

Sixth Form Newsletter

September 2023



**THE CASTLE ROCK
SCHOOL**
Lionheart Educational Trust

Gatherings	Topic
WB 30 th August 2023	Welcome back – Mr Grainge and Mrs Parker
WB 4 th September 2023	Organisation is the key to success – Ms Dhameja
WB 11 th September 2023	The importance of physical activity and our mental health – Mr Black
WB 18 th September 2023	Building a skill set for life – what are our strengths? - Miss Davies
WB 25 th September 2023	Revision skill tip 1 (Flashcards) – Mrs Clayfield

Personal Development	Topic
WB 4 th September 2023	Study Skills – What is metacognition and how can it support our learning?
WB 11 th September 2023	Study Skills – VESPA mindset – Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice and Attitude
WB 18 th September 2023	British Values – What does it mean to be British?
WB 25 th September 2023	British Values – Democracy and the rule of law

A warm welcome back

Welcoming our new Year 12's into our Sixth Form community has become even more exciting as we have moved into our new £250,000 Sixth Form Centre. Students have settled in well, utilising the ICT suite, the common room and silent study area. It is vital for student attainment and progress that they spend at least 50 minutes each day in silent study. Here they are able to focus on the retrieval of information, practice the skills required for their subjects and practice examination papers. By having three distinct areas, we aim to encourage self-regulation in our students. Students should take responsibility for their learning and move themselves between periods of silent study and collaborative practice throughout each day. Students need to rehearse examination conditions and retrieving information and learning in optimal conditions. Please can you encourage your child to utilise this space during the day – engaging your child in conversation about what they studied each day and where they completed this allows for reflection time and for them to develop their self-regulation skills. It is becoming a concern regarding how long students are spending working in more social conditions.



Sixth Form weekly rundown

Each Friday, students are emailed with a weekly rundown of messages and notices for the week ahead. Through this, our students are also sent opportunities to engage with and careers links for further research and reading. Our new full time Careers Advisor is available to book through our Sixth Form Tutors and some students have begun to make use of this system. Some of the opportunities we have sent this month are:

- Totum – free student membership card with their TCRS Student ID card.
- Realising Opportunities – a widening participation scheme that can lower entry requirements for many Russell Group Universities for students from areas of low Higher Education progression.
- £3 course to learn British Sign Language online
- Virtual work experience with Medic Mentor
- Recreational sport sessions – Wednesday Period 2
- Responses to student voice regarding storing folders throughout the day
- Activities to support with – Year 7 Open Evening and Sixth Form Open Evening

Key events coming up:

Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 28th September

UCAS early entry deadline – Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Oxbridge and Russell Group applications – Monday 16th October

Higher Education Event – Wednesday 25th October (letter to follow)

Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Event – Wednesday 15th November (letter to follow)

Helpful links – Student Finance 2023-2024 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xd4aDyNe3P8>