Colchester County High School for Girls
Parent Weekly Bulletin
25 February 2022

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 for CCHSG

Dates for Your Diary

Monday Week **B**	Feb	28	Assembly: Yr 12 via Teams Assembly: Yr 13 in the Lecture Theatre Yr 10 Examinations
Tuesday	Mar	1	Assembly: Yrs 10 & 11 via Teams Yr 10 Examinations DofE Gold Session 15.45 – 18.30
Wednesday	Mar	2	Assembly: Yrs 7 & 8 via Teams Fair Access Programme
Thursday	Mar	3	Assembly: Yr 9 via Teams Yr 7 Parent Consultation Evening (7H. 7E & 7S) 16.15 – 19.15
Friday	Mar	4	Yr 7 A Christmas Carol Performance, Periods 1-3 Yr 9 DofE Bronze Group B 15.45 – 17.30 Yr 12 EYP UK Regional Finals, 07.00 – 18.00

CCHSG Approach to 'Living with Covid'
Face Coverings are no longer advised for students and visitors to classrooms or communal areas. However, this is a personal choice and if students still wish to wear masks they are encouraged to.
We continue to urge students to continue regular hand washing and respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it). Regular cleaning will be maintained and windows will still be opened to ensure appropriate ventilation.
It is recommended that individuals should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result – please see letter below from Essex County Council. Public health advice can be found here. The associated household (including any siblings) should follow the UKHSA recommended guidance which can be found here.

Trips and Visits
With the full lifting of Covid- 19 restrictions we are now able to start planning for a range of trips and activities. We will keep you updated of these enrichment opportunities as they are agreed upon, so that you can plan accordingly.

Yr 10 Examinations
Examinations continue until the end of Tuesday 1 March. We remind students to please be considerate and silent when moving around school near examination rooms.
When not in an examination, students are expected to be in their normal lessons for preparation and revision, absence for revising at home will not be authorised.
We wish Year 10 every success in their examinations.

Yr 7 Parent Consultation Evening for 7H, 7E & 7S Thursday 3 March, 16.15 – 19.15
Parents have been sent a letter inviting them to this event, along with guidance for booking appointments via SchoolCloud.

CCHSG 500 Club – Winners of the February Draw
Congratulations to our February winners, you will be contacted by telephone or email.
First Prize £189: ticket 98918-1692180 – parent of a student in Yr 7
Second Prize £113: ticket 98918-1647408 – parent of a student in Yr 7
Third Prize £76: ticket 98918-1435075 – parent of a student in Yr 13
Our thanks go to all those generous parents and staff who have purchased tickets in support of the school. The next draw takes place on Monday 21 March. All the funds raised will go directly towards the provision of additional resources and equipment for our students. Terms and conditions apply and can be found on our website https://www.cchsg.com/500-club-rules/
We are very grateful to the winner of this month's 500 Club first prize, who has generously donated the prize money back to school funds.

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.
Next week's rotations are – **Monday 28 February is 7Y Rotation 4** and on **Tuesday 1 March is 7X Rotation 4**. We hope they enjoy their Healthy Living sessions.

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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Lost Property
Any unnamed lost property that has been handed in since the start of this term, has been photographed and recorded on SharePoint for students to view. We urge them to check to see if anything belongs to them, items can be collected from Reception. **Please ensure all belongings brought into school are named.**

Science Technician Vacancy
We are advertising for a Science Technician to support with the preparation of materials and equipment for Science lessons. The maintenance of the Science laboratories, preparation rooms and equipment in good order is also required. Previous experience of working in a Science laboratory and/or a knowledge of Biology, Chemistry and Physics is desirable.
If you are interested in helping out in the short term please email recruitment@cchsg.com.
If you are interested in applying for the permanent post please see further information on our website, www.cchsg.com, and download an application pack or email recruitment@cchsg.com. All applications must be submitted on the support staff application form and accompanied by a covering letter, addressed to the Executive Principal.

Wellbeing Information
Any student who feels they need wellbeing support, 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.

Curricular and Enrichment Activities

PE Fixtures

Date	Time	Event	Against	Location	Year(s)
28.02.2022	14.30 – 15.45	Netball	Woodlands	Away	Yr 7
28.02.2022	15.30 – 16.45	Netball Essex Cup	Sacred Heart	CCHSG	U16

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

Yr 13 A Level Biology Revision – Wednesdays 12.15 – 13.15 in F13
These will continue each week on Wednesday, picking up a different topic/skill. Next week we will be reviewing histology of all specified organs and tissues and looking at the style of questions the examination board ask.

Yr 11 GCSE Biology Revision – Thursdays 12.45 – 13.15 in F13
These will continue each week on Thursdays, picking up a different topic/skill. Students are welcome to being their lunch. Next week we will be continuing with topic 7 – homeostasis.

