



Chesterton Sixth Form (CSF)

The CSF Programme students had a great day out at Murray Edwards College that gave them a fantastic taste of Cambridge University life as well as plenty of guidance on how best to approach choosing a university. It was very encouraging to see students who are only in Year 10 considering their options so thoroughly and with such maturity. The hosts were taken aback by their level of participation and questioning.

The visit to Murray Edwards forms part of the aspiration side of the CSF Programme, where

students are exposed to a range of post-18 opportunities to help make really informed decisions about the future, whilst providing them with valuable experiences to build their CV.

News From the Houses

Equiano House

It has been a short week due to the planned industrial action, but our students have still shown great enthusiasm in and out of the classroom. Overall, Equiano House is third in the House Above and Beyond Points Competition. Let's keep up the great work and see if we can climb higher in the league table before the end of the term.

Well done to all of our students who took part in the fantastic performances of *"Is My Microphone On?"* at the weekend. The students performed to a sell-out crowd on both evenings and told a poignant but ultimately uplifting story. They now take the show on the road and have several more performances in Northampton. Well done to all involved and good luck!

Going forward we are changing Monday morning form time to give students the best start to the week. Form tutors are doing a range of activities, from wordle to mindful colouring and sharing stories. If you have any ideas for an activity, please share it with your form tutor. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Hill House

The weather is making some slow improvements, but at least we have had a bit of sunshine. This week Hill students had a session on friendships in PSHE, considering how to develop healthy relationships and avoid unhealthy ones. On Tuesday students were treated to a lecture from Steve Watts from Cambridge University, focusing on how to analyse poetry and what English is like at a university level.

We'd like to congratulate Liam in Year 10 who has made it into the 2nd heat in the Cambridge Band Competition, rapping under the pseudonym Elgeeuu – you can watch him perform at the Portland Arms on the 18th of March – tickets available on the website here: http://theportlandarms.co.uk/wp/event/cambridge-band-competition-under-18s-heat-2-2/?instance_id=11321.

We leave you with news of the Hill ABP scores: Hill 5 soar ahead with 1174, Hill 1 with 990, but there's tight competition for 3rd place – Hill 2 with 924 and Hill 6 with 920.

Fawcett House

As the Easter break draws near, Fawcett students have had a fantastic week raising money for Comic Relief by wearing red on Friday and buying red noses and cakes from the bake sale. In form time we learnt about what Red Nose Day is and the different projects that Comic Relief raises money for and the impact that this has.

Happy birthday to Phoebe, Ollie, Isabel and Rebecca who celebrate this week.

Our random fact of the week is that Japan has one vending machine for every 40 people! Remember if you need support please see Mr Firth or Miss Malik.

Robinson House

Hello Robinson, this week we had time to check in with each other on Monday, celebrated Comic Relief and had our weekly Friday Quiz.

We are well and truly into March and making excellent progress in 2023. We are proud of all you have accomplished already this year. We are still at the top of the Above and Beyond Points League with 9,123 ABPs.

Many happy returns to our Robinson students celebrating their birthdays this week: Charles, Josephine, Maksymilian, Eleanor and Alexander.

We hope you have a relaxing, restful and restorative weekend.

Cavendish House

What do you serve food on if you live in a cave? Answer: a cavern-dish. Cavendish...get it?

This week the school is celebrating Red Nose Day with a range of exciting events on Friday including a free-dress day and a bake sale in aid of Comic Relief. Staff and students have also been encouraged to amuse each other with their best jokes. Cav4 dutifully informed Mr Ware that he had used the same joke two years in a row. Thanks for the support! Here is a sample of the "best of" Cavendish students' jokes told to this reporter this week:

Q: Why is the sky up high?

A: Because its light blue!

Q: How do you make paper strong?

A: Tear it, because then it will be ripped.

Q: Why does a golfer take a second pair of socks with him?

A: In case he gets a hole in one.

And lastly, a science joke: Two chemists walk into a bar. One orders a glass of H₂O. The other says "I'll have H₂O too." He dies.

And that's a rap, folks! Don't forget to be awesome.

