



*Inspiring the leaders of tomorrow to think for themselves and act for others*

## MESSAGE FROM MR LAWLOR

During our start of term Staff Meeting earlier this week, colleagues prepared for the Summer Term and beyond. I noted the following before we began our discussions and planning.

Our educational journeys and experiences are profoundly personal and particular. Take a moment to reflect on a teacher you remember fondly from your own time as a student. A person who noticed you; someone who encouraged you; an individual who, quite possibly, changed your life.

If we turn to the here and now, our national education system is demonstrably in crisis:

- Funding for schools
- Pay & conditions for staff
- Recruitment & retention across the profession
- Industrial relations
- A tone-deaf national inspection system
- A lack of vision and purpose from the centre

The 2019-20 academic year saw Centre Assessed Grades. The 2020-21 academic year saw Teacher Assessed Grades. The 2021-22 academic year saw modified public examinations. The 2022-23 academic year sees nothing from the central authorities – apparently everything is back to normal. Where is the national education recovery plan? Where is the cross-party initiative? Where is the focus on children? Where is the respect for educators?

When our current Secretary of State for Education, Gillian Keegan, was appointed, she was the fifth Secretary of State in four months, the sixth in fourteen months, and the tenth since 2010. We have been gifted with a generation of politicians, whether Conservative, Labour or Liberal Democrat, who seem illiterate when it comes to national education policy.

It is down to us, in our individual schools, in our own communities and across our partnerships, to fill the void, to make the difference, and to do the right thing. That is why we have been developing our Achievement Strategy, as we continue to think about the needs of each year group, considering their pandemic experiences and beyond, whilst planning for their opportunities and their successes.

We are resolute in our commitment to excellence in girls' education and empowerment, as an honoured evocation of the founding principles that have shaped and guided the CCHS community for 116 years.

# SPOTLIGHT

A graphic of a spotlight beam shining down onto a circular spot on a dark blue background.

*Each week, a member of staff provides a brief outline of their work in the school in our 'Spotlight' feature. This will enable the CCHS community to appreciate the nature, importance and impact of the industrious and talented staff who work at our school. Allied with our wonderful students, encouraging parents and supportive governors, our school community is blessed with people who are committed to excellence in girls' education and empowerment.*

*Mr Lawlor*

Throughout the academic year, I have been dedicated to strengthening creativity in the school curriculum, as well as continuing our Artsmark journey. As an art teacher, I have been excited to take a leading role in steering the Artsmark journey and getting involved in creativity beyond my own subject.

To do this, I have attended various external training courses, including Artsmark, Arts Award assessor training, fundraising in education, and creative education - unlocking creativity. These courses have helped me gain a better understanding of the importance of creativity in education and how to develop it in students.

One of the ways I have worked towards developing creativity into the school community is by organising a Year 8 creative day based around the theme of "We Will Rock You". Students were able to participate in various creative activities, and the day ended with an Arts Showcase. This gave students the opportunity to showcase their talents and creativity.

In addition, I wrote a blog post for Ignite Chelmsford about creativity in education, which helped me form partnerships with Essex Creative and Culture Sector. I also organised an annual art competition for Black History Month, where students' work was exhibited, and we displayed a poppy installation for Remembrance Day.

To further support creativity across the school, a new Year 10 prefect role was implemented to support with creative events happening in the school, as well as being involved in improving creativity across the school. In January, the Bronze Arts Award was launched to Year 8, which provided students with the opportunity to develop their creativity and showcase their talents.

As part of our new Artsmark journey, I wrote a statement of commitment that outlined our aims for the two-year journey. These include supporting creativity in the school curriculum, student voice, and primary outreach work. I also attended an Artsmark exploration day where I spoke about our gold journey so far and our aspiration to become platinum in the future. Our statement of commitment was accepted during the Easter holidays and we are now officially on our 3rd Artsmark journey.

Moving forward, I plan to further investigate creativity across the school to gain a deeper understanding of the curriculum in all subjects and further build creativity into the ethos of the school. This will include gathering evidence and feedback to ensure that our efforts are effective and sustainable.

In conclusion, developing creativity into an already arts thriving school, is an important aspect of education that can help students develop their creativity and showcase their talents and ideas. Through my work this year, I have been able to make significant strides in this area and am excited to continue this journey in the future.

Mr J. Harvey  
School Development Leader



# Student Achievements

Have you got some news to share?  
If so, please email Mrs Gross (jgross@cchs.co.uk) and attach a photo or logo, if applicable.



Isla, (7F), was awarded a distinction in her Cecchetti ballet Standard 3 exam.

Congratulations !



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Nila, (12DMI), completed the Reading half marathon on 2nd April, 2023. She ran 13 miles (22 km) and raised money for mental health charity, MIND.

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nila-k?utm\\_source=whatsapp](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nila-k?utm_source=whatsapp)

Well done, Nila!



**Congratulations, Nila. You did it!**

**A huge WELL DONE and thank you for fundraising for Mind!**







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During the Easter break Cordelia, (10H), donated over 30cms of her hair to the Little Princess Trust and raised £550 (including gift aid) on her justgiving page.

This is the exact amount the charity requires to make a single wig.

Well Done, Cordelia!



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## CCHS Athlete of the Week

Athlete of the Week is Harriet, (9G), for and excellent all round batting, bowling and fielding performance at Cricket, including taking a very good catch.

Well done, Harriet!



Please follow our CCHS PE Department Twitter account to keep up to date with our sporting news

@[CCHS4GPE](https://twitter.com/CCHS4GPE)



Please follow our PE Instagram account for everything PE & Sport.

@[pe\\_cchs](https://www.instagram.com/pe_cchs)





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Huge congratulations to Emily, (12JVI), on achieving a Distinction in the second round of the UK Linguistics Olympiad. This incredible result places her in the top 25% of the 89 competitors nationally, who had progressed to this final stage of the contest.



ARTIST OF THE  
WEEK

ARTIST OF THE WEEK-  
Nethuki, in Year 8, for her  
surrealist piece. Well  
done.





## How to Help Improve Your Child's Memory

### Tuesday 2nd May (6-7pm)

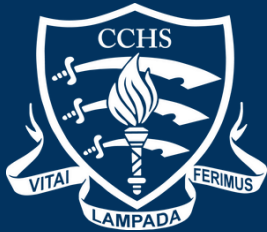
We're excited to announce that Elevate Education's first free webinar of the Summer Term will be taking place on Tuesday 2nd May.

Elevate Education works with our students, delivering high impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series you will learn how you can help better support your children at home through reinforcing the skills they learn at school.

[Click here to register for free](#)

Here's what we'll be covering on the night:

- ✓ How memory actually works (and how it has nothing to do with brain capacity)
- ✓ The most effective environments to assist in memorisation
- ✓ 3 techniques you can implement overnight to improve revision



# CCHS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The CCHS PA will be providing refreshments at the forthcoming Open evening on Thursday 27th April 2023.

This is a great opportunity to not only help the CCHS PA at this event but to be part of promoting our school to prospective parents. If you are interested in helping out at this event, please complete the short form via the link below and the CCHS PA will be in touch with further details.

<https://forms.office.com/r/6SvgVFjfm>

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## Key Dates

CCHS 116th Commemoration	Thursday 27th April
CCHS Open Evening School day finishes at 14:35	Thursday 27th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1st May
King Charles III Coronation	 Saturday 6th May 
Bank Holiday (King Charles III Coronation)	 Monday 8th May 