



## Chesterton Sixth Form (CSF)



The CSF students continue to apply themselves in all aspects of school life: On Monday, some of our students delivered an assembly on effective revision strategies and how to remain motivated in the lead up to their GCSEs. The A-level biologists have been busy dissecting different specimens over the last couple of weeks to help their understanding of

breathing systems in different animals.

On Wednesday, all students took part in a PSHE morning when they took part in multiple discussions around digital footprint,

boundaries and harassment.

A small group of students have signed up to the Linguistic Olympiad and now look to cracking a whole host of language-based problem-solving puzzles!

The CSF Team continue to carry out guidance meetings and we have been thoroughly impressed by the applicants we have met thus far.



## **News From the Houses**

### **Equiano House**

As we head into the last week before the half-term holiday, Equiano are currently sitting in second place on the House Leader Board. We have 5836 Above and Beyond Points and just one more week to see if we can catch up to Robinson who are leading the way. We have to say well done to our Equiano Students of the week – Marnie, Victor and Ishaq who have been recognised for their continued hard work and great attitude in lessons - keep up the great effort!

Almost 80 students took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge this week where they had to work through difficult questions and really put their problem-solving skills to the test. Well done to everyone who took part.

We have had great sporting success this week with Sasha and Ryan doing really well in their badminton matches as part of their GCSE moderation. And after the Year 7 boys' County Cup football match was cancelled due to frozen pitches last week, the boys won on the rescheduled date this week and now progress to the semi-finals. One of the standout players was Lucas who helped seal the victory. Well done to everyone involved and good luck for the semi-final!

Speaking of football, this week all students were offered Cambridge United vouchers to get discounted tickets for children and accompanying adults to the next three fixtures to watch our local team. We hope everyone enjoys supporting their favourite teams and that there are some exciting games!

### **Hill House**

We've finally made it to February, Hill House! It sometimes felt like this January would never end, but we've made it through and into the next month. School continues apace with a range of different events and activities, most notably the special drop-down day for Year 11 on Wednesday. We hope Year 11s enjoyed having the run of the place while the rest of the years worked from home.

In form time this week, Hill students have been learning about the importance of saving and budgeting – first, students looked at different ways they can pay for things, with cash, card, cheque and more, and then they looked at why it is important to save money through budgeting, in case of sudden needs, inflation and other factors. This is especially important to learn at a time when money is especially tight for many people around the UK, and we

are sure that Hill students are now fully equipped to face the challenging problems of saving and spending.

We've frustratingly dropped down to just below Equiano on the ABP league table, but with just a 33 ABP difference, we are sure we can storm our way back to second place and beyond.

### **Fawcett House**

This week, Fawcett students enjoyed the finals of their inter-form chess competition where two representatives from each tutor group have been selected for the Fawcett final next week - good luck to those involved!

There were lots of students involved in sporting action this week where the Year 7 boys' football team won in the Quarter Finals of the County Cup – on to the semi-finals we go! Well done to Alfie and Sebastiaan.

Well done to the following students who have earned over 75 ABPs so far this year - an amazing achievement: Elida, Sebastiaan, Maya, Florence, Bella, Yana, Jamie and Ryad.

PSHE this week has been focused around managing finances, whilst students also received an assembly about LGBTQ+ as we celebrate their history this month.

The Year 9 GCSE options choices deadline is fast approaching and students have received mentor meetings in support of this - if you have any questions then please speak with your form tutor. Year 11 students continue to receive bespoke revision sessions and Year 10 have parents' evening next week.

As always, if you have any questions about any of the above or any general wellbeing or progress questions then please speak with Mr Firth and Miss Malik.

### **Robinson House**

Hello Robinson folks, here's your weekly roundup.

During tutor time we pondered what a good use of our time was; we generated some ideas, see for yourself how wonderfully put they were:

'conversations with people that you care for',

'to do things you like that also feel right' and

'doing what makes you happy and healthy'.

