

Friday 18 September 2026

THE COSTELLO SCHOOL WEEKLY BULLETIN



Welcome from Mrs A Piper Assistant Headteacher, Achieve

I am delighted to be writing to you after recently returning from maternity leave. It has been wonderful to reconnect with our school community and to see the enthusiasm, resilience, and determination of our students as they begin another important year.

For our Year 11 students, this marks the final stage of their secondary school journey. It is an exciting time, filled with opportunities, challenges, and important milestones. While the months ahead will undoubtedly bring moments of pressure and stress as students prepare for their examinations and next steps, I want to reassure both students and parents that they will not face these challenges alone.

Our staff are committed to supporting every student every step of the way. Through high-quality teaching, targeted intervention, guidance, and encouragement, we will work together to help our young people achieve their very best. We know that success comes not only from hard work and determination, but also from the support network that surrounds our students, both at school and at home.

I am incredibly excited about what we can achieve together this year. Year 11 is a time for students to demonstrate all they have learned and to grow in confidence as they prepare for the future. I look forward to celebrating their successes and supporting them through every stage of the journey.

As we begin this important year, I would like to leave you with an inspiring reminder from Nelson Mandela:

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Let us continue to encourage our young people to believe in themselves, embrace the challenges ahead and remember that every small step forward is progress.

All Years - Communications

Year 11 Leaver's Prom (email sent 11.9.26)

We are thrilled to confirm that the Leavers' Prom will take place at Oakley Hall on Thursday 1 July 2027.

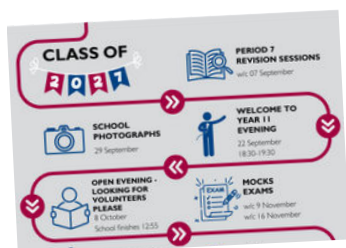
Year 10 BET Assessments (email sent 14.9.26)

The first of assessments for Year 10 will run from Monday 12 October – Friday 23 October 2026. During this period, Year 10 will sit a Bohunt Education Trust (BET) formal summative assessment in each subject they study at school.

'Welcome to' Evenings Reminder

A gentle reminder of our upcoming Welcome to Evenings.

YEAR GROUP	DATE	TIME	FOCUS
7	Thursday 15 October	17:30 - 18:30	Joining the Costello Family
8	Wednesday 23 September	17:00 - 18:00	Options
9	Tuesday 22 September	17:00 - 18:00	GCSE Revision
10	Wednesday 23 September	18:30 - 19:30	Work Experience
11	Tuesday 22 September	18:30 - 19:30	Exams



Key Events (Roadmaps) 2026/2027

All years roadmaps showing key events can be found on our website here - [Communications - Key Events](#)

Co-curricular Activities

Autumn Term Timetables now on our website - [Enjoy Respect Achieve - beyond the classroom](#)

Enrichment activities – Autumn T

MONDAY		
ACTIVITY	YEAR GROUP	STAFF
TUTOR TIME		
LUNCHTIME		
Multi gym	9-11	
Chess Club	7-11	Mr Jennings
KS4 Art & Photography Drop in	9-11	Mr Thomas
Digital Languages Club (French, German & Spanish) – for support with Quizlet and other online language learning or	7-11	M Spacagna Mrs McDougall

The Costello School Video



We are delighted to share The Costello School's new promotional video - a celebration of everything that makes our school such a vibrant, ambitious and welcoming community. Filmed throughout the last academic year, the video captures the energy of daily life at Costello, showcasing our students, staff, learning, achievements and the wealth of opportunities available beyond the classroom. A huge thank you goes to all of our students who played such an active and enthusiastic role in bringing the video to life. From appearing on camera and sharing their experiences to helping showcase the many different aspects of school life, their confidence, enthusiasm and pride in Costello shine through in every frame. We are incredibly proud of the finished film and excited to make it the face of The Costello School moving forward, offering prospective students and families an authentic glimpse of the experience, opportunities and community they can be part of.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMj9H_r3PTI

