Blog – 14th October 2022

Chesterton Sixth Form

The Sixth Form Team have completed their tour of the local area visiting schools to talk about the offer at Chesterton Sixth Form as part of the local post-16 events and are now looking forward to meeting all the families who have signed up to attend the Chesterton Sixth Form Open Evening. Full details below.



Alongside a week of hard thought and engagement in lessons, outside of lessons sixth form students have taken part in various enrichment activities ranging from climbing at Clip n Climb to visiting the Fitzwilliam Museum to see the new exhibition 'Defaced!'. Students hugely enjoyed the exhibition which focuses on currency as a form of state control and therefore a symbol of rebellion when defaced. Many works on display show how money has been used to promote social and economic equality or satirise those in power. A fascinating experience for all - well worth a visit!

Congratulations to Imogoen from Chesterton Sixth Form who



attended the Wo+Men Annual Leadership Conference last Saturday at the Judge Business School. This is what she had to say:

I really enjoyed the leadership event and as someone who wants to become a published author, this really inspired me to put myself out there as a writer and as a person in general. The event gave me insight into the working world - especially the world of business - and how as a woman, I have a place in important roles regardless of what we've been taught by the patriarchy. I learnt a lot about business and the panel on negotiation intrigued me the most. No matter what we think, we should be questioning what our workplace gives us and advocate for ourselves. The talk with Demetra Pinsent, the CEO of Charlotte Tilbury, was another highlight as her story was really inspiring and it taught me to bring my perspective on things and there isn't a certain type of person to do something. I met the bestselling author Maxine Nwaneri who advised me on the publishing world. Overall, I really enjoyed

the conference and I found it really useful both in terms of career goals and also for everyday life.

We are delighted to have been visited by the street artist Nathan Murdoch who has brought the Sixth Form block bursting into colour with his designs.



<u>Open Evening</u>

The *Chesterton* Sixth Form Open Evening will be taking place on **Tuesday 18th October**. This will be a great chance to come and see our bespoke academic offer in action, as well as meet our amazing students and teachers, who will be happy to answer all your questions and talk about their experience in the Sixth Form.

To join us, please scan the attached QR code and we look forward to you joining us on the 18th!



Girls' Football



The Year 7 girls' football club welcomed some special guests to their practice this week: University of Cambridge Football Club players. They delivered the training session for the students focusing on individual skills and team tactics. The girls got useful advice on football, studies and inspiration for their future. The session ended up with a fantastic game in which students applied all they learned. We hope to have the University of Cambridge team back again after Christmas to meet our Year 7 boys football team.





Year 11 Politics

Each week Mr Reed, Head of Politics, invites families to discuss an aspect of the GCSE Politics course to help Year 11 prepare for the GCSE exams and beyond. This week's

LET'S TALK ABOUT POLITICS YEAR 11

This week's lets talk about politics is taking a break from the economic headlines and focusing on a key victory for the legal system.

It would be great if you could discuss why it is great for our legal system that the government has agreed a pay deal with barristers over legal aid funding



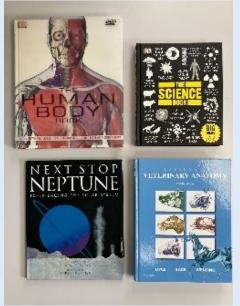
Drama Performance

The Year 11 Drama GCSE cohort received a standing ovation for their devised group performances on Thursday evening. The support of so many of their peers as well as adults was impressive and moving. Ex-students watched or helped out with technical support of the ambitious and imaginative pieces involving movement and music as well as complex and stirring dialogue. The bravery of the risk-taking of the performers was memorable – what one audience member called "a stunning night of theatre!"

New Science Space

A new science breakout room is taking shape with special thanks to the PTA and Wolfson Foundation for funding and equipping. We would love to fill the shelves with as many science-related books as possible.





If you have any good condition books you would be willing to donate with links to science or careers in science (maybe even some old university material) we would love to house it in our breakout space to help expand students' wider reading and bring the space to life.

