CCHSG E-Newsletter

18 October 2023

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Executive Principal's Notes

We welcomed everyone back at the start of the new school year, having congratulated our Year 11 and Year 13 on their excellent set of GCSE and A level results. It is lovely to see many of the past Year 11 progressing in to the Sixth Form and Year 13 moving on to exciting new challenges.

All current Year 11 students and their families are warmly invited to the Sixth Form Open Evening, on Thursday 2 November, 6-8.30pm, where they will have the opportunity to talk to staff about subject choices, see the Sixth Form facilities and find out more from students about life in the Sixth Form.

Throughout their CCHSG journey, we encourage students to develop independence and confidence through their curriculum and to take ownership and pride in their community. All students are actively encouraged to take on leadership roles. Within each Form Group roles such as Form Captain, Charities Representative and Sports Captain are rotated among members of the Form. Students can also choose to become Literacy, Language, Numeracy, Sports or Subject Ambassadors, promoting these areas of the curriculum through assemblies and other activities. As they progress through the school students have the opportunity to take on roles such as Subject Mentors or Form Prefects. Our students are also supported by their peers in the team of Wellbeing Ambassadors, who work on a range of initiatives across the year. Students in Year 12 can apply for Senior Prefect roles, from which the Head Student Team, featured later in the newsletter, is selected.

This term we are also electing our new Student Voice team. Student Voice includes two representatives from each Year Group and meets weekly with a Senior Leader to discuss student matters and work on projects within the school. We thank our 2022/23 team for their contribution to the school. You can read more about their achievements later in the newsletter.



Extracurricular activities also provide students with further opportunities to develop their skills in organisation and leadership and Sixth Form students often run or support with clubs for younger students. This year we have continued to encourage

all students to participate in one or more of the many activities on offer. As you will see later in the newsletter, we held a very successful Societies Fair at the start of term and students can now also find a regularly updated list of all our extracurricular clubs and societies on the school website.

Student progression – careers

In a fast changing environment we are always keen to ensure that students have accurate and up to date information about progression and career options. Parents and alumni already play a very welcome role in visiting CCHSG to provide lunchtime talks, assist with interview practice and help with organising work experience. Earlier in the term we were delighted to be able to provide a very successful and well-received cross-MAT careers workshop, focussed on the aerospace, space, engineering and aviation industries, run by The Schools' Aerospace Careers Programme (ACP).

CCHSG Alumni Network – CCHSG Connect

Over the coming academic year we will be working with the education charity Future First to help us build an even more thriving professional and social network among our alumni community. We would very much like to get back in touch with past students and enable them to benefit from links to our wider alumni network. In addition, our former students have wide ranging experience and expertise which could be hugely beneficial in informing and inspiring our current students. Please help us reach out to our former students using your own networks. Past students can sign up at:

https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/register/cchsgconnect

We wish you a restful half term and look forward to seeing Year 11 and their families at the Sixth Form Open Evening.

Mrs Gillian Marshall MSc NPQH
Executive Principal & CEO

The CCHSG Newsletter is produced and edited by Kate Stubbs. All CCHSG staff are welcome to submit items via: kstubbs@cchsg.com

https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/register/cchsgconnect

Join
CCHSG Connect the network for Colchester County High School for Girls staff and students, past and present.





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

Sixth Form at CCHSG

A vibrant, creative and diverse community
Around a third of our Year 12 students join us from other secondary schools. There is a warm welcome for new students and a strong sense of community among our Sixth Formers.

Outstanding teaching and excellent results
Our A level results are consistently among some of the best in the country.

An exceptional range of enrichment & leadership opportunities
We provide many additional opportunities for students to develop the communication, organisational and leadership skills which are highly valued by universities and employers. Sixth Form students also participate in our wide range of extracurricular opportunities; concerts and productions, as well as in team and individual sports, DofE and Young Enterprise.

Stunning Sixth Form centre
Our purpose built Sixth Form centre includes a large common room, a refectory with kitchen facilities, an IT suite, 300 seat lecture theatre and teaching spaces.

High rates of progression to Russell Group & Oxbridge
Each year an exceptionally high number (over 60%) of our students gain places at Oxford, Cambridge, and Russell Group universities. We have an excellent record of supporting students whatever their chosen route, with staff trained to support in the preparation for admissions tests and strong links with a wide range of national and international medical, dental and veterinary schools, lawyers, bankers and commercial organisations.



CCHSG Head Student Team 2023/24

Head Students



Message to Year 11 from the Head Student Team

Our school makes the transition from GCSEs to A Levels a smooth and simple one, with constant support from teachers to help us surpass our academic expectations. Around a third of our Sixth Form students join us each year in Year 12 from other secondary schools so there is plenty of opportunity to meet new people and make new friends.

As well as this, we are provided with many opportunities outside the classroom, such as Young Enterprise, DofE expeditions, sporting events, musical performances and drama shows and productions. With a wide variety of clubs and societies also on offer, there is something for everyone no matter where your interests lie.

We are given the guidance and encouragement we need to help us choose our next steps, as well as the skills to get us there. Our time at CCHSG has helped us develop as young people and realise our potential not only academically but in many other areas of experience.

We wish you the best of luck in your examinations and hope to see you at CCHSG. **The Head Student Team**

Student Voice Activities 2022/23

Our Student Voice Team remain in post until the autumn term each year to allow for new Year 7 students to settle in. Elections for our new team will take place shortly. The 2022/23 team have had a very active year and we thank them for all their contributions. Student Voice provided the following summary of their 2022/23 activities:

Activities 2022/2023

The group have continued to meet in person on a weekly basis with Associate Principal Mrs Frost. Student Voice provides us with a useful way to work together as a team across all Year Groups and share ideas. Next year we are moving forward to ensure that everyone gets a printout of their behaviour and reward points. We also advised on the 'Where should I be?' document, giving our views of what content should be contained in the document so that it was clear for all students. We also advised Essex County Council on local roads and paths to ensure the walk to school is safe for members of our school community.

Each meeting there is an opportunity for group members to raise any issues brought to them by other students. These range from problems around the school site – such anything broke or queues at the Snack Shack, bins being too full or to requests for particular items to be sold in the canteen.

Students also raise curriculum issues, such as problems with homework setting or themes that they would like covered in the PSHCE programme. Student Voice are also called on to contribute to discussions with visitors and Governors over a range of issues. This year we have discussed the PSHCE programme with Governors and been part of feedback to Mr Turner who helps advise the school.

This year we discussed period poverty and what can be done for our school community to help those people affected. We will be delivering an assembly on this in early Autumn term.

We finished the academic year with a survey of all students to identify any "hotspots" in school or in the area immediately outside school where they might feel unsafe. Student Voice fed back these ideas to the wider group and in particular, identified that toilets can be an area where students do not feel confident for a variety of reasons, including groups of students congregating in there. Moving forward, we have suggested that each Year Group has their own toilet at break and lunchtime and discussed the role of prefects in each Year Group.

The Student Voice elections are in the Autumn Term. Any student who would like to be part of making a difference at CCHSG, they are encouraged to put their name forward for election.

CCHSG Student Voice



Rewards and Awards

Student Voice was involved in the review of the Rewards and Awards system that took place last year. The students requested that more merits are awarded for doing the right thing and for involvement in school life. This has resulted in the new system of AWARDS:

Academic
Wider school and extracurricular
Attendance at clubs and societies
Role Model – Doing the right thing
Determination – Effort
Social – Helping others

All merits are to be awarded on SIMS and staff are encouraged to award two or three merits per lesson. Students will receive these awards through their whole school journey, Year 7 to Year 13 to ensure continuity and clear expectations. Students will be acknowledged for their merits at the end of term and the end of year assembly. The total number of AWARDS merits each student achieves will also be included in progress checks and signposted in end of year tutor reports.

Students who achieve Gold or Platinum will be entered in a special draw at the end of the year for a 'big prize'.

