



Chesterton Sixth Form (CSF)

This week saw some of our Aspire students brave the adverse weather to visit Murray Edwards College to learn about life at Cambridge University as well as gain useful information regarding the application process. Sixth form staff were also present at Great St Mary's Church for the Chesterton multi-faith celebration, where they talked about the social action projects students carried out before Christmas.



On Wednesday, Leni represented the sixth form in the school debating club where she argued that when judging art, you should not also judge the artist - what do you think?



Mr Bowles and Mr Mepham had the great pleasure of sitting down with the Year 10s who have recently submitted their application to the CSF Programme, which has included students writing a 1000-word academic research project. Topics ranged from the advancements in armour versus the advancements in anti-tank weaponry; the pros and cons to advancements in AI; why improvements in batteries are key to solving climate change; the popularity of the Baroque; and how positions of authority have an impact on behaviour. All the proposals were thoroughly enjoyable to read, as were the conversations with the students, all of whom seem very excited to explore the multitude of options and opportunities they have available to them in the near future.

News From the Houses

Equiano House

All this week students across the school have been celebrating National Careers Week. This has involved learning about different jobs, apprenticeships and qualifications. It has been great to see our students discussing careers they would like and getting excited about their interests and what is possible in the future.

The postponed multi-faith celebration took place on Thursday morning this week where Year 7 and 8 students walked down to Great St. Mary's Church to participate in a celebration of kindness and unity. Well done to all of the readers, singers and musicians who took part in the event.

On Friday Years 7 and 10 had a PSHE dropdown morning this week and were learning about healthy relationships and how to look after themselves and each other. We are looking forward to hearing what the students thought of such an important topic.

Well done to our fantastic students of the week: Yasmine, Ruby and Edmund. You have shown great enthusiasm in lessons and your teachers recognise your great effort, well done!

Hill House

Is it really March? This week has seen Arctic snowstorms and grim rainfall, but at school it has been an exciting, uplifting week. On Friday Years 10 and 7 had a PSHE day, and Hill students had the opportunity to learn more about difficult and sensitive topics such as gangs, healthy relationships and inappropriate images. It's great to see students deal with these challenging topics with such maturity and consideration.

Meanwhile, Year 7 and 8 students had the opportunity to visit Great St Mary's Church for the multi-faith celebration. Teachers from different religions had a chance to share a short idea from their beliefs, and students had the chance to reflect in a beautiful and mindful location.

On Mondays, Hill House is trialling out "chill out" time – form tutors are doing a range of activities, from mindful colouring to card games, and it was great to see all of Hill enjoying their start to the week – starting off strong. Finally, a reminder that House Competitions are in A17 at Friday break time each week – for us to win the ABP competition, we all need to pull our part, so join in to win some ABPS!

Fawcett House

It has been a very busy week at CCC, especially for Year 10 students. They have been hosting some Italian students this week who have experienced a Careers Day. We had workshops from representatives of lots of different careers including the army and the

police force. On Friday they had a PSHE day as well as Year 7, where students were learning about many aspects such as what makes a relationship healthy or unhealthy.

On Thursday Year 7 and 8 students joined together in a multi-faith celebration at Great St Mary's filled with lots of music, speeches and singing. Well done to all students involved in the choir.

On Friday we have the Drama performance *Is Your Microphone On?* Students are part of a competition which they will perform in Northampton next month.

Happy Birthday to Rosa, Yusuf-Oury, Leo and Tamar who celebrated birthdays this week.

Our random fact of the week is that in Switzerland it is illegal to own just one guinea pig.

While this may sound like an odd law to try and enforce, it makes perfect sense! Guinea pigs are social animals and easily feel lonely or depressed.

Remember if you need any support please see Mr Firth, Miss Malik or your form tutor.

Robinson House

Hello Robinson, what a fun-packed week it has been. Tutor time this week began with riddles, story time and Bob Ross. After relaxing into the week we focused on National Careers Week and then finished with a careers-themed quiz. On Friday, we took part in our design challenge. We are so excited to see all of your entries!

We had PSHE dropdown mornings for both Year 7 and Year 10 discussing topics such as healthy relationships, the consequences of sending nude images, why some people join gangs and the harmful effects of frequent online pornography use.

