



THE CHALFONTS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

July 2021



# CHALFONTS NEWS

Success is an Attitude

Issue 7

## Off to pastures new... Goodbye Mr Denial!

Mr Denial joined The Chalfonts Community College in June 2016 to take over as Principal. He has been with us for five years and we couldn't let him leave without giving him a quick interview about his time at The Chalfonts.

### What will you remember and miss most about the school?

*"The people; I am a people person. The students and staff make the school tick. I love working with students; in fact, I'm off to help some of our musicians tune their guitars after this conversation - the Year 12s*

*should know better by now!*

*When I arrived at the school, I was so warmly welcomed by so many. To be honest, as a body of staff, this is the best I have ever worked with. I have loved the fact that people feel they can talk to me."*

### What has your greatest achievement and proudest moment been?

*"My greatest achievement has to be the comments I received following an Ofsted inspection. I was recognised by HMI for my leadership style and the way I expertly forged teams.*

*I was incredibly proud after the parent's survey results came through because all the percentages of the*

*results had increased, and in particular the question asking whether parents would recommend The Chalfonts Community College to others. This increased from 68% to 85% during my headship."*

### Where do you see yourself in ten years time?

*"On a road trip on my Harley Davidson motorbike travelling through Northern and Southern Europe for a few weeks; it's in the diary already!"*

### Do you have a final message for your staff and students?

*Staff; "It's always good to talk face to face, rather than via email. Try to understand and respect each other; be mindful of personal circumstances."*

**Students;** *"Be yourself. Play hard and work as hard as you play. Embrace and enjoy every opportunity that comes your way."*

Mr Denial has always had an aspiration to cover the 14 years of education from Reception to Year 13 and this role at Preston Manor will give him the chance to do this. He wasn't looking to leave the school at this time but he was approached about the job and, as his message states above, grasped the opportunity.

We wish him lots of luck and happiness in his new role and look forward to hearing from him, once he has settled in.

**218,310** 'achievement points' given out this school year.

**137** students have completed a personality quiz on 'Unifrog'.

**17,212** resources available in the LRC.

## Talented Year 9 student releases first album

**Jasmine Nituan**, one of our Year 9 Music students, (14 years old) has written, produced and published her first music album, consisting of seven tracks called **'Superstitions.'** She was influenced by the music of the highly successful animated band, **'Gorillaz'** and inspired by the band's creativity and how their music crosses over many different genres. She is a multi-talented musician; she plays the guitar and piano, can use a drum machine and synthesiser, not forgetting her beautiful singing voice.



Her album is based around the feelings and emotions related to various superstitions. She is fascinated by the impact of these on people and legends from folklore.

Jasmine attended a Theatre school from Years 5 to 8 and joined The Chalfonts Community College last autumn, bringing her talents with her. Outside of school, she is a member of the **Berkshire Youth Theatre Group.**

When interviewed, Jasmine said, *"My dream is to continue producing more albums in the future and eventually become a professional artist."*

**'Superstitions'** is available on many platforms; **Youtube, Spotify, Amazon Music** and **Apple Music.** [Click here to listen.](#)

On 15th May, Jasmine released an EP (extended playlist) which is also available on the above platforms.

We wish her luck in her music career and look forward to future releases!

## Hints and tips for successful apprenticeship applications



Our Head Girl, **Beth Bowers**, has recently been offered a **'Level 4 Associate Project Management Apprenticeship'** with **'Unilever'**. We thought it would be interesting to hear about her experience in identifying an apprenticeship and successfully navigating her way through all the tests, interviews and assessment centres. Over to Beth...

*I always knew that University might not be the route for me as I wanted more 'hands on' experience in the workplace instead. I discovered apprenticeships through careers events I attended within school and it was at the start of Year 13 that I started searching for one.*

*I originally looked at a Police apprenticeship for 'Thames Valley' but then decided to go down the business path instead, as it seemed more suited to me. With the help of our schools' amazing Careers Advisors (located in the LRC), I searched on many websites and also used our online careers platform, 'Unifrog'. These websites helped me narrow my search and locate different levels of apprenticeships.*

*The 'Unilever' apprenticeship programmes are usually advertised in January/February. After the initial application*

*process, you are likely to complete competency tests such as maths tests or situational judgement ones, to narrow candidates down further. If you successfully complete these, you will hopefully go on to do an interview or assessment centre. I was invited to attend a remote assessment centre for 'Unilever', which consisted of a creative task I had to do individually and then group tasks where they assess your team skills.*

*Anyone that is thinking of doing an apprenticeship I would absolutely say go for it. The experience from applying and completing the process is amazing even if you don't end up doing one! Here are my tips;*

1. Try to find out the date the companies are opening applications - the earlier you apply, the better chance you have of being considered by the organisation.
2. Create a strong, relevant CV to impress them with your skills and experiences.
3. Think carefully about what the company may be looking for in your application (e.g. a management role would require you to have good leadership skills.)
4. Be confident and be yourself - that will take you far.

