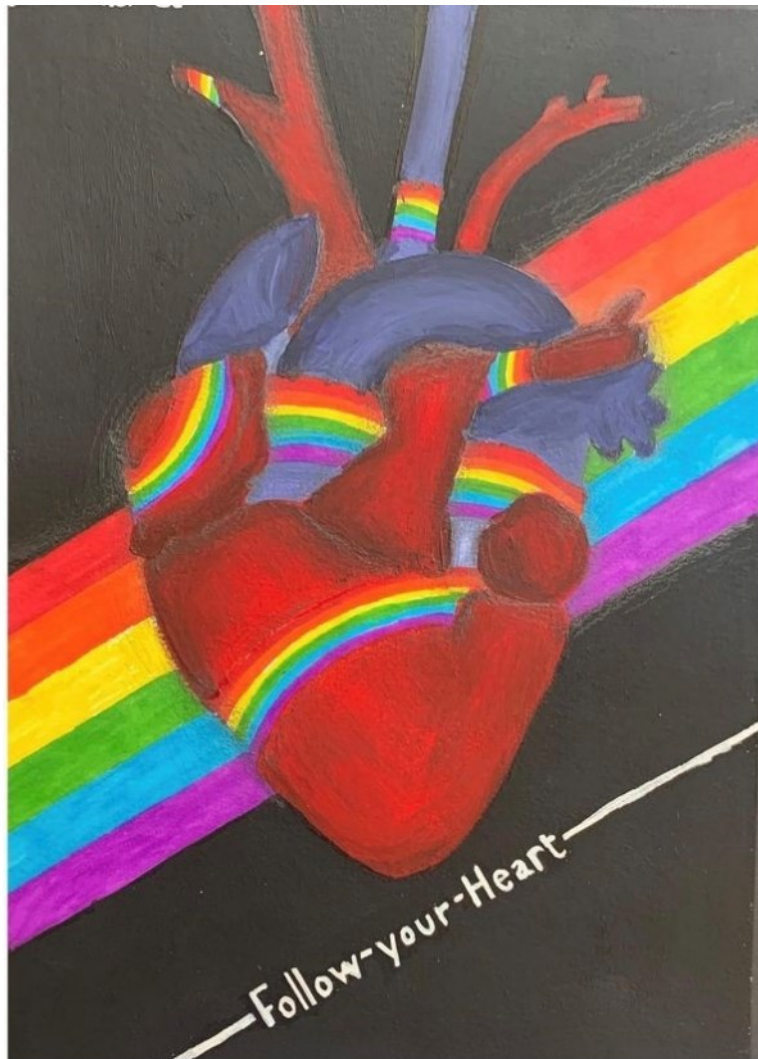
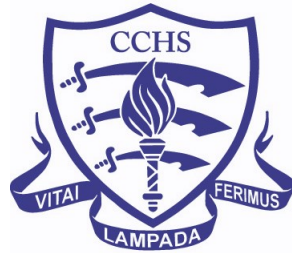


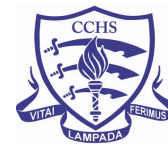
COMMUNITAS

Spring Term 2022



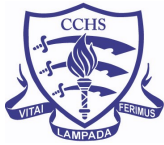
By Amber, Year 8 – LGBTQ++ Art Competition Winner

Contents



| | |
|---|----|
| Message from the Headteacher | 3 |
| Staff News | 4 |
| Curriculum – change@CCHS Update | 5 |
| Teaching & Learning | 14 |
| Celebrating International Women’s Day & Women’s History Month | 16 |
| Jack Petchey Awards | 17 |
| Pastoral News | 18 |
| Sixth Form News | 26 |
| LGBTQ+ History Month Exhibition | 28 |
| House | 29 |
| Drama | 30 |
| Music | 32 |
| Library News | 33 |
| Sports News | 34 |
| Student Achievements | 45 |
| Parents’ Association | 46 |





Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

Since March 2020, our points of reference, our usual, our comforts, have been disrupted. Across the UK, and elsewhere around the world, governments ordered the unthinkable: the closure of schools.

At CCHS, as with schools in every continent, we have worked through this, with remote schooling, hard work, innovation, commitment, and a sense of togetherness. The Covid experience created a straightforward dynamic: us against the virus.

Now, we are living with a more complex situation: the desire to return to a sense of normality, with the reality of living with the impact of the pandemic experience. This impact was, and is, different for everyone.

This 'living with Covid' phase is challenging because our common enemy - the virus - is in retreat, and our common cause - dealing with the pandemic - has become more complicated. This is the moment - when we are weary and when we are yearning for an end to the disruption - when we are most vulnerable as a community.

Now is the time to remember what is important to us, to savour what animates us and to enjoy what moves us. This is the time for community spirit.

But what is this 'community spirit'?

- Taking care of ourselves.
- Looking out for others.
- Supporting each other.
- Respecting one another.
- Holding true to values which distinguish us.
- Honouring those who have gone before us in this school.
- Being ambitious for ourselves and those around us.

For all the challenges of the pandemic, and indeed for all the pain right now in Ukraine and in other conflict zones around the world, there is always hope - there must always be hope. The small things: a smile, a 'thank you', the 'how are you?'

The big things: supporting your family, caring for your friends, helping people new in your lives.

The bigger things: reaching out to those you do not know, but who need your help. People who will never be able to thank you, but who will never forget what you did for them.

I think it is all too easy to take things for granted, to criticise, to be cynical and to complain. Our young people are blessed with the gifts of optimism and inquisitiveness, and the compelling determination to voice a better future. They should stay true to this positivity and stay wedded to this ambition.

Our students are important players in a story, started in 1907, when this school was opened. They are now writing a new chapter, one that will inspire girls and young people in years to come.

Just as they are moved by those who have gone before them, those in the future will stand in awe of what current students have achieved and how they achieved it. Our students are part of something bigger than themselves and part of something defined by their actions.

Let those actions - the everyday moments, through to the memorable occasions - be ones to hail a chorus of hope. As the poet Emily Dickinson wrote:

**"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -**

Mr Lawlor

This term we have said farewell to:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Mrs Hiskett | Sixth Form Admin Officer / PA to Head of Sixth Form |
| Mr Whatson | Science Technician |
| Mr Dollery | Economics Teacher |
| Ms Huettig | German Assistant |
| Mr Dervin | Trainee Teacher (Chemistry) |

We have welcomed the following new members of staff:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Mr Coleman | Subject Leader of Mathematics & A level Economics Teacher |
| Mr Thompson | Subject Leader of History (Maternity Cover) |
| Mr Sikora | Teacher of English (Maternity Cover) |
| Mrs Barker | Teacher of English (Maternity Cover) |
| Mrs Puri | Teacher of Biology |
| Mrs Bernard | Sixth Form Administration Officer/PA to Head of Sixth Form |
| Mrs Carroll | Alumnae Development and Sixth Form Support Officer |
| Mrs Fairchild | SENDCo Support Assistant |
| Mrs Kamma | Science Technician |
| Mrs Wood | Cover Supervisor |
| Mrs Sweeney | Cover Supervisor |
| Mrs Lam | Examinations Invigilator/Cover Supervisor |
| Ms Howchen | Examinations Invigilator/Cover Supervisor |
| Mrs Grant | Examinations Invigilator |

Next term we welcome:

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Mrs Dixon | Subject Leader of Economics |
|-----------|-----------------------------|


We congratulate the following members of staff on their internal promotions:

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Mr Selby | More Able Coordinator |
| Ms Vigrass | Gold Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator |
| Mrs Manning | Assessment Lead |

We congratulate the following members of staff on the birth of their children:

 Mrs Goettl, Subject Leader for German

 Mrs Dawson, Subject Leader for History

 Mrs Cutmore, Teacher of English



Curriculum Update

March 2022

Our role as educators means that we are the people who offer powerful and shared knowledge to young people. That knowledge comes from centuries of learning and exploration and is powerful because it enables young people to interpret their world: it is shared, because all of our students should be exposed to it. But what if our students don't see themselves and their ancestors as included in that world? What if they cannot recognise or relate to the information being shared? If knowledge is **powerful** when shared, knowledge that is **relevant** when shared must surely be **empowering**.

The key theoretical underpinning of an inclusive curriculum is that we all participate in each other's learning, and that includes teachers learning from, and listening to their students. Since the inception of our Change@CCHS initiative this is exactly what we have done to diversify our curriculum.

I hope you will enjoy some examples of how we have achieved this throughout the rest of this article. My special thanks to Miss Pocock our Subject Leader for Geography and one of our School Development Leaders for providing this overview of curriculum updates in English, Geography, History and RS, as of January 2022.

Mrs Ledwidge, Deputy Headteacher and change@CCHS Project Leader

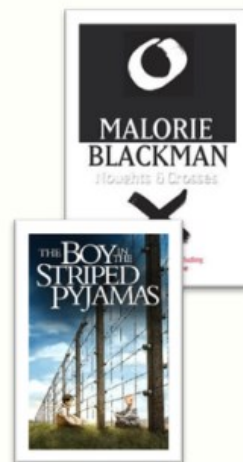
To receive feedback on the changes made, as well as to receive ideas for further changes that could be incorporated in the future, this document was shared with all CCHS students and then discussed during Student Voice and Sixth Form Council meetings.

