

FEBRUARY

THE CHALFONTS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

February 2024

CHALFONTS NEWS



Success is an Attitude

Issue 20



**Years
of**



**Our
School's
Four Core Values;**

**Courteous!
Community Minded!**

**Conscientious!
and Committed!**

Food Hampers delivered by our Sixth Form Students

Just before we broke up for the Christmas holidays, our sixth form students, **Laurie McGrath**, **Ben King**, **Aimee Donoghue** and **Chloe Kentish-Finn** donated food hampers to St Joseph's church in the village and then given to some very deserving members of our community. This has become a tradition with our school and is always well received. Warm fuzzy feelings guaranteed for students involved.

Mr Way - Leader for Sixth Form



Panto Was Fun... Oh No It Wasn't – Oh Yes It Was!

A fantabulous (I know it's not a word but anything goes in Pantomine – right?) any way a fantabulous well done goes out to all those involved at Christmas in the Sixth Form Panto. It was a culmination of work from staff and students. The sixth formers wrote the wonder themselves and it was loosely based on The Wizard of OZ. As a gift to the lower school they offered their dynamic performances, the fabulous music and costumes, even the robed Mr West who scooted onto stage rather than using the traditional broomstick. In his pointy black hat he became 'Wicked Witch West' and truth be told, he had probably a little too much fun with the water pistols, soaking some of the audience. Miss Dearing did a wonderful job of producing the whole shebang (operation to you and me) and for this we are grateful. I'm sure all of the cast will agree that she is fab! For the lucky members of the audience, I know that there were loads of laughs, a lorra lorra fun and Christmas spirit was spread all around! Right enough of the cheesy congrats... only a year to go before the next one! Watch this space!

Mrs Hughes – Teacher for Drama



Food Hampers



Panto Review



Team Dance 2024

Team Dance was set up in 2015 and on Friday 12th January the Dance Department put on its 8th Team Dance competition at CCC! There were two teams competing, and it's been fantastic to watch students across the year groups interact with each other and share their love for Dance and their creativity within these teams. The ethos of Team Dance is not just putting on a Dance show, but about raising confidence, challenging students, and giving them opportunities. Team Dance brings students of all ages together to form great friendships and share a common vision, whilst making memories along the way.

Putting on a production like Team Dance is always very exciting, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Team Captains; **Lili Houghton** and **Zara Mian** (Year 10) who lead **The Sweethearts** and **Izzy Hambury** (Year 13) who captained **Team Groovy Girls**.

The theme this year for Team Dance 2024 was History. All dances performed related to or were inspired by historical events. The Team Captains had full control in leading their Teams. They worked tirelessly since September organising rehearsals, choreography, costume, set, props, lighting, music, and so much more! The Team Captains gave their dancers the

confidence and the opportunity to do what they do best – getting on stage and performing, whilst communicating various events of History.

An audience of friends and family members supported Team Dance and celebrated the number of awards achieved throughout the evening: **Martha Lucey** (Year 9) won **Best Solo** for a Bruno Mars legacy dance. **Izzy Hambury** and **Martha Lucey** won **Best Duet** for a tap dance inspired by American street gangs. **Bonny Shack**, **Aoife O'Dwyer** and **Evie Fowler** (Year 7) won **Best Trio** with a dance inspired by women empowerment and the feminist movement. **Best Small Dance** was awarded to **Evie Codd**, **Ellie Hibbert**, **Lilli Houghton**, **Zara Mian**, **Savannah Wood** and **Tallulah Wood** with a dance inspired by Jack the Ripper. **Best Group Dance** went to **The Sweethearts** with an inspiring adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*. **Bonny Shack** (Year 7) and **Evie Codd** (Year 8) both had the wow factor and won **Best Performers** in their Teams. Second year running **Isla Mincham** (Year 9) won **Best Executed Trick Movement** for all her flicks and tricks! And lastly, **Amber Ayers** (year 8) impressed **Mrs Yalden** (Leader for Dance) throughout the rehearsal process and the performance to receive **Most Enthusiastic** and **Most Contribution** to Team Dance. **Amber** has already cemented her place alongside **Poppy Littman** as a Team Dance captain for next year, so watch this space!

Team Dance

The overall winner for Team Dance 2024 was awarded to **The Groovy Girls** and was presented by five judges. We had former GCSE Dance students of The Chalfonts Community College **Kerensa-Lily Stokes** and **Amelie Yalden**. Last year's Team Dance winning Captains – **Matilda Patterson** and **Brooke Plant**, and our Head judge was **Miss Webb**; a former student now Business, P.E and Dance teacher at CCC.