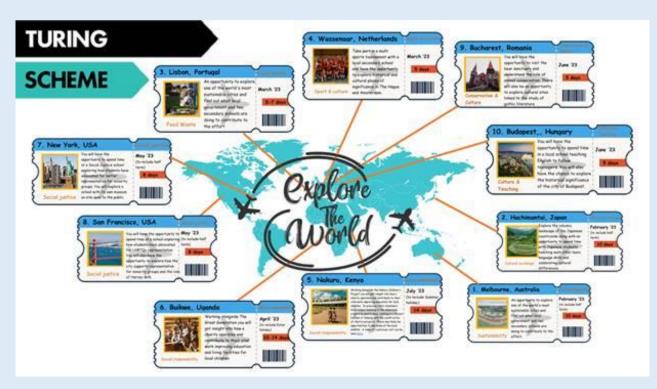
Any old copies of science magazines are also very welcome. Please drop donations off at reception FAO Science Department.

Turing Scheme

Our application for the Turing trips is now open! Back in July

you may remember we received news that from September 2022 we would be able to run 10 trips for 500 Chesterton pupils with the Turing Scheme. With lots of work happening behind the scenes to ensure all 10 trips can go ahead, we are incredibly excited to be able to open the application process.

Applications are welcome in any form, from poems to posters, videos or voice note. Students should submit their applications via the link on the weekly notices. The deadline



for applying for all the Turing Scheme trips is the 4th November 2022.

Although this will bring opportunities for many of our students, there will not be enough places for all students. Priority will be given to students who do not usually have the opportunity to travel and those students who demonstrate a real interest in the theme of the trip and their commitment to using the experience to make a difference for themselves

and the wider community. We will run support sessions in S14 at break and lunch times. Please send any questions to <u>turingtrips@ccc.tela.org.uk</u>

Music Department

Well done to everyone who took part in the Year 7 Live Lounge on Tuesday after school. Live Lounges are informal teatime concerts designed for students to gain experience performing as a soloist or group to a small and friendly audience. We saw some brilliant vocal and instrumental performances from students, and it was great to see a variety of styles of music being performed. Thanks also to all those who supported the students by attending. Our next Live Lounge is on Tuesday 8th November at 3.45pm and all year groups are welcome to sign up to perform. The sign-up sheet is up on the Music Office door. Hope to see lots of you there!

Letters will go home next week to students taking part in music ensembles and choirs regarding our carol service on Thursday 8th December at St John's College Chapel. We are really looking forward to this highlight of the term.

The Music Department is looking for artists from any year group to design our carol service programme cover, and artists from Year 7/8 to design the multi-faith celebration programme cover. Students should see weekly notices for more information.

Philosophy Club

It has been wonderful to have so many enquiring minds attending philosophy club each. So far, topics of discussion have included 'What is real?', 'Is there a soul?' and 'How do we determine right and wrong'? All are welcome – Monday at 3:15 in A2. Next week we are examining Kantian ethics and 'What is the meaning of moral duty?'

To discuss: Should you switch tracks? What is happiness / pleasure? What causes happiness / pleasure? Are all pleasures morally good? Explain with examples Is all pain morally bad? Explain with examples What might Bentham think is the right thing to do in the trolley problem? What sorts of things might we say with reference to this example to try to argue against Bentham?

PE News

Girls' rugby

The PE curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities are entirely the same for boys and girls at Chesterton. We're really pleased to say that one of the recent benefits of this has been the introduction of girls' rugby – it was great to see inter-school fixtures taking place this week, and the district schools rugby festival follows after the half-term holiday. Noticeably more girls have also joined Cambridge Rugby Club this year and we're hoping that this is just a taste of things to come.

Boys' rugby

The first post-Covid district rugby tournament took place this week. The Year 9 boys' team travelled to Shelford Rugby Club, in perfect rugby weather, and performed brilliantly at times to finish in fourth position. We look forward to the Year 8 and Year 7 tournaments to follow. Year 7 and 8 teams were also in action this week, in a successful trip to Coleridge Community College.

County cup success

The Year 7 girls' football team progressed to the second round of the county schools cup, after winning 7-1 at Comberton Village College. Watch this space as the second round takes place soon after the half-term holiday!

The Year 7 boys' team plays in a first round game in Peterborough very soon.

Inside the Classroom

A snapshot from inside (or often outside) the classroom over the last week or so... Year 8 Geography students using the playground to recap knowledge from the restless

earth topic.





Year 8 History students taking part in a reformation role play with Mr Ware.

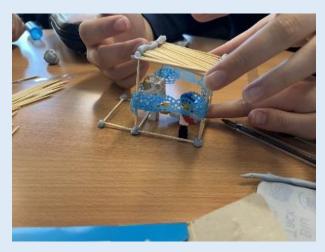


Year 10 English students exploring the question 'What is Creativity?' before embarking on a new topic Creative Reading and Writing.