**Well done Beth and good luck!**

# CREATIVE CHALFONTS!



Follow our 6th Form on **INSTAGRAM** (@ccc\_6th\_form) Why not join us?

## From Teacher to Author!

We have a published author amongst our staff community:

### Congratulations Mr Charge!

Our Head of Year 10 and experienced PE teacher wanted a new project during the 2020 lockdown. He has a love of reading to his son Jaxon, about nature and wildlife. He wanted to create a story with meaning, which emphasised the importance of protecting wildlife and nature.

'Tasi The Turtle' introduces the reader to four characters; Tasi the Turtle, Su the Seahorse, Mira the Manta Ray and Dana the Dolphin. It is full of brightly coloured pictures which is engaging for younger family members and is written in rhyming verse.

Mr Charge is hoping that this book will encourage people to be more aware of the environment and consider what we can do to prevent pollution.

The book has been published by **Olympia Publishers** and retails at **£5.99**. You can order a copy for yourself/your family [here](#).



## Sixth Formers deliver a **'World of Work' Programme** to our Year 7 students

Seven of our Sixth Formers; **Beth Bowers, Daniel McEvoy, Shaila Rajput, Holly Butler, Louis Cooke, Mitchell Cumber** and **Loveday Grant** all signed up in the Autumn for a development opportunity to deliver a **'World of Work' programme** to our Year 7 students.



In the first part of the programme, the students learnt about four important areas: **Qualifications, Skills, Work Experience** and a **Positive Attitude**. They also brainstormed a list of jobs associated with different places such as working in a school, a hotel, at a football stadium and in a hospital.

Following this, they completed their own research and created **'Career Trump Cards'** which we are hoping to display around the school.

For the second part of the programme, we introduced our Year 7 students to hard and soft skills. We shared definitions of skills with them and they had an exercise to complete to list skills associated with an Engineer, a Hairdresser and a Teacher.

The Sixth Formers did an amazing job; responding to questions, initiating discussions and encouraging our Year 7 students to participate in the activities. This experience will have given the Sixth Formers some amazing evidence to add to their CVs and LinkedIn profiles.

### Quotes from Sixth Formers:

*"I really enjoyed watching the Year 7's come out of their shells in the classroom and begin to understand the big wide world of careers and employability."* - **Loveday Grant**

*"It was a great accomplishment to be able to share my experiences of employability with the younger students to give them the best chance they can get!"* - **Daniel McEvoy**

*"I feel so grateful to have had this opportunity and truly feel my confidence has grown. It was great to help students broaden their understanding of skills; many of which they already have!"* - **Shaila Rajput**

## Year 8 - Marine Engineering Workshop

Just after the Easter holidays, Suzy Green, the STEM Co-ordinator of the Sea Cadets came in to school to deliver a **'Sea Cadets Marine Engineering Pathway'** workshop for a class of our Year 8 students. **The Sea Cadets** are a vibrant national charity, passionate about inspiring young people to engage with STEM subjects and highlight the career opportunities in Marine Engineering.



The hands-on sessions covered Maths and Physics principles, including buoyancy, density, The Crown of Syracuse and Archimedes. In teams, the students were provided with materials, to build a boat. They were given card and silver foil to make the boat water tight. Each of the teams tested their boats on water and there was a competition to see how many marbles it was possible to place in the boats before they sank.

This was one of our first visitors into school post lockdown and we are hoping to invite Suzy back in again to run workshops later in the year.



## 'All School Read...' – The Goldfish Boy

As a school the Chalfonts Community College has been reading **The Goldfish Boy** by Lisa Thompson. Staff members read the book and it was introduced to students after the Easter break.

**The Goldfish Boy** is a story about finding friendship when you're lonely - and hope when all you feel is fear. Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business. Until the day he is the last person to see his next door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing. Matthew must turn detective and unravel the mystery of Teddy's disappearance - with the help of a brilliant cast of supporting characters.

In May, Years 7-10 watched a talk delivered by the author, Lisa Thompson. It gave our students the opportunity to have their questions answered by the author herself. Lisa Thompson thanked the CCC community for embracing her book and discussed her favourite reads and inspiration with us. It was a great watch, enjoyed by all!

