

OMPASS NEWSLET

Summer 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

As the summer holidays are soon upon us it is a good opportunity to reflect: It's been another term full of action, change and accomplishment, which, is a healthy state of affairs to be in for the evolution of the school, so it can better meet the needs of all. Thank you to our students, our parents and carers, to the team of dedicated professionals including our Governors, and external partners who have helped to make that happen over the term and over the year.

It was a real privilege to say our farewells to our Year 11 students recently. They tackled their exams responsibly, and have worked hard to locate appropriate Post-16 destinations for September. We hope their results in August match well with their expectation, and we wish them every success in their life ahead.

Please do get in contact if you need any support, advice or guidance from us in the transition to Post-16 provision. Thanks too, to parents and carers for the lovely messages of recognition and support for your Year 11 children, they are very much appreciated.

Inevitably, there will be changes to the staff team in September created by the usual reasons including retirement and staff relocating to different parts of the country. We wish all those departing all the very best for where life takes you next and appreciate your considerable dedication and commitment to the students and the team here at The Compass. All of you will be missed but not forgotten as you look forward to your new ventures.

For our returning students it is important to think: 'Just because everything is different doesn't mean anything has changed' - Irene Peters, and for colleagues to remember: 'What is dangerous is not to evolve' - Jeff Bezos

Kerry, our long-standing School Business Leader, Safeguarding Lead and part time Site Manager with over 25 years of dedication to The Compass, is retiring. She has been responsible for much of the development the site over that time, the implementation of school processes and has looked after our school finances very diligently. Kerry is looking forward to handing over the reins to Lisa Cracknell who will take up her post from September. Lisa is an experienced School Business Leader, welcome to the team, Lisa.

Tim Green has taken up the Site Management responsibilities, once part of Kerry's, role and was welcomed at the start of the Summer Term.

Sue, another long standing member of staff who has seen many changes to The Compass over her 20 years here, is also retiring. Sue has most recently worked in our Pastoral Team providing /continued

that all important *quiet and reassuring advice* to children and their families. Sue's place will be filled by Katherine Middleton, an experienced teacher, who is looking forward to changing roles to have a more direct role in student support. Kate has already started to work here one day a week, again welcome to Compass.

Simon, who has worked here for eight years teaching English and Functional English, is retiring. He is handing over to Holli Beresford, who has also already started, and will run 'English' from September. Simon, thank you for providing the consistency and 'steadying hand on the helm', as our English Curriculum has evolved over time. I know several students will also miss you for the interest in golf which you have cultivated in them. All the very best and may your handicap continue to improve.

Henry A, one of our rising stars as a Teaching Assistant, is relocating to York. He has worked with us for the past two years and most recently, in the 9.2 class. We hope your new school appreciates you as much as we have. The vacancy which Henry leaves will be back filled by Ella and Jack, Ella is an experienced Teaching Assistant whilst Jack is a very keen new entrant to the profession with many promising skills and talents to draw upon.

This means we shall start in September with a full, refreshed and reenergised team of staff, so exciting times ahead to look forward too and new connections and relationships to make. I consider ourselves fortunate for that (and recognise the effort that it has taken to be in this position) as I'm well aware in these difficult times, not all schools are in this favourable place.

We wish Mr Midworth, every success in his new role as Principal at the Magna Academy. Thank you for the excellent job you have done for us as our Safeguarding Governor.

Whilst school staff are looking forward to the very necessary rest and recharge holiday period ahead we do understand the long holiday period can be a challenge for some parents and carers. We know we have many families who would qualify for, and benefit from, additional help with free holiday activities. We would signpost you to investigate the HAF (Holiday Activities & Food) programme.

Just in case you need them here are the contact details you may need over the holidays regarding Safeguarding:

Children's Advice & Duty Service Dorset - tel:01305 228866
D.E.A.L. Help Desk for Education - tel: Freephone 0800 14 040 41
CAMHS - tel: 01305 762810
KOOTH - www.kooth.com (Mental Health and Wellbeing support)

Local food Bank - Weymouth tel:07531 167465 / Portland tel: 07913 170495

See page 11 for details of when students return school in September.

Please be sure to enjoy the summer break and do take care extra in the sun (if we get any!) and especially around water, roads and railway lines.

Alison, on behalf of the Governors and the Team at Compass.

YEAR 11 EXAM RESULTS DAY



Year 11 exam results will be released on **Thursday 22 August 2024**. The school will be open between **9.00am – 11.30am** for the students to collect their results; please be aware that results are not given out over the phone.