Award categories Year 7 – Year 13	*AWARDs required in academic year*	*Students awarded with:*
Bronze	*50*	*Certificate & badge*
Silver	*100*	*Certificate & badge*
Gold	*150*	*Certificate & badge (enter prize draw)*
Platinum	*200*	*Certificate & badge (enter prize draw)*

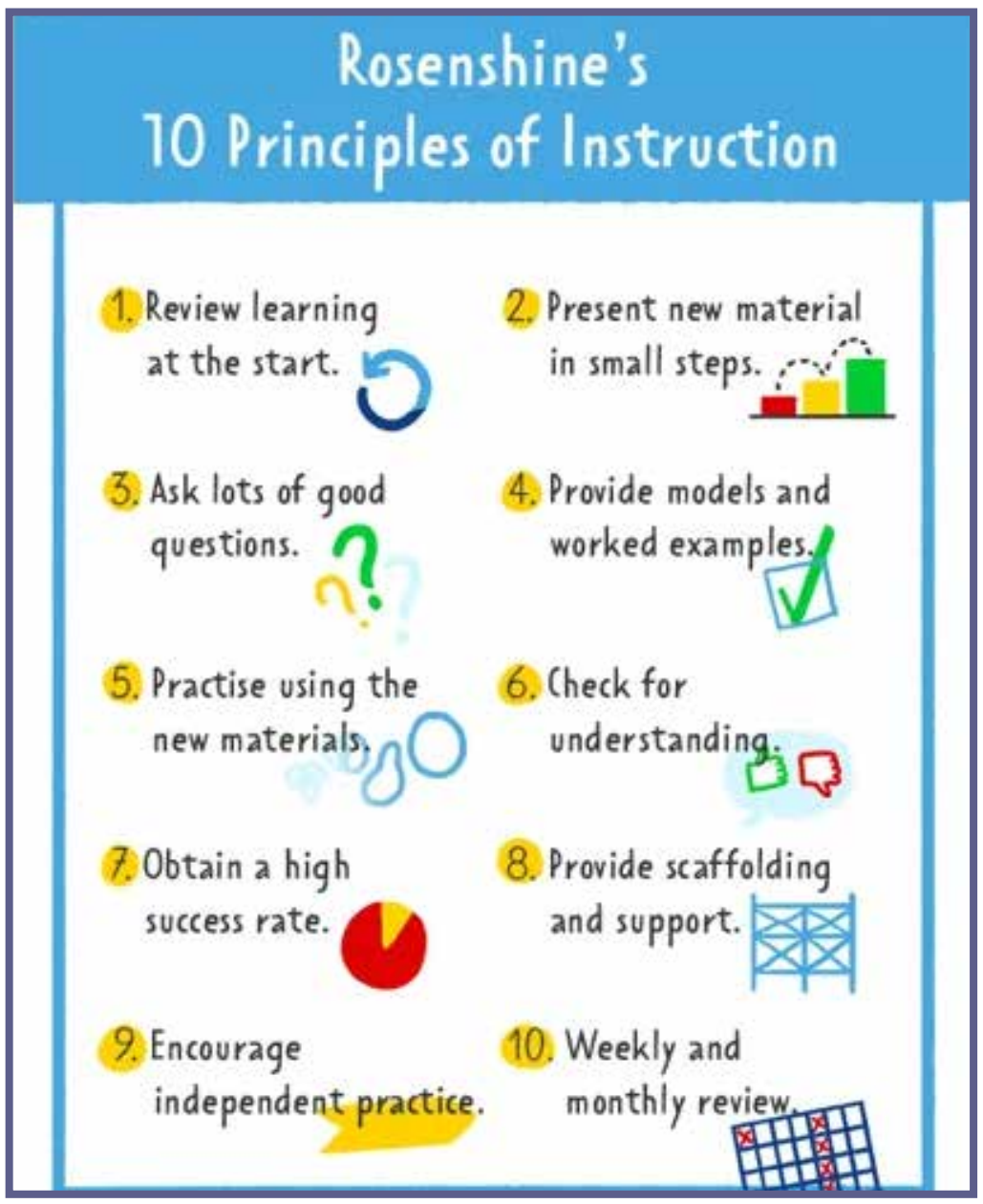
Staff Training at CCHSG

Independent choice of Inquiry Based Research forms an essential part of staff training at CCHSG

We aim to provide a wide range of opportunities for staff to undertake professional development at all stages in their careers. Being the lead school for Alpha Teaching School Hub we offer programmes for trainee teachers, Early Career Teachers, Mentors, Aspiring Middle and Senior Leaders as well as for Headteachers.



Every member of the teaching staff continually develops their subject mastery linked to pedagogical practice. We use a range of evidence informed practice and at the core of this is Rosenshine's principles to support deeper learning and long-term memory of key information. It also allows for adaptable understanding of the subject to support students' lifelong learning. Our CPD programme has a sequence and

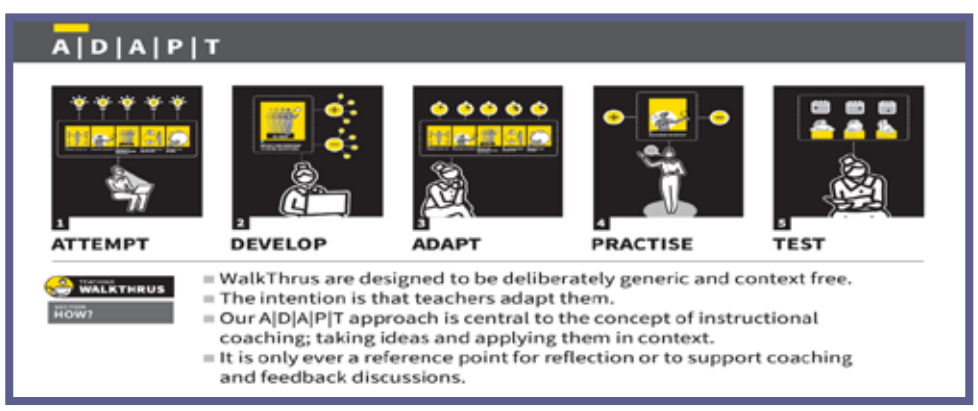


builds upon prior professional development whilst allowing for adaptions and recapping. Additional Core CPD in Safeguarding, Pastoral Skills, Wellbeing and Whole School Technology is provided. Evaluations and recommendations are shared to support excellence and build a collaborative environment. As part of our staff training last academic year, teaching staff chose an inquiry-based research topic, working in triads, selecting subject concepts from the curriculum to base their pedagogical research upon and sharpen their practices.

In order to assess the impact and effectiveness of these strategies students were asked to complete an anonymous questionnaire which measured certain learning qualities such as metacognition, self-efficacy, grit, openness and motivation. Examples of enquiries included:

- To what extent does modelling by thinking aloud improve student's metacognition, motivation and self-efficacy?
- Does the use of translanguaging in KS3 using bilingual and multilingual glossaries support metacognition and long-term memory.
- What is the impact of regular retrieval practice on confidence and memory.
- What is the impact of independently chosen resources on challenge for students?

At CCHSG our students already have a higher than national average level of metacognition. Nonetheless the teaching strategies our staff applied throughout the Inquiry based research was found, in some instances, to increase student's metacognition by some 7%. It was also found that the strategies used increased motivation, as well as grit and wellbeing. Studies found that there was also a lowering of text anxiety. We are continuing to work on Long Term Memory in our teaching and learning and all students have been invited to a Microsoft Teams group that has resources which explain the science of building long term memory, and revision strategies. The outcomes of these projects to date have identified the areas of focus for professional development for 2023-24.



We would like to thank our school community for their involvement and our teaching staff for their dedication and sharing of excellent teaching practice.

Miss Sam Torr, Vice Principal & ATSH Director

The LoveReading4Kids Poetry Prize

If I described me by Eliyah Osei-Bawuah

If I described me
My hair is ash from the morning's fire
My skin is caramel infused chocolate
My face is a mask forced to hide inner emotions

If I described me
I am a ray of sunshine
A rare rainbow
Bursting popping candy

If I described me
I am a master
A boss with her own set of rules
A new arrow pointing in a different direction

If I described me
I am a volcano
A bottle holding too much water and pain
I am the eruption

If I described me
I am a breath of fresh air
The light breeze after the storm
The calming winds of serenity

If I described me
I am a rock
A standing pillar
The steady foundation

If I described me
I am a messy room with no idea of the future,
the past or the present
I am the clash of colours
The mixture of dreams and hopes and fears
that don't unite

If I described me
I am the gushing waterfall
I am the violent river of sadness
I am the little girl in the corner

Wondering when her dreams will be realised
Her hopes will come true
Her ambitions will be accomplished
Wondering when her contradictive complex nature
will burst through
Wondering if she will ever truly shine
like the diamond she is
Wondering when she will finally have
the chance to be her

Congratulations to Eliyah Osei-Bawuah who was shortlisted for the LoveReading4Kids Poetry Prize that her previous school submitted on her behalf, back in April. One of the Judges Joanne Owen commented: "In a word, wow! The standard of entries was incredible, with such varied styles and subjects showcasing the breadth and depth of young creative talent."



The winners were announced on National Poetry Day, 4 October 2023, and Elliyah's poem "If I described Me" received a Runner Up prize of a trophy and a batch of beautiful poetry books.

LoveReading Managing Director Deborah Maclaren shared: "We continue to be delighted with the response to this competition and want to thank every child for sharing their poems with us."