**The Goldfish Boy** was published in the UK and North America in 2017 and went on to become a bestseller. It has been nominated for numerous awards including the **Carnegie Medal**, **The Branford Boase Award** and the **Waterstones Children's Book Prize**.

For more information on Lisa and her other books and novellas, visit her website [here](#).

If you have a suggestion for a future **'All School Read...'** please email [lrc@chalfonts.org](mailto:lrc@chalfonts.org).



16<sup>th</sup>

Last day of term



10<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup>

A Level / GCSE  
Results Day

# ALL ABOUT BOOKS!

## Virtual Work Experience 2021

ALIGN partnership with HS2

Five of our students from Years 10 – 12 engaged with a virtual work experience programme with **Align** from 6th – 9th April 2021.

**Align** is currently working in partnership with major international and privately-owned infrastructure companies on the HS2 development. In July 2017 the **Align** joint venture was awarded the UK High Speed two line (HS2). This will include a 3.37km viaduct, 16.04km twin bored tunnel and five vent shafts handling both intervention and tunnel ventilation facilities.

The virtual work experience programme included meeting professionals from the following areas of the organisation:

- Environmental
- Geo Technical Engineers
- Quantity Surveying,
- Sustainability
- Civil Engineering



### Health & Safety

### Stakeholder Engagement

### Commercial and Procurement

Students attended workshops on **Effective Teamwork**, **Writing a CV** and **How to Present Effectively**. Students were set a project task and informed about the variety of apprenticeship opportunities.

The results of a survey carried out by the students who attended indicated:

100% felt the programme exceeded expectations

100% indicated they were very pleased they had engaged with the programme

100% would recommend carrying out virtual work experience with Align to other students.

Well done to all the students involved.



## Accessit – New Library Management System

**Accessit** has been introduced across the school community and is being used by students to search the school's catalogue of resources, check availability, reserve books, renew books and write reviews. Students and staff can 'access' - **Accessit** anywhere, anytime on any device.

If you have not familiarised yourself with **Accessit**, please can I encourage you to do so. Once you have opened the web app, please can I suggest you watch the **'Video Guide to Using Accessit'** on the opening page.

This is an exciting new phase for our school's Learning Research Centre (LRC), we are hoping it will further encourage reading for pleasure and for research, and support our school's community of learners.

Please [click here](#) to access our school's library web app.

You can also access the library app through our school's website.

### The Chalfonts Community College - Enrichment - LRC Online

On **Accessit**, students can review any book and the LRC would like to thank **Hemetha Mayoaran**, (Year 8) **Lucas Cole** (Year 8) and **Zara Mian** (Year 7) for submitting their reviews.



## Maths Challenge

In February and April, students from Years 10 and below took on the **UKMT Intermediate (IMC)** and **Junior (JMC) Maths Challenge** which is a very, very tough national competition.

Almost half a million high achieving pupils from more than 4000 schools and colleges across the UK participated where student have to answer 25 questions in 60 minutes. Only the top 40% of scorers nationally are awarded certificates.

Pupils at our school achieved: **5 Gold, 13 Silver and 38 Bronze** certificates in this year's challenges.

Special mention goes to: **Ben, Nicole** and **Lily** in Year 10 and **Dexter, Zara** and **Yuvraaj** in Year 9 for qualifying for the follow up rounds called the Grey and Pink Kangaroo.

**The winners of the IMC are:**

**Gold, Pink:** **Ben King, Nicole Kumcheva, Lily Hunt**

**Gold, Grey:** **Dexter Dalston**

**Silver, Grey:** **Yuvraaj Pagali, Zara Karam**

**Silver:** **Izzi Hunt, Emilia Maciejewska** and **Adam Carr**

**Bronze:** **Yasmin Hassan, Jessica Marshall, Katy Lovelock, Henry Allen, Shanti Pickin, Louis Harris, Jessica Dyer, Casey**

**Legge, Emilia Williams, Aimee Donoghue, Bailey Honour** and **Caoimhe Tosh.**

**The winners of the JMC are:**

**Gold:** **Jonathan Booker**

**Silver:** **Sienna Wenman, Ellise Laban, Elakiya Jeyarajan, Hemetha Mayoaran, Leon Williamson, Jaya Kudhail, Tilly Cox** and **Daisy O'Hallron-Donaldson.**

**Bronze:** **Lucy Mustoe, Laila Southgate, Zain Mughal, Molly Brayne, Deanna Kingsley, Joshua Pope, Jake Rangepcroft, Aaliyah Barrett, Megan Chow, Rayyan Khan, Kathir Pradeabkumar, Zac Errington, Alexander Sprackling, Elsie Abbott, Harry Webb, Katie Hill, Cian Lynch, Freddie Spencer, Harry Buckley, Thomas**



**Convery, Paige Pickin, Connor Haire, Blanka Goroszewska, Lujain Reeves, Nathan Chick** and **Daniel Ressel.**

We are immensely proud of all our students that entered the challenge and hope to give more a chance at the 2022 challenge to reveal the hidden mathematical talent at the school.

For more information, [click here](#)

**Mr Vahora - Assistant Principal**

## Magical Musical Workshops from the Drama Department

If there's one thing the **CCC Drama Department** loves, it is a musical. Over the past few years it hasn't been possible to stage a whole school show and we have missed it so much. We think our students have too. However, now we are back in our designated drama studios teaching drama to every year, it's time to get back under the lights!

On Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of May we launched our amazing Musical Theatre Workshops for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. The first half of the term is focussing on some old favourites like **'Oliver!', 'Annie', Little Shop of Horrors'** and **'Grease'**. In the second half of the term we will be waving our jazz hands to some more contemporary shows including **'Matilda', 'Legally Blonde', 'Heathers'** and **'Waitress'**. So far, so **AMAZING!** The Drama Department has been blown away by the talent we have amongst our students! Musical Theatre is popular, but it is also demanding; we are pushing our students to be **'triple threat'** performers (acting, singing and dancing) and they have not disappointed!

After such a long time of tough restrictions, many of our students who have a passion for the performing arts have not had the opportunity to do what they love. Confidence has been lost and anxiety has set in. Our mission in the Drama Department is to help our students build self-belief and pride in their achievements. Regardless of ability level, we want them to come along to one of our workshops and spend time in a safe environment expressing themselves and most importantly, having a lot of fun!

The performing arts has a strong legacy at the college and many of our alumni have gone on to study drama with us at A Level, BTec and gone on to secure places at universities and specialist schools to further their vocational training. For others their school experience has provided many special memories, friendships and a sense of self-esteem that stays with them forever. You couldn't ask for a more passionate department under the superb leadership of **Mrs Adams** and her vision for the future of performing arts is immensely exciting! Watch this space and in the meantime, get involved! Links for the next events are available on **CCC Twitter** or by emailing [claireputtock@chalfonts.org](mailto:claireputtock@chalfonts.org). What are you waiting for? The show **MUST** go on! (**Photos Below**).

**Ms Puttock - Teacher of Drama**



Is your child a budding guitarist?  
Lessons are available at CCC  
with **Mark Lague.**  
Contact [mark.lague@btinternet.com](mailto:mark.lague@btinternet.com)  
for details



# CURTAIN UP!

## Alumni - Where are they now?



**Rebecca Suresh** left the College in 2020 with three 'A' levels, to join a Flight School in Oxford. To obtain a her place, Rebecca had to attend an assessment centre, which consisted of interviews, group exercises and tests, such as numerical/verbal critical reasoning and motor tests. A very good understanding of Maths and Physics was also needed.

The course is eighteen months long and then Rebecca will be looking to join an airline to carry out their specific training. She said that **'you have to be ready for hard work'** as there are fourteen exams and the pass rate for each one is **75%**. Rebecca absolutely loves to fly and she said, **"The view from the cockpit of the sky is a feeling you just can't shake."** Rebecca also emphasised the importance of having a 'plan B' because there might be a number of obstacles which could prevent a successful application, including costs, a failed medical or being unsuccessful through the recruitment process.

**Andreea Sava**, who also left in 2020, is studying a Business Management degree at Coventry and is coming to the end of her first year. She found the first semester quite difficult through Covid but is looking forward to going back into the second year, when she will hopefully be able to see colleagues/lecturers face to face. Interestingly, the fact she has had to work so independently has made her even more determined to run her own business or progress to a senior role within a large, international organisation. Andreea is hoping to do a placement year in Italy.

Andreea wants to continue to act and dance as a hobby and is keen for the clubs and societies to open up at University; she is looking forward to participating again. She feels the biggest learning curve has been living independently, getting her own food and looking after herself.





## Sixth Form Music Gig

What a great way to welcome back live music performing to The Chalfonts! Some really uplifting performances by the Year 12 group: **Andrew Gauld, Kieran Reynolds, Steph Augustine, Ella Griffiths, Lulu Hassell, Sam Newman** and **George Kimber**. It's fair to say that they have made massive improvements from their performances last year and they really did justice to songs by **Nirvana, Oasis, Tom O'Dell, Badbadnotgood** and **Rex Orange County**. Really looking forward to seeing how they progress next year – they are a very strong group vocally and the supporting playing was excellent too.

