

SIR JOHN DEANE'S
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE
1557

18 October 2021

Celebrations and Achievements

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we approach the end of our first half term I would like to share some of our most joyous moments. There have been so many to choose from as our students have made a truly fantastic start to the new academic year and we couldn't be more proud of them.

Rewarding opportunities

The term started with an electric atmosphere with students eager to take full advantage of all opportunities available to them. We launched our new co-curricular programme which offers a rich variety of sessions to stimulate curiosity and allow students to try new things. The opportunity to take advantage of sporting activities, music and performing arts, to clubs and societies like *Women's Society*, *Environmental Society*, *Diversitas* and *LGBTQ Society* has been embraced with enthusiasm. Our Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme which is run by Richard Bailey has been extremely popular with over 140 students signing up this year!

A heart felt thank you to our wonderful teachers who have run 5 week courses on topics that they themselves love in order to inspire our year 12 students, help them settle in and have fun. Sessions ranging from *Taste the World*, to *Global Citizenship*, *Conversational Chinese*, to *Solving a Rubik's Cube*, the list is endless with over 60 options to choose from. Our student experience has certainly got off to a flying start with the core co curriculum continuing all year.

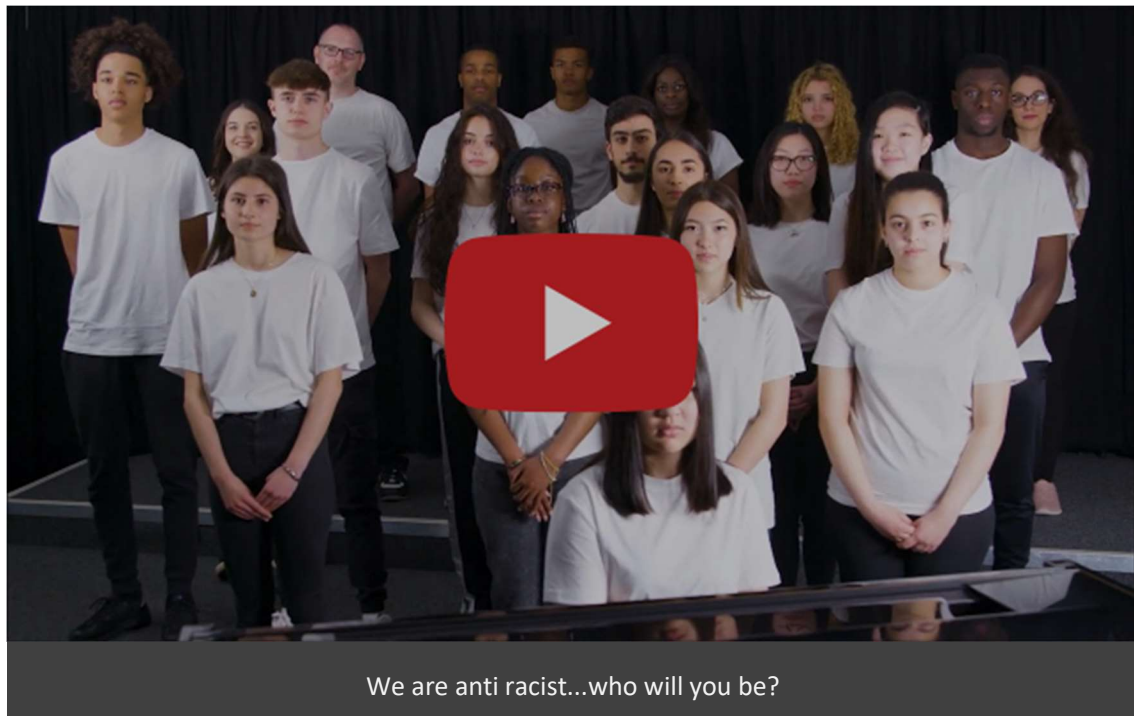
Celebrating Black History Month with pride

The start of our Black History Month celebrations saw the launch of our *Diversitas* video. Before the end of the summer term, our incredible students from the college's *Diversitas* committee worked together to create this powerful and moving short film

to celebrate and value our unique diversity and culture of inclusion and belonging. We are committed to creating an actively anti-racist college, actively working to ensure that all students, regardless of their race and ethnicity can learn as equals.

Please take the opportunity to watch the video here, it is truly exceptional and embodies everything that we stand for on diversity.

<https://youtu.be/9VlsbmtRlpk>



Showing racism the red card

To further launch our Black History Month celebrations, our community came together to show racism the red card. All students and colleagues wore red as a symbol of the college's anti-racist stance. We were delighted to see a sea of red throughout college and proud of our students and staff who purchased our college anti-racism wrist band. The proceeds from the sale of the wrist bands is going to our college charity The Wonder Foundation which is focused on educating women and girls to end poverty across the world.

Additionally, all subjects continue to celebrate Black heroes who have made a lasting impact on our world who continue to inspire us in our everyday lives. Our specialist Personal Development Programme has been carefully designed to include anti-racism and the issue will be revisited regularly throughout the year. Other celebrations

include music by black artists picked by the Diversitas committee and traditional African and Caribbean food options in the canteen.

[View the pictures on our website](#)

Inspiring students to take their place in the world

One of our main priorities is to inspire our students and create rewarding experiences. All staff here work with passion to ensure that every individual feels and know that they belong. The Business department planned a powerful lesson about female entrepreneurs and showcased their new display board which celebrated key female business figures. One example is Sharon White, the Chair of the John Lewis Partnership. This lesson inspired Elliot McLean our year 12 Business student to contact her and share how we celebrate her achievements in class. We were thrilled when she sent a personalised video back to him for our students to learn all about her experiences, inspiring our students to be confident to take their place in the world.

https://youtu.be/aBRiCB4_hj0



Sharon White, John Lewis Partnership

Student achievements

All of our students can celebrate their achievements this half term, settling quickly into their new routines and impressing their teachers every day with their caring, curious

and responsible qualities.

Our students who volunteered to help during our open events have made a wonderful and lasting impression on many parents and prospective students. The positive feedback has been pouring in about their passion and enthusiasm for the college, their impressive nature and how kind and caring they were in welcoming people to our college. We experience every day so it gave us great joy that our wider community got to share this with us.

Please know that we love to hear about our student's success outside of college, please do share your children's stories with us so we can celebrate with them too. We were delighted to hear about Grace Roberts and Holly Weedall who represented the North West team in the Mini Marathon in London, what an achievement this is. Carolyn Dooley our wonderful Library mentor also did us proud running the London marathon and finishing in position 5272 overall out of over 40,000 runners and the 744th Female, what an inspiration you all are.

As we move through the autumn term there are many more joyous and rewarding experiences to look forward to and we will continue to share these on Twitter, YouTube, Facebook and on our website.

We have had a truly remarkable half term and would like to thank you for your continued support. Enjoy the half term break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back.

Yours Sincerely,

Tracy Foy
Deputy Principal