#PROUD ToBeCostello

CELEBRATING THIS ACADEMIC YEAR

Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the best parts of my role is seeing our students learning, trying new things and supporting one another. They have given us so much to be proud of this half term and this edition shares just some of those achievements.

Our Open Evening was a particular highlight. Students welcomed visitors, led activities and spoke to families about life at Costello. In Maths, they helped visitors explore how the subject is used around the world. In Languages, they encouraged younger children to try French and Spanish, with some visitors even sampling snails. Across the school, our students took responsibility and helped families feel welcome. They were outstanding ambassadors and I was delighted to hear how warmly visitors spoke about them. Seeing staff and students working together, enjoying the activities and sharing their enthusiasm for their subjects captured much of what makes Costello special.

The Barcelona visit gave students the chance to use their Spanish and experience the culture they have been learning about. Visits to the Sagrada Família and Park Güell, alongside flamenco and Spanish food, made for a memorable few days. Closer to home, our Year 10 and Year 11 Drama students worked with The Paper Birds Theatre Company, learning from professional practitioners and developing ideas for their own performances. These opportunities take considerable organisation and I am grateful to our staff who make them possible.

There is plenty to celebrate in lessons too. Year 7 scientists have been growing salt crystals, while Year 11 have created batteries from coins. Our Year 9 artists have produced thoughtful sketchbook work inspired by Matisse, experimenting with ink and mono printing. In Food Technology, students have been developing their skills through dishes ranging from stir-fries to chicken Kiev. Behind this work are the daily conversations, encouragement and patient explanations that help students make progress. Knowing our students well helps us recognise when they need reassurance, when they need more help and when they are ready to be stretched.

#PROUD ToBeCostello

CELEBRATING THIS ACADEMIC YEAR

Our clubs offer further opportunities to get involved and spend time with staff and students who share their interests. Coding Club welcomes students from every year group, while Pom Pom Club has attracted more than 20 students each session, with experienced members helping those who are learning for the first time. Our Summer Reading Challenge participants also deserve congratulations, with some reading so many books that they ran out of space in their booklets.

We have had some excellent sporting achievements. Our Year 7 football team secured their first win with a 4–1 victory against a strong Vyne side. Olivia, Elodie, Minnie and Sophie have achieved impressive gymnastics results, with Sophie returning from her first international competition in Bulgaria with an Aerodance silver medal. We are proud of the dedication behind these performances and pleased to celebrate students' achievements outside school as well as within it.

Year 11 have been working towards their mock examinations through revision, Walking Talking Mocks and Saturday maths sessions. These sessions give students valuable time with their teachers to ask questions, work through difficulties and feel more confident about the examinations ahead. Thank you to students for their commitment and to colleagues for the additional time they are giving to help them prepare.

We want every student to find something at Costello that interests them, challenges them and gives them a sense of achievement. We also want them to know that there are adults here who will listen, help them through difficulties and be pleased to see them succeed.

Thank you to our staff for the care and time they give our young people and to our families for your continued support. Above all, thank you to our students for giving us so much to celebrate.

I wish you all an enjoyable half-term break.

Best wishes,

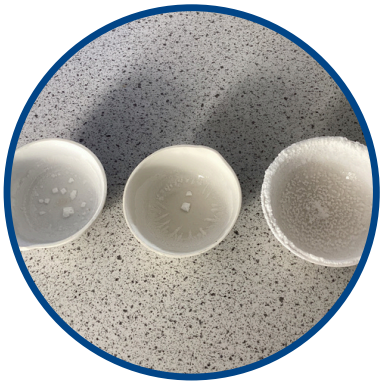
Mr A Conway

SCIENCE

A Fantastic First Half Term of Science!

What a brilliant start to the year it has been in Science! Our students have been busy exploring, investigating, experimenting and putting their scientific knowledge into practice. From growing crystals and creating batteries to burning food and making rainbows, there has certainly been plenty of excitement in the lab! Here's a look at what each year group has been getting up to this half term.

Year 7 – Separating Mixtures



Year 7 have been developing their practical skills by learning how to separate mixtures. They successfully separated salt, sand and iron filings, using their knowledge of different separation techniques. They also produced some excellent crystals of pure salt – a fantastic result and a great example of chemistry in action!

Year 8 – Photosynthesis, Respiration and Exercise

Year 8 have been exploring the fascinating processes of photosynthesis and respiration, discovering how plants make food and how living organisms release energy through respiration. They also investigated the effects of exercise on heart rate and breathing rate, collecting data and linking their observations to how the body responds to increased demands during physical activity. A great opportunity to bring biology to life!

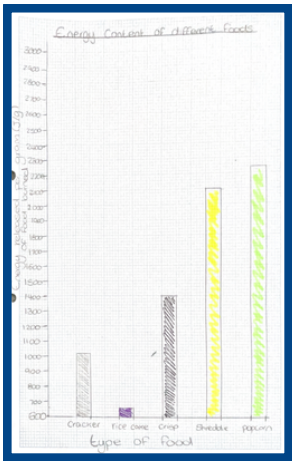


Year 9 – The Energy Content of Food

Year 9 have been investigating the energy content of different types of food. They researched the energy content of various foods before carrying out a practical investigation in which they burned food samples to release energy. This hands-on activity helped them explore how energy can be transferred and why different foods contain different amounts of energy.







