# Colchester County High School for Girls
# Parent Weekly Bulletin
# 16 September 2022

**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**
Thursday 1 September
Friday 2 September
Thursday 20 October
Friday 21 October
Monday 19 December
Tuesday 20 December
Wednesday 19 July
Thursday 20 July
Friday 21 July

**Term Dates 2023 – 2024**

**Autumn Term**
Monday 4 September
Wednesday 20 December

**Half Term**
Monday 23 October
Friday 27 October

**Spring Term**
Thursday 4 January
Thursday 28 March
**Bank Holiday**
Friday 29 March

**Half Term**
Monday 19 February
Friday 23 February

**Summer Term**
Monday 15 April
Tuesday 23 July
**Bank Holiday**
Monday 6 May

**Half Term**
Monday 27 May
Friday 31 May

**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**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Saturday | Sep | 17 | 11+ Test Day |
| Monday **Week A** | Sep | 19 | Bank Holiday |
| Tuesday | Sep | 20 | Assembly: Yr 11 in the Hall |
| Wednesday | Sep | 21 | Assembly: Yr 9 via Teams<br>Yr 12 SLT Welcome Breakfast for 12E,S&T 08.50 – 09.05<br>Yr 12 Information Evening 19.00 |
| Thursday | Sep | 22 | Assembly: Yr 7 in the Hall<br>Yr 11 Information Evening 19.00 |
| Friday | Sep | 23 | |

**Bank Holiday – Monday 19 September**
As you are aware the government has confirmed that the official date of the State Funeral for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, is Monday 19 September which has been designated a bank holiday and therefore school will be closed on this day. Lessons will resume on Tuesday 20 September at the normal time. In addition, any events already organised for this week will go ahead as planned, and any events affected by the closure of schools on Monday 19 September will be rescheduled to another time.

**Votes for Schools**
This week's topic was: *Is it a good time to become Prime Minister?*

**Student Uniform Reminder**
Students are reminded that they should have their blazer with them at all times. The cardigan is an addition to the uniform and should be worn under the blazer.

**Yr 7 Art Kit Purchase**
Parents have been invited to purchase an Art Kit. If they have not already ordered a kit but would like to do so, the kits are still available to order by making payment via ParentPay. The final deadline for orders is Monday 19 September. Thank you.

**Lost Property**
Today is the last chance to claim any unnamed items recovered from classrooms over the summer holiday, these can be viewed by students via SharePoint. Items can be claimed at Reception.
Any unclaimed items remaining after today will be disposed of.

**Healthy Living**
Healthy Living Rotations commence for Yr 8 on **Tuesday 20 September, with 8X Rotation 1**.
Students in 8XR1 and their parents have been with the initial recipe for ingredients, students can also check this via SharePoint.

**Vacancies at CCHSG**
If you know anyone who might be interested in our Caretaker vacancy, please direct them to the CCHSG website - https://www.cchsg.com/vacancies/.

**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.

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

# Parent Weekly Bulletin – 16 September 2022

**Curricular and Enrichment Activities**

**Music Extra-Curricular Club Programme**
Please find below the Music club programme for the Autumn Term.

**Public Speaking Competition with the Historical Association, the Great Debate**
The Great Debate is a public speaking competition where students have five minutes to present their speech arguing their answer to the question: **Why does history matter to me?**
Students must demonstrate research as well as historical arguments. To answer the question set this year we would encourage students to explore their own family histories, their local areas or to concentrate on a key historical event that they think affects them or the world they live in. Students do not use props or slides of any kind.
For competition rules and guidance see: https://www.history.org.uk/secondary/categories/514/news/3886/the-great-debate-2023
If interested, students can register their interest via this form by the end of the month:
Historical Association Great Debate Competition 2022-23

**Geog Docs – Friday Lunchtime in T19**
Every Friday lunchtime in T19, we will be watching a Geography themed documentary. Students can bring their lunch and learn more about our amazing planet! Everyone is welcome, even if they do not study Geography.

**Young Writers – The Power of Poetry**
Students who wish to flex their poetry writing muscles should collect a competition entry form from F14. Poems can be any length, on any topic and they do not have to rhyme! All entries should be handed in to Miss Simcock by Monday 17 October. Successful entries will be published in the Young Writers anthology and the top five poets receive a £50 prize.