Forward Arts Foundation is responsible for National Poetry Day on the first Thursday of October. This annual mass celebration, founded by William Sieghart CBE in 1994, brings the nation together around the performance, sharing and making of poems
@PoetryDayUK
#NationalPoetryDay #ShareAPoem

https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/poetry-prize

LoveReading, one of the UK's biggest book recommendation brands, is also now a bookstore with social purpose.

Buy a Book

We curate a steady stream of book recommendations, right across the genres and the age ranges. Buy a book in our online bookstore and get 10% off RRPs. Spend over £40 and postage is free.



They Buy More Books

Any school in the UK can become a member of LoveReading and access the funds our store provides. It's another funding stream for schools in dire need of more books.





Donate to a School

At checkout you can select to donate 25% of the cover price to a school of your choice. Or 10% will be put into the pot to give to schools in need.



Books Change Lives

Reading matters and books change lives. Improving reading standards and encouraging reading for pleasure has a huge impact a child's future academic achievement, wellbeing and success in life.

OGA/Alumnae Association Garden Party

It was a beautifully sunny afternoon when around 30 of the CCHSG OGA met for afternoon tea in the picturesque garden to OGA Committee Member Mrs Liz White.

The annual garden party is always a lovely occasion and this was no exception. Ms Stubbs was pleased to attend representing the current staff of CCHSG and thoroughly enjoyed the event - especially the strawberry gateau! Thanks go to Liz for hosting the event and for organising the excellent catering.







Association membership is open to anyone who has been a student or staff member at Colchester County High School for Girls. New school leavers are automatically registered as members if they agree to share their details.

The Association is run and administered by a Committee of Officers drawn from the membership and elected at the AGM. The Committee is open to anyone in the Association. Please contact the OGA if you are interested.

The OGA arranges various social events for members to attend throughout the year, including coffee mornings, lunches and garden parties. They also put together a twice yearly newsletter, based on Association events which have taken place throughout the year, as well as interesting news from past students.

See
https://www.cchsg.com/about-cchsg/oga/

John Locke Institute 2023 Global Essay Competition

The John Locke Institute encourages young people to cultivate the characteristics that turn good students into great writers: independent thought, depth of knowledge, clear reasoning, critical analysis and persuasive style. The Annual Global Essay Competition invites students to explore a wide range of challenging and interesting questions beyond the confines of the school curriculum.

Congratulations to Nishka Sheik in 13T whose entry was shortlisted out of over 19,000 entries from 138 countries. She also received a commendation from Dr Martin Cox for her work. All of the essays were judged by a panel of senior academics drawn from leading universities including Oxford and Princeton.



The Schools' Aerospace Careers Programme

Recognising the severe shortage of future engineers in the UK, and having identified that one of the main blockages to young people entering the industry is a lack of accurate and relevant information, the ACP has set about doing all it can to increase the number of young people undertaking STEM learning and pursuing careers in engineering based industries regardless of the specific job.



ACP also aims to encourage the interest of young people in technology generally and, specifically, provide them with a permanent, UK-wide, careers advisory and support service in respect of the aerospace, space and aviation industries.

We were delighted to be joined by staff and Year 10 and 11 students from The Gilberd School on 14 September and from Manningtree High School on 15 September. Students enjoyed a presentation by Dr Michael Smith and individuals from aerospace, space and aviation industries. Under discussion were the transformative technologies of the fourth industrial revolution, including artificial intelligence, the internet-of-things (IoT), quantum computing, virtual reality, big data, and blockchain. These complex concepts were made accessible through audiovisual aids, including videos and live demonstrations featuring robotics.



Following the presentation the students had an opportunity to try out Virtual Reality headsets, to ask questions of the presenters and gather information about potential career paths in engineering and aviation.

"We stand on the brink of a technological revolution that will fundamentally alter the way we live, work, and relate to one another. In its scale, scope, and complexity, the transformation will be unlike anything humankind has experienced before. We do not yet know just how it will unfold, but one thing is clear, the response to it must be integrated, and comprehensive, involving all stakeholders of the global polity, from the public and private sectors to academia and civil society."

Klaus Schwab, Founder & Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum, 14 January 2016

Today, seven years on from Klaus Schwab's quote, we are well into the fourth industrial revolution. Whilst building on the third revolution, unlike those before it which were linear in progression, the fourth is evolving at an exponential rate. It is disrupting almost every industry in almost every country, and is characterised by a fusion of technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital and biological spheres. The technology breakthroughs involved include robotics, artificial intelligence (AI) – and therefore machine learning - nanotechnology, quantum computing, biotechnology, the internet of things, additive manufacturing (3D printing), autonomous vehicles, and virtual reality.









Students were amazed to meet “Spot” a four-legged robot that can trot around the room, map its environment, sense and avoid obstacles, climb stairs, and open doors. It can also fetch you a drink.

Spot is manufactured by Boston Dynamics, while its humanoid robot “Atlas” attracts the most attention (and YouTube views), the company has focused its commercial efforts on Spot. A versatile quadruped, Spot can navigate almost any kind of terrain while sensing its environment. The company’s goal is to offer Spot, or even packs of them, to inspect industrial sites, carry out hazardous missions, and make deliveries. In 2020, the robot went on sale with a price tag of $74,500.

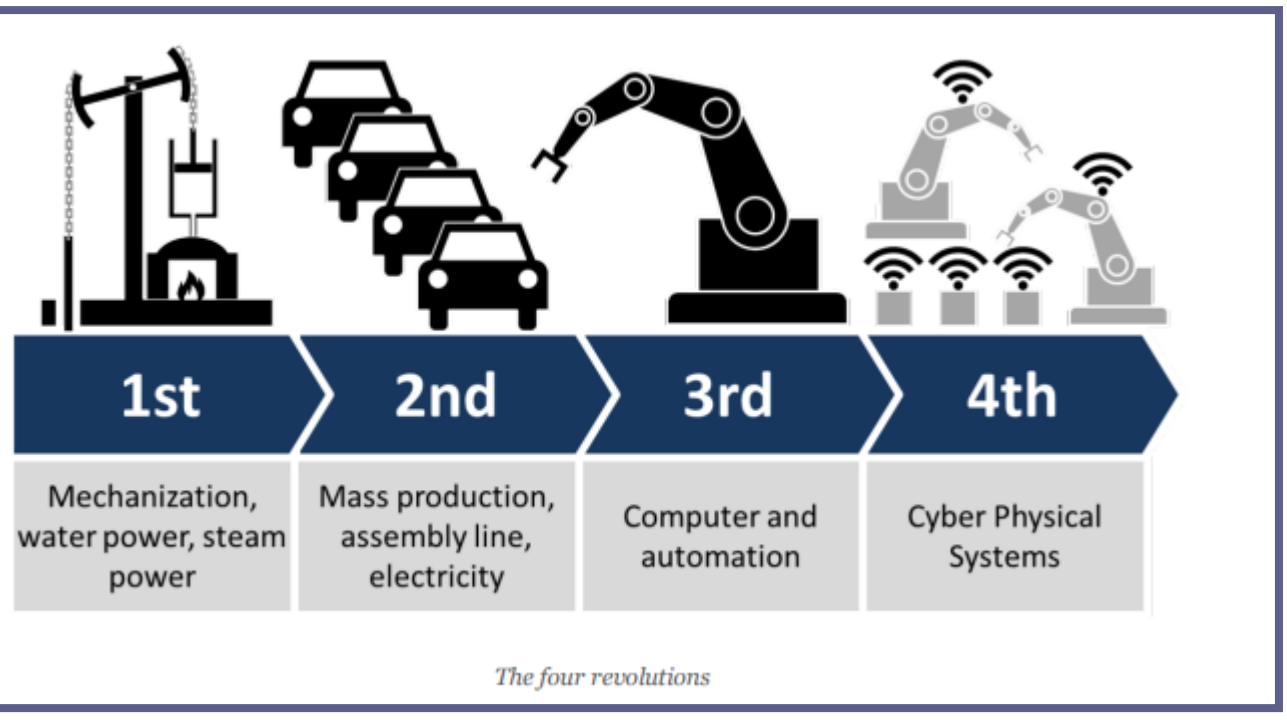




To quote Klaus Schwab, who coined the term Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), it can be:

“a complement to the best parts of human nature – creativity, empathy, stewardship – it can lift humanity into a new collective and moral consciousness based on a shared sense of destiny.”

As Dr Smith, and no doubt many other people, would add, it is not technology that is evil, but the people who may seek to misuse it.