SCIENCE

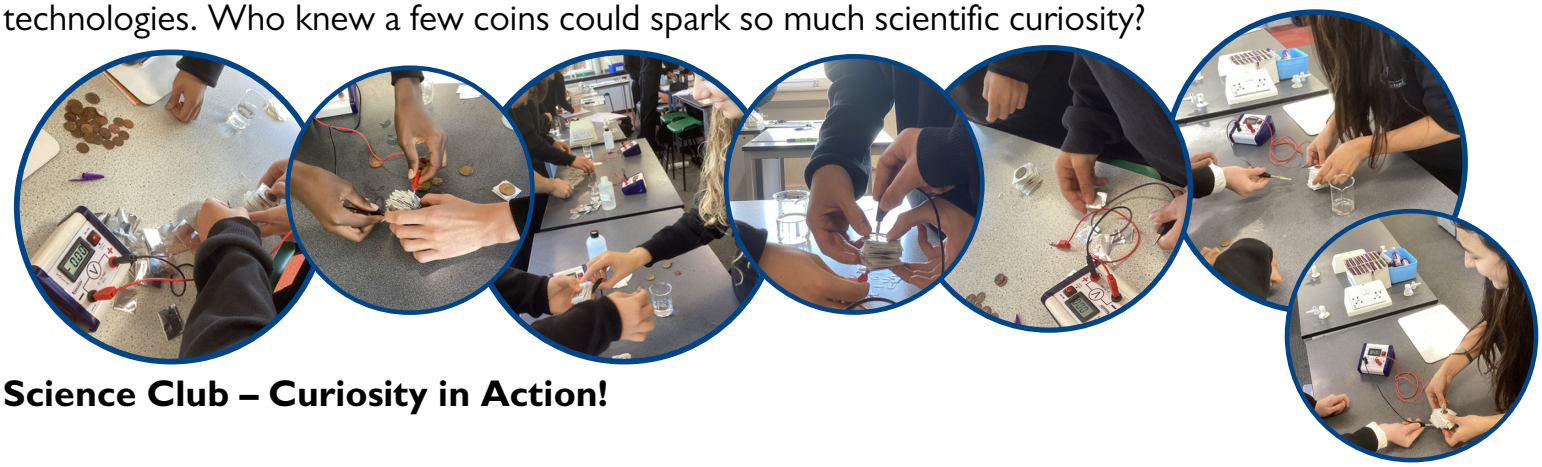
Year 10 – Exploring Energy Changes



Year 10 have been investigating energy changes and the factors that can affect them, including temperature and concentration. They have been developing their understanding of how conditions influence chemical reactions, while strengthening their practical and analytical skills. There has been plenty of scientific thinking as students explored how and why reactions change under different conditions!

Year 11 – Powering Up with Coin Batteries

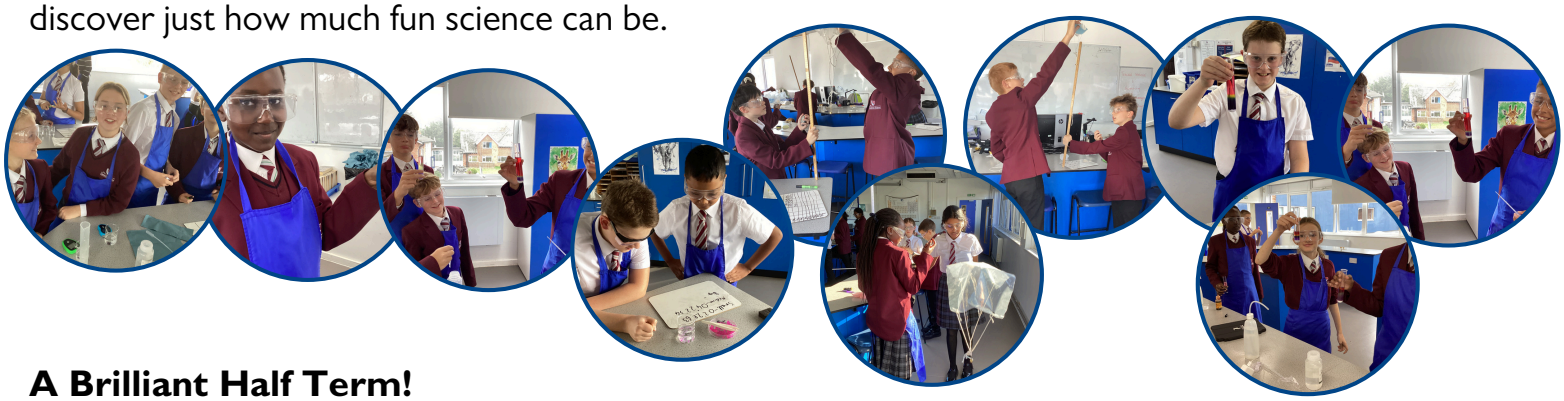
Year 11 have been putting their learning about fuel cells into practice by creating their own coin batteries. This exciting practical activity allowed students to explore how chemical reactions can generate electricity and make links between electrochemical cells and real-world energy technologies. Who knew a few coins could spark so much scientific curiosity?



Science Club – Curiosity in Action!

Our Science Club has been buzzing with activity this half term! Students have been creating colourful rainbows in a test tube, investigating forces by exploring parachutes and observing diffusion in action.

From colourful experiments to exciting investigations, Science Club has been a wonderful opportunity for students to explore scientific ideas beyond the classroom, ask questions and discover just how much fun science can be.



A Brilliant Half Term!

We look forward to another exciting half term filled with discovery, experimentation and plenty more Science in action!

Wishing all our students and families a restful and enjoyable half-term break. Happy half term from the Science Department!

MATHS

Maths Around the World - Open Evening

Our Maths team had a fantastic time celebrating our team's heritage at Open Evening with our exciting "Maths Around the World" safari! Prospective students explored how maths is used across different countries and cultures, from fabric designs and patterns in Nigeria to construction in Zimbabwe. They discovered the connection between scatter diagrams and Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt and explored how capture-recapture methods are used in Australia to estimate animal populations.

It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the real-world relevance of maths, celebrate our diverse backgrounds and inspire future mathematicians. A huge thank you to everyone in the Maths team including our student helpers for their creativity, enthusiasm and teamwork in making the event such a success!



MATHS

Year 11 Maths Mock Exam Preparation

Our Year 11 students have been preparing for their first set of mock exams through Walking Talking Mocks in the main hall and in classrooms. Teachers worked through each question on a predicted exam paper, modelling solutions and explaining key methods. Students then had the opportunity to apply their learning by completing similar "shadow" questions independently.
Students also shared their views on how valuable they found the activity, helping us reflect on how best to support their exam preparation. The sessions encouraged students to identify the topics they need to focus on from their revision lists, which they can now work through independently or practise further using Sparx Maths and other online resources.

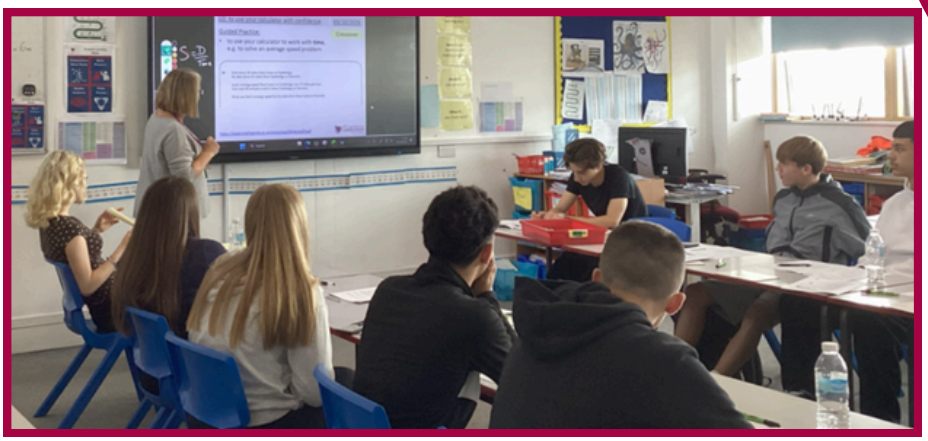
These activities are helping our Year 11s build confidence, develop effective exam techniques and take greater ownership of their revision as they approach their mock exams.







