



THE CHALFONTS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

October 2021



CHALFONTS NEWS

Success is an Attitude

Issue 8

In
this
edition...



67% of students achieved grades **A*- B** in their **A Levels**.

Over **700** parents and children attended our **Open Evening/Open Day**.

77% of students achieved **Grade 4** or above in their **GCSEs**.

Welcoming Mrs Whitehead – our new Principal!

Mrs Whitehead joined our school community in September this year as our new Principal, and we thought this would be a great opportunity to get to know her a little better. We managed to catch up with her for a quick interview amidst her very busy schedule.

**What attracted you to our school?
What is your motivation to be here?**

"It was clear to me immediately that there is a strong sense of community here and a belief in providing opportunities for all students to feel they belong and succeed. I want to lead this school to inspire students to discover they are capable of more than even they themselves thought possible. I consider it a privilege to do a job that is my passion."

What is your greatest success – in your personal and professional life?

"Achieving a Masters degree in Education Management and Leadership whilst working full time, having been a student at school with low target grades who showed she did not give up. I am proud that I was brave enough to change career to follow my true vocation to become a teacher."

What were your favourite subjects in school?

"English and economics, both for very different reasons. I love the creativity of English and the joy of losing myself in a book. Economics enabled me to understand some of the critical questions facing our world and use logical and analytical methods to understand human behaviour in real life situations."

What is your favourite book and author, and why?

"The Midnight Library' by Matt Haig, about a character, Nora (who I share a middle name with!) who finds herself in a library between life and death with millions of books filled with stories of her life had she have made different decisions."

Matt Haig is my favourite author. His books often blend fantasy, myth and science fiction to create very inventive stories."

Cat or dog?

"Dog! I love big dogs and was brought up with dogs in my family, but I don't currently have one!"

(Interview Continued Below...)



Year 7 Activity Day

The Year 7 Activity day has always been an important event to allow new Year 7 students to bond with others in their tutor group. This year we brought the activity day to the Chalfonts and the students got to try their hands at rock climbing, archery, bush craft, laser tag and other team building activities.

It was fantastic to see the students trying all the activities as well as learning new skills, like fire making and nocking an arrow. There was a real sense of team spirit listening to the cheers of encouragement from students as their peers and teachers attempted to scale the climbing wall. It wasn't all friendly as the student battled it out in the laser tag competition.

Overall, it was a great success and great way to end the week.

Mr Quesnell - Head of Year 7



WELCOME!



Follow our 6th Form on INSTAGRAM (@ccc_6th_form) Why not join us?

(Interview Continued...)

What hobbies do you have?

"Reading, foreign travel, gardening (easy to grow plants only!) and I have a secret love of building Lego sets with my son on a rainy Sunday afternoon (no longer a secret!)."

How would your former colleagues describe you in a few words?

"Fair, hard-working, honest, kind, curious (and an Economist!)"

Do you have a message for our students?

"Never allow yourself to be limited by others and make your life happen rather than living life through others on your screens. Believe in yourself because 'Success is an attitude.'"



Year 7's 'Values' project

Over the course of this academic year, Year 7 students will take part in a 'Values' project during their Tuesday tutor sessions. Through these sessions, this project aims to develop some of the key attributes that we hope to see, such as kindness, compassion and resilience. The aim being that in developing these qualities, we are helping our young people to be comfortable and confident when dealing with some of life's challenges. Your children already display so many of the qualities that we hope to see. This project just aims to help them to develop further.

Each Tuesday lunchtime, students will be set a challenge where they will be given the chance to develop whatever our focus is for that week. Last week's challenge was to attend at lunchtime in the Hall and meet a non-teaching member of staff that they had learnt about that morning. The thought being that by valuing that member of staff they will have a better understanding of the school and the opportunities that are available to them.

Whilst the reward for this project is students own personal development, we do hand out 'Value cards' with each session, which contribute to termly awards for those who attend each week. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see them soon.

Mr Fawcett - PE Department



Year 8s visit the Black Country Living Museum

Starting early, 51 Year 8 students left school to begin their day out at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley in the Midlands. On arrival we were quickly divided into groups and with our Victorian guide to show us the way, we became witnesses to the challenging conditions in a Victorian coal mine. For coal miners and children as young as nine years old, it was hard, dirty and dangerous work. We finally exited the presentation into the warmth and bright sunlight of the late summer's day.

On our journey through time, we watched eagerly as a steel worker was making some chain out of red hot metal in a coal fired furnace. Then onto a large barge that carried coal and iron ore along the canals. We could see first-hand the small and squashed living conditions the barge captain and his family had to live within.

Off to have a look around some back to back terraced housing to gain an impression of home life for the workers. A quick look at the outside lavatories shared by the whole row of houses brought home what living conditions in Victorian industrial England would have been like. A quick visit to

a bakery, a grocers and obviously the sweet shop all realistically exhibiting the produce of the age and then it was time for lunch.

