



Countesthorpe Leysland
Community College

Magazine

GETTING INVOLVED

How are you contributing to
College Life?

Trip to Parliament

Seeing our local MP in action

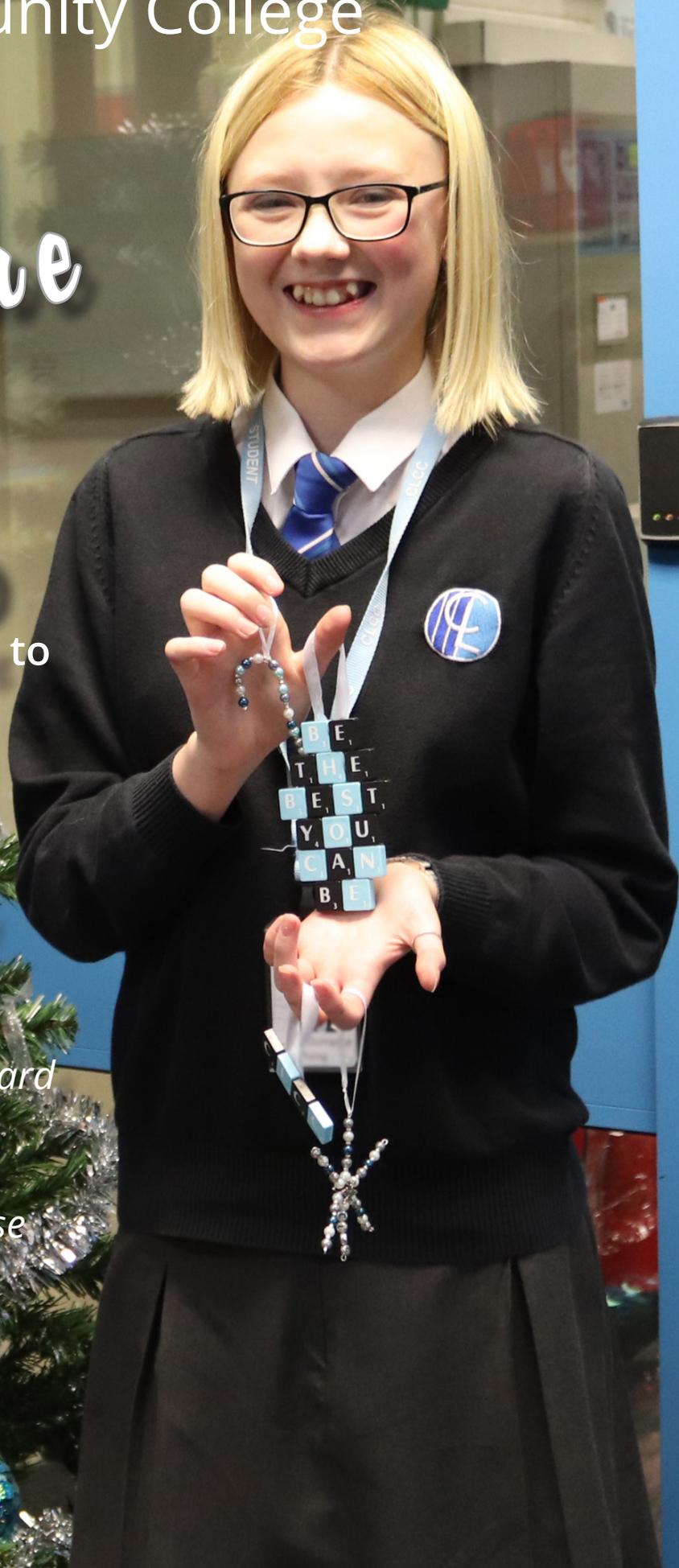
Junior Proms

Students make themselves heard

Meet the house

Learn about Wilberforce House

Plus Much More!



Our students make a
Positive contribution
every day!



WELCOME

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As we approach the end of a very busy term, we have lots to celebrate! The successes of our students and the fantastic contribution they have made to the college in many different ways truly is something to be proud of.

This half term our students have participated in lots of exciting and enriching events and this edition of our College Magazine gives you a flavour of just some of those. The recent trip to Parliament during such an eventful period in politics is just one of the many brilliant experiences our students will share with you here.

