

11 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the new school year. I am always excited about the start of term and the new school year; it is full of opportunity and possibilities. I enjoy welcoming all our new students and families to the CNS community and could not be more pleased with the start to term, with students meeting expectations, building relationships with their new teachers and making new friends.

We have had a busy week of parent events and have more to come next week, thank you to everyone who attended. Parental engagement with school is very important to me and I value your attendance and support. We are updating the website with the information shared and please use this as your first point of information City of Norwich School. Please note we no longer use our Facebook page to communicate.

This newsletter will arrive every 2 weeks with key information about all aspects of school life. Thank you for taking time to read it and please discuss with your child to ensure you are fully updated.
I hope you have a lovely weekend and if you want to join me for Heritage Day tomorrow, we are open between 10-2pm.

Yours sincerely
Ms Jo Philpott

Home School Agreement- working together!

It has been wonderful to see our students make such a positive start to the new term. We are very proud of the way they have returned ready to learn, engage and make the most of every opportunity. We continue to encourage all students to embody our CNS values of Kindness, Caring, Respect, Tolerance, Community and Inclusion, alongside our 4Ps: Punctual, Polite, Prepared and Participating.

We would also like to remind families of the importance of our CNS Home-School Agreement. The best outcomes for our students are achieved when school, students and parents work together, sharing high expectations and supporting one another.

Students will spend time in form reflecting on the Home-School Agreement when they receive their planners, considering how they can contribute positively to our school community. Please find the home school agreement attached, we would like to stress the importance of parental support with regards to ensuring students attend in the correct uniform and ensuring they are following the schools' expectations around our 4Ps.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a fantastic term ahead!
Mrs Skarin

Arbor App

Please ensure you have logged into Arbor and downloaded the App. We will be sharing a FAQ sheet soon to support parents and carers in using Arbor. Please note homework shows as an 'assignment'.
Mr Hewett

Attendance

As attendance and safeguarding sit so closely together, I will now be looking after both and will be contacting you very soon with attendance information, the basic message is clear - the more students are here, the better they achieve and the less they miss out.

Mr Innes

Mobile phones

A huge thankyou to all our students and parents who have taken the new phone policy on board so well - it really has gone smoothly. As with any new system, there are always tweaks and we will shortly be issuing guidance for those students when a student does not bring a device to school.

Mr Innes

School photos

The individual school photos are taking place on Friday September 18th. These are for internal use and will not be used for any external media. All of the times will be shared with students in form time. Sibling photos will be taken at the time of the youngest sibling's individual photo. Students will bring home an individualised handout. This can be used to order the photos if required.

Mr N Williams

Tutor reading

Students in years 7, 8 and 9 have begun their tutor reading programme this week. Three times a week, form tutors read aloud to their tutor group from a range of novels chosen by the school community.

This term, each tutor group will read:

- Year 7: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe and Norse Myths
- Year 8: The Outsiders and The Giver
- Year 9: Musical Truth- an exploration of black British history through the music created by black artists from the 1950s to today

We strongly recommend discussing these books at home or even reading them yourselves!

Mrs Jillett

Y7 welcome evening

Year 7 have made a really positive start and it was lovely to see so many new (and existing) parents at the Y7 welcome evening last night; we know that there was a lot of information given out but it is really important that students and parents get exactly the same messages so that we can all work together. There were some lovely conversations with form tutors and lots of great feedback from parents on the first few days - we are really looking forward to working with you all for the next 5-7 years.

Mr Hewett

Yr10 GCSE Evening

On Monday we held our first parent event of the year, inviting Y10 parents into school for a presentation on GCSE learning and the KS4 journey. Parents also heard from the Faculty Leaders in English, Maths and Science on the course structures and how to best support their child through the next two years. The presentation from the evening has been shared with parents via Arbor. Faculty Leaders for Humanities, Social Sciences, Performing Arts and Creative Technologies have also been in contact via e-mail to introduce themselves to you and the GCSE courses they offer.

