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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY HAND FUNCTION GROUP

Over this half term, Jo our College OT has been running a hand function group once a week with some of our students. The aim of these sessions is to help improve our students' hand control and abilities to enable them to be as independent as possible. During these sessions, students have been learning different exercises to help build the pre-skills needed for tasks such as doing up a zip on a coat, opening the lid on the milk bottle and opening/closing a button. The students have had fun whilst learning new skills!









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STUDENT PARLIAMENT THURSDAY 5TH MAY 2022

Some of our students took part in the NATSPEC Student Parliament over Zoom.

The NATSPEC Student Parliament is an opportunity for students to represent our College in a countrywide student voice meeting. Transition was on the agenda for this session and our students were keen to share their own experiences and discuss how we approach transition at College.

Well done to all of the students involved!







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OFSTED REPORT - SAJID JAVID VISIT

We are delighted to finally be able to share our OUTSTANDING in all areas, Ofsted grading, following our inspection in March 2022. On Friday 6th May we welcomed Bromsgrove MP and Health Secretary Sajid Javid and College community supporter Jo Slade from Friends of St John's, Bromsgrove Society; Bromsgrove Court Leet, to unveil a plaque in recognition of our fantastic achievement.

Speaking as he unveiled the plaque, Mr Javid talked about how he has followed the College on its journey so far and will continue to do so. He went on to say:

"Ofsted is independent and hard to please – as it should be – and the outstanding grade is down to everyone here – from the leadership team and staff to parents and pupils."

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The inspectors stated that it is seldom heard of that an education provider's grade is transformed from 'requires improvement' to 'outstanding'.

Inspectors have rated the 'overall effectiveness' as 'outstanding' along with the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management and provision for learners with high needs.

We do hope you will read the full Ofsted report that is shared on the College website. We cannot resist sharing a few of the many highlights:

Inspectors said learners encounter a very welcoming, caring and calm environment and develop in an environment which is safe and highly inclusive.

'Leaders and managers ensure that the highly ambitious curriculum meets learners' individual needs and aspirations very well.'

'This prepares learners very well for their next steps into adulthood'.

'Staff have high expectations for learners to succeed and students receive excellent levels of support'.

'The board of directors brings a vast range of skills and expertise in further education and special educational needs and/or disabilities'.

'The directors expertly use their skills to provide strategic direction, challenge and support to leaders'.



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Tutors were also praised for how they monitored learners' progress – through photographs, witness statements and videos to evidence clearly and precisely the improvements they made.

'Learners make excellent progress towards greater independence and staff offer a wide and rich range of experiences that develop their character and interests'

'There are a variety of lunchtime clubs which help develop learners develop their talents and interests.

Staff also promote British values effectively through the curriculum, creating highly engaging activities to develop learners' knowledge on a wide range of topics, such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning identities, and religious festivals. As a result, learners develop greater understanding of the wider community and life in modern Britain

Our delighted Principal Deb has asked to pass on the following:

"Staff, students, therapists, and directors, a wonderful team, have worked unremittingly over the past three years in developing comprehensive curriculum pathways for learners with physical disabilities and complex health needs.

"Our sincere thanks go to this amazing team and the families that have been integral to achieving this recognition.

"Our students deserve to be able to access the highest quality educational opportunities within or near their local communities, and the College is now affirmed as a flagship provision serving Bromsgrove and its surrounding area.

"The College has been enthusiastically supported by our MP, the Rt Hon Sajid Javid, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, and we were honoured that he was able to be with us to announce the publication of our Ofsted report."

From everyone at college we would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to Parent Carers for their input and support. As well as the biggest CONGRATULATIONS to our wonderful students for their dedication, hard work and commitment to the College that shone through in abundance during the visit as it does every day.



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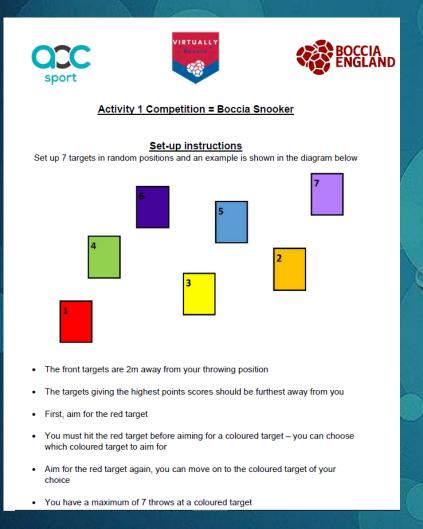
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AOC SPORT VIRTUAL BOCCIA COMPETITION

Over the next four weeks College will be completing a different Boccia challenge each week to try and win between £50 and £150 to spend at the Boccia England Shop.

Each week we will be sent a different Boccia themed activity for the students to take part in, the top scores are entered on a Friday and AoC Sport will calculate the average for each college.

Everyone has really enjoyed the first week challenge of Boccia Snooker and we have had some fantastic scores. Fingers crossed we win!





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QUEENS JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



College joined Chadsgrove School to take part in the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. The morning was spent learning Maypole dancing, hair styling and mixing with the school community. We finished the morning with a Jubilee story massage.

Students joined school in the afternoon for a street party. Students enjoyed the celebrations while dancing to music from the last 7 decades, they learned the words and signs to a song called 'Red Arrows' and performed it together with the school. A great day was had by all.









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IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday 27th May College closes to students
- Monday 6th June College opens to students
- Friday 24th June INSET Day, College closed to students
- Monday 4th July NATSPEC Games Week
- Friday 8th July Summer Fete
- Monday 11th July Enrichment Day
- Monday 18th July End of Year and Leavers Celebration Event
- Wednesday 20th July College closes to students

Unfortunatley, there has been a double booking for the Catshill Social Club. The **new date** for the **End of Year Celebration** is **Monday 18th July, 6.30-8.30pm.** Please change the date in your diaries!