"Students make a huge contribution to College life"

Our Charity Day which involved every student in the college was a real success and we raised more money than ever before totalling £3,276.08! This event really was a coming together of all our students across all ages showing then have a mind to be kind.

We have got so many fantastic students whose commitment and contribution to the college is outstanding. Some are recognised here and many more will be recognised through our rewards events during the last week of term.

Thank you all for your support this half term. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Christmas break.

C. Aitcheson

Mrs C. Aitcheson
Principal



countesthorpeleysland



countesleys



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Maths Challenge Days

During November, 16 of our brightest A-Level mathematicians sat the UK Maths Trust Senior Individual Challenge – a 90 minute test of their problem solving abilities in competition with other students throughout the UK.

They scored extremely well, with particular achievements by Ella Hollingshead and Will Flynn in year 13, and Ed Poyser, Annabel Dale and Lewis Moore in year 12 – all of whom achieved scores in the top 30% of the country and were awarded Silver Certificates.

Top scorer in year 12 was Ed Poyser, who was also highest in the school overall, and in year 13 top scorer was Ella Hollingshead.

Further to this, we took a team of four to Loughborough College to compete head to head against other colleges in the regional Senior Team Challenge, with opposition including several private and independent colleges. Ben Turner, Lewis Moore, Harry Kemp and Ed Poyser competed extremely well, coming in at 11th place out of 21 schools.

Well done everyone who participated. Next up will be the Intermediate Challenges for students in years 9 – 11 early in the new year, followed by the Junior Challenge for years 7 and 8. Lots of chances for talented mathematicians to show off their ability!

Mrs Z. Cooke
Maths Challenge Co-ordinator

7 FOR 7



A group of Year 7 more able readers have been selected by the English department to take part in this year's "7 for 7" Book Challenge. It is the first time Countesthorpe Leysland Community College has participated in this scheme

The books the students read as part of this challenge have been selected by librarians at Creative Learning Services, County Hall, Leicester for their literary merit, challenging content and appeal to Year 7 students.

In February we will be meeting one of the authors Dave Shelton author of Thirteen Chairs. The group meet every month and are really enjoying the stories, the challenge the books bring, and the opportunity to read a number of exciting titles.

To further boost the appeal of reading in the library, we are please to announce that we recently took delivery of some funky new chairs!

The purple and orange tub chairs have been purchased from funding we received from Waitrose Community Matters and The Florence Turner Charitable Trust.

Thank you for everyone who voted for us at Waitrose in Blaby and also to Mrs S. Bown for obtaining funding from The Florence Turner Charitable Trust.

MEET THE HOUSE



Wilberforce House is named after William Wilberforce.

William Wilberforce is best known for being the politician who instigated the abolition of slavery and this is why we chose him as our British Hero.

However, Wilberforce did so much more and by investigating his life's work we were able to develop three core values which we aim to foster and cultivate in Wilberforce students.

Our core values are:

Tolerance

Wilberforce lobbied Parliament for 18 years to end slavery. He also campaigned to improve working conditions in factories, better education for young children and was also influential in setting up the RSPCA. Wilberforce students are encouraged to be tolerant of others.

Ambition

William Wilberforce was an ambitious young man and was an MP by the time he was 21. Wilberforce students are expected to be ambitious and work hard to achieve their goals.

Resilience

William Wilberforce was very resilient, he fought for the abolition of slavery for 18 years despite a life-long battle against ill-health.

Wilberforce students are strong characters who accept the challenges of life brings and strive to overcome them.

“You may choose to look the other way, but you can never say again that you did not know”

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS



Students from all years helped to serve and entertain our community guests

I had the pleasure of having 9 of our students join me from the Leadership Team and Student Council to help at the Christmas lunch last Tuesday where we had over 50 members of our local community come along and enjoy a traditional lunch that was followed by Carol Singing with mince pies, a hot drink and a raffle.

At lunchtime I had a fabulous group of students from the College choir who came and led the Carol Singing with Jean on the piano creating a wonderful Christmassy feeling and they were very patient as we had overrun slightly with the timings and stayed during most of their lunchtime, thank you to Tracy and Beth for co-ordinating this.

