they really do deserve to do well.

After half term, our focus shifts to Years 10 and 12, as they start the final 12 months before their own examinations. Likewise, for all students there will be end of year examinations. These formal occasions are becoming more and more important as changes to examinations, such as the further removal of coursework, takes place. Learning how to deal with examination conditions is a key skill to doing your best. We will, of course, want next half term to provide other opportunities for students to demonstrate their many skills and talents. Week commencing 17th July is activities week for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Also next half term, we will begin welcoming our new Year 7 students. We all know how significant this event is, saying goodbye to your primary school, old friends and teachers that you have known for a

long time - but it is also a time for new beginnings and new opportunities. The main aim of our transition programme is to ensure that all our students feel familiar with the changes that are ahead of them and confident that they will get the support they need. I am sure our current Year 7 students will remember vividly how they were feeling this time last year and how quickly they settled into life at Central.

We will also be hosting a Year 4/5 Open Evening on Thursday 22nd June, feel free to come along and ask any questions in relation to the coming term and year.

The Year 9 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday 15th June. During the evening we will be running workshops, "demystifying maths, an introduction to Hegarty maths" to help you support your children with their maths.

Other News:

KS4 Students have recently been working with Young Cumbria to launch the Cumbria Youth Commission. Representatives from Young Cumbria visited the Academy to speak with students to raise awareness of the Cumbria Youth Commission and to get students to

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think about the police and how they can make a change to help resolve issues in the community. Mrs Slater, KS4 Director said, *“we are delighted to be able to work with the Police and Crime Commissioner on this important project. Young people understand the issues they face in the community, and this is a great opportunity for them to make a change for the better”*.

Duke of Edinburgh - Well done to **Ruben Burt, Finn Gomes, Louis Sproat, Oliver Toomey** and **Oliwia Zagrodna** for completing their Bronze Expedition which was held in Longsleddale Valley in the Lake District. The group had great weather and enjoyed the spectacular surroundings of the Eastern Lake District. Thank you to Mrs Sabuda, Mr Holden and Mr Johnson for giving up their weekend to help the group and accompany Mr Carlin.



Congratulations also, to **George Skelton** who has completed and received his Bronze Award.



Y10 Work Experience - The Y10 work experience took place last week with the students organizing their own placements in businesses in Carlisle and the surrounding area. Students took placements in local primary schools, garages, veterinary surgeries, solicitors, care homes, shops and other local businesses. The students enjoyed visits from the Mr Gilby, particularly those in local schools – and from Mr Barratt and Mrs Watson. All the students enjoyed their experiences and on their return they have completed activities in their form time to reflect on last week. They have focused on the core United Learning values and linked these to their experience and in particular they have been able to reflect on their next moves. They have been identifying the positives and negatives of their experience and

relating this to their future aspirations be this A Levels, Apprenticeships, courses or further down the line University courses.

Year 9 – Central Academy recently hosted the theatre production *Chelsea’s Choice* for Year 9 students.

Chelsea’s Choice is an innovative and powerful 40 minute production that has proven highly successful in raising awareness amongst young people of the issues surrounding Child Sexual Exploitation. A plenary session followed which explored the issues raised in the play.

Donna Knox, KS3 Pastoral Manager/Child Protection Officer said, *“Parents were informed in advance about the workshop as we knew it would be ‘hard-hitting’ and students may have questions after. The production is supported by Cumbria Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Police and Crime Commissioner, who have made sure the appropriate care is in place should any of the students wish to discuss the issues in the play afterwards. Students will definitely learn from the experience. The event has raised awareness about current issues that could potentially affect any of our students.”*

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Health & Social Care - The Year 10 Health and Social Care students have just spent an excellent health taster day at the University of Cumbria.

The purpose of the visit was to raise students' awareness about the wide variety of health-related careers. The students were able to participate in interactive sessions connected to different areas related to the health sector.

The areas students could select from were; Radiography, Nursing, Midwifery, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Working with Children & Families. Each student attended three sessions.

The workshop sessions gave students a hands on experience that will aid their decisions around progressing into a career within the health sector. They also learnt about the skills and qualifications required in specific areas they have attended.

The taster sessions were all very informative and at a level pitched specifically for Year 10 students.

On evaluation each student felt that their day had been very informative, they had learnt about pathways required for specific health related careers, skills necessary for the sector and a few students discussed looking for volunteer opportunities

that would help them secure a job within their chosen area.



Sixth Form:

Exams - These are now well under way and we would like to thank all our students for their mature approach to the exams. To date no students have either missed or been late to any of their exams. We would also like to wish all our students the best of luck.

University of Newcastle and Northumbria Trip – On Friday 30th June Year 12 students will have the opportunity to attend an open day held in Newcastle. This has proved extremely popular in the past and all Year 12 students are encouraged to attend. For those that do not attend this event they will be required to attend the UCAS Event at The Sands Centre.

UCAS Event at The Sands Centre - On Friday 30th June there will be a university event at The Sands

Centre. This is hosted by Inspira and all Year 12 students are invited to attend. More details about the event can be found here:

<http://tinyurl.com/ma578ud>

Students wishing to attend need to book directly at the following address: <http://tinyurl.com/n5cnfmr>

Pathways Event – We will be holding a Pathways event which is predominantly aimed at Year 12 students on **Friday 7th July**, however selected Year 13 students will also be invited. During this event students will have the opportunity to be interviewed by a range of local employers and will be introduced to the university process, CV and personal statement writing along with a range of other activities.

Step up to Sixth Form – Year 11 into Year 12 students - On Wednesday 19th July we will be holding a Step Up To Sixth Form event for all Year 11 students who are intending progressing to Year 12 in the summer. During this event students will be introduced to Sixth Form life, undertake formal introduction lessons in the subjects of their choice and also receive work to do over the summer from their courses. This is a vital part of the transition process and we expect all potential students to attend. However, we are

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aware that some may not be able to do this and we would request that any student unable to attend lets a member of the Sixth Form team know as soon as possible

I hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter and I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

With best wishes

Mr Gilby
Principal

Calendar:

- **Mon 5th – Fri 16th June**
UL Exams - Y7, 8 & 9
- **Thurs 15th June**
Year 9 Parents' Evening
- **Mon 19th – Fri 23rd June**
Assessment Week 6
- **Fri 23rd June**
Y11 Prom
- **Mon 26th – Fri 30th June**
Y10 Mocks
- **Fri 30th June**
Y12 Open Day at University of Newcastle / Y12 UCAS Event / Y13 Prom
- **Thurs 6th July**
Parent Forum Meeting
- **Fri 7th July**
Y12 Pathways Event
- **Thurs 13th July**
Y10 Parents' Evening
- **wc Mon 17th July**
Activities Week
- **Wed 19th July**
Step Up to Sixth Form

Summer Term 2017

- **Half Term – Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June**
- **Summer Term ends: Thurs 20th July**

Start of Autumn Term

- **Tues 5th Sept**

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