



# JUMEIRAH COLLEGE SECONDARY SECTION

## Newsletter

Head: Mr. Shaun Williams

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P.O BOX 74856, DUBAI, U.A.E. Tel: + 971 4 3954950 Fax: + 971 4 3954586 e-mail: [jumcoll@emirates.net.ae](mailto:jumcoll@emirates.net.ae)

### Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter, which is published during the first week of each month. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide a means of communication between the college and home on organisational matters and to share the many good experiences and successes of Jumeirah College students. The students themselves write some of the news reports.

Thank you to the many parents who attended the Year 7 and Year 8 Parents Information Evenings. I hope you found them useful and interesting. It is always a pleasure to meet parents during the informal part of the evening where form tutors and senior colleagues are available to answer questions. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive and it is reassuring to know that you have so much confidence in us.

It has given me great pleasure this month to present subject awards to students. These presentations are to become an annual event as we seek to reward and celebrate the successes of our students more widely. Congratulations to all the winners. Further details about the awards and a list of winners are published elsewhere in this newsletter.

The college has had a very positive start to the new academic year. New students are settling well and existing students have quickly slotted back into our purposeful routines. I hope to be able share with you more information about our move to a brand new, bigger and better school site in the very near future.

Finally, please be aware that the college timings will not change during Ramadan.

Shaun Williams

### Library News

The library is planning two promotional sales this school year, which will benefit the school by enabling us to receive a good percentage of sales made, to give us new library materials. The first will be coming up in early November, when we will distribute the popular Magrudy's 'Brilliant Book Catalogue' in time for Christmas, and the second will be in April, when we will host a 'Giant Book Sale' including several book suppliers from the region.

Please put these sales onto your calendar, and support these promotions as much as you can. Thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Martin  
Librarian

### Careers Evenings

Jumeirah College will be running its first careers evening on Sunday 23 November. We are inviting members of the local community to give a short presentation on their chosen career area. I would be grateful for volunteers from the parent body. We are looking for speakers from a wide range of career areas. Please contact me on 395 4950 ext. 106 or e-mail me at [cshort@jcdubai.sch.ae](mailto:cshort@jcdubai.sch.ae) if you are able to help.

Christopher Short  
Assistant Head - Director of Studies

### GEMS News

GEMS UK announced to the British press last week that it plans to open 50 private schools throughout Britain within 10 years. Two schools have already opened this year as the first part of what will become the largest chain of independent schools in the country.

### Open Day and Open Week

School will close early at 12.00pm on Wednesday 22 October for our annual Open Day for prospective students and parents. This will run from 2.00pm – 4.30pm. We need to give staff time to prepare their rooms for the afternoon. Some students will be asked to stay behind to help with the planned events and activities.

Open Week, which involves accompanied tours of the school during a normal working day, will take place during the week beginning 25 Oct. This will not involve any disruption to lessons.

### Photographs

The usual school photographs of each student were taken during the first week of term. They will be available in the next week or so priced at 100/- per pack. Form group photographs are priced at 50/- each.

## New Staff

Bonjour, Jumeirah. My name is Madame Shelley Paterson and I have joined the MFL department. I'm a Celt with a penchant for purple and tree frogs. I've lived in East Africa for five years so I also enjoy all types of food fried in goat fat. This is why I have to run around a lot! When I'm not running, I like diving so does anyone know a good site with lots of sharks?



Mrs Salisbury started teaching 16 years ago and for 10 of them she was here in Dubai at the English College. She is now an English teacher here at JC and thinks the school is "Fantastic – just brilliant!" Her worst subject at school was Maths. When asked to supply an interesting fact about herself, Mrs Salisbury declined to comment!! In her spare time she likes to body board, read, keep fit and, of course, to shop!



Dr Chalk became a teacher 4 years ago in Somerset. Over the summer he moved out to Dubai to work at JC. When asked what he thought of the school so far, he said, "It seems alright so far, nothing's gone wrong yet!" His worst subject at school was Physics, and now, ironically, he is one of the schools Physics teachers. His reply to an interesting fact about himself was that he can "eat a cream cracker raw in under 1 minute!" In his spare time Dr Chalk likes to eat, you guessed it, cream crackers!



Rebecca Strawford joins the Modern Foreign Languages department having previously spent a year teaching at the British School – Al Khubairat in Abu Dhabi. She has also taught French in two other secondary schools in Crickhowell, Mid Wales and St Bonaventure's Boys School, London. Rebecca comes from Llangors in Wales. She enjoys most sports but in particular windsurfing and sailing. She hopes to learn to dive whilst living in Dubai.



My name is Lyndsey Armour and I joined the English Department after spending a year teaching in Abu Dhabi. Before that I taught English and French in Argyll, Scotland for three years. I enjoy sports, but I'm certainly not as sporty as I used to be. I now find it hard to resist curling up on the sofa with a good book or film and a nice cup of tea!



All the way from Chingford, by way of teaching in the UK, Qatar and Bermuda, we welcome Dan Kirk to the English and Learning Support departments. Mr Kirk has a Masters Degree in Special Educational Needs and celebrated his appointment to Dubai with a world tour which took in five continents, although there may well have been other reasons for that particular trip.



Mr Dan O'Hara (Head of DT) tells us: "My last school was Wells Cathedral School in Somerset where I taught for seven years. Altogether, I've been teaching for 13 years. Usually I don't like cities but Dubai is an exception. In my spare time I love water skiing, tennis, mountain biking and off-road driving."



Joanne Davies joins us here in Dubai after spending the previous year teaching in Kuwait. Prior to that she taught at The Cheltenham Ladies' College for a number of years. Joanne is originally from Wales which is where she attained her degree in Biochemistry and undertook her teacher training. She misses the rolling hills but definitely not the perpetual rainfall! When she is not at the shops, you will find her wakeboarding on the Creek, scuba diving or out bashing some wadis.



Mr Saed Bedir has been teaching at Cambridge High School for the last 13 years before which he was in Egypt, teaching Arabic. He tells us that although it is different it is great to teach at JC.



Mr Russell Wallace (Art) started teaching seven years ago at Bromsgrove in the UK. After 5 years he decided to come to Dubai and teach at the English College where he taught for two years before joining Jumeirah College. "I think Dubai is lovely and will probably stay here for another few years. I've enjoyed doing Tae Kwon for the past 5 – 6 years. I do it 5 times a week and am about to receive a black belt!"



Sarah Howling is the new Head of Modern Languages and has taught in Spain, England and, most recently, in Bermuda. She is married and is the proud mum of thirteen-month old Max who keeps her on her toes! When Sarah has time, she loves playing tennis, walking and photography and she's passionate about languages and learning about different cultures.



My name is Heather Earley, a Kiwi born and bred, and the new SENCO at Jumeirah College. I trained in the South and taught in the North Island of New Zealand for almost five years. I left NZ with my husband, on the big OE to London where, in true Antipodean style we spent some time in outrageously overpriced and over crowded accommodation. Three years in England and one trip to Dubai later we decided it was time to move again. So here I am in Dubai, looking forward to new experiences and lots of sunshine.



A teacher for four years, before coming to Dubai, Anna-Marie Finnerty taught at Barnhill Community High School for a year, prior to which she was in Ecuador. She tells us : "I love Dubai, and I also love doing sports and examining rocks. No wonder I'm a geography teacher."



Chris Dewhurst joins the Mathematics department from St. Mary's High School, Tyldesley, Manchester where he taught for 9 years. He holds a degree in Mathematics from the University of Sheffield. Chris arrived in Dubai this summer newly married. His wife Jackie is a primary teacher at JPS. He lists mountain walking, rock climbing, canoeing, skiing and orienteering amongst his interests.



### The UAE Inter-School Vocal Competition

The second round of this competition for vocalists aged 15-18 will be hosted by JC on Saturday 25 October starting at 2.00pm. The best 25 vocalists from the three first round heats will be competing for eight places in the final. Entry is a 10/- donation to charity.

## Awards Assemblies



Each year group recently held an awards assembly. Each department in the school had nominated an overall prize winner in their subject area and an effort award winner. The Head of each Year gave an informative presentation before the awards were presented. Mr. Short, for example, told the Year 11's that it can be difficult to judge success. He showed them a list of people he went to school with and asked them to identify which ones were successful.

After much discussion it was decided by the student body that success is linked to targets you have set yourself. All our GCSE students have targets for their forthcoming examinations and Mr. Short asked that all students strive to exceed these targets.

### Year Seven

Subject	Award	Effort
Art	Roman Vann	Kim Soo
D & T	Jay Ruparella	Bruno Prentice-Webb
Drama	Rebekah Bruce	Alex Taylor
English	Jessica Lacey	Corbyn Berry
Geography	Rebekah Bruce	Lilla Ligethy
History	Sarah Yates	Taylor Berry
ICT	Vijay Ruperalia	Jade Grew
Learning Support		Natasha Moktar
Mathematics	Yanrong Jiang	Katie Jackson
MFL	Yanrong Jiang	Claire Pocock
Music	Alex Taylor	Jenai Kavarana
PE	Corbyn Berry (m) Neha Hasan (f)	Fraser Body (m) Natalia El Hage (f)
Science	Nicholas Politis	JJ Wong

### Year Eight

Subject	Award	Effort
Art	Robyn Steward	Hannah Garrod
D & T	Christian Van Zyl	Sharleen Kanda
Drama	Rida Ahmed	
English	Laura Mattar	Dominic Barnard
Geography	Connor Dalton	Fareeha Bangee
History	Natascha Rodd	Edmee Blinkhorst
ICT	Bronwyn Mileham	Azza Alsharif
Learning Support		Natalie Stevenson
Mathematics	Matthew McCluskey	Zoë Barker
MFL	Mukti Adnani	Anabelle Sizeland
Music	Matthew McCluskey	Natascha Rodd
PE	Tim Murdoch (m) Philippa Smith (f)	Grant Woodward (m) Hayley Kemp (f)
Science	Christo Rademan	Catherine Crabb

