

£624 was raised for
Christmas Jumper
Day for *Save the Children*

Interview with our new Head Boy/Girl

What are you studying and what made you decide to stay here?

Madeline: *I am studying RE, Psychology and Spanish, and stayed because of the quality of teachers. As I had a strong support network around me it felt like the only decision.*

Alistair: *I am studying Maths, Economics and Geography. Maths is my favourite subject and I know the teachers and I feel comfortable and confident in the school.*

Do you know what you would like to do when you leave Sixth Form?

Madeline: *I am considering an apprenticeship in either Human Resources or hospitality – as I really enjoy helping people.*

Alistair: *I want to be a pilot or have a career in finance, for example an investment banker.*

What do you want to achieve as Head Girl/Boy?

Madeline: *I would like to make a difference and make the school feel safer and have more support for younger students.*

Alistair: *To have the student voice more heard. Launch a student council.*

What is your greatest achievement so far?

Madeline: *Being a role model, for example achieving the Head Girl position.*

Alistair: *Setting up my own high valued car cleaning business – I am using the money I make to pay for pilot school.*

(Interview continues below...)



Year 7 'We Value' Club

Throughout the academic year 2021-2022, a number of students in Year 7 attended the 'We Value' club. This was a club which was run with the aim of valuing the Chalfonts Community College by understanding what it offers to its staff and students. The aim was that the students who attended would then be able to decide how they could best give back to the College. A range of students attended throughout the year, but three students attended on more than 30 occasions in the 39 school weeks. As a result, they obtained the 'We Champion...' award, meaning that they took pride enough in their school to regularly attend and champion change at the school. These three students are **Emelia Rushworth, Roxy Bassett** and **Evie Codd** (pictured)

The full list of students who attended at least once this year is below.

Roxy Bassett, Mujtaba Bhatti, Maddison Bryant, Seb Bynorth, Lucy Calder, Ava Clerkin, Evie Codd, Maya Dalkiewicz-Tomaszycka, Izzie Holdom, Ozcar Holt, Jess Hughes, Laila Humphris, Mia Kedge, Lexi MacBride, Carlos Mihai, Sophia Morris, Lexie O'Connell, Andrew Page, Caitlyn Reid, Isabella Rosso, Emelia Rushworth, Ryan Stevenson, Bella Strudwick, Chloe Strudwick, Harley Swain and **Poppy Treend**.

Both myself and the rest of the Chalfonts Community College owes a great deal of gratitude to these special people. Thank you,

Mr Fawcett - Teacher of PE, i/c BTEC Quality Assurance



Head Boy CONGRATULATIONS Head Girl

Alistair Smith

Madeline Dunlop-Nash



(Interview continued...)

What does it feel like being voted for by peers and teachers?

Madeline: *It feels great being recognized and I feel more confident in myself.*

Alistair: *Confidence booster – feels reassuring that you are wanted over so many great students it's a very rewarding feeling.*

What is your favourite film?

Madeline: *Disney Animated - Beauty and the Beast.*

Alistair: *James Bond Franchise – Thunderball in particular.*

What is your favourite book?

2 Madeline: *The Mirror Visitor Series by Christelle Dabos.*

Alistair: *Rich Dad Poor Dad by Robert Kiyosaki.*

What would you be doing if you weren't in school?

Madeline: *Reading and musical theatre.*

Alistair: *Car cleaning.*

What would be your fantasy holiday destination, and why?

Madeline: *Trinidad and Tobago – My Grandmother is from there.*

Alistair: *Africa – Zimbabwe to see the wildlife again after my amazing World Challenge visit.*

What message would you like to say to younger students?

Madeline: *Try and read every day as it gives such enormous pleasure. Also, don't be afraid to ask for help.*

Alistair: *Working hard – the reward is the results you achieve. Set yourself goals, you will be surprised what you can achieve.*

European Day of Languages

This year the Languages Department organised a dish competition to celebrate the European Day of Languages on 26th September. Students were asked to cook a dish of their choice at home and label what country it came from. We had almost 100 entries with really high standards being showcased. It was a difficult decision to choose our winners. Congratulations to all entries; each received five merits and very well done to the three winners: **Lewis Leinweber, Chloe Beecher** and **Cai'ro Meyer!!**

Mr. Quéré - Leader for Languages

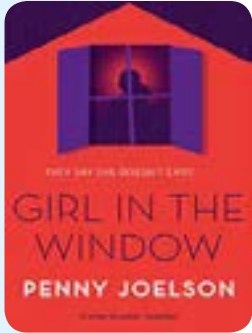


Upcoming Author Visit

We are so excited to have the fantastic author **Penny Joelson** visiting us on the **23rd February 2023**. She will be doing a presentation to Year 7 and 8 students in the hope of encouraging the reluctant readers to pick up a book and read while inspiring the avid readers to continue to embrace their love of reading. Penny was chosen because her characters have a form of disability, which is rare as disabled people are sadly not represented very often in books.

