

The Chalfonts Chronicle

January 2026 – Issue 15

Principal's Message – January 2026

A very warm welcome back to the start of a new year and a new term. It has been a really positive start to 2026 and it has been wonderful to see students return with such enthusiasm, focus and energy.

Before Christmas, our KS3 ski trip to Italy was a huge success. Students were fantastic ambassadors for the school – showing resilience, teamwork and plenty of courage on the slopes. Thank you to the staff who gave up the first part of the Christmas holiday to make such a memorable experience possible.

Year 11 students have now received their mock examination results and are working hard. These mocks are an important milestone and a great opportunity to reflect, refocus and set clear goals for the months ahead. Meanwhile, our Year 13 students have begun their mock exams this week, a demanding time, but one they are approaching with maturity and determination.

Last week we welcomed our School Improvement Advisor into school. We have commissioned him to work with the school to gain external feedback on both our strengths and areas for development. He spent the day visiting a cross-section of sixteen lessons and shared some very encouraging feedback:

“Relationships between staff and students are a significant strength.”

“Students typically work hard and demonstrate good respect for each other and their teachers.”

“Students behave respectfully and do as they are asked.”

“Teachers have established and reinforce appropriate routines. Students appreciate the predictability of this and it is an important reason why relationships are positive.”

The improvements we have made in assessment and reporting were also strongly supported in this visit, which you will continue to see reflected in reports this year and in the way teachers provide feedback in lessons to help students make even more progress. We will continue to work closely with him during 2026 and share updates with you as this work develops.

2026 is the Year of Reading. Everyone knows reading expands worlds, sharpens minds, and fuels creativity and I am looking forward to our reading initiatives this year. I have set myself a personal challenge to read 20 books for pleasure this year... which may be ambitious alongside my usual diet of marking economics essays, reading DfE reports and wading through policy documents.

A quick reminder to please consider signing up to the school lottery, which continues to provide valuable additional funding for enrichment opportunities and resources for our students.

As we look ahead to the term in front of us, it feels very positive. Our students continue to impress me every day with their attitude, kindness and determination, and our staff remain deeply committed to helping every young person achieve their very best.

Warm Regards
Mrs C Whitehead
Principal



Outside the Classroom Events

Ski Trip Success!

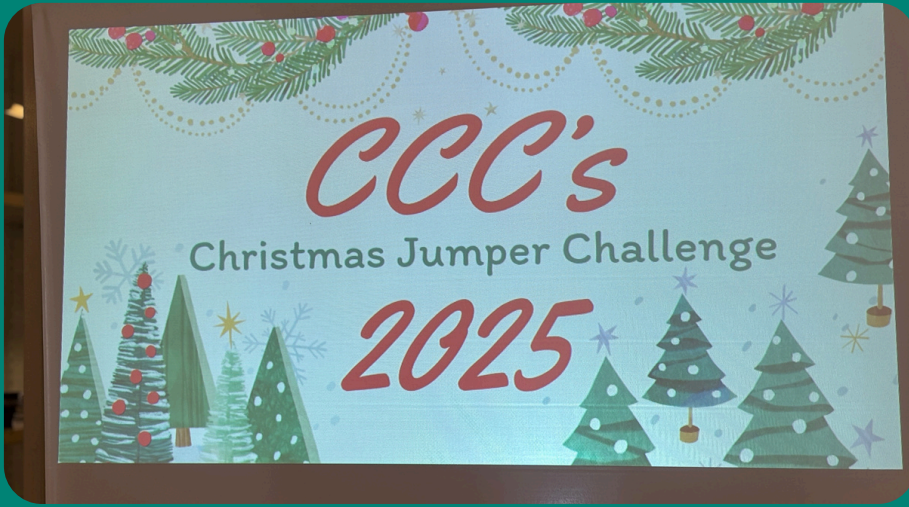
What a fantastic ski trip our students enjoyed just before Christmas! It was wonderful to see their skills improve on the slopes while friendships and team spirit shone throughout the trip.

From skiing and snowboarding to evening games and activities, students developed new abilities and built strong bonds with their peers.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, especially our teachers, who ensured that all students returned home safely and ready for a well-deserved Christmas break.