Then we came to the main event, and the Year 13 performers did not disappoint. **Rosanna**

**Zenga, Kyna Boyle** and **Daisy Adams** gave us virtuoso vocal performances which made the hairs on the back of your neck stand up. What a talented trio these are! They managed to surpass last year's performances and hit new highs with songs by **Billie Eilish, Coldplay, Stevie Wonder, Amy Winehouse**, and **Leona Lewis**. We wish them well as they go off to university to study Performing Arts/Music. Who knows maybe we will see them on the **BRITS** in the future? Huge thanks to the Music & Performing Arts teachers who helped so much, particularly to **Mr Munster**.



## Year 11 'Careers and Employability Programme' Week

Our Year 11 students were offered the opportunity to engage with a programme of workshops and events all related to careers and employability from 7th – 11th June. The events planned ranged from understanding local market information and the range of job roles and specialisms within Buckinghamshire, an introduction to **LinkedIn**, webinars on entrepreneurship, digital skills, problem solving and leadership. An introduction to the Patrick Morgan on-line platform offering courses on writing a CV and interview skills, a business and finance workshop and a presentation on **MOOC's** (massive open on-line courses).

Students were also introduced to virtual work experience opportunities, it was excellent to see so many taking advantage of the range of placements and the chance to gain an understanding of a work environment, explore possible career options and increase self-understanding, motivation and confidence.

The school was very pleased with the number of students who participated in the various events and the positive feedback and impact. We are hoping the skills acquired and developed through these activities, and other employability sessions delivered during their time at The Chalfonts will assist our students along their career journeys.



## USEFUL LINKS:



### 2nd/3rd

Year 7 & 12 Induction Day

### 6th

ALL Students return to school

### 16th

Year 7 Parent Welcome Evening

**Young Minds**  
Supporting & empowering young people through life's difficulties

**The Proud Trust**  
LGBT+ Online support & information

**Family Lives**  
Online support for parents & families

**CCC Vacancies**  
Join our amazing team!

## School Planner design Winners

Every year we launch a competition for our students to create a new design for the school planners for the next academic year. This year was no exception and The Chalfonts Community College would like to congratulate the following students on being our annual planner design competition winners.



The quality of the competition entries was extremely high this year, making the decision for the winning planner a challenging one. However, our three amazing prize winners this year are:

**Winner – Ashley Maree 10G1**

**2nd Place – Lucy Wallace 7G1**

**3rd Place – Lucas Crammer 8G2**

Their designs were phenomenal and reflected The Chalfonts Community College ethos perfectly.

## This Girl Can

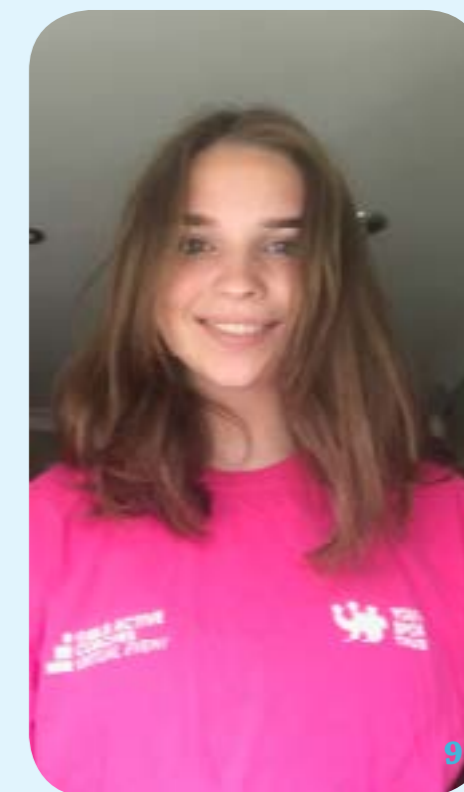
In 2020, **Emma McCullagh** (11K3) beat competition from hundreds of other young students in Buckinghamshire to be selected as only one of two girls from the county to go to Loughborough University for a **Sports Leadership Camp** organised by **Youth Sport Trust**. Sadly, the event was cancelled due to Covid-19, but instead they organised a virtual event which took place over a weekend in June 2021.

The weekend involved 150 girls nationwide who were split into teams. They got to know each other via online 'break out' rooms, where they could share experiences and achievements. Olympic medallists carried out

workshops on resilience, empathy, creativity and aspiration. There were keynote speeches from inspirational athletes and coaches like **Zahra Butt**, the first qualified boxing coach to wear a hijab. Sports sessions included netball, cardio jamming, street dance and even disco yoga!

