

Collett Catch-Up



The Collett School
Special Educational Needs



Friday 5th January 2018

From everyone here at The Collett School, we hope you had a happy, relaxing break over the festive period!

WHAT WE GOT UP TO ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM

As is now our Christmas tradition, the students and staff headed down to St Mary's Church in the Old Town, Hemel Hempstead, to attend a service hosted by Canon John. We sang plenty of carols and hymns in front of a packed mass, including family and friends, and learnt about the birth of Jesus. Many thanks to Canon John for hosting us.

FORMER HEAD GIRL EXCITED TO BE BACK

On 4th December, The Collett School was visited by a very special guest – former head girl Rose.

Rose had kindly offered to help out for the day to prepare and organise our Christmas decorations (which she was very excited about!) but we managed to catch up with her about what's happening in her life and her time here at Collett.

She said: "I was at the school from Year 6 to Year 11 and had a great time. I generally enjoyed it, learnt a lot and got along with the teachers. I also made lots of friends!



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

Friday 5th January

Back to school!

Monday 15th January

Careers Theme Week (All week)

Tuesday 16th January

Parents' Evening, 4.30-6.30pm

Friday 26th January

Coffee Morning, 9.30am

Open Tours of the School, 9.30am

FEBRUARY

Monday 5th February

Puzzle Theme Week (All week)

“The school has massively improved since I was last here. The reception area is amazing – I love how it’s changed!

“Nowadays I work at Warner Bros. Studios in the canteen, mainly table cleaning and sorting the cutlery and plates. It’s only two hours a week but it’s really, really fun – although at 1.30 it gets so packed. Everyone’s desperate for lunch – they become food monsters!

“We have some people from the film sets come in. One time a group of army people came in and I was like, ‘Erm... okay?’ It was funny!”

Rose also revealed that she is studying hard at college.

“I’m at Oaklands College in Hatfield and I’m studying English, Maths, Art, Music and Gardening. It’s going really well, it’s amazing – my friends and teachers are hilarious!

“I’ll be finishing my two year courses this summer, but I’ll be starting my mainstream Art course at Oaklands next September, which I’m really excited about.”

On top of balancing her job and college work, Rose also juggles her very own business – taking our motto ‘Thrive in Life’ to heart.

“I have my own tie dyeing business! It’s called Live Before You Tie Dye. I came into college one day with a tie dye shirt on that I had made when I was bored and everyone seemed to really like it. Some even asked for their own.

“So I said, ‘Let’s just set up a business then!’”

Another Collett success story, and many more to come!

FEBRUARY VACCINATIONS

We can confirm the school has booked vaccinations for Year 9 and Year 10 on 9th February at 9.15am. Communication was sent to parents at the end of last term, as well as the consent form. Please hand the form in as soon as possible, or contact the school office for further details.

FAMILY FIRST MAGAZINE

There were no hard copies of Family First magazine at the end of last year due to budget constraints. You can only access the magazine via this link: http://www.familyfirst.co.uk/ff_mag/

Parents who like and share the Family First Facebook page will be in with a chance of winning sports equipment for The Collett School.

Visit us for more info. at

www.collett.herts.sch.uk

You can also follow us on

social media, find us on

Facebook, [Friends of Collett](#)

or Twitter, [@CollettSchool](#)

**WANT AN EASY WAY TO
REMEMBER EVENTS?**



Sign up to the **Timedrop app** and follow us to get notifications directly to your phone! It’s quick, simple and means you will never miss out on any event.

QUICK REMINDER

Oaklands College open evenings and other key dates for this year can be found [on our website](#).

Our current school lunch menu is [available here](#).

We are a **Nut Free School**.

TECH SUPPORT FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

This festive season many of us will be giving and receiving technology as gifts – it could be a new phone, a smart speaker or even a smart TV. AbilityNet know that most people will be unaware of the many accessibility features that are built into every type of device – features that can and do change lives.

This makes January a particularly busy period for their network of friendly volunteers who provide free in-home computer support to people with a disability of any age. A small adjustment can often make a huge difference - like increasing the size of text so it's easier to read or enabling built-in dictation for people who struggle with typing.

You can use the form on their website at any time to enquire about our free IT support at home services or call 0800 269 545. The AbilityNet team can answer many questions over the phone and will be able to direct you to our free factsheets that you can access on our website along with other expert information.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

It's the start of another year at the school, so we were in a celebratory mood in today. Mr Hoult-Allen talked about fireworks and New Year's resolutions, with Shaun from ___ Class sharing that his resolution was to learn colours of the world flags. Many others, including staff, said they planned to eat more healthily.

Afterwards, everyone stood up and took part in a singalong of noughties classic 'Reach for the Stars' by S Club 7 – great fun!

What's New Scooby Doo?

Our students talked about their Christmas presents, which included new iPads, laptops, shiny new shoes, a slide and even a pet snake! Wish Santa got me those presents...

AWARDS

BRONZE AWARD

Evie from Robins Class

Adam and Felix from Linden Class

Congratulations to all of you – we are so proud of all of your achievements!

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEAR YOU THIS WEEK

Dacorum Dolphins

This swimming club for people with disabilities and their families will open from 6th January. Please contact Atheal by email: atheal.elemenyawii@yahoo.co.uk or phone 07805076832 for more information.

Watford FC Disability Session

Meriden Community Centre will run a session every Monday between 5-6pm from 8th January. If you would like to book visit: <http://meridencc.com/course-listing>

Workshops for Parents with ADHD/Autistic Children

A range of new workshops will be provided to parent/carers in the new year. Dacorum DSPL will run mini drop-in consultations to help build on skills supporting children with ADHD/Autism, the first of which is on Monday 8th January 9.30-11.30am at Hobletts manor Junior School, Hemel Hempstead.

To book for any of these workshops, please call Ashley Fabray on 07525 917125 or email fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk Please note that this course is only open to Dacorum parents/carers.

Happy New Year to you all!

Mr Harry Crawford

The Collett School

ONLINE THIS WEEK

Colin Farrell talks about his special needs parenting experiences in [this great article](#).

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I intended to be."

Douglas Adams

FACT OF THE WEEK

In the kingdom of Bhutan, all citizens become one year older on

New Year's Day.

QI Twitter