



# Weekly Update

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Friday 20 September 2019

- Y7 Orchestral Challenge
  - Duke of Edinburgh
  - Bonjour from our French team
  - Design Technology: Jersey Architectural Challenge WIN!
  - Sport
  - Congratulations
  - Our people and community: Staff Dragon boat and Parent cycle challenge
  - CCF
  - Co-curricular clubs
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## Dear Parents,

The Autumn term is revving on all cylinders this week with school visitors as well as our boys being out and about.

As you will read below, the learning here at Victoria College is hands-on and multi-dimensional: we're musical, architectural and even philosophical.

Next week, the whole school, including VCP, are looking forward to celebrating Founders' Week – a time to come together, remember our heritage and fundraise for the Foundation, which continues to support and invest in the future of our school, Victoria College. Your generous donations will be gratefully received.

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## Y7 Orchestral Challenge

The first of its kind in Jersey, Victoria College Orchestral Challenge launched this Tuesday. We are raising the bar musically this year – that is for every boy in Year 7 to be able to play an orchestral instrument up to Grade 1 standard by July 2020. Each boy will receive a weekly 30-minute lesson on an orchestral instrument with a specialist teacher. Director of Music, Mr Murton: "Their first lessons with their new instruments and new teachers was lots of fun. The boys showed superb concentration. What a week - exhausting, exhilarating, great fun and incredibly fulfilling! Well done, boys and teachers!"

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## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze - update

From Mr O'Hare and all the assessors: "A massive well done to all the 35 Y10 pupils who completed their assessed expedition on Monday and Tuesday. The boys undertook a challenging route, using all their newly learned navigational skills, set up camp for their overnight stay at Crabbe."

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## A few words from our Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) team

Merci beaucoup, Senator Le Fondre! Our Y11s enjoyed a motivating and inspirational talk from Jersey's Chief Minister and Old Victorian, during their French lesson last week. The theme was Languages and the World of Work, the links with France and the opportunities that learning a language can bring to individuals. There is a chance for our students to take part in the Parlement de la Francophonie, later on in the year.

Jerriais (Jersey French) classes, Mondays 13.20-13.50, ML1: New students are also welcome.

French Eisteddfod, Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 November: For those parents of boys who'd like to enter, please register your son online by tomorrow, Saturday 21 September. Please then forward the registration confirmation to Mrs Harris: [s.harris@vcj.sch.je](mailto:s.harris@vcj.sch.je), who will then allocate poems and organise a rota for students to perfect their poems in the lead up to the competition.

If you have a French Eisteddfod cup at home, please return it direct to the Georgetown Methodist Church on Saturday 21 September, 10.00-15.00.

Spanish Eisteddfod, Monday 25 November: For those parents of boys who'd like to enter, please register your son online by next Friday, 27 September. Please then forward the registration confirmation to Ms Perestrelo: [m.perestrelo@vcj.sch.je](mailto:m.perestrelo@vcj.sch.je).

If you have a Spanish Eisteddfod trophy or cup from last year, please return immediately to Ms Perestrelo or direct to the Town Hall in St Helier on Friday 27 September.

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### **Design Technology: Jersey Architectural Challenge WIN!**

What could you do with 10 copies of the JEP, 1 roll of masking tape and 4 metres of string? Well, our boys were able to construct the winning, eight-person shelter design in this year's Jersey Annual Architectural Challenge, held at Le Rocquier. 14 Y8 students represented Victoria College. Our boys triumphed over other secondary school teams, winning the main prize of £500 for the DT department, £10 WH Smith vouchers and lots of chocolate! Well done to all, especially Will Read, Edward Clark, Johnny Wright and Oliver Pryke. This competition is part of the yearlong academic competition to win the Ed Le Quesne Cup. The House results are in order: 1) Bruce, 2) Dunlop and Sartorius and 4) Braithwaite and Diarmid.

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### **Sport**

#### Results – Hockey

1st XI: 1 - 3, OV Convicts

Colts: 0 - 7, Island Ladies

#### Results - Football

1st XI: 15 - 2, De La Salle

7A: 4 - 0, Haute Vallee

7B: 4 - 1, Haute Valle

8A: 5 - 2, Haute Vallee

8B: 7 - 0, Haute Vallee

9A: 3 - 1, Haute Vallee

9B: 4 - 0, Haute Vallee

U16A: 6 - 5, Haute Vallee

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### **Congratulations!**

- Pranav Khullar achieved a Distinction for his Piano Grade 2
  - Ollie Huelin was part of the large team of Jersey Youth Cycling riders who competed in Dinan last week, where he won the silver medal in his age category for cycling
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### **Our people and community**

Dragon Boat Festival in aid of Jersey Hospice, Albert Pier – Saturday 21 September, 10.00 -16.00

Best of luck to the staff crew for their big row tomorrow. Thanks to those who donated and ate the array of delectable baked-goods on offer during break! We hope to see lots of you pier-side cheering our crew on. Stay tuned for an update next week on how they performed and how much they raised.

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### **CCF**

#### Battle of Britain Church Service at St Luke's

On Sunday, a squad of cadets attended this annual service, which was officiated by CCF Chaplain Reverend (Group Captain), Nick Barry RAF Rtd. The Dean of Jersey delivered a sermon. During the Service the new branch Standard was dedicated and then paraded, for the first time, by our cadets.

#### Y9 Recruitment

This week, the senior cadets delivered a CCF assembly to Y9 students of both Victoria College and Jersey College for Girls, in advance of the next recruit intake in October. Parents were informed via InTouch on Thursday.

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### **Co-curricular Clubs**

A great start to the week for the Schools Co-Curricular programme. We have had boys join and enjoy the following:

- Chess with Mr Gorman, coding games with Mr Parkes, Scrabble with Ms Robinson and basketball with Mr Picot
- Learning to SCUBA dive with the team from Bouley Bay

- Learning card games with Mrs Palfreyman
- Debating topics of the week with Mrs Plummer in Socrates Club

Socrates Club – next session will now be Wednesday 2 October

The History department run this weekly discussion on a Wednesday lunchtime (open to all Y7-9s), which aims to develop oracy, public speaking and listening skills.

The original Socrates Club was established at the University of Oxford by C S Lewis in 1942, who wanted to discuss some of the thornier issues of theology and religion, without resorting to a black and white yes/no style of argument (as encouraged by the Oxford Union).

We encourage students to discuss their opinions and beliefs freely, with tolerance and respect always in mind.

Boys run the club, and decide and lead on them each week:

- Last week: The proroguing of Parliament
- This week: 9/11
- Next session on Wednesday 2 October: The Peculiar History of Victoria College, a tour by Mr Wooldridge, the school Librarian. Meet outside VCP Gym at 13.15pm.



**Alun D Watkins | Headmaster**

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