The four revolutions

Art Ambassadors - Pride

To celebrate Essex Pride Week, in June 2023, Art Ambassadors Asiya and Scarlett organised a CCHSG Pride Art Competition, open to KS3 students. Essex Pride is an annual celebration of LGBT+ life in Essex and beyond. Pride inspires everyone to embrace equality, and demonstrates that people from all walks of life can join together and celebrate diversity. The idea was for students to create artwork on the theme of expressing yourself. It was open to all everyone, no matter how they identify. We had two winners, one for each Year Group, who were Francesca Rhodes, Year 8 and Nidhi Kowkuntla, Year 9. We also had two runners up, Ekaterina Gruzdeva and Sharika Nambiar both in Year 8. Congratulations to them all!

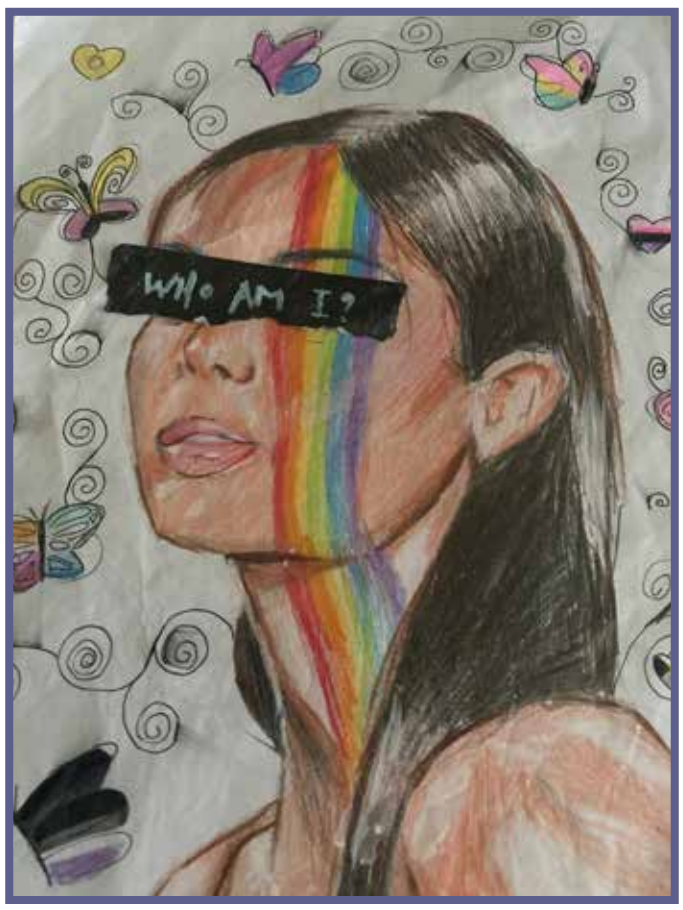
















Over the years the original rainbow flag has been redesigned, with some within LGBTQ+ movements arguing it needed to better represent and reflect more communities. In 2017, Philadelphia's Office of LGBT Affairs added black and brown stripes to the Pride flag to recognise people of colour. One year later, an artist called Daniel Quasar released a redesign of the Pride flag, called the Progress Pride flag, which was widely shared on social media. It included black, brown, pink, pale blue and white stripes, to represent marginalised people of colour in the LGBTQ+ community, as well as the trans community, and those living with HIV/AIDS. "The arrow points to the right to show forward movement" explained Daniel Quasar.

PTFA Year 7 Social Evening: 13 October

On Friday 13 October the PTFA organised a social event to welcome all our new Year 7 students and their parents/carers to CCHSG. The event was an opportunity for parents/carers to get to know other parents from their child's Form and Year Group and for students to socialise and make some new friends. The event was very popular with around 140 students and their parents attending.

Students were entertained with a disco by DJ Scott Dewing and games in the main hall and enjoyed pizzas. Parents and carers were invited to attend a separate reception in the school dining hall, while the students were at their party. The PTFA served drinks and provided complimentary canapes for parents.

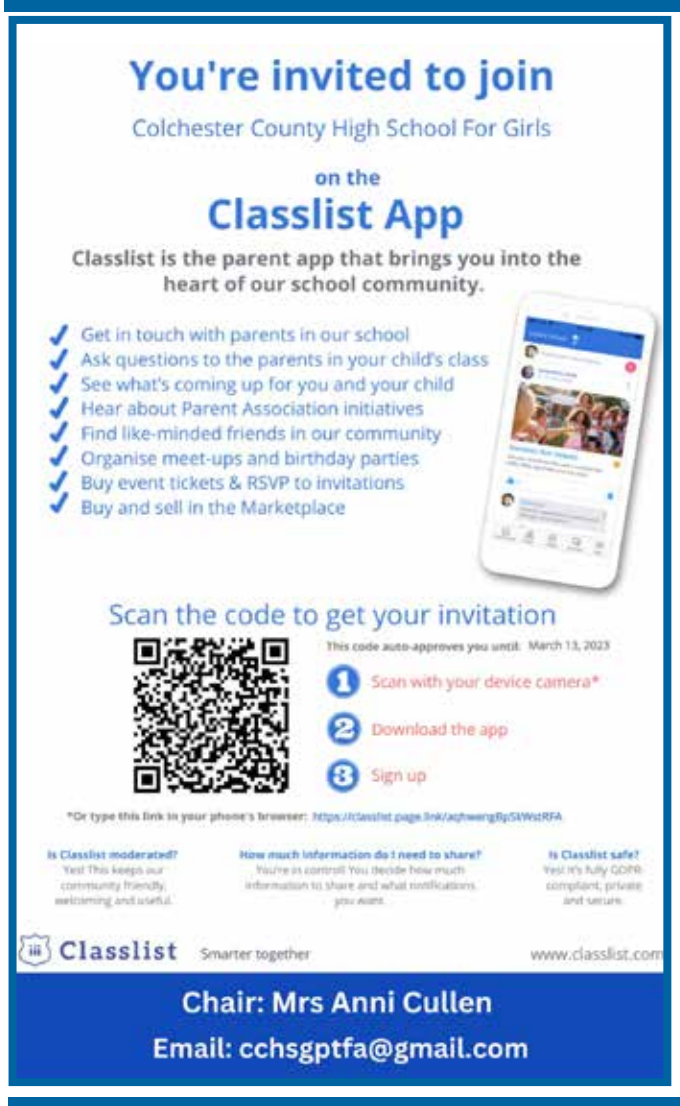


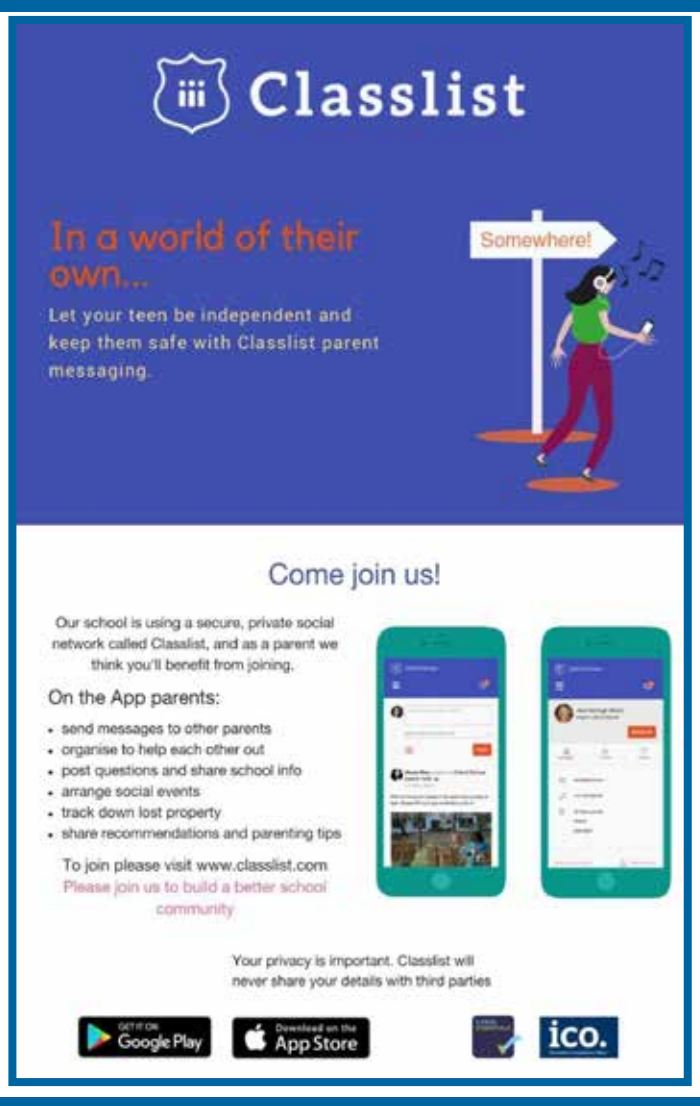




Our thanks to Mrs Anni Cullen and the PTFA volunteers who helped with the preparations and with the running of the event. We are also grateful to Miss Wilson, Mr Snow, Mrs Frost, Mr Kidby and the other tutors, staff members and Sixth Form students who supported during the evening.

