

WEEKLY BULLETIN

 John Ferneley College

13th February 2025 - Issue 94



Dear Parents and Carers

It is the end of the half term already and what a busy half term it has been. This week is National Apprenticeship week and there has been a real buzz in school with a whole range of activities in tutor and lesson time to raise awareness and increase understanding of apprenticeships. In the lead up to this week, we have had assemblies for Year 10 and 11 from ASK apprenticeships where they explained the process of searching and applying for an apprenticeship. We are fortunate to have great links with local businesses and have had assemblies from a range of local employers to speak to students about their industry and the routes into different roles including apprenticeships. We would like to extend our special thanks to Mars, Samworth Brothers, Leicestershire LA, Landsend and Leicestershire Fire service for their time recently - hearing directly from employers is a wonderful way to raise aspirations and increase understanding and our community links.

Continuing our links and work with local employers a group of Year 11 students will be visiting Wilton Manor to find out more about social care in our local community. We also look forward to welcoming back JFC alumni Pippa Clark who is now working at the Leicester hospitals and has links with De Montfort University. She is coming into school to speak to students who want to find out more about apprenticeships within the NHS and explain what support and guidance is available to support them. On this note, thank you to everyone who has kindly responded to our alumni request - if anyone else would like to be involved please contact office@johnferneley.org

The whole half term has been a busy one for our year 11 students who have been amazing with their focus in organising their post 16 routes. Recently, along with LEBC our Year 11 all had the opportunity to have a 1:1 mock interview with a local employer. This was a fantastic chance for them to practice the skills needed before their college or post 16 interviews. In this newsletter you will find further information about apprenticeships and upcoming college open events along with a flyer which gives details of the Mars apprenticeship open evening which is coming up soon.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and to wish you all a safe and happy half term break.

Mrs Geraghty
Futures Lead KS4



SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Safeguarding

While the school is closed between 3pm on Thursday 13th February and 8am Tuesday 25th February, staff will monitor the dsl@johnferneley.org email but will not respond until term starts again. Therefore if you have an urgent concern for a child please consider whether it is a 999 call to the police (if there is an immediate risk) or get support from Leicestershire social care on 01163050005.

Social Media

For others this ½ term will be a time to chill out at home and young people are likely to spend more time online and using social media. So again we would like to issue a reminder about the importance of being kind, and only being “friends” with people you actually know. As parents/carers we ask that you monitor what your children are accessing and who they are in contact with. A reminder that the age for young people to have a social media account is 13 with Whatsapp set at 16.

Vaping

Making sensible choices

Children should never vape. The number of children using vapes has tripled in the last three years.

The active ingredient in most vapes is nicotine, which when inhaled, is a highly addictive drug. The additive nature of nicotine means that a user can become dependent on vapes, especially if they use them regularly.

We have a duty to protect children from these potential harms, which is why the government will be banning disposable vapes and bringing forward measures to restrict vape flavours, displays and packaging. If someone is going to vape the it is essential that vapes are brought from reputable retail outlets. Reusable and refillable vapes will continue to play a valuable role in helping adults to stop smoking but should not be seen as something to start doing!



Mrs Russell - Assistant Head

Physical Activity

Whatever your age, there's strong scientific evidence that being physically active can help you lead a healthier and happier life. At this time of year we often have cold spells but we would urge you to try to get out and about, walk the dog, enjoy the countryside, just walk to the local shop or to a friends house as this helps with mental health too.

Helpful contacts

Online safety - <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/11-13/>
<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/14plus/>

Mind 03001233393 mind.org.uk

Harmless - <https://harmless.org.uk/>

Kooth – online counselling

NHS 5 ways to wellbeing – <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>

Winston's wish for grieving children winstonswish.org

Childline <https://www.childline.org.uk/> 0800 1111

THANK YOU TO LOCAL BUSINESSES

Thank you to all the businesses involved in promoting and supporting National Apprenticeship week in school - we are very grateful for your time!