The authentic fish & chip shop, the workers institute café and the Victorian pub provided plenty of opportunity to sample the food on offer. Following a good lunch we walked to the canal barges and onto our journey through the limestone caverns. These caverns were created by workers digging out the minerals to provide iron ore and flux for the iron and steel making.

Back on dry land we ventured into a nearby factory that made animal traps of all shapes and sizes. These were made for animals as small as a mouse to as large as a bear. These traps were then transported all over the British Empire. A quick trip around the gift shop and back on the bus to head off on our return coach ride home. An interesting day enjoyed by all.

Mr Leybourne - History Department



Grease – The Musical

Grease has certainly been the word around the school this term! The Drama and Music Departments kick started the process on 21st September with the performance auditions and my goodness, we were not disappointed! We knew it already, but the auditions confirmed just how many talented students we really have at The Chalfonts Community College! All the students who auditioned secured a spot in our chorus and we chose to double cast the show to give as many of our talented youngsters an opportunity in a lead role as we could. The rehearsals for the show are now well under way every Tuesday and Thursday after school. **Miss Puttock**, as Stage Manager, has been busy getting all the technical crew together; they met for the first time on 5th October and they all blew us away with their enthusiasm and excitement to get started! **Mr Stear** has also been 'greased lightning' busily designing and preparing THAT car ready to start rehearsing with as soon as possible! Planning is also underway for fundraising events to help the annual school productions come back with a bang! To keep up to date with all Grease fundraisers, production developments, news, trips and everything the Drama Department will get up to over the next term, please follow us on **Twitter: #ccdrama** and **#cccperformingarts** and **Instagram ccc.performingarts**. (Photos Below)

Ms Amos – Drama Department



1st

Return to School

18th

Sixth Form Open Evening



1st

Year 9 Trip to Reading University

'GREASE... is the word!'

Surfing CCC

Having been delayed due to COVID, we finally got to take 30 Year 8 students to The Wave in Bristol for a surfing lesson. For those who were not aware, The Wave is an inland artificial surfing lake, giving those who do not live by the sea a chance to try out surfing.

After arriving early, students got a chance to grab a bite to eat whilst they watched some experts surf on the bigger waves. After that it was time for us to suit up and grab our boards. Mr Fawcett and I did our best to show the students how to do it before they started their lessons with some real surfing instructors.

After learning the basics paddling and popping up, the students took to the water... It was a hesitant start from some whilst others quickly stood up and rode their first wave. All the students kept persevering in an attempt to catch their first wave and by the end of it the majority of students were giving a shaka to the camera as they surfed on by.

Could this be the start of the Chalfont's Surf Club... watch this space.

Mr Quesnell - Head of Year 7



Year 13 'Looking Ahead'

As our Year 13 students move into their final year in school, it is really important that they have enough information about all options available to them so that they can make an informed choice about their futures. We therefore set up two workshops for them: one about applying to University and the other about looking ahead, which included information about Apprenticeships.

The **UCAS** morning was full of information about the University application process, writing personal statements and the affordability of university. The students then went into computer rooms where they had a chance to explore the **UCAS** online tool and also our '**Unifrog**' careers tool which has so much information to support them in choosing courses and Universities. Students, very quickly, started to pull together shortlists of the universities they were considering.



The second workshop ran in the hall for a morning and included presentations about Project Management, Assessment Centres, Personal Finance and using '**LinkedIn**'. The students were shown videos of members of our alumni who have gone on to do various levels of apprenticeships in organisations such as Align/HS2 project, Cushman & Wakefield, Zenopa and Unilever. The workshop also provided an opportunity for the students to be observed practising a team activity, to mirror the experience of an Assessment Centre. The winning teams completed the task in about 12 minutes, which was extremely impressive - such great team work!! It was a successful morning with lots of information shared and left students wanting more.

Former CCC Student wins art prize

The Art Department are very fortunate to work with **The Chiltern Arts Society** who aim to bring people together through a shared passion for the Arts. This year **Alannah Gumm** has been the recipient of the Society's annual award of £100 for her outstanding paintings. Her magnificent final pieces are in response to the theme 'Freedom and/or Limitations' where she showed the effect of Covid and the lockdown on both elderly and young people. Alannah has challenged herself by creating artworks from small detailed drawings up to some very large canvases, currently on display in the School reception. Alannah is embarking on a Foundation Course at University of the Arts London (UAL). We are all thrilled that she has chosen to follow this artistic path, taking her wonderful artistic abilities to the next level. (**Artwork Below**)

Paige Fountain (Current Year 13 Art student)



Is your child a budding guitarist?
Lessons are available at CCC
with **Mark Lague**.
Contact mark.lague@btinternet.com
for details



AMAZING ART!

Update on Outstanding Music Student

In our Summer edition of '**Chalfonts News**' we told you about our amazing music student writing and producing her first album. **Jasmine Nituan**, now in Year 10, has her **SECOND** album out! Such an incredibly talented young lady.