Yr 11 GCSE History Revision
Weekly revision sessions for Yr 11 History students continue every Monday in T21 from 12.45 (students are welcome to being their lunch). Each week will focus on a different examination question and therefore all History students are encouraged to attend.

SUMS: Yr 12 A level Mathematics
The latest issue of SUMS, a monthly web-magazine from AMSP for Yr 12 A level Mathematics students, is now available to read! **SUMS (Steps to University for Mathematical Students)** aims to encourage and support applications to university Mathematics courses.
This month's issue features a masterclass in graph sketching, and a chat with a student who reflects on three years studying Mathematics at university. We also hear from Dr Jackie Bell who hopes that Mathematics will take her into space!
https://my.integralmaths.org/course/view.php?id=250

Community Information

National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain Performance
From Tuesday 22 February, the National Youth Orchestra will be streaming their concert performed in the Barbican on BBC Sounds and Radio 3. Sian Edwards conducts a programme that ends with Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances. Before it, comes two much newer pieces, Dani Howard's Coalescence - which explores how the human race has attempted to 'outsmart' nature over the centuries, and Karim Al-Zand's City Scenes, which captures the beauty and chaos of life in a city. Not to forget a short interlude by Thea Musgrave performed by a solo percussionist and 3 flautists, including a student from CCHSG in 13O.

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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.

Pre-orders must be made by 08.30
Please ensure your child's ParentPay meal account is in credit.

Student Lunch Order

Sixth Form Lunch Order

Menu for w/c 28 February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chilli con Carne with Rice	Roast Turkey, Roast Potatoes with Peas & Carrots	Pizza, Chips & Salad	Cajun Chicken with Potato Wedges & Sweetcorn	Breaded Cod, Sauté Potatoes & Broccoli
Or				
Vegetable Lasagne with Salad	`Vegetable Pasta Salad (Vegan)	Macaroni Cheese with Peas	Mushroom Stroganoff with Rice	Gnocchi in Tomato Sauce (Vegan)
Main Meal £3				
Jam Sponge Pudding with Custard	Pancakes	White Chocolate Cheesecake	Apple Crumble with Custard	Bakewell Tart with Custard
Pudding £1.20				
Panini £3				
Soup of the Day (changes daily) £0.60 with Homemade Bread £0.40				
Vegetable (Vegan)	Broccoli & Stilton	Minestrone (Vegan)	French Onion (Vegan)	Tomato & Basil

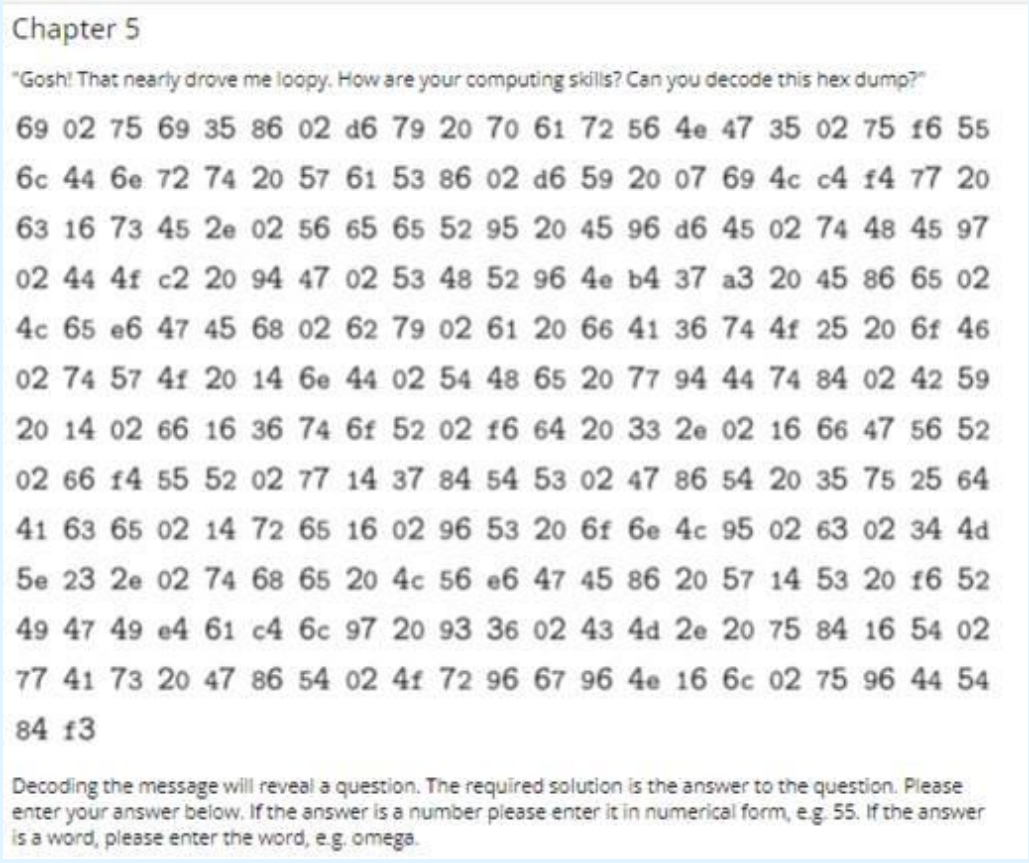
Correspondence Sent out this Week
All Yrs: Government Covid-19 Guidance from Essex County Council
All Yrs: Nearly New Uniform Donations – Volunteers Needed
Yrs 7 – 10: Rosetta Stone Independent Language Learning Club (selected students)
Yr 9: Parent Consultation Evening Feedback
Yr 9: Magistrates' Mock Trial Competition (selected students)
Yrs 9 – 11: Ski Trip 2023
Yr 11: Additional Mathematics Qualification
Yr 11: GCSE English Revision Materials (selected students)
Yr 12**:** European Youth Parliament UK Regional Session
Yr 12: Young Enterprise Trade Fair (selected students)