PTFA Classlist





All CCHSG parents and carers are invited to join our online parent community, Classlist. Classlist is an award winning platform and mobile app designed to make life easier for parents. It is free to use, completely secure and used by over 2,000 UK schools. This is not just another way for the PTFA to send messages, though it is indeed useful for this. Its real value lies in enabling parents to communicate with each other. Classlist is only open to parents of students from our school. Parents are put into groups based on their child's Year Group and can choose to communicate with other parents in that Year Group or the wider school community in group conversations or one to one messages.

You can register now by visiting
https://www.classlist.com

Year 13 Biology Field Trip









66 Year 13 biologists went to Dorset on 6 October for their annual ecology work, part of the A level Biology fieldtrip. The days are long, studying rivers and sand dunes, with analysis of data on two nights until 9pm. We had the best weather this year. The PGL staff are very knowledgeable and gave the students an amazing experience, including an insight into their careers, which the students found very valuable. After an introductory talk on sampling and a tour, the students had their supper and played a team building activity. In groups of 6, the students were given a country to hunt around the PGL site. Each countries had a series of questions, but answers could only be given to the PGL staff when back to the base. A tireless race began amongst groups to get as many countries as possible to win. This definitely set the mood for the rest of the stay.

On Saturday morning, the students went to the river Wey in Upwey and Broadwey. They measured several factors in the ecosystem and gained an understanding of the differences in two locations of the same river. After some kicking the riverbed to catch the species, they enjoyed looking at the richness of species hidden in rivers. In the afternoon, the students looked a marine zonation on the rock pools. Here we did both a transect sample from the cliff to the sea and two random sampling to use in their statistical tests, comparing and analysing the organisms present in the different areas of the rock pools. Some students really enjoyed some fishing and soon a game of who could catch one. The best find was tiny crabs!

Sunday morning we went on a day trip to Sudland. We were blessed with sunshine and beautiful weather. The students again did both transect and random sampling to investigate the stages of succession. The students worked really hard and very well together. The competition to get behind the hill first was intense. After the last set of data was collected, to loud cheering, the PGL staff showed the students the only native carnivorous plants in the UK. Let's not forget the lion king tree where the instructors sang to the tune of Hakuna matata. It was lovely to see the students so engaged and enthusiastic!

On Monday, the students enjoyed some down time fossil hunting, finding devil's toenails and ammonites. The second half of the group took their fear of heights in their hands to have a go at climbing. Some fantastic fun activities to soak up the last bit of sunny weather in October.

This is what one of the students throught of the fieldtrip:
During our 4-day biology trip to Dorset, we engaged in a comprehensive study of the local ecosystem there. We did some systematic and random sampling techniques, covering diverse habitats such as various parts of rivers, the seashore, and sand dunes. The collected data was later analysed using statistical tests, enabling us to draw meaningful conclusions about the biodiversity and ecological health of the area. This hands-on approach enhanced our understanding of biological sampling methodologies and sharpened our statistical analysis skills. The breathtaking landscapes of Dorset provided an inspiring backdrop for our scientific endeavours, making this trip both educational and deeply enjoyable. The experience was invaluable, and it left us with a profound appreciation for the natural world and the importance of preserving it. Davina Mpofu





GCSE Exhibition Summer 2023











The GCSE Art and Design Course has two aspects:

Component 1 - the portfolio

Component 2 - the externally set assignment, in which students respond to a starting point provided by the exam board. This response provides evidence of the student's ability to work independently within specified time constraints, realise intentions that are personal and meaningful and explicitly address the requirements of all four assessment objectives.

Assessment objectives (AOs) are set by Ofqual and are the same across all GCSE Art and Design specifications and all exam boards. The exams and non-exam assessment measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives.

AO1: Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.

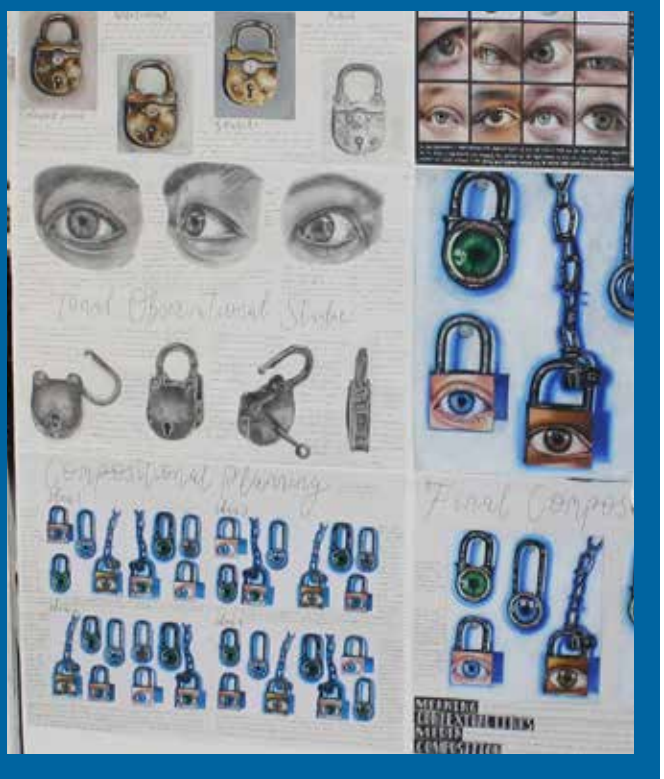
AO2: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.







A level Art Exhibition Summer 2023

Congratulations to our GCSE and A Level Art students who staged a spectacular exhibition of their portfolio work and externally set assignments at the end of last term. Now that the exam results have been published, we can share some of their excellent work with you. Our thanks go to Mrs Saunders and Mrs Crozier.