We are very lucky to have such bright young minds making conversations in our buddy groups so meaningful. Following that we thought of our priorities and ordered them according to importance - hopefully this will be useful for your planning throughout 2023.

Many happy returns to the following students celebrating their birthday this week: Maya, Jassim, William, Katie, Alexander, Sam, Alexander and Theo Enjoy. your special day, we are all thinking of you.

Finally, we have accumulated a whopping 7,375 Above and Beyond Points, so keep up the good work. Your efforts mean our House is in first place in the Above and Beyond Points League table!

Enjoy a well-deserved weekend.

### **Cavendish House**

This week's Cavendish blog includes the much-anticipated field report from the Year 11 GCSE Drama residential weekend at Burwell House. This reporter can exclusively report that a good time was had by all - the food was excellent, the early-morning fitness was invigorating, and (most importantly) the students got in some good rehearsal time. By the performances on Sunday morning we saw some very impressive pieces of theatre. Shout-out to Esme Sharpington (formerly of this house, now at Impington Sixth Form) who was among the "young directors" team of Chesterton alumni without whom the event would not have been possible. And congratulations to Cavendish's own Iyad who won the coveted "Most Improved Actor" award.

In non-drama news, the school had another good sporting week in which Cavendish played its part. The U12 girls' football team won a spectacular victory against North Cambridge Academy in their Cup Match on Tuesday... so spectacular in fact that the NCA team were unable to attend and so Chesterton advanced to the next round by default. Well done to the whole team and especially to Imogen and Aleks of Cavendish who no doubt did their bit in scaring NCA off. And the Year 7 boys played Longsands, St Neots, in the County Cup Quarter Finals on Thursday - well done to Peter, Ben and Harry of Cavendish and we look forward to hearing the result.

That's about all from us. Don't forget to be awesome, Cavendish!

### **Inter-house ABP Leader Board**

1st Place	Robinson:	7,375 ABPs
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Hill:	6,491 ABPs
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Equiano:	6,434 ABPs
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Fawcett:	6,410 ABPs
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Cavendish:	5,842 ABPs

### **Chesterton Lecture**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 15:10-16:00, Andrew Fitzgibbon will be presenting a lecture on school site. *'The mathematical magic of special effects, from Hollywood to Metaverse'*.

The lecture will take place in E14, and during this lecture, Andrews talks about how:

*'For a hundred years, movie makers have been fooling us by blending the real footage from the movie camera with a variety of special effects. And today, with VR and AR devices like the Oculus Quest Pro, and Microsoft's HoloLens, we can overlay computer-generated imagery on the real world in real time in front of our very eyes. There's a lot of creative work behind these techniques, from art, to physics, to mathematics, and of course computer programming.*

*This talk will show how these worlds blend together to make experiences that we all love. Andrew was the engineer behind Emmy-winning software for movie special effects, worked on the software for Kinect for Xbox 360, and co-invented the hand tracking algorithms for HoloLens 2, one of the most innovative augmented reality devices ever made.'*

If this is something your child/children are interested in, then please can you email Ms Barker at: [nbarker@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:nbarker@ccc.tela.org.uk)

Please can all replies be sent by 9am on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Eastern Learning Alliance (ELA) Journal**

We are really pleased to share with you Volume 1 of our new blog: the *ELA Journal*. The intention of the blog is to shine a light on the excellent work taking place across our family of schools, with a particular focus on the benefits we feel thanks to working collaboratively.

The first article comes in the form of an interview with Chris at Girton Glebe – he talks through what it's like to run a primary school under the ELA banner, and highlights some of the ways in which being part of a Trust benefits his staff, students and wider community. Many thanks to Chris for his time and thoughts.

[ELA Journal: Volume 1 - Eastern Learning Alliance \(tela.org.uk\)](#)

If you have any ideas for inclusion in future volumes of the *ELA Journal* please don't hesitate to get in touch.

### **Live Lounge #1: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February**

We are looking forward to our first Live Lounge of the Spring Term on Tuesday. All performers should come to M1 at 3.05pm. The concert will start promptly at 3.45pm and any families who would like to attend should arrive at main reception by 3.40pm. There are a great variety of performers already signed up to take part – any last-minute sign-ups are still welcome and the sheet will stay on the Music Office door until Monday.

