CCHSG E-Newsletter

19 July, 2019

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Executive Principal’s Notes

As we approach the end of another busy academic year, it is a time of mixed emotions; there is much to celebrate but also we sadly say goodbye to the Year 13 cohort and some of our staff. This newsletter illustrates just some of the many activities that have taken place, across all the curriculum areas in our vibrant school community. The strength of our Creative Arts has been particularly evident this year. The excellent concerts, school productions and exhibitions that we have enjoyed and the wide range of extra curricular activities on offer in these areas demonstrates the enthusiasm, skill and commitment of both staff and students. The work of students in Art, Drama and Music is illustrative of the invention, experimentation, imagination and originality that are evident throughout our curriculum.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the students in Year 11 and Year 13 who conducted themselves in a mature manner and with dignity throughout the examination season and at the celebration events; they are simply outstanding. It was an absolute pleasure to attend the Year 13 Leavers’ Ball and to celebrate with the Year 11 students at their end of year event. On behalf of all the staff and Governors, we wish Year 13 every success and happiness as they progress on to exciting new opportunities and we hope that Year 11 are enjoying a well deserved summer break. We look forward to welcoming the majority of Year 11 back into the Sixth Form in September.

In anticipation of our students’ current and future needs, we constantly work to ensure that our learning environment grows and adapts, so that we can offer the best possible educational opportunities. Additional DfE expansion funding has allowed us to put together a proposal, currently subject to planning approval, to provide a much needed Art block and a new Library. The new block will provide 3 purpose built studios on the ground floor. On the first floor a new 200sq ft school Library is proposed, with capacity for 150 people, much extending and improving the facilities on offer to students.



Whilst we are grateful to have been awarded this one off capital grant to expand our building, the very significant cuts to school funding that we have faced in recent years continue to be a cause of concern. We work continually to develop strategies to minimise the impact on curriculum delivery and student experience. We continue to make representations about the very real impact of funding reductions. To this end I recently attended a meeting at Westminster with The Rt Hon Nick Gibb, Minister of State for School Standards and MP Ms Priti Patel. Funding in education may be at record levels, but this is simply because there are more children in the education system than ever before. We have been receiving the same amount of funding for 11-16 year olds, year on year despite costs increasing steadily, creating a cut in real terms. Funding for Sixth Form students has reduced by more than 20% since 2010. During this time we have seen the introduction of completely new GCSE and A Level specifications, with associated costs for resources and staff training. We have also seen significant increases in:

- Teaching staff salary costs
- National insurance contributions
- Employer contributions for Teachers' Pensions
- Local Government pension contributions

The pressure on schools is exacerbated by the significant reduction in other publicly funded services such as Health and Social Care, which means we have been asked to do more with less money. I am hugely grateful to have had the opportunity to discuss these issues with Nick Gibb, who genuinely listened and wishes to support schools. As always, we send heartfelt thanks to Priti Patel for her support, tenacity and desire to help the local community.

This is the time of the year when we say goodbye and best wishes to some colleagues:

Our Gap Year student Holly May will be leaving us to study Mathematics at Exeter University. At the moment there are Gap Year vacancies within the school. Any Year 13 leavers who would like to express interest in this opportunity should contact Mrs Louise Quinn, HR Administrator via recruitment@cchsg.com.

Mrs Dabrowska leaves the Catering Team and Mrs Bishop is moving from her position as the NEETSA Administration Assistant to a full time post. Mrs Bishop has supported many new initiatives in the Teaching School. Dr Edgington and Miss Lucas have spent a year at CCHSG, Miss Lucas will be moving to Cyprus, whilst Dr Edgington returns to University College London, both have made significant contributions to the school. Miss Barnes has worked part time in the Music Department for 2 years and now moves to a full time position. She will be remembered for her outstanding contribution to the co-curricular programme. Mr Day has worked at the school for three years, leading the English Department and working with CTTC and NEETSA. He has made a significant contribution to the co-curriculum and whole school literacy. Mrs Thornton is taking a promoted post and we thank her for her work with the English Department and the excellent contribution made to "The Kilt" student magazine. Mr Hughes commenced work at CCHSG in 2013 as Teacher of Economics, he rapidly progressed to the position of SENCO and Year Leader. He has made a great contribution to Young Enterprise and Economics results have improved significantly. Mr Hughes is moving to a promoted post at New Hall School. Miss Blackburn also joined the school in 2013, teaching Physics and then becoming the STEM Co-ordinator. During her time in the school Physics has flourished with increasing numbers taking the subject and rapidly improving examination results. She will be remembered for the introduction of the CERN Physics trip. We wish her well with her planned PhD.

Retirements

Mr Burnand retires after 8 years as our Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-ordinator. He was instrumental in setting up the DofE Award Scheme at CCHSG in 2011. Since then it has gone from strength to strength from the initial 42 Bronze Award students to over 150 students involved in Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. In particular, he has developed the DofE Gold Young Leaders scheme where students volunteer to assist with the Bronze Award programme to great effect. We thank him for all his hard work and efforts in developing an outstanding, sustainable DofE scheme and wish him well in his retirement.

Mrs Armstrong retires after 15 years of loyal service to the school, where she has shared her love of literature and passion for teaching English. She is an extremely experienced and well respected teacher. She also supports 11+ and will continue to work with the Admissions Test in the future.

Mrs Huggon has also taught at the school for 15 years as a part time teacher of Spanish and French. She achieves excellent examination results and has fully involved herself in the Exchange visits. She has been committed to promoting the study of languages. Both Mrs Armstrong and Mrs Huggon have proved to be extremely flexible with timetabling for which we commend them both, and wish them every happiness in their retirement.

We wish all our students and staff an excellent summer holiday. Students have all had a reminder about keeping safe during the vacation, including safety around water, roads and protecting themselves online.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all our parents and carers for the fantastic support that they have given to the school and we wish you all a restful and enjoyable break.

Mrs Gillian Marshall
Executive Principal

Mrs Elizabeth Ward



It was with great sadness that we heard the news of the death of former Colchester County High School for Girls Headteacher, Mrs Elizabeth Ward.

