



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

## MESSAGE FROM MR LAWLOR

As we bade farewell to 2023, the BBC revealed its list of 100 inspiring and influential women from around the world. Among them are attorney and former US First Lady Michelle Obama, human rights lawyer Amal Clooney, Ballon d'Or-winning footballer Aitana Bonmatí, AI expert Timnit Gebru and feminist icon Gloria Steinem. The full list can be viewed via the following link:

[BBC 100 Women 2023: Who is on the list this year? - BBC News](#)

One of the women profiled is Iryna Stavchuk, Ukraine, a climate policy adviser. She notes the following words to guide both thought and action:

"Our task is to do our best in the place and situation we are in. I adhere to the words of Saint Francis of Assisi: 'Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible'." Iryna Stavchuk

Mr Carter and a team of students presented our whole school assemblies this week, with a focus on poetry and creativity as we prepare to launch this year's Mary Kenyon Poetry Competition. We were privileged to hear some of the poetry written by current and former students, as Mr Carter rightly celebrated the inspirational creativity we witness across our school.

As we start the Spring Term, we look forward to the opportunities that will distinguish the coming weeks. Moreover, we will value how these activities and events will provide our students with experiences to enrich their lives.



# SPOTLIGHT

A graphic of a spotlight beam shining down onto a circular spot on the floor, positioned to the right of the word '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*

Drama is a subject which allows our students to explore the world through different lenses, become different characters and experiment with varied styles of performance. Our curriculum aims to empower our students to enjoy performing and to use their drama skills across the curriculum to support their learning. We not only equip our students with a tool kit of performer and drama making skills but introduce them to a range of play texts and practitioners which aim to instill a lifelong love of the Arts. We are building excellent communicators who can connect with an audience and who can deliver a message, entertain, and engage.

In my role as Subject Leader for Drama and Theatre Studies, I work with two other experienced and talented colleagues, and we are lucky enough to support students' achievement both in and out of the classroom. This term see's the culmination of our students hard work on our school production, we are running into the final weeks of rehearsal and looking forward to sharing our version of A Midsummer Night's Dream with an audience in early February. Outside of lessons the drama team are busy rehearsing with students, planning with our student technical team and organising the costuming and setting. Although busy, this is a fun time and seeing our students from a range of year groups work together to bring the story to life is a privilege. This term also sees our examination students preparing their final practical coursework performances, with both Year 11 and Year 13 students rehearsing script work which will be presented to a visiting examiner. During this time, we work with students in and out of lesson time on refining these pieces, working as an outside eye to offer feedback and to support the development of student performances.

To continue my professional development, I have been able to attend online and in person courses specific to the GCSE and A Level course that we offer, enabling me to work with teachers from around the country to share good practice. I also regularly work with other educators from Essex and Hertfordshire to experiment with new Drama practice and develop resources as well as seeing lots of live theatre which is essential in helping our students understand how theatre remains contemporary and adapts for a modern audience.

My role allows me to plan for Enrichment opportunities, this year we have already had events such as such as the Year 8 Lion King Arts Enrichment Day as well as theatre trips for our A Level Theatre Studies students to see 'Metamorphosis' at the Mercury Theatre in Colchester and the Year 7 Pantomime trip to 'Cinderella'. This term we have the excellent verbatim theatre company, The Paper Birds, coming in to work with our Year 10 students and I look forward to offering a range of other activities and trips as the year progresses.

Miss N. Day - Subject Leader for Drama and Theatre Studies



# 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.

Liza, (10C), recently took part in the Stand Out dance competition. In the Synergy dance competition, Liza achieved first place both in the ballet solo and in acro solo. In the Showbiz dance competition, the three senior group dances featuring Liza took first place. Additionally, at the Hotshots dance competition, Liza took first place for both acro solo and ballet solo.

click [here](#) to see one of Liza's dances.

Liza's dance school has been selected to represent England in the Dance World Cup 2024 in Prague next summer. Liza has contributed to the success of several group dances, and she also has been chosen as one of only four girls from England to represent the country with a solo dance at the World Cup.

Many congratulations, Liza!



Maisie, 12VCA, is our athlete of the week for her outstanding contribution to extra-curricular clubs as well as her consistent and accurate shooting, which led her team to win their MESSSA Netball match last term.



