City of Norwich School
An Ormiston Academy – Excellence in all

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13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I have had the pleasure of welcoming some of or feeder school Headteachers to CNS this week who came to see how well their former students have settled in at CNS. The look of joy on children's faces was a delight to see, and I am looking forward to welcoming other Headteacher's later this term.

Working with you as parents is very important to CNS. Whilst researching what other schools do towards this; I read an interesting post from a school this week which talked about children sometimes misunderstanding situations and reporting incomplete versions of events at home and unverified information leading to a break down in home-school relationships. The post went on to say how it is natural as a parent to be concerned and protective but also to make sure a conversation is had with school to work together to support your child. I completely agree with this and do reach out to us if you have any concerns about your child.

Can I also politely remind parents to sign the Home-School Agreement in your child's planner to show this has been read and is supported. By joining CNS, you automatically agree to the agreement but to have the shared conversation with your child about this is really helpful.

It is Y8 Progress Evening on Thursday 19th November meaning we close at 1.20pm for all students. Students are encouraged to have lunch before they leave.

Yours sincerely
Ms Jo Philpott

KS3 Assessment

Ms M Cook

- KS3 Assessment Letters were sent home via Arbor at the beginning of this week with detailed information regarding how your child will be assessed this academic year.
- Please take the time to read through this communication carefully.

Homework

Mr Hewett

- Thank you for those who are supporting their child with homework by regularly checking through Arbor.
- A very important part of the home school agreement is the support of homework.
- Some parents have struggled with accessing attached documents, advice from Arbor states that these documents are accessed through the Arbor online portal on a web browser but are not accessible in the App.
- Linked documents within Microsoft 365 will only work through your child's portal due to online security and how we can share links only within the organisation.
- We are asking Arbor to develop the App further to make it easier for you.

Anti-bullying week

Mr Innes

- Next week is National Anti-bullying week with the theme of Break the Silence.
- We will be working with students throughout the week to discuss the issues around bullying and how everyone can speak out against it.
- The Anti-bullying alliance says 'When people come together, speak openly, and choose kindness, bullying loses its power. Every conversation, every act of support, and every voice raised against bullying makes a difference.'
- CNS will come together to empower all members of the CNS community to Break the Silence.
- For more information go to Anti-Bullying Week 2026: Break the Silence

Progress Evenings

Mr N Williams

Year 8

- Thursday 19th November in the Sports Hall from 2pm to 7pm.
- Bookings are now open on Arbor.
- Students are encouraged to accompany their parents/carers.

Year 11

- Thursday 10th December in the Sports Hall from 4:30pm to 7:30pm.
- More information on making appointments will follow closer to the date.

News reports from events at CNS

Y13 Parents Evening feedback

Ms Nichols says

'It was wonderful to see so many Yr13s and their families at the Progress Evening last Thursday. These evenings are crucial in being able to triangulate student, teacher and parent efforts in enabling students to achieve the highest grades they can, in a balanced way. We noted the congestion around the social sciences rooms and will look to change this in future events.'

Y8 Careers Assembly

Ms Pentney says

'On Tuesday, Alannah from the UEA Outreach Team delivered the Finding Your Way assembly to Year 8 students. Students were encouraged to start thinking about their strengths and transferable skills, and how their school subjects, hobbies, interests, and extracurricular activities can help prepare them for future education and career pathways. Students were also recommended to explore new experiences, develop their skills, and remain open to the opportunities that may arise as they plan for their futures.'

CNS Eco Team, Making a Difference!

Mrs E Cook

'On Monday, our Eco Ambassadors visited classrooms across the whole school to collect our edding recycling boxes. One of the sustainability initiatives we launched back in the summer.

As a school, we get through a huge number of pens and whiteboard markers, so rather than sending them to landfill, we're giving them a second life! Used writing instruments are sent back to be recycled and help create materials for the edding EcoLine range. In just a few months, we've already collected and sent back a fantastic number of pens and markers. A huge well done to everyone at CNS and, of course, our fantastic Eco Team!'

Y12 & 13 Politics Trip to UEA

Ms Sedgewick says

'On Wednesday 11th November, Year 12 and 13 Politics students attended the Congress to Campus event at UEA. Former Congress representatives Val Demmings and Garret Graves gave fascinating talks and were generous with their time, enabling many of our students to ask insightful questions, regarding American and international politics, on issues ranging from gun control, to regulation of AI and the role of billionaires in achieving the aims of the Constitution.'

CNSA

The CNSA is an amazing group of parents who work hard to raise money for specific projects in school.

- All of the water bottle fillers in school have been funded by the CNSA along with portable floodlights for PE and many other things.
- A large amount of money is raised at the biannual CNS Fest and 2027 is a fest year.
- The CNSA are looking for any parents who would like to be involved at either a committee level, or simply to help out at events.
- We are holding the annual AGM at school on Tuesday 24 November at 6pm - do please feel free to come along to room 96.
- CNSA Quiz and Chips night **tonight** 6.30pm.
- If you would more information or would like someone from the CNSA to contact you, please email a.innes@cns-school.org and Mr Innes will pass on your details.

Dates for your diaries

13th November	CNSA Quiz and Chips night
19th November	Y8 Progress Evening, school closes at 1.20pm, students can stay for lunch
26th November	Ex-Y11 Awards Evening
8th December	Christmas Concert
17th December	Christmas Showcase and Panto
18th December	End of Autumn term
4th January	Staff training day school closed to students
5th January	All students return to school

Progress Evening dates for the year

19th November	Y8 Progress Evening
10th December	Y11 Progress Evening
4th February	Y10 Progress Evening
25th February	Y9 Preferences Evening and Meet the Tutors
15th April	Y12 Progress Evening
29th April	Y7 Progress Evening
8th July	Y9 Progress Evening