If you are a parent of a Year 7 or 8 student and have not yet purchased a ticket for your son/daughter to secure their place for this exciting and memorable event, please do so via **ParentPay** as we only have a few places left. Tickets cost £12 with one of Penny's books.

Miss Brooks - Year 9 English Coordinator, Deputy Literacy Coordinator



Spelling Bee Winner

A big benefit of reading is the fact that it helps with your spelling and Miss Brooks is delighted to announce that our annual Key Stage Three Spelling Bee competition took place during November and it was a resounding success. Some of the participants did their best while others were exceptional. The supporters were fantastic. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate **Chloe (7G2)** who was crowned the KS3 Spelling Bee Champion for 2022.

Miss Brooks - Year 9 English Coordinator, Deputy Literacy Coordinator



All About Books!

The Ink Drinkers Sixth Form Book Club!

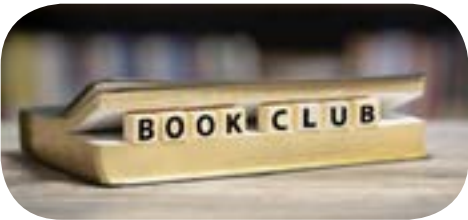
My experience with book club started three years ago when I was in Year 10. I had a few meetings with them before that pesky virus hit and forced us to go online. It really helped me through lockdown and we continued meeting all the way up until the end of Year 11, when we all went our separate ways. I stayed here for 6th form and a couple of months after starting Year 13 **Miss Gilbert** asked me and the two remaining original members if we wanted to start up a new book club. Well here we are coming to the end of our first book: **The Invisible Life of Addie Larue** by **V.E. Schwab**.

This book is listed as a science fiction but it is more of a fantasy as it follows the invisible and immortal life of Adeline Larue, born in 1691, present in history and currently living in the 21st century. This is my kind of book: historical, magical and intriguing. I would have read this book outside of book club, but I love having a group of people to rant to and theorise with (and my friends definitely appreciate this too!) This is the best thing, we all get a flavour of what the other members read, and you

can tell a lot about a person from their bookshelf.

Through book club I have found many a favourite author, **Holly Jackson** being one of them. We are hoping to read her latest release next! I will forever be reminded of our group every time I pick up one of her books. That's another genre that book club introduced me to: murder mystery. I'm so glad that book club has started again and I hope that it can continue on after we've left school. May the chalice of ink be passed down for years to come.

Madeline Dunlop-Nash - Year 13 Book Lover



'Wordle'

Fancy a game of **'Wordle'**? Then [click here](#) to play. ENJOY!



Benefits of Reading!

What is the percentage of words known in a text to ensure reading comprehension?

We have been displaying key vocabulary words and meanings in the LRC and around school. If our students know the meanings of these key words it will really support with their literacy and exam results.

The LRC Team

sector	an area or portion that is distinct from others
available	able to be used or obtained; at someone's disposal
financial	the management of large amounts of money, especially by governments or large companies
process	a series of actions or steps taken in order to achieve a particular end
individual	single; separate; a single human being
specific	clearly defined or identified
principle	a fundamental truth or proposition that serves as the foundation for a system of belief or behaviour
estimate	roughly calculate or judge the value, number, quantity, or extent of
variables	an element, feature, or factor that is liable to vary or change
method	a particular procedure for accomplishing or approaching something

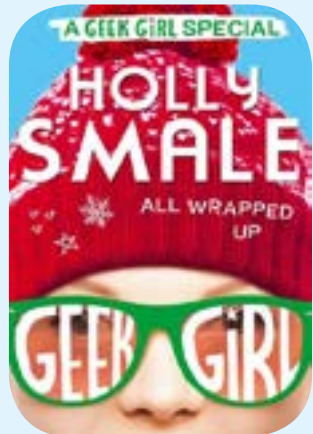
Book Reviews

Every week **Miss Gilbert** recommends a book for Key Stage 3 and 4. These are her Christmas recommendations.

All Wrapped Up - A Geek Girl Christmas Special
By Holly Smale
Genre: Romance

Blurb:
Harriet Manners knows a lot about Christmas:

- *She knows that every year Santa climbs down 91.8 million chimneys.*
- *She knows that Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer was almost definitely a girl.*
- *She knows that the first artificial Christmas trees were made out of goose feathers.*



But this Christmas is extra special for Harriet, because four days ago she had her First Ever Kiss. Now she just needs to work out what's supposed to happen next...