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

[@CCHS4GPE](#)



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

[@pe\\_cchs](#)





# Student Achievements

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

Sadhana, (8F), has passed her Grade 6 examination in Piano, with Distinction. This is particularly remarkable as, unfortunately, Sadhana's piano was broken just 4 weeks before the exam. She got her piano replaced just 10 days before the exam.

Well done, Sadhana!



Aditi, (9S), was invited to perform a Tamil song for the Singapore based YouTube channel 'Time4all' along with 13 other singers from all over the world (adults and children). This was streamed on their YouTube channel on the 1st of January as a special broadcast. This program was to celebrate women and their achievements. Aditi performed a Tamil classical music piece 'Enna Thavam Sedhanai' which was hugely appreciated by all the audience .

A Malayalam Christmas music video was released worldwide with students from all over the world, by TutorsValley. This was Aditi's second such music album following on from the one for Onam in 2023 . The video can be accessed through the following link:

[Aakaashadeshathu Ninum, Christmas song of Tutorsvalley music academy 2023](https://youtu.be/AakaashadeshathuNinum)





# **ARTIST OF THE WEEK**



Olivia, (11S), for this mixed media suitcase.  
So creative. Well done!



**Deadline to apply - 30th June, 2024\***

**MID-ESSEX I T T**  
INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

**Join our cohort  
for 2024-2025!**

**Train to teach at one of  
our 16 schools in Essex**

**Full-time and part-time  
options available**

**Bursaries and scholarships of up to  
£30,000 available in some subjects**

**Visit our website for information on how to apply: [www.midessexteachertraining.com](http://www.midessexteachertraining.com)**

**\*Training will start in September 2024. You must attend induction days in July 2024**



Oxbridge Evening Online

Tuesday 16th January

Year 11 Study Support  
Evening

Thursday 18th January

A Midsummer Night's  
Dream

Thursday 1st & Friday 2nd  
February

Inset Day

Monday 12th February



# UK Maths Trust

## British Mathematical Olympiad Results

Congratulations to Arthie, 11C and Hansika, 12VCA, who both achieved certificates of merit in this year's British Mathematical Olympiad, a demanding 3.5 hour paper designed to challenge top scorers in the Senior Mathematics Challenge.

Well done!

## This week in PSHE . . .

Year 7 – Peer Pressure – (7H fire safety talk)

Year 8 – 8A, C & F – FGM Presentation

8G, H & S – Discrimination – Homophobia

Year 9 – Careers talk with Dr Hiner – Unifrog login details given

Year 10 – Harassment and reporting stalking

Year 11 – Use of Language and Extremism – (11F – Self-Defence demonstration)