Mrs Ward began her teaching career in 1970 at a comprehensive school in Watford, where she became Head of English. Following a family move to Essex, she secured the post of Head of English at Great Baddow High School. Having served first as Deputy to Dr Aline Black she became Headteacher at CCHSG in September 1998. Mrs Ward was held in very high esteem by her students, parents and by the staff and governors who worked with her. She made a huge contribution to the school during her Headship, initiating many important developments including the building of the Mathematics and Music block (mSchool).

In 2009 the school celebrated 100 years of providing outstanding educational opportunities for girls and young women. In the commemorative publication Mrs Ward wrote:

“Students at CCHS are known for working and playing hard and achieving excellence in everything they undertake whether in the field of sport, drama, music or intellect. As we look forward to the next one hundred years let’s remain true to these qualities and values while still embracing change and new opportunities so that our motto “Wisdom Giveth Life” will still resonate.”

We unite as a school community in sending our thoughts and best wishes to Mrs Ward’s family and friends. There will be a celebration of her life at St Teresa's Roman Catholic Church, Colchester at 10.30 on Thursday 25 July 2019.

Proposal for new Art Block & Library







A planning application has been submitted for a new teaching block to include:

3 purpose built art studios

A 200sq ft Library & careers centre with capacity for 150 students

Subject to planning consent the building should be complete by Sept 2020.





The proposed building is designed to maximize natural light in the Library and Art studios.

Solar panels on the roof of the new block will provide a sustainable power source, as part of the CCHSG drive to become more eco-friendly.







“A Very Shaky Web Fest”



Thanks go to the many staff and students who were involved in the planning and preparation for the production. We would also like to thank those who assisted on the night and the members of the PTFA who ran the bar. It does take a lot of people willing to give up their time to produce evenings such as these and without these individuals, it would not be possible.

The production was directed and choreographed by Mrs Cudmore-Rice, with music directed by Mr Ulph and Miss Barnes. Sketches were written by Lucy Molnar.

We are also grateful to those who came along to support as our audience and who helped the cast with their costumes and their rehearsing.

The next school production will be “Return to the Forbidden Planet.”

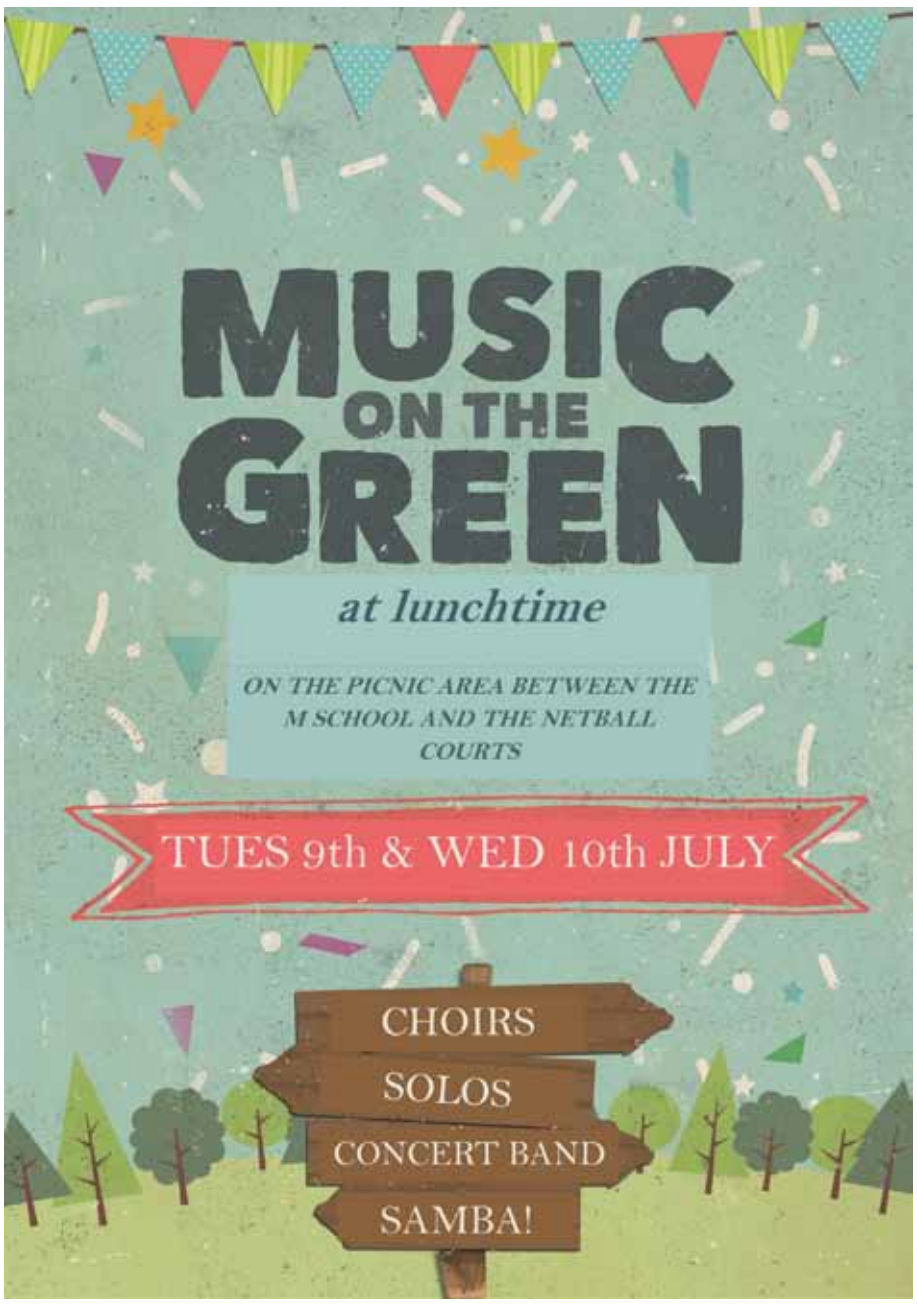








Music on the Green



Despite the uncertain weather, large audiences of students and staff enjoyed excellent performances from GCSE Music students and from some of the many members of our extra-curricular ensembles. Our thanks to Mr Ulph and Miss Barnes for organising the event.



