



Every Student Thriving

6 June 2025

Dear parent/carers,

Cultural Day Food Festival – Parent Participation Invitation

We are excited to announce our upcoming Cultural Day Food Festival on **Wednesday, 3rd July**, and we warmly invite you to join us in celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures within our school community.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Wednesday, 3rd July
- **Time:** 10:55 am - 1.55 pm
- **Location:** Our School Hall

To make this event truly special, we are seeking food donations from families to create a diverse and inclusive "potluck" dinner. We encourage you to contribute dishes that reflect your cultural heritage, family traditions, or simply foods that bring joy to your home. Whether it's a beloved family recipe, a traditional dish from your culture, or a favourite comfort food, your contribution will add to the vibrant tapestry of our celebration.

Food Donation Guidelines:

- **All food donations should be brought to school on the morning of Wednesday, 3rd July.** Please ensure that all dishes are **nut-free** and clearly labelled with a list of ingredients to accommodate dietary restrictions.
- If possible, provide serving utensils for your dish. Please label with your child's name so we can make sure all items from home do return home.

This festival is not only an opportunity to share delicious food but also to create lasting memories with your children and fellow families. We hope to foster a sense of belonging and appreciation for the diverse backgrounds that make our school community unique.

If you would like to contribute a dish or assist in any other way, [please complete the following form](#) and return it by Friday 20th June. Should you have any questions or require further information, feel free to contact lparrott@johncolet.co.uk

Thank you for your support in making this event a memorable and meaningful experience for all.

Warm regards → Leanne Parrott and the Equality and Diversity school council team



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REMINDERS & NOTICES

**** PARENT ALERT ****

We have been alerted by some parents that an ex-pupil of the school is distributing vapes in the community. This may be taking place after school as students make their way home. We would urge you to check school bags/blazers etc for vapes and please to report anything untoward to us a.s.a.p.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PGL Parents evening	-	11 June
FOCUS & Year 10 Work Experience week	-	23 -27 June
Year 6 Induction Days	-	1 & 2 July
Year 12 Induction Day	-	4 July
Sports Day	-	8 July

CAREERS

Work Experience

We still have a number of our year 10 students looking for a work experience placement for 23rd-27th June. If you are able to offer a placement please contact Mrs Sinacore, our careers adviser at wex@johncolet.co.uk, we are particularly keen to find placements in construction, carpentry or sports related roles.

CURRENT VACANCIES

- Cover Supervisor
- Geography / Business Studies teacher

Please check our website for further details [here](#).

SAFEGUARDING LEADS & INFORMATION

If parents have any concerns about this practice or, believe that any young person at John Colet School might be at risk, then please do contact one of the members of our Safeguarding Team via - safeguarding@johncolet.co.uk

YEAR 12 INDUCTION DAY - 4 JULY

Year 11 students who have accepted their conditional offer to JCS Sixth Form are invited to our Sixth Form Induction Day on Friday 4 July. During this day students will find out about life in the sixth form, try taster lessons in their chosen subjects and discover more about the

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careers and next step opportunities that we offer. Students will be sent more information on the day by email over the next few weeks.

Year 12 Induction Day at
John Colet School



SAVE THE DATE

Friday 4 July 2025

Conditional offer holders are invited to
spend the day at JCS
8:30am–2:30pm

TASTER
LESSONS

MEET THE
TEAM

MAKE NEW
FRIENDS

TALK TO
STUDENTS

More info to follow!

#GrowingLeaders

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PARENT SUPPORT : Click [HERE](#) for practical tips

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 🍷 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (👤) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍷 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌪️ (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🔥🍷🍷 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emoji) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojipedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.

CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.

PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to – not just someone who's watching them.

EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples – please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around	🥰 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping'
😎 (Cold face) Cool, stylish or ruthless	👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold
😂 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement	🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)
🙄 (Moai) Stone-faced, unbothered	👉 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference
👑 (Crown) 'Slaying', as in doing great	🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone's behaviour

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

🍷 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms)	🌪️ (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness
❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine	🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced'
🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use	🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm
🌿 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis	⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil
💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse	🍜 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles)



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TOOLED UP - PARENT SUPPORT



The natural environment is precious to us all - being outdoors gives us an escape from the busy world of work and education, and offers our children new opportunities for learning and pleasure.