### Year Nine

Subject	Award	Effort
Art	Farah Alizade	Anna Chpaltakova
D & T	Laura Whitehead	Alex Patronis
Drama	Emily Wright	Meryl Turner
English	Omar El-Saleh	Murray Souter
Geography	Megan Fletcher	Madeleine Deykin
History	Joanne Al-Samarae	Leon Radulski
ICT	Joanna Jones	Charlotte Miller
Learning Support		Tyler Berry
Mathematics	Megan Fletcher	Rebecca Kemp
MFL	Caroline Philvius	Emily Wright
Music	Tom Eveleigh	Ben Bruce
PE	Andy Campbell Morris (m) Charlotte Kjaedegaard (f)	Omar El-Saleh (m) Rebecca Kemp (f)
Science	Olga van Ravensteyn	Caroline Philvius



## Year Ten

Subject	Award	Effort
Art	Aisling Hughes	Natasha Boddey
D & T	Michael Charman	Paul Gostanian
Drama	Kaye Gabriel	Natasha Saada
English	James Slack	Amy Webster
Geography	Catherine Verheij	Justin Scotcher
History	Siavush Mohktar	Mahra Janahi
ICT	Nick Yates	James Hemingway
Mathematics	Chris Dingle	Emily Garrod
MFL	Ava Seneratne	Robert Scott (Spanish: Kaye Gabriel)
Music	Denis Politis	Adam Liversage
PE	James Hemmingway Sira Gostanian (f)	Devon Baker (m) Chloe Reynolds (f)
Science	Arwah Chakera	Sara Mattar

There was also a Head of Year Award for the student in each year that had made the greatest all round contribution to college life. The winners were:

Year 7	Jade Grew	7MA
Year 8	Adam Wozniak	8IM
Year 9	Andrew Campbell-Morris	9LB
Year 10	Emily Garrod	10TB

## College Uniform

We would like to remind parents of the college's expectations for suitable dress. All students should present a business-like and tidy appearance that conveys both a pride in themselves and in being a member of Jumeirah College. Whilst the overall impression of our students is good, and is often favourably commented on by visitors to the college, there are some aspects of uniform and appearance where I would welcome increased parental support. These are in ensuring that:

- Uniform is clean and that shoes are polished
- No make-up is worn
- Hair does not contain any artificial colours
- Shoes have a low heel
- Girls skirts are no shorter than mid-calf in length

We are especially concerned that the uniform is worn in its entirety when students are travelling to and from college. This is where students most visibly represent the college to the community of Dubai. Thank you for your continued support in this important area of college life.

## JCPS Charity Ball

On behalf of Jumeirah College Primary Section I am pleased to announce that the inaugural JCPS Charity Ball will now take place on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December at the Fairmont Hotel.**

This Black Tie Ball is expected to generate 40,000 Dhs for the school's supported charities of the Red Crescent Society, the Rashid Pediatric Therapy Centre and the Al Noor Training Centre for children with Special Needs.

With a theme of 'It's a Small World' the organising committee under the direction of Mrs Sharin Gaille have been very busy in ensuring the night is a success. One of Dubai's top DJs has been booked to help us dance the night away, a gastronomic buffet is planned and raffle prizes which include 'airline tickets' to exotic places have already been donated. African + Eastern have donated welcoming drinks and wine for tables.

Tickets will be priced at a very reasonable 225 Dhs per head which will provide excellent value bearing in mind not only is the intention to have a good time but to raise money for young people who are far less fortunate than our own. You will be able to 'book' tables of 8 or if you are just a couple the committee will ensure you are seated with a 'good crowd'. You will be most welcome to invite friends who are not JC parents.

If you know of any one who might be willing to donate a prize for the raffle or you can help in any way please get in touch with Mrs Gaille via the school.

Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of November.

## Understanding Your Amazing Child

This is the title of a free workshop for parents being run by the well-known British author and lecturer on education, Trevor Hawes. It will be held at Horizon School on 28 Oct at 6.30pm. Contact the school directly on 3947879 to reserve a seat. Allocation is on a first come first served basis.

## Dates for your Diary

5-6 Oct	NFER CATs testing for all new students
20 Oct	Year 11 Parents Information Evening 7.00pm
22 Oct	Open Day 2.00 – 4.30pm
25-29 Oct	Open Week
25 Oct	UAE Inter-School Vocal Competition hosted at JC
27 Oct	Year 7 Parent – Tutor Meeting 4.00 – 6.00pm
	Possible start of Ramadan *
1 – 2 Nov	Half – Term (School closed)

\* to be confirmed