



NEWSLETTER

JULY - AUGUST 2025



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

Hello again and welcome to the final newsletter of the academic year. I know that you will find the following pages full of some of the amazing things our students have achieved in the last 12 months. From trips to the Houses of Parliament, to local places of worship, a residential to the Youth Games in Loughborough for our sport's leaders, our schedule has been absolutely packed this year. It has been truly humbling to watch our teachers go above and beyond to provide so many opportunities and even better to see how much our students have got from being a part of them. Our focus on Character and developing the whole child remains a key part of what we are about and it is wonderful to see how every student has matured and developed this year.

As much as it is wonderful to see our students develop year after year, all good things must come to an end and we have recently said farewell to our Year 13 students and a number of Year 11 students who will move onto pastures new. Both groups were well prepared and performed brilliantly in their exams, so I have no doubt we will have another incredible set of results in August. While excellent results are important, the experiences and memories along the way are just as key and so it was wonderful to see that the Year 11 Prom and Year 13 Leavers' evening so well attended. For those of you who will be reading a TCOLC newsletter for the last time, I want to thank you for your years of support and wish you and your families all the best for the future.

In August the cycle will begin again of course and we welcomed our new Year 7 and Year 12 cohorts to their transition days recently too. Early signs are that they will be just as much a credit to The City of Leicester College as their older peers have been and I cannot wait to get started again on Tuesday 26th August. In the meantime I hope you have a lovely and restful summer and thanks for everything you have given to our community this year.

Kind regards,
Mr Vernon



TCOLC CALENDAR (AUGUST - DECMEBER)

14 August	A-level Results Day
21 August	GCSE Results Day
26 August	School Opens
11 September	Y6 Open Evening
18 September	TCOLC Awards Evening
25 September	Navratri Celebration
7-10 October	School Production - Matilda the Musical
16 October	Y7 Parents' Evening
17 October	Y7 Black History Day
17 October	School Closes for Half-Term
27 October	School Opens
27 October	TCOLC Numeracy Week 1
30 October	Y11 Parents' Evening
10-14 November	Inter Faith Week
13 November	Post 16 Open Evening
21 - 24 November	School Closed
1-5 December	TCOLC Careers Week 1
4 December	Y12 Parents' Evening
19 December	School Closes for Christmas Break



PLANNED TRIPS (2025-26)

The last school year has seen TCOLC students take part in nearly 100 educational trips. These are highly beneficial to students as they provide valuable learning experiences beyond the classroom. These opportunities help students connect theoretical knowledge with real-world applications, making subjects more engaging and memorable. Trips promote personal development by encouraging independence, teamwork, and communication skills. They also expose students to new environments and cultures, broadening their perspectives and helping their character development.

Here are a handful already being planned for next year:

STEM Careers Conference - Lincoln, Y11 Geography Urban Fieldwork - Leicester, Y11 Ethiad Stadium - Manchester, Y7 & Y8 Pantomime, Y7 House of Parliament - London, Y7/8/9 Big Bang Science Festival, Y10 Geography Coastal Fieldwork - Hunstanton, Y9 and Y12 Duke of Edinburgh Award.

We are also investigating a MFL Paris residential trip for Y10 and Y8. More information will follow in the new school year.

FRIENDS OF TCOLC (PTFA)



Thanks from Friends of TCOLC

As our first year as a PTFA comes to a close, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents, carers, staff, and supporters who've helped make it such a success. Through your generosity and involvement, we've raised a good amount of money and hosted a range of valuable sessions for parents.

Whether you joined an event, volunteered your time, donated some money or simply cheered us on, your support has made a genuine difference.

We're excited to continue this momentum into next year - starting with our first Parental Evening Session on 3rd September. It promises to be engaging and informative, and we'd love to see many of you there.

If you'd like to get involved with Friends of TCOLC, have ideas to share, or just want to learn more, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we're building a stronger school community.

Thank you again for being such an important part of our journey!

Warm regards,
Friends of TCOLC

**Thank
you**

Students can access a huge range of books on our digital library free of charge. Go to <https://tcolclibrary.eplatform.co> or download the eplatform app, search for The City of Leicester College on 'Find Your Library', and then sign in with your student's school username and the password Library1.

Click, borrow and read your loaned book!

You can borrow up to 2 books at a time for 14 days. They are automatically returned so you do not need to worry about forgetting them!