For regular news updates follow CCHSG on Facebook @colchestergirls or Twitter @CCHSG_

Year 10 Royal Society Science Visit





On Tuesday 2 July, a group of students from Years 10 and 12 attended the Royal Society's Summer Science Exhibition in London. The exhibits covered a range of new discoveries and experiments, from the REANIMATE program which models drug delivery to tumours, to how the food we eat impacts climate change. Other exhibits discussed whether we could live on the Moon, should trust autonomous vehicles, how infrared light can monitor infant brain function and how the BepiColombo probe to Mercury will help determine what the planet is made of, using a technology similar to star absorption spectra.

We also attended a talk raising awareness about how certain scientists are underrepresented in history, and how we should credit all those who contribute to science, regardless of race, sexuality, gender or disability. After the talk, we continued exploring the immersive exhibits, participating in experiments such as composing molecular music and exciting different elements. We all really enjoyed the trip, as:
"It showed us a huge range of careers stemming from subjects we do already, and what we can do with our knowledge in a fun way." – Maddie Petersen

"It was so interesting to see how relevant everything we learn about at school is to new discoveries. The trip showed us links between subjects that create exciting career paths." – Jay Reed

Everyone had a great time, and whilst every exhibition specialised in a different topic, they were all accessible and fascinating. It was an eye-opening experience into many areas of the sciences, giving us new ideas for possible careers, as well as a greater appreciation for the role these developments play in our everyday lives. It was a wonderful day, thank you to Dr Martin and Dr van Mierlo for organising the trip.

By Lily Sneddon, 10C Photo Credit Charissa Cheong

Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

Twelve Year 12 students took part in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge in June. This is a demanding test which involves applying an understanding of chemical ideas in new situations. Nationally there were 9020 entries. All the students who entered from CCHSG received awards with 5 Copper Awards, 4 Silver Awards and 3 Gold Awards.
Congratulations to all our entrants: Hannah Bevan, Emily Birt, Naveena Khanna, Opemipo Ojuri, Hattie Partner, Katie Pereira, Vidhi Sharma, Adeline Sivyer, Georgia Skelton and especially to our three Gold Award winners: Jennifer Kilcline, Lucy Parker and Megan Pond.

Year 12 Biology - Intermediate Olympiad

Ten Year 12 Biology students sat the Intermediate Biology Olympiad competition in June. This is an international competition set by the Royal Society of Biology based on challenging A Level Bology content. This year 8282 students from 466 schools worldwide participated in the multiple choice competition. All of our students achieved very high results, with 1 Gold Award, 6 Silver Awards, 1 Bronze Award and 2 Highly Commended, a fabulous achievement. These students will hopefully now sit the Biology Olympiad in January 2020 and these intermediate results look promising for the next level of competition. Congratulations to Katie Pereira our top scorer, Twinkle Agrawal, Hannah Bevan, Emily Birt, Sophie Carlin, Faith Denny, Charray Mannings, Lucy Molnar, Isabella Tanenbaum and Jasmine West.

German Exchange Trip - Liebigschule in Gießen

Our annual German exchange with the Liebigschule in Gießen took place from 20 – 27 June. The 37 German students stayed with exchange partners in Year 10. During the week the students had the opportunity to experience some lessons at school, to spend the weekend with their host families and to go on day trips to Norwich and Cambridge.







Our Visit to Colchester

School in England is more disciplined than in Germany where it isn't common to wear school uniform. School starts an hour later than in Germany, but finishes later. It's a girls' school only and schools in Germany are usually mixed.

Colchester is a small, but really lovely town and we think the houses are very pretty. Cambridge is particularly beautiful because of the colleges and King's College looks really impressive and awesome. London is very busy but still beautiful and you can do a lot of sightseeing there. It's nice that the beach is so near that you can get there in 15 minutes.

It's very confusing that you drive on the left.

The bread and water here taste different from in Germany. People eat at different times. Dinner is more important than lunch. In Germany lunch is the most important meal of the day. Lots of students have a very long journey to come to school.

The family here is really nice and super friendly and they really care about my safety. In the evenings they sometimes organised a little games evening, which was lots of fun and I really like the atmosphere at my host family's house. All in all I really enjoyed the exchange and hope that I can come back soon.



Year 9 Curriculum Enrichment Days









Creative Arts Day - “Asia”





Enterprise Day - Market Economy













Yr 9 Healthy Lives Day















European Youth Parliament

EYP Nationals in Liverpool – 27 June to 30 June
At 7am on Thursday 27 June, the 8 members of the CCHSG European Youth Parliament (EYP) team, along with Miss Seager, set off for Liverpool in an unexpectedly large minibus for the EYP National Session. We were all very nervous, as our school team (or as EYP calls it, delegation) would be split up into separate committees with students from other schools from across the country, to form resolutions to tackle current issues in Europe, such as isolation of the elderly, media plurality and e-democracy. However, our nerves were quickly



dispelled, as we spent a large portion of the journey writing a parody of Journey's 'Don't Stop Believing' about Theresa May called 'Please Stop Theresa', which we planned to perform at the Euroconcert on Saturday night, a concert where EYP delegates can perform and show off their talents. After arriving in Liverpool and settling into our university accommodation at Liverpool Hope University, all the teams gathered in the beautiful sunshine to play some games and introduce the officials who would be leading the session. After this, we split off into our committees and played A LOT of team-building games in order to get to know our committees a little better. This was followed by the Opening Ceremony, where the session was officially commenced, and then by Eurovillage, an event where each school is assigned a European country that they have to bring in some food for, and then everyone goes round and tries food from each country (we had Cyprus, so lots of hummus and olives for us). This was a really fun way to meet new people and try new food.

After the previous day's fun, it was time to get to work, putting together our resolutions as a committee that we thought would best tackle our issue, and the issues consulted a wide range of topics from the Copenhagen Criteria to urban farming. The resolutions were formed of introductory clauses that outline the problem and operative clauses which aim to provide solutions to solve the problem. It was a tiring but really enjoyable day and it was so satisfying knowing that we had made a resolution we were proud of. These resolutions were to be debated by all the committees at the General Assembly on Saturday and Sunday. The evening consisted of a quiz, which got extremely rowdy and competitive! Saturday was when the real work began – doing seven debates in a day, remaining constantly engaged and working as hard as you can to make sure everyone in your team speaks, whilst remaining respectful of other speakers was a real balancing act. Debates in EYP are incredibly constructive and collaborative and are in no way supposed to be aggressive so debating and voting on all the resolutions was a great exercise in teamwork. After a hard day's work, we had the Euroconcert (when we performed our Theresa May parody, which thankfully went down really well) and a Scottish dance called a ceilidh, where we tried out something new and got to meet even more new people. The final two debates of the General Assembly happened on Sunday and with the Closing Ceremony, workshops on how to stay involved in EYP and some emotional speeches on the part of the officials, the session was over.