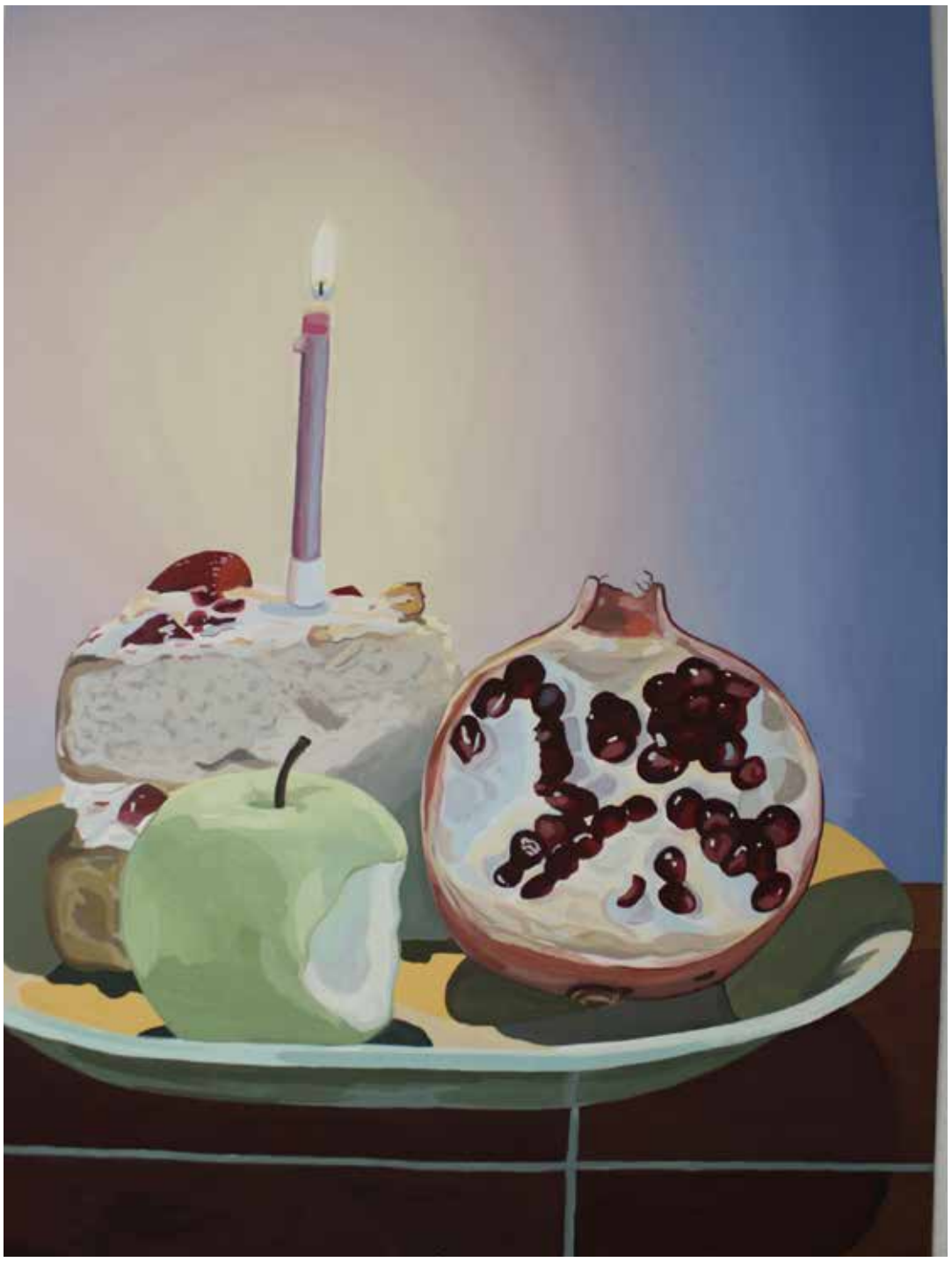


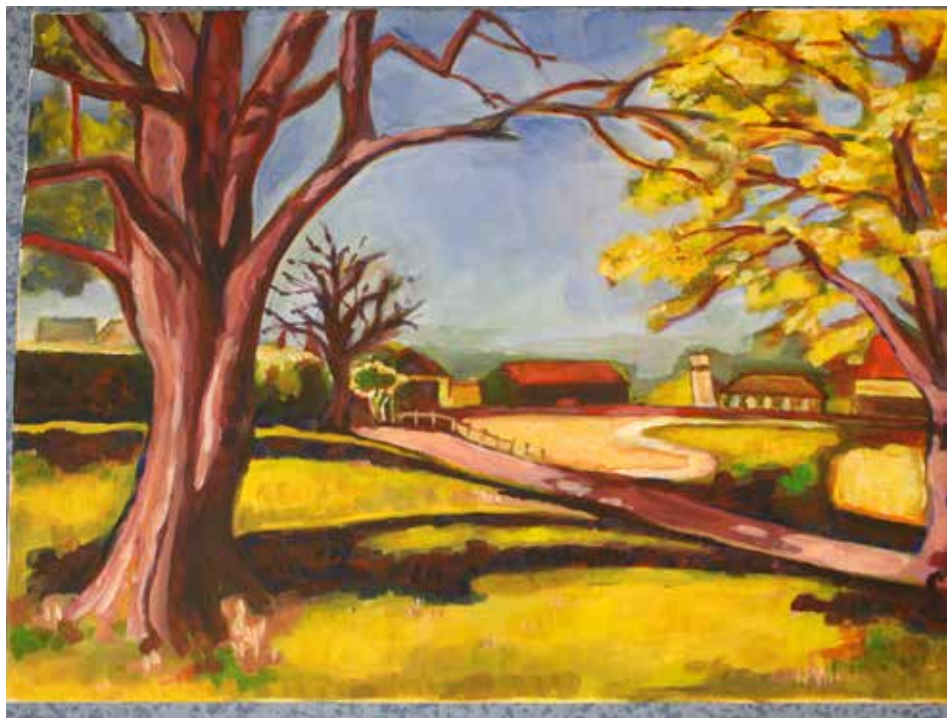














CCHSG Alumni visits from Emmanuel College

Year 12 were delighted to be visited by Morvenna Hall, past CCHSG student, who is working as part of the recruitment outreach team at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Morvenna is currently a PhD student in the Department of Biochemistry, on the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Centre's MRes/ PhD training programme. She completed her MSci degree in Biochemistry from the University of Bristol in 2020.

The team of three Cambridge postgraduate students gave an engaging presentation which aimed to challenge myths about the Cambridge application process, student life and studying at Cambridge as well as explaining the college system and covering information about HE in general.

Students had many questions to ask and Morvenna was joined by a second-year Geography student and a third-year English student, so there was a range of subject knowledge between them.

Every part of the UK is linked with a Cambridge College through the Area Links Scheme, which gives schools and colleges in each area a direct contact at the University. Emmanuel College is primarily linked with schools in the Local Authority Areas of Sheffield, Essex, Thurrock, and Southend-on-Sea. We thank Morvenna and the team!





Elizabeth Elliott, Essex FA Award

We congratulate Elizabeth Elliott who was Highly Commended as Young Volunteer of the Year at the Essex FA Awards. Over the last year Beth has volunteered every weekend, she coaches 3-6 year olds on a Saturday morning running two sessions between 8.45-11, then in the afternoon she coaches at Soccability, a football program in Witham for young people with disabilities and additional needs. Beth is also a qualified referee so spends her Sundays refereeing youth football matches.

The 2023 Essex Awards Evening was hosted on Friday 15 September as a celebration to various dedicated volunteers who help make grassroots football what it is in Essex. The evening was held at Colchester United's JobServe Community Stadium and was hosted by Hospital Radio Chelmsford. The award winners were joined by special guests Richie Wellens and Paul Terry from Leyton Orient, who talked about their footballing careers and helped to pay tribute to the volunteers collecting their awards.

Mrs Marshall was delighted to hear about Beth's outstanding achievement and met with her in person to pass on her congratulations.



Ruqayyah Rida - Jonathan Penrose Memorial Chess Challenge

On 7 October, Colchester Town Hall hosted a simultaneous chess exhibition by Michael Adams, Britain's greatest-ever chess player, to open a chess park in memory of Colchester-born Jonathan Penrose OBE. Jonathan Penrose and the Penrose family have a long civic history in Colchester and he dominated British chess in the 1950/60s, winning a record ten British Chess Championships from 1958 to 1969. On what would have been Penrose's 90th birthday, it was fitting that the current British Chess Champion and Britain's greatest-ever chess player came to Colchester to give a simultaneous exhibition. The opening ceremony included an appreciation of Jonathan Penrose's chess by William Hartston (author, journalist, broadcaster and chess player).





At Colchester Town Hall the Mayor and Mayoress welcomed members of the Penrose family and there was a formal opening of the public chess tables by the Mercury Theatre (the 'Jonathan Penrose Chess Park').

Spectators were also able to see CCHSG's own Ruqayyah Rida who is already a twice times winner of the British Chess Championship (Girls under 10), taking on Grand Master Adams with their game broadcast.
Well done Ruqayyah!

CCHSG Clubs and Societies Fair

The wide ranging extracurricular activities on offer contribute to the vibrancy and creativity of the school. Many subjects offer activities based on areas of the curriculum. Guest speakers are invited into lessons and also give talks to students during lunchtime clubs. For example, MedSoc frequently hosts former students who are currently studying Medicine or related areas and talks are given by professionals working in a variety of scientific fields. The school employs Language Assistants in French and German, who provide additional curriculum support and extracurricular opportunities for students.





As part of the extracurricular programme students also have the opportunity to try new skills based activities or to organise clubs and activities for younger students e.g. Tamil Club, Art Club and Debating Society. Most activities take place at lunchtime or after school, with occasional weekend experiences, day visits or workshops.

This year we held our first Clubs and Societies Fair at the start of the academic year. Students were encouraged to find out more about the various activities on offer from the staff and students running the promotional stands. The fair was incredibly popular, with the hall very busy thoughout the lunch hour. All the extracurricular clubs which run on a regular basis are listed on the website for student reference, at the start of each term:

Monday

Morning 8.00am – 8.30am		
Lunchtime 12.45- 13.20pm	Anime Club	All Years
	Basketball	Years 7-8
	Classical Civilisations Society	All Years
	Fashion drawing and making	All Years
	French Club	All Years
	Netball	Years 8-10
	Peer Mentoring for English -	Invite only
	Physics Olympiad Practice Week A	Years 12-13
	PsychSoc	All Years
	Table Tennis	All Years
	The Blue Birds Choir	Years 7-9
	Dentsoc	All Years
	Open Art Workshops	All Years
	Please check Drama notice board for School Production Rehearsals and times	
After School 15.45pm – 16.45pm		

https://www.cchsg.com/students/co-curriculum/extracurriculur-activities/





Colchester Teacher Training Consortium Updates

At the heart of Colchester Teacher Training Consortium is a profound belief that every individual brings something unique and valuable to the profession. As a result, our strength lies in training teachers from every background, from different walks of life and with disparate life-paths. Welcome to a consortium where every journey matters, every voice counts, and every individual can help shape and inspire the lives of young people.