On Friday we had our long-awaited trip to Great St Mary's Church for our Year 7 and 8 multi-faith celebration. Students and staff enjoyed coming together to listen to music and readings around the theme of faith, hope and unity. Thank you to everyone who made the celebration possible.

We have finally been knocked off the top spot of the Above and Beyond Points League by... Only joking, we are still on top with 8,624 well-deserved Above and Beyond Points.

Many happy returns to Sophie, Matan, Manuela, Ava, Isaac, King Tin and Mohammed.

Have a restful weekend, folks.

Cavendish House

Stai leggendo l'aggiornamento settimanale da casa Cavendish, ed è stata una settimana molto impegnativa! [A brief moment while the operator changes reels.] What a week it has been! Chesterton has played host to a group of students from Abruzzo in Italy, who

have been here improving their already excellent English and otherwise experiencing the best that a normal week in the UK has to offer. "It is colder than home," said one to this reporter, "And quite wet, but my host family gave me some tasty English desserts." This raises the immortal question - which would you choose, a Mediterranean climate or treacle tart?

This was National Careers Week, when students across the school enjoyed a range of career-focussed activities including a special form-time quiz and survey. Year 10 also enjoyed a drop-down morning featuring the famous Career Carousel, where they heard from a range of speakers including the army, the police and the accountants - each as exciting as the others.

On Thursday, Years 7 and 8 took a trip to Great Saint Mary's Church in town for the annual Chesterton Multi-Faith Celebration, where they heard perspectives from several faiths (and a non-religious view) on faith, hope and unity, as well as a feast of music. Well done to all those students who took part in the music.

Students auditioned for the National Youth Theatre on Thursday, a great achievement in itself, and we look forward to hopefully having several Chesterton students taking part in the NYT this year. And on Friday, as if all this wasn't enough, we had a PSHE drop-down morning for Years 7 and 10, and ended the week with a very special performance of Chesterton Youth Theatre's *"Is My Microphone On?"*, a piece which CYT will perform as part of the National Theatre Connections festival in April.

Well, that seems quite enough for one week, don't you think?

Opening Night

A handful of tickets remain on Friday evening 10th March and Saturday evening 11th March for this unmatched, unflinching and

ultimately uplifting ensemble drama. Tickets can be purchased on this link:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/chestertonyt>



Inter-house ABP Leader board

1st Place- Robinson: 8,880 ABPs

2nd Place- Hill: 7,816 ABPs

3rd Place- Equiano: 7,771 ABPs

4th Place- Fawcett: 7,693 ABPs

5th Place- Cavendish: 6,947 ABPs

Chesterton Lecture

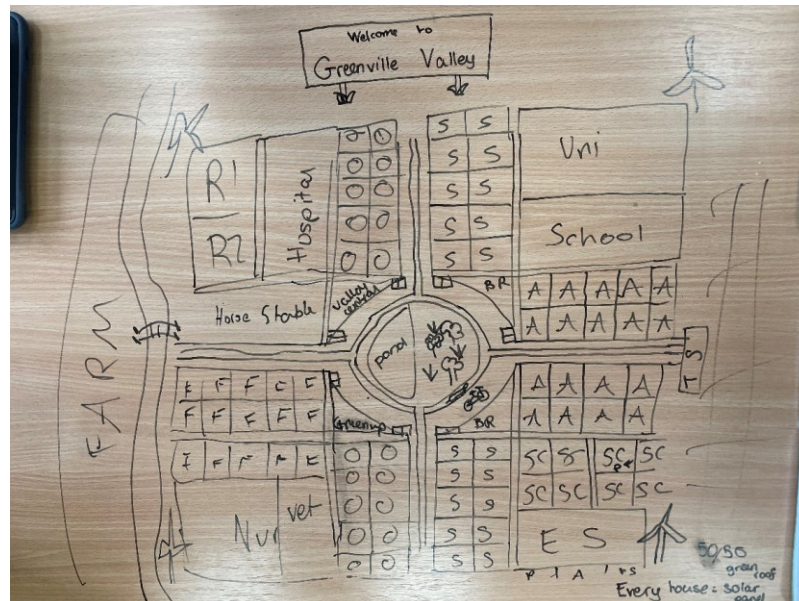
On Tuesday 14th March, 15:15-16:00, Steve Watts will be presenting a lecture on school site titled 'How to read an unseen poem'.