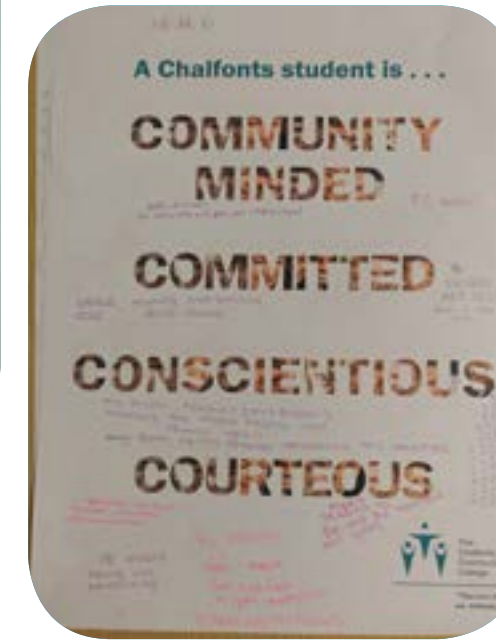
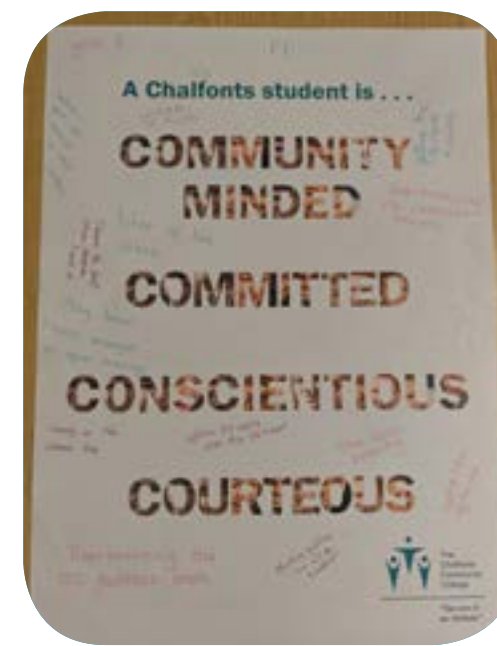
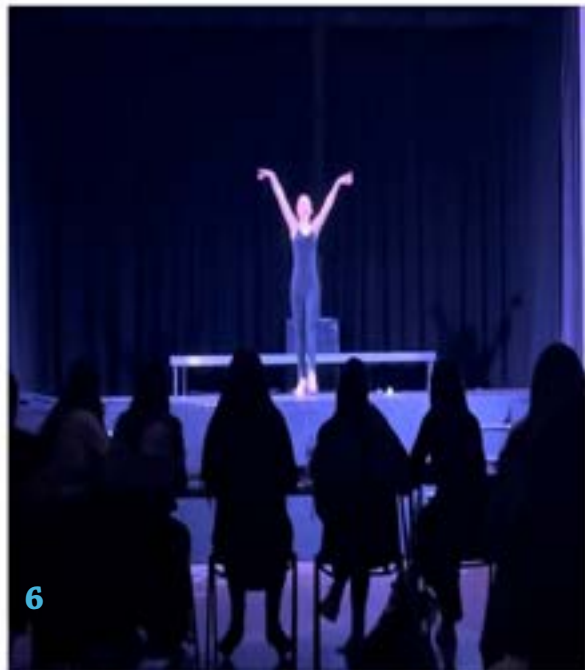
Team Dance is a student led project that inspires and encourages all students involved to work together to make Team Dance happen. The Dance Department would also like to thank **Huxley Andrews Gizzy** (Year 11) once again for operating the lights.

The evening was a huge success. Full of dance, entertainment and an opportunity for friends and family to socialise and meet other parents. With so much talent at The Chalfonts Community College the Dance Department cannot wait to begin plans for Team Dance 2025!



Team Dance 2024





Cookie and Hot Chocolate Mornings

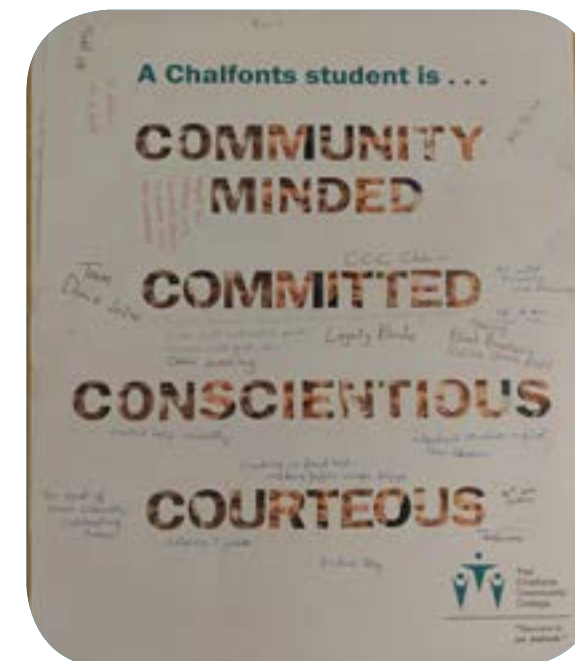
These amazing students were all invited to the termly Cookie and Hot Chocolate mornings. Eight people from each year group.

Each half term students are selected by Year Leaders and tutors for good behaviour. They have a cookie and hot chocolate with SLT and Year Leaders to celebrate the half term.

Well done, you are all assets to the school.

Mr Howard – Assistant Principal

Cookie and Hot Chocolate Mornings



Employability Skills Day - 2024

On Tuesday 30th January, The Chalfonts Community College hosted one of the biggest events of the year; our Year 11 Employability Skills Day. All Year 11 students were off timetable for the day, to take part in a number of career related activities covering a Careers Fair, four industry lead workshops of their choice and an one-to-one interview with a local professional member of the community.

