



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

MESSAGE FROM MR LAWLOR

Today we marked the forthcoming coronation of King Charles III in three ways.

Firstly, we are flying the Union flag today and tomorrow.

Secondly, we planted a tree in the presence of our Year 7 students. Given the King's long-held commitment to environmental causes, this was fitting and chimed with broader hopes for a future distinguished by effective stewardship of our planet. Moreover, to involve our youngest students was appropriate, as a generation of girls who will go on to achieve so much in a variety of ways – the personification of a bright future.

Thirdly, we changed our usual House Cakes school commemoration event, by hosting a special Coronation Cakes activity. It was lovely to adapt one of our own school traditions to mark such a significant national occasion.

Moreover, we also marked the final day of GCSE lessons for our wonderful Year 11 students today, with our traditional afternoon festivities. With tasty food, great music and fine cheer, we celebrated these remarkable and inspiring young women. How blessed we are to work with them, and how fortunate we will be to continue to teach them as they transition to their A level courses in the Sixth Form.



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

At the start of every academic year Mrs Howell runs library lessons for the new Year 7 students to introduce them to our library and teach them how the shelving and online catalogue work. She always asks them, 'what do you think I do?'. Invariably at least one student will answer that we read and loan books – and nothing more!

The library is accessible to all of our students and is used in a variety of ways to enhance both their learning and their reading for pleasure. Our book stock is kept up to date with latest titles and recommendations from the students. We strongly encourage reading for pleasure, which research has shown has huge benefits to children's learning and mental health: "We know from research that reading for pleasure has the greatest positive impact of any single factor on children's life chances..." (SF Said, BookTrust Writer in Residence).

In order to spotlight subjects and topics, or to celebrate certain events in the calendar, we create topical displays inside the library and on our notice boards around the school. We are lucky to have been gifted a bespoke display unit, created by Mr Nicholls from the PE equipment that was part of the old gym, and we regularly showcase new books and books on themes that we hope encourage the students to try something new or research a topic. A study by students at Brigham Young University in Utah has shown that books in themed displays and shelved face-outwards can help to increase circulation within a library, in part because it removes the effect of 'information overload' on the person choosing. We therefore have a substantial number of shelves dedicated to just face-out books, in both Fiction and Non-Fiction, in order to encourage borrowing. These are regularly updated both by us and by the students. We also have our own smartboard, which is used in library lessons to show the students how to navigate the Oliver catalogue. We create Powerpoint displays, again on a theme, to highlight books on a subject would help deepen their learning in various areas of the curriculum.

Every year we celebrate World Book Day by inviting a children's author to visit the school and give talks to Year 7, answer questions, and sign books at lunchtime. This year we were delighted to welcome Sufiya Ahmed. The students enjoyed hearing about her background and inspiration, particularly in relation to her own sense of identity and belonging. Many of her books fall into the Historical Fiction genre, and it was interesting to learn about lesser-known women Noor-un-Nissa Inayat Khan and Princess Sophia Duleep Singh. In previous years we have been visited by authors such as Holly Smale, Teri Terry, and Andrew Lane. Other World Book Day activities usually involve a quiz created by us based around reading and books.

More in-depth student participation comes from a student book group, which is run by Mrs Davis and proves to be very popular with the students. Although it is mediated by staff the content and even the schedule are dictated by the students themselves. This year we are going to be shadowing the Carnegie Medal for writing, which means a group of dedicated students will read each nominated title and collaborate to vote for their winner.

The library is a flexible space, which means that we can use it in a variety of ways and make it accessible to the whole school. Day-to-day it is a study area, used by sixth-formers for supervised silent study and by students from other years who may not be able to attend a lesson for any reason. Once a fortnight every Year 7 class is able to spend an English lesson in here, silent reading and enjoying practising what they have learned about browsing for and borrowing books. The tables are often cleared to the side to make space for talks, such as by our visiting author. The space allows us to hold charity events at lunch times, when for a small fee the students can come and have fun making old books into Christmas trees, hedgehogs and rabbits.

We have our own Twitter and Instagram accounts and post our activities and displays on a regular basis. We are pleased to reach students, staff and parents, as well as authors and other libraries. We encourage the students to request books and to interact with the quizzes and puzzles we create, and also ask for interaction from the wider CCHS community in the form of an Amazon wishlist. This is shared twice a year, and we are hugely grateful to those parents and students who kindly donate a book from the wishlist, because it really does make a difference to our ability to keep our stock fresh and full of enticing books.

And finally, on top of all of this... we do occasionally loan books!

Mrs Howell & Mrs Davis



Thank you from the Library

A very big thank you from us to all those families and friends of the school community who have so generously bought books from the Amazon wishlist! We really are enormously grateful.

If anyone would still like to donate a book to the library, the wishlist can be found [here](#)

Mrs Howell and Mrs Davis



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.



Noor-UI-Ain, (7C), is part of a creative arts group called WAW , and through her efforts and overcoming her fear of talking in public, she rehearsed a short play on a segment of Islamic History covering the Golden Age and sang a song on the spiritual depth of the Holy Month.

Her character was that of Fatima al-Fihri, who founded the first known university, al-Qarawiyyin University . Noor-UI-Ain then earned the privilege to perform a series of ensemble and acapella performances with a group of young students before audiences of large crowds at the following locations:

- London Excel at the Muslim Shopping Festival (February 2023)
- The Victoria and Albert Museum at the opening ceremony of the Ramadan Pavilion
- Granary Square at the heart of Kings Cross where she shared a stage with Little Amal
- Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
- Battersea Arts Centre where the audience included Indonesia's Ambassador to the UK Dr Desra Parcaya
- Trafalgar Square during "Eid in the Square" (London Eid Festival) this past weekend.



Congratulations, Noor-UI-Ain!



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CCHS Athlete of the Week

This week's Athlete of the Week is Davida, (11H), for her outstanding efforts and performance in Tennis throughout her time at CCHS, in particular during last week's U18 Abadere Cup.

Well done!

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)



ARTIST OF THE
WEEK

ARTIST OF THE WEEK

Holly, Year 13, for this fantastic etching.



Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!

On April 18th Riya, Year 10, represented CCHS at the regional final of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Competition, which was held at De La Salle School, having emerged victorious in front of an audience of several hundred students at our internal final. Although she did not progress through this time, she performed absolutely brilliantly.

Riya said of the experience:

"Before Jack Petchey I had never done anything similar to this in terms of public speaking, I assumed my limit was just presentations in class so if you told me last year I'd be doing a competition like this, I would have laughed. After speaking at the competition I'm glad I went through with it because it was an amazing experience and I learnt so much from all the people I met. I would like to encourage anyone even with the slightest doubts about doing Jack Petchey, or anything like it, to just go for it!"

Barracudas Activity Day Camps, the UK's favourite school holiday provider for children aged 4½ to 14 years, will be open at our school this Easter. 80+ exciting activities including archery, arts and crafts, motorsports, sports, teambuilding and much more!

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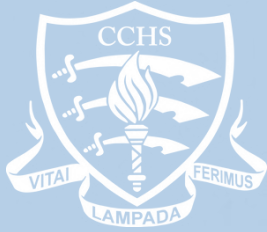
★ Trustpilot
★★★★★

Ofsted
Good
Provider

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

Coronation Cakes





CCHS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Please don't throw old uniform away - it can be used to raise funds for the CCHS PA!

As students are coming to the end of their time at CCHS wearing a full uniform, we would ask that you consider donating their old uniform to the school for the PA to sell at the regular Second Hand Uniform sales.

Clean uniform can be brought into school and placed in the green wheelie bin located outside the Dining Hall entrance.

Please do support this worthwhile cause as it helps to raise funds for the school and also helps parents to purchase second hand uniform for a fraction of the cost when new.

Many thanks for supporting the CCHS PA.

On Behalf of CCHS PA