Miss Pocock, School Development Leader and Subject Leader for Geography

ENGLISH

Year 7

- Novel studied: Either Noughts and Crosses (directly addressing racism) or Boy in the Striped Pyjamas (directly addressing anti-Semitism).
- The Year 7 Poetry unit has been rewritten with the majority of poems featured, being written by writers of colour.
- The Shakespeare unit features performances by diverse actors used to demonstrate monologues in action on stage.



Year 8



- Our 'Many Voices' unit has replaced 'Texts from Different Cultures' and has been developed over the last two years: this unit focuses mostly on poetry (although there is some prose), all from writers of colour. It is now prioritised as the first unit studied and explicitly explores 'decolonisation' as a concept. Authors and poets studied include Maya Angelou and John Agard. Texts studied include Unknown Girl (by Moniza Alvi) and Small Island (by Andrea Levy).
- The Chaucer unit now delves into the background and etymology of the English Language.
- Travel writing unit: this by nature explores representations of place through language.

Year 9

- War poetry unit: now includes a celebration of non-white soldiers (but, despite extensive research, the scope for including non-white authors / poets from this era is quite limited).
- Mr Carter has worked with our Year 10 Diversity Prefects who signed off on a protocol which outlines how and why books featuring offensive language are studied.
- Novels studied: Of Mice and Men or Lord of the Flies (both mentioned explicitly in the Policy for Offensive Language). The protocol agreed by the Diversity Prefects addresses explicitly how and why these texts will be taught. In addition, there are opportunities through the study of these texts to discuss ideas by leading writers e.g., Reni Eddo-Lodge.

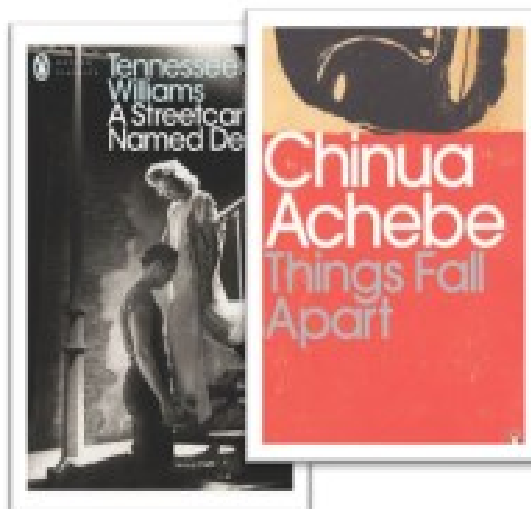


Years 10 and 11 (GCSE)

- English Language course: where possible, extracts from non-white writers are studied (the Department has created their own resources to overcome the limitations put in place by the examination board).
- English Literature: where possible, writers of a diverse ethnic background are studied in the unseen poetry unit.

Years 12 and 13 (A level)

- Anthology: this is set by the examining board and focuses primarily on white poets; very limited perspectives explored. Mr Carter has gone beyond the limitations of the specification by adding to the anthology with more diverse and more modern writers - students are made aware that this is beyond the examination requirements / specification. Every poem studied is accompanied by an additional poem by a writer of colour.
- Shakespeare: Othello is studied in Year 12 which opens up the discussion regarding white voices speaking about racism and representations of characters of colour.
- The Cambridge Companion to Race in Shakespeare is now used in Year 12 - this is a very recently published text responding to the play with up-to-date criticism.
- The play A Streetcar Named Desire contains racist language; in teaching this unit Miss Harrison carefully flags up the language ahead of study and its use is discussed. The language is then not vocalised in lessons.
- Extra-curricular opportunities for celebrating diversity are also looked for e.g., a recent English lecture in our lecture series on Chinua Achebe and postcolonial theory delivered live from Spain by Dr Terri Ochiagha of RHUL.



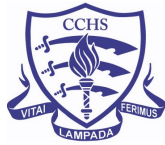
GEOGRAPHY

The use of language in Geography is always carefully considered and discussed with our students e.g., references to indigenous communities and to High-Income Countries (HIC) / Mid-Income Countries (MIC) / Low-Income Countries (LIC) (rather than out-dated terms such as Most Developed Countries (MEDC)/Less Developed Countries (LEDC) or worse Third World / First World). These discussions are held with all students to ensure we are using inclusive language in class and within our written work.



Key Stage 3

- New schemes of work in Year 7 ('Our Place in the World' and 'Getting to Know Our Continent') have been designed to encourage greater critical thinking about how the world is represented (map projections and purpose) and how the world is classified (e.g. the issues with using broad categories such as 'higher income' and 'lower income' to understand different countries). These units also look at key concepts such as 'development', using Haiti as an example to explore the long-term impacts of colonisation.
- We are moving away from continent-focused units of study (e.g., 'Exploring Africa' or 'Exploring Asia') to thematic units of study based on lines of latitude (e.g., 'The Tropics') to encourage more critical thinking about the differences and similarities between places and the factors that influence these, whilst also learning about a wide range of different places and societies.



Key Stages 4 and 5 (GCSE and A Level)

- Where the specification allows, we choose a wide range of case studies to complement our theoretical understanding e.g., at GCSE - Brazil, China, Nepal, and Nigeria, and at A Level - Bangladesh, Cameroon, the Philippines and Uganda.
- Even though the specification usually requires us to focus on the social, economic and environmental factors contributing to different processes and phenomena (e.g. those factors influencing access to healthcare), we go beyond the specification to also consider the political factors (e.g. the role of colonialism in shaping the distribution of healthcare services in Uganda).



HISTORY

Year 7

- New scheme of work: includes 'meanwhile, elsewhere...' / 'meanwhile, she...' homework tasks to enable exploration of histories from other parts of the world / female histories. There are also new units focused on the Silk Road and Medieval African Civilisations (Mali and Benin are the focus for this).
- Within units focusing on Roman Britain and Tudor Britain, Black Romans and Black / gay Tudors are studied (and there is discussion here about why people are unaware that black communities existed during Roman / Tudor times).
- The role of queens within medieval history is now explicitly explored.
- Within these schemes of work, the early modern persecution of minority groups is explicitly called out and discussed.

Year 8

- New for 2021: tweaks made to existing schemes of work to include 18th and 19th century minority British experiences (linking to tolerance); definitions and roles of enslaved people within the Atlantic Slave Trade unit; and the Moghul Empire (as part of the India unit). The so-called 'scramble for Africa' is also explored.
- New for September 2022: plans to further develop the focus on Benin started in Year 7, and to also explore the growth of democracy.

Year 9

- Updated schemes of work: experience of Empire soldiers in WWI and WWII; the Africa unit now includes consideration of the decolonisation process / neo-colonialism in Benin and Nigeria; and there is greater focus on migration and the Commonwealth. The focus on US civil rights has also been expanded to include UK civil rights (both black civil rights and LGBTQ+).
- From September 2023, study of the Russian revolution will be introduced, along with the Cold War and The Troubles.

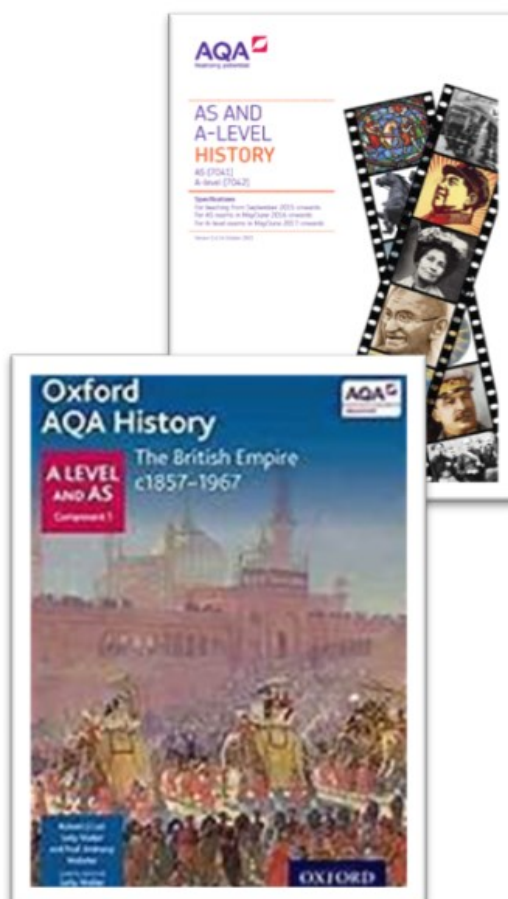


Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

Off-specification topics are difficult to include owing to time-restrictions and the content-heavy course.

Key Stage 5 (A Level)

British Empire unit now taught - the department are trying to move away from textbook examples to provide different perspectives.





