

The Chalfonts Chronicle

March 2026 – Issue 18

A Note from the Principal

What a fantastic start we have had to this term! We were thrilled to welcome our students back from their amazing skiing trip to Canada. I am always relieved when everyone arrives home safely, and it is such a joy to hear their incredible stories. The trip proved to be much more than just skiing – it gave students the chance to develop independence, build new friendships, and create memories that will last a lifetime.

This week has been incredibly busy as we celebrate National Careers Week. Students have had the opportunity to hear from a range of speakers about career opportunities across different pathways, visit the Bucks Skills Show to speak directly with employers, and participate in discussions about work experience and the many benefits it provides. It is wonderful to see our students engaging so enthusiastically with planning their futures.

World Book Day also proved to be a highlight of the term. Students and teachers alike embraced the fun of dressing up as their favourite characters, creating a lively and dynamic atmosphere across the school. There were some truly amazing outfits, and it was clear that our teachers thoroughly enjoyed the chance to be in disguise!

I would like to draw your attention to a consultation on the school day which is open until 17 April. You will have received a letter with a link to provide your feedback which will be carefully considered in this consultation.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of two important matters: please ensure considerate and safe parking when dropping off and collecting students, and kindly inform our medical team if your child has, or has been in the vicinity of, any infectious diseases so that we can safeguard students who are undergoing significant medical treatment at present. These measures help us maintain a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to updating you of the exciting activities across the rest of this term in the next edition.

Warm Regards
Mrs C Whitehead
Principal



Canada Ski Trip

Canada Ski Trip 2026

Over February half term, 27 students from Years 10–13 travelled to Jasper for an unforgettable week of skiing at Marmot Basin.

With five days on the slopes and temperatures dropping to minus 30 degrees, students showed tremendous resilience and determination. The progress across the week was impressive – beginners who started on green runs were confidently tackling reds by the end, while experienced skiers refined their technique and developed greater mountain awareness. Despite frozen gloves and icy eyelashes, spirits remained high throughout.

The trip offered much more than skiing. Students experienced the beauty of the Canadian wilderness, spotted moose in Jasper, reflected on the impact of the 2024 wildfires, and enjoyed the electric atmosphere of a local high school ice hockey game.

Most importantly, the week fostered independence, resilience and strong friendships across year groups. Students returned not only as stronger skiers, but as more confident and well-rounded young people.

Our sincere thanks to Mr Howard, Mr Howard and Ms Walker for leading the trip, and to families for their continued support. It was truly a memorable experience for all involved.



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Canada Ski Trip



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World Book Day

Celebrating World Book Day in Style!



Another fantastic day celebrating World Book Day, with both students and teachers coming to school dressed as their favourite characters. It's safe to say the teachers really enjoyed being in disguise!

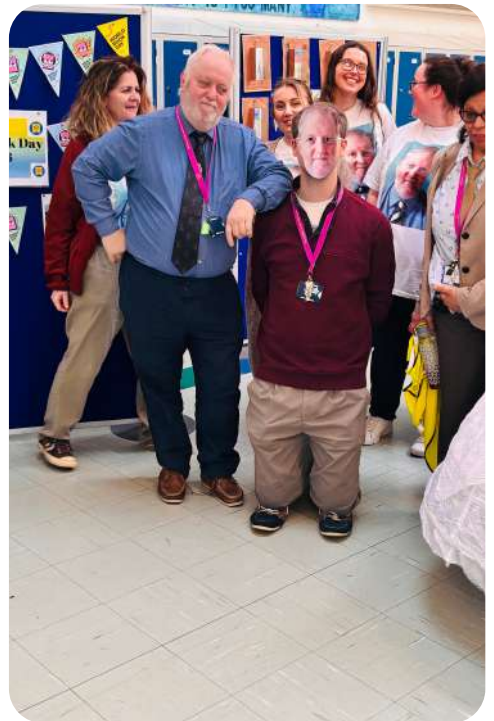
The celebrations went beyond costumes – our students also created incredible 3D models and paintings inspired by their favourite books. The creativity and talent on display were truly phenomenal.

Reading is a vital part of learning, and World Book Day provides a fun and inspiring way to encourage a love of books for all our students. From imaginative dress-ups to stunning artwork, it was a day full of excitement, creativity, and a shared passion for stories.

World Book Day



World Book Day



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Winning Students



And the award goes to...

We are incredibly proud to share that **Ethan Miller** (Year 11) has been named Regional Cadet of the Year for the South East by St John Ambulance as the competition celebrates its 40th anniversary.

Ethan earned his place at the national final after progressing through county level, competing alongside more than 35 outstanding Cadets from across the UK. The final, held at Ingestre Hall near Stafford, tested first aid skills, leadership, teamwork and communication through realistic emergency scenarios and challenging assessments.

Ethan, who volunteers with the Windsor Cadet unit has already used his first aid training in real-life emergencies, including helping to evacuate pupils safely from a damaged school bus and assisting casualties at major public events. His calm thinking, leadership and compassion stood out throughout the competition.

This is a remarkable achievement and a testament to Ethan's dedication to volunteering and helping others. We are extremely proud of him and look forward to seeing all he accomplishes in his ambassadorial role over the coming year.

Success at the Global Dance World Championships

We are incredibly proud of our talented students who recently competed at the Global Dance World Championships in Crawley.

Representing their dance school, Freedom of Dance, they achieved fantastic results on the global stage.

Amba performed as part of her crew, Dynasty, who came 1st in the Adult (18+) Beginner category – an outstanding achievement against international competition.

Isabella competed with her crew, JCrew, securing an impressive 3rd Place in the Under 14s Intermediate category.

To compete – and place – at an international championship is a remarkable accomplishment. Their dedication, teamwork and passion for dance truly paid off, and they represented both their dance school and our community with pride.

Congratulations to you both – we are so proud of your success!



Winning Students – Maths

Promoting a love of Maths

Last month, students in Years 9, 10 & 11 competed in the 2026 UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. It is a nationwide competition that is tough and only the highest scorers are awarded certificates. This year of the ten students that entered, they won, 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 7 Bronze and they are as follows:

Gold: **Jaskeerat** (10) & Best in School

Silver: **Adhithi** (11)

Bronze: **Ligaya** (11), **Sienna** (10), **Rio** (10), **Raya** (10), **Oscar** (10) **Hirun** (10) and **Empress** (9)



Jaskeerat has been invited to the follow-on round called the Pink Kangaroo later this month.

We are immensely proud of our students and their achievements and wish them more success in future challenges. If you would like to know more about the Maths Challenge, please visit:

<https://www.ukmt.org.uk/about-us/> or email me at: ivahora@chalfonts.org



Sport & Performing Arts

Battle of the Bands – 24th March 2026

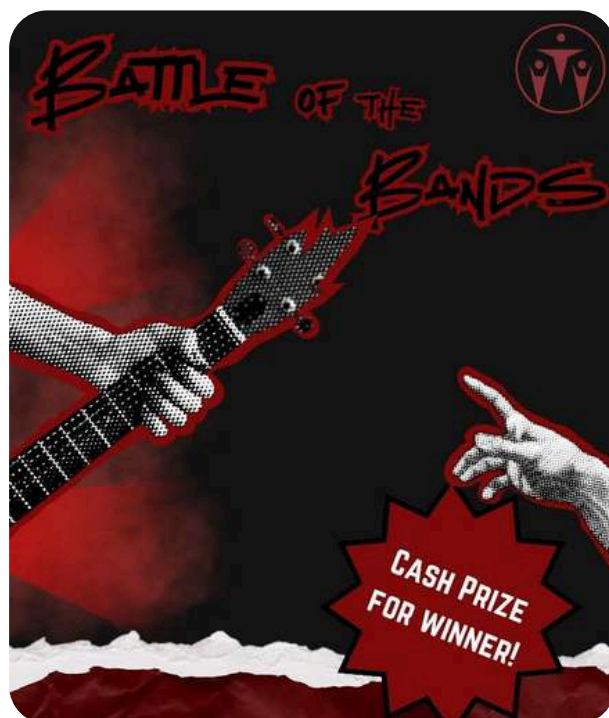
Our much-anticipated Battle of the Bands concert will take place on 24th March in the Main Hall, promising an exciting evening of live music and outstanding student talent. Doors will open at 6 pm, with a series of performances from our student bands as they compete for the top spot.

An esteemed judging panel will decide the winners, while refreshments will be served during the judging period.

The evening will also feature a special performance from our Staff Band, adding to what promises to be a fantastic atmosphere.

This is set to be a memorable evening of music and entertainment for the whole school community.

Tickets are £3 and can be purchased via ParentPay. We look forward to seeing you there!



Year 10 Basketball Clinch Thrilling Win!

Our Year 10 Basketball Team pulled off a dramatic 38–36 victory over Amersham, holding their nerve right down to the final seconds.

🌟 Players of the Match: Earl V and Millan B – brilliant performances that helped secure the win.

Well done to the whole squad on a fantastic, nail-biting match!

Personal Development

Self Defence for Year 10s

As part of our Personal Development programme, we are thrilled to have launched Self Defence courses for our Year 10 students! 💪

The sessions are led by Kevin Hawley, 7th Degree International Instructor and Examiner from Bucks Pro Mai, providing expert guidance and invaluable skills.

A huge thank you to Eve and Ani from Buckinghamshire Council for making this opportunity possible!



Sixth Form Taster Day

What a fantastic day for our Year 11 students experiencing what life in the Sixth Form is really like!

Our Sixth Form Taster Day gave students a real insight into new subjects, a change in syllabus and a different style of teaching – helping them prepare for their next steps in education.

Subject choices ranged from Medical Science, Chemistry and Sports BTEC to Media Studies, Music, and Art.

We hope it was an inspiring and informative experience as they begin making their choices for further study.

With a wide range of subject options and a dedicated Study Centre to support independent learning, our Sixth Form provides the perfect environment for students to thrive and grow.



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The Path Ahead

Exploring future careers and opportunities at the Bucks Skills Show.



Year 10 students recently attended the Bucks Skills Show, where they had the opportunity to speak with a wide range of employers and training providers.

The event gave students valuable insight into different career pathways and the many opportunities available to them in the future. By engaging directly with professionals, students were able to ask questions, learn about different industries, and begin thinking more seriously about their next steps after school.

It was a fantastic and informative trip that helped our students as they continue to plan for their futures.

Year 10 Explore the Importance of Work Experience



Continuing our Careers Week, Year 10 students attended an engaging assembly all about Work Experience and its vital role in preparing for the future.

At our school, every student takes part in a week of work experience. This hands-on opportunity allows them to gain real insight into the workplace, explore a variety of career pathways, and develop essential skills that will benefit them in their future education and careers.

The assembly helped students understand how work experience can shape their next steps, giving them confidence and clarity as they plan for life beyond the classroom.



The Path Ahead

Celebrating National Careers Week

During National Careers Week, the Murphy Group delivered an inspiring assembly on jobs and educational pathways.

Representatives from **Murphy Group** spoke passionately about the wide range of careers available within engineering, construction, and infrastructure. They highlighted apprenticeships as valuable alternatives to traditional university routes, explaining how students can earn while they learn and gain nationally recognised qualifications.

Real-life success stories from former apprentices showed clear progression routes into leadership roles. The session was both motivating and informative, encouraging students to consider practical pathways and long-term career development. It truly broadened horizons and inspired many to explore future opportunities with confidence.



Chalfonts Success Story

Sean McGuinness

Apprentice Surveyor, Building Consultancy, Project & Development Services

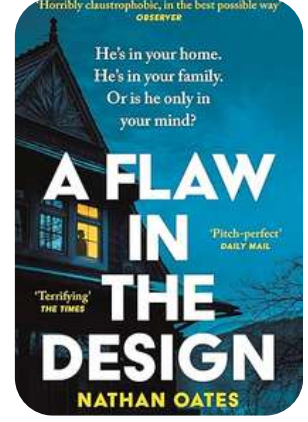
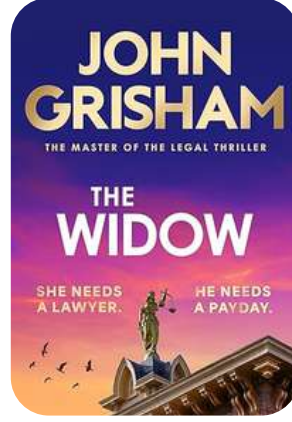
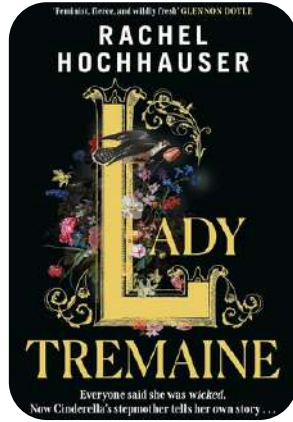


Introducing Sean, a CCC alumni member who now works for **Cushman & Wakefield**, as an Apprentice Surveyor.

“What drew me to the building environment was the opportunity to take an idea and turn it into something real and lasting. As a project manager, being involved in large construction projects from start to finish is really rewarding.”



All About Books



Student Recommendations

I Know You Did It by Sue Wallman

*There's a killer at Ruby's new school.
It's Ruby.*

On her first day at a new school, Ruby finds a note in her locker saying "I KNOW YOU DID IT".

She's terrified that someone has found out she was responsible for the death of a girl called Hannah in a playground when they were both toddlers – a secret that has haunted her for years.

When first one, then two students are found dead, it looks like Ruby is being framed by another killer. Or, she might be next.

Lady Tremain by Rachel Hochhauser

Lady Etheldreda Tremain, long branded wicked, reveals her own struggle: newly widowed, responsible for three girls, a fierce falcon, and a decaying manor. A royal ball seems like their one chance—until the invitation goes to the wrong girl, her stepdaughter Elin. As Elin's engagement to the prince unfolds, Ethel uncovers a dangerous secret at the heart of the royal family and must choose between security and the stepdaughter who has never accepted her.



Sixth Form/ Parents / Staff Recommendations

The Widow by John Grisham

Lawyer Simon Latch is drowning in debt and personal turmoil when 85-year-old widow Eleanor Barnett walks into his office claiming she's hiding a \$20 million fortune. Seeing a lifeline, Simon takes her on as his client and helps keep her wealth secret.

But after Eleanor is hospitalised in a suspicious car accident, hidden truths begin to surface. As the situation unravels, Simon finds himself accused of murder—insisting he's innocent.

The Widow is a gripping courtroom drama packed with twists and intrigue.

A Flaw In The Design by Nathan Oates

Gil has been estranged from his sister since her son, Matthew, nearly drowned his daughter—an incident Gil believes was no accident.

After his sister and her husband die in a car crash, Gil becomes guardian to the now 17-year-old Matthew, who leaves Manhattan for Gil's quiet Vermont home. When Matthew writes a disturbing story about a girl resembling Gil's daughter dying, Gil fears he's welcomed a psychopath into his family. But as Matthew charms everyone else, Gil must ask himself: is he imagining the threat—or living with it?



A Community Of Care

Safeguarding Students with Ongoing Medical Needs

We kindly ask for your support in protecting students who are undergoing medical treatment for serious health conditions. During this time, exposure to infectious diseases can pose **a serious risk to their health**.

Please notify the school **immediately** if your child is suspected of having **measles, chickenpox, shingles, or any other infectious illness**. Additionally, if you believe your child may have been **exposed to another child with one of these conditions**, please contact us via email at **CHolman@chalfonts.org**

It is also important to inform us of **any cases of shingles in your household**, so we can take appropriate precautions to safeguard our students.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and healthy school environment for all.

Parking Safety

We are writing to remind families about the importance of considerate and safe parking when dropping off and collecting students.

There are concerns regarding unsafe parking around the school. We understand that drop-off and pick-up times can be busy; however, we ask all parents and carers to be mindful of pedestrians and local residents and to ensure that vehicles are parked legally and safely at all times.

In particular, we must ask that the turning circle at the front of the school near Pinetree Close

is not used for dropping off, waiting, or turning. This area needs to remain clear to allow safe access for pedestrians and buses. Vehicles using the turning space create visibility issues and increase the risk to students and other road users.

Where possible, we encourage families to consider parking a short distance away and completing the journey on foot.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to keep our students and the wider community safe.

