



BASSINGBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE



Weekly Mailing 27.01.23

It has been once again a very busy week in school with lots of varied activities taking place. On Monday, our Year 9 cohort took part in a tailored careers event which I know went extremely well. On Tuesday, our Year 9 Health and Fitness students took part in a valuable first aid course. And on Wednesday our Sports Leaders ran an afternoon of Kurling for the local primary schools; it was a delight to see what a truly fantastic job they do! For our Year 11s, today marked the end of their practice exams which have all run very smoothly.

Unfortunately, you may have noticed that due to the ongoing bad weather, our site is currently extremely muddy in certain places. Despite the best efforts being made by our site team and staff to keep students away and off these areas, a number of our students do continue to walk on them and I am aware, coming home very muddy. Your support in emphasising to your child the importance of staying away from these very muddy patches would be appreciated. Please note that PE have also requested that on days students are undertaking PE, students bring in addition trainers for their lesson as shoes worn to school are too muddy to be worn in their PE lesson.

Finally, yesterday I sent out a letter from Mr Culpin and I regarding the industrial action due to take place on Wednesday 1st February and the impact this may have to your child's education on the day. As outlined, our first priority will always be to our vulnerable students who will have received a separate letter inviting them to remain in school. Our next priority must be to our Year 11 students who are studying for their exams this year. We are therefore asking students in other year groups to remain at home and work will be available for them to complete in their year group section of their Google Classroom. We very much regret the disruption the industrial action may cause and of course will inform you should the arrangements change before the 1st February.



Year 9 Careers Event

This week we ran our annual careers event for our Year 9s. Once again, organised by Form the Future, our students learnt about an array of opportunities open to them after leaving Bassingbourn Village College; ranging from legal and business consulting, mortgage advice, the Army, additional educational options among other exciting opportunities. We must thank the volunteers that joined us, the time they invest in talking to our students and supporting our events throughout the year provides real value.



Year 9 Health & Fitness

Our Year 9 Health and Fitness students undertook first aid training on Tuesday which is offered here at Bassingbourn Village College for those students taking this course. We believe it is an essential life skill and demonstrates the additional enrichment activities we add to our students' learning, whilst also supporting the teaching of the Health and Fitness course content. Our students learnt how to do the recovery position, CPR as well as using a defibrillator and how to bandage injuries.



Social Media

Tech Tips Live - Tuesday 31 January at 4.30pm

Did you know that TikTok is currently the fastest-growing social media platform? As a result, many parents have questions around how it works and how to help their child use it safely. That's why we are hosting a live and interactive workshop to provide you with all the "need to knows".

You can watch this Tech Tips Live event on YouTube to find out more about what ages are appropriate, key functionality, settings and safety features, and how to use the app more positively. If you can't make it live, stream it back at a time that suits you.

SIGN UP HERE: <https://parentzone.org.uk/tech-tips-live>

Online Safety - Alan Mackenzie, SafeICT Consultancy Ltd

Welcome to the third video of the series. At just over 8 minutes in length I discuss the topic of online gaming and emphasise that whilst to some, gaming just means playing games, but to children it is quite different and there are 2 main reasons for this:

- The majority of children play games to socialise - their friendship groups.
- A small number of children play games to escape something that is, or has, gone wrong in their lives. In other words, they use games as a coping mechanism.

Click on the link or copy/paste the link into your browser. You will also find some links below the video link that you may find useful.

<https://vimeo.com/487627625/3c5538740c>

Useful Links:

Gaming Hub - Lots of useful information here: gaming age guides, what you need to know, choosing the best games, setting limits and more: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-gaming-advice/>

Common Sense Media - If your child is asking you about a game and you're not sure, it's worth having a look on the Common Sense Media website where you can find advice and opinion about thousands of games. <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/game-reviews>

Taming Gaming - this is a brilliant resource for parents, with lots of useful information. The site is owned by a father who is a big gaming enthusiast.

<https://www.taminggaming.com/features/Curated+Lists+of+Amazing+Video+Games+that+Parents+Love>

Communications sent home this week:

- 1st February 2023 arrangements for Year 11
- Wednesday 1st February 2023
- County Lines - Free Webinar for Parents 1st Feb
- Power-Up Festival
- Parent Governor Election - result

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Ms V Poulter

Principal

Respect, Resilience, Responsibility