We have also successfully completed two Saturday Skill-Up sessions, giving Year 11 students an additional two hours of focused maths revision in small groups with their teachers. These sessions provided valuable opportunities to revisit key topics, address misconceptions and build confidence ahead of their mock exams after half term.



ENGLISH

English Department News

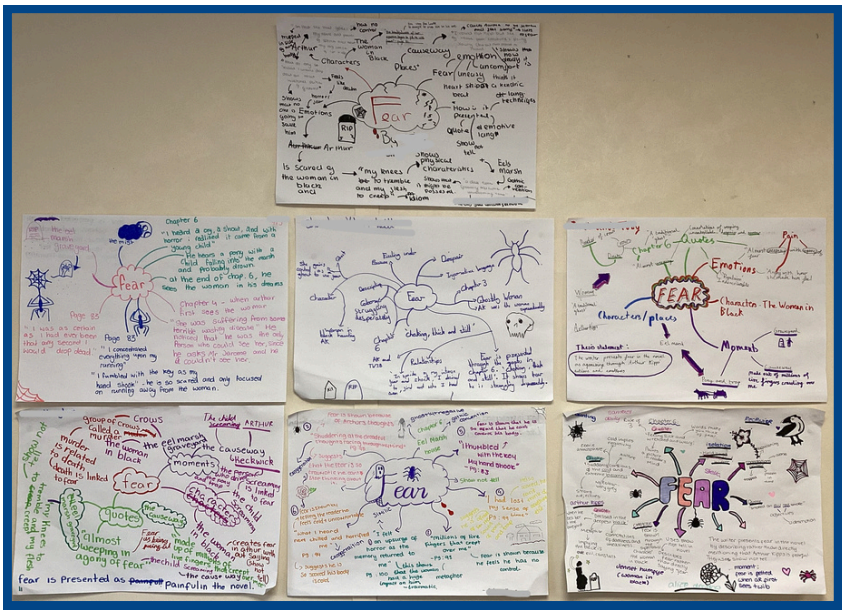
Year 7 Students have enjoyed thinking, reading and writing about storytelling through the unit Magic, Fantasy and the Supernatural this half-term. They have been developing their understanding of narrative structure and archetypes and have produced some fantastic work.

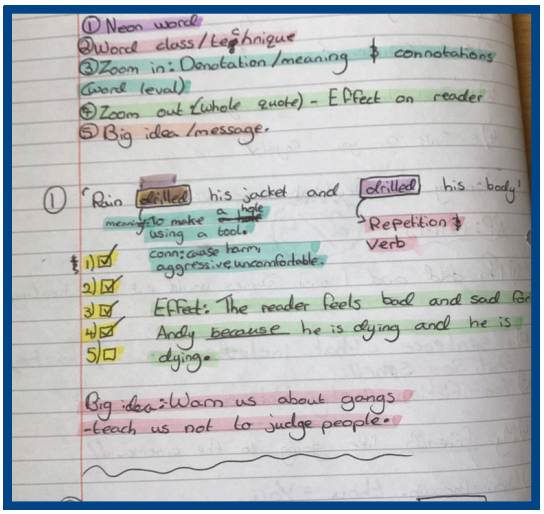
Year 8 Students have been learning how to approach unseen poetry and developing their analytical skills. They have produced some detailed 'quote explosions' to explore language and meaning in poetry.

Year 9 Students have been learning how to study a novel, using The Woman in Black to develop their knowledge of literature and the Gothic tradition. They have enjoyed exploring how texts are constructed and developing their understanding of how writers shape meaning.

Year 10 students have had a busy start to the year, studying Dickens' A Christmas Carol and developing their understanding of authorial intention. They have also used non-fiction texts to synthesise information and consider different viewpoints.

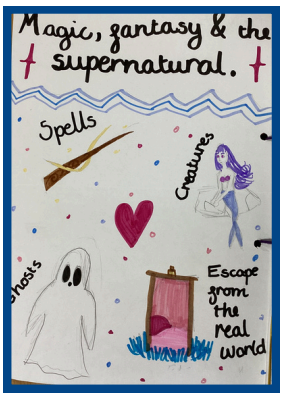
Year 11 Students have been preparing for their mock exams, working hard to revisit texts they have previously studied. After-school intervention sessions have provided further opportunities to focus on revision and build confidence, supporting their progress and future success.

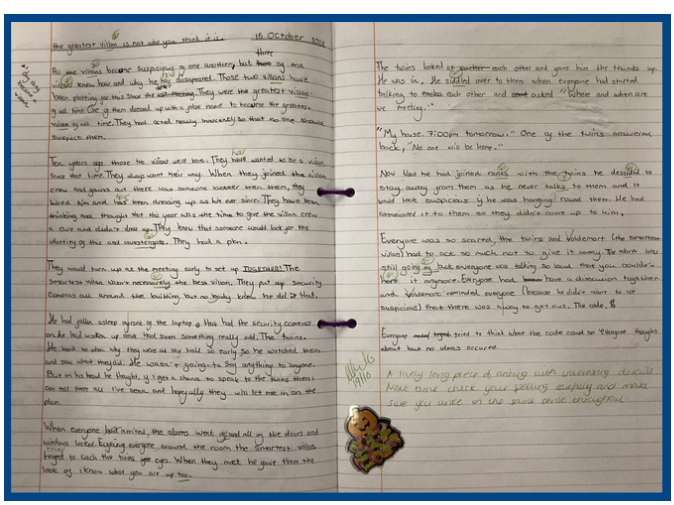












MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

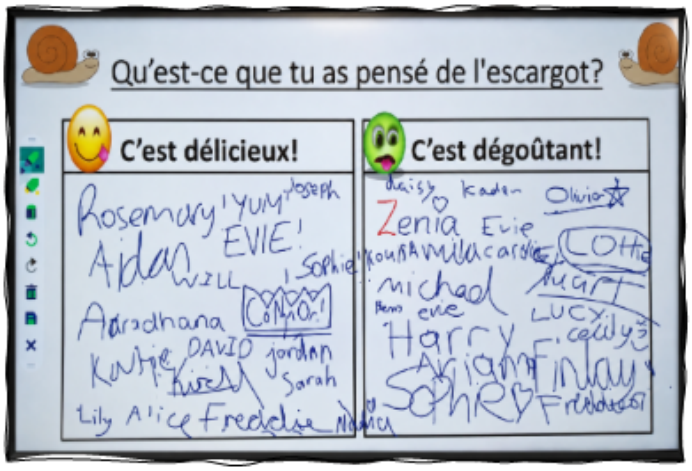
A Busy and Exciting Open Evening in MFL!