Results not collected will be posted out first class the next day

COMPASS JUBILEE CHALLENGE

What a huge success the Jubilee Challenge was this year. After much hard work and effort by the students involving practice walks and fundraising, they all completed the challenge and were a credit to Compass.

There was high praise from the head at Westfield who we were competing the challenge with. The students were incredible and their lives were enriched. Many thanks as well to Danielle who has supported us throughout challenge.

The plan is to go every year and continue with the training walks. Fundraising is underway for the additional kit needed going forward.

Mark



ARTS AWARD AT COMPASS

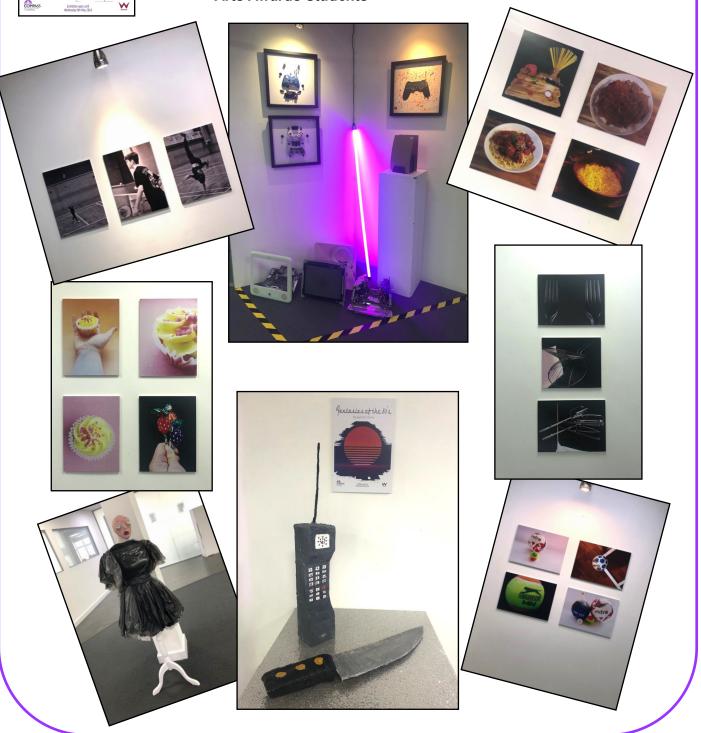
We are a group of five Year 11 students who have over the last two years, explored a variety of techniques in different art sectors, from photography to sculpture, fashion to graphic design and gaming, and are hoping to achieve our Bronze Arts Award.



We decided on a theme of the 80's as it would encompass all our different work and settled on the title 'Fantasises of the 80's'. Whilst each person's work is not directly in the style of the 80's, it has been inspired by the decade. We have all enjoyed learning new skills and working as a group to showcase our work.

Many thanks to everyone for coming to see our exhibition.

Arts Awards Students



LIFE SKILLS NEWS

Refugee Week: We celebrated Refugee Week in Compass this June with lessons in Life Skills. We found out that while the media and politicians make it sound like we have huge numbers of refugees in this country, in fact we only have 1% of the world's refugees. We also learnt that most refugees go the countries that are nearest to them. We found out about famous refugees including Luka Modric, Victor Moses, Albert Einstein, Freddie Mercury and Rita Ora. Students chose the best facts and made sunflowers for this display.



County Lines and Knife Crime Play: Vita Nova returned with a play called 'The Wasps Nest'. Year 9 students were a credit to themselves and the school as they sat on the hottest day of the year and watched the whole play attentively. Thanks for coming to see us Vita Nova.









RSPH Young Health Champions: Year 10 student celebrated receiving their **Level 2 RSPH Young Health Champion Certificates** with drinks and treats in the hall. Alison presented their certificates to them and Nola from Weymouth College who supported us in such a big achievement sent the following message:



'I am particularly impressed with all your campaigns and think these are some of the best Compass have produced over the years. I have prepared a few words for each of you – and thank you for completing this qualification. You are all now qualified Young Health Champions – so well done!'

General Election 2024: The whole school took part in a Parallel Election on Thursday 4 July. Students and staff voted anonymously in our own ballot box and were rewarded with a sweet. This certainly encouraged voter turnout! Our top tip for the next election!

