

Friday 2 October 2026

THE COSTELLO SCHOOL WEEKLY BULLETIN



Welcome from Mrs E Forsey Assistant Headteacher, Culture

Many of you will already know me from my work at Costello over the past few years. For families joining us this September, I'm Miss Forsey, Assistant Headteacher for Culture.

It has been lovely to see students return with enthusiasm, take pride in their work and get involved in school life. In classrooms, I've seen students working with focus and showing determination. They deserve recognition for the way they have started the year. Thank you for helping them arrive prepared and ready to learn.

Our values of Enjoy, Respect, Achieve guide the expectations we set and the opportunities we offer.

Making the most of school

Miss Jones, our Co-Curricular Lead and Head of PE, has spoken to students in assembly about our clubs and activities. These give students opportunities to develop confidence, build friendships and discover new interests.

Please explore the Co-Curricular Activities page on our website with your child - <https://www.costelloschool.co.uk/curriculum/co-curricular-activities/>. If they are nervous about trying something, their tutor can help. I particularly encourage Year 7 students to take part as they get to know the school.

Phones and protecting our students

Year 7 is smartphone-free: smartphones must stay at home, although students may bring a basic phone. Students in Years 8–11 may bring smartphones. In every year group, phones must be switched off and kept inside bags throughout students' time on the school site, including breaks and after-school activities.

This gives students time to concentrate, talk to friends and enjoy activities without notifications interrupting them. For Year 7, it also supports their transition into secondary school.

Social media can expose children to bullying, unwanted contact and harmful content. Recommended feeds can repeatedly present distressing material, while notifications encourage children to keep returning. These risks give us good reason to set boundaries and encourage families to delay smartphones and social media, particularly for Year 7.

Our iPads support specific learning tasks directed by teachers. We use Jamf to manage iPads and Apple Classroom to help teachers guide and monitor their use in lessons. These tools support supervision alongside clear expectations and sensible limits. At home, please distinguish schoolwork from recreational use when agreeing routines.

Pride in our school

Please continue to support our uniform expectations and ensure students have their equipment and PE kit. Trainers are not permitted unless an agreed adjustment applies and flared trousers do not meet our uniform requirements. Full details, including jewellery and piercings, are on our website - <https://www.costelloschool.co.uk/parents/uniform/>. If you need help with a uniform issue, please contact us.

Someone to turn to

Finally, ask your child who they would approach for help. Their trusted adult can be their tutor or another member of staff they feel comfortable speaking to. Families can also contact their Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year.

Please let us know if something is worrying your child. Thank you for helping us make this a positive start to the year.

Year 11 Effective Revision Evening (email sent 25.9.26)

We would like to invite Year 11 students and their parents/carers to our Effective Revision and Exam Preparation Evening on Wednesday 21 October at 17:00. If you would like to attend, then please complete the form: [Year 11 Effective Revision and Exam Preparation Evening – Fill in form](#)

Year 8-11 'Welcome to' Presentation Slides and Video (sent 28.8.26)

We are pleased to let you know that the 'Welcome To' presentation slides and video recordings are now available to view on our website. You can access them via the following link:

<https://www.costelloschool.co.uk/parents/communications/>

Year 8-10 iPad Portal - Reminder (sent 30.9.26)

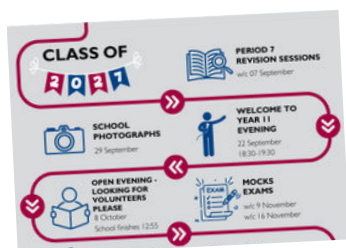
The ordering portal closes on Sunday 4 October 2026 at 22:00.

Year 7 iPad Scheme - Reminder (sent 30.9.26)

The ordering portal closes on Sunday 4 October at 22:00.

Vancols - Deadline for free delivery (sent 1.10.26)

A reminder that the cut-off date to order the photos with free delivery back to the school is Friday 2 October at 23:59. For any further assistance placing an order with Van Cols please contact the customer service team on 01206 273711 or aftersales@vancols.com



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 Resect 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	Mrs McDougall

Top 5 Achievers

Achievement Points awarded 21/09/2026 - 25/09/2026

YEAR 7 TOP 5

Theo H (7MA2)	69
Freddy P (7MA2)	67
Frankie H (7RP2)	65
Lily G (7DA2)	64
Arthur C (7RP2)	62

YEAR 8 TOP 5

Ella-Rose E (8RPI)	75
Rowan S (8MAI)	75
Sparsh S (8JA2)	72
Penny P (8DAI)	71
Keavy B (8ATI)	69

YEAR 9 TOP 5

Alexander L (9RPI)	78
Ayrton E (9MA2)	77
Declan M (9DAI)	68
Ariana K (9RPI)	62
Reuben K (9ATI)	60
Kwesi Sasu A (9AT2)	60

YEAR 10 TOP 5

Logan A (10MA2)	55
Adrian A (10MA2)	55
Shantell M (10DA2)	46
Sinqobile N (10AT2)	45
Mamady K (10MA2)	42

YEAR 11 TOP 5

Rosemary C (11JAI)	45
Harry N (11JAI)	42
Deandrei A (11MA2)	42
Aimee F (11ATI)	39
Harry W (11JAI)	37
Gaby K (11MAI)	37

Well done to all!

