

The Chalfonts Chronicle

January 2026 – Issue 16

Mock Exams, Trips, and More – A Note from the Principal

Firstly, I would like to thank both parents and students for their understanding when we had to close the school recently. This is never an easy decision, but due to an extended power outage in the local area causing technical issues and health and safety concerns, we had no alternative. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to our Year 11 parents for their flexibility in moving the Parents' Evening to 12th February.

I would like to commend our Year 13 students, who have been working diligently through their A Level mock examinations. They have shown real tenacity, determination, and commitment to achieving their best. These are such important exams, helping to highlight both strengths and areas for development, and I want to reassure students that our teachers are fully committed to supporting them in achieving their full potential.

It was a pleasure to welcome our Year 9 parents and students to school this week for the all-important discussions around GCSE choices. We hope you enjoyed meeting our staff and having the opportunity to discuss the exciting topics ahead.

Huge congratulations go to our dance students, who put on a fantastic 'Around the World' performance. It always amazes me to see the exceptionally high standard our students perform at, as well as the time and dedication that goes into producing such wonderful shows.

Rehearsals are also well underway for our upcoming drama production, *The Little Mermaid*, on 6th February, which promises to be another memorable performance as our students transform the drama studios into a magical world under the sea.

Students have also been busy with a range of external trips to enrich their learning. Our beauty students enjoyed the luxury of Cliveden, gaining insight into how a real spa operates, while our Economics students have furthered their knowledge at an Economics workshop run by EconplusDal and another group visited Pinewood Studios, broadening their media knowledge and learning more about future careers in the screen industry.

Careers guidance continues to be an integral part of what we offer our students. Our Employability Skills Day takes place next week, where we will welcome over 40 companies into school. Students will take part in workshops as well as one-to-one interviews, making this one of the highlights of our careers calendar.

I wish everyone a wonderful weekend—hopefully with a little less rain!

Warm Regards
Mrs C Whitehead
Principal



Sixth Form

Year 12 Young Enterprise Team Shine at Dragon's Den Event

On Tuesday evening (20th January), five Year 12 students took part in a 'Dragon's Den' event organised by Young Enterprise.

Jaya K, Nuha Z, Seb H, Arvin G and **Raman J** presented their business idea to two local business owners, pitching for potential investment.

The team delivered a highly professional and confident presentation, answering challenging questions from the Dragons with clarity and maturity. Despite some nerves beforehand, they performed exceptionally well and represented the school brilliantly. It was a proud moment to see their hard work and confidence on display.



Sixth Form Beauty Students Visit Cliveden

Sixth Form Beauty students recently visited Cliveden to gain valuable real-life experience and insight into how a luxury spa operates. During the visit, students explored both front-of-house and behind-the-scenes aspects of running a first-class spa, including professional meet-and-greet procedures, client care, and an understanding of the wide range of treatments offered.

The experience gave students a deeper appreciation of the standards, organisation and teamwork required in a high-end spa environment. It was a fantastic opportunity and a real treat for our students.

A huge thank you to Cliveden for their hospitality and for providing such an inspiring and informative experience.



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Sixth Form

Supporting Students With UCAS

Over the past six months we have been busy supporting Year 13 students in putting together their applications for university. The application deadline was January 14th and I am very pleased to report that many students have received conditional offers for a wide variety of courses at some excellent institutions - please see below.

Universities applied for include:

Exeter, Royal Holloway, Warwick, UEA, Manchester, Southampton, Bristol, Birmingham, Queen Mary London and Cardiff

Conditional offers have been received for the following courses amongst others:

Medicine, Law, Computing, Business Management, Psychology, Film and TV production, Aerospace Engineering, Banking and Finance, Media, Physiotherapy, Cybersecurity, Sport & Exercise, Illustration, Events Management, Economics, Biomedical Science, Primary Teaching, English, Physics, Interior Design, Marketing, Music and Real Estate Management

Well done to Year 13 students for receiving these offers and good luck with the exams in the summer.



Culture, Competition, and Center Stage

School Production – The Little Mermaid

We are thrilled to announce our upcoming school production of The Little Mermaid, taking place on 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 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!