Greetings from our visitors, celebrating the wonderful diversity of languages spoken in our community.

We had a lively evening in the Modern Foreign Languages department during Open Evening! Our fantastic student helpers were incredible, enthusiastically running a range of activities for our young visitors.

From pebble painting and practising their French and Spanish pronunciation to organising numbers using cups in both languages, there was plenty to enjoy. Visitors could also sample French and Spanish food, but only after asking for it in the target language. As always, the tasting of snails proved a real highlight, prompting plenty of curiosity and reactions.





A selection of pebble paintings created by our young visitors.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Parents also enjoyed discovering the cultural side of our curriculum and exploring the wonderful creations produced by students through our Culture Passport programme, celebrating the art, traditions and heritage of the French and Spanish-speaking worlds.

A huge thank you to our amazing student helpers for their enthusiasm and hard work in making the evening such a success!



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

To celebrate the European Day of Languages, students took part in a fun competition during tutor time. They watched a short video featuring 10 of our teachers hiding behind a book and saying a few words in a foreign language. The challenge was to identify both the teacher and the language being spoken, testing their listening skills, language knowledge and how well they know their teachers.

A big well done to 8MA2, who secured first place in the competition. Congratulations to everyone who took part and celebrated the wonderful diversity of languages spoken in our school community.



Spanish Trip to Barcelona

Friday – ¡Hola, Barcelona!

Our Barcelona adventure began on Friday, when we arrived safely in the city and settled into our hostel. We set off on a walking tour, taking in the lively Plaça de Catalunya, the narrow streets of the Gothic Quarter and the impressive Barcelona Cathedral. A visit to a local food market gave students the chance to discover traditional Spanish produce and sample some of the local specialities. After a busy first day, we returned to the hostel for a well-earned rest before heading out to enjoy an Italian dinner together.



Saturday – Discovering Gaudí and the sights of Barcelona

Saturday was a day of architectural wonders and cultural discovery. We explored Passeig de Gràcia, admiring two of Antoni Gaudí's most famous buildings, Casa Milà and Casa Batlló and even spotted some creative, Gaudí-inspired designs in a LEGO shop!

We then enjoyed a picnic lunch with views of the magnificent Sagrada Família, learning about its remarkable history and distinctive design. In the afternoon, we visited Park Güell, where Gaudí's colourful mosaics and imaginative architecture provided plenty to admire. We rounded off the day with a delicious seafood paella, giving everyone another opportunity to enjoy the flavours of Spain.



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES





Sunday – From football to flamenco

Sunday offered a fantastic mix of sport, architecture and traditional Spanish culture. In the morning, we visited the Camp Nou immersive experience to learn about the history of FC Barcelona and its iconic stadium. A spectacular 360-degree presentation recreated the atmosphere of a match day, allowing students to imagine what it would be like to stand at the centre of the pitch. In the afternoon, we headed to Poble Espanyol, an open-air village showcasing architecture from across Spain. This was followed by an authentic flamenco performance, where students experienced the energy, rhythm and passion of this much-loved Spanish art form.

Monday – Our final Day



Our final day in Barcelona was the perfect way to round off a fantastic trip! Students enjoyed a stroll along Las Ramblas before exploring the Gothic Quarter and picking up souvenirs around the cathedral.

We then headed to Ciutadella Park for lunch before visiting El Born Culture and Memory Centre, where students discovered more about the city's rich and fascinating history.

There was just time for one final treat on the way back to the hostel, as everyone enjoyed some delicious churros – a definite highlight of the day!



After collecting our suitcases, we made our way to the airport for our flight back to the UK, bringing a memorable trip to a close. We returned home with wonderful memories, new experiences and a deeper appreciation of Barcelona's culture and history.

A huge thank you to Mrs McDougall and Miss Arias for the tremendous amount of time, care and effort they dedicated to organising this trip and to both of them, along with Mr Clarke, for supporting the students throughout this memorable experience.

Trips abroad are an invaluable part of language learning, reminding us that learning a language is about so much more than words and grammar; it is also about discovering, understanding and embracing other cultures, broadening our horizons and creating lasting memories.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

KS3 Food Technology: Cooking Up New Skills!

KS3 students have been busy in the Food Technology kitchen, developing their practical cooking skills and learning more about the importance of a healthy, balanced diet.

Students have been baking delicious oat cookies while exploring the role of fibre in our diets and how it helps to keep our digestive systems healthy. They have also been practising their knife skills, learning how to prepare ingredients safely and confidently before putting their new skills to the test by preparing and cooking their own tasty chicken stir-fry.

It has been fantastic to see students building their confidence, developing valuable life skills and taking pride in the dishes they create. Well done, KS3!



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

KS4 Food Technology: Developing Skills and Culinary Confidence!

KS4 students have been taking on exciting challenges in the Food Technology kitchen, developing their practical skills and growing in confidence.

Students have been exploring different cuts of meat and learning how to prepare and handle poultry safely. They put their knowledge into practice by deboning a chicken before using their newly developed techniques to create delicious sticky chicken wings and homemade chicken Kiev. These more advanced dishes have provided a fantastic opportunity to develop precision, independence and confidence in the kitchen.



Year 9 Food Technology: A Fantastic Start to the Year!

Year 9 students have made a brilliant start to the year, showing enthusiasm and creativity in their Food Technology lessons.

They have been developing their knife skills and practising their accuracy and presentation techniques by creating impressive apple swans and preparing colourful, delicious ratatouille.

Students have also enjoyed designing and making their own salads, linking their practical work to their learning about macronutrients, micronutrients, diet and good health. This has helped them understand how different foods contribute to a healthy, balanced diet and the importance of making informed food choices.