Although we did not get through as a team, two members of our delegation have been selected on an individual basis to go forward and attend an International session. Congratulations to both of these students and we wish them the best of luck at the session they attend. We are all so glad to have met so many friends, had such an enjoyable trip and broadened our horizons for the future!

We would like to thank the PTFA for their extremely kind donation towards the cost of the trip and their continued support, without which we would not be able to run and enjoy trips such as these.



National Citizenship Service - Champion School



National Citizen Service (NCS) is open to all 16 and 17-year-olds in England. It brings together young people from different backgrounds and helps them develop greater confidence, self-awareness and responsibility. It encourages personal and social development by working on skills like leadership, teamwork and communication.

Participants develop a social action project to deal with a local issue they are passionate about, and spend 30 hours putting the project into action in their community.

Champion School Status was awarded in recognition of the hard work and effort that CCHSG students have put into engaging with NCS this year.

Champion School Status brings several benefits to the school, including:

- Recognition and evidence of a strong partnership with a National, Government backed initiative
- Evidence of the school's commitment to community
- A marker of the school's engagement with NCS that can help to develop the values and culture of NCS in younger students

https://www.ncsyes.co.uk/

Accelerated Reader Masterclass - Year 7





7H have achieved Master Class status for 2018-19.

To become a Master Class three criteria need to be met:

Minimum of 25 minutes Accelerated Reader reading daily (class average).

90% or more of students have 85% or higher average percent correct on their Reading Practice Quizzes.

80% of points earned are from independent reading practice.

To see the Honour Roll visit http://www.renlearn.co.uk/honour-roll

Year 11 Celebration Evening

Year 11 certainly ended the exam season in style with their ball at Stoke by Nayland Hotel. For one group of students the chosen transport was a London bus. Once inside the venue there was a disco, photo both, sweet stand and buffet food to enjoy.

Our thanks to Mrs Frost and Mrs Joslin for organising the event.









We wish all our Year 11 students a very enjoyable and well deserved summer break. We look forward to welcoming the majority of them back into the Sixth Form in September.























CCHSG - Class of 2019















We wish all our Year 11 students an excellent summer break.



Year 8 Visit to Ypres

Following immediately after the 75th commemorations of the D-Day landings, CCHSG paid its own homage to the fallen of an earlier war, with its annual trip to the battlefields of Ypres, Belgium. This was particularly poignant to me as my great, great grandfather, Lance Corporal John Whiten, was one of the first soldiers to lose his life in World War One. After an early start at Norman Way, we headed for the Channel Tunnel and picked up the guides on route. I was particularly pleased at this point, when one of the tour guides approached and presented me with a pack of information about John Whiten. I was shocked to read that of the 1000 members of his battalion (1st Queen's Royal West Surrey's) that landed in France in August 1914, three months later (1st November), there were only 32 surviving.

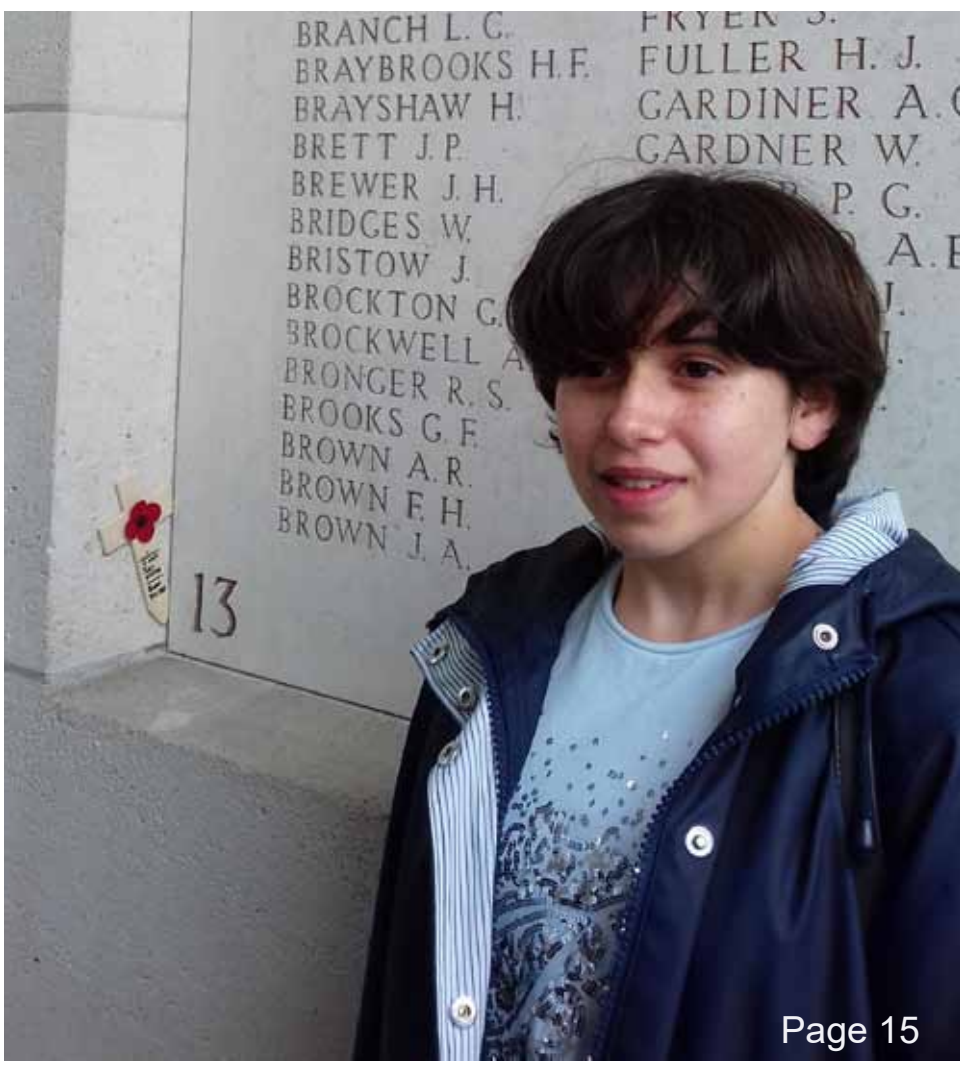
We arrived in Ypres about lunchtime, and after a presentation about the trenches, we were given the opportunity to experience an actual World War One trench. The afternoon began with a visit to the Ypres Memorial, better known as the Menin Gate, where, with the help of the guides, I was able to locate the plaque containing the details of my great, great grandfather. After a brief chocolate fix, we moved on to visit German and Commonwealth war cemeteries, where the guides gave us another informative talk. After a supper of chicken and chips, we headed back to the Menin Gate, where I had the honour, accompanied by Harriet Adeji and Caitlin Feakes of laying the CCHSG wreath at the Last Post ceremony. After an eventful and informative day, we headed back via the Channel Tunnel to Colchester. On reflection, I found the day really helped my understanding and appreciation of the scale of sacrifices made by the soldiers of the Great War, and on a personal note, brought me closer to my great, great grandfather, John Whiten.