An increasing amount of **research confirms** what many parents and educators know intuitively: **spending time in natural spaces** and **exploring the outdoors** can **bring** real and lasting **benefits to wellbeing, self-esteem** and **social skills** development.

These Tooled Up resources will help children to explore, have fun and learn in natural spaces.

Our list of [75 Things to Do Outside](#) is **packed with suggestions for primary-aged** children who need a little encouragement to step into the outside world! Why not set a challenge for your child to see how many they can complete?

This **downloadable guide** to [Beach Science for Teens](#) offers **enriching, challenging activities and concepts** that are perfect **for older children** visiting the coast.

We all want our children to have an enjoyable, but safe time in the sun. **Sun safety** is an **essential skill for all children to learn**, especially when they're growing into independence. This resource on [Keeping Children and Teens Safe in the Sun](#) **was created by a Consultant Dermatologist** and will help you ensure your family are protected on scorching summer days.



75 Things To Do Outside



Beach Science For Teens



Keeping Children and Teens Safe in the Sun

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT / ACTIVITIES



Buckinghamshire
Council



Autism Early Support®



The Parent's Portal - a free online support tool for Buckinghamshire parents

To provide early help and guidance and an online community of support, Buckinghamshire Council have partnered with specialist local charity Autism Early Support, to offer parents unlimited access to The Parent's Portal.

This is a self-guided learning tool, designed for parents of children aged 2-17 years who:

- Have noticed differences in their child and they're exploring neurodivergence.
- Have Googled, 'is my child autistic?' or 'what is ADHD?'
- Have an autistic child(ren).
- Are awaiting a neurodevelopmental assessment.

Since its launch on 1 December 2024, nearly 700 Buckinghamshire families have signed up.



Scan the QR code to register or visit portal.autismearlysupport.org.uk/bucks-registrations

Using the Parent's Portal

The Parent's Portal by AES is an online resource that contains:

- **Resources to watch and read** - A multimedia library of information available to view and download, available 24/7, covering topics such as reasonable adjustments to school distress, neurodiversity and SaLT, and use of medication.
- **Live workshops and parent support groups** - Interactive sessions on key topics, bookable in advance, and delivered by speakers with lived experience and professionals in the field.
- **Discussion forums** - Exchange ideas and perspectives with parents and practitioners.

Recent feedback from parents:

94% of parents felt they had a better understanding on topics after attending workshops.

82% felt better equipped to support their child or young person.



The resources are split into four sections:

- Understanding my child
- Supporting my child with education
- Supporting my child at home
- Family relationships and sibling support

No referral is required for families to use the Parent's Portal, and registration with Autism Early Support is simple and straightforward.



Funded by



Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire
and Berkshire West
Integrated Care Board



Proud to be part of
Family Hub Network
Buckinghamshire



How to... Move up to Secondary School Course for year 6s

Getting ready to move up to secondary school? Not sure what to expect? Our 6-week course could help.

We will cover:

- what to expect at secondary school
- making friends and dealing with peer pressure
- tackling your fears and worries
- getting organised

For more information and to book your place scan the QR code.

If you need help email:
familyhubgroups@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



**Monday 9 June
to Monday 14
July 2025**



**Aylesbury
Southcourt
Family Centre
Plus**



**4:00pm
to
5:00pm**



SCAN ME



CULTURE DAY

Thursday
3rd July

TICKETS:

Standard Ticket : £1.50 - 2 dishes
Premium Ticket : £2.50 - 3 dishes
Deluxe Ticket : £4.50 - 5 dishes
Unlimited Ticket : £6.00 - Eat as much as you like

FOOD WILL BE SERVED FROM THE BEGINNING OF BREAKTIME UNTIL THE END OF LUNCHTIME.
TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE OUTSIDE THE HALL (WHERE THE EVENT WILL BE TAKING PLACE)

BAKE SALE:
Mini cakes, Brownies, Cookies = 75p
Cupcakes, Rice krispie clusters, Flapjacks = £1.00
Cake slices, Rocky road = £1.50
(NOT INCLUDED WITH TICKET)

Help us raise money for children involved in conflict