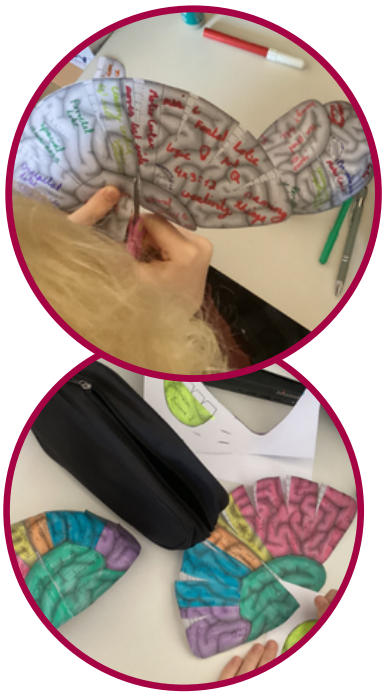
It has been wonderful to see students embracing new challenges, developing valuable practical skills and taking pride in their creations.

Well done to all our budding chefs!



COMMUNICATIONS

Year 9 have made an impressive start to their GCSE Psychology courses! Students have been exploring the different parts of the brain and how they influence our decisions and emotions. To help reinforce their learning, they created their own 'brain hats', with some proudly wearing them to lessons!



Students are now putting their knowledge into practice by designing their first research study, investigating the relationship between sleep and dreaming. They will explore how different variables, including food, drink and activity levels, may affect sleep quality and influence our dreams.

It's been a fantastic start to their GCSE journey, with students developing their understanding of the brain while beginning to think like psychologists through their own research.



Year 9 Media: Exploring the World of Media

Year 9 Media students have made a great start to their course, using their iPads to experiment with different camera angles when capturing images and creating stills. They have also been exploring a range of media genres, developing their understanding of how images and camera techniques can be used to engage an audience and convey meaning.

Mr Elsom has been really impressed with the students' commitment and the quality of their work so far. Well done, Year 9 – keep up the great work!

Year 9 Economists have made a great start to their GCSE course by exploring why some countries have an abundance of resources while others face scarcity and the impact this can have on their economies.



To bring this concept to life, students took part in a practical origami challenge. One team worked individually, with plenty of resources available, while the other had to work together as a team with limited resources to create their origami models.

The activity highlighted how the availability of resources can affect production and overall output, helping students to understand one of the fundamental principles of Economics in a fun and engaging way.

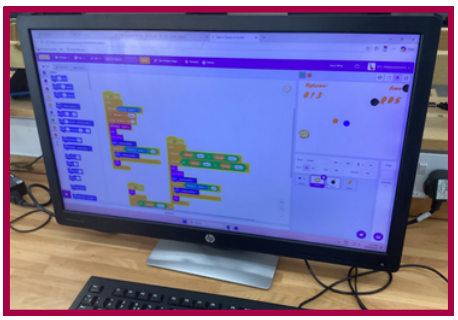
COMMUNICATIONS

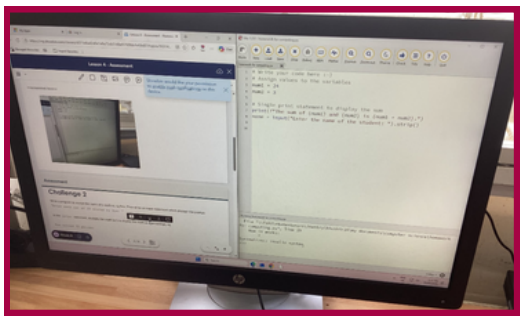
Coding Club: Get Creative with Code!

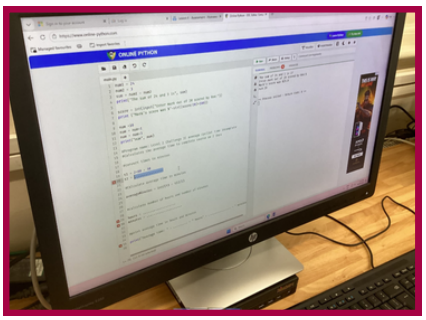
Looking to develop your coding skills or bring your own ideas to life? Mr McShane runs Coding Club every Tuesday lunchtime in C2, open to students from all year groups.

Whether you want to polish your Python skills, supercharge your Scratch projects or have a go at creating something completely new, everyone is welcome. It's a great opportunity to practise, experiment and get creative with coding.

A big thank you to Mr McShane for supporting our budding coders!



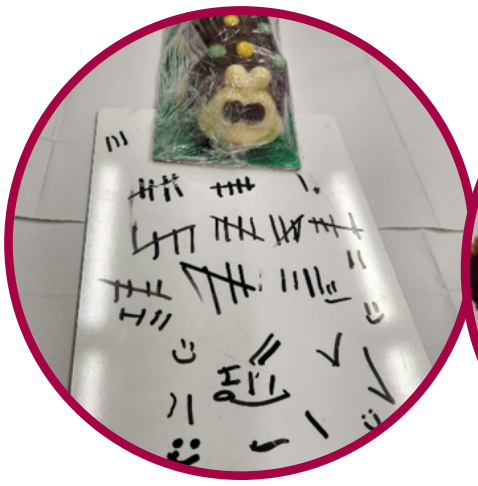




Open Evening: A Fantastic Success!

Our Open Evening was a great success, with plenty of activities to enjoy! The VR headsets proved to be a real crowd-pleaser, while visitors had the chance to test their movie knowledge with Mr Elsom. We even had a special guest appearance from Colin the Caterpillar – and not just any caterpillar, but an M&S one!

A massive thank you to all our amazing student helpers who gave up their time to support the evening. You were absolutely outstanding and represented The Costello School brilliantly. We are incredibly proud of you!





CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

GCSE Drama Students Welcome The Paper Birds

On Wednesday 23 September, our Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Drama students had the exciting opportunity to take part in a series of practical devising workshops led by The Paper Birds Theatre Company.

The sessions were designed to support students with Component 2: Devising Drama as part of their AQA GCSE Drama course. Throughout the day, they explored a range of creative techniques used by professional theatre-makers to generate, develop and shape original performance work from a stimulus.

Students took part in practical activities focusing on movement, storytelling, characterisation, ensemble work and physical theatre. They were encouraged to experiment with ideas, make bold creative choices and consider how their work could communicate meaning to an audience.

Working alongside professional theatre practitioners gave students the opportunity to experience different approaches to devising beyond the classroom. The sessions provided plenty of new ideas and techniques to take forward into their own Component 2 performances, while also helping them to reflect more confidently on the creative process for their devising logs.

It was brilliant to see everyone getting fully involved, working collaboratively and growing in confidence throughout the day. There was a real sense of creativity and energy in the room, with both year groups approaching the sessions with enthusiasm and maturity.

A huge thank you to The Paper Birds for spending the day with us and giving our students such a valuable and inspiring experience. We are looking forward to seeing how the techniques explored during the workshops feed into their own original performances over the coming weeks.