Sarah Whiten

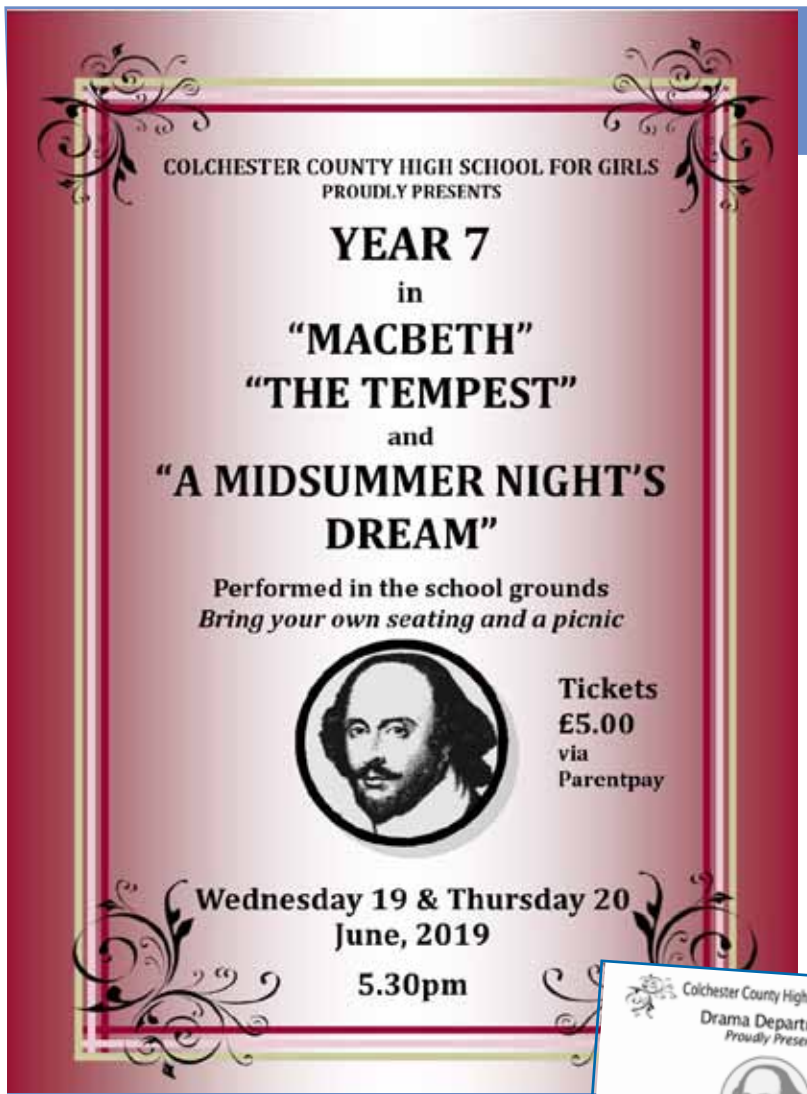








Year 7 Shakespeare





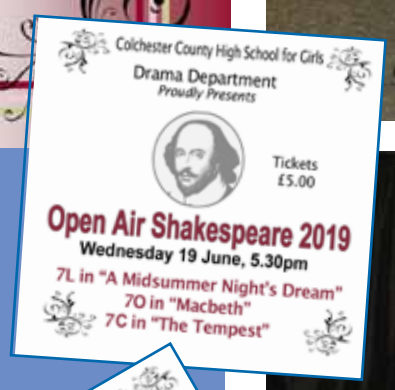




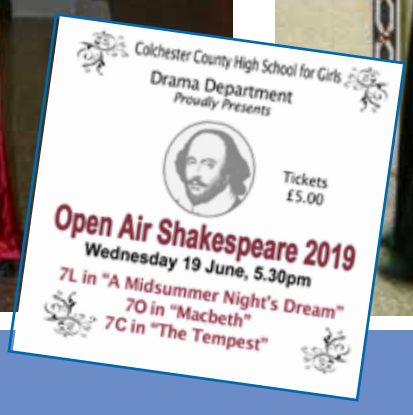


Our open air Shakespeare became indoor Shakespeare due to the weather, but was hugely successful nonetheless.

All Year 7 took part with 7C, 7O, 7L & 7E directed and choreographed by Mrs Cudmore-Rice and 7H directed & choreographed by Mr Day.







Macbeth





The Tempest









A Midsummer Night's Dream









Abigayle Driscoll



Abigayle Driscoll has been volunteering with the St John Ambulance Cadet Unit in Ipswich, gaining valuable work experience to support her ambition to read Medicine at university.