Year 12 – Week 2 of Model United Nations

Year 13 – Contraception refresher and teen pregnancy



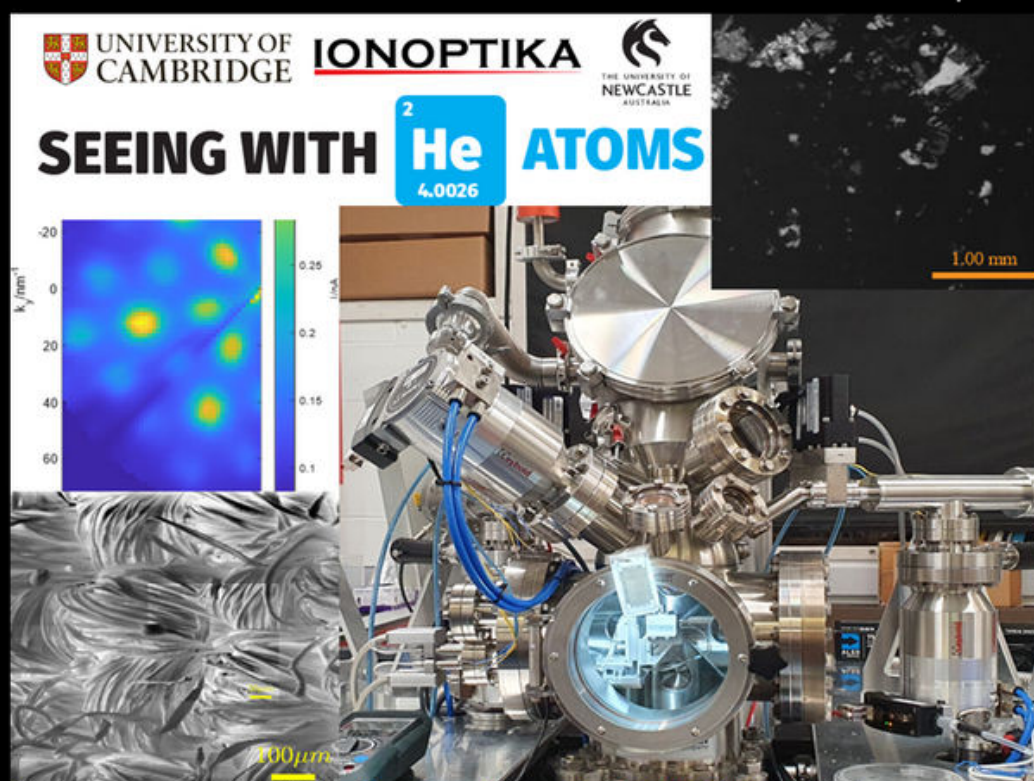
# Seeing with Atoms

An IOP / CSES lecture for the public, presented by  
Dr David Ward, University of Cambridge

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**CCHS will be holding an early edition of this lecture in  
Room V10 at 4:15 pm**

With the lecture at ARU starting at 7pm  
Refreshments available from 6:30 pm at ARU



How can you study something if you can't see it? Now, imagine if looking at something damaged it...

How would you study it when merely looking at it changed it?

It's not far from the truth! Think about the fabric in your house, curtains or a sofa, or your favourite T-Shirt, is it the same colour as when you bought it?

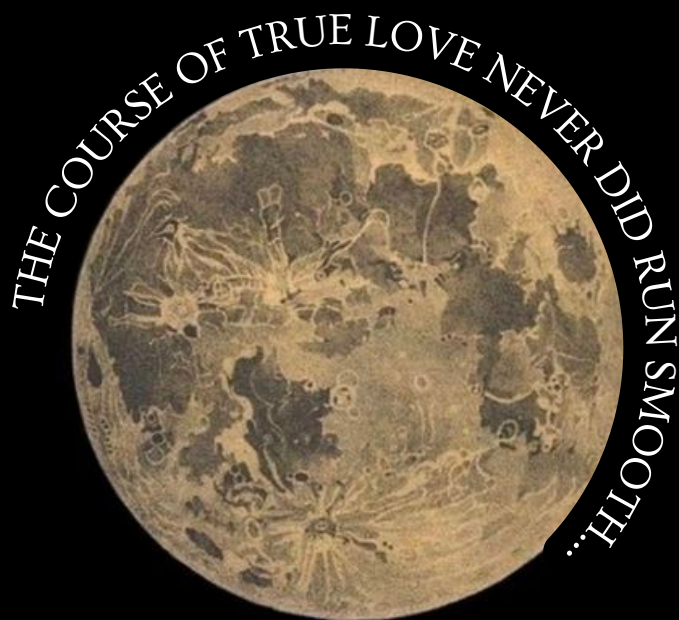
The fading and discolouring of fabric is an effect of light breaking down the chemicals in the dye, so it's not hard to believe light is damaging your sample. If you use higher energy particles like electrons the damage can be even more. We have made a microscope that doesn't damage a sample while imaging it!

Our microscope uses a beam of helium atoms to measure surfaces. We make the beam, focus it onto a sample, and then detect the scattered intensity. By rastering the sample in the beam, we can generate an intensity map which has contrast originating from various properties of the surface, especially its topography, but we can also learn about its chemical composition and other surface properties.

**Location:** MAB221 Lord Ashcroft Building, Anglia Ruskin University,  
Bishop Hall Lane, Chelmsford CM1 1SQ

Attendance is free and open to all – no reservation required.  
For further information please contact [david.d.hall@physics.org](mailto:david.d.hall@physics.org)





a

midsummer

night's

dream



*Thursday 1st February*

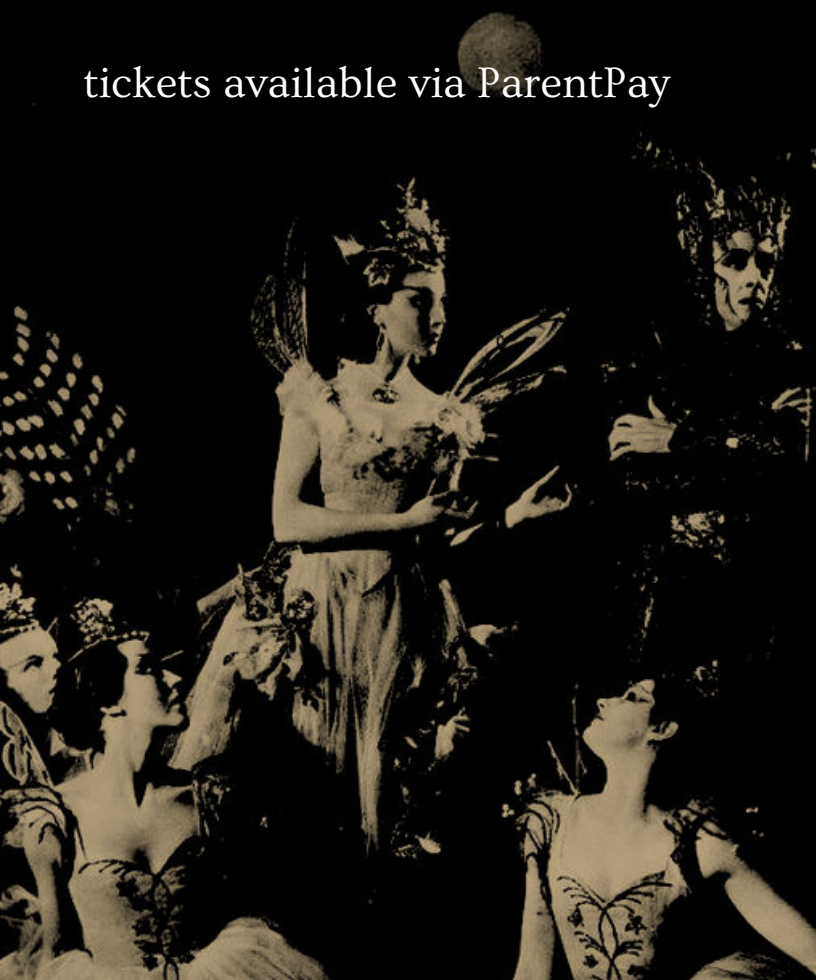
*Friday 2nd February*

Tickets £12

Consessions £8

tickets available via ParentPay

a cchs production



In July 2022, CCHS became one of the founding UK schools of the International Coalition of Girls' Schools (ICGS). ICGS is now the leading advocate for girls' schools globally.

The work of ICGS is to advance the mission of girls' schools. Girls' schools play a vital role in educating and empowering girls, which is essential to overcoming our world's greatest challenges, from climate change to human rights, from global health to sustainable human development. The purpose of ICGS is to nurture the girls who will become the indispensable women leaders of tomorrow. We, at CCHS, will continue our work and commitment to excellence in girls' education and empowerment. When it comes to girls' education, there is always more we can do, together.

We have previously shared with you a range of facts and statistics which highlight the importance of girls' schools. We are proud to be a progressive girls' grammar school, and believe the information highlighted below to be a testament of the work of girls' schools across the world.

### Girls' Schools Build Self-Confidence

- Girls' school students show more confidence compared to girls in coeducational schools, which might explain why girls in girls' schools typically do better academically and are more likely to choose to study STEM subjects than girls in coed schools.

—AQR International

- The majority of girls' school graduates report higher self-confidence than their coeducated peers.

—Dr. Linda Sax, UCLA, Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College

- All-girls settings seem to provide girls a certain comfort level that helps them develop greater self-confidence and broader interests, especially as they approach adolescence.

—Dr. Rosemary C. Salomone, St. John's University, Same, Different, Equal: Rethinking Single-Sex Schooling

### Girls' Schools Foster Increased Interest and Confidence in STEM

- Girls' school graduates on average report greater science self-confidence than coeducated peers in their ability to use technical science skills, understand scientific concepts, generate a research question, explain study results, and determine appropriate data collection.

—Dr. Tiffani Riggers-Piehl, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Fostering Academic and Social Engagement: An Investigation into the Effects of All-Girls Education in the Transition to University

- Girls' school graduates are 6 times more likely to consider majoring in math, science, and technology compared to girls who attended coeducational schools.

—Goodman Research Group, The Girls' School Experience: A Survey of Young Alumnae of Single-Sex Schools

- Compared to coeducated peers, girls' school graduates are 3 times more likely to consider engineering careers.

—Dr. Linda Sax, UCLA, Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College

- During the middle school years, girls show a decline in both their performance in math and their attitudes towards math. Research suggests that girls' schools may mitigate the decline when compared with coeducational schools.

—Dr. Carlo Cerruti, Harvard University, Exploring Girls' Attitudes about Math

- Girls from all-female courses reported more academic interests in computer science or potential to pursue a computing career.
- All-girl environments with girl-only peers helped build community and increased girls' self-reported amount of learning. Girls felt they could do computing because there were other girls doing it around them.

—National Center for Women & Information Technology, Girls in IT: The Facts  
Girls' Schools are Free from Stereotypes

- Girls as young as six can be led to believe men are inherently smarter and more talented than women, making girls less motivated to pursue novel activities or ambitious careers.

—Dr. Sarah-Jane Leslie, Princeton University and Dr. Andrei Cimpian, New York University, Gender Stereotypes About Intellectual Ability Emerge Early and Influence Children's Interests

- All-girls educational environments negate this societal norm by providing opportunities for girls during a critical time in their growth and development. Not only do girls receive a wealth of avenues for self-exploration and development, they also see a wealth of peer role models. Girls need to 'see it, to be it' to make them more aware of the possibilities in their own lives and help set them on their own brilliant paths.

—Megan Murphy, Executive Director, National Coalition of Girls' Schools



We are delighted to celebrate the initiative of two teams of students who have done a great deal of work to put together two extremely impressive publications. The Medimag and the BioChem Soc journal have been entirely written and edited by students and are full of fascinating articles on a range of interesting areas.

They are excellent examples of the way in which CCHS students take their research and learning beyond the classroom and engage with topics and challenges in a relevant and interesting way as they prepare themselves for their future studies. We are grateful to all our colleagues in the science departments for the inspiration and support which they give to all their students and we look forward to future editions of these and other publications.

Can you read the publications via these links

<https://heyzine.com/flip-book/25adaa14e5.html>

<https://www.cchs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/BioChemSoc-Newsletter-2.pdf>



# Spring Term Parent Support Series

## *Free Parent Webinars*

*Join us and Elevate Education for FREE 60- minute webinars designed to help you support your child's studies at home.*

**[Click here to Register](#)**

***In the Spring Term we'll cover:***

- 1. How To Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking**  
- 23<sup>rd</sup> January @6:00pm
- 2. How You Can Make Technology an Ally (& Not the Enemy!)**  
- 6<sup>th</sup> February @6:00pm
- 3. How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams**  
- 5<sup>th</sup> March @6:00pm
- 4. How You Can Support Your Child During Exams**  
- 19<sup>th</sup> March @6:00pm



# VACCINATION CLINICS

**Has your child missed their  
school vaccinations?**

**We are running catch up clinics  
in your area.**

Where: Crouch Vale Medical Centre, CM3 5QP

When: Saturday 13/01/24

Time: 10am to 3.30pm

Where: Witham Health Centre, CM8 2UX

When: Saturday 27/01/24

Time: 10am to 2pm

## **Year 10 & 11 pupils only**

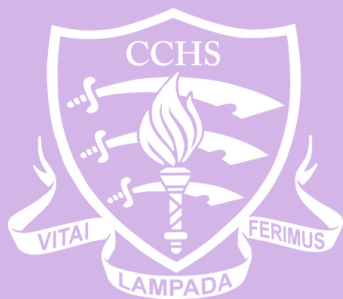
- HPV (Cancer vaccine)
- Meningitis ACWY
- Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio Booster

## **Reception to Year 11**

- Flu Vaccine (Nasal & Injection available)

**If your child is eligible, don't delay.**

Book your nearest clinic NOW or for more information on missed vaccinations please call 0300 790 0597.



# CCHS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The PA are pleased to announce that the winners of the Wishlist Lottery are:

For October:

- 1st Prize £50 M.S. Liyange
- 2nd Prize £25 Mr D O'Braonian
- 3rd Prize £25 Mrs S. Gaines

For November:

- 1st Prize £50 Mr P.J. Loyd
- 2nd Prize £25 Mr & Mrs A.J. Maccloughlan
- 3rd Prize £25 Mr Patel

For December:

- 1st Prize £100 Mr & Mrs P. Whittle
- 2nd Prize £50 Mrs C. Donn
- 3rd Prize £25 Mr & Mrs Muir
- 4th Prize £25 Mrs A. Rehman

Cheques have been given out at school. Thank you for continuing to support the CCHS PA Wishlist Lottery.





# Chelmsford County High School for Girls

## Keep on swimming!

### 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.

### 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>

### 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.

