



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

MESSAGE FROM MR LAWLOR

We were fortunate to welcome and work with a wonderful guest speaker, Bradley Busch, from InnerDrive – an organisation specialising in cognitive science for learning – on our INSET Development Day on Monday. Our focus on the day was adaptive teaching, which has been a key feature of our Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme this academic year, co-ordinated by Mr Selby.

Such INSET days are significant occasions for staff, as we reflect on our practice, hear new ideas and work together to progress our work as a school. Monday was a clear demonstration of our progressive approach, as we work to develop and strengthen practice, provision and services for our students.

You will see that the ‘Spotlight’ features in our Friday bulletins now have a focus, organised by Mr Selby, on colleagues providing insight relating to their professional development activities, experiences and achievements.

Wishing CCHS families a good half-term week. Thank you, as always, for your support of our important work with your daughters.

SPOTLIGHT

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

We are fortunate to work with a range of colleagues who have recently engaged with, or continue to engage with, external agencies to support their professional development. This not only supports in developing their role in our school, or developing their work as classroom practitioners, but also enables us as a wider school community to engage with educational research to improve our whole school practices. This spotlight feature acts as a mechanism to showcase to our school community the ongoing professional development work undertaken by our talented staff.

Mr Selby

Hello, I'm Miss Kersey; I am the Second-in-Charge of the English Department. As a part of my development in this new role, I benefitted from the PTI English Residential Development weekend during the summer term of 2023.

Hosted at Downing College, Cambridge, the course aimed to revitalise subject knowledge with the intent of inspiring new perspectives when planning schemes of work. Guest Speakers included theatre specialist Dr Tracy Irish, Professor Kiernan Ryan, Emeritus Professor of English Literature at Royal Holloway, and—the Keynote Speaker—Nobel Prize winner Sir Kazuo Ishiguro: writer of *Never Let Me Go* and *Remains of the Day*.

Sir Ishiguro spoke eloquently about his experiences and strategies when writing, which struck a particular chord with me. As an English teacher, the plasticity of language, and how we use it to convey experience, is the beating heart of what we do; it was a privilege to hear reflections of this from a master of the art, Professor Kiernan Ryan inspired with his lecture 'Voicing Subversion,' exploring advanced perspectives within Shakespeare's works – his high-calibre analysis epitomised what higher-order thinking in English should look like, serving as a model for the Literature teaching of the able students that grace the corridors of CCHS.

Leaving Downing College with a real sense of inspiration, I have since incorporated aspects into the lessons here at CCHS, seeking to serve an ambitious and stimulating approach to English in the school.

Miss V Kersey
Second in Charge of English



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.



The Academy Performing Arts School organised a LAMDA and Singing Presentation Evening on Saturday, 10th February 2024 at the Brentwood Theatre.

Thanisha, (10A), was awarded the prize for singing this year! She sang the song titled "My House" from Matilda.

Thanisha started LAMDA when she was 8 years old and has been performing every year at the presentation evening.



CCHS PA Spring Disco

Friday 1st March

Year 9 Options Evening

Thursday 7th March

UCAS Information Evening

Monday 11th March

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Thursday 21st March



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.

Frankie, 8S, has been selected to represent Essex at the English Schools Cross-Country Championships next month. This is a fantastic achievement as Frankie has also qualified a year young in her category.

Congratulations, Frankie!

Well done!

Lilly, Izzy, Frankie and Esme (Year 8) all ran brilliantly in the final Essex Cross Country race on Saturday, finishing the league standings in 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 8th place. It was a rather muddy one!

Well done!



ARTIST OF THE WEEK

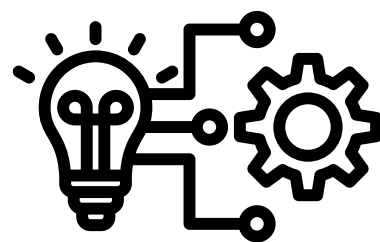


ARTIST OF THE WEEK is Lillias, Year 13, for her Ao painting of a figure in a dynamic style. We love it. Well done.

PSHE NOTICE

As we approach the examination session, RTP will be suspended for all year groups to enable continuity of lessons for Year 11 and Year 13 students.

RTP will restart after the Easter Holidays on Tuesday 16th April, Week A, lesson 2.