She has also been involved in creating a social media project on Instagram and Twitter called Headstrong UK which aims to reduce the stigma around discussion of mental health problems. In recognition of her work, Abigayle was selected as District Cadet of the Year for Suffolk. She also had the opportunity to be part of a Guard of Honour at St Paul's Cathedral, during the charity's St John's Day celebrations on June 22. We congratulate Abigayle on her contribution to the work of this valuable charity and are delighted that she has received this recognition.

For more information about St John Ambulance volunteering opportunities see www.sja.org.uk or call 08700 10 49 50.

Choral Competition

No one seems sure quite how long the choral competition has been running at CCHSG - but one thing is certain, come June each year you can hear singing though open windows around the building at registration and lunchtime as students rehearse.

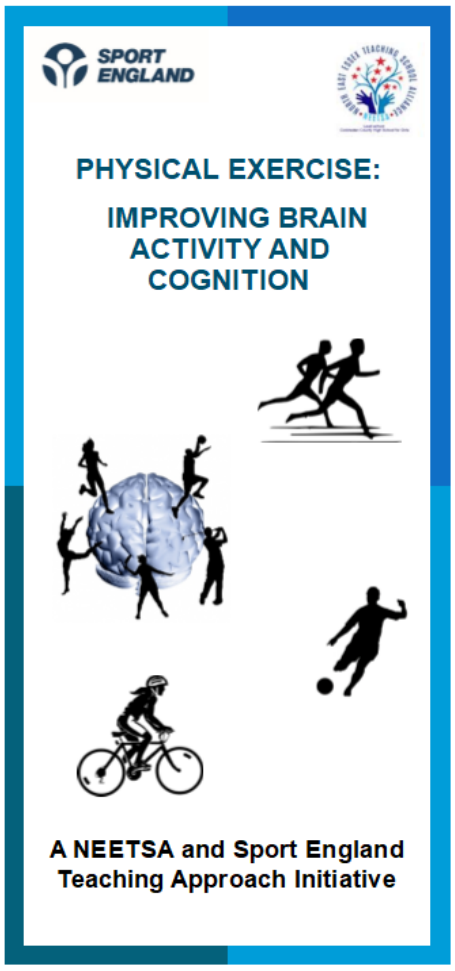
There were some excellent performances to be enjoyed and the effort and commitment shown in preparing was clear. Well done to all Year 7 and 8.

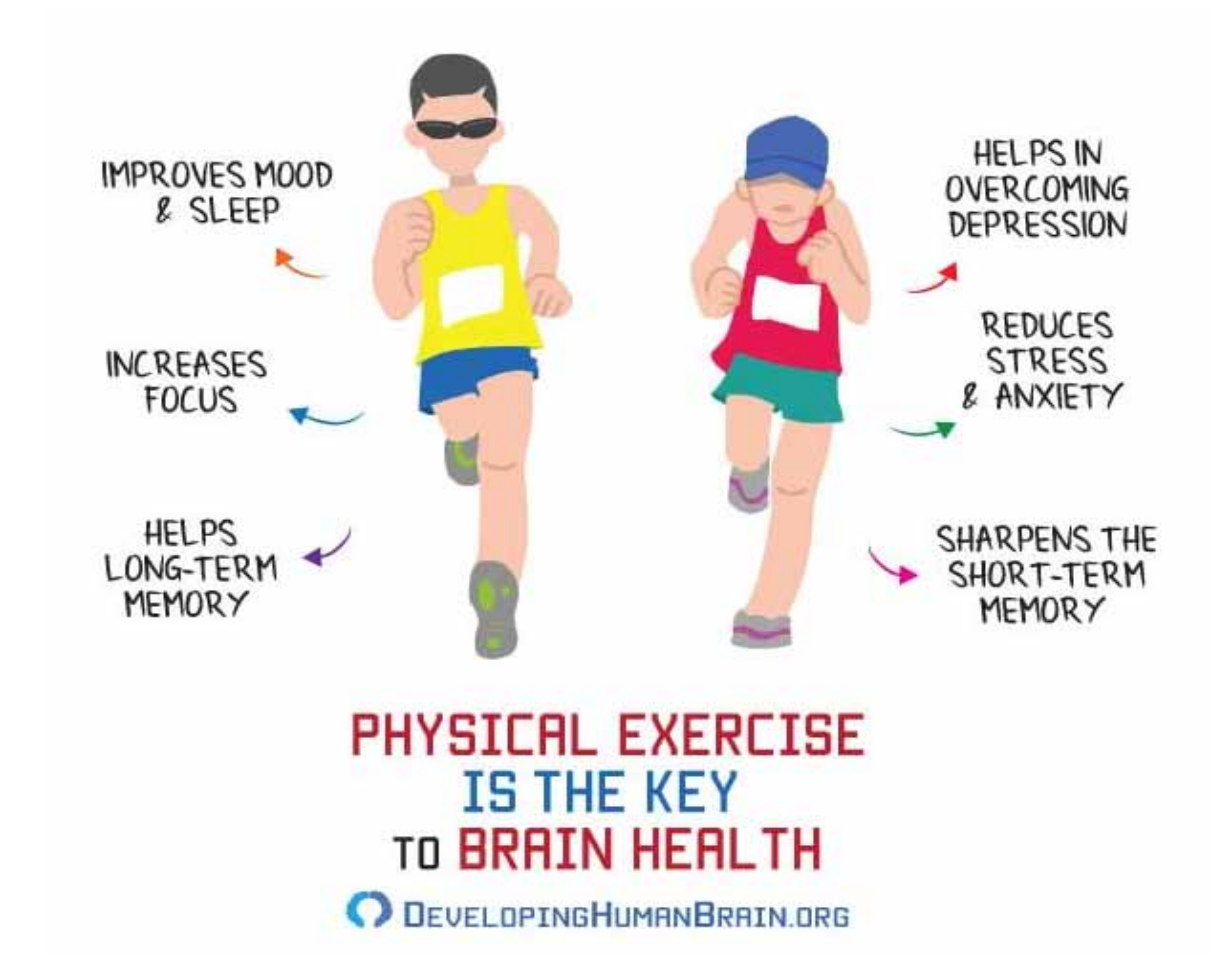






“Monday Mile” Boosts Brain Power







You probably already know that as well as our physical health, exercise helps us to improve our mood and reduces stress and anxiety. But did you also know that exercise helps our memory and thinking skills? Research from the Harvard Medical School has also shown that regular aerobic exercise, the kind that gets your heart pumping, seems to boost the size of the hippocampus, an area of the brain key to verbal memory and learning. Exercise also effects the brain positively by reducing inflammation and stimulating the release of chemicals that affect the health of brain cells, the growth of new blood vessels in the brain, and the survival of new brain cells. www.health.harvard.edu).