The Christmasaurus
By Tom Fletcher
Genre: Fantasy

Blurb:
This is a story about a boy named William Trundle and a dinosaur named the Christmasaurus.

It's about how they meet one Christmas Eve and have a magical adventure. It's about friendship and families, sleigh bells and Santa, singing elves and flying reindeer.

It's about discovering your heart's true desire, and learning that the impossible might just be possible...



'Reflected Art'

We are lucky to be supported by the **Chiltern Arts Society**. The Art Department are delighted to celebrate the success of **George Fowkes** whose photograph **'Reflected Art'** has been selected for exhibition at the Mall Galleries next spring. He is a very talented artist, not only in his photography but also in his sculpture so deserves recognition.

The **RBA Rising Stars** annual competition is run by the **RBA** for artists aged 18-35, 40 entries are selected for exhibition which is shown at the **Royal Over-Seas League** and the **Mall Galleries**. One of the selected entries wins the Rome Scholarship which is a prestigious scholarship awarded to a young artist which will offer an enriching learning experience of a paid 4-week stay at a gallery in Rome, as well as improving their profile as an emerging artist.

The shortlisted students were **George Fowkes**, **Georgia Voisey** and **Charlotte Hyland**.

The Art Department



Miss Gilbert Recommends!

A Christmas Carol
By Charles Dickens
Genre: Classic

Blurb:
«If I could work my will,» said Scrooge, indignantly, «every idiot who goes about with «Merry Christmas» on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart.»

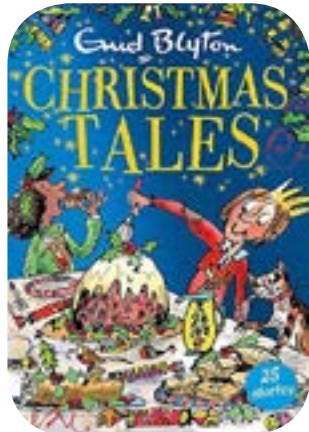


6 Miser and misanthropist Ebenezer Scrooge hates the festive season. Can the visitations of his dead business partner Jacob Marley and the spirits of Christmas past, present and yet to come shake him from his habits, to show him the true value of Christmas?

Dickens's 1843 story was written in response to the plight of the poor, the hungry, the exploited and the uneducated in Victorian society, suggesting that the true test of a society is the way it treats its children.

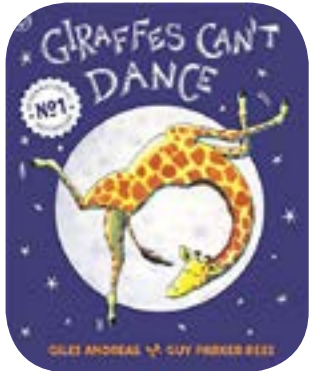
Christmas Tales
By Enid Blyton
Genre: Classic/Mystery

Blurb:
Enid Blyton's Christmas Stories was so popular that readers asked for another collection - and here it is! Nobody captures the spirit of Christmas like Enid Blyton, and in these stories - which are perfect for reading alone or sharing - she describes the excitement of anticipating gifts, the pleasures of making special food, of singing carols, and coming together to share good times with friends and families. As ever with Blyton, there is mischief and mayhem but good always prevails in the end.



Art in the Community

Our Sixth Form Art students were asked to create boards, for the outside play area at **Robertswood Nursery**, using the book **Giraffes Can't Dance** by Giles Andreae, **Amanda Harrison**, **Amelia Leisten**, and **Amber Kayrouz** have used their artistic skills to recreate the pages.





The 4 Cs

This term we have launched our four new values which are **Committed**, **Community minded**, **Conscientious** and **Courteous**. These are key values we would like our students to use everyday in school. Students earn points for these values when they demonstrate these skills in school.

For the **Committed** value the average points earned term to date was 12 points but the top 10 students across our school have earned an outstanding amount of points. Well done for a fantastic achievement, we are really proud of you.

Shaan Hayer	9G1	48
Evie Codd	8K4	47
Sana Kudhail	9G1	45
Ammara Bhatti	8K4	42
Naran Thiara	7K4	41
Zachary Carroll	7G3	41
Liliana Maciejewska	7K4	39
Lucy Wallace	9G1	39

Daisy Cortes Thomas	9G1	38
Raya Prajapati	7G1	38
For the Community Minded students the average across the term achieved was 3 points however the below students far exceeded the average, thank you for thinking of others.		
Grace Bond	7G2	10
MacKenzie Colin	7G3	10
Janie Barber	8G2	9
Calin Condurache	7G2	9
Poppy Littman	7G2	9
Amber Manning	7K4	9
Evan Murphy	7G2	9
Robin Rrapushi	7G2	9
Alfie Tarr	7G2	9
Zain Ahmed	7K3	8

The 4 Cs!



