Colchester County High School for Girls
Parent Weekly Bulletin
21 October 2021

Term Dates 2021 – 2022

Autumn Term
Wednesday 1 September
Friday 17 December

Half Term
Monday 25 October
Friday 29 October

Spring Term
Tuesday 4 January
Friday 1 April
Bank Holiday
Monday 3 January

Half Term
Monday 14 February
Friday 18 February

Summer Term
Tuesday 19 April
Monday 18 July
Bank Holiday
Monday 18 April
Monday 2 May

Half Term
Monday 30 May
Friday 3 June

Non-Pupil Days
Wednesday 1 September
Thursday 2 September
Thursday 21 October
Friday 22 October
Friday 17 December
Tuesday 4 January
Tuesday 19 July
Wednesday 20 July
Thursday 21 July

Prov Term Dates 2022 – 2023

Autumn Term
Thursday 1 September
Tuesday 20 December

Half Term
Monday 24 October
Friday 28 October

Spring Term
Thursday 5 January
Friday 31 March

Half Term
Monday 13 February
Friday 17 February

Summer Term
Monday 17 April
Friday 21 July
Bank Holiday
Monday 1 May

Half Term
Monday 29 May
Friday 2 June

Non-Pupil Days TBC

Safeguarding: Never Acceptable
to report a concern:
Click Here to make an Anonymous Report
Link to Whisper an anonymous third-party service

WE WISH ALL STUDENTS A RESTFUL HALF TERM BREAK

Dates for Your Diary

Monday Week **B**	Nov	1	Assembly: Yrs 12 & 13 UK Parliament Webinar with an MP 08.30 – 09.30 in Lecture Theatre
Tuesday	Nov	2	Assembly: Yrs 10 & 11 Yr 10 DofE Bronze Group B Session 15.45 – 17.30 DofE Gold Session 15.45 – 18.30
Wednesday	Nov	3	Assembly: Yrs 7 7 8
Thursday	Nov	4	Assembly: Yr 9 in the Hall **School Early Closure 12.35** **Sixth Form Open Evening 18.00 – 20.30**
Friday	Nov	5	Yr 9 DofE Bronze Group A Session 15.45 – 17.30

School resumes after Half Term on Monday 1 November (Week B)

Student Home Testing
We encourage all students to continue testing twice weekly over Half Term. Results should still be recorded via www.testregister.co.uk/login and www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result.
Please self-isolate and get a PCR test if symptomatic or have a positive LFT. Students should test on Sunday 31 October before returning to school on Monday 1 November.

School Early Closure – Thursday 4 November
A reminder formal lessons finish at 12.35 on this day and students will leave school at this time, to aid staff in the preparation for the Sixth Form Open Evening.
For those students for whom parents have indicated that they will be remaining in school, they will be supervised for private study.

Yr 11 CCHSG Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 4 November 18.00 – 20.30
Yr 11 students and parents are invited to find out more about life in our Sixth Form at our blended Open Evening. The Sixth Form will be open for bookable tours and staff and students will be available to discuss subject choices. Running in parallel, we will also have a virtual Open Evening Tour and talks available via our website www.cchsg.com. Bookings to visit the Sixth Form for the Open Evening can be accessed via the following link: https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BHGU
We look forward to you joining us virtually or in person at the Open Evening.

Student Safety – Dark Evenings
We will soon be setting the clocks back an hour and summer-time will end. The link below will help parents/carers remind children, including teenagers, about road safety and keeping safe in the dark.
Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents: Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents
In addition, please find attached a leaflet from the Suzy Lampugh Trust for students regarding keeping themselves safe when out and about.

Wellbeing Information
Any student who feels they need wellbeing support over Half Term, should contact any of the following:
EWMHS: 0800 953 0222
Young Minds: https://www.youngminds.org.uk/
Kooth: https://www.kooth.com/
Sexual abuse or harassment can also be reported to neveracceptable@cchsg.com or see the anonymous reporting link on the front of the Bulletin.
Childline: 0800 1111 NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
The School Nurse and School Counsellor are available for student appointments after Half Term.