RELIGIOUS STUDIES/PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

It is important to note that at Key Stage 3, the RS curriculum is shaped by the Essex Agreed Syllabus for RE which states that:

- "The teaching must reflect that the religious traditions in Great Britain are, in the main, Christian whilst taking account of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain"
- "Pupils must spend time studying each of the principal religions represented in Great Britain (Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism) and secular world views, such as Humanism. It is recognised that it will not be possible to cover all religions in equal depth"

The RS Department weave diversity-themes into all schemes of work both explicitly and implicitly.

Year 7

- The six major world faiths are studied (a general approach is taken to give an overview of the key teachings and beliefs of each faith – as such, issues such as faith-based discrimination are not explored at this stage).

Year 8

- The 'Rights and Responsibilities' unit enables exploration of diversity issues e.g., discrimination.
- The Islam unit includes a focus on debunking myths and perceptions of Islam / Muslim communities.

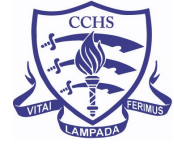
Year 9

- New Religious Movements unit – by nature this considers more modern religions / faiths and allows for learning about faiths and cultures not previously studied.
- There is scope for further exploration of modern / current issues relating to equality and to update the Inspirational People unit to include more current (and diverse) examples.



Teaching & Learning

Mrs Cross, Assistant Headteacher



This year we are delighted that we continue to offer our Year 10 students the opportunity to take part in the 'CCHS Academic Excellence in Research Award'. Building on the success from last year's cohort we have developed the project and are now able to offer students the opportunity to enter for the HPQ, High Project Qualification which is the precursor to the Extended Project Qualification which we offer in Year 12.

Students are invited to take part in a Social, Moral, Spiritual or Cultural research project, developing key research and project management skills. Guided by their course tutors students have chosen a topic to focus on and are now developing their research skills ready to present their project in the Summer Term.

Over the duration of the course students are asked to evaluate, analyse and develop areas of their project ready to present to their peers at the end of the academic year. All projects will be celebrated and given the opportunity to receive The CCHS Academic Excellence in Research Award.

Research projects have now been defined and students are working on their final essay plans covering a broad range of engaging issues, some of the project titles proposed by students include:

- **How can countries plan to overcome the financial loss of new deforestation laws?**
- **Are women's sports over-sexualised?**
- **Is the British government doing enough to provide appropriate care for people suffering from dementia?**
- **Identity conscious vs blind casting in TV & film: which is more ethical?**

The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, in particular the students are embracing the opportunity to conduct deep research in to an issue that they have a keen interest in.

As they did last academic year, students have embraced the opportunity, keenly debating ideas and delighting in the chance to share their knowledge on topics that interest them, as well as developing understanding in new areas.

This is a superb initiative for our Year 10 students, which has been made possible by their enthusiasm and effort as well as the continued support from our RS subject experts.



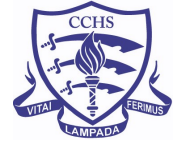
March brings the celebration of women in history and gives us all the opportunity to reflect on the incredible contributions of women on a global, national and local scale. Our subject leaders embraced the opportunity to commend experts in their area and over the month we learned about the impact women have had on our understanding of the world around us and how women have enriched and extended our knowledge in all subject areas.

On International Women's Day (8th March) students participated in form time activities and discussed this year's theme #BreakTheBias as well as taking time to reflect and consider the women who inspire them.

[illegible]

15

Celebrating International Women's Day & Women's History Month

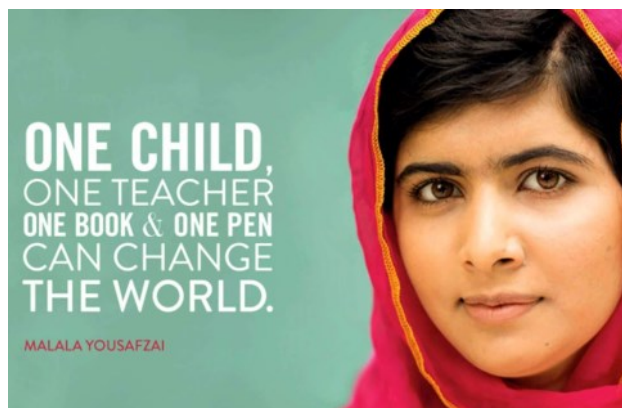


Inspirational Geographers



Camilla Hawthorne

Camilla Hawthorne a critical human geographer and interdisciplinary social scientist broadly interested in the racial politics of migration and citizenship, inequality, social movements, and Black geographies. She collaborates with activist collectives in the United States and Europe working at the intersection of anti-Blackness and xenophobia. She has written several books and many academic articles on her specialisms.



Frau Gilbert is inspired by ... Margarete Stokowski

- ▶ known as the „loudest voice of German feminism“
- ▶ writes weekly essays about feminist topics for the *Spiegel Online* magazine
- ▶ author of two bestseller books in Germany
- ▶ daughter of Polish immigrants and born in 1986 in Poland



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY / WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
IN MARCH



Jack Petchey Awards

Mrs Ledwidge, Deputy Headteacher



Achievement Awards

The Jack Petchey Foundation Achievement Awards

CCHS students continue to demonstrate their care and interest in charitable and community work. The Jack Petchey Foundation provides a nationally recognised scheme for such altruism to be celebrated. As a Gold Award School, we are able to recognise the work of nine students, and one member of staff, across an academic year, in relation to school, local, national, and international community work.

In this edition we are celebrating winners between the period January - February 2022.

Congratulations and thank you to them all.

January 2022



Winner: Grace

Age: 12yrs, Year 7

Reason for award:

Grace has shown to be a very supportive, kind, and caring friend to all her peers and will do anything to help someone in need. Her enthusiasm and encouragement in matters of saving the environment has been especially noticed by many and shows her true dedication and passion to such a cause. The Jack Petchey Foundation recognises contributions to the community, and we believe Grace has made a great contribution to the school community through her work.

February 2022



Winner: Likhita

Age: 14yrs, Year 9

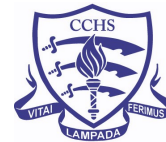
Reason for award:

Likhita throws herself into every opportunity, this includes dance show, magistrates' competition, electronics club, CyberFest, Shakespeare competition, iDEA, Arts Award, writing in the school newsletter and taking part in various subject competitions just to name a few! Outside of school she has recently taken part in many charitable activities, donating her hair to Locks of Love, taken part in a 2-week steps challenge where she raised over £200 for GOSH, she helps at church and in the community and has been the form groups charity representative. We are all extremely proud of her.

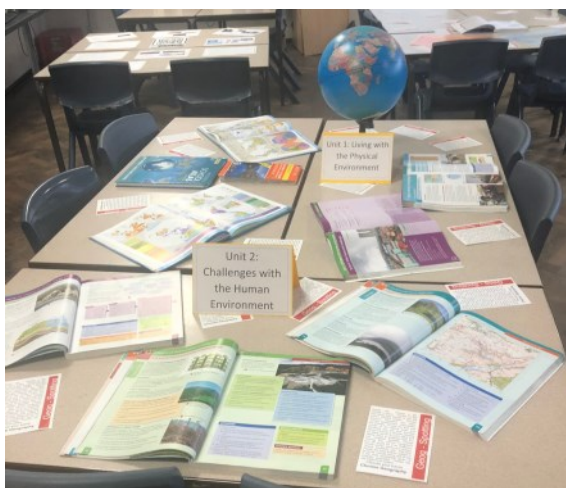
The Jack Petchey Foundation recognises contributions to the community, and we believe Likhita has made a great contribution to the school community through her work.

Pastoral News

Miss Harrison, Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral



The Spring Term has been a busy one for all Year groups. In particular, I have to mention the fabulous strength of character that Year 11 have shown as they tackled their second set of Mock Examinations. It has been wonderful to see parents back in school, at various events, such as Parents' Evenings and Options Evening—the school is truly getting it's pre-covid buzz back.



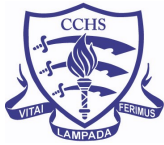
I have been lucky enough to watch the Dance Show and the Spring Concert this term. To see the students being able to play their instruments, sing and dance again is quite a sight. The younger years are now finally getting to see the full picture of what this school has to offer and the fun they can have.

We have had our second round of TA discussions just last week and the Year 11 students have also had report reviews alongside a chat about their A Level choices and their next steps. It was great to be involved in these—they were lovely and positive. As always, students have enjoyed house events, extra curricular activities and they have actually been out on school trips again. Year 9 enjoyed Harry Potter World and Year 8 experienced the wonder that is Bletchley Park.

The Year Leaders have continued to support their year groups and have worked tirelessly to safeguard our community. They have enjoyed planning engaging activities in school—bringing the joy to morning registration time. Should your child need support over the Easter break they have their pastoral card which has support numbers printed in the back. Of course there is always the CCHS pastoral email address too:

pastoralsupport@cchs.essex.sch.uk

I hope you all have a safe and restful Easter break and I am looking forward to the Summer Term and all that it brings.