**Yrs 12 & 13 Physics Entrance Examination Preparation – Tuesday Lunchtime in G2**
For students who are interested in applying to Oxbridge and would like a chance to go through some preparation for the entrance examination. We will go through a few questions every week and all students are welcome even if they are not applying but enjoy some challenging Physics!

**School Production *Les Misérables***
The cast list for the show will be available on the Drama noticeboard next week. Students should check carefully and see Mrs Cudmore-Rice if their name has been missed off. If students no longer wish to participate in the show, they should put a single line through their name.
Rehearsals will start shortly. Students should also make sure they are checking their emails and the notice board in Music and Drama for any information and updates.

**Art Design Opportunity**
Army Captain Preet Chandi has put out a call for students to design a logo for her upcoming solo unsupported expedition crossing the Antarctic. Preet is the first woman of colour to do a solo expedition in the Antarctic, an extraordinary feat in itself considering there are so few female adventurers. Preet is a fantastic role model for the young women at our school, representing both women of colour in the Armed Forces, as well as a woman in STEM in her role as a physiotherapist. Students should look out for posters in school with further information in the coming days to be involved in this fantastic creative opportunity or see Mrs Crozier in the Art department.

**All Yrs – It's a Classic Readalong**
Mrs Davidson will resume It's a Classic with reading Mrs Gaskell's 'Cranford' (1851) from Monday 26 September via MS Teams. The group will read a chapter a day and post discussion comments on the Teams page. The book is available free online and on kindle.
Mrs Davidson is also open to suggestion for further classics for this series, please email adavidson@cchsg.com.

***The Kilt***
Students are invited to write articles for T*he Kilt.* The new editorial team introduce themselves and are looking for students to submit articles for the next edition, students should see the information on the Student Bulletin.

**VetSoc – Friday Lunchtime in F13**
VetSoc is starting from Friday 23 September. It will be every week from 12.45 in F13. They are looking forward to seeing everyone!

# Parent Weekly Bulletin – 16 September 2022

**e-Safety Information – What Parents Need to Know about Roblox**

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA and UK play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

We know that games such as Roblox and Minecraft are incredibly popular especially amongst students at CCHSG, especially those in the lower year groups; therefore, we have attached this guide to help parents keep their children safe. In the guide, you will find tips on several potential risks such as online daters, in-app purchases and contact with strangers

**Careers Information**

Careers Lead – Mr Gosling

**Larking Gowen Careers Open Evenings**

Larking Gowen is a UK top 40 accountancy firm with a major regional presence in East Anglia. They are holding an open careers evening where they will offer insight into the accountancy and business advisory profession. There will be the opportunity to meet employees and find out what it is like to work with there https://www.larking-gowen.co.uk/events/event-larking-gowen-careers-open-evening/

**Dining Room Arrangements**

Breakfast – '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 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 19 September**

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bank Holiday | Spaghetti Bolognese with Sweetcorn | Pizza, Chips & Salad | Sticky Chinese Chicken with Rice & Sweetcorn | Breaded Cod with Sauté Potatoes & Green Beans |
| Or | | | | |
| Bank Holiday | Vegetable Curry with Rice | Macaroni Cheese with Peas | Mushroom Stroganoff with Rice | Ratatouille (Vegan) with Cheesy Bead |
| Main Meal £3.30 | | | | |
| Bank Holiday | Apple Cake with Custard | Cheesecake | Pancakes | White Chocolate Mousse |
| Pudding £1.30 | | | | |
| Panini £3.30 | | | | |
| Soup of the Day (changes daily) £0.60 with Homemade Bread £0.40 | | | | |
| Bank Holiday | Vegetable (Vegan) | Leek & Potato (Vegan) | Carrot & Coriander (Vegan) | French Onion (Vegan) |