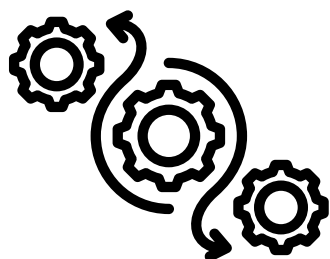


STEM & STEAM CCHS IN THE NEWS

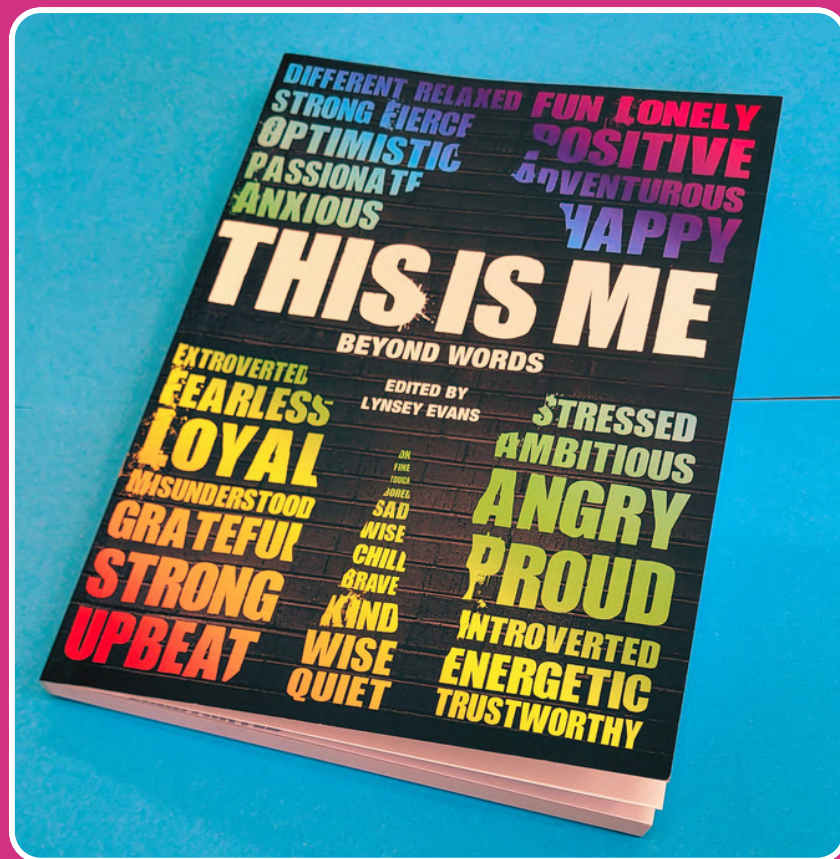
Chelmsford Science and Engineering Society bursary kits granted to Chelmsford County High School for Girls

As part of the ongoing commitment to education, support and inspiration Chelmsford Science and Engineering Society (CSES) has been working with Chelmsford County High School for Girls...

For full article, please click [here](#)



Congratulations to 19 of our students, who have had their poems published in a second volume titled, This Me – Beyond Words, released by Young Writers. Thank you to Mrs Barker and the English Department for inspiring students to express themselves and share their creativity.



As part of form enrichment activities for the first term we encouraged our Year 8 students to submit poems to the latest Young Writers poetry competition. Successful entries were published in a book called This is Me and we have just received our copies in school. The published students are:

Isabelle, 8H, Sofia, 8A, Eesha, 8S, Ambika, 8H, Shu, 8H, Sanajna, 8H, Aaria, 8G Sameeha, 8C, Tanmayi, 8G, Isabelle, 8S, Gracia, 8H, Laxmi Sahasra , 8S, Riya, 8G andHema, 8S

Maryam, 10G, was also successful and two other students, Saisha, 8G, and Rumasyah, 8H, are to have entries in the next edition which will be published in March.

Congratulations!

The Cambridge Debate Competition

The Cambridge debate competition is, like its name suggests, a competitive day of engagement and exploration of different enigmatic motions with a wide range of personalities. Unfortunately, this couldn't have come at a more awkward time: a Saturday after an exhausting week at school filled with tests and deadlines and with zero experience with debating competitions before (and high expectations that follow the name 'Cambridge'), I was both terrified and already felt defeated. What I didn't expect was for the debate to give me everything I thought it would take: energy, enjoyment and confidence.

For the weeks leading up to debate, we went to extra sessions during lunchtime to harness any skills that we could before the debate, including an interesting debate on atomic weapons. We got used to debating in our team of two composed of the following students: Naisha Joshi, Eva Emekhia, Sophia Yang, Tiyas Ghosh, Paula Dibigbo, Prethika Rajesh, Anoushka Lynch and me. On behalf of the entire debate team, I am very grateful to Mrs Watt for teaching us the very techniques that got us so far in the first place.

