

NEWSLETTER

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NEW COLLEGES OPEN

After some intensive work over the summer, the newly federated Carisbrooke College and Medina College have opened, with their joint sixth form based at the Island Innovation VI form Campus, in Newport.

Good progress is being made with the new toilet blocks at Medina, which are scheduled to be completed by half term. The conversion of the staffroom into a second canteen has been very successful and the new arrangements are working well. Support staff at Carisbrooke have been busy refurbishing a number of classrooms and the handrails and balustrades in the west wing and science blocks have been replaced to make them compliant with current safety requirements.

There is much to do at the VI form campus. Immediately term finished, the Council's contractors commenced work on transforming the gym into two brand new science laboratories. This means that Year 13 science lessons are having to take place on the Carisbrooke site, with Medina's Year 13 scientists making use of the science laboratory on the Downside Middle School (Furrlongs campus) site. It is expected that the new labs will open in October. The two science labs on the first floor are well-equipped and being fully utilised.

All the computer networks, including two Apple Mac suites, are working, creating a very impressive working environment. The large first floor music room has been converted into one common room and another common room is awaiting brand new lockers.

This week, work has commenced to put in a lift to the first floor so that disabled students have much improved access to the site. This work will be completed in December.

The campus has benefited from resources reallocated following the closure of the middle schools. All Key Stage 2 resources have been removed (including desks and chairs!) and all rooms re-equipped with appropriate furniture.

We were delighted to show members of the Temporary Governing Body around the campus prior to their meeting on 5 September. In addition, we were very pleased to show Julie Jones-Evans (Elected Member for the ward) around the site last week.

Students are very positive about the site and appreciative of having a dedicated sixth form campus.

NEW GOVERNING BODY TAKES SHAPE

The Island Innovation Trust (IIT) has interviewed those interested in becoming Foundation Governors for the single Governing Body for the two federated Colleges. The Trust members were very keen to ensure a breadth of expertise, as well as ensure that the majority of their appointments had children at one of the two Colleges.

The following appointments have been made:

Carolyn Cameron* former Parent Governor for Carisbrooke High School;

Tara Dean* Professor of Health Sciences/Director of Research at the School of Health Sciences and Social Work, Portsmouth University;

Mark Elmore* Deputy Director of Human Resources, St Mary's Hospital;

Jon Ely* Chief Executive of UKSA and Chair of the Temporary Governing Body;

Andy Flambard* Company Director of Mountjoy Limited;

Terence Hart Director of the NHS at St Mary's Hospital;

Sue Poston Trustee of the Quay Arts Centre;

Judith Richardson Chief Executive of the Island Innovation Federation;

Brian Warren Managing Director of NViro; and

Peter Whitlock IT Consultant with Yokogawa Marex Limited.

**denotes a parent.*

The Local Authority has confirmed Chris Brammall, Economic Development Project Officer, as their representative.

With the two Headteachers, Shaheen Khan-Jones and Nathan Thomas, that leaves four vacancies to be filled before the proposed date for the inaugural meeting of the Governing Body on Monday 17 October. Two of these vacancies will be filled by staff representatives and two by parents.

Details of the election for Parent Governors were published last week with letters going out to parents via pupils. Information has been posted on our school websites. Unfortunately the new College websites are experiencing some teething problems, but these should be up and running shortly.

The governors will also appoint two Community Governors at their meeting on 17 October. If you would be interested in this role, or know someone in the community who would be interested in steering the direction of these new Colleges, please e-mail [Diana Penman](mailto:diana.penman@carisbrooke.iow.sch.uk) on diana.penman@carisbrooke.iow.sch.uk or telephone on 524651 by no later than Monday 10 October, 2011.



Isle of Wight Yokogawa Marex Limited

SIXTH FORM

SAIL INTO ACTION



On the first Thursday and Friday of term approximately 150 of our new Year 12 students waded into Cowes-based UKSA for a choice of induction activities.

The students selected two options from dinghy sailing, kayaking, sea survival, tidal studies, wet and dry challenges and raft building. The students were accompanied by their professional tutors and a number of teaching staff. It is clear that those who attended not only had a really good time, but took the opportunity to forge new friendships with students from the other College in the Federation.

New Year 12 student, James Metcalfe, said *"Action packed day, great activities and cracking food"*

and Lauren Taylor said *"Really Good! Great instructors! Qualiteee!"*

We understand that several students regretted the lure of the Bestival, which resulted in their non-participation at UKSA!



THEY DO LOOK SMART!

Numerous comments have reached our ears from the public, parents, governors and Trustees about how smart the new school uniform looks. The uniform has gone down well with the pupils and those parents with reservations have supported the new Colleges in meeting expectations.

However, we have been disappointed that not all the required stock was delivered on time and some issues about quality have been raised. We expect the remaining blazers and ties to be in the Colleges around the end of September.

The Headteachers are meeting a representative of School Colours, the uniform provider, on 3 October to discuss concerns raised.

AIMS OF THE ISLAND INNOVATION TRUST

As part of the competition notice for the new schools, the Island Innovation Trust outlined its vision and aims for its new federated schools.

At an additional meeting last term, Trust members reviewed the aims to make sure that they were clear, succinct and focused on the work that lies ahead. No aspect of the original aims have been overlooked. The new aims are:

1. To ensure all aspects of the work of the Colleges are focused on securing high levels of attainment and improved outcomes for all young people;
2. To secure consistently high standards of teaching and learning;
3. To develop an innovative and inspiring curriculum that meets the needs of each pupil and raises aspirations, embeds skills for employment and develops a culture of enterprise, enquiry and independent learning;

4. To establish a safe, secure and inclusive learning environment that promotes diversity, ensures equality of opportunity and develops confident individuals able to play a full part in their community and society as a whole;

5. To actively promote healthy lifestyles and the wellbeing of our students and staff;

6. To develop effective partnerships with other educational and training establishments, local businesses, entrepreneurs on the Island, in the UK and further afield so as to embrace best practice and widen horizons and aspirations.

These aims will be used by the Headteachers to shape their School Improvement Plans, which will be presented to governors later this term.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE:

Thank you

We were delighted with the significant improvement in the GCSE results at Medina High School last summer and in the increased 5+ A* - C, including English and Maths, at Carisbrooke.

We would like to take this opportunity of congratulating all students on their achievement at GCSE and A2 and wish them every success in their future studies, training or employment.

Our thanks go to all the staff who have worked so hard over the summer to prepare for the opening of the new Colleges .