As part of our drive to increase our exercise levels, staff and students at CCHSG have been taking part in “Monday Mile” – walking a mile around the school grounds each Monday lunchtime this term. There are prizes for the Form completing the most miles.

Mr Bartlett, who has been working with the Sports Leaders to organise the events said “We have always been aware of the physical and psychological benefits to our students of regular exercise. Now that it seems likely there are also benefits for memory and thinking skills, there is even more reason for us all to find time for regular exercise. The “Monday Mile” is a good example of how easy it can be to build regular periods of exercise into our everyday lives.”











Year 13 Leaver's Ball



Year 13 marked the end of their time together at CCHSG with a ball at Stoke by Nayland Hotel.

We thank them all for the huge contribution that they have made to the CCHSG community during their time with us and hope that they will keep in touch.

For regular updates follow CCHSG on Facebook @colchestergirls or Twitter @CCHSG_









We wish all our Year 13 students every success and happiness as they progress on to exciting new challanges.









Interform Maths Competition - Year 7 & 8







In a very close contest, four students representing each Form Group battled it out in the annual Interform Maths Competition 2019. The competition was organised by Mrs Roshen, with assistance from Sixth Form students.

The teams put their mathematical skills to the test in a series of problem solving activities. In the heats, teams within each Form compete against each other to find the best group of four to represent their Form in the final, where they are up against the best team from each of the other Forms. In the final, the atmosphere can get quite competitive, as the teams move around five stations, each with a different mathematical problem to solve, collecting points as they go.

This year, in a very close contest the winning teams were:
Year 8: 8L - Lamisa Rahman, Jannah Hasan, Courtney Head, Pareesa Zafar

Year 7: 7O - Martha Simpkins, Nainika Poornesh, Anna Prince, Imogen Secker

Congratulations to all the students who took part, but especially to the final teams who did their Forms proud!
The Maths Department



Maths Challenge/Kangaroo Success 2019

Year 8 students at CCHSG did fantastically well in this year's UKMT Junior Maths Challenge achieving 33 Gold, 57 Silver and 42 Bronze awards. Over 250,000 pupils from across the UK sat the JMC with roughly the top 6% receiving a Gold certificate, the next 13% Silver and the next 21% Bronze.

Our congratulations go to Chloe Chung for achieving the "best in school" accolade, as well as qualifying for the Junior Kangaroo. Joining her in qualifying for the Junior Kangaroo are a further 15 students: Shereen Bansal, Courtney Head, Aisling Held, Amelie Blasco Pottinger, Caitlin Feakes, Ella Harvey, Melvanna Orubo, Amrit Sihra, Matilda Horsfield, Thin Thant, Eve Alexandrovich, Suruthi Shantinigaethan, Rebekah Nicholson, Daisy Joseph and Mahathi Annam.

Sherren Bansal and Courtney Head performed extremely well in this achieving a certificate of Merit. Aisling Held, Amelie Blasco Pottinger, Caitlin Feakes, Ella Harvey, Melvanna Orubo, Amrit Sihra, Matilda Horsfield, Thin Thant, Eve Alexandrovich, Suruthi Shantinigaethan, Mahathi Annam and Chloe Cheung all achieved a Certificate of Qualification. Congratulations to all the students who participated in what is a very tough challenge.

Year 9 Complete Science CREST Award

CREST is a nationally recognised scheme for student-led project work in the STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths).

https://www.crestawards.org/crest-bronze

Run by the British Science Association CREST gives young people aged 5–19 the chance to choose their own subject and methodology when completing their hands-on investigation.

Over the course of 10 hours, teams of students design their own investigation and record their findings, giving them a taste of what it is like to be a scientist or engineer in the real-world.



BRITISH SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

Bronze projects:

- Involve a minimum of 10 hours of work on one project area
- Use scientific and/or technical knowledge appropriate to students aged 11 to 14
- Students share their project outcomes with their peers (e.g. display, assembly, poster)
- Have active support from their teacher: guiding students but allowing them to make decisions for themselves, reviewing progress regularly and supporting planning to maintain the pace of progress

After completing CREST Bronze Awards, students can:

- Go on to work towards their CREST Silver Award
- Join the CREST Alumni Network to find out about opportunities for young people through the British Science Association: www.crestawards.org/alumni

After completing our end of year exams, Year 9 began a CREST science project, instead of our regular science lessons. We were put into pairs and had the opportunity to choose another pair to group up with who had similar ideas in terms of the project. We had full ownership of our ideas so were able to let our creativity run wild. Projects ranged from the affect of colour on the appeal of food, to how the mass of a chicken influences the mass of the eggs, to bacterial growth from concealers!

Students really enjoyed being able to research and investigate a topic that interested them personally, and this meant that tasks were completed with enthusiasm and efficiency. Although not all experiments had conclusive results, it is undeniable that every single student that took part developed teamwork, research and time management skills. Many students hope to claim a Bronze CREST Award as a recognition of their achievement.

As a whole, Year 9 really enjoyed completing this science project and would recommend it to all other students, especially those with an interest in scientific research.

By Alana Coyle 9E



Art GCSE & A Level Private View

As always the standard of work on display at the Private View of GCSE and A Level Art was outstanding. We commend the students on the many hours of dedication and commitment that went in to producing such extensively researched and technically proficient pieces. Our thanks to Mrs Saunders and also to Mrs Ballard and the Site Team for their support in staging the exhibition.









"Owl" by Hannah Drage has been selected by The North East Essex Arts Society to be considered for the Royal British Academy exhibition 2020. If selected it will be on exhibition from early April to mid July 2020 at The Royal Overseas League and then at The Mall Galleries.

The North East Essex Arts Society have also made awards for excellence to Hannah Drage and Amelia Mead. Presentation of the awards will take place on 19 September at the First Site Gallery in Colchester.