Pastoral News

Miss Harrison, Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral

WELLBEING WEEK

In line with the 'Place 2 Be' Children's Mental Health Week w/b 7th February – we ran some wellbeing activities for all year groups. The week started with an assembly for Year 11 on mindset called 'Run your own Race' delivered by Jon Skelton a local life coach. The week ended for Year 11 with a whole year group dance session in the Sports Hall – which all tutors and their year leader got involved in. Year 7 had walk and talk sessions out on the Astro each morning and the other year groups completed a variety of tasks to help with their wellbeing.



Jon Skelton has also been running a 6-week programme working with a group of Year 8 students on their mindset – this is in response to a number of post Lockdown needs.



THE PASTORAL HUB

The new Pastoral Hub is now up and running. It is a room where students can have a 'time out' if they need to take a breath and access support for their wellbeing. The room has been well used, so far. It is a quiet space to compose themselves before going back into lessons, speak to a friendly face, have a tear if sad news is received, sit and colour to still the mind or just read a book. It has also been used to complete work when the classroom has seemed too much. We run our Mental Health First Aid drop in on a Friday lunchtime at 1pm in there. Furthermore, our nurse runs her drop in from there on Tuesdays. To finish the room off in style, we were lucky enough to have our Year 13 Art students design a calming mural for the main wall in there.

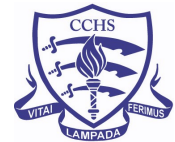
COUNSELLING

Our counselling provision is 10 hours a week (Tuesday, Weds, Thurs by appointment and referral), . If you feel that your child needs such support then do not hesitate to get in contact with any member of the Pastoral Team.



Pastoral News

Miss Harrison, Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral



PRIMARY OUTREACH

Our wonderful Primary Outreach Programme is up and running again. COVID had halted it's progress because we weren't able to visit primary Schools to speak to the students. However, we are back and we are doing things slightly differently.



Our Primary Outreach Senior Prefects Jessica and Tara are accompanying Mrs Lewis and Mrs Maslin, plus a couple of year 7 students who transitioned last year from the school they are visiting. They are having 'CCHS chats' with the Year 5 girls in the school—answering any questions and dispelling any myths—such as this school being an independent school. Each student is getting a goodie bag—with information to share with their parents. So far, the team has been out to Kings Road Primary School and Parkwood Academy. It has been so lovely to be back in the community working with our Primary colleagues—we are looking forward to visiting the other schools over the coming weeks.

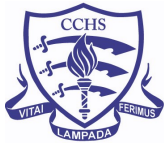
FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit: Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance-Income Based, Child Tax Credit (Working Tax Credit is not a qualifying benefit. There are some non-qualifying benefits) If your taxable annual household income is less than £16,190.

If the above apply you may qualify for free school lunches.

HOW TO APPLY: Go online to www.essex.gov.uk/educationawards

Or request an application form from the Education and Awards enquiry line on 0845 603 2200. Please be assured that we always deal discreetly and sensitively with any students in receipt of free school meals and there is no embarrassment.



Year 7

Mrs Lewis, Year Leader

Year 7 have well and truly found their feet and have settled in to school life beautifully. They are an extremely mature cohort and have made a great impression by getting involved in lots of extra-curricular events and continuing to be the year group with the loudest cheers during House events. No bench ball has been their favourite event so far with the court edges lined with cheerleaders and chants; a fierce but healthy rivalry has definitely formed between 7H and 7F.



The Dance Show saw 30 Year 7s taking to the stage to perform. I was incredibly proud to see so many Year 7s take to the stage and had completely lost my voice by the end of the show! The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience, the smiles on their faces said it all and I hear some are already practising for next year. This was an amazing opportunity for our younger students to meet likeminded individuals and form bonds with peers in other year groups.



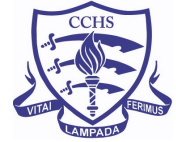
As part of Mental Health week Year 7 took part in a Walk and Talk event out on the astro during morning registration. The idea of this was to give students an opportunity to get some exercise and have a morning chat with friends to start the day and hopefully appreciate the power of exercise and socialising in supporting a healthy mind. During the week they also wrote messages of kindness and explored some "Happy News" courtesy of Emily Coxhead's The Happy Newspaper.

We have so much to look forward to during our Summer term with House Cakes taking place just after the Easter break and our year group trip to Stubbers Adventure Centre in July.



I would like to wish all our Year 7s and their families a very happy Easter. Fingers crossed for some sunshine!

Pastoral News



Year 8

Miss Sales, Year Leader

Year 8 have continued to thrive this term by completely immersing themselves into their studies, house events and extra-curricular clubs.

We started the new term with the school production; Mothers Voice, and it was fantastic to see so many Year 8's involved. No doubt more will be involved in next year's show, with starring roles! We also had 19 students involved in the annual Dance show. It was so lovely to see Year 9 performing in a variety of different dance numbers, ranging from Street, to Bollywood, to Junior Ballet. It's always so lovely to see the girls away from the classroom and watching them perform in ways I wouldn't normally see them doing, on stage.



House Events are always an exciting event to look forward to. This term we have competed in House Debate with 8H taking the win, House Bench ball with 8S taking the win, House Pancakes with 8H taking the win. We also have House Winter Games to look forward too.

Form assemblies continue to be a success with some very interesting topics being covered, along with them being very eloquently presented. 8S recently delivered an interesting assembly on 'Making Change' and 8F delivered Hindu festival of Holi which was fantastic.

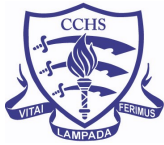


Students in Year 8 are throwing themselves at everything the school has to offer, lots of Year 8's entered the LGBTQ+ Art Competition which was lovely to see. We celebrated International Women's Day, all standing together to #BreakTheBias.



Bletchey Park was very eye-opening; the girls had a booklet to complete, which also created a self-directed tour of the campus. We also have the exciting prospect of Stubbers to look forward to!





Year 9

Mrs Busby, Year Leader

As we approach Easter, this marks the end of a remarkable term for Year 9. During the term many important events have taken place, with multiple house events, Options evening and the first all-year group trip to Harry Potter Studios to name just a few events of this busy term.



Form time has been eventful as usual. The weekly program of quizzes, debates, TEDtalks, class assemblies, and Friday Funday. 9F have managed to take the crown on the ever-popular weekly general knowledge, congratulations F house! During this term we have also managed to use form time to discuss important issues affecting our students.

We had a whole week of activities supporting mental health week, including Mindful Monday, and took part in an online assembly organised by 'A Place to Be' mental health charity with thousands of other schools across the country, and culminated the week with workplace yoga. They have also used form time to think about what they would like to do to help support people around the world who are in need of humanitarian aid.

Options Evening was a massive success, with the students managing to have an opportunity to speak to their teachers and gain valuable advice about what subjects to further their education in. It was an absolute delight to welcome parents into the school again and share this momentous occasion with them as the students begin the transition from KS3 to KS4 and take the next steps in their educational journey.

Year 9 also went on their first school trip in two years to the Harry Potter Studio tours.

Here they learnt about the important role of computing, music and art in film making. They were able to make their music pieces to accompany film scenes, see how art and textiles bring the magic of story telling alive, and see how computers can mean we can truly immerse ourselves into believing the impossible- like riding a broomstick playing Quidditch!

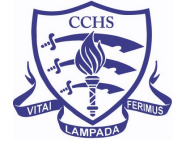


There has been some phenomenal achievements by some pupils in our year too. Gracie Parker attended the Essex County Championships and received 4 golds, 5 silvers, 3 bronze and 2 event best times (100m and 200m breaststroke for under 14 girls). Manasvi has raised £958 for a school in India by making homemade crocheted coasters. Gini-kachukwu and Niya graduated as an Industrial Cadet at Bronze Level through completing an EDT Experience - Virtual Routes into STEM course. This is just a sample of some of the excellent achievements by Year 9 this term.



This has truly been a fantastic term for Year 9, and we are all excited to see what the summer term brings.

Pastoral News



Year 10

Miss Burnham, Year Leader

Our motto this year continues to shine through in everything Year 10 do. 'Big journeys begin with small steps'. This has been much in evidence through Year 10 starting their GCSE's and their prefect roles, on top of all of this, still being involved with so many house events. There have been a few house events this term, including benchball, basketball, badminton and (a personal favourite) house pancakes. Year 10 constantly amaze me with their enthusiasm to house events and the competitive nature they bring to everything.

Our form time is ever changing and adapting. We now have a Year 10 quiz league, this is on going and the speed at which they now answer the questions is brilliant. They all come to me waving and arguing that their form came first, another example of the wonderful competitive nature in our year group! Another addition to form time this term is our musical walk and talk. Now that the weather is better, it is so nice to get outside for some fresh air. I know that Year 10 were quite sceptical about it at first... but there was a brilliant buzz after their first one and as a collective have decided to keep it as a friYAY activity. It is so important to find different ways to help with self-care and educate students on the importance of a healthy and active balanced lifestyle. It is imperative that at school they are able to understand the holistic approach to life and ensure that we educate them for their life beyond school.



We have had some outstanding achievements this term in Year 10. These have been in sports, creative and academic. The brilliant dance show and school production really showcased the incredible talents we have in Year 10 with so many students taking part. The school concert was the first in 2 years to be performed to an audience, and something I know all musicians were excited for!