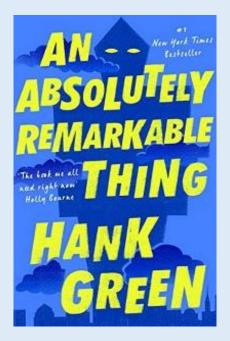




Reading: This week's reading recommendation

Mr Moore, Head of Geography, recommends "An Absolutely Remarkable Thing" by Hank Green. Mr Moore says,

"An adventure novel about a young woman who becomes internet famous overnight. Green comments on the effects of social media on both influencers and the influenced. Ends on a cliff-hanger that will make you find the sequel as fast as possible!"



Book club

Next Monday, the KS4/5 and staff book club is having its half-termly in-person meeting discussing "Under Milk Wood" – breaktime in A15 Monday 17th. There are copies of "Under Milk Wood" in A11, and given that it is a radio play it is completely justifiable if people prefer to listen instead of read:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jN3scLX2WY&t=4s

Free books!

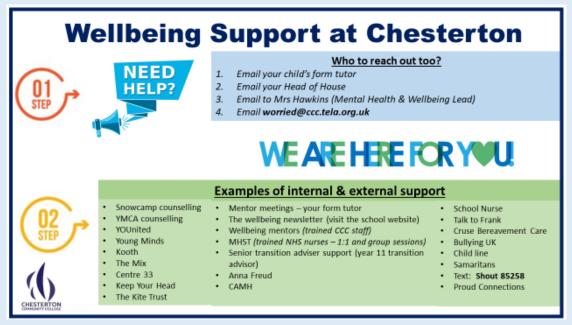
Next Thursday, we are having our first school book exchange which will take place in the atrium at break time and both lunch times. If you have any books you no longer want at home, please could you bring them to the atrium on Thursday 20th October (or drop them to the English workroom in advance if you prefer) and perhaps pick up a new book to read over half term.

Poetry competition

Next Thursday is also the deadline for Young Writers' poetry competition – please can students send their poetry entries (any topic, any style) to sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk by Thursday 20th. Getting your writing in print is a lovely boost for students, plus if any Chesterton students do get picked we get free copies of the book for the library.

Wellbeing

Does your child need support with their wellbeing – we are here to help:



Wellbeing newsletter

Remember you have access to our half-termly wellbeing newsletter which is sent out via Parentmail and on our school website. It includes lots of helpful tips, signposts and videos to support you, your children and family as well as a reminder on our wellbeing referral form for parents.

The newsletter has lots of different resources, so please read at your own pace!

https://sway.office.com/yBC2U5rwM3xhOgZH?ref=Link

Inter-house Above and Beyond Points Leader Board

- 1st Place Equiano: 2,408 ABPs
- 2nd Place Robinson: 2,334 ABPs
- 3rd Place Hill: 2,318 ABPs

4th Place Fawcett: 2,269 ABPs

5th Place Cavendish: 2,176 ABPs

Total: 11,505 ABPs

Cavendish House

This week seems to have been one of those "action-packed" weeks which make the Chesterton campus buzz with excitement, interest and fun. News has reached the ears of this reporter from across the school of great events and Cavendish House naturally played its part.

On Tuesday, many Year 7 students performed in the year's first Live Lounge Concert. Debating Union indulged in a raucous "Escape Pod Debate" which saw (among other things) Michela (Cav, Year 11) successfully persuade the House that extreme ironing is a sport. A major highlight was the Year 11 GCSE Drama Devised Pieces. The culmination of many months of creativity, tears, toil and sweat, this forms a core part of these student' GCSE qualification and is one of the crowning achievements of their time at Chesterton. Many congratulations to Iyad, Thomas, Ben, Kader, Elliot, Viola, Alice and Jackson representing Cavendish, and to the other student actors as well.

Staying with the theme of Drama, this reporter must give a further Cavendish shout-out to Danny (Year 10) and Hollie (Year 9), as well as Marnie (Equ, Year 10) who lead Year 7 Drama Club. Hollie charmed and inspired Year 7 with a rendition of her classic "Quiet" from the Musical Matilda. Many students from across the school also took part in auditions for Chesterton Youth Theatre's upcoming performance of *Matilda: the Musical*, the cast of which will be announced next week.