Miss Cook

Step into Year11 Evening

Our Step into Y11 Evening will be held next Thursday 17th September from 6-7pm in the Fisher Auditorium. The presentation will consist of a talk regarding Y11 learning, focusing particularly on the Assessment Calendar, revision strategies and how parents can support at home. Ms Pentney, our Careers Lead, will also deliver a short presentation to parents on post-16 pathways applications and careers following the completion of GCSEs. Students are not required to attend this talk, and the presentation will be made available via Arbor for any parents who are unable to attend the event.

Miss Cook

Year 11 Pathways Assembly & Careers Support

This week, our Year 11 students attended a Post-16 Pathways Assembly, where they were introduced to the key events, activities and application deadlines that will support them in making informed decisions about their next steps after GCSEs.

Students were introduced to the Help You Choose website, which provides information about college and sixth-form opportunities and allows students to research and submit applications. Student log in details will be emailed to them by the end of September.

Our new Careers Adviser, Caroline Davies will be working in school two days each week. All Y11 students have access to individual careers guidance interviews, providing them with the opportunity to explore their options, discuss their interests and begin making plans for their future. Students who are interested in apprenticeships will have the opportunity to attend dedicated workshops and will receive support with applications over the coming months.

We strongly encourage all Y11 students to engage fully with our careers programme this year and to make the most of the guidance and support available to them as they begin planning their post-16 pathways. If you feel that your child would benefit from a priority careers guidance appointment, please contact Mrs Pentney at n.pentney@cns-school.org, and we will be happy to arrange this.

Mrs N Pentney

Year12 Information evening

We welcomed new Y12 parents on Tuesday evening, giving them time to meet the form tutors. Conversations were positive about the start Y12 have made and parents shared relevant information about their child. Joining up support with school and home is instrumental in the success of the student at school. We look forward to working with student and their families over the next two years.

Ms Collison

Year12 Team Building Day

On Tuesday 15th Sept, we will be holding our team building day for Y12 during periods 1-4 on the school field. This helps students to forge new and lasting friendships in 6th form as well as a sense of belonging to the school. Although some students may find this awkward to begin with, we know every year that students really enjoy the day and get lots from it. Normal lessons resume for Periods 5 and 6.

Ms K Nichols

School musical - Matilda

The week commencing Monday 21st September begins our Auditions for this year's school musical Matilda! We are really excited to get started and interest so far has been overwhelming!

An audition pack was sent out before the end of the last school year and given to interested Year 7s during their induction period. If you haven't received one of these and would like some more information, please email Miss Richards - p.richards@cns-school.org.

The days and timings are as follows:

- **Monday 21st September** - All students wanting to audition - mandatory movement and singing workshop. 3.15-5.30pm (meet in the auditorium.)
- **Tuesday 22nd September** - Students in KS3 and Y10 interested in auditioning for a speaking child's role (Matilda, Classmates - Lavender, Bruce etc.) 3.15-5.30pm (Drama Studios) *This is in addition to the Monday.*
- **Wednesday 23rd September** - Students in KS4 and 5 interested in auditioning for a speaking adult role (Trunchbull, Miss Honey, Wormwoods etc) 3.15-5.30pm (Drama Studios) *This is in addition to the Monday.*
- **Thursday 24th September** - Recall auditions for scene work. 3.15-4.30pm (Rm213.)
- **Friday 25th September** - Cast List up outside Drama Studios.

Please note that your students will not have access to their phones during the auditions and so any arrangements to be collected/walk home will need to be pre-organised.

Please direct any questions to Miss Richards.

Miss Richards

Site Assistant Vacancy

We are looking for a proactive and dedicated Site Assistant who will play a vital role in maintaining the safety, cleanliness, and functionality of our school premises with a focus on Grounds maintenance. The focus of the role is on maintaining our beautiful and extensive outside spaces, including state of the art Tennis Courts, Football and Rugby pitches and the Cricket field.

The role is offered based on working 32 hours per week, all year round. Please click this link for further information:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/141269/EDV-2026-CNSAOA-71879>

HR Team

Dates for your diaries

15 th September	Y10 and Y12 DofE Launch
17 th September	Y11 Step into Yr 11 & IAG Parent Information Talk
1 st October	Y6 Open Evening
15 th October	6 th Form Open Evening
23 rd October	Staff training day school closed to students