Some of the outstanding performances in sport have been by Alexa and Maisie.

Alexa qualified for and raced all 17 events at the Essex County Championships accruing the highest number of points to win the Top Girl trophy across the Championship in the age 16 category (despite not being 16 until the end of December)! Maisie has secured a place in the Saracens Mavericks futures program, playing in the group of U17s and so being one of the youngest players there!

The Year 10 prefects have also been really busy this term and getting stuck in with their roles of responsibility. They were brilliant advocates for the subjects they are passionate about for the Year 9 options evening talking to students and parents alike and with such brilliant articulation. I am excited for all of the work they will continue doing in their roles as prefects and know there will be more innovative ideas to come.

Year 11

Mrs Chumbley, Year Leader

The Year 11 students have certainly worked hard this term as well as having embraced all other aspects of school life.

Whilst working through their GCSE courses and preparing for their second round of mock examinations they have certainly managed some fun along the way.

During Wellbeing Week we had an outside speaker, chair yoga and a Just Dance session for all 150 students and staff in the sports hall; uplifting all round! The second set of mock examinations ran very smoothly and the students will soon receive their papers back to review. Year 11 students were a credit to themselves and a huge support to one another. Already the report review /options meetings are underway offering each student an individual meeting with their tutor and a senior member of staff to discuss their next steps. January brought the school production, *A Mother's Voice*, it was great to see our year 11 actors hit the stage including our own Fortune starring in the lead role.

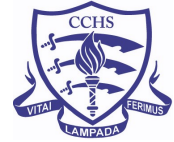


Another highlight this term was *Legacy*, the annual dance show. It was amazing to see the Year 11 dancers put on such a polished performance; they were breath taking!

We now can begin to think about our Year 11 Garden Party on 6th May; an afternoon outside full of music, sun and fun as they begin their study leave.

Sixth Form News

Dr Palmer, Mrs Ellen and Mrs Hiett



All our staff continue to be impressed by the range of successes achieved by our Sixth Form students as well as by their leadership of so many activities for younger students.

Year 12

The Spring Term has been busy for our Year 12 students, who are managing to find time for a range of different activities alongside their A Level study. We have celebrated successes in the Bar Mock Trial competition, the UK Linguistics Olympiad and individual students are opting to enter some of the various essay competitions that are run by universities. The students have now settled into their prefect roles and are demonstrating great leadership skills, creativity and enthusiasm across the school. Just a few examples of this include the Biology, Chemistry and Physics prefects recently working with their Year 10 counterparts to deliver an exciting programme of events during British Science Week, the Sixth Form Induction and Senior Prefects welcoming a number of Year 11 students interested in joining our school for the Sixth Form, and Languages prefects working with staff to run a successful enrichment day for children from local primary schools. The Senior Prefects also presented a whole school assembly earlier in the term, setting out how they intend to help the rest of the school think about girls' education around the world. The team also recently ran a highly successful finger painting fun session at lunchtime for younger students; the products of this will shortly appear on a new display board celebrating inspirational women and the power of cooperation.

We encourage all Year 12 students to undertake some community service and it has been pleasing to see the enthusiasm with which many students have approached this. Students are volunteering their skills and their time in a variety of different ways, helping local charities, primary and special schools, and other community organisations.

At this time of the year students begin to think more seriously about their future plans. Mrs Hopkins and Dr Hiner have spoken to the year group about the various options open to them, and the students have spent some time researching degree courses that might align with their interests and aspirations. It is common for students to be at very different stages at this point, with some having a very clear idea about what they want to do next and others having little to no idea at all. Both positions, and everything in between, is quite normal and all students will be supported in making choices and applications by their form tutors and the Sixth Form Team. Many students will want to attend university open days as part of their decision-making progress, and we encourage students to do this as much as possible at the weekends or during school holidays. Where that is not possible, they may request a maximum of two days absence only in the final half term of Year 12 in order to visit universities.



Sixth Form News

Dr Palmer, Mrs Ellen and Mrs Hiett

Year 12 Continued

We are much looking forward to the return of the CCHS Senior Speech Day on 20th April. Year 12 students who studied at CCHS in Year 11 will be receiving their GCSE certificates and those who finished Year 13 last year will return to receive their A level certificates and special prizes. We are very glad that so many parents of our current Year 12 students will be joining us in Chelmsford Cathedral to celebrate so many successes.

Year 12 school examinations are now approaching and students will be focusing on preparing effectively for these assessments. As always, we would remind students about the importance of balance, and to set reasonable expectations about the number of hours spent studying that are neither too high nor too low. The assessments will take place during between Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 11th May, and students will be on study leave during this period. We look forward to celebrating the efforts of students when they receive their Year 12 examination results in June.

Year 13

Since their mock examinations in January and the confirmation in February that examinations will go ahead this year, the Year 13 students have been busy with work for their A levels this summer; this last term has seen continued hard work on key skills and content and the preparation of specialist work such as material for the Art exam, Theatre Studies performances, and musical compositions. In most cases students have now reached the end of the syllabus content and are focusing their revision preparation on the advanced information released by exam boards in February. The recent second set of mocks has further aided their preparation for the summer exams and students can be proud of their efforts this term.

Whilst this term has certainly been hard work for both students and their teachers we look forward to this work being well rewarded on A level results day. Year 13 students have also continued to receive offers from their chosen universities and in turn have begun to make their firm and insurance

choices. Mrs Hopkins continues to offer advice and guidance to students as they make these choices.

We are grateful to our Year 13 Dance Officials for all the work they put in to making this year's Dance Show, *Legacy*, such a success and we also thank our Year 13 musicians in this year's Spring Concert; this will be the first live concert at CCHS since December 2019. Over the past 7 years some students have performed on more than 50 separate occasions when we count up concerts, shows, cathedral services and other events. We are grateful for their commitment and energy.

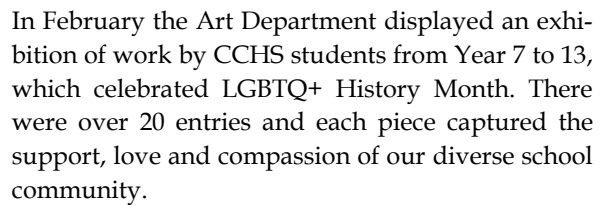
We also extend particular congratulations to Charlotte and Lydia on their excellent performance in the UK Linguistics Olympiad at Intermediate Level, tackling puzzles in Languages from Maltese to the Vanuatuan creole of Bislama. Both students achieved a gold award which places them in the top 5% of the 1300+ entries at this level.

As a result of the fact that A level exams have been timetabled over a longer period of time this year and start earlier than they have in the past, Year 13 study leave will start earlier this year. Combined with a late Easter this means that we only have a few weeks left to complete final preparations for examinations.

We are now planning the series of events which take place next term to celebrate the time which our Year 13 students have spent in this school. We hope that parents and students will both note the date of the Leavers' Reception the 11th May and we look forward to seeing as many as possible of you there. This event takes place shortly before the Year 13 Leavers' Assembly on Friday 13th May and the beginning of A level study leave. We look forward to these celebratory events.

The Sixth Form Team would like to thank all those who have supported or who continue to support our students in any way; we are very aware that the success they achieve is due both to their own huge efforts and to the contributions made by those who form the support networks behind each of them.

Mr Harvey



The exhibition was on display for a week and every time I walked past, there were always students chatting and admiring the wonderful pieces that had been created. The exhibition pieces were also part of a competition which saw Amber in Year 8 win for her piece 'Follow Your Heart' (see front cover).

Pieces ranged from digital work, three-dimensional sculptures and paintings – all of which were creative and full of colour and meaning.





Report compiled by House Officials: Vishalini, Tegan, Lizzie and Charlotte

The house scores reset with the beginning of the new year and the new house officials were more determined than ever to win the house shield. However, before they could earn any house points, their first step was to introduce themselves to their house. With the return of live streamed assemblies due to increased covid rates, the house officials were growing more and more nervous about making their assembly as interactive as possible. Yet, this only provided an opportunity for their creativity to shine through.

In H House there were a few lucky Year 7 and 8s who got to go to the hall and play charades on the livestream, and S House even organised a mini-House Pancakes in preparation for the event! A House did a short but funny, video of them playing (or attempting to play) a few of the house events, whilst both G and F House made a quiz. C House Officials introduced themselves with their baby pictures, played two truths and a lie and invited an enthusiastic member of each form to join in their house events themed charade game.

House debate was our first official event as 2022 house officials, and we couldn't ask for a better start to the year. The confidence and passion seen from the younger years was so inspiring to witness and encouraged us all to not only think deeply about the important issues discussed in the event but also to be more confident in ourselves and share our views respectfully. We heard debates on whether the world would be a better place if women were in charge, whether it is morally wrong to consume art regardless of an artist's background, whether marriage is no longer necessary, and whether books should be made free after 10 years of their release, to name but a few. We introduced each debate with unapologetically cheesy puns and congratulated all who took part in the exciting house event.