The lecture will take place in E14. Steve works at Cambridge University as a Fellow, College Lecturer in English, Affiliated Lecturer at Faculty of English Admissions Tutor and Chair of University of Cambridge Admissions Forum. He will talk us through a poem, share what it's like to study English at university, and run a Q and A. All welcome - particularly well suited to students in Years 10, 11 and 12 completing English examinations and those with an interest in further study in English.

If this is something your child/children are interested in, then please can you reply to Ms Barker at: nbarker@ccc.tela.org.uk Please can all replies be sent to me by 9am on Monday 13th March.

Geography – Sustainable Communities

This week in Geography, Year 7 explored further the concept of sustainable living with a focus on creating their own sustainable communities. The aim of these communities is to meet the social, economic and environmental needs of the existing and future residents.



Alterego Theatre Performance

This week Years 8, 9 and 10 all received a visiting performance by the theatre group Alterego titled '*Unacceptable*'. This play sought to understand and raise awareness around issues regarding sexism, sexual harassment and sexual violence, covering what they are, what creates them, and what can be done to challenge harmful attitudes that perpetuate harassment and gender injustice.

Friends Oli and Kalyn confront their friend Adam, who has been saying and posting some worrying things lately. They decide to stage an intervention and explain to Adam what sexism is, the differing forms that it can take and the impact that comments and actions can have.

The theatre group commented on the excellent behaviour shown by all students who maturely engaged with the content and the post-show discussion. Students will have an opportunity to revisit these topics at their upcoming PSHE drop-down days and were reminded of all the support which is available should they want to discuss further any of the issues raised.

The World of Exams

People often ask the Exams Officer, "But what is there to do the rest of the year?"

In fact by the time formal exams actually happen in May (a few in January for vocational components), all that remains is to support the candidates, be welcoming to the invigilators and JCQ inspector, and trouble shoot. The rest of the year reminds us of the song from

The King & I:

Getting to know you

Getting to know all about you ...

This will become even more important as we bring the sixth formers into the picture to sit their A-level exams from summer 2024. Year 10s take their first mocks in June. By the time they complete their formal exams in June of Year 11, we know them well and they know the ropes.

Exam deadlines recur in an annual cycle and there is plenty of support from our four exam boards (OCR, AQA, Edexcel and WJEC) providing training and checklists as well as kindly helpline people. Access arrangements need a lot of liaison with teachers and the SEND Department so that all our candidates are working on a level playing field.

Summer exam entries are made in January. After that the work is about students and exams staff getting ready for the end goal. The daily Parcellforce pickup of scripts has just been booked in March. Results day in August is always a momentous occasion. The unexpected will always arise but there is almost nothing that cannot be resolved with team work. It is immensely moving and fulfilling work, a privilege to be part of.

Under-14 County Cup

The under-14 girls football team travelled to Peterborough this week, for the County cup quarter-final against King's School. It was a fantastic 'Liverpoolesque' performance, resulting in a 7-2 win, and a place in the semi-final against St Peter's, Huntingdon. The captain: Alessandra. The defender of the day: Lola. The hat-trick heroine: Luana.



County Cup Success

The winning streak has continued for the Year 7 girls' football team. The team is still unbeaten, and has now progressed to the semi-final of the County cup, after winning 7-0 at the Thomas Clarkson School, Wisbech. It was another clean sheet for Imogen, and a hat-trick for Aleks as part of a comprehensive team performance. Good luck!



Year 7 Boys' Football - A successful run

It has been a successful year for the Year 7 boys' football team, but the County cup run came to an end this week, at the semi-final stage. After extra-time (0-0) and penalties, the team eventually lost the game. We're looking forward to next season already!



Architecture Design Challenge

Chesterton's annual Architecture Design Challenge took place last week. Students worked together with architects from the Cambridge Association of Architects (CAA) and with Architecture students from the University of Cambridge. Students made a site visit to the Dip (our woodland part of the school site), where they were challenged to design a small structure for this area. Small groups of students had the privilege of working with a specialist to support their design process and connect them to the real-world practice of architecture.