# Parent Weekly Bulletin – 16 September 2022

**Correspondence Sent out this Week**
All Yrs: Notice of PTFA Annual General Meeting
All Yrs: Gifted and Talented in Sport
Yr 8: Healthy Living Sessions (selected students)
Yr 8: Year 8 Information Evening
Yr 9: Art Kit Purchase
Yr 9: Year 9 Information Evening
Yr 9: AQA Level 2 Higher Project Qualification (selected students)
Yr 10: Careers Visit to Colchester Zoo
Yr 10: Year 10 Information Evening
Yr 11: Year 11 Information Evening
Yr 11: GCSE Mathematics Revision Materials
Yr 12: Information Evening
Yr 12: Art Kit Purchase
Yr 12: Field Trip to Iceland 2023
Yr 12: Geography Review Subscription
Yrs 12 & 13: Science Review Magazine Purchase

**Deadline for Replies and Payments**

| Year Group | Trip or Event | Deadline for Response |
|---|---|---|
| All Yrs | Gifted and Talented in Sport | Friday 23 September |
| Yr 9 | AQA Level 2 Higher Project Qualification | Friday 23 September |
| Yr 9 | Art Kit Purchase | Friday 30 September |
| Yr 10 | Careers Visit to Colchester Zoo | Wednesday 21 September |
| Yr 11 | GCSE Mathematics Revision Materials | Friday 30 September |
| Yr 12 | Field Trip to Iceland Expression of Interest | Monday 19 September |
| Yr 12 | Geography Review Subscription | Friday 30 September |
| Yr 12 | Art Kit Purchase | Friday 30 September |
| Yrs 12 & 13 | The Education Funding Agency (EFA) Bursary Fund | Friday 16 September |
| Yrs 12 & 13 | Science Review Magazine Purchase | Monday 3 October |

**Word of the Week for w/c 19 September**
Next week the word is: **UMBRAGE** – feeling of anger or annoyance caused by something offensive.

# Colchester County High School for Girls
# 16 September 2022

PTFA
Registered Charity No. 1110464

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

**1. Autumn Term Dates for Your Diary**

- **PTFA AGM and Ordinary Meeting**: Monday 26 September 19.00 – 20.30
- **Year 9 Social Evening for Parents and Students**: Friday 14 October 19.00 – 21.30
- **Annual Christmas Market**: Saturday 26 November, 12.00 – 15.00
  Save the date for this popular annual fundraising event hosted by CCHSG PTFA which is open to our local community.

**2. Year 9 Social Evening for Parents and Students: Friday 14 October 19.00 – 21.30**
Year 9 parents and students are invited to a Social Evening on Friday 14 October.

**Further details and tickets £10/students** available on Classlist (Community Events - Year 9 Parents & Students Social Evening, Friday 14 October)

If you are not on Classlist yet, please join via https://app.classlist.com/start/#/ and follow instructions to join Classlist for Colchester County High School for Girls, adding yourself and your child to the assigned Form Group.

**Volunteer sign-up*:*** If you can help at this upcoming event, please sign-up at https://volunteersignup.org/MEQPH

**3. Annual Christmas Market 2022 – Invitation to Stallholders**
Bookings are now open for stalls at this very popular annual event, open to the school community and general public, on Saturday 26 November, 12.00-15.00.
Cost: Single stall £25, Double stalls £40. For further details and a copy of the booking form please email cchsgptfa@gmail.com

**4. Beresfords Estate Agent's advertising boards to promote the Christmas Market**
This year, once again, we are delighted to have our Christmas Market advertised by Beresfords Estate Agents. We will be back in touch with all those parents, grandparents and friends who previously registered their addresses in Colchester to confirm that they are happy to host a board again this year. This time, we are pleased that the advertising will also cover Chelmsford. If you own a property in Colchester or Chelmsford which is in a prominent location with public access or visibility and would like to volunteer your address, please let us know. Boards are installed no more than 3 weeks before the event and removed during the week afterwards. Family and friends can also volunteer.

Contact CCHSG PTFA on Classlist or email cchsgptfa@gmail.com with your full address, preferred email and contact telephone details. **Please let us know by 21 October.**

**5. Classlist (Years 7-11)**
At CCHSG, we use Classlist to connect our parent community and to keep them informed on all PTFA's activities and fundraising initiatives. If you have not registered with Classlist, please do so now via https://app.classlist.com/start/#/ and follow instructions to join Classlist for Colchester County High School for Girls, adding yourself and your child to the assigned Form Group and stay up to date with our news and events. We encourage all parents to join this wonderful and safe online community.

