

## CCGS Round-Up

### Introduction to CCGS Learning Ethos for Year 7

Earlier this week, Year 7 were introduced to our CCGS Learning Ethos. Heads of Departments and Heads of House discussed the importance of our key drivers for success with our newest students. We were so impressed with their maturity, determination and enthusiasm! The three sessions covered -

1. **Responsibility and Self-Control** - This was an introduction to our behaviour system with a discussion of our expectations, rewards and sanctions (p6). Students were encouraged to see that our systems allow them to succeed because our expectations are high for them. They imagined scenarios and discussed how to respond when things go wrong. (P6 begins for year 7 on Monday October 2nd.)
2. **Mastery, Intelligence and Cognitive Science** - This was a brief introduction on the importance of growth mindset, how our intelligence can be developed so we get better each day and the basics of memory and practice for successful learning.
3. **Perseverance** - This was a session on the importance of resilience, making mistakes, avoiding blame, facing up to failure and developing the strength to keep going even when it is really hard to. Students were encouraged to imagine scenarios and develop strategies to cope when they face challenges.

### Study Smart and Metacognition

Last week in Study Skills week, teachers taught students a range of study skills such as Flashcards, Mind maps, Cornell cards, Question strips, Summarization within lessons. This has been built upon in this week in Assembly time. Our theme this week is 'Study smart' and our word of the week is 'Metacognition'.

Students are metacognitive if they are managing their revision repertoire and selecting and monitoring their specific strategies to ensure exam success.

We encourage students to draw from a range of revision strategies, ensuring that they can use them effectively and evaluate which ones work best for them.

Too often we see students using strategies such as re-reading copious notes, highlighting entire pages, alongside designing with 'flashcards' overloaded with excess information.

Studying smart, involves Practice testing (self-testing or taking practice tests on material that needs to be learned), Distributed practice (Implementing a schedule of practice that spreads out activities over time) and Summarization (writing summaries of various lengths for key texts).

### CCGS Production of Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice'

A Shakespeare for Schools Update!

Thank you to our cast for their ongoing efforts. Our new Year 7 members have settled well, and things are beginning to shape up nicely.

- Our in-house workshop with a professional practitioner is in the Assembly Hall from 1.30 on the 11th October. This is always a fantastic experience.
- Our performance of "The Merchant of Venice" is at 7pm on Monday 20th November at The Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury.
- Please also remember to buy your tickets!

Purchase your tickets from The Gulbenkian box office. Phone: 01227 769075.

Website: <https://thegulbenkian.co.uk/events/coram-shakespeare-schools-festival/>

### PE at CCGS

We have had a great start to Term 1 here at CCGS with many fixtures already taking places in Rugby, Football and also the Kent Swimming Championships last weekend. The newly renovated sports surface has also been a huge boost to the facilities we have available and the fact we can use it throughout the wet weather that will head our way this winter, means increased activity and participation for all students.

We update our Instagram page regularly with photos, results and messages, if you would like to stay informed, please give us a follow at:

@ccgs\_pe\_dept

We have had unprecedented numbers turning up for extra curricula clubs and it is incredible to see the new talent that have joined the school in year 7. We hope that students continue to access all of the sporting opportunities provided and maybe come along and give a new sport a try!

## **MFL Film Club**

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September, the French films aficionados of CCGS gathered for the first time this academic year for the first showing of "Le Francofil", our KS4/5 Film Club.

The topic of French Education features on both the GCSE and the 'A' Level curriculum so I had chosen to show "Entre les Murs", an acclaimed "docu-film" (the film received a "Palme d'Or" at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival and was nominated for an Academy Award) which follows the lives of students and teachers at a challenging Paris school. Judging by the reactions of the audience gathered, French schools are quite different to CCGS! The pupils commented about how shocked they were by the way French pupils addressed their teachers and by their behaviour in lessons. They were also sympathetic to the plight of the teachers who were trying to give the best chances to their pupils but were not always met by an open-minded crowd. All in all, and thanks to a generous helping of popcorn, the film was enjoyed, and I think portrayed well the similarities and differences of the French and British school systems.

Our newly created Instagram account "ccgs\_mfl" is now up and running where we will soon be posting news of the Spanish trip and other MFL activities.

## **Year 7 French Trip**

Please be aware that the deadline for to apply for the year 7 French trip is Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Please make sure that a deposit has been paid on School Gateway and that the consent form has been handed in at the office before the end of school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.