Emma said, *"During these workshops and break out rooms, I was able to get to know my team and I gained more confidence. I learned about so many different types of people, their aspirations and achievements, as well as gaining knowledge on the role of empathy in people's lives and how it factors into the qualities needed for leadership."*

**Mrs Montgomery-McCullagh - Learning Support Assistant**



## Support your local skatepark

Would you like a skatepark in Chalfont St Peter?

Somewhere for your children to meet their friends, get some exercise, learn some new skills.

There's not much for young people to do in CSP, so we're hoping to change that.

There is a campaign currently running to get a properly designed concrete wheeled sports park built in Chalfont St Peter at the Mill Meadow in the centre of the village. In the past ten years a lot of the surrounding towns have invested money in skateparks as the benefits of these facilities are becoming more widely accepted.

The Chalfonts Activity Park Project is a group of local parents who want better things for our children and our community. We have started a consultation with local residents and have a survey on our website. [Click here](#) to access it.

## What you can do to help?

We need to prove to the council and major funders like the **National Lottery** and **Sport England** that this is something people in the area want. The more people that fill out the community survey on the website, the more evidence we have. It will only take a few minutes and if you can get your children to do it, even better.

The pictures are an example of what the park could look like, the final design will depend on input from local riders. We want to include picnic tables and all-weather table tennis tables to make it a community space that can be enjoyed by everyone.

Please get involved and give us your opinion!

**Mel Gizzy - Chair of PaSTA**



## Visiting Bucks New University

On Tuesday 29th June, we took a group of Year 9 students to visit Bucks New University in High Wycombe. It was so lovely to be able to take the students out again and encourage them to

start thinking about their futures. The reason we organise these visits is to help raise aspirations of the students and introduce them to higher education so they can make more informed decisions over the next few years.

Throughout the day, the students were involved in activities which taught them about student

finance, the attributes of a graduate, a typical student timetable and the courses available to them.



## Geography Trip

It's amazing to be back at the field! After 18 months of no fieldwork, we were finally allowed to go back out and start fieldwork again. We have taken our Geographers from Year 9 and Year 10 to the River Chess to collect data on the river width, river depth and river velocity. Students will use this data and experience in their final exam in Year 11. We have loved being back doing fieldwork and so have the students!

**Ms Evans – Leader of Geography**



1,414+ people follow the college on **TWITTER**



(**@ccchalfonts**)

(**@ccc6thform**)

# RETURN OF TRIPS!

## Alter Ego Production: 'Breaking the Chain'

On Friday 2nd July, Year 8 watched a production called 'Breaking the Chain', performed by the **Alter Ego** theatre group. We were extremely lucky to secure this performance for free because of the excellent relationships that we have built with the Thames Valley Police over the years, so we would like to extend our thanks to them and the performers for this opportunity.

The performance itself focused on a 27 year old, recently released from prison, having killed someone linked to knife crime. As he works hard to turn his life around; he has to intervene to 'break the chain' in preventing his siblings and their friends from following in his footsteps.

The aims of the play were to: **Break the chain** by reassuring young people that knife carrying is not common and they do not need to carry knives to protect themselves; **Raise awareness** around the **risks and consequences** of youth violence and knife crime on the individual and on their friends, families and on the wider community; **Build resilience** by creating a common language and kick-starting conversations around the influences, fears and pressures that can lead to the decision to hurt

someone or to carry a knife; **Promote the core skills** that can be used help young people to navigate a whole host of issues, critical moments and adverse childhood experiences; **Raise awareness** around the importance of **seeking help and advice** or telling someone if they are concerned about themselves, a friend or someone they know; **Sign-post** who young people can speak to.

Year 8 were an absolute credit to our school as their behaviour was exemplary. When they left the hall, they were 'buzzing' and had lots of questions about the messages within the play. We hope that our Year 8 students will remember this experience so that they can make the right decisions to protect them from harm and safeguard their futures.

**Ms Lang - Vice Principal**



## Sending 'Cecelia' on her way

Just before lockdown, the students of The Chalfonts Community College were invited to participate in a competition to name two tunnel boring machines which are being used to

excavate tunnels as part of the construction of **HS2**. The machines are named to bring luck to employees who will be working on the TBMs underground. Around 4,500 people from across the UK took part in the poll to select the final names and one of our current Year 8 students, **Mia Miles** suggested the name 'Cecelia', which was chosen for one of the machines. **Mia** submitted this name as she felt inspired by **Cecelia Payno-Gasposchkin**, who was a local Astronomer and Astrophysicist, born in Wendover; the first woman to attain full professorship at Harvard through sheer determination and resilience.