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

Easter and Iftar



Chesterton Community College invite students, families and staff to join us in an Easter celebration, 4.30pm Tues 28th March
All are welcome, whatever their religious, or non-religious, beliefs

Bring and share hot cross buns with tea and coffee



Seasonal music

A journey around the Stations of the Cross, narrated by staff and students



Chocolate gifts for all

If you would like to attend, please fill in the form. The link is on the Weekly Notices Team and has been emailed to parents. If possible, please bring some hot cross buns with you.

Chesterton Community College Iftar Gathering 2023 for students, families and staff

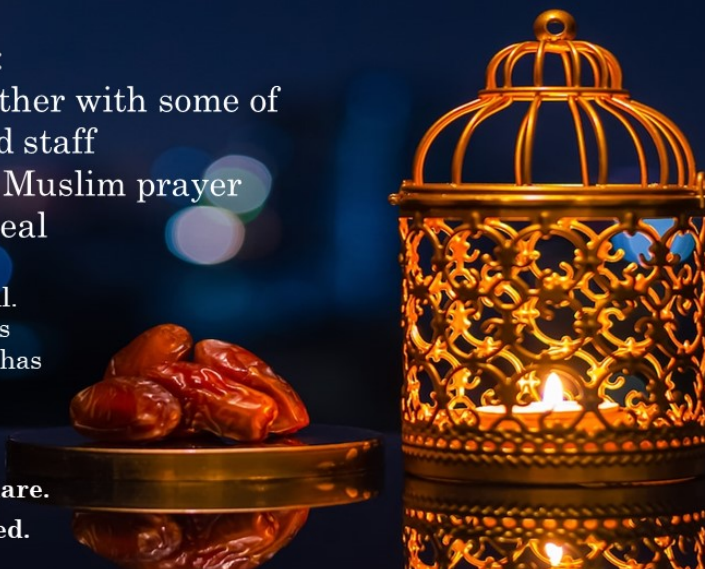
Tuesday 18 April or Wednesday 19 April (to be confirmed), 7.30-8.45pm
(it will take place on an even-numbered night of Ramadan)

An opportunity for you to:

- celebrate Ramadan together with some of our Muslim students and staff
- take part in, or observe, Muslim prayer
- share in a community meal

Book your place by Friday 14 April.
Use the form on the weekly notices team or the link in the email that has been sent to you.

Please bring food with you to share.
Dates and drinks will be provided.



All are welcome,
whatever their beliefs – religious
or non-religious

The Chesterton Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics Department invites all students, staff and families to attend an Easter Celebration (28th March) and an Iftar Gathering (18th or 19th April). You are very welcome to attend whatever your religious or non-religious beliefs.

The date of the Iftar Gathering will be confirmed once the moon has been sighted and the month of Ramadan has begun.

To help us with catering, please sign up using the links below. These have also been placed on the Weekly Notices Team.

Easter Celebration:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6RhkhoHBGky_bXW7Pm1P5dBO0VfD3CFPoORbzXm_phZUMUtZTDhNQzVEQzFUUE0yVIBTUTRGV0I0Qy4u

Iftar Gathering:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6RhkhoHBGky_bXW7Pm1P5dBO0VfD3CFPoORbzXm_phZUNTM2RE02MFI0UzhSTEJTTzZSTECzMkFVSC4u

Chesterton Lecture

On Monday 20th March, 15:15-16:00, George Weyman will be presenting a lecture on school site titled '**Why does inequality affect us all and what can we do about it?**'. The lecture will take place in E14.

George will talk about *"What's inequality got to do with us? So what if there are 100 more billionaires in the UK than a decade ago? Why does it matter if one in five are living in poverty? In fact, inequality affects lots of things from mental health, to bullying, to how long we live. That's because the bigger the gaps between us, the more we worry about how others see us and whether we are good enough. Find out how and what we can do about it with George Weyman, a Trustee at The Equality Trust, a charity providing education on the causes and effects of inequality."*

If this is something your child/children are interested in, then please can you email Ms Barker at: nbarker@ccc.tela.org.uk. Please can all replies be sent to me by 9am on Monday 20th March.