The results were:

Party	Votes
Labour	18
Liberal Democrats	15
Greens	10
Reform	4
Conservatives	2
Spoilt votes	2

Kate

CAREERS NEWS

Ambulance at Compass: Local paramedics George and Charley gave up their free time to give our Years 9 and 10 students an experience of work by bringing one of the newest



ambulances that they work in to Compass. Students were able to look at the equipment and find out what work as a paramedic is like. We even surprised people in the office by setting the sirens



off! As well as talking about careers, we learnt top tips to avoid being a patient in the ambulance in the future and were reminded how important our first aid and CPR lessons are. Thank you for coming to see us.

Careers College: Thank you Weymouth College for hosting Careers College for Years 9 and 10 students. Students tried out a wide range of activities from brickwork, plumbing and carpentry to hairdressing and beauty, childcare, health and social care and emergency services.







Experience of Work Week: While some Year 10 students were on work experience (well done to you for organising this and successfully completing your time at work placements), the rest of us had experiences of work and guest speakers including Tilbury Douglas talking about careers in construction; a talk about careers in the NHS which range from the obvious doctors and nurses to gardeners, construction workers, plumbers and managers; a talk from ASK apprenticeships highlighting all the local opportunities for apprenticeships in the area and a talk from local midwife Anna who works with teenagers.

The week ended with a visit to Tilbury Douglas in Dorchester, who showed us around their site and even let us use their VR headsets to see what the site would look like when it was finished. We learnt about the expectations for anyone who sets foot on a building site, the different job opportunities in this area and were impressed to learn about how much some people could earn.



Football Trip to Vitality Stadium: As an extension to Experience of Work Week keen footballers went to visit AFC Bournemouth's grounds to look around the stadium and find out about careers in Football.

Poole College Esports Trip: Our Esports Team went to Poole College to check out their Esports arena and learn about where Esports level 3 qualifications could take them.

Kate

CATERING NEWS

It has been another busy term in the catering department with some amazing food being produced. It has been really encouraging to see how much the students' confidence has grown whilst being in the kitchen environment, and they have gained a range of skills enabling them to produce some excellent cooking







The majority of Years 10 and 11 catering students have now all successfully passed their BTEC L1 Home Cooking Skills qualification and also their L1 Food Hygiene Certificate, well done to all of them! They all worked really hard and they should be very proud of their achievements.

Students in 10.1 held an apple pie and custard 'Bake off' earlier this term, with six staff and students acting as the judges. It was a challenge for them to judge the equally delicious pies and it was a close contest, but they took their role very seriously and a winner was chosen.





It has been fun to recently link up with Sian and the Art department for the Year 10 Arts Award food photography project. The students baked their favourite dishes and then used their photography skills to produce stunning photographs of their finished products. Here are a couple of examples of the finished photographs.





Catherine

ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH VISIT

ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH In May, a group of Year 9 and 10 students went to the Arts University in Bournemouth to visit the Foundation Degree Show and looked around the exhibits and the campus. There was a variety of different art specialisms on show and the students were a fine example to Compass with their behaviour and engagement. They asked lots of relevant questions and showed an interest in the work and career options.

SCIENCE NEWS

Students in Key Stage 3 and Year 9 have both been learning about plants. Students began with learning and understanding the process of germination. Each class had the opportunity to grow their own flowers / fruits / vegetables, ensuring they each received the correct amount of warmth, light and water. Once the seedlings were strong enough, students planted their seedlings into our newly built raised flower beds, (kindly and expertly built by our site manager Tim) and have continued to care for them. We now await our first fruits.











Year 10 students have been working hard to continue with their learning in preparation for the GCSE's next year. They have been looking at genetics and inheritance, and have made good progress. Students have learnt about chromosomes, alleles and what terms such as heterozygous, homozygous, dominant and recessive mean. Well done Year 10! **Bex**

KEY STAGE 3 NEWS



Key Stage 3 students had a wonderful opportunity to experience six weeks of Paddleboarding at the OTC Watersports Centre this half term.

As you can imagine it was lots of fun for all who attended.

We have also spent time in the woods at Max Events this term: learning how to light fires responsibly, make mallets and chop firewood using axes, build shelters and make pizza to cook on the open fire. Playing hide and seek in the woods has been very popular so far, and we can confirm that the students are very good at hiding!

Craig & Lucy

MATHS NEWS

In maths we continue to work hard building skills and mental dexterity. This is a great opportunity to say 'Well Done' to the Year 11 students who have completed all 3 maths exams with both diligence and resilience, making me very proud.



Students in Year 10 have been exercising their brains with a little Pythagoras and have tackled questions with enthusiasm. We are about to take this to the next step and look at applying this method to some brain taxing 3D questions.

Year 9 students are working on transformations of shapes and have been enlarging and now reflecting.