The objective of the day was to answer the question “What do I want to do after my GCSE’s.”

We also hope to broaden the knowledge and horizons of our students, inspire them and further build their confidence. We are really keen to assist them in making informed decisions about their futures, by giving them lots of information about different career routes. 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 organisation, 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.

Some quotes from our guests about the day;

- “Great day, well done Miss Vinten and Miss Gilbert - fantastic for the students.”
- “Really good event! The students had good questions.”
- “No improvements, just wanted to say what how brilliantly this event was arranged!”
- “Once again let me say excellent job! Great organisation. Fantastic achievement. You will never know the positive impact you have had on some of those youngsters’ lives.”

Miss Vinten - Leader for Careers and Employability

Careers Fair

One of the activities the students were involved in was the Careers Fair. We were very privileged to have over 35 organisations represented at the Fair from various industries. The most we have ever had! Our students spent time talking to individuals representing **Healthcare, Engineering, Public Services, Marketing, Hospitality, Football, Music and Film Production, Childcare, Beauty, Construction, and Animal Welfare.** It was fantastic to see some of our alumni representing the industries they now work for.

Below is a list of all the organisations and companies who attended this year;
ASK Apprenticeships, Tiggywinkles, Wildway Zoo, Karma Beauty, Volkswagen, Hungry Caterpillars Nursery, Clancy, DB Schenker, Buckinghamshire New University, Bucks Skills Hub, Bucks College Group, BIMM, Oxford Brookes University, Uxbridge College, Windsor College Group, AVK, Heathrow Engineering, HS2, Martin

Baker, L Lynch, Ministry Of Defence, NHS, Cairn Group, Cliveden, BP Collins, Hine Solicitors, Theatre Make-up, Mars, Menarini Group, Zenopa, Chelsea Football Club, Astra, Amazon, CGI, Thames Valley Police, Royal Navy and Submariners.
Miss Vinten and I are so grateful to all who came and really hope they will return next year!