DIGITAL LIBRARY



PHS DIRECT - PROVIDING FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS

All girls at TCOLC are able to access free period products if they need them. This may include, for example, where individuals:

- have forgotten their products
- cannot afford products
- have come on unexpectedly



Packs of sanitary towels, boxes of tampons or period pants can be obtained at anytime during the school day from the following locations:

- Main office (Y7 - Y13)
- Head of Year office (Y7 - Y11)
- Sixth Form LRC (Y12 - Y13)
- Attendance office (Y7 - Y13)



SCHOOL SERVICE ROAD



Please note that parking on the service road, on the right of the school, is not permitted. This road is for emergency vehicles and deliveries only.

Thank you for your cooperation.

PENALTY NOTICES - FINES FOR SCHOOL ABSENCE



Please be aware that parents may be issued with a Penalty Notice if their child has unauthorised absence from school. Parents also face prosecution in the Magistrates' Court; a fine of up to £2,500 or a community penalty could be imposed together with a Parenting Order. A criminal record will then exist for the parent.

You can download the Penalty Notice Code of Conduct, and the council's Enforcement Policy which are available on the [LCC website](#).

UNIFORM

Below is a reminder of the college uniform, that every student is expected to wear:

- Plain black footwear – shoes or trainers must not have any coloured or white soles, or any coloured or white logos
- Plain black skirt of an appropriate length and fit (pleated or loose-fitting style with skirt hem closer to the knee)
- Plain black trousers (no leggings, jeans, joggers or skinny fit styles)
- Plain white collared shirt
- College tie
- College blazer

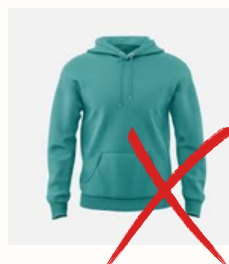
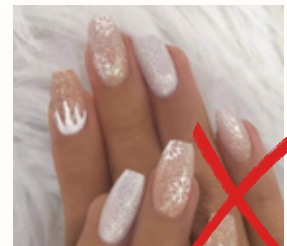
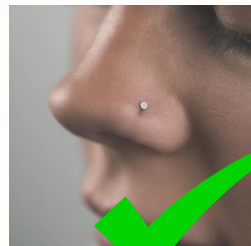
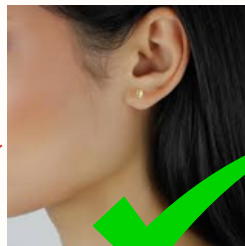
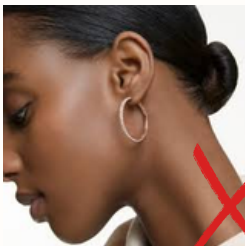
Here is a link to Uniform Direct where you can buy college blazers and ties, and plain black pleated skirts: [Uniform Direct Link](#).

Below are additional items that students may choose to wear:

- Overcoat
- Plain black cardigan or v neck jumper under blazer
- Plain black or white religious headwear
- Plain black or white abaya or jubba – college uniform must be worn underneath with college blazer on top of abaya or jubba

Please be reminded that students are not allowed to wear:

- False nails
- Dangly earrings or hoops – earrings must be studs only
- Nose-rings – nose adornments must be studs only
- Hoodies or sports tops





TCOLC NEWS

Cricket Team



This year's cricket season was one of the most productive in TCOLC History. The school had good success in the indoor cricket competitions and have had training sessions all year round to a consistent high standard.

In the outdoor competitions, we have had wins over Judgemeadow, Castle Mead and English Martyrs. We hosted several matches at TCOLC and even took the team to watch a Leicestershire match. There is a real buzz for next season.

TCOLC Pride

The TCOLC Community celebrated Pride Month with a series of activities investigating protected characteristics and the strength of inclusion and equality in our community.



Netball Trip

In early June, our Netball teams attended a Netball Super League game with Loughborough Lightning and London Mavericks at Loughborough University.



This was the first time the majority of the students had seen live sport at this level and it has given them a completely new understanding of the game. All of the students thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere and have already asked if we can go back to see another game.

History Trip to Lincoln

In July, Year 10 History students visited Lincoln Castle and Cathedral as part of their GCSE exam studies on Norman England. Students were a credit to the school in their engagement in the Cathedral tour.



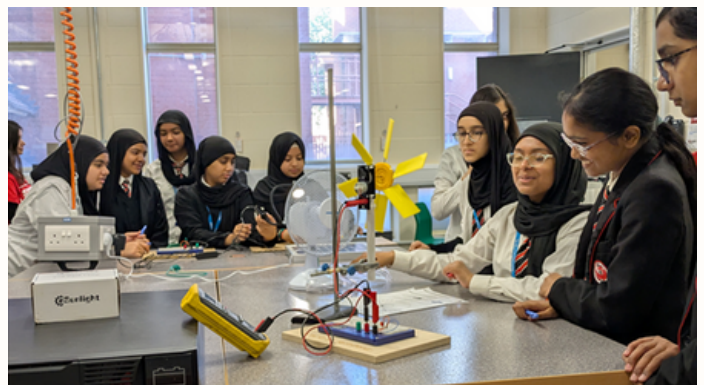
Sports Leaders visit Whitehall Primary School

Our Year 8, 9 and 10 Sports Leaders had a very busy half-term. The students were able to experience KS2, KS1 and EYFS sports day by supporting them at Whitehall Primary School. The students had to adapt their leadership skills to ensure the EYFS students were supported and could enjoy their sports day with a clear understanding of the activities. Our students were holding their hands to guide them, running in partners with them and sat on the mats helping to keep them entertained. The students, they were a real credit to the school and were keen to improve their leadership skills throughout visits.



Women in STEM at the DMU

On Thursday 3rd July, 20 Year 9 girls attended a Women in STEM event at DMU. They participated in engineering projects and took a first year course in computer science! In addition to this, they had a campus tour and tried out the lecture halls, accommodation and eating establishments. The students were outstanding and did the school proud.



Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Success

This year 5 teams completed their two-day expeditions for their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. In the blazing

July heat the teams navigated themselves, unaccompanied, 8 miles across Leicestershire before setting up camp and cooking their own meals. With sunrise around 4:30am, the students experienced a limited nights sleep waking up to the early morning birdsong. After cooking breakfast and packing away their tents they made their way back to school via a different route than day 1. Carrying all their equipment presented significant physical and mental challenges. Yet, all groups showed excellent determination, critical thinking and perseverance to succeed and arrived back safely to TCOLC.



TCOLC Culture Day

This annual celebration of diversity and inclusion within our incredible community gets bigger every year. The event raised over £400 for our One Nepal International Charity. Through a collection, mocktails and samosa sales. The whole day the school was filled with singing, Dhol playing and dancing as students and staff celebrated their own cultural heritage together.

Olympians Visit TCOLC

In July, our Year 7 students were able to enjoy a lesson with GB athletes Ashleigh Nelson and Michael Fagbenle. Ashleigh has competed at 3 Olympic Games and 2 Commonwealth Games where she was able to achieve a gold medal in 4x100m relay. Both of the athletes spent the day discussing their stories with our students, but more importantly sharing how they have overcome many setbacks on the way. Our students showed a real interest and enthusiasm in their journey to elite sport and it was clear to see that they have taken inspiration from this, with many asking what they could do to start their own sporting journey.



Geography Trips

Hunstanton: Year 11 Geographers enjoyed a great day visiting the coastal town of Hunstanton in June. They focused on collecting data such as deposition along the groynes and completing transects along the main street. Students impressed the public with their knowledge of coastal processes and the respect shown when completing the questionnaires. The field study will definitely support students in the exams in May and June next year.



Canary Wharf: A group of ambitious geography students visited one of the biggest engineering companies in the UK, WSP, for an incredibly inspiring day of workshops and presentations. The trip was part of the Geography department careers initiative and gender equality aspects of the Human rights topic. Female engineers including civil, structural and environmental engineers worked with our students explaining what the career is about. We hope to repeat this in the future.



Twycross Zoo: The trip to the Twycross Zoo was a great success and part of the Geography department careers initiative. The day was spent speaking to people in the sustainability and veterinary sectors, exposing students to these specialist careers. This will become an annual event in the future because of the impact it had on the students who attended.



TERM DATES 2025/2026

Children are expected to attend 190 days in each school year. Schools identify five other days for staff training, these are known as INSET days. Schools can choose different dates on which to close for INSET days, the local authority recommends some of these days.

Our term dates for 2025/2026 can be viewed on our website [here](#).

FREE SCHOOL MEAL CHECKER

If you think that your child may be eligible for free school meals, you can use this checker:

[Free School Meal Checker Link](#)



NUT-FREE SCHOOL

A reminder that we are a **NUT-FREE** school. We have students who have severe nut allergies. If your child brings snacks or a packed lunch from home, we please ask you to check they are completely nut-free.

E-SCOOTERS

Please be reminded that e-scooters are not permitted on site here at TCOLC, and it is against the law to ride an e-scooter on a public road or pavement.



LOCAL BUS INFORMATION

Centrebus S1005 Victoria Road East to TCOLC

Scan the QR code below to view live services, timetables and fares.



Arriva

Scan the QR code opposite for Arriva's Student Saver Tickets.

For travel Information including local maps and timetables please visit: www.arrivabus.co.uk



KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE FROM MEASLES THIS SUMMER

PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM MEASLES

BEFORE THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Measles spreads very easily.

It can make children very sick.

- ! High fever
- ! Rash
- ! Cough
- ! Sore eyes

✓ Some children need to go to hospital



The MMR Vaccine Protects Your Child From:



Measles
Mumps
Rubella

- ✓ Measles
- ✓ Mumps
- ✓ Rubella

- ✓ It is safe
- ✓ It is free
- ✓ It saves lives

Has your child had 2 MMR vaccines?

If not — it's not too late.

Speak to your GP or school nurse to catch up.



Protect your child. Protect your family.

Let's keep everyone safe this summer.

Measles is a serious illness that could be prevented by having both doses of the MMR vaccination.

It spreads very easily, especially in schools, parks, and busy places. Cases of measles are rising in the UK, increasing the risk to children and communities.

Measles can make children very sick. It can cause a high fever, rash, cough, and sore eyes.

Useful link below

[NHS Information on Measles](#)

Before the summer holidays, check:

- Has your child had two doses of the MMR vaccines?
- If not, contact your GP and book a catch-up appointment.

If your child has missed a vaccine, it's not too late. You can ask your GP or school nurse for help.

**Measles is highly contagious—
and preventable.**



**Make sure you and your loved ones are
protected by getting vaccinated.**



**HELP PROTECT YOUR CHILD, YOUR FAMILY, AND YOUR COMMUNITY.
LET'S KEEP EVERYONE SAFE AND HELTHY THIS SUMMER!**

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

10 Conversation Starters for Parents

Talking about mental health to children is sometimes hard. To the point that we can put off raising the subject, not wanting to unearth problems or raise overwhelming subjects that we perceive our child is too young or not ready for. But rather than keeping children in the dark, this guide is designed to help you confidently talk about mental health, so they feel comfortable talking about their own worries and end any stigma before it begins.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

1 LISTEN

This sounds obvious, but it is not something we are always great at. Active listening is where we listen without interrupting or making judgements and shows interest in what is being said. If your child feels listened to in the 'smallest of problems' they will become confident that you will listen when the 'biggest of problems' arise.

2 ASK TWICE

The campaign from time to change is great. <https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/support-ask-twice-campaign>. Be tenacious about your child's wellbeing. Children instinctively know when your questions and support come from a place of wanting to help and care.

Are you sure?

3 THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A STUPID QUESTION

This advice also relates to the first point. If your child can ask you any questions about the smallest of things and you listen and answer without shaming or belittling, then they will have more confidence to ask the biggest of questions.

6 TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH NATURALLY

Speak about mental health as part of everyday life, so that talking about our feelings and those of others is normalised. If the usual 'are you ok?' is not creating an opportunity for dialogue then say something like 'I know when something like that has happened to me I felt like this... is that how you are feeling or are you feeling something else?'

7 EMPATHISE

'It makes sense that you would feel this way, it is understandable'. Children often worry about things that we, as adults, might see as trivial or silly. However, for them at their age and stage it is a big concern and they need our kindness and care when they show their vulnerability and share their worries.

8 HELP YOUR CHILD FEEL SAFE

Teens particularly feel that by talking about their worries or concerns that this will make things worse. Reassure your child that you will discuss a plan of action together and what may or may not need to happen next. If they are a younger child, it is likely you will need to lead the conversation and explain next steps.

4 BE OPEN AND HONEST

Children appreciate honesty, particularly if you are having to share information or talk about a difficult subject. For example, you may be talking about death or loss; 'It's very sad that Nana has died' or 'I feel sad that Nana has died'. How you talk about a subject will differ depending on their age and developmental maturity. Talking about death to a younger child for example will be different to that of an older teen, as their experience and understanding of death is different.

9 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Be mindful of the language you use at home to describe and talk about mental health. Stigma often arises from misconceptions and a choice of language which is harmful. Using the word 'mental', 'man-up' or other such words in a derogatory way won't encourage your child to talk about their mental health for fear of being belittled.

5 KNOW WHEN TO SEEK HELP

Assess the severity of the mental health difficulty you are noticing. Is the difficulty making it hard for your child to function regularly throughout everyday life? How frequently is your child affected, how long does it last and how persistent is it? Are they having problems controlling the difficulty? Talk to your child about your concerns and that it is likely they will need further support beyond family and friends.

10 IT IS OK TO SAY 'I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT'

Adults do not have all the answers but often children think they do. It is ok to acknowledge that what your child is experiencing is not something you have come across before or know anything about, but that you will work it out together and seek help together.

Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



Sources of Information and Support

Your GP

Young Minds <https://youngminds.org.uk/v>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/>

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parenting-tips/2016/november/a-simple-guide-to-active-listening-for-parents/>

<https://www.themix.org.uk/mental-health>

FREE

**Get up &
go!**

**At Leicester's children,
young people and family
centres this summer!**

**Monday 14 July to
Friday 22 August 2025**

Summer activities 2025

Monday July 14, 21, 28, August 11, 18	Tuesday July 15, 22, 29 August 12, 19	Wednesday July 16, 23, 30 August 13, 20	Thursday July 17, 24, 31 August 14, 21	Friday July 18, 25 August 1, 15, 22
St Matthews 10am-12pm	Bewcastle 10am-12pm	Beaumont Leys 1pm-3pm	Highfields 1pm-3pm	Eyres Monsell 10am-12pm
Saffron 1pm-3pm			New Parks 1pm-3pm	Braunstone Grove 10am-12pm
Woodbridge 1pm-3pm			Beaumont Leys 10am-12pm	
Thurnby Lodge 1pm-3pm			Belgrave 1pm-3pm	
			Netherhall 10am - 12pm	

Special National Play Day Events!

Monday 4 August	Tuesday 5 August	Wednesday 6 August	Thursday 7 August	Friday 8 August
St Matthews 10am-12pm	Bewcastle 10am-12pm	Beaumont Leys 1pm-3pm	New Parks 1pm-3pm	Eyres Monsell 10am-12pm
 	 	Highfields 10am-12pm	Beaumont Leys 10am-12pm	Braunstone Grove 10am-12pm
		Saffron 10am-12pm	 	New Parks 1pm-3pm
		Beaumont Leys 1pm-3pm		
		Belgrave 1pm-3pm		
		Thurnby Lodge 1pm - 3pm		

For more information visit

families.leicester.gov.uk/get-up-and-go

**Family
Hub**



Young people and their families are invited to step into a day of discovery at Breathe: Speak Out, a FREE, two-day interactive event which will transform Leicester City Football Club's King Power stadium concourse into an immersive journey showcasing how the city became a global leader in respiratory research.

Find out more here:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/nihrleicestercrf/1689533>.

FREE

INTERACTIVE HEALTHCARE EVENT

**THURSDAY, 31 JULY
FRIDAY, 1 AUGUST**



**BRING SCIENCE LESSONS TO LIFE WITH EXCITING,
CURRICULUM-LINKED SCIENCE EXPERIENCE**

**EXPLORE THE WORLD OF VIRUSES THROUGH INTERACTIVE
STORYTELLING AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES**

**FUN WAY FOR STUDENTS TO LEARN AND DISCOVER
LEICESTER'S WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH**

CHANCE TO WIN GIVEAWAYS AND RAFFLE PRIZES

 **10AM - 3PM**

 **KING POWER STADIUM**

 **LEICESTERCRF@UHL-TR.NHS.UK**

 **07866833933**

IMPORTANT LINKS



Parents' Evening Bookings

Appointments can be made via the booking system - [School Cloud Link](#).

Parent Pay System

We are a cashless school and therefore all payments must be made via ParentPay - [Parent Pay Link](#).

Extra-Curriculum Timetable

Whether a student has a particular skill or interest, or wants to develop new skills, there is a wealth of opportunities waiting to be explored - [Extra-Curriculum Timetable Link](#).

Absence Information

To report an absence to the school, parents should contact the school by 8:30am on 0116 2413984 (option 1). Please remember to state your child's full name, tutor group and reason for absence. If they are unwell, please can you give a brief description of the symptoms.

For our students to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and your child should be at school, on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable - [Attendance Link](#).

THE HIVE

The Hive is a one stop information Hub for students that includes a wealth of resources, advice and support around a range of topics, including mental health and wellbeing, sex and relationships, online safety and bullying.

The Hive has been created for TCOLC students and is there for them to access through their school Teams account. Whether it is some advice they need around healthy eating or how to cope with exam stress, **The Hive** will have the answer for them.

They can also email **The Hive**, if they would like to speak to one of the team about a specific problem they are having at: hive@tcolc.aspirelp.uk.

The Hive works in association with the following Signposting organisations:

