



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

MESSAGE FROM MR LAWLOR

It was wonderful to welcome back staff and students to the second part of the Spring Term this week. As ever, the week was distinguished by energy, activities and significance.

On Monday, our Year 11 students were provided with careers support with our external Careers Adviser.

On Wednesday, our Year 9 students enjoyed the play, 'Onatti', courtesy of the German Department.

Our Year 10 students have completed the first week of their school exams. Like Year 11 and Year 13 students, they will learn much from this experience. As a school staff, we commend them for their industry and positivity.

Our new team of Senior Prefects delivered their first whole-school assemblies across this week. What superb role models these remarkable young women are for us all.

And today, our Athletics Team travels to Leeds to compete in the National Schools Cross Country Competition.

Another week in the life of our vibrant school, with our talented staff and wonderful students.

I thank you, in advance, for your support and encouragement of our work with your daughters – our students – as we progress through this important term.



CCHS Ethos

We amplify, and so fortify, our School vision and aims, as well as pursue links between subject disciplines, to cultivate core values, which direct and drive our work: **citizenship, distinction, challenge, duty, imagination, enlightenment and diversity**. This ethos forms our covenant with the CCHS community:

- Mission *A progressive grammar school community, committed to excellence in girls' education and empowerment.*
- Vision *Developing the leaders of tomorrow – **citizenship**: inspire future citizens to think for themselves and to act for others.*
- Aim *The pursuit of excellence – **distinction**: provide students with an outstanding education, with students doing their best in all endeavours.*
- Aim *Fulfilling individual potential – **challenge**: motivate students to acquire new knowledge & understanding and stimulate them to develop new skills & attributes.*
- Aim *Contributing to the community – **duty**: ensure students conduct themselves with civility and compassion at all times, supporting each other and looking beyond themselves.*
- *English, Sport and Arts subjects – **imagination**: enable students to explore new ideas and empathise with the thinking of others, without limitation or risk.*
- *Mathematics, Computer Science and Natural Sciences subjects – **enlightenment**: equip students with the insight and determination to embrace new ideas, technology and innovation, enabling them to contribute to the ever-changing natural and physical world around them.*
- *Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences subjects – **diversity**: provide students with the tools to respect and celebrate the great diversity of cultures, backgrounds and beliefs, within and beyond the School, whilst recognising that we have more in common than that which divides us.*



D e s i d e r a t a

G O P L A C I D L Y amid the noise

and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexatious to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

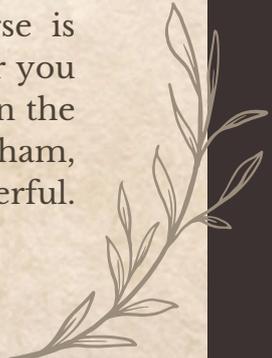
Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here.

And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

by Max Ehrmann ©1927





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.



Emily, 9G, spent her half-term break performing with Witham Operatic Workshop, in their production of Les Miserables. Seven sell out performances were given, with standing ovations every night.

Emily was cast in the role of Young Cosette, with the iconic Castle On A Cloud solo as well as taking part in the ensemble.

Well done, Emily!

CCHS Essay Competition

We are delighted to announce the winners of the annual CCHS Essay Competition. The winner for Years 7-9 was Elizabeth, 8A, who wrote most thoughtfully about whether reducing global poverty should be prioritised over space exploration, arguing that this was in fact a false dichotomy and that space exploration had much to contribute to tackling important questions for contemporary society.

For Years 12 and 13 the winner was Natalie, 12JCH, for her interesting answer to the question 'What should I read?'. Natalie explored the reasons why reading is so important and how different texts can impact readers in different ways.

We congratulate both our winners and also all those who chose to enter the competition and look forward to another CCHS Essay Competition in the autumn term.





On Wednesday this week, Year 9 watched a German theatre performance by Onatti. It followed the adventures of two best friends on a camping trip, one more prepared for a weekend in the outdoors than the other. Audience participation was encouraged and our very own Fayah and Imaan had a starring role on stage. Students rated the experience 4.2 stars out of 5 on average and here are some of their comments:

The audience participation was funny, and overall the whole performance was great! Thank you.

It was very interactive and very funny and I was able to understand most of the lines especially from the actions.

It was really interesting and funny at the same time. I liked the audience participation as well. Altogether, it was a great experience.

The performance was really funny and enjoyable. The story line was easy to understand despite being all in German. They also got the audience involved which made it even better.

It was humorous, and it wasn't necessary to understand every word of the German language to know what was going on and enjoy the performance.



Practice Magazine

article by Mr Harvey

V&A Innovate Challenge Winners

Jonathan Harvey, School Development Leader at Chelmsford County High School for Girls

Chelmsford County High School for Girls proudly celebrates the success of their Year 9 team, Green Gift, who won the V&A Innovate Best Pitch National Schools Challenge with their sustainable gift-wrapping solution.



Chelmsford County High School for Girls is proud to celebrate the outstanding success of our Year 9 team, Green Gift, who emerged victorious at the prestigious V&A Innovate National Schools Challenge. This achievement highlights the ingenuity, creativity, and commitment of our students in tackling real-world sustainability challenges through innovative design.

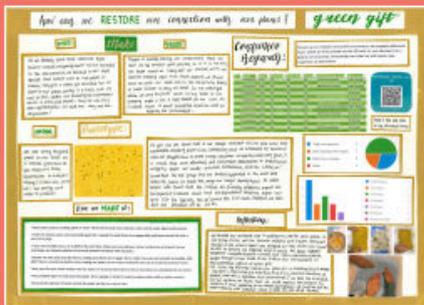
Adapt, Renew, Restore

The V&A Innovate National Schools Challenge is a nationwide competition that invites students to develop solutions to pressing societal issues using design thinking. The challenge centred on 'Adapt, Renew, and Restore', encouraging young designers to consider sustainability and social impact in their projects.

Our team, Green Gift, comprising four talented Year 9 students, responded to this theme with an inspiring concept aimed at reducing waste while promoting thoughtful, eco-friendly gifting. Their idea—a sustainable, reusable, and customisable gift-wrapping solution—captured the attention of judges and showcased their ability to merge environmental responsibility with practical design.

The Road to Success

The team's journey began in an extra-curriculum design class, where they explored issues surrounding consumerism, waste reduction, and the importance of sustainable materials. Through brainstorming, prototyping, and refining their concept, the students developed an



innovative solution that not only addressed sustainability concerns but also encouraged a cultural shift towards conscious gifting.

The students navigated the design process with enthusiasm and resilience. They conducted research into existing sustainable alternatives, examined user needs, and refined their prototype through testing and feedback.

Their final product was a beautifully designed, reusable gift-wrapping kit that combines aesthetics with environmental impact—aligning perfectly with the values promoted by the V&A Innovate Challenge.

The Grand Final at the V&A

Selected as national finalists, the Green Gift team travelled to the prestigious Victoria and Albert Museum in London to present their project to an expert judging panel. Competing against teams from across the country, they delivered a compelling pitch that demonstrated their understanding of design thinking, sustainability, and consumer habits.

The judges, comprising leading designers and teachers, were particularly impressed by the team's creativity, problem-solving skills, and ability to articulate their vision with confidence and clarity.

After a rigorous evaluation, Green Gift was named the pitch winner—a moment of immense pride for both the students and our school community.

Reflections and Future Aspirations

Winning at the V&A Innovate Challenge is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, as well as the commitment of our school to fostering creativity and innovation. This achievement underscores the value of design education in empowering young people to think critically, solve complex problems, and make a positive impact on the world.

Reflecting on their journey, the Green Gift team re the importance of teamwork, resilience, and the power of creative thinking in bringing their vision to life. Inspired by their success, they hope to further develop their idea and explore potential opportunities for real-world implementation.

At Chelmsford County High School for Girls, we are incredibly proud of our students' accomplishments and remain committed to nurturing the next generation of designers, innovators, and changemakers. The Green Gift team's triumph at the V&A Innovate Challenge exemplifies the power of young minds in shaping a more sustainable and thoughtful future. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the team and look forward to seeing where their creative journey takes them next.



Chelmsford County High School for Girls
www.chs.co.uk



V&A Innovate

V&A Innovate is a national design challenge for students in Years 7, 8, and 9, encouraging them to create solutions to real-world problems using design thinking.

How It Works

Students work in teams to develop a design solution. Use free resources (session plans, worksheets, and videos) to guide the process. Finalists pitch their ideas to judges at the V&A Museum.

Prizes

All students who enter receive a participation certificate, and finalists are invited to attend the annual 'Pitching and Awards Day' at the V&A in London. Prizes include plaques, trophies and workshops with designers, which are awarded to winning teams of students.

Submission Process

Students present their design ideas on two A3 sheets (PDF or JPEG). Email innovate@vam.ac.uk with submissions by the deadline.

Find out More

Find out more about the next iteration of the competition and the new themes which are yet to be announced by visiting the V&A website or emailing innovate@vam.ac.uk.

Artist *of the week*



ARTIST OF THE WEEK- Rachel, 11A, for her inspired take on Kintsugi, the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery. We love it.

Dear CCHS Community,

RE: Update - arrival at and departure from school

We continue to engage with local residents (First Avenue, Corporation Road, Swiss Avenue, Westfield Avenue and Elms Drive) concerning their experiences during student arrival and departure periods.

Further to my communications on this matter last term and last month, I note below key points of information to support CCHS families:

- Chelmsford City Council provided the following about the use of Rectory Lane car park:

“Please be advised there is a standard five-minute grace period on all vehicles to allow the purchase of a pay and display ticket. Therefore, any vehicles that are in the car park for the purposes of dropping off and / or picking up should fall within that grace period.”

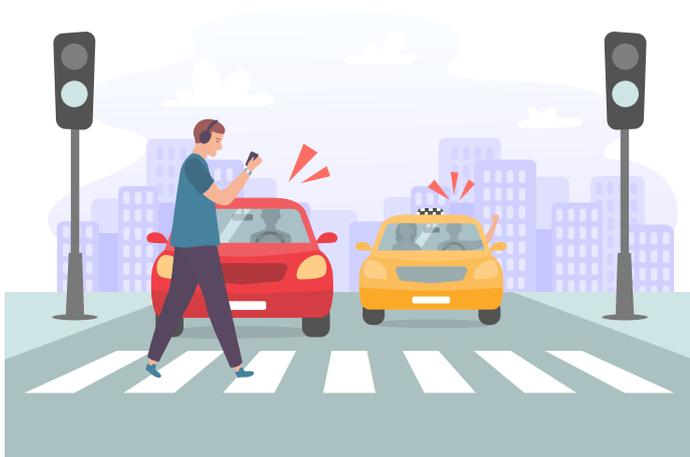
- As a result of the concerns raised by local residents regarding instances of inconsiderate and at times dangerous parking, South Essex Parking Partnership noted that their Parking Enforcement Team will be stepping up their patrols in the area.
- Our School Eco Committee is undertaking work, supported by the local authority, to explore how students travel to and from school, and how we could support both school families and the wider community with matters of travel, parking and congestion.
- Our Senior Leadership Team is working with local officials and local politicians on the matter of parking and congestion, and we have made suggestions to support this work, including the idea of creating a new entrance/exit point to the school site on the Chelmer Valley Road (east side of the campus).

Thank you, as ever, for your support in ensuring that we are mindful of local residents, as we work to keep people safe and relations cordial.

Yours faithfully,

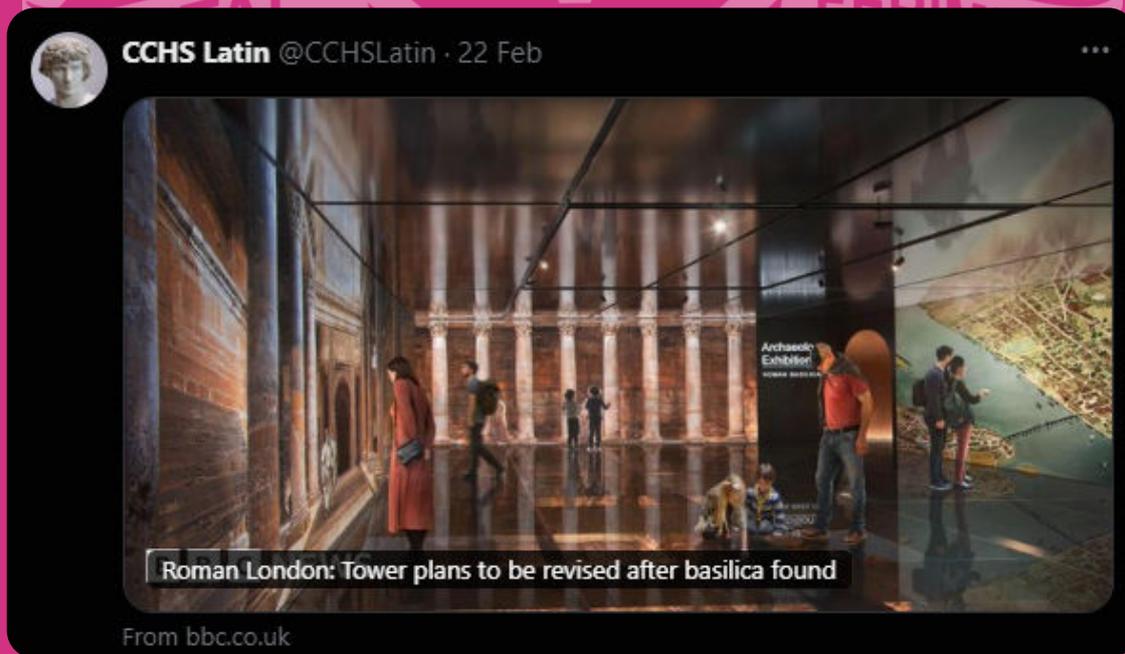
Mr Lawlor.

Please be aware of your surroundings when dropping off and picking up students to and from school. The area directly outside our school, in Broomfield Road, is a very busy thoroughfare. A vehicle which is not parked safely can be dangerous for other vehicles, as can dropping off/picking up students in the buslane.



**ROAD
SAFETY**

On CCHS socials this week...



twitter.com/CCHS4G



[instagram.com/cchs4g/](https://www.instagram.com/cchs4g/)



[facebook.com/cchsessex](https://www.facebook.com/cchsessex)



[youtube.com/@chelmsfordcountyhighschool2697](https://www.youtube.com/@chelmsfordcountyhighschool2697)



Elevate Education's Spring Term

Parent Webinar Series

Elevate Education delivers high-impact workshops to our students that help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, you're invited to join their parent webinar series, where you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.

How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams

11th March 6:00pm

How You Can Support Your Child During Exams

25th March 6:00pm

Register today at: <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>



CCHS PA
SPRING DISCO

YEARS 7-9

14TH MARCH
7-9PM

£8 ON PARENTPAY
OR £10 ON ARRIVAL

Spring fancy dress(optional) - prize for best outfit!

Cash & Card accepted

Prizes

Popcorn

Waffles

Games

Things to buy

SAVE THE DATE

**CCHS
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION
SUMMER SOCIAL**

4th July 6-8pm

2011 - 2012

at THE OLD CHELMSFORDIANS
friends and families welcome

CONTACT

+125-456-7890





County
High
Acting
Outrageously
Society
Presents....

Jack and the Beanstalk

12th & 13th March 2025

Tickets £8 (students only)

on sale via ParentPay from

4pm Friday 28th February



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>