Design Your Own Christmas Jumpers Photos



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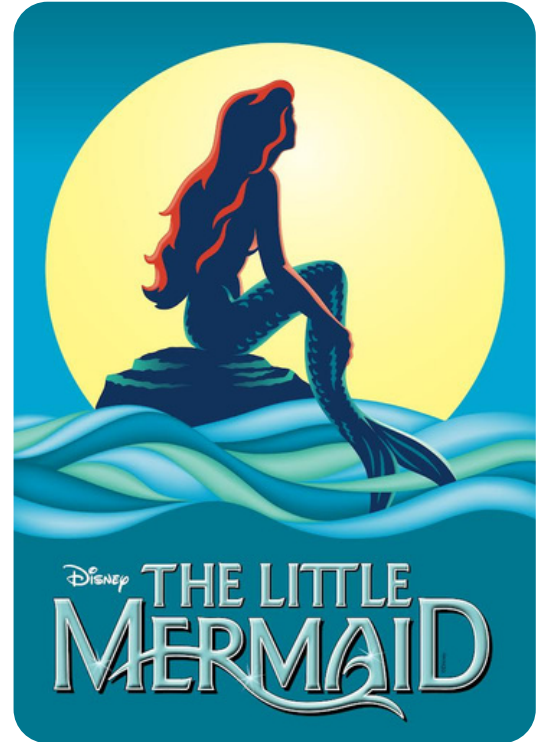
Centre Stage – Drama

School Production – The Little Mermaid

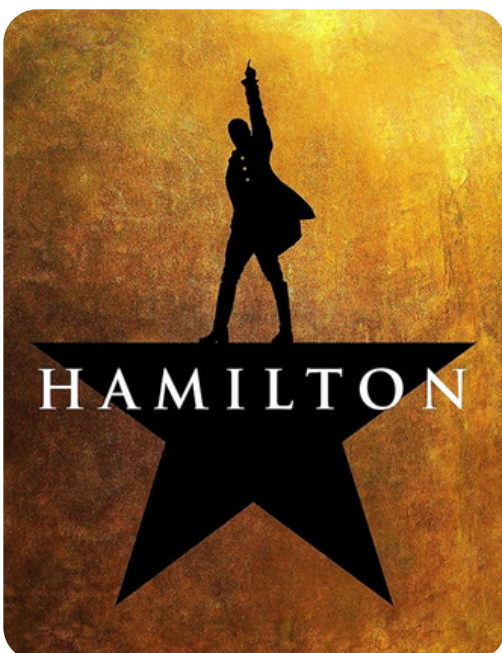
We are thrilled to announce our upcoming school production of The Little Mermaid, taking place on 5th and 6th February. Doors open at 6.45pm with the show starting at 7pm.

Dive under the sea for a magical adventure with Ariel, the spirited young mermaid, as she dreams of life on land and discovers the power of love, friendship, and following her heart. Packed with unforgettable songs, dazzling costumes, and stunning performances from our talented students, this is a show for the whole family to enjoy.

- Witness the talent, creativity, and hard work of our students brought to life on stage
- Enjoy a fun-filled, magical story loved by audiences of all ages
- Experience a truly professional production in our school theatre



Tickets are will shortly be available via TicketSource. Don't miss this enchanting performance—come and support our amazing cast as they take you on an unforgettable undersea journey!



GCSE Students Experience Hamilton

Our GCSE students are lucky to have had the opportunity to see a performance of Hamilton as part of their studies. This experience allowed them to analyze a professional production firsthand, enhancing their understanding of performance, storytelling, and stagecraft.

An amazing and inspiring experience, providing insights that are essential for their studies and helping to bring their classroom learning to life.

Where Practice Meets Performance – Dance

Dance Department Update – A Season of Performance

We are delighted to share an exciting programme of upcoming events for our dance students, showcasing their creativity, commitment, and leadership.

Our season kicks off with Team Dance 2026 on Wednesday 29 January at 6.30pm. Tickets are available via ParentPay.

Team Dance is a celebration of talent and student leadership. From choreography to final rehearsals, students have led the process—mentoring peers, managing rehearsals, and bringing their artistic visions to life.

This Year's Theme: Around the World

For 2026, our dancers explored the globe. Around the World has been a passport for creativity, with performances inspired by cultures across continents. Students curated every element of their routines:

- Original choreography, blending traditional and contemporary styles
- Music selection, a sonic journey across countries and eras
- Visual design, with student-led costumes and makeup

We can't wait to welcome you to an evening full of creativity, collaboration, and team spirit.