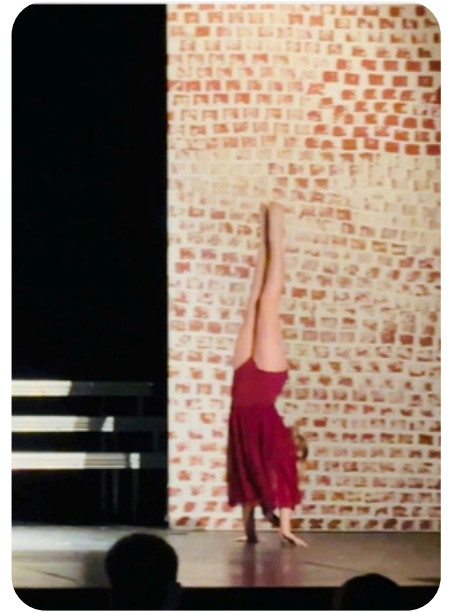


Team Dance 2026

The annual Team Dance event took place on Thursday in the Main Hall, celebrating student creativity, teamwork and leadership. This year's theme, "Around the World," saw students perform original routines inspired by global cultures, with choreography, music and visual design all led by the teams themselves.

The event showcased the dedication, collaboration and talent of our dancers and was a fantastic celebration of student-led performance.

Culture, Competition, and Center Stage



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Netball Highlights:

Our girls' teams have been busy this week! Year 8 and 9 teams had mixed results against Beaconsfield, Year 9 beat Misbourne 19-6, and our Year 7 team went unbeaten again 🏆🥳 – all showing fantastic teamwork and determination, even in the rainy conditions!



Enrichment Activities – Reminder

A gentle reminder to all parents to ensure their child has selected an enrichment activity. There are still spaces available for our 3-day trip to France, as well as a range of day activities, including Go-Karting, Paintballing, Computer Coding, Cookery, and Dance.

For any queries, please contact VGibb@chalfonts.org.



Year 9 GCSE Options Evening

We were thrilled to welcome so many parents to our Year 9 GCSE Options Evening. The presentations and meetings with teachers provided valuable information to help students make informed choices about their subjects.

GCSE options are an important stepping stone toward future careers, allowing students to select subjects they enjoy and that align with their aspirations. Our staff are here to guide and support every student as they make these important decisions.



Year 11 Parents' Evening

We would like to thank all parents for their understanding and support regarding the change of date for this important evening, due to technical issues experienced last week. We look forward to welcoming all Year 11 parents on 12th February.

Reminder: Sixth Form Taster Day – 26th February

Year 11 students, please remember to select your subjects for the Sixth Form Taster Day. This is your opportunity to explore new subjects and feel confident about your A Level choices.



The Path Ahead

Employability Skills Day

We are looking forward to a fantastic Employability Skills Day on 3rd February, where over 40 companies will join our careers fair. Students will also have the opportunity to take part in more than 20 workshops, gaining valuable insights, one-to-one interview practice, and feedback to support their future career paths.

It promises to be an invaluable experience for all our students. Thank you to everyone in advance for your support in making this event possible!



Students Visit Pinewood Studios Futures

We recently took a group of our Media students to the Futures Festival at Pinewood Studios in Iver, Buckinghamshire – one of the world’s most iconic film and television production sites. As the UK’s largest festival for the screen industries, the event showcases the huge range of careers available across film and TV. Students met industry professionals, explored real sets, equipment and cutting-edge technology, and took part in hands-on activities such as green screen filming and prop making. From visual effects and sound to costume, stunts and production management, the festival highlighted just how diverse the industry is – far beyond acting and directing.

A highlight for many students was a talk from Adam Teeuw, Vice President of Physical Production at Lucasfilm, who shared insights into building a successful career, stressing the importance of being punctual, hardworking, kind, enthusiastic, adaptable and resilient, as well as building strong networks from the very start.

Hearing these messages while standing next to his BAFTA and Oscar made a lasting impression, reinforcing that success in the screen industries comes from attitude and collaboration as much as technical skill.



The Path Ahead – Chalfont Success Stories

Ian Rose

Motivational Speaker



Introducing Ian, a CCC alumni member who now works as a motivational speaker.

"I started judo at seven to build my confidence, beginning a journey that led to a World Championship title, two Paralympic medals, and four European golds. Since retiring in 2012, I've focused on helping others grow—coaching at our local High Wycombe judo club and running a people development company delivering coaching, keynotes, and masterclasses on resilience, leadership, and personal growth."

Thomas David

DevOps Engineer



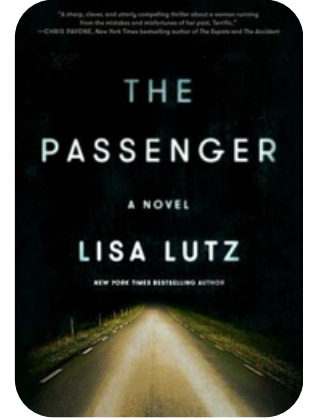
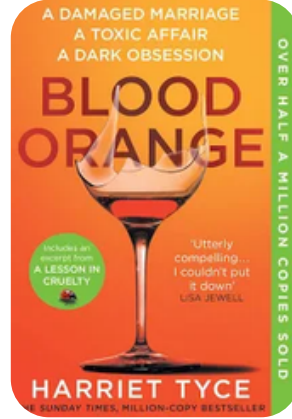
Introducing Thomas, a CCC alumni member who now works as a DevOps Engineer.

"I absolutely love problem solving, technology and constant learning so I went into software engineering."

CGI



All About Books



Student Recommendations

The Thirteenth Hour by M Bououchema

In the frozen town of Frosthaven, time has been cursed to stand still—until Elena arrives. As she uncovers the secret of the forbidden thirteenth hour, she must choose between saving the town or surrendering her own future.

The Paper Girl Of Paris by Jordyn Taylor

Sixteen-year-old Alice spends the summer in Paris after inheriting a secret apartment her grandmother kept hidden for over seventy years. Determined to uncover why it was abandoned—and why her family's past was erased—Alice teams up with a charming local student. But the deeper she digs, the clearer it becomes that some truths are still being deliberately buried.

Decades earlier, sixteen-year-old Adalyn navigates a very different Paris—one under Nazi occupation. By day, she is a celebrated socialite; by night, she risks everything working with the resistance. As the war tightens its grip, Adalyn is forced to make devastating choices that will echo far beyond her own lifetime.

Sixth Form/ Parents / Staff Recommendations

Blood Orange by Harriet Tyce

Alison appears to have the perfect life—a loving husband, a young daughter, and a promising legal career capped by her first murder defense case. But beneath the surface, she's unraveling: drinking too much, neglecting her family, and entangled in a dangerous affair.

When her client insists on pleading guilty to killing her husband, Alison senses something is wrong. As she fights to save the woman, she's forced to confront her own darkest secrets—secrets someone else knows. And they're determined to destroy her.

The Passenger by Lisa Lutz

Tanya DuBois ceases to exist the moment her husband dies—and she becomes the prime suspect. With nowhere left to hide, she runs.

But Tanya was never real. Nor are the many identities she's worn before or since. When she reinvents herself again and befriends Blue, another woman running from her own past, their fragile alliance turns deadly. As bodies begin to pile up, survival means deciding which version of herself—if any—can finally tell the truth.



A Community Of Care

TEACH IN BUCKS RECRUITMENT FAIR

*Interested in becoming a teacher?
We want to meet you!*

Saturday 7 February 2026, 10am - 2pm

 [Buckinghamshire New University | Wycombe Campus](#)

Event Programme

Featuring presentations from a number of organisations including the Department for Education and several of the county's school and university based Initial Teacher Training providers:

- 10.00am** **Doors open - meet local providers**
- 11.00am** **Get into Teaching Introductory Presentation - Why, How and What**
• Presentation by a representative from the Department for Education
- 11.30am** **How to Apply - Applications, Qualifications, and Compliance**
• Presentation by local SCITTs*
- 12.00pm** **Meet local providers**
- 1.00pm** **Training Programmes:**
1. Early Years and Primary Teacher Training Programme
• Presentation by local SCITTs*
2. Secondary Teacher Training Programme
• Presentation by local SCITTs*
3. Further Education Training Programme
• Presentation by the Buckinghamshire College Group
- 1.30pm** **Routes into Teaching:**
1. The Apprenticeship Route into Teaching
• Presentation by local SCITTs*
2. The Assessment Only Route into Qualified Teaching
• Presentation by local SCITTs*
3. University Routes into Teaching
• Presentation by Buckinghamshire New University
- 2.00pm** **Close**

If you have any queries about the event, please email teachinbucks@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Programme is subject to change

**SCITT: School Centred Initial Teacher Training*



Register for a
FREE ticket:
[Eventbrite](#)



SCAN ME



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A collaborative event between partner organisations



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