

5 January 2017



Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I hope that you have all had an enjoyable festive break and am pleased to welcome all of our students back for the spring term.

We had a very eventful autumn term, culminating with many Christmas events including our mini Christmas Fayres during the last week of term. These raised over £700 towards our all-weather pitch; well done and thank you to all involved. We will continue to fund raise for the pitch; many thanks for your support with this.

On the first Saturday of the Christmas holiday, The Spires College Singers performed in, and were crowned champions of, The South Devon Christmas Choir Competition as part of the 'Christmas by the Sea' festival in Torquay. We are very proud of The Spires College Singers and would like to thank them, Mrs Amos and everyone else involved in supporting them towards this achievement.

You can keep up to date with events and achievements as they happen by following our facebook page and twitter feed and via our website.

Christmas Card Recycling

We have a collection box in the reception foyer for Christmas cards to be recycled, in conjunction with The Woodland Trust and Devon Wildlife Trust. They will plant one tree for every 1000 cards that they receive.

Uniform Expectations Reminder

We know that Christmas is a busy time for everyone and that the return to college arrives sooner than expected, which can leave some of us unprepared. However, our uniform expectations remain the same and must be upheld. Students must ensure that they are dressed appropriately for college and we thank parents/carers for supporting their children with this. Noted uniform misdemeanours and corrections are shown below:

✗ Wearing of make-up, nail-varnish, false nails and jewellery/accessories	✓ These are not allowed (up to one discreet stud earring in each ear is permitted)
✗ Incorrect footwear, such as trainers or boots	✓ Shoes must be wholly black and made of a 'polishable' material such as leather (not suede)
✗ Incorrect trousers, including jeans and black or blue trousers	✓ Trousers must be dark grey, traditional styled school trousers
✗ Short skirts	✓ Skirts must be knee length (5cm above or below the knee) and must not be rolled up

Further details of the uniform expectations are available in the uniform booklet on our website: <http://www.thespirescollege.com/parents/college-uniform>, a paper copy is also available from the reception office.

Staff Changes

Last term we said goodbye to the following staff:

Mrs Greenwood - Cover Supervisor, Mrs O'Callaghan - LSA, Mrs Bower - Specialist SEND Teacher, Mrs Atkins - English Teacher, Mr Vaas - Science Teacher and Mrs Vaughan - Head of Sixth Form.

We wish all of them well in their new ventures.

New staff joining us during last term were:

Ms Stackman and Mrs Shorey - LSAs, Mr Reay - PE Technician, Mrs Evans - Art Technician and Miss Hunter - Maths Teacher.

This term we welcome to the team:

Mr Kay - Head of Sixth Form and PE Teacher, Ms Leverton - Assistant Head of English, Mrs Nicholas Taylor - Human Sciences Teacher, Miss Hurrell - Specialist SEND Teacher.



Thank you for your continued support of the college and I look forward to another busy and exciting term.

Yours sincerely



Alex Newton
Principal



Dates for the Diary

Parents' Evenings

This is an opportunity to meet your child's subject teachers to discuss their progress. Appointments can be booked online; you will be sent a text message to advise when the booking system is open for your Parents' Evening.

Year 7 Parents Evening	Thursday 9 February	4 – 7 pm
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 23 February	4 – 7 pm
Year 9 Parents Evening	Thursday 30 March	4 – 7 pm
Year 10 Parents Evening	Thursday 20 April	4 – 7 pm
Year 11 Parents Evening	Thursday 12 January	4 – 7 pm
Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening	Thursday 26 January	4 – 7 pm

Other Events

Year 8 Options Evening: Information about choosing GCSE Option Subjects	Thursday 16 March	6 – 8 pm
Post 18 Pathways Evening: Information about the next steps after Sixth Form	Thursday 19 January	6 – 8 pm
Year 11 Parents' workshop: Information and practical advice about how to support your child with their GCSEs	Tuesday 24 January	5 – 7 pm
College Production: Dreams of Anne Frank	Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2 February	7 pm
Year 7 Valentines Disco	Friday 3 February	6.30 – 8.30 pm
Scholastic Book Fayre in the Library	Wednesday 8 – Thursday 9 February	

Term and holiday dates

Inset Day (non-student day)	Friday 10 February
Half – Term Break	Monday 13 – Friday 17 February
Return to College	Monday 20 February
Last day of Spring Term	Friday 31 March
First day of Summer Term	Tuesday 18 April