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

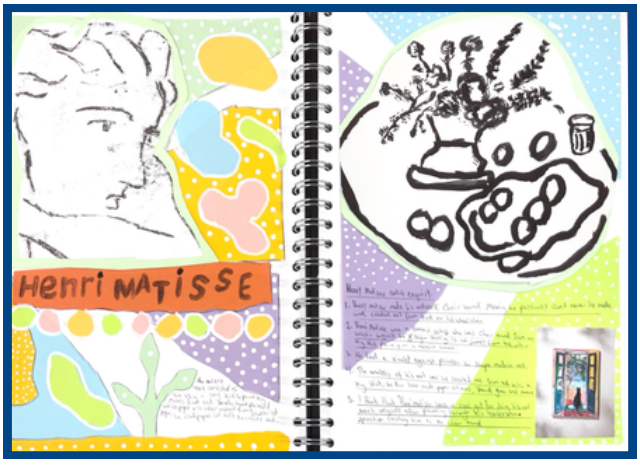
Year 9 Artists Inspired by Henri Matisse

Since returning from the summer holidays, our Year 9 Art students have made an excellent start to the academic year by exploring the life and work of influential French artist Henri Matisse. They have shown enthusiasm, creativity and a willingness to experiment with a range of new artistic techniques.

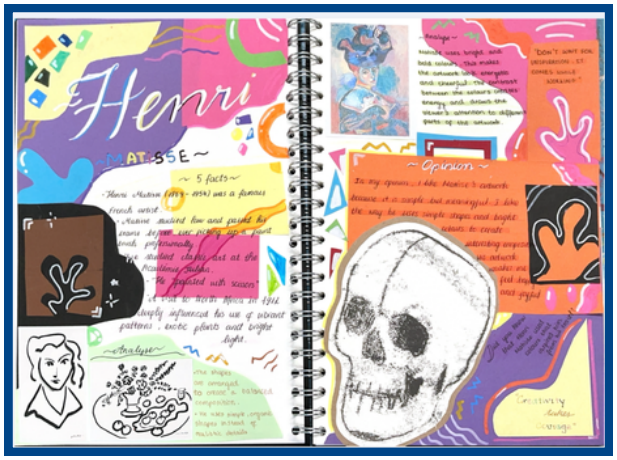
As part of their studies, students completed an Artist Enquiry page in their sketchbooks, researching Matisse's life, influences and distinctive artistic style. Taking inspiration from his famous paper cut-outs, they carefully designed and themed their research pages using bold colours, organic shapes and dynamic compositions. These pages showcase not only their research skills but also their growing understanding of Matisse's unique approach to art.

Alongside their research, students have been developing their practical skills through a variety of activities. They have explored ink drawing and painting techniques, learning how expressive lines and simplified forms can be used to capture the essence of a subject. They have also experimented with mono printing, discovering how unique textures, marks and layered images can be created through this exciting printmaking process.

The work produced so far has been highly imaginative and demonstrates excellent engagement with the project. Sketchbook pages reflect careful presentation, thoughtful analysis and a growing confidence in taking creative risks. It has been fantastic to see students embracing new techniques and developing their own creative ideas as they explore the work of Matisse.









PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Year 7 Football Victory

Our Year 7 football team enjoyed a fantastic result on Monday 19 October, battling hard to secure an impressive 4 - 1 victory against a very strong Vyne side. This was a special moment for the team, as they celebrated their first win of the season!

The players demonstrated excellent determination, teamwork and a positive attitude throughout the match, showing just how much progress they have made. Every player contributed to a superb team performance, supporting one another and working hard from the first whistle to the last. There were some outstanding individual moments to celebrate, including a brilliant hat-trick and a spectacular goal that could certainly be a contender for goal of the season! These highlights, alongside the team's collective effort, made it a memorable afternoon for everyone involved.



Netball Leagues Get Underway

This term has also seen the exciting start of our netball leagues, with all teams showing fantastic effort, determination and team spirit in their opening fixtures. It has been wonderful to see our students putting their skills into practice, supporting one another on court and representing the school with such enthusiasm.

A particular highlight was a fantastic double victory for our Year 7 netball team, securing two brilliant wins against The Vyne and The Clere. The team demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and resilience throughout both matches, making it a memorable evening for everyone involved. Our Year 8 team also enjoyed a great result against Bluecoat, delivering a strong performance and showing just how much progress the team has made.

These performances reflect our school values of Enjoy, Respect and Achieve. From enjoying the opportunity to compete and develop new skills, to respecting teammates and opponents, our students continue to demonstrate what it means to be part of a school team.





PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Cross country





This term has seen the start of our cross-country campaign during PE lessons. Students have worked exceptionally hard and demonstrated real resilience and determination, particularly when faced with some challenging weather conditions this week. They have shown fantastic perseverance, pushing themselves to improve their stamina, endurance and overall fitness while developing a positive attitude towards physical challenges. It has been great to see students encouraging one another, supporting their peers and showing such a strong sense of sportsmanship throughout the sessions. We are incredibly proud of the effort and commitment they have shown so far and look forward to seeing their confidence, fitness and resilience continue to grow as the campaign progresses.







New Kit Reveal

There has been plenty of excitement this season as our school teams take to the pitch in their fantastic new kits! The fresh new look gives our students the opportunity to represent the school with pride, bringing a real sense of team spirit, unity and belonging to every match they play.

School sport is about so much more than the final score. It provides our students with valuable opportunities to develop teamwork, communication, resilience and sportsmanship, while building confidence and creating lasting memories with their teammates. Our new kits are a symbol of this shared experience and reflect our school values of Enjoy, Respect and Achieve.

Wearing their school colours is an important part of this experience, allowing our students to feel part of something special as they compete, support one another and represent our school community with pride, both on and off the pitch.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our generous sponsors, TrustMark, SCT Teamwear and SX Sports Teamwear, for their support in making our new kits possible. Their contribution plays an important role in enabling our students to participate in school sport, look smart and feel proud to represent their school.

