



Weekly Update | Friday 22 November 2019

- De Putron Challenge finals v Guernsey: We won!
- Breis brought the beats
- Art department: Winning bear designs
- Sport
- CCF
- Careers
- Public speaking opportunities and events
- Music
- Next week - Drama Club notice
- SIMS Parent App
- Congratulations

Dear Parents,

What an amazing week it has been for our school! I'm immensely proud of our students and staff for all their efforts and achievements across a range of academic, creative, sporting and musical pursuits - bravo!

Last Saturday, I had the pleasure of welcoming 47 boys and their parents, who came for the entrance exam to join our great school - an increase on last year. I was able to genuinely and proudly convey what a truly exciting and fulfilling school experience awaits them at Victoria College.

DE PUTRON CHALLENGE FINALS: WE WON!

Congratulations to our Sixth Form team (Oliver Wilderspin, Ed O'Sullivan, Tom Mullholland and Xander Dawes), who managed to beat The Grammar School from Guernsey in the final buzzer round and take home the trophy - making us the best Sixth Form academic quiz team in the Channel Islands!

Well done to our Y8 team (Pranav Kumar, George Carney, Mathieu Therese and Sam Lawrence) who came second to Elizabeth College, Guernsey.

Thank you to De Putron Challenge, Bailiwick Express, The Ana Leaf Foundation and The Grand Hotel for putting on such a great event. Thank you to all the teachers, families and supporters. We can't wait for 2020!

BREIS BROUGHT BEATS, RAP AND POETRY TO THE GREAT HALL

From James Woolridge, Librarian: "On Tuesday, Y8 and Y7 enjoyed a visit by author Breis, a Nigerian-born, UK-based hip hop artist and author of 'Brilliant Rappers Educate Intelligent Students'. Breis performed some rap and poetry; and finished off with a Q&A session and book-signing."

ART DEPARTMENT: DESIGN A BEAR

From Mrs Helen Ryan, Head of Photography: "Five of our Y7 students won an award by designing bears for a local competition where they will have their drawing published in a picture book."

The Jersey Child Care Trust launched a competition for all young artists to illustrate a local children's book. 'Seymour's Seaside Picnic' is a charming, rhyming tale of friendship and the joy of living in Jersey written by a local author, who invited children across the Island to help finish the book by contributing illustrations. The finished, published book will include the work of 36 students.

Well done to Connor Kellend, Thomas Renouf, Barney Aston, William Worthy and Matthew O'Connell."

SPORT

Thursday 21 November: The U16 B Team won the JSSSA Cup Final 4-2 against Grainville. Highlights include: Jonty Butler scoring a hat-trick and Matthew Brown getting the other goal.

Wednesday 20 November: After just one week of learning to play netball, our Prefect team won by just a single point against JCG. It was a highly entertaining game, which was enjoyed by all on and off court.

Hockey

VC 1st XI, 6 - 1 JHC Tigers

VC 2nd XI, 4 - 2 Island Ladies

VC Colts, 4 - 5 OV Victoriana

Football

VC 1st XI, 7 - 0 Elizabeth College

CCF - OV SMALLBORE SHOOTING COMPETITION

The annual Bangalore Trophy will take place on Wednesday 4 December from 19.00 on the College Indoor Range. The competition is OV's v Boys, as well as a concurrent inter-house match (boys and OV's shooting together). Shooting regulars will shoot a 10-Bull card; those 'out of practice' will shoot a 5-Bull card.

All equipment and refreshments will be provided, however a small fee may be charged for ammunition. This is a fun evening and a chance to meet up with OVs from across the years.

Please share this with any OVs who you know might like to shoot and represent their House once again. Contact Matt Neal to confirm your attendance, and forward your questions to j.fidrmuc@vcj.sch.ie

CAREERS

From Mrs Suzanne Job, Head of Careers: "Having won a competition at the Jersey Skills show in October, Diesel Bathgate was invited to have a tour around the Jersey General Hospital Pathology lab to find out more about Biomedical Science. Diesel had an amazing insight into how bacteria grows and is analysed and about the analysis of blood and the in depth study of cells. He was shown around the specialist equipment that facilitate the team's research and analysis work. Thanks to the Pathology team who were highly enthusiastic and welcoming on the day.

It was a huge insight into how this relatively small department helps all the GPs in Jersey to diagnose patients and save lives daily. In one instance, they picked up a rare condition in a patient, which needed treatment in the first 24 hours to avoid a fatality.