Year 10 Netball

The PE staff were proud of the Year 10 netball team this week, as they worked hard to progress to the district tournament semi-finals. Not only did they battle with the weather, but they also won a number of tough games along the way. Winners next year!



Science Week

In Chesterton Science week will be Monday 27th–Friday 31st March.

Look out for special activities in your Science lessons and around school during this week. Cambridge Science Festival will be running activities in the city for you to get involved with too. This runs from 17th March to 2nd April 2023.

West Road Spring Concert

We are now approaching the Spring Concert at West Road Concert Hall on Thursday 23rd March.

Students have worked very hard in rehearsals and we are really looking forward to the concert.

There will be over 190 Chesterton students taking part, as well as students from Milton Road and Mayfield.



Students taking part must bring their instrument, if needed, to school on Thursday and meet in the canteen at 11.10am. They will have an afternoon of rehearsals at West Road as per the information on Teams and on the Weekly Notices. They then must return to the concert hall by 6.30pm.

The concert begins at 7pm.

Please note that the concert is currently sold out. It is highly unlikely that there will be any tickets available on the door and this will only be the case if anyone who has purchased a ticket is unable to attend. If you have purchased tickets and discover that you are unable to attend, please do let Miss Wilson know and she will refund your ticket.

Carnegie Shadowing

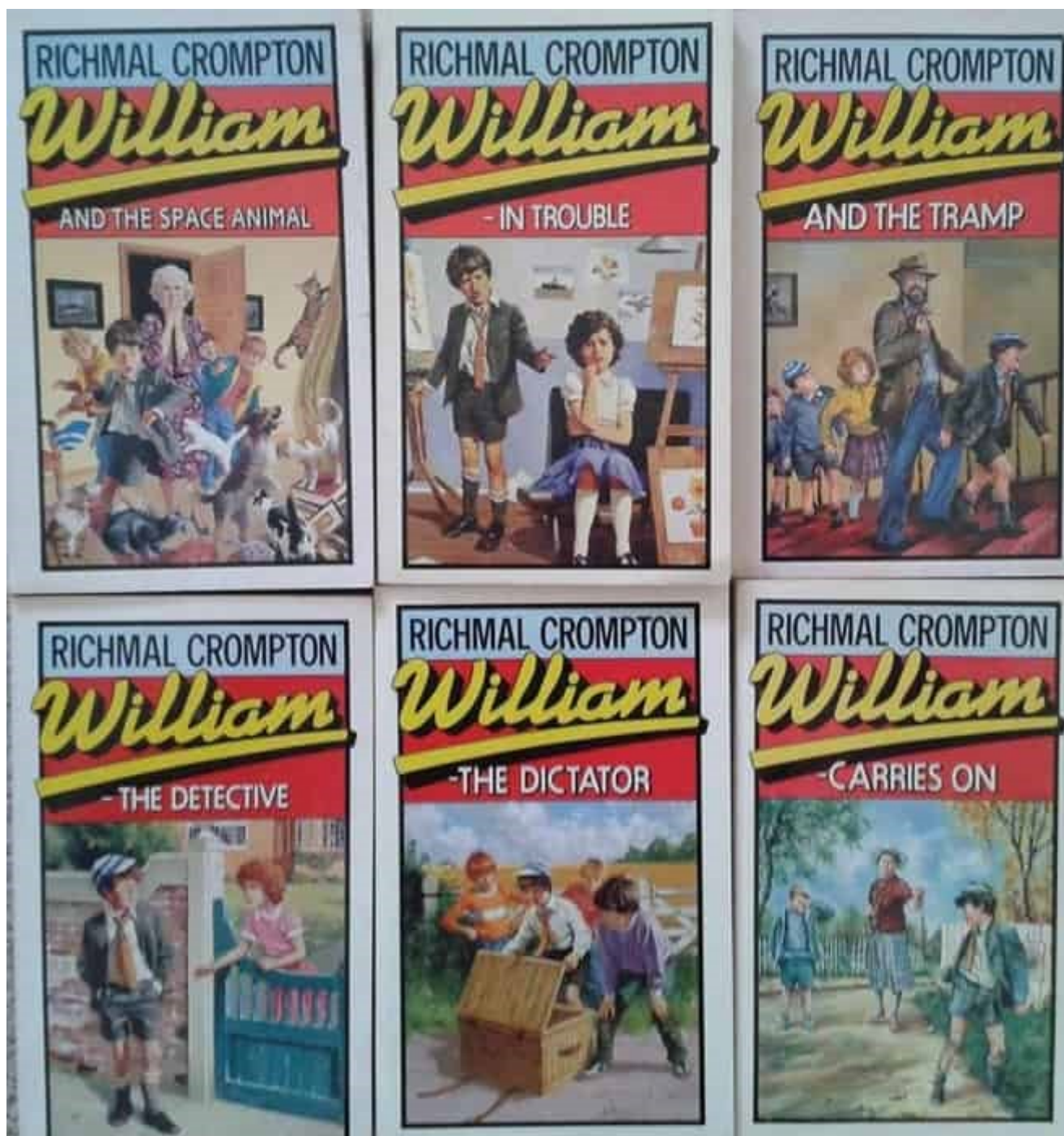
We are very grateful to the PTA for funding the books nominated for the Carnegie medal 2023. We've managed to get the books catalogued and processed on this week's strike days, and already have some enthusiastic students ready to start reading them. We are still looking for more volunteers to join in our shadowing group, preferably in Year 9 and up, owing to the more grown-up themes in some of the nominated books. The shortlist is being announced on Friday 17th, and the winner will be announced in June (date TBC) meaning interested students have three months to read as many books as they like, with some meetings along the way to discuss our ideas, and then we will all vote for our favourites. We are planning some special events for results day, including linking up with other groups. Do see or email Mrs Phillips for more info.



