

The Chalfonts Chronicle

October 2025 – Issue 10

Building Community and Achieving Together

It has been wonderful to see students continue to build on our strong focus of encouraging everyone to be **Community Minded**. A new feature this term is our “Thought of the Week”, which each tutor group is exploring and debating together. These discussions have already inspired some thoughtful reflections, from celebrating each other’s successes, to considering what true inclusion means in our school community. See more on this from page two.

We are especially proud of how well our Year 7 students have settled into secondary school life. This can often feel like a daunting step, but they have shown maturity, resilience, and a willingness to embrace new opportunities. It was a pleasure to see so many of you at our recent Year 7 Curriculum Evening, where tutors had the chance to meet families and share more about life at our school.

It has also been an excellent start for our sporting stars. Our football teams have enjoyed some impressive victories, working brilliantly together, especially our newly formed Year 7 teams, who have shown great promise. Meanwhile, our new Year 7 netball team has set the bar high by remaining undefeated in their first tournament. We look forward to celebrating many more achievements in the weeks ahead.



Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome prospective families to our **Open Evening** on **Wednesday 8th October** (presentations at 5.30pm and 6.30pm, with tours running throughout the evening), as well as our **Open Morning** on Thursday 9th October.

These events are always a highlight in our calendar, and a wonderful opportunity to showcase the vibrant and welcoming community we are so proud of.

To support families, this newsletter also has a 4 page special feature from page 11 to support you with child mental health, use of social media and relationships and sex education.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to sharing more successes with you as the term unfolds.

Warm Regards
Mrs C Whitehead
Principal



Classroom Champions

Building Belonging at The Chalfonts Community College

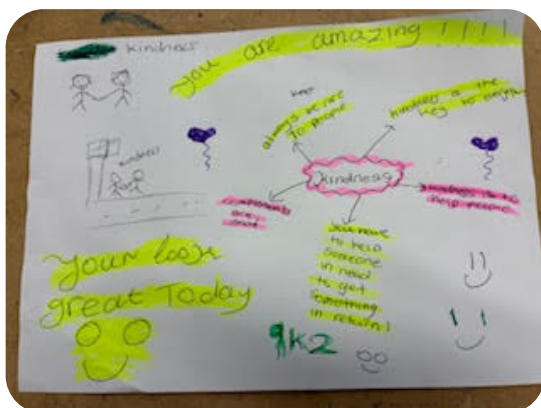
At Chalfonts, we are always looking for new ways to strengthen the sense of community that makes our school such a special place. This year, we have introduced our new Tutor Group Challenges – a fun and engaging way for students to work together, celebrate our values, and feel even more connected to their tutor groups and to the wider school.

This half term, the focus has been on Being Community Minded. Students can earn triple merits for showing this value in action, while also collecting points for their tutor groups through the weekly challenges. It has been wonderful to see the creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm across the school as students rise to the challenge each week.

Highlights so far include:

- Kindness Week – with tutor groups creating “Kindness Webs” and “Kindness Jars” to recognise thoughtful acts.
- Belonging Week – launching our colourful Belonging Wall, a powerful reminder of what it means to be part of Chalfonts.
- Secret Star – a chance for students to secretly nominate and celebrate the achievements of their peers.
- Sixth Form Debates – sparking lively discussions around our Thought of the Week.
-

At the end of every half term, the winning tutor group will receive a reward for their teamwork and commitment. But more importantly, every student is helping to build a stronger sense of pride, belonging and school spirit – values that lie at the heart of life at Chalfonts.



Centre Stage – Music

Music Department News

A big shout-out to Year 13's very own **Sonny Fellows**, who's training to be a piano tuner! Sonny has kindly offered to put his new skills to good use in our Music Department, starting with the piano in Practice Room 1. He's tuning them for free while he gains experience, and he finished his first one earlier today. The result? The piano is sounding better than ever – thanks, Sonny!



Kitchen Science: Crafting Culinary Code

Year 7s Meet Fruit Fusion

Year 7 have made an inspiring start to the practical element of their Food Technology rotation!

7G/TE3 have been focusing on developing their cutting and knife skills while creating a “Fruit Fusion” dish. The students didn't just prepare fruit – they turned it into art! From delicate edible flowers to playful dinosaur shapes, the creativity and attention to detail were fantastic.

Well done to everyone involved – a brilliant start to the practical work ahead!





The Chalfont Community College

Success is an Attitude!

SUCCESS IS AN ATTITUDE OPEN EVENING



Wednesday 8th October 2025 - 5:30-8pm

Speeches 5:30pm and 6:30pm Main Hall

COMMITTED
CONSCIENTIOUS
COMMUNITY
MINDED
COURTEOUS

A Co-Educational Secondary School
Students aged 11-18 years
Diverse academic curriculum
Broad range of co-curricular opportunities
Exceptional pastoral care

The Chalfont Community College
Narcot Lane, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks, SL9 8TP
01753 882 032 | info@chalfonts.org

www.chalfonts.org

Beyond the Finish Line – Sporting Achievements

Team Dance Auditions: A Resounding Success!