A particular thank you to Kerry and her team in the kitchen who provided lunch for everyone and were then cleared and ready in time for the College lunchtime, everyone said how delicious the food was.

Thank you to everyone that helped me on the day or donated a raffle prize and in particular Jenny, Linda and Stephen and Sarah for co-ordinating the raffle, I appreciate your support.

Countesthorpe Senior Luncheon Club meets every Wednesday at 12.00 midday at the Methodist Church Hall in Countesthorpe - if you have an elderly neighbour, friend or relative that would be interested in going along to meet people and enjoy a cooked meal then please let me know and I can put them in touch.

Mrs S. Bown
Extended Service Coordinator

YOUTH POLICING SUMMIT

On 6th November, seven students from Countesthorpe Leysland Community College took part in the first ever Youth Policing Summit for Leicestershire. The summit was a chance for over 100 young people from across Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland to voice their ideas surrounding the crime-related issues which affect them most, as well as to ask questions to leading figures in Leicestershire police including Lord Willy Bach (the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire), and Simon Cole (the Chief Constable for Leicestershire).

The day began with an introduction from the key people about the importance of using your voice to improve the safety of young people around Leicestershire. This moved on to a question and answer session with free reign over subject matter, leading to discussions on knife crime and the effect of the Kayleigh's Love Story video, as well as providing a deeper insight into the lives of a police officer with Chief Constable Simon Cole recounting how he worked his way up to becoming Chief and the top tips for anyone who wants to get a job in the police force.

There was also the chance to take part in workshops on Child Sexual Exploitation, Cybercrime, Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Health, Hate Crime, Knife Crime and Theft which are some of the most prevalent crimes that affect/ are committed by young people. Some groups also had the chance to receive first aid training from paramedics, and those that were aged 16 and above took part in a discussion on knife crime and safety around the local area. More information was also given about Police Apprenticeships available for over 16s and 18s and the Youth Commission available to apply for over 14s... so if you have an interest in policing, this is perhaps something to look into on the Leicestershire Police website or the Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner site.

Overall, it was a successful summit for both the participants, whose interest in crime and the local area was no doubt fuelled, and also the Leicestershire police, as they gained feedback which could possibly help improve their policing.

Georgia Capewell

Crime - Busters

VISIT TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

In early December, a group of 30 students who were keen to find out first-hand about our parliamentary system, had the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament as part of our Citizenship Programme.

Students from all year groups took part in this fabulous experience including our Head Boy (Harry Newbury) who has a particular interest in the workings of our political system. Upon arrival, the first thing students experienced were the strict security measures. A necessary part of the visit but quite an ordeal too! With all that complete, students got to enjoy a very informative tour of the Palaces of Westminster and learned a lot about what happens at the centre of political decision making in the UK.

We were fortunate to visit on a Wednesday, which is the day when Prime Minister Questions takes place. Our Head Boy and Head Girl received an invitation to sit in the gallery to observe the debate in which Teresa May defended her Brexit deal. They thoroughly enjoyed seeing this live and is an experience they will never forget. During a break in proceedings, students got to see Liberal Democrat leader Vince Cable and Labour Brexit spokesman Kier Starmer being interviewed by journalists. Indeed, the group made a brief appearance on BBC News later that day, with Year Head Mrs McDonald-Brown being clearly visible!

The tour of the House of Lords included a brief opportunity to watch proceedings from the public gallery. Students were in awe of the internal architecture of the building, including lots of gold-plated moulding and numerous statues – especially one with a broken boot from when a suffragette chained herself to it 100 years ago.