All Years - Communications

TERM DATES & INSET DAYS

Autumn Term 2026	INSET Days	Tuesday 1 – Wednesday 2 September
	Term Begins	Thursday 3 September – Year 7 and Year 11 ONLY
	Term Begins	Friday 4 September – All Years
	BET INSET	Friday 25 September
	Open Evening	Thursday 8 October – Early finish at 12:55
	Late Start	Friday 9 October – 09:50 start (following Open Evening)
	Half Term	Monday 26 October – Tuesday 3 November (students return on Wednesday 4 November)
	BET INSET	Wednesday 25 November
	Term Ends	Friday 18 December – Early finish at 12:00
	Christmas Break	Monday 21 December – Monday 4 January (students return on Tuesday 5 January)
Spring Term 2027	Term Begins	Tuesday 5 January
	Half Term	Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February
	INSET Day	Monday 8 March
	Term Ends	Thursday 25 March – Early finish at 12:00
	Easter Break	Friday 26 March – Friday 9 April
Summer Term 2027	Term Begins	Monday 12 April
	Bank Holiday	Monday 3 May
	Half Term	Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June
	BET INSET	Tuesday 22 June
	Term Ends	Wednesday 21 July – Early finish at 12:00

Red/Blue Weeks Planner

Top 5 Achievers

Achievement Points awarded 07/09/2026 - 11/09/2026

YEAR 7 TOP 5

Charlie F (7MA2)	80
Hannah K (7MA1)	73
Kyle P (7MA1)	71
Albie B (7DA2)	71
Rayan C (7JA2)	68

YEAR 8 TOP 5

Sparsh S (8JA2)	71
Penny P (8DA1)	68
Emmanuel O (8DA2)	66
George B (8DA1)	63
Ella G (8JA2)	62

YEAR 9 TOP 5

Mounish P (9MA1)	63
Joel O (9AT2)	62
Tillie B (9RPI)	62
Mam N (9JA1)	62
Jayquan A (9MA2)	62

YEAR 10 TOP 5

Teagan A (10DA1)	62
Alfie C (10AT1)	54
Nick C (10MA2)	53
Joby P (10AT1)	53
Jacob C (10RP2)	52
Sam C (10AT1)	52

YEAR 11 TOP 5

Aishwarya J (11RPI)	59
Lily D (11JA2)	58
Aimee FI (11AT1)	54
Samiyah K (11DA1)	50
Cleo H (11JA2)	49

Well done to all!

#CostelloCommunity
enjoy | respect | achieve

VIEW LOST PROPERTY ON WEBSITE

Lost property items that are not named can now be viewed on our website!

[VIEW LOST PROPERTY CLICK HERE](#)

Items will be kept for a minimum of four weeks, after this time it will be recycled or given to charity.

Students have daily access to the lost property spreadsheet, via their tutor. This lists everything that's been handed in unnamed. Please ask your child to refer to the list, if they have lost anything, as well as retracing their steps, and asking their Teachers.

Remember, it would greatly help if all uniform and water bottles etc are clearly named.

Any lost property queries please email Mrs McClure - h.mcclure@costello.hants.sch.uk

Last chance to claim!

- Chelsea black metal water bottle
- Black "Jessica Simpson" coat
- ION8 light green plastic water bottle
- Bright blue "crane" bucket hat
- Black baseball cap "Old Basing cricket club"
- White stylus case
- Pale blue baseball cap "F & F"
- Black "Cantu" hairbrush
- Black water bottle with silver lid and timings down the side
- Dark blue metal water bottle
- Black compact umbrella with remains of red label
- Black compact umbrella
- Black compact umbrella
- Black framed sunglasses
- Black framed glasses
- Black & gold framed sunglasses
- Hunger Games gold pin badge
- 30" Blazer
- 34" Price & Buckland maroon jumper
- Black zipped up jacket "Aztec Diamond" size small



Queen Mary's College

OPEN EVENING

» 23rd & 24th September 2026 | 5-8pm «

AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE OPTIONS BEYOND SCHOOL...

- Tour the campus
- Learn about courses
- Meet staff and students
- Discover the Triple A+ Programme
- Attend a Principal Talk
- Explore enrichment & Super Curricular options



Scan to
Register

» Learn more and book your visit: www.qmc.ac.uk/open-events «



A HIGH-ACHIEVING SIXTH FORM COLLEGE WHERE STUDENTS FLOURISH

Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke, RG21 3HF

BASINGSTOKE
COLLEGE of
TECHNOLOGY



ATTEND AN OPEN EVENT

COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

Monday 12 October 2026 4.30pm to 7pm

Saturday 21 November 2026 10am to 12.30pm

Monday 26 April 2027 4.30pm to 6.30pm

APPRENTICESHIP FAIR

Monday 8 February 2027 4.30pm to 7pm

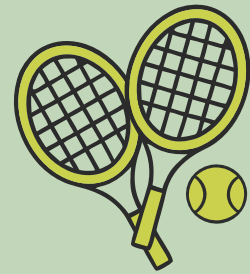
For any enquiries please contact
our Schools Liaison Team at
schools.liaison@bcot.ac.uk

REGISTER NOW
BCOT.AC.UK/
OPENDAYS

Free Tennis Open Day in Basingstoke, Sunday 20 September

Fancy trying tennis as a family? Basingstoke Indoor Tennis Centre is hosting free taster sessions on Sunday 20 September, 13:00 to 15:00, as part of the Barclays Big Tennis Weekends.