This week also saw many members of staff take advantage of one of the last really good weeks before the weather turns cold once again to indulge in some outdoor lessons, including two History Department favourites, the Year 8 Reformation Roleplay and the Year 7 re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings (now, how did King Harold really die?). Last, but by no means least, this reporter needs to issue a hearty congratulations on behalf of the Cavendish Team to our very own Dylan (Year 10), who has been crowned House Champion for the upcoming inter-House rock-paper-scissors tournament. Good luck Dylan, the eyes of Cavendish are upon you!

Right, that's quite enough for this week. Don't forget to be awesome, Cavendish!

Equiano House

Amazing work this week Equiano: the Above and Beyond Points have been rolling in and it is great to see how well the students are getting on in lessons! Out of all the tutor groups in Equiano, Equiano 1 are currently leading the way with the most Above and Beyond Points at 357, although Equiano 7 are close behind them with 344. Will Equiano 1 hold onto the lead or will there be a new form group on top by the end of this half term? Keep up the great effort in lessons to see if you can help your tutor group claim the top spot! This week Year 11 had a dropdown day when they were looking to the future and finding out about possible routes after they finish their GCSEs. Our students attended workshops on apprenticeship options, personal finance, personal statement writing and the post-16 application process. It was a great event when our students could ask questions and hear from visitors who came into school to speak about their experience.

Well done to all of our Year 7 students who took part in the Live Lounge Music Concert after school on Tuesday. It was another fantastic display of the musical talent of our many students.

Coming up we have the final of the whole school Rock, Paper, Scissors Competition. In our House assemblies every day this week, winners of the tutor group Rock, Paper, Scissors competition were battling against each other to find each House champion. Check in with us next week to see which student is crowned Rock, Paper, Scissors champion for Equiano and to see how they get on against the other House winners!

Hill House

We were back to a full week at Chesterton, after Friday was a professional day last week we in the Hill Office hope that you all had a great time in your long weekend. This week has been just as busy, as Year 11 took part in a Post-16 day on Tuesday. Students had a chance to listen to some fascinating speakers about their careers, and plan out their futures and dedicate time to writing their personal statement – a reminder that the deadline for submission comes round sooner than expected in December, especially with the November mock period taking up revision time – so we heartily recommend getting your personal statement into order before this.

The school is looking forward to the Sixth Form Opening Evening on Tuesday at 6:00pm-8:00pm, where students from across the city will have a chance to explore the amazing range of options at Chesterton Sixth Form – we look forward to seeing lots of Hill Year 11 students there.

Finally, we would also like to congratulate the following Year 11 students for making a great start to the year and going above and beyond: Natalia, Dominic, Jude, Joe and Naomi.

Fawcett House

Congratulations to Fawcett students who helped raise money for Macmillan last week. We managed to raise over £660!

It has been a busy penultimate week of half term with Year 11s having their Post-16 dropdown day on Tuesday. Year 9 students took part in a rugby tournament. A huge well done to all Year 7 students involved in the Live Lounge music concert too!

During form time we had an assembly on World Mental Health Day which took place on Monday. We have also been understanding what is meant by neurodiversity and how we can tackle prejudice and discrimination.

Fawcett are still third in the ABP leaderboard; can we climb up to 2nd before half term? As always, if you need any support please contact Mr Firth, Miss Malik, Miss Walton or your form tutor.

Robinson House

Well done, Robinson, for another great week. We had lots of exciting things happening this week and thank you for managing your time so well to fit everything in as well as your diligent efforts in lessons and completing homework.

We encourage you to get involved in the wealth of extracurricular opportunities for students with exciting new clubs like Film Club. Next week, Debate Club and Debate Union will join together for a debate on whether franchises are bad for film.

Robinson House are sitting comfortably in the Above and Beyond Points League table with 2,334 points. A huge thank you for all of your efforts to go Above and Beyond.

Reading recommendations from you are being highly sought after. Indeed, every reading recommendation added to your year group Team reading recommendations channel is equal to 1 Above and Beyond Point.

Year 7 are getting their dancing shoes ready for their Halloween Disco 17th October with special guest DJ, refreshments, competitions and more. Fancy dress is encouraged and there will be prizes for the best costume. Tickets are £4 and can be purchased via Parentmail. It would be wonderful to see lots of Robinson students in attendance. We would like to wish the happiest of happy birthdays to those of our Robinson students celebrating: Ari, Miles, Hayden, Sebastian and Cyrus.

Keep up the good work everyone and have a great weekend!