For the actual debate, we had little idea what to expect. In contrast to the towering and regal debate chamber- the people were incredibly down to earth. Each debate ended with the opportunity to speak to other competitors and teammates, which followed similar lines of conversation: how much fun it all was and how much we were getting from it. The rigorous academic exercises gave us lots of practice in how to attack ideas from different angles, the intense atmosphere bridled us with adrenaline and motivation. Yes, our decisive defeat of historic rivals (KEGS) spurred us on, but it was mostly the electric feel of overcoming fears to stand up with courage and passionately articulate our partially improvised ideas. With only 15 minutes to prepare on a diversity of motions, such as 'This House, as a Parent, would actively install a disobedience of authority in their children' to whether 'THBT an unelected board of scientific experts, chosen by their peers, should decide environmental policy,' we were thrilled with the unique challenges and views that each debate delivered. From navigating rebuttals to remembering that protected time exists, we were able to take our debating to the next level.

I cannot understate the amount of practical and applicable skills I learnt- even without realising it- from those hours. I have felt my confidence grow, and only a week later during MUN could I truly appreciate what it gave me. It gave me the knowledge that sometimes you must throw yourself in the deep end to truly gain everything you can from such an experience like this, and I encourage everyone who is interested to look out for future debating events and do the same.

I would also like to thank the unwavering support from everyone who took part (and everyone who brought sweets) and especially Mrs Watt and Ms Vigrass without whom none of this could have happened.

Elouise, 12VCA



The International Coalition of Girls' Schools

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.

This week we would like to share with you a study conducted in the USA in 2018 investigating the effects of all-girls education in the transition to university. The study focused on how graduates of all-girls schools compared to female graduates from mixed-schools, in terms of their academic characteristics and readiness for university. Drawing data from the well-known 'Freshman Survey' conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at the University of California, Los Angeles, the researchers used multilevel analyses to separate the effect of an all-girls education from other influences including socioeconomic differences, race/ethnicity, parent education, and the characteristics of the high schools attended. The data revealed a consistent portrait of girls' school graduates who are more engaged academically and socially than their coeducated peers.

In summary, the researchers concluded that when compared to their female peers at mixed-schools, girls' school graduates:

- Have stronger academic skills;
- Are more academically engaged;
- Demonstrate higher science self-confidence;
- Display higher levels of cultural competency;
- Express stronger community involvement;
- Exhibit increased political engagement.

Source: High School (recent graduates): Fostering Academic and Social Engagement: An Investigation into the Effects of All-Girls Education in the Transition to University; Principal Investigator: Dr. Tiffani A. Riggers-Piehl, Assistant Professor of Higher Education at University of Missouri, Kansas City.



Spring Term Parent Support Series

Free Parent Webinars

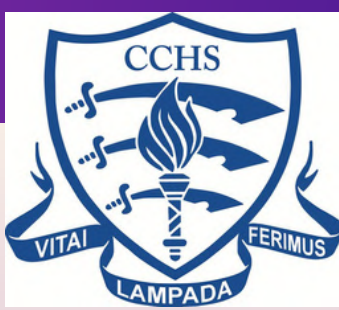
*Join us and Elevate Education for FREE
60- minute webinars designed to help you
support your child's studies at home.*

[Click here to Register](#)

In the Spring Term we'll cover:

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





QUIZ NIGHT

CCHS MAIN HALL

**DOORS OPEN AT 7:00PM
FRIDAY 26TH APRIL**

**LICENSED BAR
JOIN US FOR SUPPER**

Tickets available on ParentPay
Adults £10
Student/Concessions £8

**IF YOU WISH TO BE PUT TOGETHER AS A TEAM
(UP TO 10) PLEASE EMAIL**

PA@cchs.essex.sch.uk

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

CCHS PA Donations Request for Mother's Day Shopping Event

**Friday March 8th Lunchtime
Main Hall**

**Lots of gift stalls including beauty,
jewellery, vintage homewares,
plants, chocolate, cakes & more**

**Please donate any unwanted gifts or chocolates.
Donations can be handed into the Office until 1 March.
Please bring cakes, homemade or bought, to the Office on 8 March.**

**We have also made an Amazon Wishlist closing on Wednesday 28 February.
Your support is greatly appreciated.**



Parentkind
Member Association



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.

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>