VOCATIONAL STUDIES

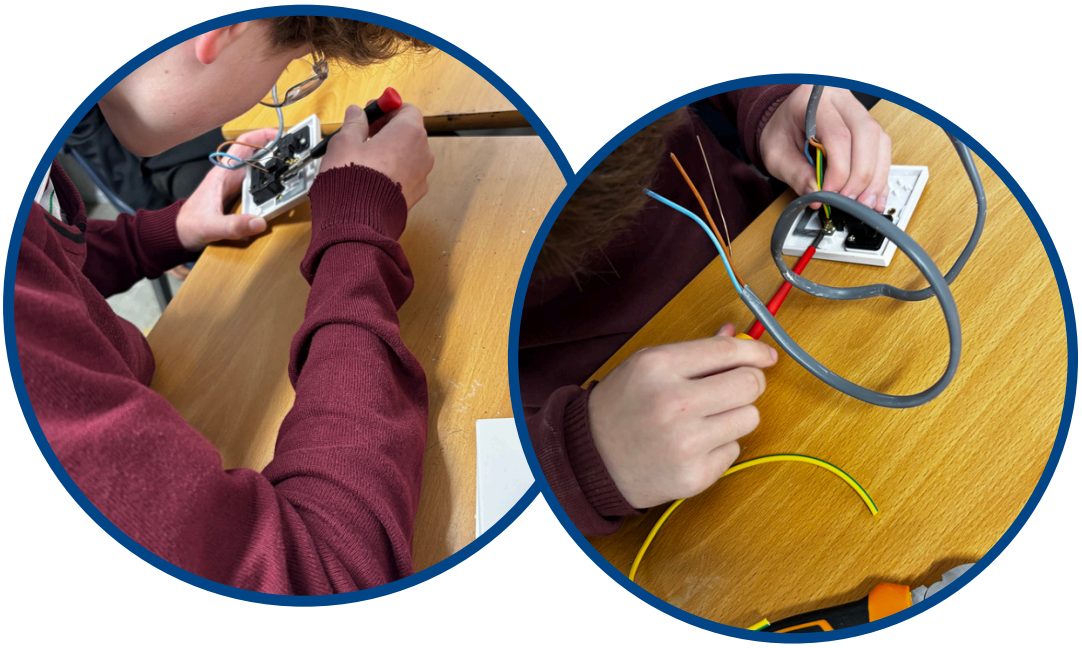
Year 10 Hair and Beauty

Year 10 students have been developing their practical hairdressing skills by learning how to section hair accurately and apply rollers correctly. Once they have mastered this technique, they will progress to drying the hair and brushing out the curls to create their finished styles. This is an exciting opportunity for students to build their confidence and develop their practical skills in hair and beauty.



Year 10 Construction

Year 10 students are developing their practical construction skills by learning how to wire a plug safely and correctly. They are building their understanding of electrical components, including the function of each wire and the importance of following safety procedures when working with electrical equipment.



CO-CURRICULAR

Pom Pom Club Gets Creative!

Pom Pom Club has got off to a fantastic start this year, with more than 20 students attending each session and lots of new faces joining in!

There's a lovely atmosphere in the room, with students working together, sharing ideas and helping one another. Our more experienced pom pom makers have been on hand to support those trying it for the first time, creating a wonderfully welcoming and collaborative environment.

A big thank you also goes to members of our school community who have kindly donated wool. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps us keep the creativity flowing!



PROUD

Fantastic Success for Our Aerobic Gymnasts!

It has been a fantastic year so far for Olivia W, Elodie S (Year 10), Minnie C and Sophie W (Year 7), with plenty of medals already earned.

On Sunday 13 September, the girls competed at the SUKI Aerobic Gymnastics Competition in Fareham, achieving some excellent results across their respective categories.

In the NAC Youth category, Minnie C won silver in the individual competition, while Olivia W finished sixth. The pair then teamed up to win gold in the trio competition.

Competing in NAC Junior, Elodie S secured bronze in the individual competition and gold in her trio.

Sophie W had an outstanding competition in FIG National Development, winning gold in all three events: the individual competition, trio and Aerodance.

A special mention goes to Minnie and Olivia, who were competing an individual routine in this category for the first time, making their results particularly impressive.

Congratulations to all four gymnasts on their fantastic performances and achievements. We are incredibly proud of their dedication and success!

Looking ahead, Minnie, Olivia and Elodie will compete at the NAC Aerobic Cup in Stoke-on-Trent, while Sophie will represent the Southern Region at the Plovdiv Cup Aerobics Open in Bulgaria.

We wish them all the very best in their upcoming competitions!



PROUD

International Aerobic Gymnastics Success for Sophie!

Sophie W in 7DA1 has recently returned from her very first international aerobic gymnastics competition, representing the Southern Region delegation at the Plovdiv Cup in Bulgaria.

The competition attracts some of Europe's best gymnasts, with several World Championship medallists and finalists taking part, making it a fantastic experience for Sophie.

Despite a busy competition schedule, Sophie achieved some brilliant results:

Individual: 38th out of 82 competitors.
Trio: Successfully qualified for the final before finishing an impressive 8th out of 27.
Aerodance: Took home the silver medal!

It was a fantastic competition and a valuable experience for Sophie. She now has a well-earned break from competitions before returning next March, when she moves up into a new age category.

Congratulations, Sophie, on such a brilliant international debut!





LIBRARY

Celebrating Our Summer Reading Challenge Winners!

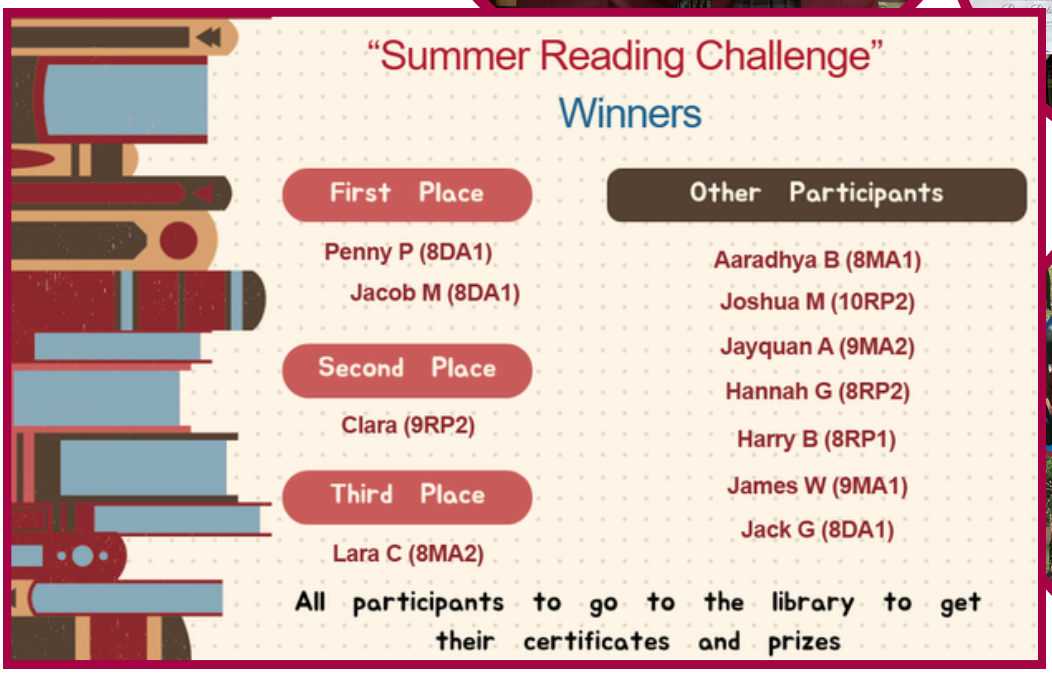
Our students have been fantastic in this year's Summer Reading Challenge, showing real enthusiasm for reading and a brilliant commitment to the activities. Some students even read so many books that they ran out of space in their reading booklets to record them all – a wonderful reflection of their love of stories and eagerness to discover new books!

Throughout the challenge, students showcased their creativity and dedication by writing thoughtful book reviews, crafting their own original stories and tackling a range of quizzes and puzzles. Their efforts demonstrated not only their love of reading but also their imagination, comprehension skills and willingness to try something new.

We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part and delighted to celebrate our challenge winners. Congratulations to all our fantastic readers!

We hope this enthusiasm continues as students discover new authors, explore exciting worlds and enjoy the many rewards of reading. Keep turning those pages!







NOTICES

Spooktacular October Half-Term Fun

Looking for something to do this half-term?

Love Basingstoke is hosting Spooktacular October Half-Term Fun from Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 October, 11:00 – 15:00

For the full programme of activities, visit the Love Basingstoke website.



NOTICES

Festive Friday – Friday 20 November, 17:00–20:00

Get into the Christmas spirit at Basingstoke's Festive Friday! Enjoy a Christmas market, festive entertainment, games and crafts.

For full event details, visit the Love Basingstoke website.



NOTICES

Limelight Basingstoke is a youth amateur dramatics group that puts on affordable musical theatre productions for children and young people aged 7–18.

We're delighted to see one of our former pupils, Katie Rust, taking on the role of Assistant Director and Choreographer for their next production, Fame. The show also features a number of Costello alumni and current students, making this a particularly special production for our Costello Community.

It's set to be an amazing show, so why not show your support and book your tickets?

Book tickets here



NOTICES

Looking for a fun way to get active and meet new people? There are social netball groups in Basingstoke on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, open to everyone aged 18+.
You can join individually, with a friend or as part of a team and all abilities and experience levels are welcome.

One for parents/carers! Follow the link for more information.



NOTICES

CFL Quiz Night – Saturday 14 November

CFL is hosting a Quiz Night at Christ Church Chineham on Saturday 14 November, from 18:00 - 21:00

The event aims to raise vital funds towards the running costs of CFL's two vans, helping to support their work across Basingstoke amid rising fuel prices. It's a great opportunity to enjoy a fun evening while supporting a valuable local organisation.

Teams of 5 - 10 people are welcome and tickets include food. To find out more and secure your place, please follow the sign-up link on the flyer below.



♻ Small Changes. Big Impact!





Helping students and the planet, one item at a time.

💧 Water Bottles

After 4 weeks, unclaimed bottles are sterilised and ready to reuse.

👕 Uniform

Unclaimed items are cleaned and sold in our Pre-Loved Shop.

🧥 Coats & Shoes

Unclaimed items are donated to local families in need.

Reuse. Repurpose. Make a Difference!

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.

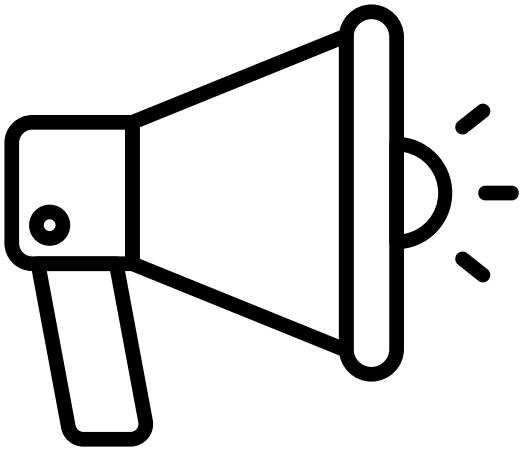
Any lost property queries please email Mrs McClure - h.mcclure@costello.hants.sch.uk

Last chance to claim!

- Black school trousers M&S age 14/15
- Black compact umbrella
- Black coat "Sonneti" age 12/13
- Black coat "George"
- Black metal water bottle "Las Vegas"
- Dark blue metal water bottle "ION8)
- Black boys coat age 15 "Navigation systems"
- Jack & Jones black coat
- Waterproof black jacket "Snowdonia" size S
- JA blue house tie
- Black coat with orange zip "George" age 8/9
- 30" maroon jumper
- Nike black coat size XL

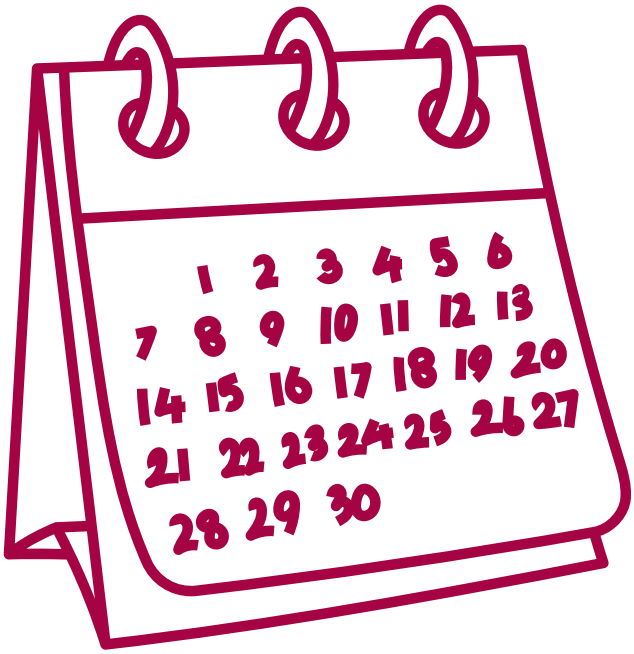
REMINDERS

Please click here to see our term dates.



SHOUT ABOUT IT
Please email us at
cadmin@costello.hants.sch.uk
if your child has news to celebrate outside of school. We would love to hear from you and spread the news!
#CostelloCommunity

ALL YEARS - COMMUNICATIONS



2026-2027

TERM DATES

CLICK HERE