On Monday, 5th July, **Mia** and a small group of CCC students were invited to the **HS2** site to watch 'Cecelia' commence her journey.

They met with the Project Director who talked about the next steps of the project and explained exactly how the tunnel boring machines operate. Many photos were taken and then the group headed back to the induction centre and visitor centre. There were amazing interactive activities here for the students to participate in.

**Quotes from the students:**

"It was so interesting to see a construction site in action and learn about the different stages of the tunnel boring."

"It was a really inspiring visit and great to hear about the different roles possible: Environmental, Finance, Engineering, HR, Communications."



"It was so lovely to see the tunnel boring machine that I had named, starting its journey."

## Year 12 History Visit to Hughenden Manor

As part of the A level History British Empire module Year 12 students visited Hughenden Manor just near High Wycombe on a glorious summer's day.

Hughenden was purchased by Benjamin Disraeli as his country home in 1848 and was cherished by himself and his wife Mary Anne. Securing the manor was vital to the realisation of his political ambitions and his personal aspirations and it provided the setting for a political drama and royal visits. The top floor is dedicated to Queen Victoria who Disraeli made Empress of India.

The Year 12 students explored the house and gardens to obtain a real feel for its history. The young Disraeli was an unlikely politician with his flamboyant appearance and heavy debts. He married a wealthy widow and bought Hughenden Manor which became his much loved home and private retreat. Its library contains a rich array of books and its dining room is adorned with a portrait of Queen Victoria who was once a guest for lunch.

Hughenden Manor was the base for a secret map-making organisation during the Second World War. The new exhibition gave a real insight into the secret history of the manor house

It is certainly worth a visit.

Mr Leybourne - Teacher of History, Staff Governor, EAL Co-ordinator



## Year 10 student on an 'Inspire Programme'

During lockdown, one of our Year 10 students **Aswini Rejeesh** participated in an '*Inspire Programme*' run by St John's College, Oxford University and won amazon vouchers for the assignments she completed.

There were limited places on this programme and it was open to all schools across the UK; Aswini had to complete an application form to apply. There were four modules covered over four months, and she was sent materials to read and activities to complete during this time.

The modules covered subjects including: **Biology and Darwin's evolution, Evolution as a**

**metaphor, Evolution, Science and Technology, and Culture and history through the lens of evolution.**

Aswini won amazon vouchers for a couple of her essays (of between 500 and 1000 words) and a model she built. One of the essays was on **Artificial Intelligence and the changing world of work**. She covered the impact on young people's mental health and talked about machine technology.

She said about the experience: *I found the programme really interesting. It was a lot of work but gave me good experience of independent learning. It fascinates me just how much evolution has changed the world and the impact it has on people.*

Well done Aswini!



# More Outdoor Activities!

## Enjoy ebooks and audiobooks all summer long using the Sora app!



## Year 7 Sustainable City Project

As part of our Settlement topic for Year 7's, students were introduced to the world of sustainability and how we could help to preserve our Earth for future generations. Students were tasked with making either a building, a statue, a landmark, a sports venue, a hospital, a school – the list is endless!. They were to use the inspiration of world cities such as Singapore and Copenhagen to make sure that their builds were sustainable.

All students were off timetable for the day and were tasked with producing a new sustainable city – **Quesnella**. All form groups were given a section around the **Lake Denial** and had to build the skyline of the future. The results were outstanding and our students should be very pleased. There are definitely some town planners, engineers, architects and team leaders in the making! Well done Year 7 Geographers.

Ms Evans – Leader of Geography

## D of E Bronze Award

Over two consecutive weekends in June, 63 Year 9 students and 50 Year 10 students carried out their **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze** expeditions around Chalfont St Peter, camping in the grounds of the local Chalfont St Peter Scout Club. One of the groups walked on the hottest weekend of the year and the other had to face torrential rain and floods! The students showed amazing resilience when having to re-route, several times, due to road and path closures, but they kept motivated and persevered; probably helped by the lavender tea and yoga stretches back at camp! The Assessors were extremely impressed at how well prepared and good spirited the students were. They (and the staff!) were exhausted at the end of the journey and we are delighted to report that all students successfully achieved this award. Many thanks to **Mrs Byrne** and supporting staff who helped to make this happen.



## Year 11 student releases youtube poem about bullying

One of our year 11 students, **Lydia Alty**, has released a poem about her experiences of verbal abuse and cyberbullying. Lydia is a member of the **Diana Award National Anti-Bullying Youth Board** and published a video on her YouTube page titled '*Kindness is a Gift*': she has 2,000 subscribers.