For the **Conscientious** students the average across the term was 8 points however the students below achieved really brilliant results. Well done for trying so hard at school.

Amy-Lee Hills	7K3	32
Mujtaba Bhatti	8G2	31
Annabelle Eyre	8K1	31
Tudor Buhna	7K3	30
Rhys Edwards	7K3	30
Holly Faine	7K3	30
Ria Solan	8K3	30
Zain Ahmed	7K3	29
Jayden McDonagh	9G4	29
Joseph Franklin	7K3	28

For the **Courteous** value our students performed well above the average which was 2. This is a good achievement thank you for showing excellent manners.

Hannah Kerby	7K4	7
Liliana Maciejewska	7K4	7
Jake Carlo	7G2	6
Albie Crutchley	9K3	6
Eddie Harris	8K3	6
Alfie Kruck	7K4	6
Joshua Lindsay	9K3	6
Callum O'Mahoney	8K1	6
Harry Armstrong	7G1	5
Kaycee Bentley	7K4	5

Please join us in congratulating these students and help us to embed these values in our school.

Employability Skills Day – Overview of the Day

On Wednesday, 9th November, The Chalfonts Community College hosted one of the biggest events of the year, our Year 11 Employability Skills day. All of our Year 11 students were off timetable for the day, to take part in a number of career related activities including a **Careers Fair**, **four workshops** of their choice and an **interview** with external professionals.

The purpose of the day is to broaden the knowledge and horizons of our students, inspire them and further build their confidence. The students arrived in the morning in business dress looking extremely smart and professional. They all had individual timetables for the day and were excellent ambassadors for our school!

The Chalfonts welcomed over 100 visitors to the school on this day. We would like to thank all the professionals who represented their field and organisations, those who delivered amazing workshops to our students, and to parents and members of our local community who volunteered to interview the students. Without their time, support and expertise, the day would not have been possible.

A huge thank you must also go to our amazing team of Sixth Form students who helped the event to run so smoothly, supporting with administration and hospitality. We had students meeting and greeting in reception, escorting guests to their relevant locations, encouraging students to engage with employers at the Careers Fair and taking some amazing photos of the day.



Interviews

Every student was interviewed by an external professional. The students had all completed generic application forms which were used in the interview as a basis for the questions. This exercise gave our students some experience of considering how they should be marketing themselves. All of this preparation appeared to pay off as we had some amazing feedback from our interviewers. They were looking out for good body language as well as someone who is able to provide good responses to questions. The students did extremely well and it was lovely to see some afterwards, feeling great about the experience.



Employability Skills Day!

Year 11s getting ready to work!

Careers Fair

One of the activities the students were involved in was the Careers Fair. We were very privileged to have over 30 organisations represented at the Fair from all different industries. Our students spent time talking to individuals representing **Forensics, Engineering, Public Services, Marketing, Real Estate, Music and Film Production, Childcare, Hair and Beauty, Construction, and Manufacturing**. We invited our Sixth Form to also visit the Fair, along with a few of our year 10 students who will be participating in work experience in July next year.



Workshops

We had 12 workshops running throughout the morning and each student decided on which four workshops they would like to attend. The workshops included: **CV writing, Interview skills, Going to University**, and then careers in **STEM, Hospitality, Beauty, IT/Cyber Security, Creative Industry, Healthcare and Starting a Business**.

We have had some fantastic feedback from our students and Tutors about the workshops and again, are so grateful for the time our presenters gave up to inspire our students.



Building our Alumni Connections

We have been working hard to reconnect with more of our ex students who have left The Chalfonts Community College to go on to some amazing careers. Firstly, we have been quite active on LinkedIn and now have over 1400 within our Alumni community.

Miss Gilbert, who herself is an alumni member (!), accelerated the process of making contact with ex students by using social media, with a fantastic response. From the information gathered, an Alumni board has been created, outside the LRC. We have asked our Alumni to provide their

job titles, a photo and an inspirational quote for our current students.



Chalfonts Success Stories



Name: Max Crowner
Job title: Aeronautical Ground Lighting Technician working for Heathrow Airport Limited.

What is your current role and who do you work for now?