Each group designed and made a maquette of their design. These models and designs were displayed in an exhibition at Cambridge University Faculty of Architecture. This was an opportunity to celebrate the fantastic design work, recognise the powerful partnership between



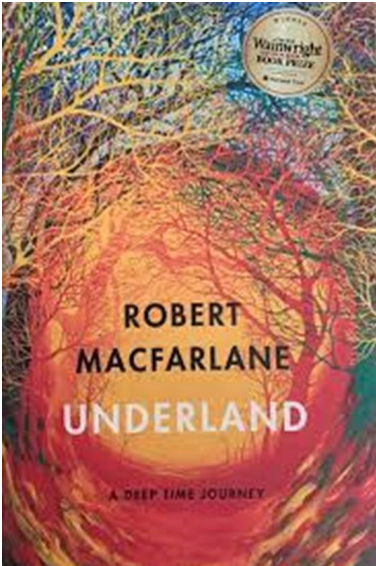
Chesterton and local architects and to inspire a future generation to get into design and a career in architecture.



A big thank you to the volunteers from the CAA and the Faculty of Architecture who gave up their own time to plan and deliver the day, organise the exhibition and fund the materials. We are already looking forward to next year.



Staff Book Recommendation



Mr Benger (History teacher) recommends *Underland: A Deep Time Journey* by Robert Macfarlane. Mr Benger says, “Robert Macfarlane takes us on a series of journeys around the world, deep underground and across time, in search of answers to profound questions of how we should connect to and live on our planet.

Combining daring adventure, beautiful writing and deep thinking, this book may just transform how you see the world.”

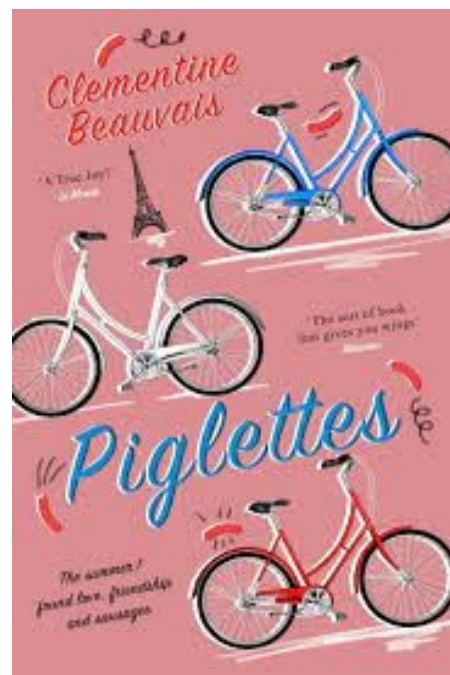
A Student's New Book Review

Eva in Year 9 writes:

I recommend 'Piglettes' by Clémentine Beauvais. Mireille, Astrid and Hakima have just been voted the ugliest girls in school on the annual 'Pig Pageant' on Facebook. But they aren't going to sit around crying about it (well, not for long). The girls set off on a summer trip to Paris by selling sausages on the way. They will find love, friendship and more fame than they expected. But will they leave their problems behind?

I think this might be my new favourite book!.

'Piglettes' is inspirational and funny. A story of how to reject society's beauty standards and not let bullying get you down. 100% recommend it!



Thank you, Eva. We have plenty of new books in the library that really could do with reading and reviewing – please let us know if you'd like to help with this.

World Book Day Friday 3rd March

A huge thank you to everyone who supported World Book Day last Friday. It was brilliant to see reading being promoted so visibly across the whole school. The library was busy throughout the day, with lots of students coming in before school to borrow books ready for the 'drop everything and read' sessions



which were scattered throughout the school day. At break and both lunchtimes we were extremely busy with various quizzes and activities, such as guess the book cover and a teacher book recommendation treasure hunt. We had some fantastic helpers from our sixth form team and library assistants to keep things running, and there were plenty of goodies on offer, like biscuits and bookmarks.

After school, a lot of students and some parents and staff (thank you very much!) come to enjoy the library space and read together with some drinks and snacks, provided by the



school canteen.