Miss Gilbert and Miss Vinten



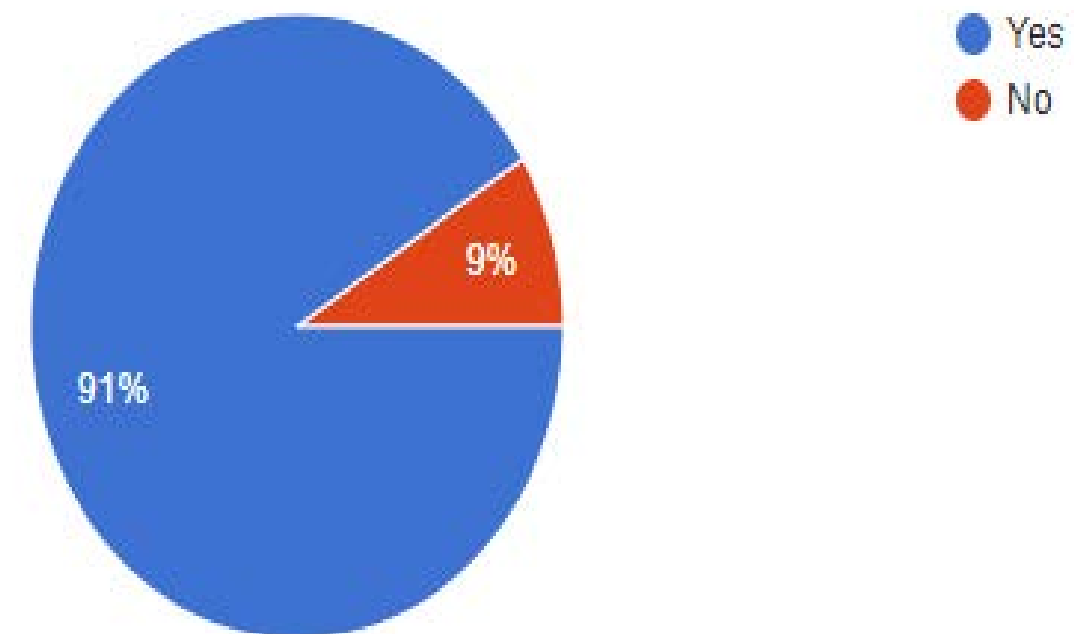
Employability Skills Day

Careers Fair



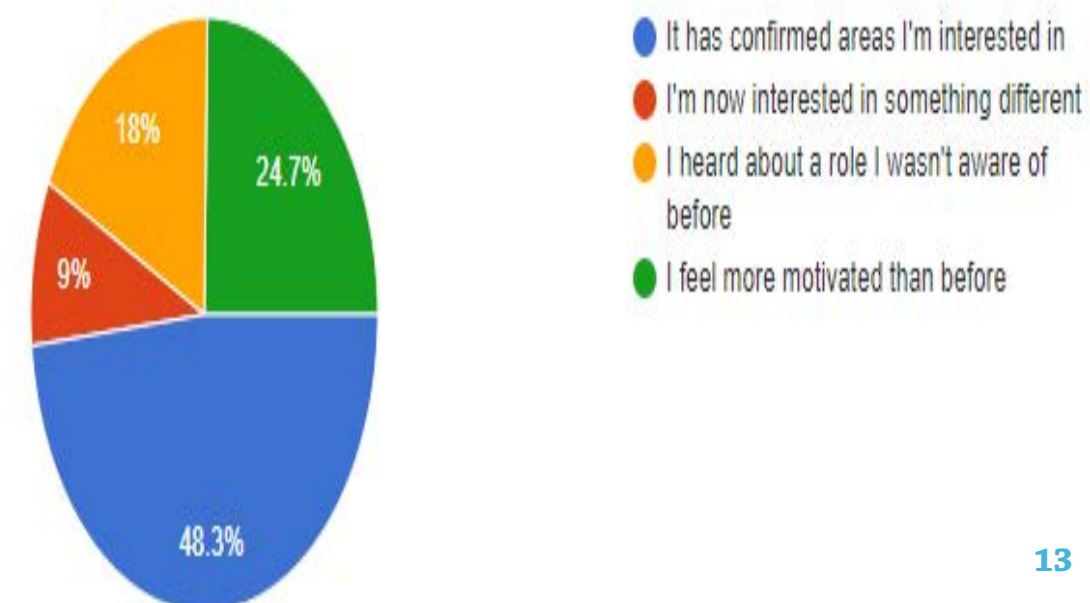


Did you enjoy Employability Skills Day?

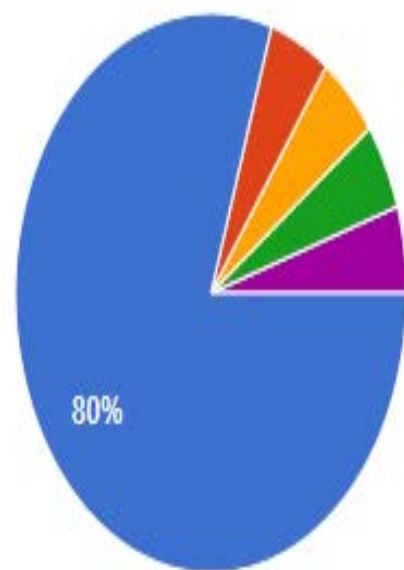


Student Response Pie Charts

How do you feel Employability Skills Day has impacted on you?



Did you find the students engaged?



- Yes
- No
- most had to be approached first
- Some
- Struggled to get interest, particularly from the female students

The Night At The Musicals 2024 - Fundraiser

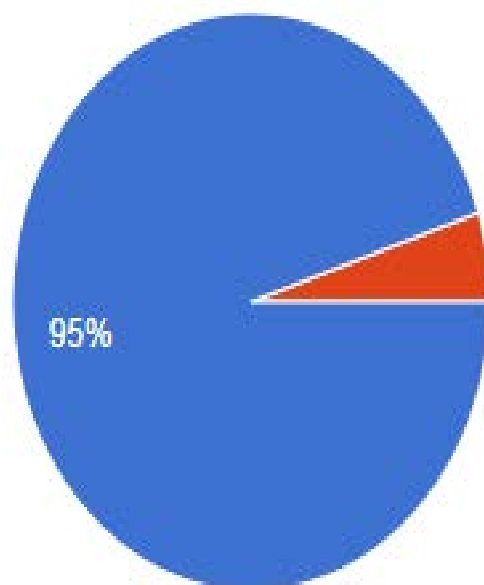
Friday 2nd January saw an evening of spectacular renditions from the musicals. It was all in aid of raising funds for the Performing Arts Department so that they can afford to put on the musical, *'Legally Blonde'* later in the year. They need funds to pay for the rights to the musical as well as the more obvious costs of costume and set. MC's **Charlie Merritt** and **Lilly-Mai Dinc** brought together many talented performers from all year groups. This along with their amazing supportive families who came to watch, they managed to knock a huge dent in the targeted amount. Money aside it was tremendous fun both on stage and as a member of the audience. Thank you, **Mr Barker, Mr Brooks, Mr Swindell, Miss Adams, Miss Head** and **Mr McClean** for their wonderful performances and a very well done to everyone else involved! It is events like these that bring the 'community' into The Chalfonts Community College!

Mrs Hughes – Teacher for Drama

- **The Greatest Show**
- **Flowers (Hadestown)**
- **Ex-wives (Six)**
- **For Good (Wicked)**
- **Stars And Moon (Songs for a New World)**
- **Meet The Plastics (Mean Girls)**
- **I can do better than that (The last Five Years)**
- **So Much Better (Legally Blonde)**
- **Get Ya Head In The Game (High School Musical)**
- **Teacher's Pet (School of Rock)**
- **OMG YOU GUYS (Legally Blonde)**
- **Thank you For The Music (Mamma Mia)**
- **A Million Dreams (The Greatest Showman)**
- **Handjive (Grease)**
- **Your Song (Moulin Rouge)**
- **Burn (Hamilton)**
- **Revolting Children (Matilda)**

Employer Response Pie Charts

Would you consider coming again to our next Employability Skills Day?