I maintain all lighting on the airfield and runways including

Approach lights, Illuminated Signs; Fixed Electrical Ground Power Units (supply electricity to aircraft while they are parked up on stand), Stand Entry Guidance Systems (use lasers and an overhead screen to guide aircraft onto the stand)

I work shifts: 2 days (7am-7pm) then 2 nights (7pm-7am) then have 4 days off.

My uniform includes work trousers, a T-shirt, high vis

tabard, jacket or coat and if its really cold or wet, some waterproof dungarees.

Pay for an apprentice starts at £18,000 and rises in increments to £46,000 after 5-6 years when fully qualified.

A day shift will include maintenance work on the fixed electrical ground power units, checking for condition/ wear on components and replacing filters, responding to fault callouts such as faulty equipment, repairing faults.

A night shift will include working on the taxiways, runways or substations repairing electrical faults with ground lighting, changing faulty light fittings, torque checking, fitting mounting bolts, re-aligning approach lights such as the Precision Approach Path Indicator lights; the list goes on.

The apprenticeship saw me receive training such as a Lvl 2 PEO, LVL 3 Btec, Lvl 3 NVQ apprenticeship, Lvl 4 HNC (optional) and Lvl 5 HND(optional and at the discretion of management etc at the time).

(Interview continues below...)

Developing our Alumni

Chalfonts Alumni

(...Interview continued)

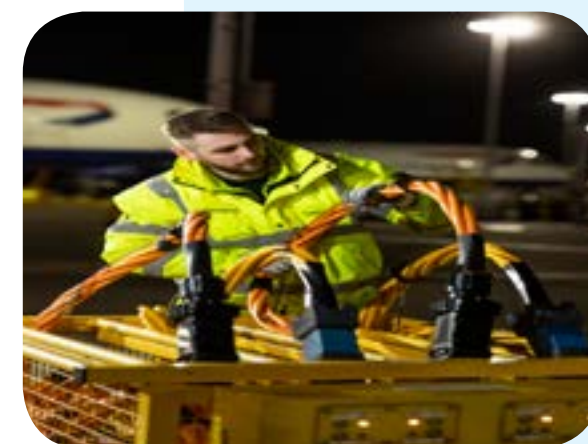
What did you study at The Chalfonts Community College and which years were you in Chalfont?

I joined Chalfont in 2011 and left in 2016. I studied Maths, English, Triple Science, Double Engineering and Business.

What tips would you give to students about their future careers?

Keep persevering and look for better ways of doing things; college and university isn't always the best/only way to get the career you want. A good apprenticeship will give you far more usable experience and knowledge than university ever will. You will have to work hard to separate the actual apprenticeships and

those just looking for cheap labour. Celebrate the small wins: doing well on a test or a piece of homework etc and use that to motivate you to keep pushing on. Education and learning will continue throughout your life/career so try to think of learning in a positive way.



Working with our Alumni

We also invited back a number of our ex students to represent their organisations at the Year 11 Employability Skills Day Careers Fair. It was fantastic to see everyone back and thriving in their chosen professions. They are in organisations such as **Mars, Heathrow Operations, Unilever, Cushman & Wakefield, Mace, Align JV/HS2 and Zenopa Recruitment**. We also had representation from **Hair & Beauty, Childcare, Forensics, Paramedics** and even a **Diver at Pinewood studios!**

The Reading Scholars Programme

We were delighted to return once again to Reading University with a group of Year 10 students to commence another **Reading Scholars Programme**. This programme provides students with a valuable opportunity to find out about their options beyond school and to increase their understanding of Higher Education through information sessions and conversations with current students (Mentors). The programme offers a head start in developing key study skills that will prepare them for further study and support their academic attainment, confidence, and aspirations.

Whilst learning about life at University, our students will also be designing and preparing an academic poster to put into practice the study skills they have acquired. We will be visiting the university four times over the next seven months and will be participating in a variety of workshops and activities that will give our students an insight into what it is like to be at university.



Reading University Visit

On 6th December, a group of Year 9 students attended a 'passport' event at Reading University.

We were met, as promised, by some enthusiastic, helpful Student Ambassadors and were accompanied across the campus. We commenced the day with a fun Kahoot quiz which asked questions about all sorts of university facts, and the students were then taken on a tour, to see a number of key areas of interest across the university; these included the sports facilities, accommodation, student union, a lecture theatre and the amazing library. After lunch, there was a question and answer session with the Ambassadors, and so much useful information was shared.

The students who attended were an absolute credit to the school, demonstrating lovely manners and engaging so well in all the activities.

This was a very informative and engaging day for our Year 9 students.



A Question of Sport

Acacia Dew (Year 9) came 4th representing CCC in the **National Schools Show Jumping Championship**. Miss Gilbert and Miss Vinten interviewed her about her amazing achievement.