#CostelloCommunity
enjoy | respect | achieve

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

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!

- Blue drawstring bag containing 33/32 PE top & adidas football boots
- White & red drawstring bag containing size 8 grey trainers and 32/34 PE top and 34" PE shorts
- Dark blue & turquoise "Sistema" water bottle
- Brown and black belt size large
- Black baseball cap
- Black adidas coat
- Black Nike shorts
- Dark blue coat with black fur hood, Dorothy Perkins size 10
- Dark blue coat, MNG, size 13/14
- Clear plastic Karrimor water bottle
- Clear plastic water bottle with silver lid and flower image
- Black metal water bottle "Allenlure"
- Cerise pink & turquoise metal water bottle "Zulu"
- Black framed glasses
- Blue camo rucksack (empty)
- Pencil case "Disney 100"
- Grey metal water bottle
- Black umbrella with large hooked handle
- Black slazenger lunch box



Join the



LAW & GOVERNMENT CLUB

Real issues.
Big ideas.
Your voice.

Learn • Discuss • Make a difference

Politics
Law
Your future



EXPLORE

how our government works and the laws that shape our lives.



DISCUSS

current affairs, politics, justice and the issues that matter to you.



BUILD

your confidence, knowledge and critical thinking skills.



GET INVOLVED

with an exciting opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament!



See where decisions are made!

An amazing chance to visit the Houses of Parliament!



WHEN?

Every Wednesday
3:30 – 4:20



WHERE?

H9



LED BY

Mr Phillips

All students welcome!



Get involved. Be informed. Shape your future.

Online Workshops

- Free impartial advice relating to SEND for 0-25 years.
- Confidential sessions not recorded.
- Peer support, talking to others experiencing a similar journey.
- A dedicated session with an experienced support worker

**9
OCT
13:00**

Considering an EHC Plan?

Independent and
impartial information to
guide you through the
process

**13
OCT
13:00**

Responding to a draft
EHCP

If you are in that critical
time frame having
received your draft

**14
OCT
17:30**

Appeals to SEND Tribunal

A step-by-step guide
through the appeals
process

**20
OCT
13:00**

Ordinarily Available
Provision and SEN Support

Looking at support
available for those who do
not have an EHCP

**28
OCT
10:00**

Responding to a draft
EHCP

If you are in that critical
time frame having
received your draft

**21
OCT
16:00**

Alternative Provision

What constitutes as a
suitable education in
relation to section 19 of
the education act

OCTOBER HALF TERM TENNIS CAMPS

Juniors of all ages & abilities welcome!

BASINGSTOKE INDOOR TENNIS CENTRE

Kids will have a blast and go home with exclusive prizes, stickers, and medals to celebrate their sportsmanship on the court.



FREE Open Day: Basingstoke Indoor Tennis Centre, Saturday 24 October, 1pm to 3pm

Come and try tennis for FREE at Basingstoke Indoor Tennis Centre on Saturday 24 October! 🎾 Our coaches are running free taster sessions for children aged 4 to 15 and adults of all abilities, from 1pm. Rackets are provided. Everyone who comes along gets a free trial and a discount on their first month of coaching. Places are limited, so please book ahead: <https://bitc.basingstoketennis.org.uk/EventsV2/Summary/101f0f0a-506e-43b4-b6cb-316b08c57cc7>

October Half Term Camps: Tuesday 27 to Thursday 29 October

Looking for something fun and active this half term? 🎾 Our October Half Term Tennis Camps at Basingstoke run Tuesday 27 to Thursday 29 October, 9am to 3pm. Players are grouped by age and ability, and every day is packed with coaching, games and challenges. Weekly coaching players get 50% off, and there is a 10% sibling discount. Book now:

<https://bitc.basingstoketennis.org.uk/Coaching/Camps>

Sherfield-on-Loddon
GARDEN CENTRE
& CAFÉ

Pumpkin Patch

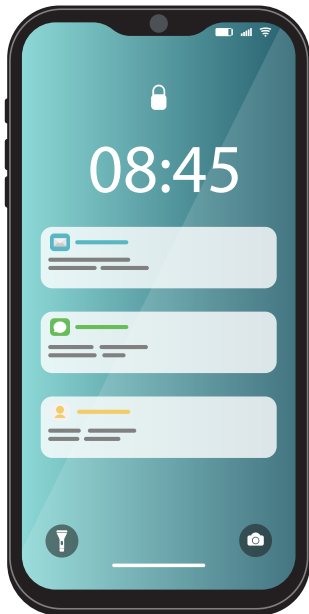
Family fun, photo moments and a
pumpkin to take home - all in one visit.

Available:
10th, 11th, 17th, 18th & 24th to 31st October

£10
Per Child

Book online: capitalgardens.co.uk/events

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](#)