What an incredible turnout for our recent Team Dance auditions! It was fantastic to see so many students using their lunch breaks to learn the choreography. Their dedication paid off during the after-school auditions, where they all demonstrated their fantastic talent.

A huge congratulations to every student who secured a place on a team! We can't wait to see their hard work and creativity shine at the competition in January.

We look forward to seeing you there to cheer them on!

Nancy Reins Supreme!

We're so proud of Nancy C for her fantastic success at The Sunshine Tour! She absolutely smashed it – placing in all four classes.

Highlights included:

- 🏆 1st in Arena Eventing
- 🏆 1st in the Supreme Championship

What an incredible achievement – well done, Nancy! 🙌🐎



What a start to the Football Season!

Our Year 7 boys stormed to an 8–1 victory in their first game of the season against Chiltern Hills Academy. Hat-tricks from both Patrick D and Remi R sealed a brilliant team performance. Well done, lads – a fantastic opening result!



Beyond the Finish Line – Sporting Achievements



Year 10 Football Victory!

Our Year 10 boys put on a brilliant performance yesterday in Milton Keynes, beating Hazeley Academy side 4–1 to progress to the next round of the County Cup!

Goals: Millan and Will F. Man of the Match: Jonny C. A fantastic team effort!

Girls U15 Match Result

A tough match as the girls lost 2-1 – the winner coming right at the final whistle!

Bonny got our goal, and Amy pulled off some fantastic saves to keep us in it. Unlucky result, but a really strong performance from the team!



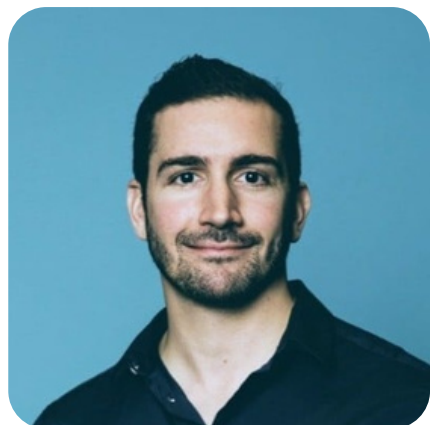
Huge congratulations to Samuel L (Y8) on securing 6th place at the ACU British Trials Championships in Scarborough!

An incredible result in his first year in the bigger B Class – we are so proud!



The Path Ahead – Chalfont Success Stories

Matt Quy Digital Advertising Specialist



Introducing Matt, a CCC alumni member who now works for Blis, as a Digital Advertising Specialist.

"I was originally planning a career in Law, but after graduating and working in the industry, I realised that it wasn't for me. I had always been drawn to marketing and was lucky enough to be offered an entry level role at a global advertising agency. I've now worked in all sorts of roles and companies within the industry over the last 16 years and have collaborated with global brands such as McDonald's, Nike, Netflix and Mercedes. The industry is very inclusive and has a role for every type of skill set, so I would recommend it to all!"

Thank you for your Support

Save the Date!

We are excited to announce our Year 11 Employability Skills Day on 3rd February 2026 and would love your support to make it a success.

If you work in a particular industry and would like to share your expertise at our careers fair, or if you'd be willing to take part in the mock interviews of our students, we'd be delighted to have you join us.

You can give up just an hour of your time or stay for the whole morning – it's completely up to you. Our students gain so much from this experience, and your involvement makes a real difference. Thank you in advance for your support!



The Path Ahead

Thinking About Life After Year 11?

Come along to the Post-16 SEND Opportunities Showcase on Wednesday 8 October 2025, 3.30–6.00pm at Buckinghamshire New University, Aylesbury (HP21 7QG).

The event is for students in Years 9-13 with an EHCP, plus their families. It's a great chance to:

Find out about different Post-16 colleges and courses

Explore Supported Internships and other training options

Meet people who can offer advice and guidance about your next steps

You don't need to book—just come along, chat with providers, and see what could be right for you after school.