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

# PE Clubs and Practices (Autumn Term 2022)
# Tuesday 12 September – Friday 7 October 2022

*Year 7-13 INTERFORM NETBALL: w/c 10 October*

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Morning 08.00-08.30** | | **Table Tennis**<br>Gym<br>All Years (PCA)<br> | **Netball Team Training**<br>Years 7-8 (NKN, KMA)<br> | **Morning Swim**<br>All years (NKN)<br> | |
| **Lunchtime 12.40-13.05** | **Table Tennis**<br>Gym<br>ALL YEARS (RJE)<br><br>**Basketball**<br>Sports Hall<br>Years 7-8 (JWA, DWI)<br><br>**Netball**<br>Year 8-11 (NWI)<br> | **Football**<br>All Years (LDY)<br><br>**Badminton**<br>Sports Hall<br>Years 7-9 (KMA)<br><br>**Swimming**<br>Year 10-13 (PCA)<br> | **Netball**<br>Year 7 (KMA, PCA)<br><br>**Badminton**<br>Sports Hall (DWI, JWA)<br><br>**Swimming**<br>Beginners Swimming<br>(NKN, LDY)<br> | **GCSE/ A- LEVEL Theory Support** H3 (NKN & Pupil Mentors)<br><br>**Indoor Cricket**<br>Sports Hall<br>All years (PCA, LDY)<br><br>**Swimming**<br>Year 7-9 (KMA)<br> | **Friday Fun Day**<br>Gym<br>ALL YEARS<br> |
| **After School 15.45-16.45** | **SCHOOL MEETINGS** | **FIXTURES EVENING**<br><br>**Netball Team Training Year 7-9**<br>(NKN, PCA, KMA, LDY)<br> | **FIXTURES EVENING**<br><br>**Netball Team Training Year 10-13**<br>(NKN, PCA, KMA, LDY)<br> | **FIXTURES EVENING**<br> | |

# Music Extra-curricular Club Programme (Autumn Term)

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lunchtime (12:50-13:20)** | The Bluebirds (M2) Open to all singers in Year 7 and 8 | The Nightingales (M2) Open to all singers in Year 9 and above<br><br>Recorder Group (M19) Open to all years and abilities | Concert Orchestra (M2) Open to all year groups and instruments Grade 1 and above | Kazoo Group (M2) Open to all years and abilities | Boomwhacker Group (M2) Open to all years and abilities (*Limited spaces*) |
| **After School** | | | Musical Production Band Rehearsals (M2) | Musical Production Cast Rehearsals (M2, M3) | |

Please bring a packed lunch or get a lunch pass from Mrs Jefferies in the Music Office

# Write for the newest edition of




Greetings from the new editorial team of the CCHSG newspaper, 'The Kilt'! We are looking for articles on any topic that interests you- serious or trivial. Articles should be around **500-1000 words** in length, and the deadline for submission is **23 September**

Please email any queries to Head Editor **Siân Rees** or Deputy Head Editor Alana Coyle- articles can be sent to either of the above or the particular Section Editor you are writing for (send questions for our agony aunt 'Problem Solving Polly' to any member of the team).

## The team:

| | |
|---|---|
| Head Editor- Siân Rees (16ReesS) | Deputy Head Editor- Alana Coyle (16CoyleA) |
| Opinion- Emily Eyre (16EyreE) | Lifestyle- Hannah Cleverdon (16CleverdonH) |
| World News- Jess Greer (16GreerJ) | Current Affairs- Alana Coyle (16CoyleA) |
| Breaktime- Sofija Strode (16StrodeS) | Culture- Jasleen Sandhu (16SandhuJ) |
| History and Politics- Tilly Coney (16CroneyM) | Law- Shreya Dey (16DeyU) |
| Sports- Kaela Swaine (16SwaineK) | Problem Solving Polly- anonymous |
| Science- Sunny Khopkar (16KhopkarS) and Annabel Brookes (16BrookesA) | |

## Thank you and enjoy writing!

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

PEGI RATING 7+

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

## CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

## ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

## PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

## IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

# Advice for Parents & Carers

## SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

## DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

## PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

## MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

## DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should *never* tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

## Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

Sources: https://www.theverge.com/2020/7/31/21334431/roblox-over-half-of-us-children-play-online-gaming-virtual-experiences-fortnite

National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday