

# The Nightingale

See page 2 for parent survey outcomes

# 98%

Parents believe introduction at the school was a positive experience

NOV 2016

**Welcome** to the first edition of the Nightingale Community Academy (NCA) Newsletter. In this and future editions we will try to keep you informed about the life of the school and the progress being made by your wonderful children. It's been a real pleasure for me to begin working at the school and I'm slowly getting to know everybody and the routines that make NCA such a special place.

Andre Bailey - Principal

## 6<sup>th</sup> Form Update

Nightingale has a whole group of learners whom you may never see but who are some of its biggest successes - the 6th Form students in college. Based at many different colleges (Kingston, Carshalton, Richmond, Westminster Kingsway, South Thames) they are taking on a vast range of courses. From KS (Level 3 Aeronautical Engineering) and JM (Level 2 Business Admin) to BB (Level 2 Performing Arts), all are taking their own individual path. Some, like CY (Level 1 Bricklaying), have chosen a course that gives them vocational skills. Others, such as RD and CE (Passport to Work and Study) are spending their first year at college on courses designed to help learners work out which path they want to take. Finally, well done to DW (Level 1 Construction) and KW (Skills for Work and Life), who were unable to start courses as early as they would have liked but have started their college careers successfully in the last few weeks. Nightingale Community Academy is very proud to work with these young men, as they set out on the next stage of their learning journey.



Save the date: NCA Christmas Fair 15/12/16 3:30-6:30

Parents & Y10 learners working together

## Y10 Parents Cook up a Storm

We are grateful to the year 10 parents and carers who visited school to surprise their boys. It was a really enjoyable morning with time to share the highs and lows of parenting teenage boys. The year 10 learners were genuinely stunned but everybody shared a delightful food technology session together making fairy cakes. Work was followed by a relaxed cup of tea and one or two of the delicious cakes. We are all looking forward to the next meeting of the year 10 parents group where we might be more ambitious and prepare a lunch together.

## Magic Breakfast Club

Nightingale Community Academy has taken up a fantastic opportunity and accepted support from the charity 'The Magic Breakfast Club' this year. [www.magicbreakfast.com](http://www.magicbreakfast.com) Their stated aim is to:

*"...ensure that no child is too hungry to learn through the provision of healthy breakfast food and expert support to schools. A hungry child cannot concentrate so will miss out on half a day of lessons, everyday, if not given anything to eat".*

We would like to thank the charity for selecting Nightingale Community Academy and we look forward to working with them this year. It has been great to see many of our learners taking advantage of the breakfast provision and enjoying the vast range of juices, cereals and bagels supplied.



Duty at the main entrance

# Complaints & Compliments

**You said:** "The entrance to the school is dangerous at the start and end of the day."

**Our response:** A senior member of staff is on the gate from 08:45 to 09:00 and at 15:00 to 15:30 every day to help get you and the children in and out of the school safely

**You said:** "Areas of the building are unsafe and children can climb on the roof."

**Our response:** A site survey has been carried out by the Executive Head of Orchard Hill College Academy Trust and the Director of Business Services. We will shortly be carrying out works to solve the issue.

**You said:** "My child is ready to move on from Nightingale Community Academy to a mainstream school. I have seen a change in him over the summer."

**Our response:** We met with the child and put together a detailed reintegration package. We spoke to the head of the mainstream school and agreed a change of school, if our young learner met some challenging targets for behaviour and academic performance. The young man in question started at his new school last Monday.

**You said:** "The boys don't like the school food."

**Our response:** We met with the catering firm and have arranged for them to meet with Becky and the children to create a menu that the children will enjoy. It is not perfect yet but the food is changing and I will keep you informed about the uptake.

**You said:** "Parents don't feel welcome at the school."

**Our response:** We have identified a space in the school that will be set aside for use by parents and carers. There is a kitchen and a space to sit and chat so we hope to welcome you here soon. Our family support worker Deborah Capon has already started to meet with families and we have appointed Tracey Jarrett as parent governor. Tracey will attend her first meeting at the end of this month.

If you have any issues at all please continue to call reception or email [info@nightingaleca.org](mailto:info@nightingaleca.org) and my excellent front-of-house team will get your concerns to the senior team

## Behaviour @ NCA

**Mobile phone reminder** – learners will always be given the chance to 'do the right thing' but if phones get in the way of learning they will be confiscated and learners who refuse to cooperate will face exclusion.

**Violent and threatening behaviour** – there is no place in civil society where it is acceptable to threaten and hurt others. At NCA we try to calm young learners and on most occasions, we use their outbursts as opportunities to learn. That said, there are a number of children for whom aggressive and violent behaviour has become routine when they meet conflict. Please support us to ensure that all young learners and staff are safe when they come to school.

**Uniform** – we are currently planning a new school uniform with the boys and we will share the changes with you in the next few weeks. In the meantime, please remind your young learner that they are expected to be appropriately dressed at all times whilst in school.

**Leaving site** – a small number of learners have left the site without permission and this has led to a number of problems in the community or back at school on their return. Please remind your child that between 09:00 and 15:00 they are not permitted to leave site unless accompanied by an adult.

### Results of the parent survey



68%

Parents & Carers believe the school does a good job for their child.



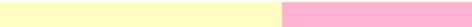
61%

Parents believe their child is happy at Nightingale CA.



88%

Parents believe their child is safe at Nightingale CA.



69%

Parents feel their child's needs are well met



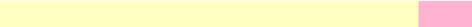
92%

Parents believe the school is good at communicating messages home.



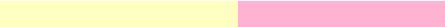
87%

Know whom to contact no matter what the issue.



86%

Parents believe the school listens to concerns and supports parents



56%

Parents believe the school is well led & managed



77%

Parents believe we provide high quality enrichment activities.