We had some amazing costumes, with so many residents of Gryffindor arriving at school that office staff were greeting people, “Welcome to Hogwarts!” There were some historical and religious characters, and even a full set of Teletubbies and a coordinated bunch of Mr Men and Little Misses. Special mention to Natalia in Year 11 who came as a very convincing Violet Beauregard. Rima, one of our Year 12 volunteers, had a dubious job of selecting which costumes were worthy of reward; students could choose between a chocolate prize or a blind date with a book, and it was great to see how many students picked a mystery book.

During form time, all students could access a book voucher to redeem for a World Book Day book at a participating store. If students missed downloading theirs, please see daily

notices or use the QR code on the poster in the library. There was also a fun quiz whereby mystery teachers read extracts from books, and students competed to guess both book and the voice reading.

A big congratulations to Suzie, Olivia and Elliott for winning the form time quiz, and to Rebecca for winning the book cover prize with her beautiful design. Prizes are on their way to you.

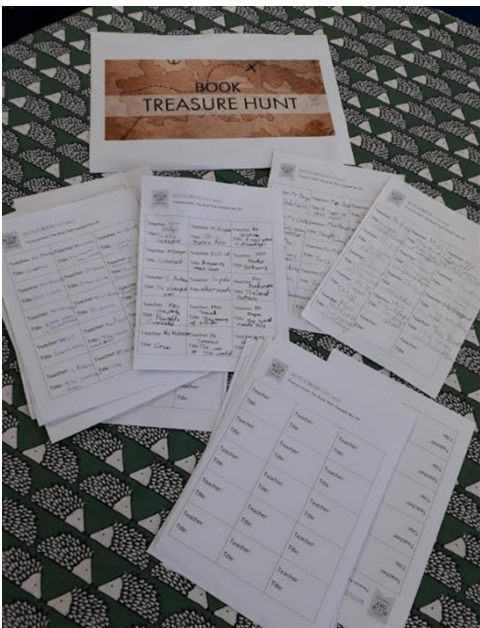
Again, Mrs Phillips would like to say a really big thank you to everyone who took part and made the day such a success and so much fun.



Reading bingo



Teachers' book recommendation treasure hunt



Guess the book cover game



Blind date with a book prizes



Book cover design competition



Music Department Events

All of our Year 7 and 8 students took part in a multi-faith celebration on Thursday at Great St Mary's Church.

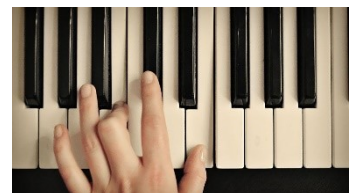


The celebration was themed around the values of faith, hope and unity and included students contributing with communal singing, as well as items from the junior choir, ukulele and guitar group, folk fiddle band and soloists. We were very lucky also to have Matthew from Year 9 playing the organ for us at the beginning and end of the celebration. In addition, members of staff gave short speeches about how their own religions or worldviews demonstrate the values of faith, hope and unity. It was a very special morning, which epitomised the Chesterton community. The communal singing was very uplifting. A huge thanks to all those students and staff who contributed to the celebration.

Members of the school orchestra were getting ready for our West Road Concert on 23rd March. We have enjoyed some great rehearsals this week and are really looking forward to the concert.



There are now some spaces for piano lessons in school to begin after Easter. If your child is interested, please do email Miss Wilson.



National Youth Theatre Workshops and Auditions



On Thursday this week, over 30 representatives of Chesterton Youth Theatre took part in a day of Devising Workshops and Monologue Auditions with directors from the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. The students were from Year 9 to gap year, and worked wonderfully together to tell stories, improvise images and have fun. Each one of them then had to perform a monologue and conduct an interview with the audition panel in the hope of winning a place with NYT for this summer.

Some of our current members helped those auditioning this year to give their best performance, and all in all it was a day of collaboration and theatrical spirit, where we learnt that initial 'failure' can eventually lead to the most celebrated creative careers. Good luck to those who auditioned who will find out the outcomes in May, and thank you to Witchford Village Collge actors as well as many of Chesterton's former students for coming to visit us again! You were all exceptionally brave.