- Completely free, no cost at all
- All ages from 4 upwards, plus a session for adults
- All abilities welcome, including total beginners
- Rackets and balls provided, just turn up in trainers
- Friendly qualified coaches at your local centre



Session times: 4 to 7 years at 13:00, 8 to 10 years at 13:30, 11 to 15 years at 14:00, adults 16 and over at 14:30.

Where: Basingstoke Indoor Tennis Centre, War Memorial Park, Crossborough Hill, Basingstoke RG21 4AG

Book your free place:

<https://bitc.basingstoketennis.org.uk/EventsV2/Summary/fa06463a-58b0-467a-b71d-c7c87db8c473>

ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP-TO-DATE?



We politely remind you of the importance of keeping your contact details up to date with the school. Recently, we have experienced an increase in cases where we have been unable to reach parents/carers due to outdated information.

To ensure the safety and well-being of our students, it is vital that we have your most current contact details, including phone numbers, email addresses, home address etc. Any changes must be provided to us in writing as we are no longer able to accept verbal updates over the phone.

If you are the priority 1 contact, we appreciate your patience if we need to verify any details with you directly. This is a necessary step to maintain accurate records and ensure effective communication in case of emergencies or important updates. If you wish to check the current information we have held for you then please contact our friendly Reception Team who would be happy to help.

Please email cadmin@costello.hants.sch.uk if you need to update any information.



Have you thought about joining the brilliant teaching profession or know someone that should?

We offer all the benefits of being part of a large national programme while also providing locally delivered school-based training.

Find out more about training to teach with Inspiring Future Teachers contact us at teachertraining@bohuntrust.com

Medication in School

If your child requires medication to be administered during a school day, these need to be stored in the Medical office along with the medicines administering form signed by a parent. Medication should be in original packaging with the information leaflet included. Students are not permitted to carry any medication on them, apart from inhalers and auto-injectors.

Medical Help in School

Please be reminded that students should not be contacting parents and arranging to be collected from school during the school day. If your child starts feeling unwell, please advise them to go to the Medical office to receive medical assistance or, if required, the school will contact the parents to arrange to take the student home.

Lost Property

We have an ever increasing amount of lost property. All items of clothing/property should be clearly labelled with your child's name. If your child has misplaced any of their personal belongings they are welcome to come to Reprographics - Mrs McClure, Reception or Site, during breaks or after school to see if these have been handed in. Any valuable items will be kept at Reception. [VIEW LOST PROPERTY CLICK HERE](#)

Change of Address/Circumstances

Please notify us if there are any changes of address or circumstances by emailing cadmin@costello.hants.sch.uk

Enrichment

Co-curricular details can be found [HERE](#). We urge all students to sign up to a minimum of one club per term but the more the better!

Key Dates & Events

To view key dates and events for this academic year for your child you can view this [HERE](#).

Pre-loved Uniform

We sell a range of pre-loved uniform from our shop in the Reprographics office, with prices ranging from 50p to £5.00. (Cash only please). Please email Helen McClure, should you wish to enquire-giving approximate sizes to ; repro@costello.hants.sch.uk

Also, should you wish to donate any outgrown uniform, we are always very grateful-thank you!



Illness

When your child is unwell you must inform the school on the first morning of absence and for safeguarding, please ensure absence is reported daily. We recommend absences are reported promptly before 09:00. Please refer to the NHS 'Healthier together' app or see guidance [here](#)

Planned Leave of Absence

Please note, there is no legal entitlement for time off during term time and adequate notice needs to be given. Please use the [LOA form](#) to report any planned absence.

Medical appointments

If you are unable to obtain a medical/dental appointment outside of school hours, the appointment details are to be advised on '**Report an**

Absence' via Classcharts.

Alternatively, email to cadmin@costello.hants.sch.uk

Report an Absence

This can be done on '**Report an Absence**' via Classcharts or email to cadmin@costello.hants.sch.uk

Guidance on how to report via Classcharts [here](#)