- Yes
- No

'Night At The Musicals'



SORA

Since we launched SORA, our free reading app, over the summer we are delighted to say that **300 books** have been read, which is brilliant!

Please can I request, if you have not downloaded the app on your phone/chromebook already, that you do so following the instructions.

Install the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to soraapp.com.

- In Sora, find your school (or enter your school's setup code), then sign in.
- Browse the Explore tab and borrow a book. Your book will open so you can start reading right away
- Close the book and go to your Shelf to see all your books (including assignments).

From there, you can:

- Tap Open Book or Open Audiobook to read or listen to the book.
- Tap Options to renew or return the book, get to your notes and highlights, and more

SORA has a wide range of up to date books with extra functions listed below.



SORA App Update!

A few benefits for using the SORA App below;

- It has 5,000 books the students and teachers can access up to date and classics (not revision)
- Audio Books available
- Foreign Language books (x32 Ukrainian also Spanish, Italian, Polish, Portuguese etc)
- Font can be changed to an easy read for dyslexic students
- Manga books - x150 of these. Our LRC has very few and are always out on loan
- Comics corner x320 different ones
- Updated every quarter to include new and relevant titles for schools
- Waiting lists for the popular books waiting time is a maximum of one week
- If the student does not understand a word you can highlight it for it to be explained

LRC

The Gerrards Cross and Chalfont St Peter Rotary Club Creative Writing Competition (2023)

Some of our Year 9 students entered the Gerrards Cross and Chalfont St Peter Rotary Club Creative Writing Competition (2023) and I must congratulate **Srita (9G4)**, **Bashini (9G2)** and **Aarudh (9G4)** who were placed joint 2nd in the Intermediate category. Below is a brief synopsis of their stories.

Srita: 'Rebuilding a Country'

The sound of rain shrouded her eardrums. Alice skipped down the road, narrowly missing the enormous puddles that enveloped the pavement. The bell rang, as she walked into Bliss Dementia Care Centre; her umbrella collapsed on itself as Alice walked to the reception. Despite her colourful attire, the women stared at her uninterestingly However, they didn't give up and because of that they learned to blossom as a community, and as a community they rebuilt Germany. Alice was overflowing with tears of joy and that's when she realised life is about connecting with people.

Bashini: 'Rebuilding Relationships'

Every morning, as Lily walked to school, the absence of her father weighted heavy on her heart. She missed their morning chats and the warmth of his embrace before he went away... Eventually, he came back after many years and tears flowed freely as Lily and her father finally found the courage to express their love... to rebuild their relationship.

(Interview continues below...)

For The Love of Writing!

(...Interview continued)

Aarudh: 'The Ex- Cons Who Righted Their Wrongs'

I had gone to jail for a crime that I had committed. While serving in prison, I realized to right the wrong. After putting in the time and effort, I started going on the right path.... When I was released, some men and I saved a little girl from a building that was on fire. ... Our news started gaining the attention of many people...

Miss Brooks - Subject Coordinator Year 9 English and Literacy Coordinator



Benefits of reading daily

- Reading is exercise for the brain.
- Improves your focus and concentration.
- Reading is a way to escape your own life, and can take you to faraway lands from the comfort of a chair.
- Increases your vocabulary.
- Strengthen your writing skills.
- Expands your knowledge.
- Gives you a mood boost.
- Stronger analytical thinking skills.
- Reading regularly will increase your memory.
- Reduces stress, worry or tension.
- If you read a book before you go to bed it helps you relax and go to sleep.
- The most important benefit is FUN...



Book Reviews

Every week **Miss Gilbert** recommends a book for Key Stage 3, 4 and Sixth Form. These are her latest recommendations.

The Night Bus Hero
By Onjali Q. Rauf
Genre: Children's Fiction

Blurb:
«The boy's an absolute menace.»
«He's a bully. A lost cause!»
«Why can't he be more like his sister?»

I've been getting into trouble for as long I can remember. Usually I don't mind 'cos some of my best, most brilliant ideas have come from sitting in detention.

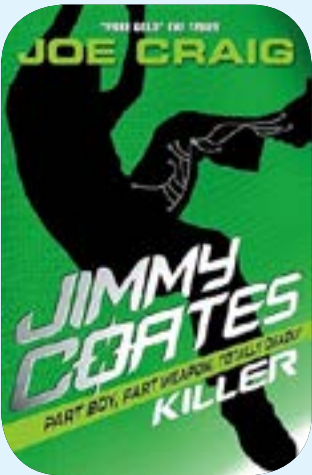
But recently it feels like no one

believes me about anything - even when I'm telling the truth! And it's only gotten worse since I played a prank on the old man who lives in the park.



Killer
By Joe Craig
Genre: Mystery/Adventure

Blurb:
An eleven-year-old boy discovers he has strange powers, and a future that holds mystery, adventure - and death! Bending his knees, Jimmy let go of the windowsill and slowly tipped backwards. Surely this is impossible, he thought, even as he could feel himself doing it. He pushed out with his legs and the thrust sent him flying backwards into the air. . Then his fingers locked on to the cold wire of the fence, poised in a perfect handstand on the top. Who are the mysterious men chasing Jimmy across the city? Why are they after him? What are Jimmy's parents keeping from him and who can he trust? And how come he can suddenly do all this really cool stuff...?