How long have you been into your sport and how did you get into it?

"I started Riding when I was 6. I train at home and it is a family tradition as my Mum, Grandma and Aunty all ride. I have three horses Alfie, Cracker and Bramble. I competed at the National Schools Equestrian Association Final (NSEA) and came 4th."

Who are your sporting heroes?

"Harry Charles – Is a huge inspiration to me whom is a British Show Jumping Competitor whose Father has won Gold at the Olympics."

What are your future Ambitions?

"I really want to have a career in Show Jumping – my ambition is to compete at the Olympics. My plans for next year are to compete at the Royal International Show and Horse of the Year Show."

Well done Acacia we are so proud of you and wish lots of success!



Careers' Trips and Successes

Pinewood Studios Beckons

Back in the Spring of 2022, a small group of students visited Pinewood Studios to learn about the courses and opportunities offered by the **Creative Media Skills Company**, along with the **Bucks Skills Group of Colleges**. The students watched a film about the various roles possible within the industry and had a tour of the studios.

Following this trip, four of our Year 13 students, **Amanda Harrison**, **Amelia Leisten**, **Joe Hanstock** and **Hayley Lambert** decided to pursue these opportunities. One student applied to study for the **Level 4 Diploma in Hair, Make-up, Costume and special effects**, and the other three students for the **Level 4 Diploma within the Art department (prop making and set decoration)**. There are also courses offered in Screenwriting and Film Production.

All students were interviewed for the courses and had to provide portfolios showcasing their best artistic pieces. We are delighted and very proud to hear that all four students have been successful in securing a place on their chosen course! This will involve them working for two days each week at **Pinewood Studios** and then working with **Amersham College** to achieve the qualification.

The students are delighted and have said the following:

"This gives us such a great opportunity to work with industry professionals which would not have been possible, had we not been offered these courses."

"It is amazing to have employers such as this so local to us and we appreciate the links we have."



Sporting Prowess

Johnny (Year 9) – became a World Champion Kick Boxer recently. Miss Vinten interviewed him about his amazing achievement.

How long have you been into your sport and how did you get into it?

"I have been kick boxing for 7 years and was inspired by watching the film 'Karate Kid'."

"Kick boxing is really fun and I really enjoy doing it. I train 7 days a week."

Who are your sporting heroes?

"Tyson Fury is my hero because he is fun, talented and an amazing boxer."

What are your future Ambitions?

"I have been invited to be in the Junior England team. My long term ambition is to be an MMA cage fighting champion."

Congratulations Johnny on your fantastic success!



Can **YOU** help?

Please see the following from a local primary school, St Josephs. They run a boot exchange which helps avoid waste of little used football boots. If you'd like to donate old boots or football equipment to a good cause then please either drop them at St Josephs school on Saturday mornings, or send them in with your child to **Mr Fawcett**, who will collect them and pass them on.



St. Joseph's Saturday Football Club



BOOT EXCHANGE

If you have any shin pads or boots that your children have grown out of, please consider dropping them off at St Joseph's School on Saturday

When playing on grass pitches, boots are highly recommended – if you need a pair of boots which fit your children, please feel free to pick up a pair from our boot exchange

Shin pads are mandatory – We highly recommend shin pads with integral ankle guards so that your child has well protected lower legs and ankles. If you do not find any suitable shin pads in the boot exchange, we are selling some reasonably priced sets in the hut

Respect



Science Term Update

A lot has happened in this first term in Science lessons.

7G2 completed a fantastic Chicken wing dissection, to support their learning of muscles joints and skeleton. There was lots of unsure faces and a few people who needed to step out for a moment of fresh air, but once they got started they were able to look at some of the key features labelled.

Highlights included a surprise from **Chloe D** who said *'I didn't faint sir!'* and **Alfie T** who said *'This was amazing but disgusting!'*



Year 9 Atom Models

Year 9 chemists have been learning about Atomic structure, the building blocks of everything in the universe. For homework over the October half-term, students produced models of atoms. **Lucy W** in **9G1** won the competition with her amazing model of an Argon atom. **Amelia M** came second with her beautiful model of a carbon atom. **Nyreece T** and **Darius F** came in third with their models of carbon and oxygen respectively.

Well done to everyone who took part and thank you for the classroom decorations!



Science Round-up

Year 10 Biologists

Year 10 Biologists in numerous classes have been completing the heart dissections to further extend their learning and apply their knowledge. Again, a few surprising characters have been a bit reserved to start but have eventually got gloves on and got involved. Teachers have been impressed!



