



17th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

I write to you following the Chalfont St Peter Remembrance Day Parade. I was very proud of our Year 8 students and Head Boy and Head Girl who represented our school community. It was an important day for the local community and it was a pleasure for me to be part of the parade with our students, Mrs Byrne and Miss Loveland. Well done to Alfie Huntley, Jaya Kudhail, Mark Maree, James Ressel, Shaan Hayer, Cemil Benning, Max Heath and Maria Langford for being excellent ambassadors for The Chalfonts Community College.

Employability Skills day

Year 11 students experienced the world of work last week in an Employability Skills Day and it was wonderful to see students engaging so well in all the activities throughout the day. We had a large number of employers in the hall for a careers fair in addition to hosting workshops and conducting mock interviews for students. This day could not have been held without a large number of volunteers and we are very grateful for their time they gave up to support our students.

COVID-19 Update

I would like to thank staff and students for their continued engagement with the rapid testing programme and for conducting lateral flow tests at home. I was pleased to see a decrease in the number of students testing positive for Covid-19 cases after half term, although we remain cautious as a school community having seen a very small increase this week.

An important measure in limiting the transmission of COVID-19 is home testing and I would like to thank you for your continued support with COVID-19 home testing.

We know how important it is for you to be able to send your children to school.

You should encourage your children to continue testing and report <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> results twice a week. All positive results should be reported, to the email address sherrylscott@chalfonts.org

We have ordered more test kits and we are waiting for delivery. In the meantime should you require more home testing kits, you can order <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> through gov.uk or collect from your local pharmacy.

Students who live with someone who has tested positive or has Covid symptoms do not need to self-isolate but should take a PCR test. For more information, please follow this link [When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)



Championship Showjumper

I would like to congratulate Acacia Dew in Year 8 for her recent success. During half term Acacia was jumping in Cheshire for 4 days, she got selected and jumped for England in the 148 Debut teams, which succeeded in securing 2nd place. Well done Acacia!

Young Writers' Poetry Competition

Well done to the students who entered this competition. Matilda Patterson, Kari Zlatanova, Zara Mian, Mimi Rogers, Sara Madrona, Elliese Hughes, Hayden Huckle, Henry Jackson, Katy Grange, Neil Batra, Lili Houghton, Katie Hardy, Aaliyah Barrett, Lucy Evans, Katie Herbert, Elouise Clerkin.

A number of poems were selected to be published which are attached to this letter. I hope you enjoy reading them.

Literacy – Reading

Literacy is defined as the ability to read, write, speak and listen in a way that lets us communicate effectively and make sense of the world. An important aspect of literacy is reading. The National Literacy Trust report that young people who enjoy reading are three times more likely to have good mental wellbeing than those who don't enjoy it. In addition to the information and advice on the school website <https://www.chalfonts.org/academic/literacy>

1. Read the same book that your child is reading and have regular discussions about things such as: the plot and characters.
2. Create a calm and comfortable place (if applicable) for your family to relax and read independently or together.
3. Give your son/daughter many opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Have a discussion when necessary about what they are reading or have read.
4. Try leaving interesting reading materials in different places around the home and see who picks them up and read. Commend them and also provide incentives for reading these materials.
5. Bring reading to life and make it fun. For example: You may read a recipe together and cook the product while you read and follow the recipe.
6. There are many games such as: Monopoly, Scrabble, Sudoku etc. that you can play as a family and while having fun, the children are also learning new words.
7. Allow your child to read in a way that suits them. You know your child best and you'll know the most suitable times for him/her to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), creative activities may be the way to get them most interested in reading.
8. If English is their second language, encourage reading in their native language as well as in English.
9. With so much technology available to your child, encourage them to read eBooks if they do not want to select a book from the school or community library.
10. Do not make reading a chore; it should be an activity that your child enjoys and sees as something that relaxes them.

Sixth Form Open Evening

I am looking forward to welcoming Year 11 students and parents on Thursday evening to the Sixth Form Open Evening to help students make important decisions on course choices for next year and find out more about the opportunities we have in the sixth form.

Yours Faithfully,



Mrs C Whitehead
Principal

<https://www.chalfonts.org/parents/term-dates>

Key date:

Staff training day

Friday 19th November (School closed to all students)