Benefits of Reading!

Miss Gilbert Recommends!

Why Read at home?

STUDENT A READS
• 20 minutes per day
• 3,600 minutes per school year
• 1,800,000 words per year



STUDENT B READS
• 5 minutes per day
• 900 minutes per school year
• 282,000 words per year



STUDENT C READS
• 1 minute per day
• 180 minutes per school year
• 8,000 words per year




SCORES IN THE 90TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS


SCORES IN THE 50TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS


SCORES IN THE 10TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS

Argyle
By Elly Conway
Genre: Adventure/Spy

Blurb:
One Russian magnate's dream of restoring a nation to greatness has set in motion a chain of events which will take the world to the brink of chaos. Only Frances Coffey, the CIA's most legendary spymaster, can prevent it. But to do so, she needs someone special.

Enter Argyle. His life came to a crashing halt as a teenager. Since then he has been treading water, building barriers between himself and the world. Until one moment of compassion and brilliance will bring him to the attention of the most powerful woman in the secret world.

Coffey knows all about Argyle's dark past. She knows it haunts him. But she

also knows it may give him the skills to join the team going up against one of the most powerful men in the world. His crash course in espionage will take him from the jungles of Thailand to the boulevards of Monaco, from the monasteries of Mount Athos to a forgotten cavern buried deep in the mountains.

It is a deathly rollercoaster ride that will either make him - or break him...





Gymnastics Success

On Sunday 10th December our Mixed Gymnastics Team – consisting of **Ruby Wright**, **Eliza Prieg** and **Oscar Brown** and coached by Sarah Wright - competed in the southern region Milano qualifier at Beaconsfield High School.

The team won this competition and will now represent The Chalfonts Community College and The South at the National Final in Stoke-on-Trent in March.

The team were fantastic and were the highest scoring under 13 team of the day, which includes the scores from all girls and all boys teams.

Ruby Wright was the highest scoring gymnast of the competition with a score of 30.9 out of a possible 32 points! A fantastic achievement.

The mixed trio was also the highest scoring group routine with a score of 26.8 out of 30!

We can't wait to hear how the team gets on at the final! Good luck CCC!

Ruby Wright - Year 8 Student

Chalfonts Success Stories

Name: Andrew White

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

My current job title is, Events Fundraising Assistant & Data Officer and I work for the charity, WheelPower – British Wheelchair Sports Foundation.

Tell us a bit about your job.

I have a full-time role, working 35.5 hours a week (Monday to Friday). My role splits into two key parts, fundraising and data management. I work at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the birthplace of the Paralympic games and my role carries a pay range of £18,000 to £23,000 depending on experience. I undertake frequent training and CPD (Continuous Personal Development) to maintain my knowledge of current trends and legislation around fundraising and data management.

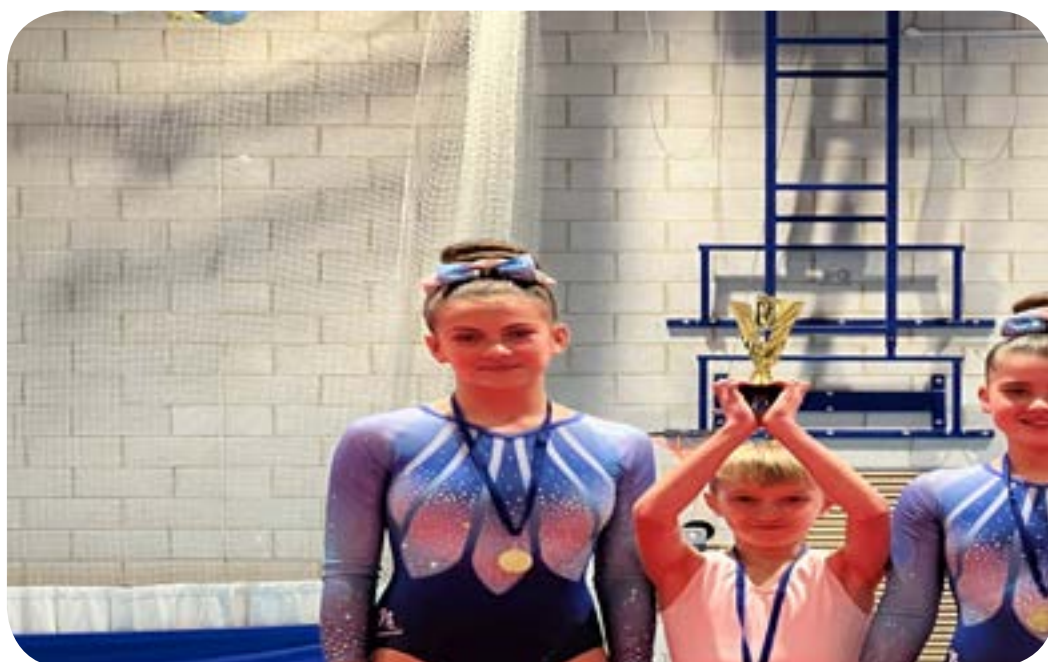
What did you study at The Chalfonts Community College and which years were you in Chalfont?