### **West Road Concert: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

The Music Department is really busy with students preparing for our Spring Concert at West Road Concert Hall on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm. All ensembles and choirs will take part in this concert and letters will go out at this coming week's rehearsals with full details of the day. If any students would still like to get involved in the concert it is not too late – new members are very welcome at all groups.

### **Music Residential Visit**

We are really pleased to have the opportunity for members of Chesterton Singers to take part in a residential visit, rehearsing Elgar's Dream of Gerontius with a massed youth choir of over 200 young people from across the country. This residential is run by the Gabrieli Consort and Players as part of their Roar scheme and will involve students working with a professional orchestra and soloists, culminating in a performance at Ely Cathedral.

Of course, there will be plenty of opportunity for downtime and other activities. This will be a fantastic opportunity and one we hope many students will take up.

The residential visit will take place from July 21<sup>st</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>; the deadline for expressing interest is 10<sup>th</sup> February. If there is demand we may open this to Year 8 members of the Junior Choir. Any interested students, whether they are currently in choir or not, should contact Miss Wilson.

### **Cambridge Youth Opera - Calling all singers**

It's time to sign up for our new, very special show, an opera written by CYO and performed in partnership with the Norwich Puppet Theatre.

- Free of charge and open to everybody - no prior experience needed
- Open auditions for all solo roles
- No auditions for the chorus - just sign up

Singers will have access to:

- Work with a professional director and conductor
- Outstanding chorus and vocal coaching - soloists will receive free vocal coaching while the chorus will work with a professional opera chorus singer
- The chance to experience what it's like to work on a very original and high quality production

All the detail you need can be found at [www.cambridgeyouthopera.com](http://www.cambridgeyouthopera.com), including schedule information.

- 06, 13 & 20 March: Auditions
- 18 - 19 June 2023: Performances at Norwich Puppet Theatre
- 24 - 25 June 2023: Performances at the Storey's Field Centre, Cambridge

# THE LITTLE BLACK CAT

11 - 21 and  
love to sing?

Join CYO's new show with the  
Norwich Puppet Theatre!

Free of charge and open to everybody

Open auditions for all solo roles

No auditions for the chorus - just sign up

Rehearsals in Cambridge

Performances: Norwich & Cambridge in June 2023

SIGN UP TO SING:

[www.cambridgeyouthopera.com/](http://www.cambridgeyouthopera.com/)





# THE | OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Singing School was established at Cambridge in 2013 to provide children and young adults with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

Two courses are available this Easter:  
Junior Course for ages 7-12  
Senior Course for 13-17 year olds

Pupils will learn some beautiful seasonal music and at the same time gain a background in vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history. Families are most welcome to come and listen to an informal concert in the chapel at the end of each day.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see [www.oxbridgesingingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.com) or email [oxbridgess@gmail.com](mailto:oxbridgess@gmail.com)

3-5 APRIL 2023  
ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

[www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk)

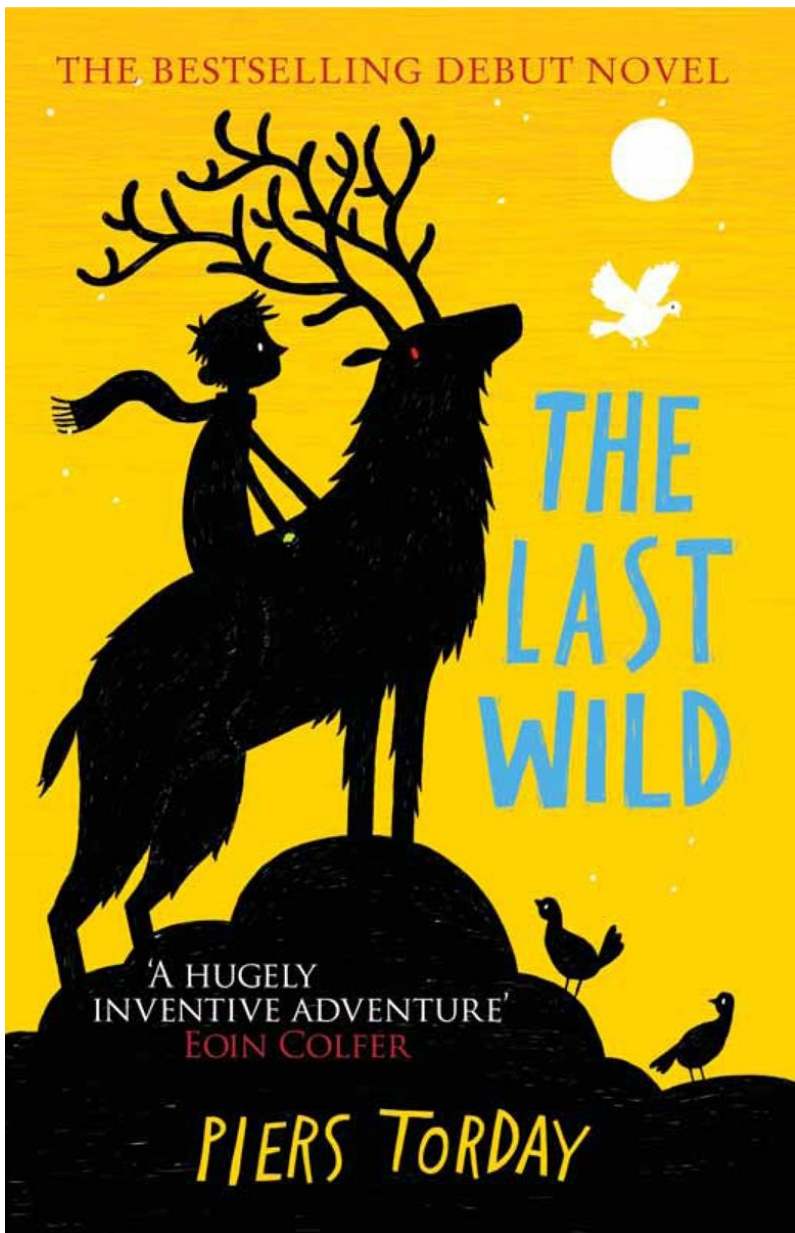
Bursaries are available on all our courses

## School Book Clubs

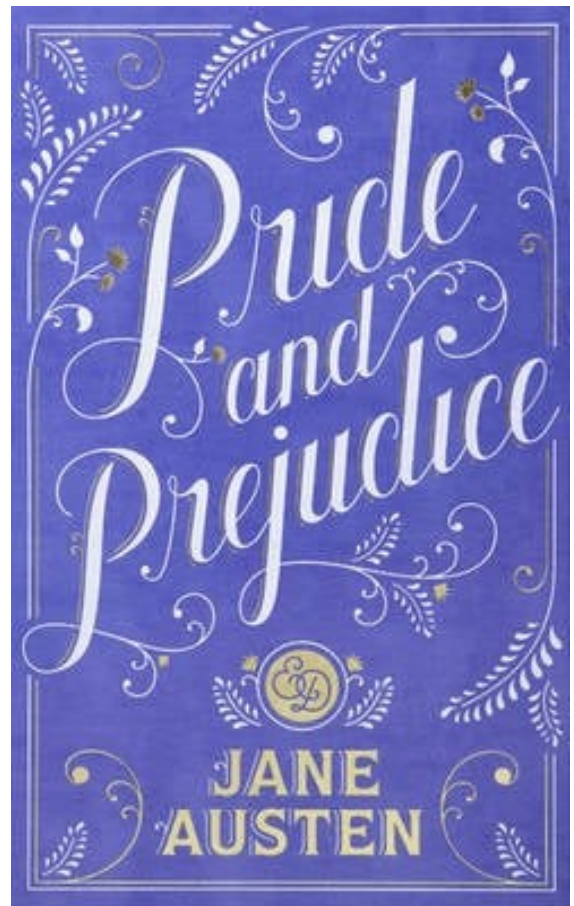
The KS3 book club "Books and biscuits" has been busy as ever, with lots of keen faces, including some new ones, which is fab. Recent books like "*The Last Wild*" have proven a bit marmite (Mrs Phillips is not keen on the idea of talking cockroaches for starters) which is great as it inspires more discussion. As well as talking about books, members have asked if





we can spend some time just reading, and it's amazing how a few minutes of concentrated reading really transports us out from the busyness of the school day. Anyone is welcome to join us on Tuesday breaktimes in the library.




The KS4/5 and staff book club is due to meet on Wednesday breaktime to discuss “*Pride and Prejudice*” – we really encourage older students and staff to join us in the library. There will be biscuits! (And no one will know if you’ve only watched the film.)



# AMNESTY



**OVERDUE  
LOANS**

Thank you to students who have brought back books that have been missing. There has been a trickle of returns, but we know there are still plenty of books lying at home, so please do keep hunting and bring them back so that another student can have a turn. For example, we are still missing some “*Heartstopper*” books, which students often ask to borrow.

## Help with Reading Needed



If you've been in the library recently, you'll no doubt have spotted the ever-growing display of new books. Mrs Pinder-Ashenden and Mrs Phillips took advantage of a quiet day on Wednesday to get a lot of library jobs done, with some extra help from three mini-librarians (Mrs Phillips' children), who surprised everyone by being very helpful and hard-working and transforming the now finally alphabetised book club section (even whilst singing angelically!)

The library team can now order and add books faster than we can read them all, which means there are many new books where students are asking what they are about and if they are any good, and we don't know. We really need some help from students who are willing to try out some of the brand new titles and let us know what they think. ABP rewards on offer if students can send us a couple of lines with their thoughts on the new books – it would be really helpful research for us.

We particularly need help reading all our new dyslexia-friendly books and some of our new subject-specific non-fiction, like books on music and law. Drop into the library to pick up a new book from the display, then email [sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk) to let us know your thoughts. Parents are welcome to join in with reading and reviewing.

Thank you!

## Book Recommendation of the Week

Dr Hutchinson (Assistant Head) recommends any poetry by Sophie Hannah; she particularly likes the collections '*The Hero and the Girl Next Door*', '*Pessimism for Beginners*' and '*Leaving and Leaving You*'.

Dr Hutchinson says, "Sophie Hannah offers very cynical poetry about love and life events. I often use her poem '*Your dad did what?*' when working with trainee teachers to show them how important it is to understand their students as people, not grades. It is in the collection '*Leaving and Leaving You*'."



## Creative Writing Competition



Just a reminder that if there are any further entries for the writing competition "The power of poetry" the official competition deadline is 10<sup>th</sup> February – not long to go. See <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-5/power-of-poetry?view=ind> for more details and email your entries to [sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk) to be entered.

## Meet Local Authors

Families might be interested in some upcoming events at Cambridge libraries, including a free drop-in event at Cambridge Central Library, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>. There is a chance to chat with local authors and to buy their books or art prints.

(11am-1pm meet our local authors of books for adults. 2-4pm bring your children along to take part in craft activities or listen to stories.)