On Thursday 5 December, we will be holding our own (slightly smaller) annual Careers Fair in the Great Hall for Y12 and Y13 students. The Pathology Lab have kindly agreed to attend along with 20 other companies covering the range of career possibilities including: finance, law, architecture, medical, media, digital and more!

PUBLIC SPEAKING AT COLLEGE - HEAR AND BE HEARD

The Great Debate

From Mrs Parmjeet Plummer, Senior Teacher - Teaching & Learning: "The Great Debate students who study History in Y12 were invited to take part in the Great Debate competition, organised by the Historical Association. This is a public speaking competition with a historical focus; this year's question: Should we judge historical figures on the morals of today?

The boys who took part (Luke Proudfoot, Harvey Godel, Ben Wiseman, Leo Olssen and Zach Husbands) all showed sound understanding of public speaking skills and the construction of arguments.

The winners going through to the Jersey heat on Monday 25 November (hosted at Victoria College) are Leo Olssen and Zach Husbands, who were both articulate, confident and persuasive. Best of luck boys, against JCG and Hautlieu. The overall winner will go through to the final at Windsor Castle in March 2020. I would like to offer my grateful thanks to Mr Alan Hamel, who assisted with the adjudication."

Mock election - your chance to vote!

With the aim of promoting understanding of the UK democratic system, as well as how elections work, Victoria College will be hosting a mock election on Thursday 12 December. This will run alongside the national elections in the UK and "candidates" will talk to students about the electoral system, how Parliament works and the purpose of voting, as well as campaigning from the week commencing Monday 2 December. All students will have the opportunity to vote in polling stations on the day.

The candidates are: Oliver Wilderspin (Conservative), Luke Proudfoot (Labour), Leo Olssen (Liberal Democrats), Joshua Rabet (Green Party) and George Yates (Brexit).

If there are any members of our community who might be able to provide ballot boxes for the day, please contact Mrs Plummer: p.plummer@vcj.sch.je

Y12 Lectures Series, Wednesdays 12.05 – 13.05

An exciting addition to the Y12 enrichment timetable this year, the weekly lecture programme is designed to stimulate the interests, broaden the horizons and expand the knowledge beyond the taught curriculum, of our students. This in turn will help them with their Extended Project Qualification, standing out at job interviews and so on.

Have you ever wondered how the New Zealand All Blacks have managed to stay on top for so long? Y12s will next hear a talk on sports psychology by Peter Gough. They'll also soon hear from Jersey Zoo on their conservation work and from Mrs Palfreyman on the AIDS pandemic. What might you offer our Y12s?

From our Assistant Head Academic, Mr Crossley: "We are seeking volunteers, parents for example, who may have a hinterland they'd like to share with the Sixth Formers; either from their previous career(s), or any other interest or passion. For those who'd like to contribute, please email: p.crossley@vcj.sch.je

MUSIC

Jersey Museum have their Victorian Christmas Event next weekend where you may spot one or two familiar faces - our musicians will be performing in the afternoon from 2-5pm.

The Orchestral Challenge continues with the following boys being commended by their teachers: Angus McLauchlan, Archie Barnard, Chris Haskins, Byron Major, Cameron Duff, Leon Hardman, Sydney Smith, Sebastian Bagot and Max Hazzard, our Star of the Week.

NEXT WEEK - DRAMA CLUB NOTICE

Junior Drama Club will NOT be on this coming Monday 25 November, as Miss Ria Hill will be away on a Drama Trip.

SIMS PARENT APP

We have recently launched 'SIMS Parent App' to all Year 7 – 13 Parents. If you haven't yet signed up, please do. We will be adding more features to the app over the coming months such as uploading student reports, newsletters etc.

Once you have signed up, please review your details such as email addresses and telephone numbers, parental permissions etc. As we are coming into the winter months, please also take the opportunity to check your current arrangements for your sons dismissal in the event of school closure due to inclement weather. All changes can be submitted through the Parent App and will automatically update your sons record. Should you encounter any problems signing up or using the app, please contact Mrs Watkins - s.watkins@vcj.sch.je, who will be able to assist you.

CONGRATULATIONS

- Yuvraj Singh came first and Matthew McConnell came second in the U13s competition of the 1938 Mary Jacomb Trophy Chess Tournament
- Harry Adam won bronze in the U13s CI Junior Squash Championships in Guernsey
- Oscar Luff received three Silvers and one Gold for his singing in the Jersey Eisteddfod (he won a class and was a runner-up for one of the trophies)
- Richie Golding won his class (set piece for 5th and 6th year students) in the Jerriais Eisteddfod



Alun Watkins | Headmaster