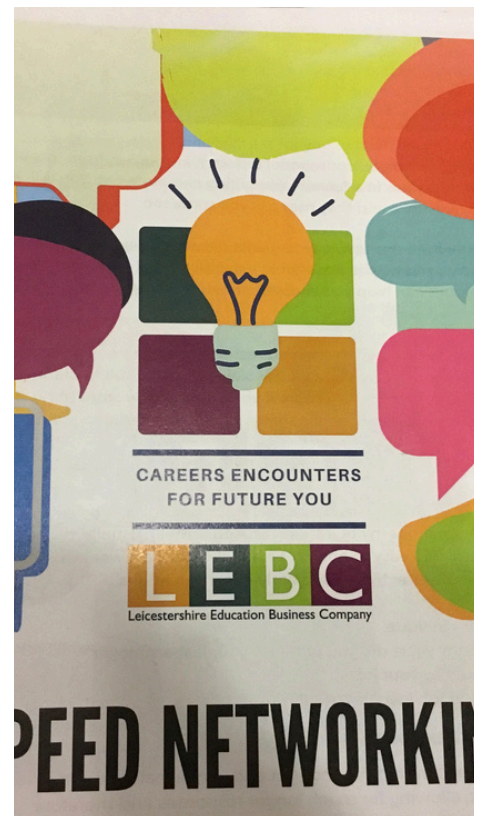
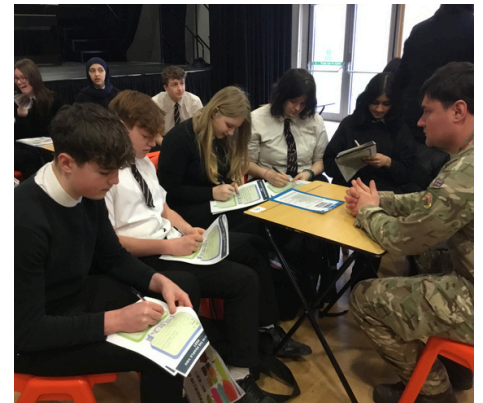
- Leicestershire Fire service
- ASK apprenticeships
- Landsend
- Mars
- Leicestershire county council
- Samworth
- LEBC - with local companies

Please visit www.amazingapprenticeships.com for an updated parent/carers apprenticeship guide.



Y10 SPEED NETWORKING

This morning we held our annual speed networking event with LEBC where our Year 10 students had the opportunity to engage with different employers - we had a large range of local companies in school. It was a wonderful experience and a very chatty auditorium!





Ski Trip last minute reminders

Final reminders...

- 20kg bag and one piece of hand luggage (to fit under the seat in front)**
- Arrive at school on Sunday morning at 3.40am**
- Passport ready to give to your small group leader**
- First meal provided is evening meal at the hotel – bring packed breakfast / lunch / snacks / drink**

See you on Sunday morning!

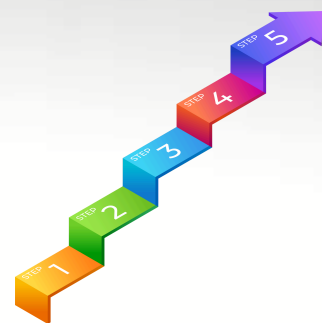
KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



February 2025

- *Wednesday 5th February - Tuesday 4th March - Year 11 Mocks*
- *Friday 14th and Monday 24th February - Staff Inset days - NO STUDENTS ONSITE*
- *Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February - HALF TERM*
- *Half-term - 2025 SKI TRIP*

College Open Events



JFC
FUTURES

- **SMB Ignite - 6th March - 5-7pm**
 - **SMB Brooksby Campus - 8th March - 9am-1.30pm**
 - **SMB Brooksby Campus - land based and agriculture open day - 5th April - 10am-1pm**
 - **Grantham college - 30th April - 5.30-7pm**
- **If you are interested in attending any of these please look on the college website for more information and to register attendance**

Alderman Newton's Educational Foundation



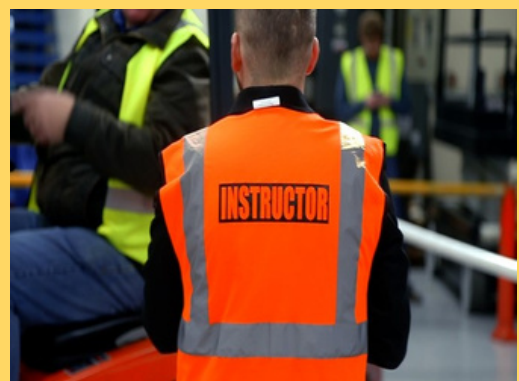
GRANTS TO HELP WITH STUDYING/TRAINING

- Are you under 25?
- From a low-income household?
- Have you lived permanently in Leicester/Leicestershire for at least 2 years?
- Do you need financial help to study or train?
- Are no other sources of funding available to you?

Then Alderman Newton's Educational Foundation may be able to help you.

Wherever you are studying, and whatever your career plans - Business, Ballet, Bricklaying or anything in between! - if you fulfil our criteria then you can apply for a grant to help with your course fees, equipment, materials, travel, accommodation and any other related costs, *where no other sources of funding are available.*

To find out more visit
www.anef.org.uk
Any questions? Please
contact our friendly team
who will be happy to
help.



We have funded forklift training courses

www.anef.org.uk

trustadmin@charity-link.org

0116 2222200

A registered charity in England and Wales no. 527881

MARS

Your Tomorrow starts today

Come to our Open Evening

- Wednesday 19th February 2025 4:30pm – 7:00pm
- More information on our apprenticeships from our apprentices, Q&A & Factory tour
- To join us, please email: MarsMeltonOpenEvening@effem.com
- Secure your spot!