I joined The Chalfonts Community College in 2007 at the start of year 9 and I left in 2009 to move on to college after completing my GCSEs.

(Interview continues below...)



Chalfonts Super Sport Alumni



(...Interview continued)

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

The best tip I could give, is give it your all and don't let anybody tell you 'you can't do it'.

What inspired you about doing this role? When did you decide to take this career?

As a Wheelchair user, I benefited from the work of WheelPower as a child and really benefited from

attending their sports camps. As I got older, I decided to volunteer with the charity as I wanted to help others disabled people benefit from the impact taking part in sport and physical activity can have on your mental and physical health. I maintained my volunteering for many years even through university and in the end, I was offered a full time position with the charity.

What tips would you give to students about their

future careers?

It's a bit of a cliché but don't put too much pressure on yourself, life doesn't come with a manual. Enjoy the journey wherever it may take you and remember, if you're ever stuck in a forest and you can't see your way out, just take the next step.



If There Is A Will, There Is A Way

Mr Modha would like to share an inspirational story and poem to help motivate his students.

If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think you dare not, you don't,
If you like to win, but you think you can't
It is almost certain you won't.

If you think you'll lose, you're lost
For out of the world we find,
Success begins with a fellow's will
It's all in the state of mind.

If you think you are outclassed, you are
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of
yourself before
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always
go
To the stronger or faster
man,
But soon or late the man
who wins
Is the man WHO THINKS HE CAN!

Mr Modha - Teacher of Maths



Mrs Flisher's Marathon Run For **Fight For Sight**

On the 21st April, I'll be running the London marathon, for an incredibly amazing charity. I'm running for **Fight For Sight**, a charity that fund ground-breaking research and empower people with sight loss to live their lives as equal citizens.

This will be my tenth marathon, but the one that will mean a lot because of the cause.

I'm also trying to beat my last time of 3 hours 48 minutes (not sure that'll be possible) and I am training incredibly hard which is a lot harder this time round with a 14 month old!

I'm sure it will be an emotional run and I can't wait to reach (or hopefully) exceed my target of £2,000, I've already raised **£961** so it would be great to hit 2k sooner rather than later.

Here's my link, I'd really appreciate anything you can donate. <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/louise-flisher9>

Mrs Flisher - Subject Leader for Business Studies



Motivation

Why are Goals Important?

On the best sunny day, the most powerful magnifying glass will not light paper if you keep moving the glass. But if you focus and hold it, the paper will light up. That is the power of concentration.

A man was traveling and stopped at an intersection. He asked an elderly man, "Where does this road take me?" The elderly person asked, "Where do you want to go?" The man replied, "I don't know." The elderly person said, "Then take any road. What difference does it make?"

How true. When we don't know where we are going, any road will take us there. Supposing you have the football eleven enthusiastically ready to play the game, all charged up, and then someone took the goal post away. What would happen to the game? There is nothing left. How do you keep score? How do you know you have arrived? Enthusiasm without direction is like wildfire and leads to frustration. Goals give a sense of direction.

Would you sit in a train or a plane without knowing where it was going? The obvious answer is no. Then why do people go through life without having any goals?