For regular updates on CCHSG activities you can follow us on Facebook @colchestergirls or Twitter @CCHSG_ For PE Department news see @CchsgD

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Student Access to Remote Learning due to Absence or Self-Isolation
Please be aware that students are not expected to complete work from home if they are ill; their focus should be on recovering during this time. If students are self-isolating but asymptomatic or recovered well enough to work they should check the work for their class on SharePoint (accessed via the school website) in the first instance and then contact their teachers directly to see if they can join lessons live via Teams if appropriate.
If absence for a student has not been authorised for any reason, missed work must be caught up upon their return to school.

CCHSG 500 Club – Winners of the October Draw
Congratulations to our winders:
1st Prize £182: ticket 98918-1683986 – staff member
2nd Prize £109: ticket 98918-1723762 – parent of a student in Yr 12
3rd Prize £73: ticket 98918-1723652 – parent of a student in Yr 10
Our thanks go to all those generous parents and staff who have purchased tickets in support of the school. Tickets are still available at £40. In the absence of our annual PTFA Christmas Market fundraiser this year, please consider supporting us by purchasing a ticket for the remaining 9 draws via https://www.trybooking.com/uk/BDQU
Please purchase your tickets by 16.00 Friday 19 November, ahead of the next draw which takes place on Monday 22 November. All the funds raised will go directly towards the provision of additional resources and equipment for our students. Terms and condition apply and can be found on our website https://www.cchsg.com/500-club-rules/

Half-termly e-newsletter
The e-newsletter for this half term is now available via the website at https://www.cchsg.com/latest-newsletter/
Items featured in this edition include the PTFA AGM and updates, Yr 13 Biology Field Trip, New Head Student Team, Safer School Streets in Essex Initiative, the launch of the Alpha Teaching School Hub, the Afro-Caribbean Society presentation about microaggressions, updates from MedSoc and VetSoc, the Essex Showcase for the Arts, and feedback from the CCHSG Summer School 2021.

Lost Property
All unnamed lost property that has been handed in since the start of term, has been photographed and recorded on SharePoint for students to view.
Please urge students to check to see if anything belongs to them, items can be collected from Reception. Unclaimed lost property will be disposed of at the end of the Autumn Term.

Healthy Living Rotations
Yrs 7 & 8 students should have been notified by their Form Tutor which Healthy Living Rotation they will be on and noted the dates in their planner. Parents will be sent a reminder email the week before your child is due to have their rotation.
Rotations with Mrs Webb will be:
Yr 7 on Monday Periods 4 and 5 or Tuesday Periods 2 and 3 – Week B
Yr 8 on Monday Periods 4 and 5 or Tuesday Periods 2 and 3 – Week A
Students can access the initial recipes to check ingredients via: SharePoint. We hope they enjoy their Healthy Living sessions.

Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Activities

PE Fixtures

Date	Time	Event	Against	Location	Year(s)
19.10.2021	15.10 – 17.30	Netball tournament	Various	Away	Yr 7

Students should also check the noticeboard in PE regularly for any updates or changes.

Schools Will Rock You
The cast list has now been posted. Students should come along and a) check their name is spelt correctly b) cross their name off of the list if they no longer wish to be involved and c) check that their name has been added to the list – if not let Mrs Cudmore-Rice know.
Rehearsals begin on Wednesday 3 November:
15.35 – 16.30 The GA GA kids – all Yr 7 and 8 students
15.35 – 17.00 – Principles and all named roles – initial read through of the script
Thank you to all who auditioned, as always the standard was very high. We are looking forward to working with all the students involved, Mrs Cudmore-Rice and Mrs Jefferies.

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Yr 11 & 13 Mathematics Department Revision Sessions
Starting after Half Term, the Mathematics department will be running lunchtime revision sessions for students in Yrs 11 and 13. Please see the timetable below.

