Headteacher - Mr Stephen Lawlor



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

MESSAGE FROM MR LAWLOR

On Monday, we held our third Enrichment Day, with activities taking place across every year group, including the Year 7 trip to the Stubbers activity centre. We also welcomed pupils and staff from a host of local primary schools for a creative day, involving art, drama and music.

Thank you to students and staff who engaged and worked to ensure we had a very successful Sports Day on Tuesday at the Chelmsford Sport and Athletics Centre. Our guest of honour was Mrs Adams, who will be retiring at the end of the term. Thank you as well to all the parents and family members who came to the event to support.

House Drama took place on Thursday, with all year groups involved. Credit to students who worked hard and with great imagination and enthusiasm. We are grateful to former students who returned to help judge the competition – a clear demonstration of the vibrancy of the CCHS community. Indeed, two CCHS Alumnae reunions are taking place, with the Class of 1983 this afternoon and the Class of 2003 tomorrow morning.

We will publish our Summer Term Newsletter next week, as we bring the term and academic year to a close. This academic year has seen much national debate and discord concerning our state education system and the teaching profession more broadly. Whatever your own politics and positions on these matters, at least there has been a focus on children. Too often neglected in our national politics, children sit at the centre of discussions right now. Additionally, we have seen the emergence of a veritable moral panic in relation to artificial intelligence and education. Consideration and debate about these issues is certainly needed.

And yet, I think if we pay attention to timeless fundamentals, we will continue to do our very best for young people, whatever the context and circumstance. Prize strong pastoral care. Look after children as people. Listen to them. Pay attention to them. Help them. Put a premium on civility. Treat others as you would wish to be treated. Take responsibility for the predictable consequences of your actions. Respect knowledge. Be keen to learn new things. Ask questions. Take pride in knowing things. Be generous and share your knowledge. Be open to change. Look for opportunities to make things even better. Embrace a continuous improvement approach to stimulate thought and inspire action.

Whatever the new academic year brings, we will remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence in girls' education and empowerment. As a school community, we have both the honour and privilege to preserve and progress what began in this school in 1907, which was then pioneering and remains now vital.

SPOTLIGHT

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

As the Site Manager for CCHS, the most important parts of my work are largely invisible. My work includes elements of Premises health & safety and Security; work that can help to make the school a safe and clean environment for all of the students, staff and the school's visitors. I have been working in facilities management for a very long time, many years ago I studied management with the ILM, those long, sometimes tedious lessons actually provided me with a stable platform where I have grown my strategies, and my network of suppliers and contractors. I hold a Nebosh qualification with the British Safety Council, this H&S qualification underpins all of my work and I study regularly to keep my knowledge base up to date; this week I am reading the building regulations 2010 - approved document on fire safety.

In addition to health and safety work, which includes regular testing of the fire and electrical circuits, water sampling and emergency lighting, I am also responsible for several of the schools budgets, with these budgets I look after the schools security arrangements, including the contracts for intruder and fire alarms, CCTV and access control. I manage the schools cleaning team, arranging their daily shifts from very early in the mornings while making sure they have the training and equipment needed to do their jobs. I look after all of the schools kitchen equipment, without this work there would be no hot food or cold drinks for our 1200 plus students and staff. I look after the grounds maintenance contracts at CCHS, this includes, grass and hedge trimming, tree safety work and the marking out of the sports pitches. I hold the school's furniture budget, where I will work to identify areas where new furniture will be needed in the future as well as replacing broken items. I manage the schools general maintenance budget, this is where many of our sub-contracted repairs are funded. Preventative maintenance is a critical part of facilities management, At CCHS I arrange several dozens' of contracts and contractors that provide essential services to the school, things like periodic boiler and air conditioning servicing.

Here at CCHS the site comes alive in the evening and at the weekends, bustling with eager, external hirers who run their sports, music and theatre group businesses using our fantastic facilities and resources, the site is open until late every evening and all weekend. If you one day find yourself working in a branch of facilities management, whether at a strategic or operational level, then you may discover a career that is brimming full of opportunities to meet new and interesting people and you would also learn lots of new practical skills.

Mr Free Site manager



Keep on suing!

Context

The CCHS swimming pool was built in the 1960s, partly from funds raised by CCHS families. Dedicated upgrading and maintenance work over the years has ensured that the pool has served generations of students and young people across the Chelmsford community.

At the moment, our pool supports the PE curriculum for our 1,162 students, as well as nearly 200 pupils from five local primary schools, and nearly 600 young people from the wider community who use our pool with clubs.

Our swimming pool is truly a community pool.

Goal

Now is the time to modernise this important community resource to preserve it for future generations of students, pupils and young people. We are asking for your support now, just as the CCHS community rallied in the 1960s to ensure a pool was built, to help us achieve this important goal.

Fundraising

We estimate that the pool will require up to £250,000 over the next two years to bring it back to a suitable condition to support swimming in our community for the foreseeable future.

Our immediate need is to replace our aged boiler and gas pipework, which will cost approximately £35,000.

We will be organising some sponsored events and other fundraising activities, however if you are able to support us with any amount, we have a fundraising page available at

https://www.totalgiving.co.uk /appeal/Keep-CCHS-Swimming



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.

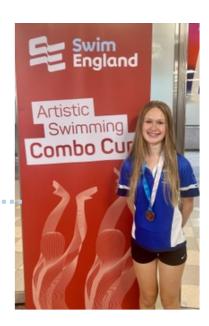


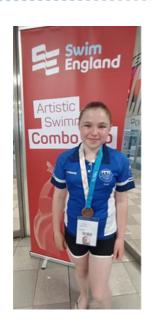
Maisy, (9C), who took part in the Swim England Artistic Swimming Combo Cup at Ponds Forge in Sheffield on Saturday the 8th July - the national competition, held annually, in to which her team at Chelmsford City Swimming Club were entered.

Maisy and her team finished third overall, achieving a bronze medal, with Maisy playing a key part in the routine as one of the flyers.

Well done, Maisy!







Evie, (7), has recently been successful at the Swim England Artistic Swimming Competition: The Combo Cup (Nationals), held in Sheffield on Saturday 8th July.

Evie is part of Chelmsford City Swimming Club's Artistic Swimming Team and their team; competing in the 15 and Under category, came third to win them the bronze medal and a place on the podium.

Well done, Evie.



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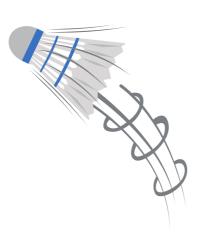
ARTIST OF THE WEEK- Hannah, Year 9, for this highly skilled drawing of a dog.

How fantastic.

Well done!







Akshaya, (12DNO), won the U19 girls singles Badminton tournament (Essex Futures - Chelmsford) on 9th July held at CCHS.

Congratulations, Akshaya!



Essex Partnership University



Summer holiday vaccination catch up clinics 2023

Has your child missed their routine vaccinations?

We are running catch up clinics throughout Essex for the following vaccinations:

HPV* (Offered from year 8 both boys and girls)
DTP & Meningitis ACWY (Offered from Year 9 both
boys and girls)

*Eligible boys born on/after 1/9/2006

Please call the team on 0300 790 0597 to book your nearest clinic or for more information on missed vaccinations



Nationwide Code Explorer Day

On Wednesday we went to the Nationwide Headquarters in London. After a 2 hour mini bus ride, we arrived to the smiling faces of the members of their tech team.

Our first session was by a company called Tech Girls who helped us design our own games about saving the ocean. After helping us gain the confidence to present our ideas, she gave us a summary on what we achieved.

That workshop was followed by a presentation from a member of their apprenticeship team who taught us that even if you get a degree about something you decide you no longer like, it's really simple to change careers and join a company that runs a scheme to encourage people to change into the world of tech. We were also made to realise that tech could take a range of options from cyber security to coding.

After lunch, we were given a tour of their office spaces and how they have adapted after Covid - 19 hit their business, with many now working from home.

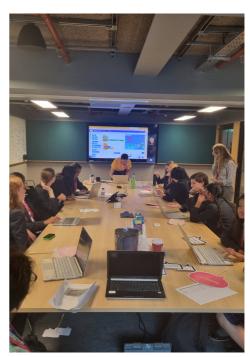
Our first workshop after lunch was about creating a game on scratch with a company called Mama codes. The idea was that the protector of the sea (in our case a starfish) was saving the coral from submarines and bleaching. It involved programming variables for the starfish and submarines health as well as other factors.

The final activity of the day was a staying safe online course with the head of their tech team. It was really helpful when it came to identifying scams and how we could stay safe when encountering them. We also tried out many passwords to see how long it would take for a hacker to crack!

Overall, we learnt a lot about future careers in tech and the roles other individuals play in large companies such as Nationwide.

Grace, (9S).







CCHS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Thank you so much to all the parents who volunteered to help at the Rainbow Rush event and 6th form festival. All the money raised will be donated to charity.



All CCHS parents are welcome to join the Parents Association (PA). You can get involved as much as you like, or be an occasional helper, everyone is welcome!

Events take place in the evenings or during the day and there are many other ways to help too.

Please use the link below to send us your contact details and we will be in touch soon.

https://forms.office.com/r/eNTdwUs96N