Mr Modha - Teacher of Maths

Charity

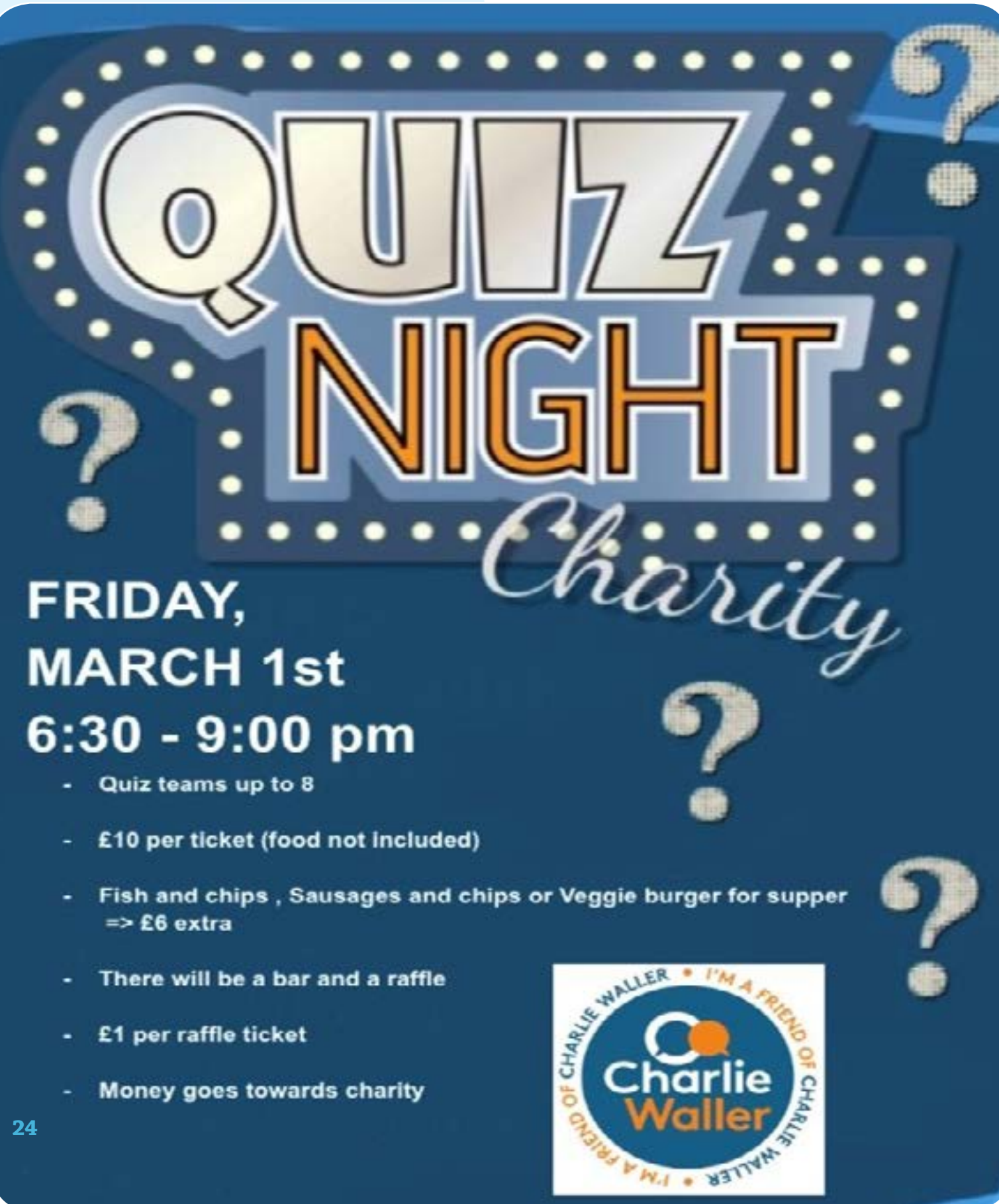


Quiz Night

Come and join us for a Charity Quiz Night on Friday 1st March from 6.30pm to 9.00pm in the hall. Tickets costs **£16.00** for a ticket and Fish and Chips, Sausage and Chips or Veggie Burger and Chips

All proceeds will be split between the **Charlie Waller Trust** ([Click here](#)) and our Student Leader projects for 2024, the sixth form common area and outdoor seating for the school.

Tickets are now available to purchase on ParentPay. Enter your Team Name when prompted in the notes section.




A poster for a Quiz Night Charity event. The background is dark blue with a pattern of small white dots. The words "QUIZ NIGHT" are written in large, bold, yellow and orange letters. Below "NIGHT" is the word "Charity" in a white cursive font. To the left of "QUIZ" and to the right of "NIGHT" are large white question marks. At the bottom left, the text "FRIDAY, MARCH 1st 6:30 - 9:00 pm" is written in white. Below this is a list of bullet points: "Quiz teams up to 8", "£10 per ticket (food not included)", "Fish and chips, Sausages and chips or Veggie burger for supper => £6 extra", "There will be a bar and a raffle", "£1 per raffle ticket", and "Money goes towards charity". At the bottom right is a circular logo for the Charlie Waller Trust, featuring a blue circle with a white speech bubble containing the text "Charlie Waller" and the words "I'M A FRIEND OF CHARLIE WALLER" around the perimeter.

QUIZ NIGHT
Charity

**FRIDAY,
MARCH 1st
6:30 - 9:00 pm**

- Quiz teams up to 8
- £10 per ticket (food not included)
- Fish and chips, Sausages and chips or Veggie burger for supper => £6 extra
- There will be a bar and a raffle
- £1 per raffle ticket
- Money goes towards charity



Buckinghamshire Helping Hand

Buckinghamshire Helping Hand team is available to help individuals or families in need, those on low incomes and those who are experiencing a financial emergency or crisis.

Let them know if

- you are struggling to afford food
- you cannot keep on top of your bills
- you are in debt
- you are struggling to pay for essential goods in your home

You can request support from the Helping Hand team by: completing an online form or calling 01296 531 151: Monday to Thursday (9am to 5:30pm), Friday (9am to 5pm)

For more information please click on this link: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living/contact-helping-hand/>

If you would like to apply for Free Schools Meals for your child please click on this link to download the application form: <https://www.chalfonts.org/parents/forms-to-download> It should be returned to Rachel MacKeith or via email rachelmackeith@chalfonts.org

Helping Hand





7th

World Book
Day

28th

End of Term -
12.35pm finish



15th

Everyone
Returns to School



1,000+ people follow the College
on **LinkedIn**
with **895+ Alumni**

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!



1,718+ people follow the College
on **X** (formerly **TWITTER**)
(**@ccchalfonts**)
(**@ccc6thform**)



Follow our Sixth Form
on **INSTAGRAM**
(**@ccc_6th_form**)

Why not join us?