Yr 13 Revision	Week A	Week B
	Tuesday: Pure with Mrs Roshen in M10	Tuesday: Pure with Miss Dai in M10
	Monday: Statistics with Mrs Ball in M10	Monday: Mechanics with Mrs Bradnum in M10

Yr 11 Revision	Week A	Week B
	Monday with Mr Walsh in M9	Tuesday with Miss Burnett in M7

Yr 11 Weekly GCSE Biology Revision Sessions
These will start on Tuesday 2 November, in F13 all welcome.
The first few sessions before mock examinations will focus on Yr 9 content and each week we will look at key information and questions.
First topic = heart and circulatory system

CCHSG Book of the Month – November
This month's book is Ugly Dogs Don't Cry by DD Armstrong, please see poster below for full details. In addition to reading the book students are encouraged to write a review and email it to Mrs Croxson via ccroxson@cchsg.com by the last Friday of the month.

Shakespeare Club
The club will be reading the following plays on the following dates at 10.30 via Teams (Shakespeare's take on A Level Classical Civilisation!):
Saturday 30 October: Julius Caesar
Saturday 13 November: Antony and Cleopatra
If you wish to take part, please email ADavidson@cchsg.com by Sunday 23 October – **please note** this email address is very similar to another member of staff's, so if manually entering the email address please type carefully!

The Kilt!
The editorial team thank students for submissions for this edition of the KILT! They are excited to announce that the Christmas edition will also soon be in the works. All submissions must be sent to Section Editors by Friday 12 November. Students should see the Student Bulletin for more details.

E-Safety Information
This week, rather than focus on what not to do online we thought we would suggest some positive uses for technology and time spent online.

We encourage everyone to use technology safely, responsibly and respectfully but also acknowledge the wide range of educational opportunities and enjoyment it presents us with. The poster below suggested summer holiday activities suitable for all types of students but is also relevant for any extended time away from school and therefore applies to the forthcoming October holiday.

Enjoy the Half Term break.

Parent Controls on Netflix
With over 5,052 TV shows, documentaries and movies currently on Netflix in the UK, there is a lot of great content that young people can use to learn from, engage with or use just to relax with. The sheer number of titles on Netflix does however mean that there is some content that is not appropriate for all users to watch, with some films and TV shows age rated as 15 or 18.
Parental controls are designed to help protect children from inappropriate content they may come across online. These controls can be used to restrict access to age-inappropriate content, to set usage times and to monitor activity. On Netflix specifically, parental controls are available to restrict what young people can watch, as well as to see what young people have been watching.
It is worth being aware that no parental controls or filtering options are 100% effective. As children grow up, they can become quite tech-savvy and this could mean that they learn how to disable or by-pass parental controls.
With parental controls, it is important to remember to keep passwords private from your children – sharing it may mean they can turn off or modify the parental settings which you have put in place.
Before you implement or change your parental control settings have a conversation with your children, talk about why you are doing this and what it means for their internet use. Use this as an opportunity to talk to them about the way they spend their time online and the things they may see online.
Please see the article below for more information on how parents can monitor what is being watched on devices:
https://parentzone.org.uk/article/netflix-everything-you-need-know-about-streaming-service

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Community Information

West Bergholt Concert & Training Band

The band are inviting woodwind and brass musicians to join them for an afternoon workshop 14.00 – 17.00 and evening concert at 19.30 on Saturday 20 November at St Botolph's church in Colchester.
The workshop is a great opportunity to experience a full concert band playing a wide range of music and is open to Brass and Woodwind players, for either the Training Band (Grades 1-4), the Concert Band (Grades 4+), or both. Any family or friends who would like to take part will also be very welcome – the band is renowned to being open to all ages.
The band are a relaxed group whose aim is to make music fun, so wrong notes will be expected, and the band's experienced players (of all ages) will be on hand to provide support. The band have been holding these kind of events with local schools and school musicians for many years, they always prove to be enjoyable for both the school musicians and the band themselves.
For further information and to register your interest please email the band's conductor on Conductor@wbcb.org

Women's Self Defence Classes

Hidden Dragon Kung Fu are running a four-week women's self defence course from Monday 1 November 19.15 – 20.45 in Shrub End, Colchester. For further information and to sign up please visit https://hiddendragon.club/

Dining Room Arrangements

Breakfast – 'to go' served between 08.00 – 08.35, accessed via the Dining Hall Extension Doors outside the servery.
Breaktime – Yrs 7-11 need to go to the allocated outside area to eat. Break service 'to go' in Dining Hall.
Lunchtime – hot food in Dining Hall at allocated time for each Year Group, cold food and pre-ordered panini/sandwiches available from outside servery 12.35 – 13.00. Yrs 12&13 pre-ordered food in Sixth Form Refectory from 12.15.
There must be no eating in classrooms except if wet lunch is declared. The school field is open to all but there is no eating on field.
Pre-orders must be made by 08.30. Please ensure your child's meal account is in credit.