Post 16 SEND Opportunities Showcase

Wednesday 8 October 2025
3.30pm - 6pm

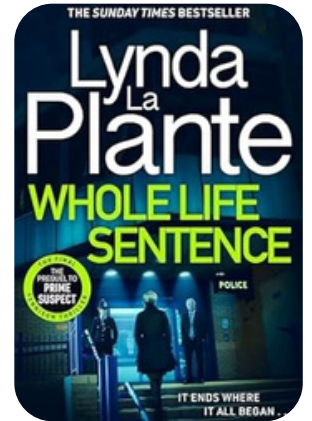
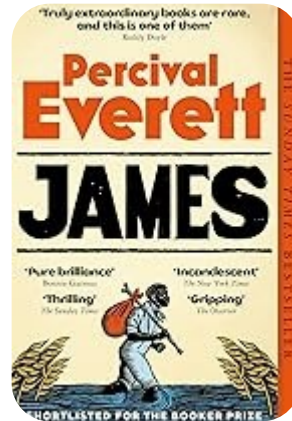
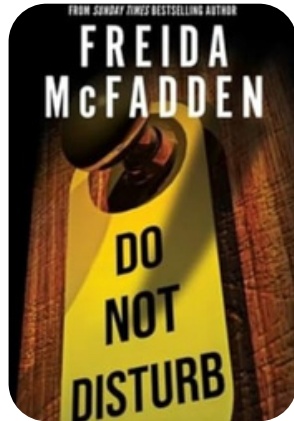
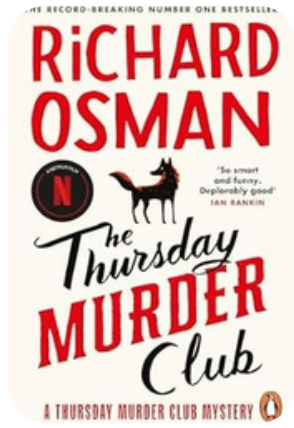
Buckinghamshire New University
59 Walton Street, Aylesbury HP21 7QG




 Buckinghamshire Children & Young People's Partnership
Working together to reach our goals



All About Books



Student Recommendations

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

In a quiet retirement village, four friends meet weekly to investigate old murders. But when a killing happens close to home, Elizabeth, Joyce, Ibrahim, and Ron find themselves in their first live case. They may be pushing eighty, but with wit and cunning, can they catch the killer before it's too late?

Can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer before it's too late?

Do Not Disturb Yet by Freida McFadden

After committing an unthinkable crime, Quinn Alexander flees toward the northern border. When a snowstorm forces her to seek shelter at the isolated Baxter Motel, she thinks she's found refuge. But the motel has a dark past, its owner hides unsettling secrets, and his ailing wife is always watching from the window. By morning, Quinn must escape—before it's too late.

Sixth Form/ Parents / Staff Recommendations

James by Percival Everett

Mississippi River, 1861. Jim escapes slavery to avoid being sold away from his family, while Huck Finn fakes his death to flee his violent father. Together, they set out on a perilous journey north, where every bend in the river brings the chance of freedom—or disaster.

Whole Life Sentence by Lynda La Plante

Detective Jane Tennison has fought her way onto an elite murder squad—but her first cases, a missing teen and a supposed suicide, are dismissed by her colleagues. As she uncovers explosive evidence, the glory is stolen from her at every turn. Fed up with sexism and sabotage, Tennison is determined to prove herself the only way she knows how: by finding the prime suspect.



School Events

Halloween Disco

We are excited to announce that our annual Year 7 and 8 Halloween Disco will be held in support of the charity **Fight for Sight**.

This event is run by our Sixth Form students! Students can look forward to an evening of music, dancing, and spooky fun, all while raising money for an important cause.

To add to the excitement, there will be fantastic prizes for the best dressed costumes, so get creative and show off your Halloween spirit!



Black History Month Bake Sale Coming Soon

In celebration of Black History Month, there will be having a doughnut/cookie sale on Thursday, 16th October. All proceeds will go to the Hairoun Elderly Day Centre. Please support this venture by purchasing either a doughnut or cookie for your son/daughter.



RSE AT HOME FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

RSE at Home with Brook is our series specially created for parents and carers who want to further support their children's relationships and sex education at home.

Scan the QR code to attend a session.

www.sexualhealthbucks.nhs.uk/rse-home



 brook



ARTICLE 12

What is Article 12?

- Would you like to help improve CAMHS?
 - Do you have experience of CAMHS within the last two years
 - Are you interested in breaking Mental Health stigma and raising awareness of this?
- If you answered yes to the questions, then Article 12 may be for you!

- Article 12 is a CAMHS Youth Forum that meets every 5-6 weeks, where young people volunteer as much or as little of their time as they'd like to contribute to the development of Buckinghamshire CAMHS.
- We use our voices to influence the decision-making and innovations for the future of BUCKS CAMHS. We are confident that by working together, we can contribute to the success of a county-wide service and are united in our purpose to ensure the voices of children and young people are heard.

Benefits of Article 12

- Get involved in many different projects
- Engage with a variety of professional and influential people from different organisations
- Meeting new people, increasing self-esteem and confidence
- Sense of purpose from helping others and making things better for future generations
- sense of achievement from taking part
- Getting experience to add to CV's or job/college application forms

How do I join?

If you would like to join you can scan the QR code below or email contact Roxy, Participation Lead at roxy.uritescu@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk





Buckinghamshire
Family Learning



Support your Child's Mental Health and Wellbeing Y10&11

Monday 13 October, 7-9pm, online



Join this 1-week, online workshop to help your child develop confidence, manage stress, anxiety and friendships.

To book your FREE place, phone 01296 383582 with code FMWB022 10NA, click on the link or scan the QR code.

SCAN ME



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION



Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION



Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+



Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY



Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.



ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.



BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.



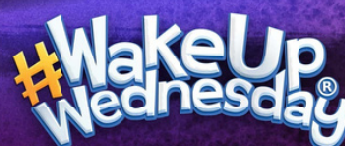
USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College