

JAn/LHe

9 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you well and I hope you had a good half term. I wanted to write with some important updates.

Exams

I have been thoroughly impressed with the JCSC young people who have managed the pressures of external exams and assessments really well. The Year 6 pupils were extremely mature and focused over the course of the SATs week. The Year 11 had a large proportion of their biggest exams before the half term break and their focus and participation in revision sessions has been a credit to them. I am hopeful that they will continue this positive momentum as the exams resume this week. The sixth form are also in the middle of their external tests and they too have demonstrated a stoic and calm resolve in the exam hall. I must thank parents / carers during this season of additional pressure – thank you for ensuring that attendance has been positive and thank you for supporting revision and preparation. It is appreciated by everyone here at school.

Year 11 leaving date

Within the next few weeks, the examination period for most pupils is starting to end. ***The last day of Year 11 will be the 16th June 2025.*** Pupils will attend school as normal (a revision session will be provided for the physics exam), attend their physics exam and then have their final Year 11 assembly. This is a lovely opportunity to celebrate their time at JCSC and for those pupils who are not returning to sixth form, to say goodbye. Pupils are welcome to stay for a final school lunch but will then be free to leave the school site straight after this. Some pupils will have exams after the 16th, they will be expected to attend both the revision session and the examination.

To support those pupils who would like to return to JCSC in September, we are offering bridging days between the 1st and 3rd of July. More information will be sent to you regarding this opportunity over the next few days.

Car Park

Our car park is for the use of staff and visitors only. Unfortunately following two incidents in our car park recently I must remind parents and carers that you must not use the car park to drop off or collect your child.

New school build

I met with Kier and Northumberland County Council representatives on the run up to half term to get a brief progress update on the new build. Kier have completed a lot of the initial groundworks in quite a short space of time and are looking to erect the steel frame for the new build during June. This is an exciting development as we start to get a better understanding of the shape of things to come. Kier will be using a drone to regularly support the technical requirements of the build which created some fascination among the pupils. Kier attended our recent careers event and are looking at lots of other ways to engage with our pupils across the age ranges.

We have a dedicated page on our school website for all things related to the new build and, over the coming months, will continue to populate this with information and updates:

[New Build - James Calvert Spence College](#)

Please also find attached a copy of the build team's newsletter.

Important dates this half term

4th June- Paris Trip Q&A Meeting

14th June- Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice

16th June- Year 11 leavers assembly

16th June- Ski Trip to Snozone

23rd-27th June- Y10 Work Experience

26th June – Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Qualifier

30th June- Transition Day

1 July- Y10 Geography Field Trip, Newbiggin

1st-3rd July- Sixth Form Bridging Days

3rd July- Y11 Prom

4th July- Teacher Training Day- School Closed

6th July- Paris trip departs from school at 10:45pm

7th- 11th July- Y12 Work Experience

11th July- Vocational trip to Alnwick Gardens

14th July- Y10 Geography Field Trip, Newcastle

15th July- Sports Day

18th July- Festival Day- School Closes for Summer.

Parent / Carer survey and partnership meeting

We have attempted to engage more and more with parents/carers this academic year through a number of events. In the autumn, we hosted welcome back evenings for each year group and an open evening. In the late autumn we hosted a sixth form study event. Into the spring, we hosted a careers and work experience event and a SEND event in the library. On top of this, we have had the regular parents' evenings and we hosted the local council hustings. Before the end of the academic year, we will be inviting parents/carers to a celebration and awards evening. We are committed to working in partnership with families and we are looking at the calendar of activity for next year. I am attaching a link to a survey and I would like as many of you as possible to complete a response:

[Link to the Parent Voice Survey](#)

Taking the feedback from the survey and also reflecting on our provisional school development priorities for next academic year, I would like to invite parents/carers to attend a partnership meeting on Wednesday 16 July. Refreshments will be available and after some short presentations, there will be an opportunity to discuss the school. Further details re this meeting will be circulated nearer the time.

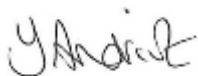
Transition day

On Monday 30th June, JCSC will run a transition day for all year groups. This is particularly an opportunity for the Year 6 pupils to start to experience more of a taste of secondary life and we are excited to welcome a new intake of pupils into the year group from other neighbouring primary schools. ***There is a separate letter for the current Year 6 moving into Year 7 which will outline the full arrangements.***

The other year groups are also planning for their transition into the next stage of their education and we are really focusing on a range of activities to continue to instil our ethos; Be Kind, Work Hard, Aim High. On a practical level, the school day timings remain the same but there will be an expectation that ***Years 8, 9 and 11 will attend in normal school uniform for the day and Year 10 attend in PE uniform for the day.*** We will send a reminder out nearer the time but please note this now.

Many thanks in anticipation of your continued support for the school and I hope to see you at the partnership meeting on 16th July

Yours faithfully



Mr James Andriot

Headteacher