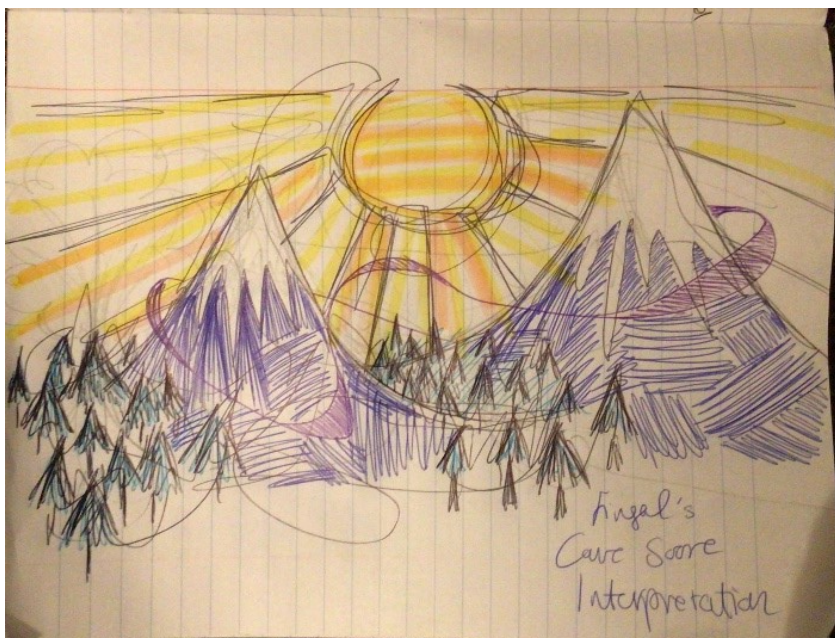
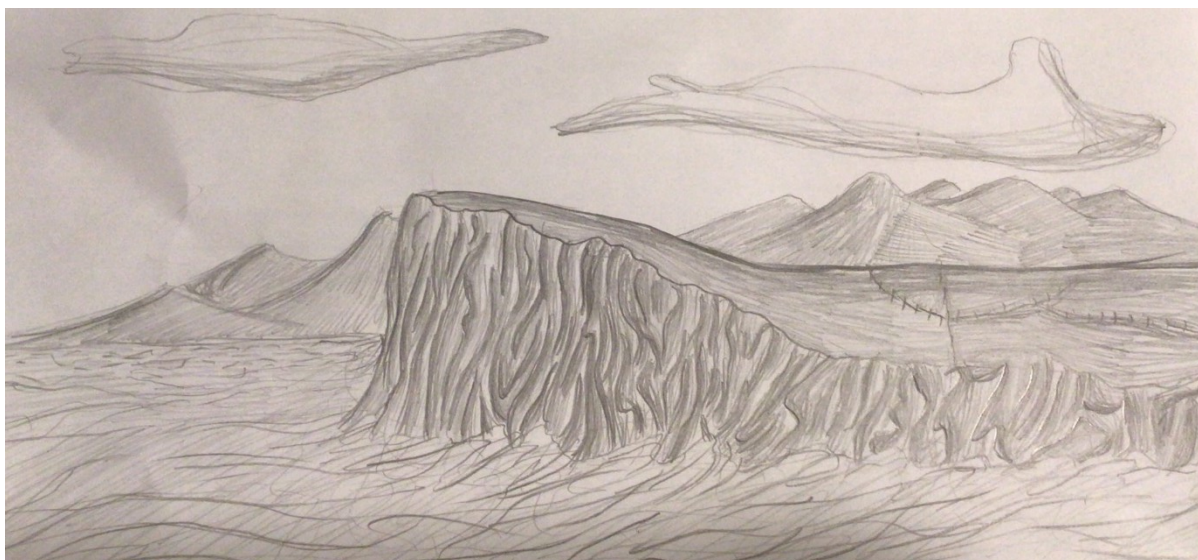
No need to book - just come along on the day!



## Geography Challenges

Year 7 and Year 9 spent some of their time on Wednesday completing Geography challenges.

Charlie and Jonathan both listened to the famous tone poem Fingal's Cave (Mendelssohn) and followed the online conductor's score. They then sketched the landscape they felt the music had captured.



Margaret in Year 9 wrote a haiku inspired by a grid square on an OS map. Can you identify the location she based her work on using the map extract below?



[https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/lgbtq-history-month-1555439?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/lgbtq-history-month-1555439?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

## WorldWise Quiz

Well done to our two teams who represented the school at the WorldWise Competition this week. This annual event saw students competing against other school across several geography rounds. While we didn't win we are still very proud of them.









## English Lessons

Year 8 Students working in groups on their *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* mind maps.