Student Lunch Order

Sixth Form Lunch Order

Menu for w/c 1 November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spaghetti Bolognaise with Sweetcorn	Paella	Beef Burger, Chips & Beans	**Sticky Chinese Chicken with Rice & Sweetcorn**	Seafood Tagliatelle with Broccoli
Or				
Goats Cheese & Onion Tart with Salad	Vegetable Lasagne with Salad	Macaroni Cheese with Peas	Cheesy Pie with Salad	Quiche with Salad
Main Meal £3				
Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce	Apple Crumble with Custard	Chocolate Mousse	Rice Pudding with Jam	Bakewell Tart with Custard
Pudding £1.20				
Panini £3				
Soup of the Day (changes daily) £0.60 with Homemade Bread £0.40				
Tomato & Basil	Carrot & Coriander	Leek & Potato	Butternut Squash & Sweet Potato	Tomato & Lentil

Correspondence Sent out this Week:

All Yrs: School Early Closure on Thursday 4 November
Yr 7: Healthy Living Session (7XR2 and 7YR2)
Yr 9: A Streetcar Named Desire (9SWA/En and 9BWI/En)
Yr 12: Lessons from Auschwitz Project (selected students)

Deadline for Replies and Payments

Year Group	Trip or Event	Deadline for Response
Yrs 9-11	KS4 Mathematics Textbook Purchase	Friday 22 October
Yr 11	GCSE Mathematics Revision Materials	Monday 1 November
Yr 12	Lessons from Auschwitz Project	Wednesday 20 October
Yrs 12 & 13	A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics Textbook Purchase	Thursday 21 October

Word of the Week for w/c 1 November

Next week the word is: delinquent – failing in or neglectful of a duty or obligation; guilty of a misdeed or offence.

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PTFA
Registered Charity No. 1110464

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

1. Diary Dates for Autumn Term (2021/2022 Academic Year)

- **PTFA Meeting – Monday 8 November, 19.30 - 21.00**
  All are welcome to this meeting to discuss events/fundraising for the 2021/2022 academic year.
- **Second Hand Uniform Sale dates in 2021/2022 Academic Year**
  1. Autumn Term - Saturday 27 November 09.00-13.00
  2. Spring Term - Saturday 19 March 09.00-13.00
  3. Summer Term - Saturday 25 June 09.00-13.00

  Please note that second hand uniform sales cannot take place outside published dates.

2. Second Hand Uniform & Book Sale - Saturday 27 November 10.00 – 14.00

Despite the cancellation of the Christmas Market, a Second Hand Uniform Sale open to all Year Groups will still take place on **Saturday 27 November 09.00 – 13.00 in the Main Hall.** This sale will not be by appointment but we do anticipate a large attendance, so we would appreciate your support and patience as we get you through the sale room. Please continue to donate any outgrown items of uniform, good quality revision materials or fiction and non-fiction books still in sale worthy condition to the PTFA. All donations of books and uniform are gratefully received and can be left in the clearly marked PTFA wheelie bins outside the School Reception.

Please note the following:

1. A strict in and out system will be in place during the sale.
2. All shoppers and volunteers must adhere to social distancing guidelines at all times.
3. Although government restrictions regarding the wearing of masks are currently lifted, the situation will be kept under review, and we recommend that all shoppers and volunteers wear masks and sanitise hands regularly.
4. A hand hygiene station will be available at the entrance and exit points of the sale room.
5. Siblings are not allowed unless they are currently at the school and need to get uniform.