CTTC events and school experience taster sessions are organised throughout the year, further details are published on our website events page and on social media.

Meet our new CTTC Director: Christine Wager



I am delighted to have joined CTTC in the role of Director. I have been teaching for 17 years and have worked at secondary schools, teaching History and Politics, in Basildon, Braintree and Colchester. Most recently I held the role of Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning at Colchester Academy.

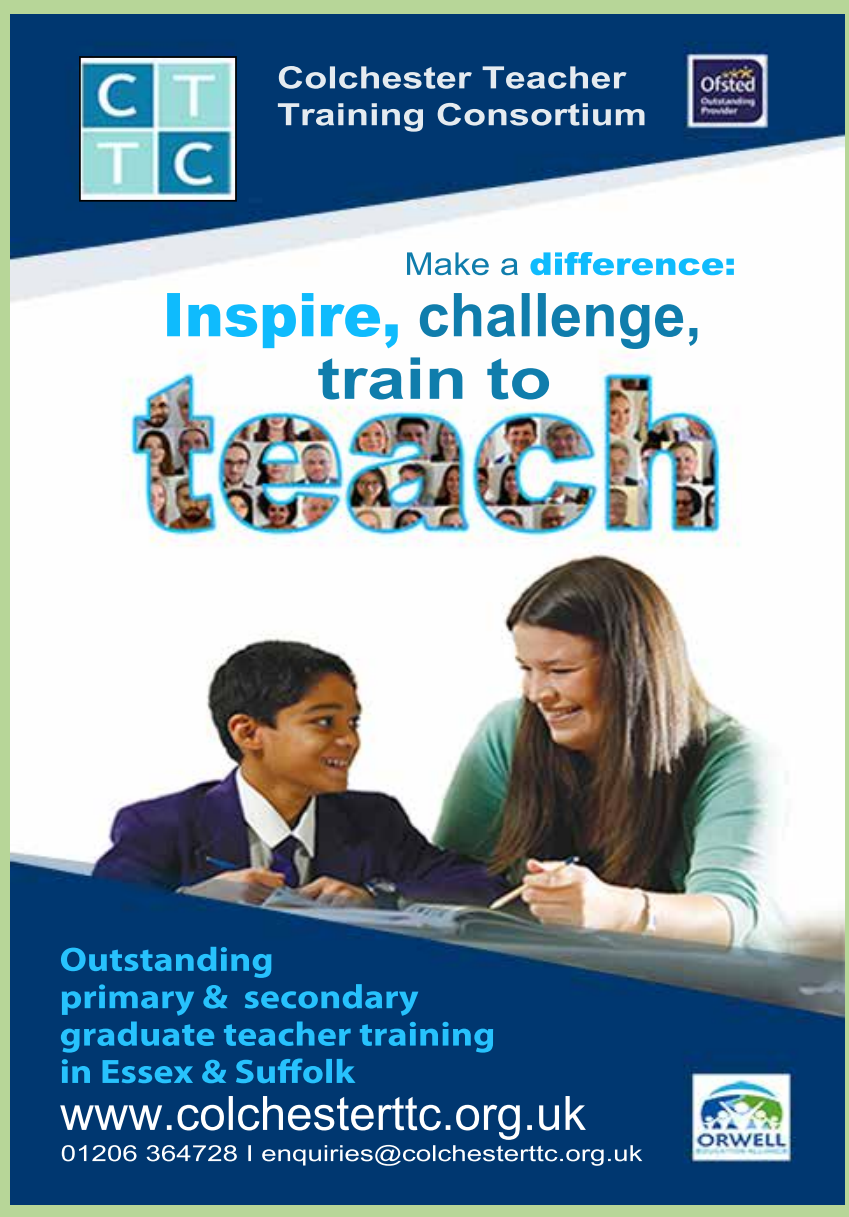
I am studying part time for a doctorate (Doctor of Education, EdD), where my research is focused on school improvement and the effect of political policy in England on school improvement over the past 50 years. In my spare time I enjoy running and following West Ham United.

My aim is to build upon the current success of CTTC, working alongside local schools to train excellent teachers, and build upon the numbers of teachers choosing to train with CTTC, helping meet the local demand for excellent teachers.

Are you looking for new opportunities and the chance to develop new skills while pursuing a professional career pathway? Do you want to join a profession where you can make a real difference to the lives of children and young people? If you already have a degree, or are currently studying for a degree, now is the time to explore the opportunities to train to teach in Primary or Secondary education with CTTC based at CCHSG.

Established in 2003, CTTC works in partnership with over 60 schools and colleges across North Essex and Suffolk. The training hubs are located in both Colchester, on the CCHSG site, and Ipswich, to serve the local schools. Our schools offer a wide range of educational experiences including grammar school, sixth form colleges and specialist SEND placements. The school centred programme allows trainees to gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) alongside a Master's level PGCE (opt-in required for salaried trainees), through a combination of taught sessions, academic reading and research and guided school based teaching.

CTTC programmes are run in collaboration with our partner schools and CTTC was judged outstanding across all areas by Ofsted. In 2022, 100% of trainees commended the quality of CTTC's curriculum and programme. Local schools are keen to employ trainees from the partnership and many Early Career Teachers and former trainees move quickly into leadership and management roles.



Contact us now via:

01206 364728
(Mon - Fri, 8am - 4pm)
enquiries@colchesterttc.org.uk
www.colchesterttc.org.uk

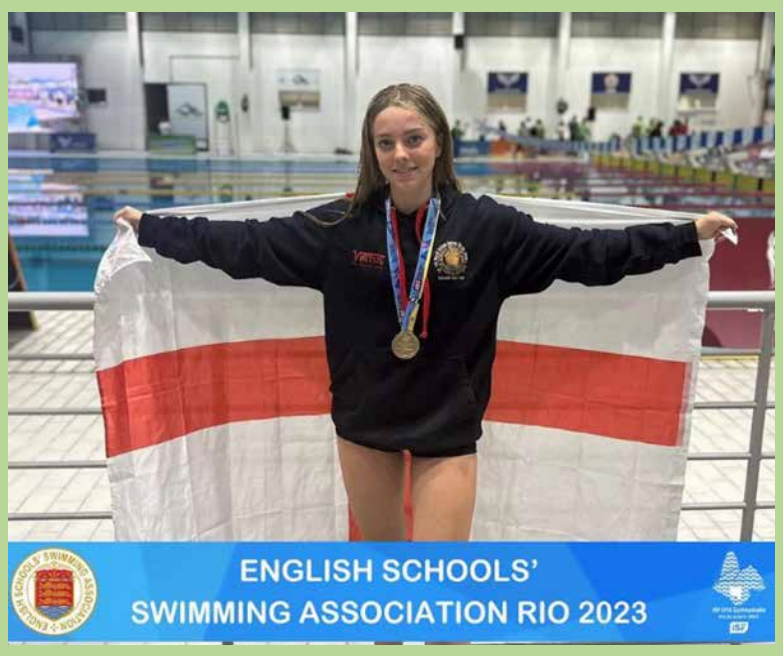
Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Athlete in the Spotlight

Every half term the PE Department will be selecting athletes to be in our "Athlete Spotlight". Athletes are invited to share their sporting success in and outside school as well as their training schedule, long-term goals and more!

This half term's Athlete in the Spotlight…

Connie Ratley



CLUB:
Colchester Swimming Club

TRAINING SCHEDULE:
7 times a week

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS:
Two gold medals at at the World School games

LONG TERM GOAL:
To go to the Olympics

INSPIRATION:
Katie Ledecky

PREMATCH MEAL:
Rice and chicken

PE Extracurricular Activities

PE Clubs and Practices (Autumn Term 2023)
Tuesday 12th September – Friday 20th October 2023
Interform Netball 9th-13th October (No PE Clubs this week)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Morning 08:00-08:30		**Table Tennis** Gym All Years (CEY)	**Netball Team Training** Years 7-8 (KMA & PST)	**Morning Swim** All years (KMA)	
Lunch-time 12:40-13:05	**Table Tennis** Gym ALL YEARS (PST) **Basketball** Sports Hall Years 7-8 (CEY) **Netball** Year 8-10 (KMA)	**Football** All Years (LDY) **Badminton** Sports Hall Years 7-9 (KMA) **Swimming** Year 10-13 (PST)	**Netball** Year 7 (KMA) **Badminton** Sports Hall 10-13 (CEY) **Swimming** Beginners Swimming (PST)	**GCSE/ A- LEVEL Theory Support** H3 (PST & Pupil Mentors) **Swimming** Year 7-9 (LDY) **Basketball** Sports Hall Years 9-13 (CEY)	**Friday Fun Day** Gym ALL YEARS (ALL STAFF)
After school 15:45-16:45	**SCHOOL MEETINGS**	**FIXTURES EVENING** **Netball Team Training Year 7-9**	**FIXTURES EVENING** **Netball Team Training Year 10-13**	**FIXTURES EVENING**	

The PE Department offers an exceptional range of extracurricular activities, often on a 'seasonal' basis, with different activities on offer before school and every lunchtime. Some of the sports will have an additional team practice such as netball, football, rounders and tennis, but most clubs are open to all students who wish to participate for fun or exercise.