Just William

The library team are delighted (if confused!) by an enormous collection of “Just William” books which has appeared in the library – thank you to the anonymous donor! These have been quickly processed, and are out on display for students to borrow – there are plenty to go around. These are lovely and hilarious stories about William and his gang of friends, enjoyed by young and old.

We always welcome donations of popular magazines and books – there is a big demand especially for copies of things like *Top Gear* magazine and *The Beano* and they quickly get well-thumbed so we always welcome more.



Visit from a Cambridge Lecturer

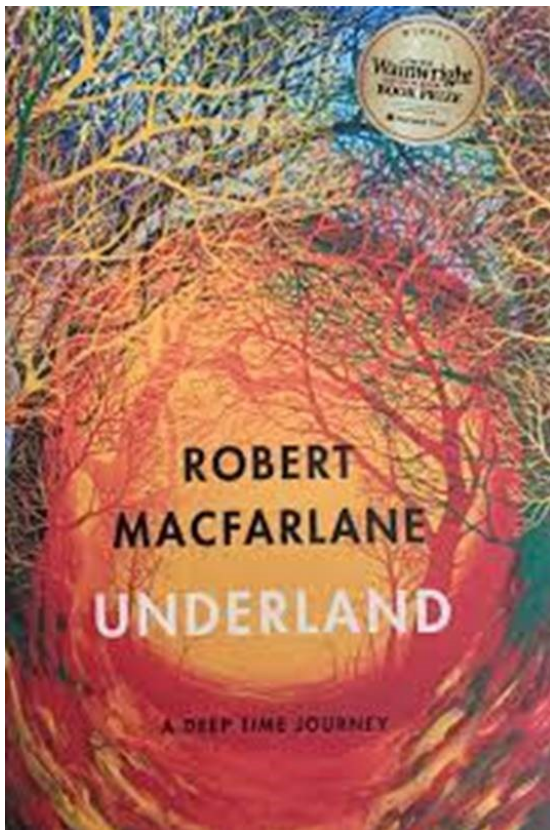
This Tuesday we had a real treat with a return visit from Cambridge lecturer and admissions tutor Steve Watts. Steve introduced the students to practical criticism, looking at how to approach an unseen poem. He then took questions from students, such as how to choose between different English courses at different universities and what the courses might involve.