"My album is called 'Encased In Silver' and has 12 tracks! It is on Spotify, Amazon music, Apple Music, and YouTube."

Congratulations Jasmine!



Year 13 Geography Trip

Our first fieldwork trip of the academic year! Year 13 Geographers finally made it so Boscombe after having to postpone the trip in June. Students used the time to collect vital

data for the Non-Examined Assessment which is worth 20% of their final A Level grade. Students decide on their own titles, devise their own data collection methods and then evaluate their findings. This year, our students have chosen to focus on crime or regeneration for their NEAs. Going on fieldwork is a vital part of the Geography course so we are very pleased that our students finally got the chance to go and found it very useful!

Ms Evans – Geography Department



Introducing our new Student Leadership Team

We are delighted to have announced the new members of our Student Leadership Team: our Head Boy, **Max Heath**, Head Girl, **Maria Langford** and Deputies, **George Purdy**, **Sean McGuinness**, **Alice Constable** and **Lucy Harrison**. There were a number of nominations within the school of amazing students and, following some very impressive presentations, staff had the difficult task of voting for the roles above.

We would like to welcome Max, Maria and their deputies into these very important, high profile leadership roles. Max and Maria have already delivered extremely professional and inspiring presentations at the school open evening and they will all no doubt be very busy this year, supporting our school, staff and students. We really look forward to working with the team and seeing them 'in action' around the school.

Here is a little information about Max and Maria.

Max Heath said, *"Being a gay Head Boy I would embody "Acceptance is an attitude" and "Success is an attitude". Imparting the school with a more open-minded culture will help other students excel like myself. Developing projects to encourage students to be more accepting towards all characteristics will be a priority for me. A vote for me is a vote for diversity, inclusion, and acceptance of all students."*

Maria said, *"As Head Girl, I will create a supportive environment for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, and also a safe environment for students who have difficulty socialising. Due to Covid restrictions finally lifting, I would like to restore a sense of community back to the Chalfonts by organising more fundraising events, with all years and parents involved, and using the funds to provide the students with more school trips and events to engage them in their curriculum. My personable and organised nature would be ideal for the role of Head Girl. Voting for me will bring about change."*

Open Evening

On Wednesday 13th October, the school opened its doors to the public to come along to our Open Evening.

The evening started with the choir filling the main hall with a rendition of Katy Perry's 'Roar' followed by speeches from our Head boy, Max and Head girl, Maria with a Q&A by the Leader for Year 7 **Mr Quesnell** with some of his students done in the style of the One Show! **Mrs Whitehead** then took to the stage and explained to parents why The Chalfonts is the right school for their child.

If that was not enough, parents and Year 6 children were invited in again to see the school in action to our Open Morning on Thursday 14th. This gave parents a chance to see a working school at a time when many schools chose to run virtual events.

Mr Vahora – Vice Principal



Head Boy **CONGRATULATIONS** Head Girl

Max Heath

Maria Langford

USEFUL LINKS:

Young Minds
Supporting & empowering young people through life's difficulties

The Proud Trust
LGBT+ Online support & information

Family Lives
Online support for parents & families

CCC Vacancies
Join our amazing team!



Marathon Runners

Very well done to members of our staff who bravely attempted and completed the London Marathon; one runner, **Mr Brooks** who completed it in London and the other, **Mrs Flisher** who ran it 'virtually.'

Mr Brooks told us, *"I've been trying to run the London Marathon for 7 years and finally got a place. It took me 4:26 to complete and I ran for Marie Curie who support everyone in the UK, through all aspects of cancer care – and fight for a society where everyone gets to lead the best life they can, right to the end. As I got a ballot place, I didn't have to run for a charity or be given a target to reach, but I still managed to raise £981 for Marie Curie, so am delighted about that."*

Mrs Flisher said, *"This wasn't a marathon I had planned to run due to injury, but because I couldn't run the Richmond marathon I had planned to for 'Mind' in early September, I decided to enter the London marathon and run it virtually (no pressure to run a time and I could have walked the whole thing!). I have completed the*

London marathon before so wasn't bothered about the crowds; I just wanted to raise some funds. Luckily one of my friends was also running virtually, so we planned our route and using the London marathon virtual app, we set off at 8.30 on the 3rd October, covering many lovely places including Egham, Virginia Water and Windsor Great Park. We finished along the Thames at our favourite pub. Not one of my fastest marathon times, but one of my favourites. I finished in a respectable 4.42 with little training and an injury.

I wanted to raise funds for Mind because of the support they have provided to lots of people over the years, especially during the pandemic. Mind support anyone struggling with their mental health and having known lots of people that have especially struggled this year, I wanted to not only raise awareness, but also contribute to their great work. I had a target of £500 and managed to raise £790 which is a great amount, so I am glad that I am helping such a great cause."



Well done!