This year house pancakes was back and bigger than ever, as we needed a 6th set of pancakes with A house taking part for the first time in real life. Costume competition as ever did not disappoint with painted green Shreks and yellow minion duos.

Pancake flipping speed this year was fast to a point of many sceptics disbelief with some individuals scoring over 100, despite having only one minute to flip. However honest competition has definitely been stepped up this year as 7H had their own pre pancakes competition deciding who would represent them. The outside location of the event on the tennis courts meant that all flippers had a large crowd cheering them on, particularly when it came to the staff event, where cross dressing, pig masks and bunny dressing gowns certainly lived up to our CCHS house spirit. We as house officials are so grateful to the efforts of all staff in our houses who (willingly or not) support our events, often bringing the most entertainment of the day.



House bench ball, whilst being a relatively new event, brought with it the most competitive matches CCHS has ever seen. With the C house sixth form team having to replay S house in order to settle all complaints, the event certainly brought interest to the school calendar from the very start. We had teachers cheering on like never before with some even joining in on heated discussions about who won when the final balls were thrown. House basketball has seen some equally nail-biting games with Year 10 and Year 9 giving up many a lunchtime in order to win some points for their house. We have seen crazy high scores but most of all overwhelming dedication to house spirit and sportsmanship and we as house officials cannot wait to continue supporting this year of house events.

The last academic year really was one of the most unique in terms of Drama. I think I can say on behalf of Mrs Broughton and myself that it is one of the only times in our professional lives where we haven't put on a whole school production. It felt odd for us both not to be spending time rehearsing and producing Drama. However, with a new school year, came a new production, A Mother's Voice by Chris Owen.

Back in January we were treated to two nights of theatre magic when we hosted our whole school production. It was the first time in nearly two years where we were able to welcome parents and friends back into the school on such a scale. A Mother's Voice told the story of one woman's journey from innocence to horrified in a fictitious South American state. It dealt with the subject of Los Desaparecidos - "the disappeared". Los Desaparecidos were groups of political activists who were kidnapped and tortured for speaking out against political regimes in South America.

With a company of over 50 cast and crew, we were offered two spectacular performances. On both nights, all involved executed two seamless performances, whether from the perspective of an actor or a member of our very large stage crew.

My congratulations and thanks go out to all of those involved, while paying particular credit to Sam in Year 12. Sam acted as our assistant director for this production and executed this role with absolute professionalism. We would not have been able to produce a show of such great quality without her efforts. Thank you also to Mr Rowell and Mr French for their amazing abilities to create technical wizardry. Finally, thank you to those parents, carers and friends who came along to support these two performances – it was wonderful to welcome you back.





Music

Mr Lamberti & Mrs Clements



I am delighted to report that the music department has had an extremely welcome return to near normality this term. Finally, students have been able to play their instruments and sing in their lessons. The building once again returns to the glorious sound of music in a variety of genres from baroque to jazz and musical theatre to funk!

Since September the department has finally been able to relaunch all our 17 extracurricular ensembles. Not being able to offer these during the pandemic really took away the soul of our department so for students and staff to hear these once more was, and is, an absolute pleasure. That is not to say that students didn't step up in ever creative ways during the past few years.

The Spring Concerts finally saw the return of an audience! It had been 839 days since our last formal school concert. What an absolute thrill it was for our musicians to perform to a packed hall once again. The students performed superbly, and I know the audience really enjoyed all the performances. As ever our music prefects did a fantastic job of organising the logistics on the evenings ensuring everyone had a music stand and a chair when they needed them.

Our A Level music students successfully completed their performance recitals in front of a visiting examiner. It was lovely to welcome our examiner into school to appreciate the talents of our wonderful year 13 music class. The experience does put the students under a little pressure but they more than stepped up! Their performances were truly breath taking with some pieces performed which were way beyond the standard required for A Level. We await their final marks for this element of the course in August.

As an Artsmark school we have introduced the opportunity of students working towards achieving an Arts Award. During the spring term we welcomed another visiting examiner who looked at 53 bronze entries and 10 silvers. All students passed with flying colours. I lost count of how many times the examiner used the word 'wow' as she looked through students work. All students now proudly wear their arts award pin badges on the lapel of their blazers.

Through all the extra-curricular music-making the students continue to excel in their studies. Students also enjoyed considerable success in their ABRSM and Trinity Guildhall music examinations, with approximately 60 students entered so far this year to near universal success. We will also be entering a sizable number of students in the summer term.

As an expanding school we were delighted to appoint Miss Hutton to our department to work alongside myself and Mrs Clements. We are excited to see and hear what she brings to our department when she formally starts in September.





Library News

Mrs Martin & Mrs Davis

On 3rd March this year we celebrated World Book Day. Now in its 25th year, World Book Day was created by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. The overall aim of the day is to encourage reading for pleasure in children and young people. As a part of the day book tokens are given out to all children, giving them the opportunity to purchase a specially-published book from a selection by well-known authors, or to buy any book with a discount. This can become the first book ever owned in the case of some children, and the tokens were collected with great enthusiasm by our students.

We had hoped to welcome the author Holly Smale to the library, but she unfortunately had to cancel owing to ill health. However, we were very lucky that our very own Mrs Barker, author of the *Showstopper* series of books, was able to step in at the last minute and give a talk and brief reading of her book. She spoke about her process as a writer, and about the joys and pitfalls of publication and editing. She has just joined the English department here at CCHS so the students will have plenty of further opportunity to gain inspiration!

We also offered some book-related quizzes to the students, including guessing the book title just from a series of emojis, and guessing the identity of 'Masked Reader' staff members. We were delighted with a response of over 200 entries across all the competitions.



On 18th March we held the second meeting of the Year 7 book to discuss *Skysteppers* by Katherine Rundell. The students had some excellent insights to share about the author's intent and her characterisations. All agreed that the book was enjoyable and well written, although as a shorter book was perhaps missing some extra details. For our next read we have opted for a longer book, *Goodnight Mister Tom* by Michelle Magorian. This has already been studied at KS2 by some of our students, and it will be interesting to see how their reading of it has changed.

In order to support the new Change@CCHS curriculum the Library have invested in some new books that will enhance the new topics being introduced and will also encourage inter-disciplinary learning. We are updating our Poetry section with extra anthologies from authors like Grace Nichols, who is one of the writers in the new Many Voices anthology. We have also added books about African and Asian countries to reflect the updates to both the History and Geography curriculums, as well as a guide to the Silk Road. Within the Oliver catalogue key titles will be searchable using 'Change@CCHS' as a subject, and we have created a reading list for the Many Voices unit.

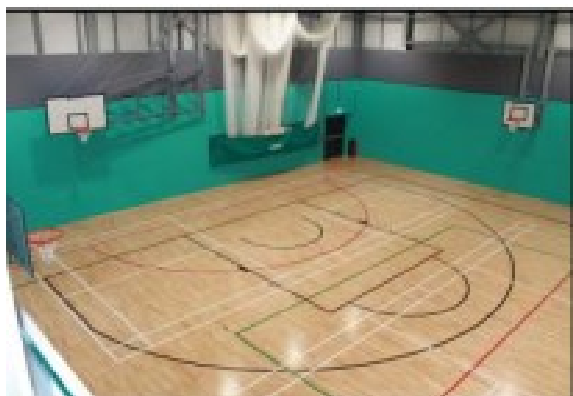


Sports News

Miss Bellamy, Miss Sales, Miss Burnham & Mr May



It truly has been wonderful to see our new state of the art facilities being used in so many different ways; from house events, clubs, district and county competitions which the department have run extremely well, assisted by our fabulous Sports officials. How we ever managed in the old small gym to run such a balanced curriculum & the variety of clubs – it was a miracle really.



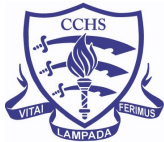
The wonderful new facilities allow our students to be introduced to new sports in lessons such as Badminton, Volleyball, Trampolining, Basketball and Sports Hall Athletics alongside original activities like Swimming, Dance & Gymnastics etc. We have tried to have a focus on the importance of personal fitness too by introducing a more thorough fitness testing procedure and by using warm-ups & lessons to incorrupt forms of cardiovascular training.

The last two terms have been extremely busy for both the department and students. Every week has involved training sessions before, during and after school plus multiple fixtures every week. Students have competed in District, County and National competitions which has resulted in great success for many different sports as you will see below.



There has also been a great deal of individual success in a variety of sports – swimming, badminton, golf, netball, football, table tennis, cricket & hockey, which is wonderful to see and hear about. Well done to all.

We are now very excited for the Summer term where we will focus on Athletics, Cricket, Rounders and Tennis in both lessons & extra-curricular clubs. We wish all our teams every success next term and look forward to seeing our students excel in these sports.



Sports News

Miss Bellamy, Miss Sales, Miss Burnham & Mr May



Netball

It has been so pleasing to see our teams playing Netball against other schools this year and being able to host matches & CESSSA tournaments on our new courts, which are playable even in the rain.

Year 8 like Year 7 have never had the chance of playing netball for the school due to covid, so it was with great excitement when they played their first league games and the many after. We had large numbers of students trialling to get into the teams, which made it even harder to select only a dozen of students to play. Where possible, team selection was rotated to give students an opportunity to represent the school. Years 9 & 10 teams loved being back together competing in the MESSSA league and though not every match resulted in a win, they learnt something new about themselves as a team, which they used to improve their game play the next time.

The Senior team which consisted of students from Yr11-13 managed to compete in a few games but due to other schools postponing matches, extra exams, we were not able to complete the season. However, it was fantastic to see them work together and create a strong team who supported each other.

We are still waiting to find out the MESSSA league results and no matter where we come this year, we are very proud of the all those who competed and represented the school so well.



On behalf of CESSSA, we ran the Year 7, 8 & 9 Netball tournaments in March. Having not been able to run these for a couple of years due to building work & covid, it was wonderful to have the competitions back at school, especially on our new courts.

The tournaments themselves ran tremendously well, with the help of our Sports officials & PE prefects. All the tournaments were round robin competitions; which is where all teams

play each other, with the winning team being the one with the most points from winning the most games etc.



Our Year 9 team played some fabulous netball during their tournament and finished 2nd in the district, having only narrowly lost to the overall winners by 2 goals.

The Year 8 team finished 4th in their competition after a couple of close loses, but still managed to play some exciting netball. The Year 7 tournament completed the competitions and the team played extremely well together and produced some fantastic game play which resulted in them coming 2nd in CESSSA.

Well done to all the players, thank you to our Sports Officials & PE prefects for helping to run the event and to the schools that took part in competitions and made it such a lovely event to run.

Sports News

Miss Bellamy, Miss Sales, Miss Burnham & Mr May



Netball

Well done to the Year 7 and Year 8 Netball teams for playing their last game of the season! Even better that we finished on a win! The PE Department are proud of you all and would like to thank you for all your efforts.



Thank you to all staff and students who were involved in the staff v senior team netball match. The senior team won 14-2 (very close game). Lots of smiles from everyone involved, including spectators.





Cricket

The school's U13 Cricket team **WON** the Essex Schools Indoor Cricket Competition at the Essex County Cricket Indoor School on Wednesday March 23rd. Team: Harriet (Captain), Sarah (W/K), Rosie, Lily, Jasmine, Elizabeth, Eleanor, Sophie, Ananya and Dia.

The competition started in December when we beat Gosfield, Barking Abbey and Redden Court Schools in the preliminary round. On March 9th we played the next round where we defeated Passmores, Stanway and Felsted Schools.

This qualified us for the **FINALS** on March 23rd where we faced Bancroft's Independent School in the 1st Semi Final who we restricted to 46 for 4 in 8 overs through some superb bowling and fielding and then went on to bat really well and managed to get 48 for 1 with 3 overs to spare. New Hall Independent School beat Brentwood Independent School in the 2nd Semi Final which New Hall won quite comfortably.

So, CCHS v New Hall in the Final!

CCHS Captain Harriet won the toss and decided to bowl first and yet another excellent bowling and fielding performance restricted New Hall to 53 for 7. Harriet and Sarah opened the batting and got us off to a good start and ably supported by Rosie, Jasmine and Lily took us past their score at 54 for 3 with 3 overs to spare.

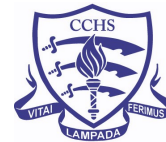
A fantastic performance by all the team but especially from Harriet who not only bowled and batted brilliantly but also won Player of The Tournament.

The team now go on to represent Essex in the East Region U13 Indoor Cricket Finals at Cambridge University on April 27th.



Sports News

Miss Bellamy, Miss Sales, Miss Burnham & Mr May



Gymnastics

This year it was unsure as to whether the gymnastics competition would go ahead, however, it did and I know that the gymnasts were super excited to be able to attend again. This year we had two teams as the talent within our school gymnastics club has grown with a big thanks to Chloe who always has a massive impact on this and the reason behind the club starting. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Jessica and Miss Trott who gave up lunchtimes to help with the floor routines and vaults.

The gymnasts never fail to amaze me, they are an extremely dedicated group of students who give it their all in every performance. They are always looking for ways to improve and score higher and it was inspiring to be a part of. It is a really tough competition and now the only one that leads to the schools regional competition. With competition so high it is very challenging to make it to the regional round, however, the gymnasts did fantastically well and I have high hopes for the talent to continue.





Athletics

Sports Hall Athletics for Years 7 and 8 has been extremely popular and we are all loving every minute of the training sessions in our brand-new Sports Hall. We have been lucky to have brand new equipment purchased so for the first time we were able to train properly.

Miss Sales and Miss Bellamy took four teams (Yr7 A&B and Yr8 A&B) made up of 36 students to CSAC to compete in the CESSA Sports Hall Athletics Competition run by Chelmsford Sport Partnership. Students took part in a variety of events both track & field, such as; 8 lap paarlauf, 2 lap race, 4 x 1 lap relay and speed bounce, standing long jump, vertical jump. It was a great afternoon filled with lots of cheering and excellent performances, not only as a team but individually too. All the students involved should be extremely proud of what they achieved. This also bodes well for the Athletics competitions this summer! We cannot wait for the Athletics to start training after Easter.

Results: The year 7B team finished in 7th place with 166 points and the year 7 A team finished in 1st place with a

huge score of 231 points. The year 8B team finished in 5th place with 187 points and the year 8 A team finished in 3rd place with 210 points.

Big shout out to the Year 7 CESSA Champions - Daisy, Aahana, Lily, Nicole, Srivarshini, Muna , Evie and Dasha.



Sports News

Miss Bellamy, Miss Sales, Miss Burnham & Mr May



Cross Country

Cross Country has been a great success this year and it has been wonderful to be back competing against other schools across Essex.

The MESSA Cross Country Championships was held in November at Hylands Park, with CCHS taking several teams in the different ages groups. The competition is not only a team competition involving 19 local schools but it also acts as a Mid-Essex selection race for individual students to qualify to compete at the Essex Schools Championships in the January.

In their first competition representing the school, the Year 7 teams worked hard with the A team finishing 15th out of 24 teams and the B team finishing 20th. In the Junior-Girls (years 8 & 9) competition, the students gave excellent individual performances resulting in the A team finishing 5th out of 25 school teams and the B team coming in 23rd. The Inter-Girls team (years 10 and 11) finished 6th out of 10 teams.

It was a tough and muddy course and all students involved ran extremely well and showed high levels of determination to ensure they finished in difficult conditions.

A special mention for Lottie in Year 8 who actually won the Junior-Girls race which is a huge achievement as Lottie is a year younger than most students in the race. She went on to represent Mid-Essex at the Essex Schools Championships, where she qualified to represent Essex at the Inter-Counties Championships. Well done and congratulations on an excellent season.

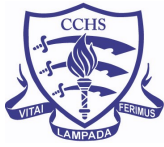
More recently, at the end of February, Miss Sales took Year 7 and Year 8 cross country teams to the Essex School Cross Country Championships held at Stubbers. The race conditions were again difficult, with it being extremely hilly & wet. It was a fast race with a large number of competitors; approximately 250 students in each age group, which makes the race even more difficult to circumnavigate. Though we didn't come away with a trophy, it was definitely an excellent learning opportunity for all.

A huge well done to all students involved, once again you have made the PE department & school very proud;

Matilda, Evie, Aahana, Nicole, Srivashini, Lilly, Lottie, Sarah, Kesia, Harriet, Grace and Lily.

We look forward to even more success with our Cross Country teams next season in 2023.





Swimming

Swimming galas have made a comeback and we have had some amazing team and individual performances this season.

Sadly, the MESSSA Relay galas had to be cancelled at the start of the year when covid cases rose and the hosting school were not able to run the event. So, for the 2nd time we were not able to defend our MESSSA Champions title.

MESSSA League

There have been fewer schools than normal entering the league this year, which is disappointing, but it has still been lovely to host home galas as well as visit other schools with our teams.

We narrowly missed out on beating Brentwood in our first gala, Brentwood overall scored 126 points to our 118.

Year group results:

Year 7 lost 27 - 34

Year 8 won 36 - 25

Year 9 lost 26 - 35

Years 10/11 lost 29 - 32

In our second gala against Great Baddow, was a tightly fought contest which we managed to win by 12 points.

Year group results:

Year 7 won 29 - 27

Year 8 won 34 - 22

Years 10/11 lost 25 - 27

At the time of writing this, we have one more gala against New Hall to compete in at the end of March. We wish all the students competing the very best of luck.

Well done to the whole Swim Squad for a fantastic season and we look forward to next year, where we will compete in the MESSSA competitions as well as the National Schools Relays.

Student success

We would like to congratulate Kesia Crees 8F, Gracie Parker 9H and Alexa Mann 10S who were selected to be part of the East Region team at the English Schools Swimming Association Inter-Division Swimming Championships in Coventry that was held on the 12th and 13th March. Huge congratulations to all three of you, on such an amazing achievement.



This photo, taken at the start line, just before the Year 7 MESSSA Cross Country race, is an excellent example of the wonderful students we have at CCHS, showing true kindness and togetherness.

