



October 2018 Newsletter

A note from the Head of School

Dear Staff, Students, Parents and Carers,

I would like to start the first newsletter of this academic year by welcoming back our returning staff and students as well as their families. I have enjoyed hearing how everyone spent their summer, although this may now seem like a long time ago! I would also like to welcome our newest students, some of whom started at the end of last year and some who started this term, they have helped ensure that we do not miss last year's graduating class too much.

When a large cohort joins it is always a challenge to ensure that the welcoming feel of the School remains unchanged and that we have a complete picture of needs in order to set up the curriculum appropriately. To this end, after half term some students (and parents) may see some changes to lessons or classes. While there will be no change to start or finish times, we are also considering changes to when in the week subjects or activities are positioned. One example is our Clubs lessons, this has traditionally been offered on a Friday afternoon; however, with the change from weekday to weekend, Friday is already a higher stress day of the week. Given that Clubs are usually less structured activities, moving these to a less stressful day may be a sensible option. We will talk to students about this on their return and no changes will be made in that first week.

In our newsletter this half term you will find information about staff changes – welcoming both Mr Anderson to the School and saying goodbye to Ms Polegaj, who will be leaving in November. We also include information about upcoming parent/carer events. If you would like to attend any of these events or have any questions, please contact the School Office.

Finally, as ever, I would like to wish everyone who is part of the CA London family a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back after half term.

Rachel Maddison

Upcoming Dates

Half-term:

Monday 22nd October –
Friday 26th October 2018

Photograph day:

Friday 2nd November 2018
(Students to be suitably smart)

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

Thursday 8th November
2018

'Christmas Cheer'

Thursday 13th December
2018

Last day:

Friday 14th December
2018



Art Trip

On Monday 8th October, a group of Upper School students visited the Royal Academy of Arts and participated in an Art workshop linked to the current 'Oceania' exhibition.

The students had a chance to see different objects, artefacts and sculptures originating from the region of Oceania. Some of the sculptures and artefacts on display are considered to be 'living gods' by Pacific Islanders and are believed to have special powers.

After having been inspired by the exhibition, the students had a chance to create their own sculptures from clay.

The 'Oceania' exhibit lasts until 10th December, so do have a look if you're interested. It's well worth the visit!



Calendar

2018-2019 Term Dates

Autumn Term

Half-term:

Monday 22nd October – Friday
26th October 2018

Last day:

Friday 14th December 2018

Spring Term

INSET DAY (no school):

Monday 7TH January 2019

First day:

Tuesday 8th January 2019

Half-term:

Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd
February 2019

Last day:

Friday 29th March 2019

Summer Term

INSET DAYS (no school):

Tuesday 23rd April 2019

First day:

Wednesday 24th April 2019

Half-term:

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019

Last day:

Friday 5th July 2019

Upcoming Parent Events:

CENTRE ACADEMY LONDON will be hosting a number of free talks, workshops and social events for parents, guardians and carers throughout the academic year.

The event calendar for the Autumn Term 2018/19 includes:

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

THURSDAY 8th NOVEMBER at 4pm
A lecture by our in-house ASD specialist, Jane Louis, followed by a Question/Answer session.

CHRISTMAS CHEER AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

THURSDAY 13th DECEMBER from
2:15pm to 3:45pm
Celebrate the festive season with the CAL team over delicious mulled punch and mince pies.

Please contact the School Office if you are interested in attending either event or if you have any questions.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Christmas Card Competition

Mrs Yar will once again be running the annual competition for the best Christmas card.

The winner, chosen by Dr Rollo will be printed and sent out to the CA community so we hope that all our students get their creativity flowing after half term.

Upcoming Student Events:

FILM STUDIES TRIPS

The new Film Studies GCSE is going very well, and the students involved have already produced some really good screenwriting work. They will be going on two special trips next term, run by the IntoFilm schools programme.

Weds 7th Nov (morning) Dulwich Picture House

A workshop on the history of censorship and classification by the British Board of Film Classification.

Mon 12th Nov (morning) British Film Institute, South Bank A Q&A session on screenwriting with director Joe Cornish, including clips from his new, unreleased film. The students will be studying his film, *Attack the Block*, for their exam.

WWI CENTENERY

Since 2014 students across the school have been learning about World War I and reflecting on the centenary. After half term we will be making a display of commemorative poppies to mark 100 years since the end of the War. If you have ancestors who served in WWI or a family story about the events of the war, we would appreciate your child sharing it with his or her mentor group.

Staff Changes

As this is the first newsletter of the year, we would like to take the opportunity to introduce Mr Glenn Anderson, who has taken over our PE position this year. Mr Anderson will also be teaching English and PSHE. Originally from Australia, Mr Anderson has as Masters of Special Education and a background in Special Needs teaching and transition support for students out of mainstream schooling.

At the same time as welcoming Mr Anderson to the School, it is with regret that we must also tell you that Ms Polegaj will be leaving the School in November. Ms Polegaj has been a fantastic Speech and Language Therapist, as well as an enthusiastic and dedicated member of staff. She will be leaving us to return home to Australia and, while we are sorry to see her go, we know that you will join us in wishing her all the best for the future. Ms Polegaj's replacement Ms Marriott will be joining the School after half term.

Have a wonderful Half Term