The poem was accompanied with a Just Giving page with all the money raised going to the Diana Award, which will help people across the country who are currently being bullied. Lydia said: *"I think it is really important for children and adults to spread kindness to everyone and let people be themselves. This is why I wrote this poem."*

[Click here](#) to see Lydia's video and hear her poem.

Well done Lydia!



## PaSTA Update

Just to let you know that your PaSTA group is still here, pottering away in the background. Due to the wonderful support and success of the Christmas Raffle we were able to purchase some picnic tables for the children to use for both eating and working at. We are still looking at investing in some outside covers that will protect them from both sun and rain so they can make more use of fresh air areas. We look forward to being able to lay on some face to face events in the next school year where we can have some fun and remind ourselves what a fantastic community we are.

Mel Gizzy - Chair of PaSTA





## Year 11 'So long for now evening - Goodbye, Farewell, Adieu'

One of the things I always do every September is watch the new Year 7s line up on the tennis court playground to meet their new tutors, new tutees and are then welcomed to their new school. Most of them will be with us for five years or more and in a flash... suddenly; I am waving goodbye to them on their new venture into adulthood. School days just whizz by.

It is especially poignant this year as I have really got to know my Year 11 students despite the lockdowns. I will miss them. On a summer's evening at Amersham cricket club I was able to say my farewells. A spectacular setting in the shadow

of Shardaloes, the country home of Sir Francis Drake the famous British explorer. It was a splendid venue for a socially distanced gathering.

In an open sided marquee and with plenty of outside space the DJ played the tunes creating a warming atmosphere. The teachers lined up to make a guard of honour to applaud our Year 11s as they walked the red carpet. Refreshments were available and a few fun activities such as a rocking bull as students were asked to saddle up and buckaroo. A good night was had by all who were fortunate to attend. [\(More photos below\)](#).



Mr Leybourne – Teacher of History, Staff Governor, EAL Co-ordinator

## Holiday support

### Try these:

Speak to a friend or family member

Get moving; go for a walk or exercise

Get out in the fresh air; leave your room or the lounge!

Avoid drugs or alcohol

Cut down on sugar and junk food

Find something you enjoy doing each day

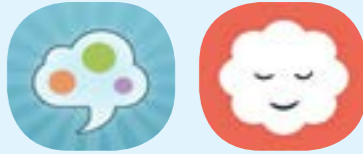
Choose social media sites that are positive for you; follow people who inspire you and make you happy. Unfollow sites that make you feel negative or insecure.

Set a daily limit for your social media use, and give yourself a break from scrolling!

Try and keep a regular sleep routine through the holidays

Cut back on screens, aim to put your phone or tablet away an hour before you go to sleep.

Try an app if you're feeling low or anxious:



SAM (for anxiety)

STOP, BREATHE, THINK

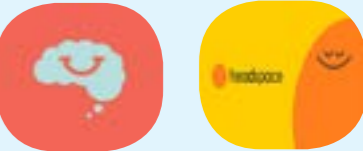
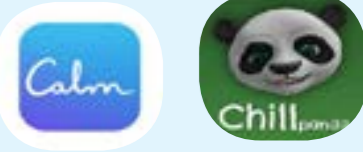
CALM

CHILL PANDA

SMILING MIND

HEADSPACE

CALM HARM



# GOODBYE YEAR 11!

# SUPPORT PAGE



### Speak or E-mail someone neutral:

If you want to speak to someone about how you are feeling, you can contact:

**Childline:** (for young people too!). Call **0800 1111** for 1-2-1 counselling or go on the site for information or e-mail them for support

**Kooth:** Counselling online and lots of helpful information. Free to sign up and safely monitored.

**YoungMinds Crisis Messenger:** The YoungMinds Crisis Messenger text service provides free, 24/7 crisis support across the UK. If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and need support, you can text **YM** to **85258**.

**The Mix:** Call **0808 808 4994** for 1-2-1 support, or e-mail for help or join the group chat. Lots of helpful information too!

**Samaritans:** Call **116 123** for 1-2-1 support or if you prefer to e-mail rather than talk, e-mail **jo@samaritans.org** to get some information (response time for e-mails is approximately 24 hours, so only use this method if **not** urgent).

### Online safety

We regularly talk to the children about different platforms they use to communicate online. The **NSPCC** have teamed up with **O2** to create a website where you can easily check the safety features of different platforms: **www.net-aware.org.uk**

I hope you find this a useful place to look for advice and tips when consenting to your children using their devices online as no doubt they will be using their phones more over the holiday period.