A huge thank you to Steve for coming to visit us again, especially given that he officially retired last Friday.



Staff Book Recommendation of the Week

Mr Bengier (History teacher) recommends *Underland: A Deep Time Journey* by Robert Macfarlane. Mr Bengier 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.”



Cambridge Literary Festival

We are very excited by the programme of the Cambridge Literary Festival Spring 2023. Parents have been contacted via Parentmail about the events on offer. Year 10 students might be particularly interested in authors and events relating to their GCSE courses, including John

Agard <https://www.cambridgeliteraryfestival.com/events/john-agard-poetry-time/> and one on interpretations of the character of Juliet from "*Romeo and Juliet*"

<https://www.cambridgeliteraryfestival.com/events/sophie-duncan-searching-for-juliet/>

There are events to interest KS3 too such as Cressida Cowell, popular author of the "*How to Train your Dragon*" series: <https://www.cambridgeliteraryfestival.com/events/cressida-cowell-which-way-to-anywhere/>

Even more excitingly, our school has been awarded some free tickets for an event at the Cambridge Union: "Over the Border" with Bernardine Evaristo and Ali Smith – more details to follow.

Drama Trips: 'Newsies' @ Wembley and '1984' @ Wellington College

The Drama Department has been busy this week visiting the theatre. On Thursday evening we took a party of 50 students to see the smash-hit Disney musical 'Newsies' at the Troubadour Theatre in Wembley. The experience was greatly enjoyed by students from Years 8–12, with everyone giving the production a standing ovation. Many students found the dancing to be 'phenomenal' and were moved by the central character of Jack Kelly, viscerally played by Michael Ahomka-Lindsay. The story is based on the newspaper workers' strike of 1899 in New York, and celebrates the power of collective action.

Meanwhile, on Friday evening we have been invited to see '1984' – an adaptation of George Orwell's

novel – at Wellington College, one of the most prestigious public boarding schools in the world. Year 11 Drama students are delighted to be able to revise away from their desks, in that they will be writing about the vision for this play in a forthcoming GCSE exam; we are pleased that Year 10 Drama students are also coming with us to experience the production, just for fun.



'Is My Microphone On?' – Home Reception and Future Plans



Thank you to everyone who came to support our NT Connections play *'Is My Microphone On?'* The superlative feedback for this production has been heartening to read. Here are a couple of examples:

"It was a great example of the radical potential of ensemble theatre with an amazing amount of precision in its execution."

Joseph Rodgers, former student of Chesterton



“I was reflecting on how much better it was ... well, than most theatre I can remember seeing recently... There wasn't a second that didn't feel theatrically alive and inventive.”

Steve Waters, playwright and academic

It was wonderful to see so many members of the community there – students, teachers, parents, friends and theatre professionals. Our NT Director mentor also came on opening night and has reported back on its ‘brilliance’.

On the poster below, you can find details of the production’s next outing in the Royal Theatre, Northampton, as part of NT Connections ongoing Festival. If you didn’t catch this

CYT show at home, why not support us in our 'away' game?



CHESTERTON YOUTH THEATRE **National Theatre**
CONNECTIONS 2023

Is My Microphone On?