Our school teams compete successfully at Local, District, Regional and National Levels. We have been very successful in recent years with our netball, athletics and swimming teams. In Year 10 students can take the Sports Leaders Award, a nationally recognised qualification which supports the development of leadership skills.

Extracurricular sports clubs currently on offer for various terms throughout the year include: athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, dance, fitness, football, netball, running, rounders, swimming, table tennis, tennis, trampolining, yoga, and zumba.

PTFA AGM and Election of Officers

Report from the Senior Staff link to PTFA - Mr Summers

Since joining the Senior Leadership Team in February 2023 I have been thoroughly impressed by Mrs Anni Cullen and the whole PTFA team. The PTFA is an essential part of our school community and a vital link between parents, their children and friends, as well as our staff. 2022/2023 has been another very successful year for the PTFA. They have generated lots of additional income for the school, assisting many department's extracurricular aims as well as running a range of very successful social events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Anni for her ongoing commitment as Chair of the PTFA. I know the PTFA will continue with its success and meet its fundraising aims for this academic year. On behalf of the Senior Leadership Team at CCHSG, thank you to all who have volunteered, supported and who are involved with the PTFA.

Report from Chair of PTFA
Mrs Anni Cullen

Over the past year, the collective dedication and hard work of the PTFA have yielded incredible results.
The funds we have raised have not only supported educational initiatives, but have also developed valuable extracurricular experiences for the students. As Chair of the PTFA, I am delighted to extend my warmest gratitude and congratulations to each and every one of the PTFA members and school staff on the fantastic year of fundraising we have achieved. I am especially grateful to Agness O'Brien, who has been an invaluable source of support throughout the past year.

From the Year 9 Social Event, which we hosted especially for this Year Group as they missed their own welcome party due to the pandemic, the hugely successful Christmas Market 2022, to the fully sold out Quiz and Curry Night in April, every fundraising event has deepened the bonds within our school and parent community. Vinodh Gurusamy's Kilimanjaro trek in support of the PTFA in July, is yet another landmark to be celebrated. The trek itself was self-funded and as of mid September he has raised over £400.

The Nearly New Uniform and Books sales have generated over £7,000 during the last year. The Uniform team have tirelessly washed, ironed and prepped the uniform for the termly sales, coping with very tight deadlines in some cases. Their unwavering contribution and support has enabled us to keep offering this affordable option to our school community, which is especially vital at this time of economic uncertainty.

Finally, I would also like to thank Mr Colin Embleton and the Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh volunteers. Their hard work and exemplary behaviour over the course of several events was greatly appreciated.

PTFA

FUNDRAISING IN 2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

NO	EVENT/SOURCE OF INCOME	AMOUNT RAISED
1	Year 9 Social Event	£1,361.52
2	Nearly New Uniform & Books Sale	£7,430.50
3	Grand Raffle Prize Draw Winter and Summer	£1,154.75
4	Just Giving	£459.72
5	Cash Donations	£357.50
6	Christmas Market Stall Bookings	£395.00
7	Winter Production Refreshments	£680.67
8	Year 7 Welcome Party	£2,004.08
9	Les Miserables Drama Production Refreshments	£1,031.15
10	Quiz and Curry Night	£1,937.13
11	Summer Production Refreshments	£641.26
12	Christmas Market 2022	£5,543.77
13	Amazon Smile and Easyfundraising	£520.01
14	STIKINS Label Planet	£133.82
15	Scratch Card Templates	£16.00
	TOTAL RAISED	**£23,666.88**

PTFA

TREASURER'S REPORT

No.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT RAISED
1	**BALANCE OF ACCOUNT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023**	**£41,077.04**
2	**TOTAL FUNDS RAISED FROM 1 SEPTEMBER -31 AUGUST 2023**	**£23,696.88**
3	**REMITTANCE**	
	1. Minibus (allocated £16,000)	**£16,000.00**
	2. Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ACSI 1680- Healthy Living: CPR Dolls)	**£450.00**
	3. Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1722-Music Dept: Percussion Misc , keyboards and headphones	**£1,796.66**
	4. Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1644- Geography Dept: Atlases	**£327.60**
	5. Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1651- Marketing: Display boards for student work)	**£1,950.00**
	7. Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1645- Library: Bookspinners	**£450.00**
	8. Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1646- Swimming Pool: Lane Clock for swimming	**£262.10**
	9.Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1648- PE Dept: Table Tennis Tables	**£200.00**
	10.Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1647- PE Dept: Football Kits	**£487.06**
	11 Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1649- PE Dept: Goalposts	**£1,735.00**
	12 Termly PTFA Funding Bids (ASCI 1650- Adventurer's Society after school club: LARP equipment	**£536.49**
	13. Parentkind Direct Debit Membership Renewal	**£140.00**
	14. PTFA Event Expenses (Year 9 WP, Year 7 WP,Quiz and Curry, Winter/Summer Production, Les Mis)	**£2,847.66**
	15. PTFA Termly Sundry Expenses (Bar restocked, catering supplies etc)	**£2,412.66**
	16. PTFA Christmas Market Expenses (catering, PTFA stall supplies and prizes etc)	**£2,020.49**
	17.. Winter/Summer Grand Prize Draw Payout	**£562.45**
	TOTAL REMITTANCE	**£32,178.17**

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY	AMOUNT
Balance of account as at 31 August 2022	£33,588.33
Tota funds raised from 1 September 2022- 31 August 2023	£23,666.88
Total balance brought forwardand new funds raised	£57,255.21
Total payouts (1 September 2022- 31 August 2023) minus minibus	£16,178.17

PTFA

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS (2023/2024)

EXECUTIVE COMIMTTEE (2022/2023)	
POSITION	NAME
CHAIR	ANNI CULLEN
VICE CHAIR	EMMA ARNOLD
SECRETARY	CAROLINE WESTGARTH
TREASURER	TRACEY SIGGERS

EXECUTIVE COMIMTTEE (2023/2024)	
POSITION	NAME
CHAIR	ANNI CULLEN
VICE CHAIR	EVE BRINDLEY
VICE CHAIR	VINODH GURUSAMY
SECRETARY	CAROLINE WESTGARTH
TREASURER	CORNELL NELL

COMMITTEE (2022/2023)	
POSITION	NAME
COMMUNICATIONS	KATE STUBBS (CCHSG)

COMMITTEE (2023/2024)	
POSITION	NAME
COMMUNICATIONS	KATE STUBBS (CCHSG)

PTFA

PTFA CONTACTS:

Chair: Anni Cullen
cchsgptfa@gmail.com

Registered Charity No. 110464

Autumn Term Dates for Your Diary

PTFA Meeting:
Monday 6 November 2023
This will be an online meeting - link to be circulated nearer the time

- **Nearly New Uniform Sale:**
  Saturday 25 November 2023

- **Annual PTFA Christmas Market:**
  2 December, 2023 - 12noon - 3pm



Volunteer Sign Up Links

None of our planned events can run without the kind support of volunteer staff/parents/carers. Could you help? To sign-up to support with the uniform sale, please click on the link below.

CCHSG PTFA thanks you in advance for your support.

https://volunteersignup.org/AJE4L

This term's Nearly New Uniform and Books Sale will take place in the Main Hall, on Saturday 25 November 2023 from 10.00-12.30.

We appeal for donations of clean, good quality uniform items that your child has outgrown and revision books. Donations can be deposited in the clearly marked blue wheelie bins outside the school reception. Please send donations by Friday 17 November to allow the PTFA uniform team to prepare all items for sale.



Annual PTFA Christmas Market: Saturday 2 December

The Christmas Market is the biggest event in the PTFA calendar and will be held on Saturday 2 December from 12noon to 3pm. This event raises an amazing amount of funds for the PTFA, but we could not do this without a team of dedicated volunteers. We are in need of volunteers to help run the various PTFA stalls, to assist on the catering team and with clearing up after the event. This year's catering theme will be 'Around the World' and we are hoping to offer cuisine from all over the globe, reflecting the incredible diversity in our school community.

Could You Volunteer?

Look out for the Christmas Market volunteering sign up link in the PTFA section of the Weekly Parent Bulletin. We are hugely grateful to all those students, staff and parents who volunteer to support us in a variety of ways.