Forthcoming Dance Events

The excitement continues beyond Team Dance. On 17 March, our students will be participating in **Dance Live!** at the Wycombe Swan, delivered by The Guildhall Trust. This large-scale production experience raises aspirations, supports health and wellbeing, and develops skills for future creative careers, all while embracing the evolving digital world of modern performance.

Then, on 9 April, one of our dance teams will take to the stage at **Honeycomb at the Aylesbury Theatre**, offering another fantastic opportunity to perform in a professional venue.

Further details for all upcoming dance events will be shared shortly. We are incredibly proud of our students and look forward to celebrating their creativity, commitment, and achievements throughout the year.



TICKETS £5



The Path Ahead – Chalfont Success Stories

Abby Wakelin Counsellor



Introducing Abby, a CCC alumni member who now works as a counsellor.

“I decided to become a counsellor because I have a deep passion for helping others navigate their challenges and find clarity, healing, and personal growth. This career is personally rewarding, allows me to connect with others and develop as an individual.”

Thank you for your Support

Employability Skills Day - 3rd February 2026

On Tuesday 3rd February, our Year 11 students will take part in an Employability Skills Day to support their preparation for life beyond school.

The day includes:

- A Careers Fair with 45 employers, training providers and organisations engaging with students from Years 11–13
- One-to-one interviews for every Year 11 student, providing valuable employability experience and feedback
- A choice of 19 industry and education pathway workshops, designed to inspire students and help them explore future options

We still have a small number of spaces available at the Careers Fair and would welcome organisations from sectors such as retail, logistics (e.g. Amazon), or the car industry.

Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered their support – together we can inspire the next generation.

If you or your organisation would like to take part, please contact:
kvinten@chalfonts.org.

Logos of the Companies Attending the Careers Fair



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All About Books



Student Recommendations

The Book Of Stolen Dreams by David Farr

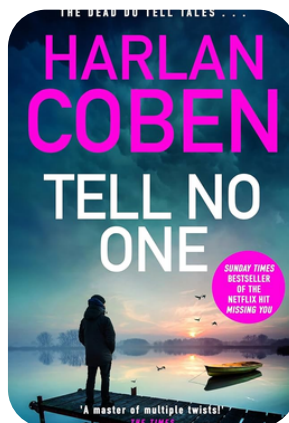
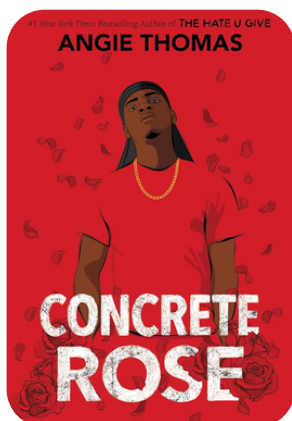
Plunged into danger when they help their father steal a forbidden book, Rachel and Robert are forced to go on the run. To save their father from prison, they must discover the truth about The Book of Stolen Dreams.

But the cruel and powerful President Malstain knows its secrets and will stop at nothing to snatch the book's magic for himself. The hunt is on. Rachel and Robert face a desperate battle to stop the book falling into Malstain's hands - for if it does, he could destroy everything.

Concrete Rose by Angie Thomas

Seventeen-year-old Maverick Carter provides for his family the only way he knows how—dealing for the King Lords. The son of a former gang legend, he believes he has life under control until he learns he's a father.

Determined to do right by his child, Mav tries to leave the streets behind, but loyalty, violence, and loss pull him back in. To survive—and become the man his son needs—he must decide who he really is.



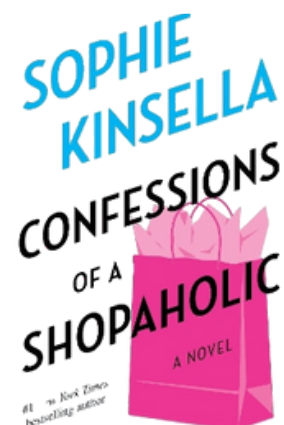
Sixth Form/ Parents / Staff Recommendations

Tell No One by Harlan Coben

Eight years ago David Beck was knocked unconscious and left for dead, and his wife Elizabeth was kidnapped and murdered.

Dr Beck re-lived the horror of what happened that day every day of his life. Then one afternoon, he receives an anonymous email telling him to log on to a certain website. The screen opens on to a web cam - and it is Elizabeth's image he sees.