by Jordan Tannahill

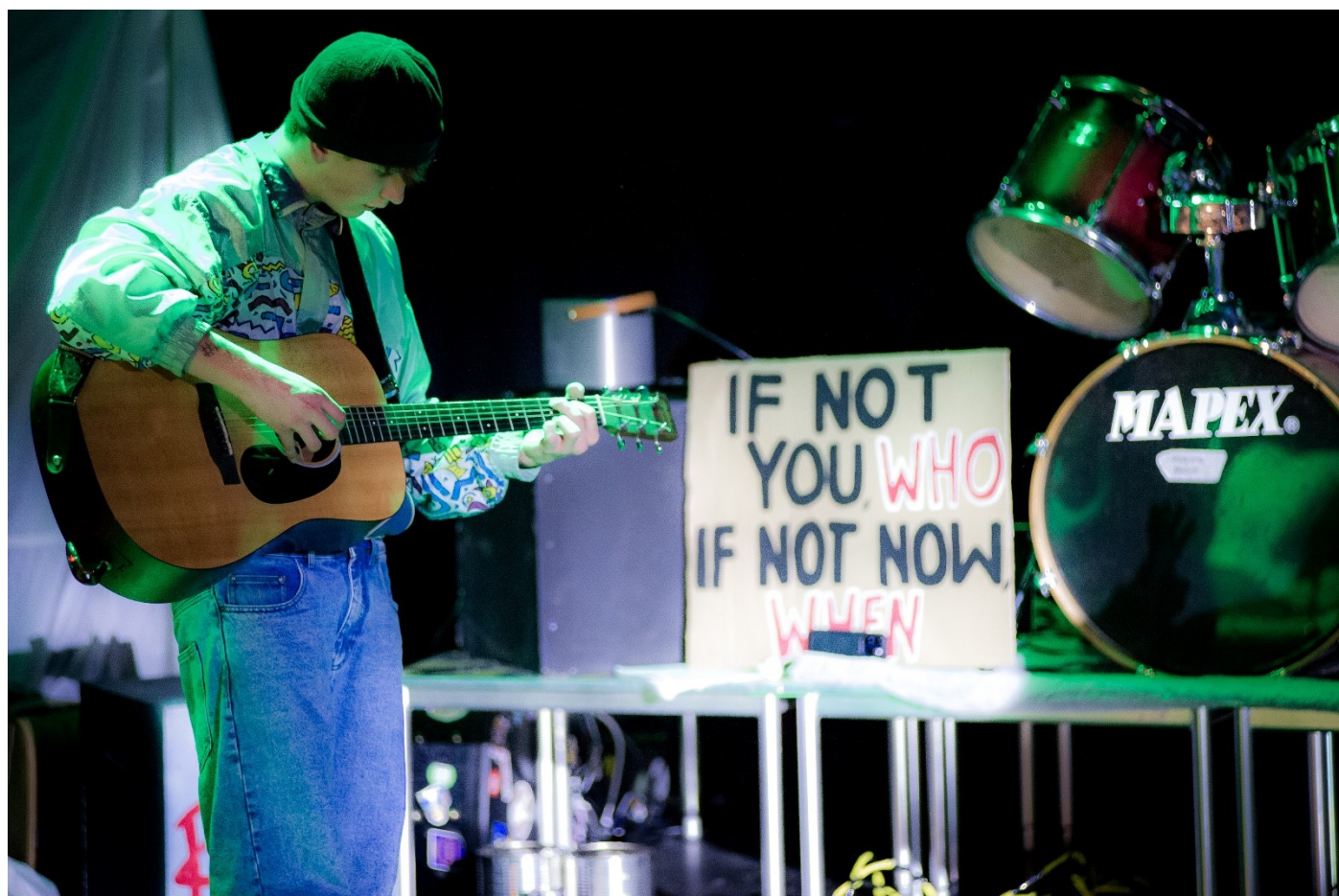
Chesterton Youth Theatre's NT Connections Play will next be performed at the Royal Theatre, Northampton, at 4pm on Sunday 16th April 2023

Tickets available from <https://tickets.royalandderngate.co.uk/85801/85823>

Home audiences, including industry professionals, have described the production as 'truly stunning': a 'a tour de force' with 'mind-boggling levels of talent'. It lasts just over an hour: please come and see it before it's too late!



Meanwhile, our home performances so far have raised £250 for the charity Greenpeace. The play is a call-to-arms to reduce carbon emissions. Let's hope the impact of this drama resonates.



Wildlife and Nature Club

On Tuesday 14th March students from Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12 took part in a 'Trash Mob', working together to collect litter from around the school site. The participants also logged what kinds of litter they collected. This data will be logged on the Plastic Free Schools website (an initiative by the charity Surfers Against Sewage) to determine the commonest kinds of plastic pollution nationwide, in order to help tackle this problem.