The PTFA would be very grateful for volunteers to help prepare for the sales and to support with the stewarding and staffing during the sale.
To sign up as a volunteer, click this link: https://volunteersignup.org/WB9LM

3. PTFA Virtual Christmas Market

CCHSG PTFA will be running a **Virtual Christmas Market** on Facebook. We are delighted to offer this opportunity for our existing stallholders and other local business and individuals to promote their products and services, for a nominal fee, in our Virtual Market Place. Facebook Business Pages and Individual Members can apply to be Registered Advertisers with this Group. Membership is subject to Admin approval.

To register as an advertiser, complete this Google form: https://forms.gle/3E63TnD5oCXxdh9i8
The Group's Rules can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/groups/cchsgptfa/about
Every penny raised through membership fees goes directly to support the school. Why not invite your friends and acquaintances to join the group?

4. Help Raise Funds for CCHSG PTFA

If you have ideas that could help generate funds and/or create social opportunities for the PTFA community, please email us at cchsgptfa@gmail.com.
Here are two simple ways that you can already support the school whilst you shop online for the upcoming festive season including Diwali and Christmas.

- **Easyfundraising** - Thank you to everyone for raising funds for Colchester County High School for Girls PTA with Easyfundraising. If you have not signed up yet, it is easy and completely FREE. 6,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use Easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping – at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up now at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colchestercountygirlspta/
- AmazonSmile - You now need to search for amazon on www.easyfundraising.org.uk or the App. You will then be directed to AmazonSmile. Sign up to support Colchester County High School for Girls PTFA.

PTFA CONTACTS:
Chair: Agness O'Brien
agnessobrien@hotmail.com
Tel. 01376 573694 or 07951 511653
For all enquires related to the PTFA, email cchsgptfa@gmail.com

EdTech

SUMMER HOLIDAY GUIDE

It can be challenging to find holiday activities for digitally savvy young ones. There are plenty of edtech (educational technology) avenues to explore this summer, however, and we've compiled a rundown of our favourites...



For the gamer

There are some excellent free (or cheap) platforms out there which let budding programmers create their own games and characters. Children can discover the basics of game design as they learn how to build characters and make them speak, move and interact with each other. Young ones can construct a game from scratch and then share it with their friends.

Try: Play Lab at code.org • Toca Builders



For the photographer

If your child is an aspiring photographer or loves fine-tuning images before posting them on social media, there are options which young people may find less daunting than Photoshop. As well as editing and adjusting photos, making illustrations or converting between image formats, some packages are geared towards illustration while others let you work with raster and vector graphics.

Try: Photopea • Sumopaint • PhotoGrid



For the sports fan

Video games are usually seen as reducing the time young people spend exercising. However, there is a genre that encourages physical activity: from music-based games that get users up and dancing, to sports simulators where the controller becomes a tennis racket. Devices' ability to track movement in real time and translate it into a game can make physical activity less of a chore.

Try: Runkeeper • Strava • Zombies, Run! (12+)



For the coder

Online, you can find a selection of programming environments where users can learn to make simple apps. Young people can design an app, code it in JavaScript or work in text-based language, then share their newly created app with friends. With millions of aspiring coders in the world, the internet has an abundance of tutorials to get young ones started.

Try: App Lab at code.org • Dance Party at code.org • Flappy Code at code.org • Hour of Code



For the explorer

Young adventurers can discover the world from new perspectives – strolling Tokyo's streets or soaring over Yosemite. For those with virtual reality headsets, Google Earth VR puts the whole planet within reach, while – even further afield – youngsters can use their device to delve into the wonders of our solar system with virtual tours of NASA's labs and mission control centres.

Try: Google Maps Treks • Google Earth VR NASA at Home: Virtual Tours



For the avid reader

Your child's smartphone or tablet can become an inspirational learning tool that fires their imagination while improving their reading, vocabulary, spelling and comprehension. Mobile reading apps and audiobook libraries are worth setting some screen time aside for. As well as developing young ones' language skills, they also encourage the unbridled bliss of enjoying a good story.

Try: Hoopla • Epic • Audible



For the musician

Learning to play an instrument and creating music electronically has become much easier thanks to technology. As the field keeps advancing, more software is being created – and there are many applications which are compatible with various devices, including mobile phones. For example, your child could start their journey to becoming a superstar DJ with real-time mixing and editing tools.