Deadline for Replies and Payments

Year Group	Trip or Event	Deadline for Response
Yr 7	Tickets for PTFA Welcome Party	Friday 18 March
Yrs 7 - 10	Rosetta Stone Independent Language Learning Club	Tuesday 1 March
Yr 9	Magistrates' Mock Trial Competition	Friday 25 February
Yr 9	DofE Bronze Group A Training Day	Tuesday 19 April
Yr 9	DofE Bronze Group B Training Day	Friday 29 April
Yrs 9 – 11	Ski Trip 2023	Monday 28 February
Yr 10	DofE Bronze Group A Training Day	Friday 11 March
Yr 10	DofE Bronze Group B Training Day	Friday 18 March
Yrs 10 & 11	GCSE PE Webinar	Friday 4 March
Yr 11	Additional Mathematics Qualification	Friday 25 February
Yr 11	GCSE English Revision Materials	Wednesday 16 March
Yr 12	European Youth Parliament UK Regional Session	Friday 25 February
Yr 12	Young Enterprise Trade Fair	Friday 25 February
Yr 12 & 13	A Level PE Webinar	Friday 4 March
Yrs 12 & 13	DofE Gold Training Day and Practice Expedition	Friday 4 March
Yr 13	A Level Further Mathematics Revision Materials	Friday 11 March

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Mr Williams' Weekly Mathematics Conundrum
Well done to everyone who entered last week, particularly to a student in 7L who submitted the only correct answer of 4.
This week's Cryptography Conundrum is as follows:



Chapter 5

"Gosh! That nearly drove me loopy. How are your computing skills? Can you decode this hex dump?"

69 02 75 69 35 86 02 d6 79 20 70 61 72 56 4e 47 35 02 75 f6 55
6c 44 6e 72 74 20 57 61 53 86 02 d6 59 20 07 69 4c c4 f4 77 20
63 16 73 45 2e 02 56 65 65 52 95 20 45 96 d6 45 02 74 48 45 97
02 44 4f c2 20 94 47 02 53 48 52 96 4e b4 37 a3 20 45 86 65 02
4c 65 e6 47 45 68 02 62 79 02 61 20 66 41 36 74 4f 25 20 6f 46
02 74 57 4f 20 14 6e 44 02 54 48 65 20 77 94 44 74 84 02 42 59
20 14 02 66 16 36 74 6f 52 02 f6 64 20 33 2e 02 16 66 47 56 52
02 66 f4 55 52 02 77 14 37 84 54 53 02 47 86 54 20 35 75 25 64
41 63 65 02 14 72 65 16 02 96 53 20 6f 6e 4c 95 02 63 02 34 4d
5e 23 2e 02 74 68 65 20 4c 56 e6 47 45 86 20 57 14 53 20 f6 52
49 47 49 e4 61 c4 6c 97 20 93 36 02 43 4d 2e 20 75 84 16 54 02
77 41 73 20 47 86 54 02 4f 72 96 67 96 4e 16 6c 02 75 96 44 54
84 f3

Decoding the message will reveal a question. The required solution is the answer to the question. Please enter your answer below. If the answer is a number please enter it in numerical form, e.g. 55. If the answer is a word, please enter the word, e.g. omega.

Submit your answers via Mr Williams' Weekly Mathematics Conundrum – best of luck!

Word of the Week for w/c 25 February
Next week the word is: **UNBECOMING** – detracting from one's appearance, character or reputation.