Year 10 Chemists

Year 10 Chemists have been learning about Chemical reactions with metals and recently conducted an experiment, reacting the base copper oxide with sulfuric acid to produce copper sulfate solution.



They then used separating techniques to evaporate the water from the solution to crystallise copper sulfate, producing some beautiful salts, although not recommended on your fish and chips!

6th Form

Year 12 Biology have started very well on their course and have really got to grips with the practical skills. A Highlight for them this year was a locust dissection... no they did not need to eat it like on *I'm A Celeb!* Students demonstrated excellent technique and were able to locate the key structures they had been learning about. There were a few issues with the bodies twitching but a couple of pins from **Katie H** and **Emilia M** sorted them out (see pictures). In addition they have completed a Fish Gill dissection with some less alive Sardines and Herring, which again was well enjoyed by all except **Mr Cartwright** who's classroom stank for the rest of the day!





Promoting a love of Maths

Last month, students in Years 10-13 competed in the 2022 UKMT Senior Maths Challenge.

The Maths Challenge is a UK-wide competition that encourages precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting and challenging problems. Although it is a multiple-choice test, it is very, very tough!

Over 90,000 pupils from across the UK competed in the challenge and this year we doubled the number of winners with eight bronze certificates. **Kyros** in Year 10 and **Christian** in Year 11, deserve a special mention for their brilliant achievement given the challenge is predominantly sat by the best mathematicians in Year 12 and Year 13.

If you would like to know more about the Maths Challenge or want your child to take part, please get in touch with us at: maths@chalfonts.org or [click here for information](#).

Mr Vahora - Assistant Head and Teacher of Maths



Anti-bullying Boyband Visits CCC



Year 7 and 8 watched a performance from the band **Here At Last** as part of their wellbeing. The band sung a few songs and did a Q&A on mental health and staying safe online. The aim was to empower students with confidence to speak about their state of mind, recognise when to reach out and who to talk to. When the band asked our students questions they were very forthcoming with knowledge on how to be safe online.

Here At Last are a band from all over the UK. Formed in 2020, **Here at Last** sold out their first headline UK tour and will be headlining another tour later this year. They are also the biggest UK boyband on TikTok with over 2.5 million followers. Having all had their own issues with cyber bullying and mental health, the boys are in the perfect position to deliver such a positive message to pupils and are excited to be given the opportunity to educate and inspire.



STEM Successes

Engineering Masterclass

We are delighted to share that five of our Year 9 students, **Oscar Bignell**, **Ana Yiannouzis**, **Darius Deboo**, **John Turkington** and **Ethan Young**, attended and completed an **Engineering Masterclass Programme** at Brunel University over a course of six Saturday mornings. These Masterclasses were led by Academics and Doctoral Researchers. This Programme is run for those students interested in and enthusiastic about STEM subjects. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Areas covered included **Electronic Engineering**, **Engineering/Materials**, **Civil Engineering**, **Mathematics**, **Statistics and Aerospace**. The Masterclasses are a mixture of hands-on workshops and talks designed to highlight a wide range of Engineering and Computer Science fields.

STEM TEAM at Brunel: Lesley Warren and Jaspal Bhamra.

We interviewed **Ana Yiannouzis** about the programme:

How many people were participating in the programme?

18 *There were a few students from a number of schools, so there were about 50 of us in total.*

What did you do when you were there?

In the first couple of weeks we learnt about different types of machinery; this included technology that records soundwave readings. I learnt so much in a short amount of time.

What did you most enjoy?

I really enjoyed the opportunity to design, create and print a keyring, using the 3D printer.

How do you feel, following this experience?

I really enjoyed the programme as it gave me such a good insight into Engineering and I am definitely going to consider taking the subject when I choose my GCSEs.

Well done to all students who were involved.



Mental Health Matters!



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted – sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so enthralls young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness: recognising when something isn't OK... and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM

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Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, say, will see the latest results at the top of their feed. Likewise, if a user browses content that can cause harm, that's what will be recommended to them in future. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts which reflect their mood will find similar content being suggested to them more and more.

2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS

Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms limits the amount of recommended content that's shown. Users can opt to only scroll through the accounts they follow, use restricted modes, or highlight posts that they don't want to see more of. Explore the platform safety settings to see how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.

3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN

Chatting about what your child's seen online keeps you aware of the content they're interacting with. Don't assume that platforms are screening out inappropriate material, or even that your child would recognise content as being harmful. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds: if alarm bells ring, it could be time for a more in-depth talk or to seek support.

4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT

If your child stumbles across unsuitable content on social media, there's the option to hide that post as well as indicating you'd prefer any similar material not to be suggested in future. On some platforms, you might also be able to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to start taking control of what your child sees online.