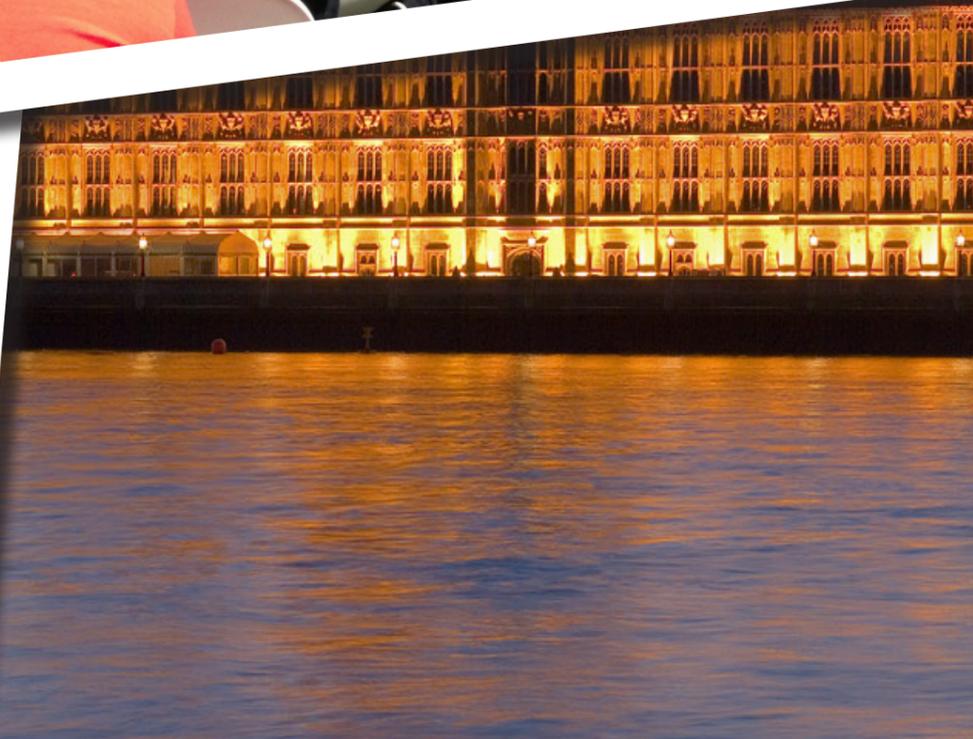
Following the tour, students enjoyed a workshop on 'voting and representation', in which they took part in a mock election and were visited by South Leicestershire MP Alberto Costa - who answered a range of questions asked by CLCC students. Marley in year 8 said that "meeting our local MP was [his] favourite part of the day, as [students] got to ask him many questions about how our government works and what's happening with Brexit".

To end the day, the group took a stroll along the river Thames to view Parliament from the outside, and were impressed to see 'the gherkin' and other major London landmarks. On this, Marley remarked that "being allowed to visit and see the area where the London Eye stands was great and made us feel responsible and trustworthy".

The day proved to be a huge success, and students were perfect ambassadors for the college.

Many thanks to parliamentary researcher Will Bateman, who is Alberto Costa's assistant and a former student of Countesthorpe College for helping to organise the event. It was a great day for all!

Mr D. Rushin
Head of Sociology





Junior Proms

“Being selected to represent not just our school, but the County as a whole, is a great honour, and having three students selected for this prestigious event is quite sensational.”

Back in November we had a number of talented music students who took part in the celebration concert “Junior Proms” held at the Royal Albert Hall. Ben Turner, Charlotte Brown and Freddie Pye. They represented the Leicestershire music service (the music service teach in schools around Leicestershire including our school).

It is a privilege to get the opportunity to play at the Royal Albert Hall and a memory they will hold for the rest of their lives and a real statement of the hours of hard work they have put in to learning their instrument and the weekend rehearsals playing within orchestras.

Ben Turner, played the trumpet at the Albert Hall for the Music for Youth Proms organised by LSMS – Leicestershire Schools Music Service said: ‘Ben says, ‘it was an extraordinary experience playing in such famous venue. We played a piece called ‘legend of the Sky’ which was written for the music service with a view for being in that event to celebrate the 70th anniversary.’

THE A -TEAM

We just want to say a **huge well done** to all the students who have achieved an A for effort this term.

Subject staff award an A for effort to those students who they consider to be ‘outstanding’. Students will often contribute to lessons or participate in ways that develop their own learning and often the learning of those around them. Those who show initiative and are committed to doing tasks set to the best of their ability.

So an A is a big achievement.

Well done if you got one, and if you didn’t set yourself the challenge of an A for next time!