Alison

GOVERNANCE AT COMPASS LEARNING CENTRE

Have you, or someone you know, ever thought about becoming a school Governor? Would you like to support Compass on our forward journey?

As a Governor you will be a volunteer who makes a vital contribution to the success of the school. Governors work with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team in the strategic development of the school and in raising standards of achievement.

Duties include setting the school's vision, aims and objectives, and approving the school budget. Governing Boards work as a team and make collective decisions.

If you would like more information about becoming a Governor at Compass please contact Michelle Nokes, Clerk to the Governors -

email: m.nokes@compass.dorset.sch.uk tel: 01305 206530.

MAGIC BREAKFAST

We are really pleased to announce that we have partnered with 'Magic Breakfast' to provide all of our students with bagels, toast or crumpets as they arrive in the mornings. This is in an attempt to make sure all students, but especially those with long taxi journeys, have the opportunity to eat before going into lesson.

Breakfast club will run from **08:30 to 08:50 each morning** from the Bungalow kitchen but while the weather is nice we will take all the products outside when we can.

All students are welcome!





SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

At the end of this newsletter, you can find information about how students can access a variety of summer holiday activities available across the Dorset area. There are lots of different activities to enjoy including art, music, nature and sport.



If you would like any support on how to access any of the offers available, please contact us on 01305 206530.

TERM DATES 2024-25

Please see below the full calendar of term dates for 2024/25 including INSET days. Students return to school in September as follows -

Wednesday 4 September 2024 - Years 9 & 11 students only

Thursday 5 September 2024 - Years 7, 8 & 10 students only

Friday 6 September 2024 - ALL STUDENTS return to school



Compass Learning Centre School Terms and Holidays 2024 - 2025 Academic Year

			Se	epten	nber 2	2024				Octo	ber 2	2024				N	oven	ber 2	2024
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	M			4	11	18	25
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30	W			6	13	20	27
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	
			D	ecen	nber 2	2024				Janu	ary 2	2025					Febru	ary 2	2025
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	M			3	10	17	24
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu			4	11	18	25
W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29	W			5	12	19	26
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th			6	13	20	27
F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31	F			7	14	21	28
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa		1	8	15	22	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26		Su		2	9	16	23	
				Ma	arch 2	2025				-	pril 2							Vlay 2	- 7/10/10
M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	M			5	12	19	26
Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu			6	13	20	27
W		5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30	W			7	14	21	28
Th		6	13	20	27		Th	3	10	17	24		Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25		F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31
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M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25	
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W		4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30	W	-	6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25		F		8	15	22	29	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	6	13	20	27		Su	3	10	17	24	31	





Bank and Public Holidays 2023-24 Christmas Day Bank Holiday 25 December 2024 Easter Monday 21 April 2025 Boxing Day Bank Holiday 26 December 2024 May Day Bank Holiday 05 May 2025 New Year's Day Holiday 01 January 2025 Spring Bank Holiday 2025 Good Friday 18 April 2025 Summer Bank Holiday 25 August 2025 *Replacement Bank Holiday day when the Bank Holiday falls on a weekend

Sign up now

orsetcouncil.gov.uk/summer-in-dorset



Music

Adventure

Sports

Workshops

Nature



Sign up now dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/summer-in-dorset

We want to make sure that this summer is packed full of fun things for young people to take part in. Join us for free at our, holiday clubs, activity sessions and fun days.

All sessions and activities will be **free** of charge for children and young people who receive benefit-related free school meals.



- A wide variety of sessions including sports, music, arts and crafts, cooking, drama, story writing and much more.
- Lots of unique and exciting experiences to enjoy with new friends.



Funded by

Department

for Education

If you have any questions, contact us holidayactivities@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk 01305 221157

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ONLINE FINAN

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? odate, nearly 45 million Ukinternet users have encountered a financial scamonline; lough 20% of those victims wound up at least \$1,000 aut of pocket as a cresult. The number of con artists plying their trade in the digital world has grown in recent years (awarying trend which, unfortunately, appears likely to continue), and their methods have become increasingly creative. It can, therefore, be difficult to recognise an online financial scam—let alone to safeguard our children against them—but it's not impossible. Our guide offers a few pointers on what to look out for.

PHISHING SCAMS

IDENTITY THEFT

FRAUDULENT INVESTMENTS

DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING

#GIVEAWAY

Advice for Parents & Carers

EDUCATE YOUR CHILD

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

STAY INFORMED

PRIORITISE PRIVACY

Meet Our Expert

mail



REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY







