

# *The Chalfonts Chronicle*

*12<sup>th</sup> June 2026 – Issue 23*

## **Dear Parents and Carers,**

I'm not quite sure where our warm weather has gone, but despite the recent rain, our students have continued to embrace a wide range of opportunities both inside and outside the classroom.

Our Year 9 students recently enjoyed a Geography field trip to Wendover Woods. Although the day began with a rainstorm, spirits remained high, and the sunshine soon appeared, allowing students to make the most of their learning experience in the field. Meanwhile, our Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award participants completed their practice expedition, developing their map-reading, resilience, and teamwork skills in preparation for their qualifying expedition later this year.

Our commitment to enriching learning beyond the classroom has also been evident through the experiences of our Performing Arts students. Drama and Dance students enjoyed a phenomenal trip to London to watch *Kinky Boots*, an inspiring performance that highlighted the value of creativity, culture, and extracurricular learning.

Careers education continues to play a vital role across all year groups. From workshops with Wize Up Financial, helping students develop CV-writing skills, to support with UCAS applications for our older students, we are committed to preparing young people for their next steps. Our Year 9 students also had the opportunity to visit Buckinghamshire New University, where they gained valuable insight into higher education and future career pathways. Experiences such as these help students understand the importance of the choices they make today and how hard work now can shape future opportunities.

As the warmer weather is expected to return, we would also like to draw your attention to the importance of water safety. Following several tragic incidents reported nationally, we encourage all families to take time to discuss safe behaviours around rivers, lakes, reservoirs, and coastal areas. You will find further information later in this newsletter.

As we move into the final weeks of the academic year, I am particularly looking forward to celebrating the completion of examinations for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. We are incredibly proud of their dedication and perseverance throughout this demanding period. We also look forward to hearing about the many successes from the exciting trips, activities, and enrichment opportunities still to come before the end of term.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards  
Ms C Whitehead  
Principal



# SPORTS DAY DATES!

 MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE - **YEAR 7**

 TUESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE - **YEAR 8**

 WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - **YEAR 10**

 FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - **YEAR 9**

 **#1**

**MORE INFO TO FOLLOW  
IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS  
KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!** 

# *Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expeditions*

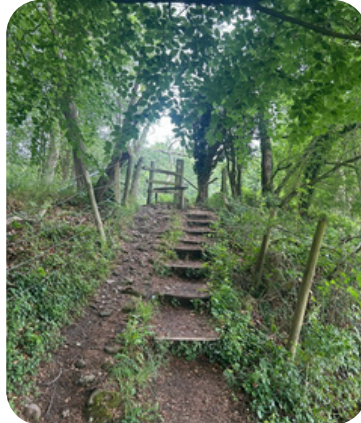
Our Silver Duke of Edinburgh students recently completed a successful practice expedition, making the most of the excellent weather while developing the skills needed for their expedition.

Over the course of the expedition, students demonstrated increasing independence as they navigated planned routes, worked collaboratively within their teams, carried all of their expedition equipment, and camped overnight.

The practice expedition provided students with valuable experience of the challenges they will encounter on their assessed expedition, helping them to build resilience, confidence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Throughout the experience, students showed determination, maturity, and a positive attitude, embracing both the physical and practical demands of expedition life.

Staff were delighted with the progress made by all participants and impressed by the support students showed one another along the way. The experience has left them well-prepared and excited for the next stage of their Duke of Edinburgh journey.

Congratulations to all of our Silver participants on a fantastic achievement



# *Learning Outside the Classroom*

## **Year 9 Geography Trip to Wendover Woods**

Our Year 9 Geography students recently enjoyed a fantastic field trip to Wendover Woods, where they had the opportunity to explore geographical concepts beyond the classroom and experience learning in a real-world environment.

Although the day began with a little rain, the weather quickly improved, and we were fortunate to enjoy sunshine for the remainder of the trip. The pleasant conditions allowed students to make the most of their time outdoors while taking part in a range of geographical activities and observations.

The visit provided an excellent opportunity for students to develop their fieldwork skills, deepen their understanding of the natural environment, and work collaboratively with their peers. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and engagement throughout the day.

A great time was had by all, and the trip was both enjoyable and educational. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the staff who organised and accompanied the visit, helping to make this valuable learning experience possible for our students



**Courteous**

**Community Minded**

**Committed**

**Conscientious**

# Learning Outside the Classroom

## Year 9 Visit to Buckinghamshire New University

Our Year 9 students enjoyed a fantastic and inspiring visit to Buckinghamshire New University, where they were given a valuable insight into university life and future career pathways.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the university team for hosting us and providing such an engaging and informative experience. Students were taken on a guided tour of the campus, exploring lecture theatres, seminar rooms, and specialist facilities. A particular highlight was visiting the clinical skills laboratories, where medical and healthcare students develop their practical skills using realistic training mannequins.

Throughout the day, students participated in a range of interactive activities designed to help them think about their futures. They took part in quizzes exploring the GCSE and A Level subjects required for different career pathways, as well as workshops focusing on student finance and budgeting, helping them to understand the financial aspects of higher education.

The visit gave students a real sense of what university study can offer and encouraged them to start considering the many opportunities available to them beyond school. It was a thoroughly enjoyable, informative, and inspiring day for all involved.

Well done to our Year 9 students, who represented the school brilliantly throughout the visit.



# Learning Outside the Classroom



## A Fantastic Evening at Kinky Boots

Students recently enjoyed a memorable trip to London to watch the acclaimed musical Kinky Boots. Starring Johannes Radebe in the role of Lola, the production delivered an outstanding evening of entertainment that captivated everyone in attendance.

From the energetic choreography and powerful musical performances to the impressive staging and production design, every aspect of the show was exceptional. Students were thoroughly engaged throughout and had the opportunity to experience the excitement and creativity of live theatre in one of the world's leading cultural capitals.

The trip was a wonderful opportunity for students to broaden their cultural experiences, appreciate the performing arts, and enjoy a fantastic evening together outside the classroom.

Kinky Boots is certainly a production we would highly recommend, and one that many of us would happily watch again!



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# *Musical Performances*

The Chalfonts Community College

*Success is an Attitude!*



# MUSIC

## SUMMER CONCERT

Tickets £5 via ParentPay  
or on the door

Date of Concert

**30<sup>th</sup> June**

Doors Open **5.30pm**

Concert starts **6pm**

Refreshments courtesy of the PTA

[www.chalfonts.org](http://www.chalfonts.org)

Jazz Band  
Ensembles  
Solos  
Year 12 Band

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## *Charity Commitments*

# YEAR 7 PROM PARTY

**ONE AFTERNOON. INFINITE MEMORIES.**

Please ask your parents or carers to purchase a ticket via ParentPay to ensure you don't miss out! Once your ticket has been purchased, it will be distributed by your form tutor. Please make sure to fill in your name and form group on the ticket to ensure you are permitted entry to the party. We look forward to seeing you there!

**DANCE**

**FOOD STALLS**

**DJ**

TUESDAY - 23 JUNE, 2026  
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

IN THE CCC HALL

# Charity Commitments

## Pink Cake Bake Sale Raises Funds for Worthy Causes

Our recent Pink Cake Bake Sale was a fantastic success, bringing our school community together in support of three incredible charities: Breast Cancer Now, Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust, and Ovarian Cancer Action.

The event was filled with delicious homemade treats, plenty of pink-themed bakes, and a wonderful sense of community spirit. We were delighted to see so many students, staff, parents, and visitors supporting the sale and helping to raise funds for these important causes.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed, donated, baked, or purchased cakes. Your generosity and enthusiasm helped make the event such a success.

A special thank you goes to Kempster Cakes and Tesco High Wycombe for their generous support and donations, which played a significant role in the day's achievements.

Together, we have helped raise awareness and support for three charities that make a real difference to the lives of those affected by cancer. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the event such a memorable occasion.





# Getting started with Sora



The LRC staff are excited to announce that the school once again has access to the Sora reading app. This virtual library allows our students to borrow books, audiobooks and magazines through their webpage and app. We hope students will take full advantage of this addition to our library.

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## Accessing Sora:

**Step 1:** Install the Sora app from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#), or go to [soraapp.com](#).

**Step 2:** In Sora, search “The Chalfonts Community College”, or click [this link](#), then sign in.

**Note:** You sign in with your @chalfonts.org / @chalfonts.net google account’s email and password.

**Step 3:** Once you have access to Sora, you can change your nickname and profile picture

## Searching for and accessing books:


**Step 1:** Click the  **Explore** tab to browse by categories or  **Search** for a book, then select a book.

**Step 2:** You can listen to, or read, a sample by clicking on read sample.

- Click the **X** button next to close to exit the sample.
- Click the blue **Borrow** button if you decide you do want to borrow the book.

**Note:** If a book isn’t available, you can click **Place Hold** to get in line to borrow a book.

**Step 3:** Once you click borrow, your book will open so you can start reading right away.

**Step 4:** Close the book and go to  **Shelf** to see all your books. From there, you can:

- Select **Open book** or **Open audiobook** to read or listen to the book.
- Select **Options** to renew or return the book, see your notes and highlights, and more.

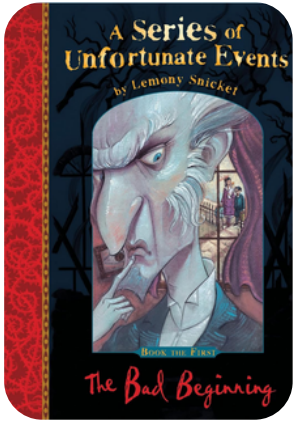
## Borrowing Information:

- The loanperiod istwo weeks, the same as our physical library.
- The maximum number of book loans is 5.
- The maximum number of books on hold is 3.

**For more help with Sora, visit: <https://help.soraapp.com/en-us/categories/using-sora.htm>**

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# All About Books



## Student Recommendations

### The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket

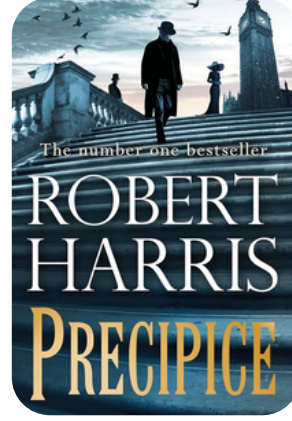
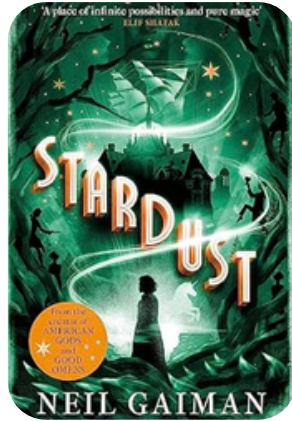
*The Bad Beginning*, the first book in *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, follows the intelligent but unlucky Baudelaire orphans—Violet, Klaus, and Sunny—as they face a greedy villain, a devastating fire, and a scheme to steal their inheritance. Darkly funny and cleverly written, this bestselling novel combines mystery, misfortune, and humour in a memorable adventure. Despite its gloomy themes, the series has captivated millions of readers worldwide.

### Stardust by Neil Gaiman

At the dawn of the Victorian era, life moves leisurely in the sleepy village of Wall.

Young Tristran Thorn has lost his heart to the beautiful Victoria Forester and, to win her love, vows to bring her a star they see fall from the night sky.

It is an oath that sends him over the town's ancient wall and into the mysterious land of Faerie - a world that is dangerous and strange beyond imagining ...



## Sixth Form/ Parents / Staff Recommendations

### Precipice by Robert Harris

Summer 1914. A world on the brink of catastrophe.

In London, 26-year-old Venetia Stanley – aristocratic, clever, bored, reckless – is having a love affair with the Prime Minister, H. H. Asquith, a man more than twice her age. He writes to her obsessively, sharing the most sensitive matters of state.

As Asquith reluctantly leads the country into war with Germany, a young intelligence officer is assigned to investigate a leak of top secret documents – and suddenly what was a sexual intrigue becomes a matter of national security that will alter the course of political history.

### The Midnight Train by Matt Haig

After his death, Wilbur is given a chance to travel back through the defining moments of his life aboard a mysterious train. Revisiting memories of his beloved Maggie and the choices that shaped his future, he begins to see what he would change if given another opportunity. *The Midnight Train* is a moving story of love, regret, and second chances.



# The Path Ahead – Chalfonts Success Story

## Isabella Ocampo English Teacher



Introducing Isabella Ocampo, a Chalfonts alumni member, who is now an English teacher.

*"I chose teaching because I wanted to give back what I received throughout all my years of schooling: someone who believed in me and always pushed me to become the best version of myself. Many of my CCC teachers are my greatest inspirations."*

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## Supporting Our Students Through Work Experience

We are reaching out to ask for your support in providing valuable work experience opportunities for our Year 10 and Year 12 students.

Work experience plays a crucial role in helping young people take their next steps with confidence. It allows students to explore different career pathways, develop essential workplace skills, build independence, and gain a real insight into the world of work. For many, these experiences are eye-opening and can have a lasting impact on their future choices and aspirations.

We are always incredibly grateful to our local community and partners for helping us make these opportunities possible. However, securing suitable placements for all students can sometimes be challenging, and this is where your support can make a real difference.

If you, your organisation, or someone within your network may be able to offer a short-term placement, we would be delighted to hear from you. We welcome opportunities across all sectors—whether office-based, practical, creative, technical, or service-focused—as every experience provides meaningful value to our students.

By offering a placement, you are not only supporting a young person's development but also helping to inspire confidence, ambition, and future career success.

If you are able to help or would like to find out more about what is involved, please do get in touch. We would be very happy to provide further information and answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your continued support of our students.

For more information, please contact Miss MacGregor at [kmacgregor@chalfonts.org](mailto:kmacgregor@chalfonts.org)



# The Path Ahead

## Wizeup Workshop on CV Writing

A huge thank you to Wizeupme for delivering an incredibly informative presentation! 📝💡

We covered everything from the essential do's and don'ts of modern interviews to crafting a standout CV. Getting prepped for those key interview questions and walking away with so many actionable tips was invaluable.

If you aren't already following them, you're missing out on some serious career and financial wisdom! 🚀



## CV WRITING

A KEY TO UNLOCK A CAREER DOOR

[www.wizeupfinancialeducation.co.uk](http://www.wizeupfinancialeducation.co.uk)

WizeUp with Buckinghamshire Building Society



### What would you put into your CV?



What **contact information** should you include?

What **qualifications** could you include?

What **transferable skills** do you have?

What **experiences** have you had that could show these transferrable skills?

Are there any **awards or achievements** you have received?

[www.wizeupfinancialeducation.co.uk](http://www.wizeupfinancialeducation.co.uk)

WizeUp with Buckinghamshire Building Society



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# Care in The Community

## Staying Safe Around Water: A Vital Reminder for Warm Weather

With the recent spell of hot weather, many young people are naturally drawn to lakes, rivers, reservoirs, and coastal areas to cool off. However, it is essential that we take a moment to reflect on the serious risks associated with open water, particularly following recent tragic incidents reported in the media.

It is important to understand that drowning is often silent. A person who is struggling in water is unlikely to shout, wave, or attract attention. Instead, they may quietly slip beneath the surface, which is why water safety awareness is so crucial.

As young people grow older and become more confident in their swimming ability, conversations about water safety remain essential. Strength in a swimming pool does not always translate to safety in open water, where hidden dangers such as strong currents, deep cold water, and submerged objects can quickly create life-threatening situations. Even on very warm days, open water can remain extremely cold, increasing the risk of cold water shock. This sudden reaction can make it difficult to breathe, swim, or stay calm.

We encourage families to speak openly with their children about making safe choices, including:

- Choosing to swim only in designated areas such as supervised swimming pools or beaches with lifeguards
- Understanding the dangers of swimming in rivers, lakes, and reservoirs
- Recognising that cold water shock can happen even in warm weather
- Knowing how quickly conditions in open water can change

It is also vital that young people know what to do if they ever find themselves in difficulty. The key message is to **stay calm and remember that panic increases risk**. If cold water shock occurs, it usually passes quickly, and controlling breathing is the first priority.

We encourage all students to remember the following steps if they get into trouble in water:

- Tilt your head back with ears submerged
- Try to relax and focus on steady breathing
- Use gentle movements of hands and legs to stay afloat
- Understand that bodies float differently, and it is okay if legs sink
- Once breathing is under control, signal for help or swim to safety if possible
- 

Water can be enjoyable, but it must always be treated with respect. By raising awareness and having open conversations, we can all help prevent accidents and keep our young people safe during the warmer months.

For further information on water safety, please visit: <https://capt.org.uk/drowning/>



# Care in The Community



## Free educational resources

Looking for free educational resources to help keep children safe? Download and share our free fact sheets, posters, session plans and more.

 Child Accident Prevention Trust /

<https://capt.org.uk/resource-centre/>



## Child Safety Advice | Practical tips and free resources

Practical, evidence-based child safety advice and free resources for parents and practitioners to help prevent...

 Child Accident Prevention Trust

<https://capt.org.uk/child-safety-advice/>