Maths Pi Club Visit Cambridge

What is maths – fact or fantasy?

Uncovering the workings of mathematics at the University of Cambridge

On Thursday 4 July, 14 students from the Maths Pi Club set off for the Centre for Mathematical Sciences (CMS) at the University of Cambridge, in order to experience what really makes up the life of a maths student at university. It was a day of insight and experience – and our findings were not quite what we expected!

On our entry into the CMS, after successfully tackling a number of questions in the 'Mathematical Puzzle Hunt', we began to notice that maths at university isn't always about the formulae. In order to be a successful mathematician, we first needed to envisage and understand what was really at work and then find a mathematical way to explain it. So, by working with imagination and logic, we managed to find a way through the challenges!



During our ensuing tour of the CMS given by university student, Muhammad, it was evident that maths students live in luxury. In addition to the roof that was shaped like a parabola and the extensive history of mathematicians and scientists that studied at Cambridge, we were shown the 'Betty and Gordon Moore Library', a study area which is open for 24 hours a day and holds a range of books and materials on maths and science. There's no way around it - as a maths student, you need to do the research, otherwise, how would you be able to disprove your adversaries or build on the foundations of previous mathematicians?

After gaining understanding of the resources available at the CMS, we were privileged to be given a talk by a Doctor of Mathematics, Dr. Orsola Rath Spivack, within which we learnt that the intricate workings of maths lives in many subjects – we deal with it almost unconsciously in our day-to-day lives and there are many jobs centred around mathematical concepts. An aerospace engineer needs maths to replicate the perfect air flow through his aeroplane's turbine in order for it to fly; photoacoustic imaging machines



use maths so that sound waves can be used to take medical images of the body; astrophysicists take photos of the night sky, where the shapes and manifestations can only be explained using maths. In another word, maths isn't simply working with numbers; it is using those numbers and functions and rules in order to explain how things work. Using maths, students are encouraged to create their own rules and prove (or disprove) those theories currently standing in order for them to make their own world and comprehensions of maths.

There was no doubt that the gripping lecture gave us something to think about. It was apparent that maths at university tells less about the subject in itself and is more a method in which to comprehend processes in the universe, down to both the very small and the very large (like, what shape made up the Golden Arches of our McDonald's meal on the way home?). To better understand maths is to better understand the patterns and workings of the world and how we can interact with it.

So, what actually is maths: is it fact or is it fantasy? Our trip showed to us that to be a mathematician is to discover what is unseen and prove what it is that our imagination sees in order for others to see it too.

As Albert Einstein said: "Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."

'Pi Club'

Our thanks to the Jack Petchey Foundation who funded this excellent opportunity for our students.

Jack Petchey Foundation
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Sports Awards

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Sports Awards Evening



It was lovely to see so many families at the annual CCHSG Sports Awards. Thank you to Miss Wiseman and the PE Department for organising such an enjoyable evening to celebrate the achievements of our talented and dedicated CCHSG sportswomen. Thanks also to all the students who gave presentations summarising CCHSG achievements in the different sports.



KS3 Team of the Year - Year 8 Rounders

Congratulations to all those students who have represented CCHSG in sports teams this year.

Sports team photos this year were taken by

CARMEL JANE PHOTOGRAPHY

www.carmeljane.co.uk



Athletics Standards Points
Matilda Strevens



KS3 sporting excellence
outside school
Madeleine Strevens



KS4 Outstanding Contribution
Chanel Mba



Sports Personality of the Year
Elizabeth Finch



KS3 Performer of the Year
Bella Johnson



KS4 Performer of the Year
Ana Victoria Anderson





Individual awards also went to :

Imogen Jones for KS3 Outstanding Contribution
Anais Giles for Outstanding GCSE
Isabelle Lane for KS4 sporting excellence outside school
KS4 Team of the Year U/16A Netball

PTFA



Second Hand Uniform Sales - Thank you!

The PTFA would like to thank the many parents who responded to our appeal and kindly donated a large number of unwanted uniform items for resale. We are delighted to say that sales at the New Year 7 Information Evening on 2 July amounted to over £1,600.

Donations of uniform are always welcome and can be left at the School Reception throughout the year. Upcoming uniform sales are advertised via the PTFA section at the end of the Weekly Parent Bulletin.

easyfundraising
feel good shopping

Holiday shopping list

You could help us raise over £70 in FREE funds when booking travel or holidays through easyfundraising

	Retailer	Average Donation
Package holiday	TUI	2% = £50.00
Travel insurance	AVIVA	£7.50
Travel money	POST OFFICE	£4.00
Car hire	AVIS	3% = £5.77
Airport parking	holiday extras	5% = £2.85
Holiday clothing	JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS	1% = £2.00
Toiletries	Boots	1% = 50p

Total = £72.62

5 supporters = £363.10

Donation rates correct as of 1st January 2019.

Help us make a difference through your everyday shopping

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Shop with 250+ travel operators including:

TUI, Thomas Cook, trainline, Booking.com, flybe., Hotels.com, First Choice, IHG, Expedia, Travelodge, lastminute.com, virgin atlantic, Official Airport Parking Gatwick, Late Rooms.com, Jet2holidays, HomeAway

Easyfundraising

Please consider using Easyfundraising when booking holidays, flights, car hire etc. Collect free donations for CCHSG every time you shop online - at absolutely no extra cost. Help us raise more by signing-up at:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colchestercountygirlspta/



Bookings are now open to the school community and general public for stalls at the PTFA 2019 Christmas Market. For a copy of the booking form please email cchsgptfa@gmail.com or contact Agness O'Brien Tel. 01376 573694 or 07951 511653.

Classlist - Current Year 7, 8 & 9 Sign-up

If you haven't done so already, please sign up for Classlist at www.classlist.com, search for our school and sign up. You can also download the Classlist app on iOs and Android. Classlist is an award winning online platform and mobile app designed to make life easier for parents. It is free to use, completely secure, GDPR compliant and used by over 2,000 UK schools. CCHSG Classlist is only open to parents of students from our school. Parents are put into groups based on their child's Form and Year Group. It is particularly useful for helping you to make contact with other parents in your child's Form. You can find out more by visiting:

https://www.classlist.com

or on your phone download the app classlist.com