Mind to be Kind

At Countesthorpe Leysland Community College our students have a mind to be kind. From simple gestures such as helping a friend or holding the door for a stranger, to larger, sometimes international, charity projects.

During the last term our students have helped raise money for two charities, VA32 in South Africa and LOROS in Leicestershire.

Over the last 10 years we have supported VA32 in South Africa raising money to pay for essential services that help children and parents. From the Big Green Machine, a mobile ICT Suite that brings the internet to outreach communities, to a nursery that helps working parents, to a new 'Soup Kitchen' that helps provide meals to people in the local community.

This year during Charity Week our students raised a massive £3,276.08 for VA32 - our best ever total, and easily beating our previous best of £2340. Well done to everyone single student who helped to raise this money - it will really make a difference to the lives of so many.

More recently our students took part in a 'Christmas Jumper Day' during which staff and students were invited to wear a Christmas Jumper and make a donation of £1 for LOROS. We are pleased to announce that we've raised a huge £422 for this worthy local charity.

Top Merit Achievers

Do the right thing, in the right place at the right time. It is a simple enough idea, and it is what we expect. We made a decision that students who do this every day deserve to be recognised. Teachers award merits based on punctuality, attendance and completing quality work. Additional merits can be given at the teacher's discretion for outstanding work or effort, or showing kindness, consideration, empathy and initiative.

Students are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates for earning merits, but we thought a special "shout out" to the top merit earners in each House was in order!



BRUNEL
Miles 7AMH
256 Merit Points
2nd Autumn half term 2018



HAWKINS
Harry 7ORI
202 Merit Points
2nd Autumn half term 2018



LAWRENCE
Miriam 7SDO
198 Merit Points
2nd Autumn half term 2018



SPENCER
Bekki 7NPA
204 Merit Points
2nd Autumn half term 2018



TURING
Violet 8CFR
269 Merit Points
2nd Autumn half term 2018



WILBERFORCE
Leilah 7MDA
212 Merit Points
2nd Autumn half term 2018



Lion's Lair



Back in November we had our Careers Day, during which all students were off timetable for a day of enterprise, careers advice, and inspiration.

Each year group had a different focus, but all around the theme of future careers.

Year 12 Students had a day at De Montfort University to learn more about Higher Education and take part in a number of activities.

Year 13 Students took part in "The Lion's Lair" - an enterprise project in which teams of Year 13 students had to come up with a business idea, complete with business plan, costings and marketing plans. Finally they had to present to our panel of Lions; a group of business specialists from a local marketing firm, to an ex-Lloyds Banker, and even a business leader from Lacoste!

Year 7 were supported by the LEBC in an activity called "I Love ME". In this activity students were challenged to recognise and appreciate their own personal qualities and skills whilst highlighting areas they wished to improve.

Year 8 students worked in teams to run their own 'Duck Production' business. They had to manage a startup budget to setup their business and produce origami paper ducks to sell. This included giving a presentation at the end!

Year 9 students had a number of inspirational speakers who came in to talk to them about a range of careers and jobs. From Dental Nurses to Engineers to Army Officers, there was a wide range of speakers who shared their own experiences with our students.

Our Year 10 Students visited "WorldSkills UK: Live" where they learn about careers, apprenticeships and further educational opportunities.

Our Year 11 students worked on their UCAS Progress applications for their future careers or further education.

All of our students and staff had a fantastic day and it's really inspired us all to 'Be the Best we can Be'.



On the 16th November, the Sixth Form had the amazing opportunity to win a pair of designer shoes if we competed in teams, against each other, to design an app.

We each had to split into teams, and had around three hours to design an app that we would then present to a team of 'lions' (business owners and experts).

In our team, I had the idea to create an app that broke the stereotype of social media being negative and destructive. I thought of an app that would match students with other students from around the world. The app would translate messages into the other member's language to encourage students to increase their communication skills, as well as their language skills. By doing this they would have made a pen pal!

After almost losing our presentation and having to improvise, my team won! We were all happy to receive the positive feedback from the Lions! Events like this help to relieve some of the stress felt by students at this point in our academic path and I believe team building exercises are a great way of increasing confidence

Lily Horeckj
13SNA

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