As Beck tries to find out if Elizabeth is truly alive, and what really happened the night she disappeared, the FBI are trying to pin Elizabeth's murder on him. And everyone he turns to seems to end up dead...



Confessions Of A Shopaholic by Sophie Kinsella

Meet Becky Bloomwood: she has a great flat, a fabulous wardrobe, and a job advising others on money –yet she can't stop shopping. Retail therapy rules her life as debt mounts and bank letters pile up. Can she face reality, find love, and finally take control of her credit card?



A Community Of Care

MHST 2026 Parent Webinars

Last terms parent webinars have proved to be hugely successful with over 130 attending over the 4 sessions.

Here are 5 more parent webinars planned for the next half of the academic term, with topics including

- Exam stress
- Understanding childhood and adolescent development and behaviour
- Low mood and
- Understanding Eating disorders.

FREE **FOR PARENTS AND CARERS**

LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

DATES: JAN - APRIL 2026 **TIME: 6PM - 7.30PM**

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!

01865 901566 | bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

*PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND AN MHST SCHOOL FOR ACCESS TO THE WEBINARS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, PLEASE CONTACT US.



Hosted by Aylesbury & Wycombe Women's Aid

Bucks Domestic Abuse Services

BDAS offers an intersectional, trauma informed service for people experiencing domestic abuse in Buckinghamshire.

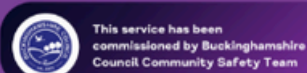
**Free and confidential
24-hour helpline**

01296 437777

www.bucksdaservices.co.uk

enquiries@bucksdaservices.co.uk

If you are in immediate danger, please call 999




This service has been commissioned by Buckinghamshire Council Community Safety Team



Charity No. 299946 Charity No. 1054308

Services and advice

1 Point of Access Helpline (24/7)
01296 437777

2  Community Based Support and Advocacy

- One-to-one emotional and practical support
- Risk assessing and safety planning
- Signposting and onward referrals

Aylesbury Vale: 01296 437777
Wycombe, Chiltern & South Bucks: 01494 449922

3 **Refuge Accommodation**

Aylesbury Women's Aid: 01296 436827
Wycombe Women's Aid: 01494 461367

4 **Sanctuary Scheme (Home Safety Measures)**

This project received a grant from Buckinghamshire Council's New Burdens Funding Scheme

5 **Flexible Fund**

A fund to support survivors in Bucks to achieve or maintain safe and secure housing

These services are available for anyone 16+ who lives in the Buckinghamshire area

www.aylesburywomensaid.org.uk
www.wycombewomensaid.org.uk



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Domestic Abuse Support App - Bright Sky by Hestia



Domestic abuse, whether towards a female or male partner, can significantly affect the children who live in that environment. Exposure to violence, coercion or ongoing emotional manipulation disrupts a child's sense of safety and can influence their behaviour, relationships and engagement in learning.

These situations are often hard to spot. Many victims work to hide what is happening, particularly from official agencies, due to fear of consequences for the abusive partner or worries about major upheaval for the family.

Hestia is a London-based charity that supports adults and children in crisis, delivering frontline services and campaigning nationally on issues such as domestic abuse, modern slavery and mental health. They have created the Bright Sky app, a free and discreet tool that helps people recognise signs of abuse, access specialist support and record concerns safely.

The Bright Sky app provides:

- A simple tool to help someone recognise signs of abuse and understand whether a relationship feels unsafe.
- A secure, optional journal for recording incidents or concerns that can later be shared with a trusted person or agency.
- A directory of national and local support services, making it easier to find the right help quickly.

To find out more, please follow the link: <https://www.hestia.org/brightsky>

Brook delivers free RSE (Relationships & Sex Education) at Home webinars to support parents and carers who want to feel more confident talking to their children about relationships and sex.

We know these conversations can sometime feel tricky – that's why our sessions offer practical tips and guidance to help you start and continue these important discussions at home.

We'd love your feedback to help us shape future sessions and resources that better support families across Buckinghamshire.

Complete our quick survey for a chance to win a £15 Amazon voucher! We won't ask for your name, and your answers will remain anonymous.

Take the survey: <http://bit.ly/4hRrNzd>

Brook's Parent and Carer webpage (advice, guidance and free resources):
<https://www.brook.org.uk/parents-and-carers/rse-at-home>