Try: Let's Play Kids Music: Summer Musical • GarageBand • Transitions DJ • YouTube music tutorials



For the historian

Virtual tourism boomed when the pandemic cancelled everyone's travel plans. Let technology transport you to jaw-dropping historical sites or inside some the world's most inspiring museums. Explore the Colosseum or the Amazon rainforest in VR, take a virtual tour of the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park or step inside the British Museum without leaving your living room!

Try: HistoryView Virtual Library • The British Museum – Google Street View • The National Museum of Computing 3D Virtual Tour



For the artist

Unleash your child's creative streak over the holidays with these arts and craft activity ideas! Most are quick and easy to make with materials you'll probably already have at home. There are ideas for young artists of all abilities, so you're sure to find a few exciting projects to try out. Children could also take a virtual tour of some stunning galleries and art installations.

Try: Artist at code.org • Summer crafts for kids at Activity Village • Summer arts and crafts at Projects with Kids • Google Arts and Culture – virtual reality tours you'll love

Meet Our Expert

Gary Reddin is Leader of the Virtual Curriculum at AltBridge School, a specialist provision school in Liverpool. He has supported the integration of technology into the teaching practice across the curriculum to empower young people to reach their academic potential and prepare for life beyond school.



National Online Safety

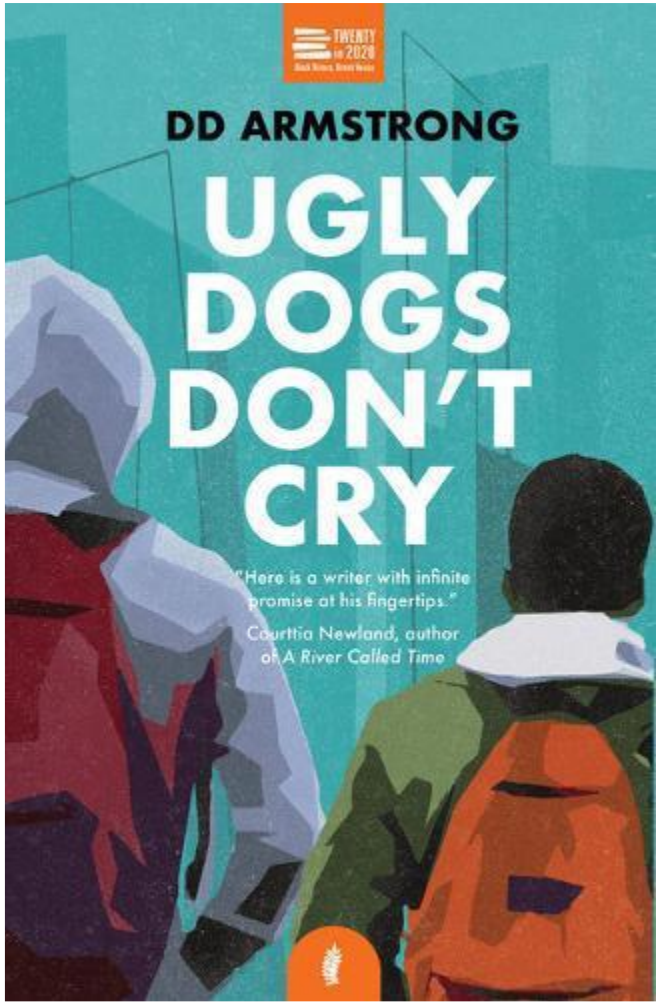
#WakeUpWednesday

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.08.2021

The CCHSG Book of the Month – November

UGLY DOGS DON'T CRY

By DD Armstrong



"The premise of this novel alone caught my attention, the author behind it even more so. With exceptional skill and sharp insight, DD Armstrong creates the most authentic representation of West London youth culture I've seen yet; his voice is fluid and natural, a joy to read, ranging from the humorous, to the emotionally gut wrenching within a few immersive pages. Here is a writer with infinite promise at his fingertips. Something tells me, with this reworked classic, he's only just getting started." Courttia Newland, author of *A River Called Time*

In addition to this, you are encouraged to write a review and email it to Mrs Croxson ccroxson@cchsg.comby the **last Friday of each month**