5. SET DAILY LIMITS

Phones and most apps can tell you how much they're being used. Spending too long online can mean a child misses out on other activities that are important to all-round wellbeing. You could set some family rules – for everyone to follow – around device use, such as screen time limits and tech-free spaces: involving your child in creating this agreement makes them more likely to stick to it.

6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY

Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. As they grow up, of course, children need space to exercise their independence – but you can still occasionally ask to see what they're looking at. Be transparent about your own social media use and try not to sound judgemental about your child's.

7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the alert sound pings. Push notifications encourage people to open their apps and spend time on their device, so turning them off will help your child to practise mindful use of tech. Most of us have other things that we need to focus on as a priority – and those notifications will still be there later, when we have more time.

8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER

Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore platforms on their own can result in exposure to hugely damaging content. You could consider making a particular area at home a designated space to use phones, tablets and so on – making it much easier to monitor what content your child is viewing and (if necessary) steer them away from any potentially harmful paths.

9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and restful sleep for our mental wellbeing. Spending hours on social media can cause us to sacrifice other activities that our brains need to feel well – so encouraging your child to put down their phone and enjoy something that doesn't involve a screen can be immensely beneficial.

10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

Most platforms default children's accounts to private, so only people they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of bullying or unkind comments, but – just like offline life – the digital world can still make children feel as if they need to act or look a certain way to fit in. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and listen to any concerns so you can provide the support they need.

Meet Our Expert

Shazia Sarwar-Azim is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and, as an emotional therapy coach, works with school leaders to focus on the SEND, mental health and wellbeing agenda. A passionate advocate for vulnerable learners, Shazia is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of *The Rainbow Within*, a book which supports children with SEMH needs.



Sources: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-63204806>
<https://sproutsocial.com/insights/social-media-algorithms/>

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Our Community Choir

The CCC Choir and Band has grown somewhat this year fully representing Years 7-11 and we have had a very busy term. They performed a fully choreographed version of **The Script's Hall of Fame** for our Open Evening and Open Morning in October to welcome our prospective new students, parents and carers to the school and delivered a truly impressive performance. We will share a selection of our performances from this term on our website in the new year.

Just before half-term we started our preparations for Christmas - Christmas always arrives early in the Music Department! The Choir represented CCC at the **Chalfont St. Peter Fun Night** singing **Elton John and Ed Sheeran's Merry Christmas** and have been invited to perform at the CSP Feast Day in June.

On Wednesday 14th December we live streamed our third Virtual Christmas Concert from 2.15-3pm, which we started in 2020 when we were approached by **Windsor Lodge Care Home** in Gerrards Cross to live stream a concert for their residents. This year we reached a wider audience including nine local care homes, local primary schools, as well as our CCC community. This event was followed by our re-

scheduled Annual Christmas Concert at 7pm in the Main School Hall. It was a very busy, festive-filled day!

I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank every single member of the CCC Choir and Band. They are a truly dedicated group of musicians who I have the pleasure of working with on a weekly basis.

If you would like to join us in January, please come along at 8.30am on Tuesday mornings in the Band Room. There will be many friendly faces to welcome you!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and very best wishes for 2023.

Mrs Winterborne, KS3 Music Co-ordinator



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

A Message from our Principal

As we approach the end of a busy and successful Autumn term, I would like to express my appreciation for our hardworking and ambitious staff community who are determined to do the very best for all students. These pages capture our proudest moments and my congratulations go to students for their successes this term. I was extremely proud that the hard work and ambition of our school community was recognised by **Ofsted** in November.

In promoting our core values of **Commitment, Courtesy, Conscientiousness** and **Community minded** we encourage everyone to get involved and actively support school activities, community work and other opportunities to develop skills. It has been wonderful to see students being commended for living these values and taking part in a wide range of activities across the term in addition to their academic studies.

The Parent and Student, Teacher Association (**PaSTA**) have again been superb in their support of the school and we are looking forward to our newer parents joining in the new year. As ever I would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support.

I hope that all of our school community are able to relax this Christmas and recharge ready for the new year. I want our students to be successful, but this is not possible without first being safe, happy and healthy. Getting this balance is sometimes very hard with busy lives and distractions. I hope this Christmas, you find the balance and enjoy quality time with your families.

On behalf of all staff and governors, I sincerely wish you all a happy, peaceful Christmas and good health as we welcome in 2023.

Mrs Whitehead - Principal





16th

End of Term -
12.35pm finish



4th

Everyone
Returns to School

4th-16th

Year 13
Mock Exams



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



USEFUL LINKS:

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!



1,554+ people follow the College
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Why not join us?