Colchester County High School for Girls
25 February 2022

PTFA
Registered Charity No. 1110464

1. **Spring Term Dates for Your Diary**
   - **Spring Term Nearly New Uniform & Book Sale for All Year Groups:** Saturday 19 March, 09.00-13.00
   - **Welcome Party for Year 7 Students and Parents:** Friday 25 March, 19.00-21.00 (Doors open from 18.30)
   - **PTFA Meeting:** Monday 28 March, 19.30-21.00
   - **Quiz & Curry Night:** Friday 22 April, 19.00-21.30 (Doors open from 18.30)
     Tickets sale will commence on Friday 4 March 2022

   Note: All planned PTFA events are continually reviewed and where necessary changes will be made in response to the latest government guidance.

2. **Spring Term Nearly New Uniform and Books Sale** (Saturday 19 March 09.00-13.00)
   The next Nearly New Uniform Sale open to all Year Groups will take place on Saturday 19 March 2022 (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 try to avoid bringing siblings, unless they are currently at the school and need to get uniform.

   Volunteer opportunities are now open for the above sale. To sign up, please click on the following web link (or copy it into your web browser if clicking doesn't work) to go to the signup sheet. Thank you for volunteering!
   https://volunteersignup.org/WB9LM

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

3. **Nearly New Uniform Donations – Volunteers needed**
   Thanks to generous donations of uniform, our Nearly New Uniform Shop has been a steady source of income bringing in an average of £7,000 annually. We do however, need more volunteers to come forward to help with washing, ironing and mending the items donated before they go on sale. Ideally, we would like to establish a team of at least 6 people, who can be part of a rota, collecting items from the designated wheelie bins. With this number of volunteers the commitment would be minimal, with each volunteer only needing to collect items once every 6 weeks. Most of the volunteers currently working on this scheme have children who will be leaving CCHSG soon so we would like to encourage parent volunteers from Years 7 and 8 to come forward so that we can continue to provide this useful service to our community. Please email cchsgptfa@gmail.com to volunteer.

4. **Welcome Party for Year 7 Students and Parents: Friday 25 March, 19.00-21.00**
   (Doors open from 18.30).
   We are pleased to invite students and parents of current Year 7 to this rescheduled **Welcome Party**. Further details can be found in the letter sent to parents.

   Volunteer opportunities are now open for this event. To sign up, please click on the following web link (or copy it into your web browser if clicking doesn't work) to go to the signup sheet. Thank you for volunteering!
   https://volunteersignup.org/ADCJH

5. **Raise FREE donations for CCHSG PTFA via Easyfundraising & AmazonSmile**
   Here are two simple ways that you can support the school whilst you shop online for all your travel, business or family needs.
   - You can sign up and help us by choosing to support Colchester County High School for Girls PTFA on the **AmazonSmile** website, or search for AmazonSmile 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 for all other online purchases via **Easyfundraising** at: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colchestercountygirlspta/ or scan the QR-code. Every time you do your online shopping via easyfundraising, retailers donate money to CCHSG PTFA, completely free of charge

6. **Fundraising Ideas**
   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

PTFA CONTACTS: For all enquires related to PTFA email cchsgptfa@gmail.com

This letter was sent to parents on Thursday 24 February

Essex County Council

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to advise you of the changes to Government Covid-19 guidance which come into place from Thursday 24 February 2022.

Whilst we are now learning to live with COVID-19, it is important to remember that the global pandemic is not yet over. However, the Government have stated that vaccines have enabled the gradual and safe removal of restrictions on everyday life over the past year and will remain at the heart of their approach to living with the virus in the future.

On Monday 21st February 2022, the Prime Minister announced the following:

Testing:
Regular asymptomatic testing has helped to reduce transmission in education and childcare settings and maintain face-to-face education and care. However, it has also placed a burden on teachers, parents, pupils and students throughout the pandemic.

The Government has announced therefore that it is in a position to lift this guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings, allowing pupils and students across the country to focus on their education. This guidance was lifted as of Tuesday 22 February 2022.

However, staff and pupils of secondary age and above in specialist SEND settings, Alternative Provision, and SEND units within mainstream schools are advised to continue regular twice weekly testing. Staff and students are able to access test kits from their local pharmacy or online.

The Legal Duty to Self-Isolate:
As of Thursday 24 February 2022, the Government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test.

Adults and children who test positive will continue **to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days** and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days or until the tenth day.

Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be required to test daily for 7 days, and the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate has been removed. Routine contact tracing will end. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests.

Free testing will end from 1st April 2022 for the general public, including those with symptoms. However, the Government will continue to provide free tests for symptomatic people for the oldest age groups, and those who are most vulnerable.

I would like to remind you that school attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age, and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school. Therefore, your child should be attending school unless they are not well enough to attend or they test positive for Covid 19 – see guidance above.

Thank you once again for all for the support that you continue to provide in supporting your child's education, which remains paramount at this time.

With best wishes

Clare Kershaw

Clare Kershaw
Director of Education

Essex County Council