Thank you to all students who have represented the school this year, you have made the PE Department & school extremely proud.

Sports News

Miss Bellamy, Miss Sales, Miss Burnham & Mr May



Hockey

When I first started at this school my aim was to bring back the 'buzz' of hockey. After being able to field both a squad and development squad this season for Year 7, U14 and U16, I can honestly say the 'buzz' is back!

After coming back from a year with no fixtures this season has been brilliant. We have had so many successful friendly fixtures playing a variety of different schools both home and away. Through having hockey in the curriculum and the astro we have been able to promote hockey and keep it alive!



At the start of the season we had a nationals qualifier tournament. The standard of play at this specific tournament is incredibly high but it is a great way to get started for the season competitively. The teams are always so resilient and never give up and that is one of the most important qualities to learn from playing sport.



Unfortunately this year we had a tournament rather than a league for Essex schools hockey. However, we were able to enter both a cup and plate team for both age groups meaning so many students had this opportunity. As you can see from the photos the squads for hockey are growing and how exciting this is! A special mention for this day in particular must go to our amazing Year 7 students who played at least one age group higher than they are; Chloe, Evie, Sophie and Lucy. I am so excited for what is to come for hockey at CCHS.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of the older students for coming out to coach the younger students every week without fail. They really are pivotal to hockey at CCHS; Sophia, Clara, Ellen, Katie, Eleanor, Lola, Rina and Isabel. Of course a special mention must go to Issy Keegan who has been a massive help to me over the years, she has driven hockey to where it is today at CCHS and I would not of been able to do it without her enthusiasm. I know Issy will be really missed when she leaves at the end of Year 13 by both myself and all the students she has helped along the way.



U15 INDOOR CRICKET

The CCHS U15 Indoor Cricket team took part in the Essex Schools Indoor Cricket competition this year and successfully reached the FINALS stage after beating Colchester County High School, Passmores and Grays Convent in the group stage. They faced a very strong Felsted team in the 1st Semi Final and played really well but narrowly lost and then played Becket keys School in the 4th Place Play Off and again, despite playing well narrowly lost the match to end up 4th in Essex, a very creditable performance. Special mention for Charlotte who scored the most runs and took the most wickets for the team.

Evie (Capt), Ellie, Angel, Maisie, Jess, Clara, Rachana, Charlotte, Nhyira and Esther.

U19 Table Tennis

Nyree and Annabel in Year 13 qualified for the Regional Schools Team Table Tennis Finals in Bristol in February. They won their first match quite comfortably but faced a much tougher task in the remaining match, with the games level at 2 all it was all on the last game which we very narrowly lost and thus just missed a chance to go to the National Table Tennis Finals for the first ever time. Many congratulations to both Nyree and Annabel who have both played for the school since they joined the school's table tennis club in Year 7 as complete beginners. Special mention to Nyree who recently won the Essex Schools U19 Individual Table Tennis Championships and therefore qualified for the National Schools Individual Championships on April 2nd in Wolverhampton. We all wish her well!



BADMINTON ESSEX

U14 & U16 Badminton

Our 3 school teams took part in the Essex Schools Team Badminton Championships which took place in March here at CCHS. U14 'A', U14 'B' and U16.

The U 14 teams played in two groups of 3 schools with the winners qualifying for the semi-finals.

Our U14 'A' team won their group and our U14 'B' team came 2nd in their group – which meant they met each other in the semi-final!! Unsurprisingly the 'A' team won but the 'B' team gave a very good account of themselves!

The 'A' team met a strong Colchester County High School team in the final and narrowly lost 2 games to 3 to come 2nd in Essex and the 'B' team narrowly lost 2 games to 3 against Shenfield School to come 4th in Essex – congratulations!

Teams: 'A' Sarah, Neha, Tulasi, Harriet

'B' Elizabeth, Arya, Srivarshini, Saanvi, Sachee

The U16 team played in a 'round robin' competition with four other schools only losing to the eventual winners Colchester County High School and therefore coming 2nd in Essex. Congratulations!

Team: Akshaya, Akshita, Sivaranjani, Hannah, Vaishnavi

Sports News

Miss Bellamy, Miss Sales, Miss Burnham & Mr May



Dance Show – Legacy

It was absolutely amazing to finally be able to put on the dance show this year and with an actual audience after not being able to do so last year. It was extremely sad that our previous dance officials never got to show what they create, however I know they have all gone on to perform at their universities with great success.

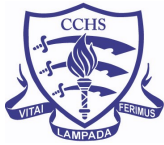


A few of them even managed to come back and support this year's Dance officials on the Friday show, which was much appreciated by all.

Putting the dance show together is not a small feat and the Dance officials Talia, Isabella, Abigail, Danielle & Ivie did a marvellous job getting it sorted - from auditions, to lunch time rehearsals and all day rehearsals; the Dance officials managed to put together a real variety of dances from Afrobeat, to Bollywood, Contemporary, Tap to Musical theatre and many genres in between, there really was something for all year groups. With help from our dance prefects & a number of older students who helped with choreographing dances for the show, along with two fantastic singers Rebecca & Victoria, they produced a wonderful exhilarating show. All involved should be very proud of themselves, we definitely are.

A special mention and thank you should go to the back stage crew- Yasmin, Esther, Max, Serena, Aadya, Alexia & Rosie who were brilliant on all three nights and probably the best we have worked with, they definitely set a high standard and made the show run so smoothly. None of this would have been so fantastic without the hard work & expertise of Mr Rowell & Mr French who seamlessly ran the lights & sound during the shows. A final thank you to the PE department who helped & supported the Dance officials & dancers.





Student Achievements



Isabelle – Year 11

Well done to Isabelle in 11S, whose team – Billericay Town FC U16's, recently won the Essex County Cup U16 Final on Sunday 20th March at Aveley FC's Stadium - with Isabelle scoring the winning goal. A fantastic achievement – we are very proud of you Isabelle!



Zoe, Evie & Charlotte – Year 12

Well done to Zoe, Evie and Charlotte who have successfully completed their community service placement at Chelmsford Library. These students were so impressive in their efforts that the Chelmsford Librarian, Julia Waters, felt compelled to write to us to say:

"I am writing regarding three of your pupils, Zoe, Evie and Charlotte who have just completed their community service volunteering sessions at Chelmsford library. They have been with us for one hour, on a Friday morning, for a few months now and I have to say that they have all been superb and will be sadly missed by myself and my colleagues. They always arrived on time, were cheerful, trustworthy, willing and always completed any tasks given to them to the highest standard. They were also interested and interesting. They were equally as adept at library tasks as they were when helping myself, and colleagues, preparing for any events that the library was due to hold – they are a credit to themselves and Chelmsford County High School for Girls".

CCHS Parents Association Spending Update

We are delighted to report that after a couple of Covid-stunted years it has been a bumper fund-raising year. Many different events so far this year have contributed to our finances including big fundraisers such as the Winter Fayre, Wishlist Lottery, Christmas Raffle, Year 7 Disco, Second-Hand Uniform Sales, Mothers Day Event et al and new ventures such as Cookbooks, Adventure Island Tickets and more fundmatching of events. Thank you again for all your support.

Below is a list of all the items we have funded or committed to fund so far this year – over £44,000 in total!

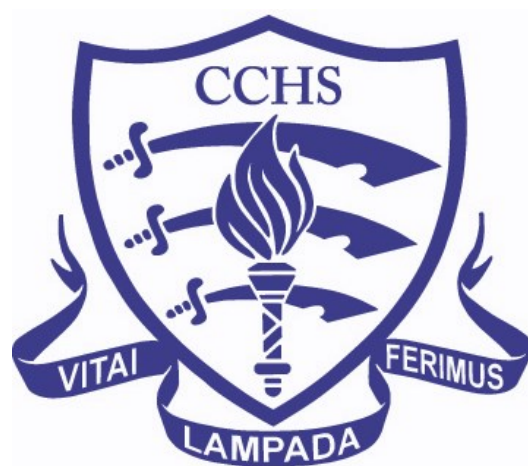
- Floor tiles for the new Sports Hall to allow non-sporting usage (£10,000)
- Cricket matting and stumps
- Hockey Goals
- Additional Science Equipment for the new Science Building
- Junior and Senior Speech Day Prizes
- First Aid for the new Sports Hall including a defibrillator
- Funding for the forthcoming NCGS Conference in Boston, USA
- Funding for the new Pastoral Hub
- Mobile smartboard for the new Library
- Digital Theatre Subscription
- Library e-book Subscription
- Prefect/Leadership Badges
- Paint for the Prefects Event
- Piano Stools
- Stencil cutting machine for the Art Department
- Items for the new Library
- Chess Sets
- Books for a new French Book Club



Please encourage your daughters to ask for any funding requests.

If you would like to become involved with the PA, please email us:

PA@cchs.essex.sch.uk



Chelmsford County High School for Girls

Broomfield Road

Chelmsford

Essex CM1 1RW

T: 01245 352592 . E: office@cchs.essex.sch.uk

 **@CCHS4G**