Chesterton Community College Blog Friday 17th March 2023

Chesterton Sixth Form (CSF)

As we approach the end of the Spring Term the Sixth Form students are busy managing multiple aspects of their sixth form experience. Students are obviously continuing to work hard on their academics but they are starting to mix in revision and preparation for their end of year exams, allowing them to consolidate their learning over the year. We are delivering a range of revision techniques in our academic preparation sessions to aid students' preparation. Students are also well into their research regarding progression and futures with lots of students taking opportunities to complete MOOCs (massive online open courses) and gaining work experience, as well as continued research around university choices and apprenticeship options, meaning they are best placed to secure their desired aspiration beyond Chesterton. Coursework and project-



based elements are now being started in a range of subjects, in particular Computer Science, Music and English.

Sixth Form students have also been participating in a range of extra-curricular and supercurricular aspects of life at Chesterton where they have been supporting and working with students across a range of year groups, of note both Heather and Jason performing as part of our West Road concert and our History class are part of our Year 10 York trip. We have now completed the majority of our guidance meetings for 2023 entry and are looking forward to meeting students regularly as part of their transition to Chesterton; we are excited to meet everyone next week at our meet and greet event, where we will have talks from the Sixth Form team, AIM apprenticeships and Churchill College.

News From the Houses

Equiano House

The sun is out, and spring is definitely in the air. Our students have been working hard and their efforts are being rewarded with the huge number of Above and Beyond Points that have been awarded. Equiano currently has 8,088 points and is sitting in 3rd place in the House Competition. There is just one more week until the end of the term. Can we catch up

with Hill House who are in second? We might even be able to catch Robinson House and claim the top spot!

Well done to our students of the week: Victor, Max and Honor who have been recognised this week for their continued effort in lessons. Keep up the great work!

On Thursday this week many of our students took part in the West Road Musical Concert and the event was a huge success. Well done to all students involved . . . it requires a great deal of bravery to stand up and perform and we are so proud of all of your contributions to a great celebration of music.

On Friday 60 Year 10 students and 4 Year 12 students set off on a trip to York. The students will be staying for the weekend to explore the history and charm of the city. Check the blog next week to hear all about it.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Hill House

The weather continues to improve, and we've reached the end of winter with the clocks changing on Sunday, so it's all looking up at Chesterton. This penultimate week of term has been very busy: Year 8 and 9 had a PSHE drop-down day, looking at a range of topics such as healthy relationships, internet usage and much more. It was great to see Hill students getting involved and really considering their place in society. In form time, Hill students have had the opportunity to fill out their Chesterton Challenge documentation on OneNote – remember that you need to demonstrate evidence from the different strands, and make sure you are continually updating this before the deadline. It was lovely to see all the Hill students reflecting on the excellent things they do each week.

We wish good luck to students in York this weekend, with 60 Year 10 students and 4 Year 12 students exploring the city on the History and English trip – we look forward to hearing their stories.

Fawcett House

Our penultimate week before the Easter holidays was a busy one. Well done to nearly 200 students who were involved in the West Road Concert on Thursday. It was a spectacular event showcasing lots of talent from samba to jazz to beautiful choral singing.

We have had some German students in Year 9 and 10 visiting us this week. In form time we have been learning about what makes a successful friendship. On Tuesday Year 8 and 9 took part in a PSHE drop-down morning where they showed maturity in learning about issues such as staying safe online.

Our random fact of the week is that the Spanish national anthem has no words. Lastly, happy birthday to Hamza, Oisin, Hollie and Imogen who celebrated birthdays this week.

If you need any support please see Mr Firth or Miss Malik.

Robinson House

Hello Robinson, what marvellous progress you are making this March.

This week we had our Years 8 and 9 PSHE drop-down morning where students represented themselves with respect for others while discussing important issues. Our Year 10 students left for York and will return on Saturday. We also welcomed our German Year 9 and 10 students to Chesterton for the week.

During tutor time we worked on our design competition and gathered evidence for the Chesterton Challenge. Please check weekly notices for the upcoming spring Dragon competition.

Our House is at the top of Above and Beyond Point League with 9,327 ABPs. Robinson 6 are in third place; Robinson 1 are in second and Robinson 2 are in first place. We are so proud of you.

Remember to look after your wellbeing. Perhaps stop to notice the seasonal changes, reflect on your own development and enjoy how much progress you have made already.

'And 'tis my faith that every flower Enjoys the air it breathes.'

- William Shakespeare

Join us in wishing our Robinson students a very happy birthday: Eleanor, Oliver, Ciaren, Fahreen, Ella, Janos, Marjan and Genevieve. Have a great weekend, Robinson.

Cavendish House

This edition of the Cavendish Blog comes amid another exciting week in the life of Chesterton Community College. This week we had our second group of European visiting students, this time a contingent of Spanish students from Barcelona. The highlight of the week was for many the much-anticipated West Road Concert, and this reporter has been glad to hear the ever-popular Sons of Samba rehearsing in the Wynn Williams over the past weeks. We understand that this year they glow in the dark! Well done to everyone who took part in this great event.

Friday also saw 60 Year 10 students and 4 impossibly outnumbered Year 12 students accompany Mr Payne, Mr Moore, Ms Trevett, Ms McClean, Ms Parker and Mr Ware on the second annual York Trip, described by one Cavendish student last year as "genuinely very interesting and enjoyable." A field report is expected in next week's Cavendish blog. In addition to this, Years 8 and 9 also enjoyed a PSHE day on Tuesday, and our Year 11 Art, Textiles and Photography students have been preparing for their exam next week - good luck to Ella, Josh, Lena, Anna, Anna, Grace, Amelie, James, Jeremy, Samer, Dora, Olivia and River from Cavendish, and to the other Year 11 Art students as well of course. Right, that's all we have this week. Don't forget to be awesome, Cavendish!

ABP LEAGUE TABLE 2022-2023		
Robinson	9,327	
Hill	8,196	2 Contraction
Equiano	8,142	Sales and the second se
Fawcett	8,131	
Cavendish	7,298	
Total: 41,116 ABPs		

Politics Event

Last Friday Year 11 Politics students and Sixth Form welcomed Daniel Zeichner MP for Cambridge City for a Q&A where Year 11 had the chance to put forward questions about his career and questions relating to the Politics GCSE course.

Two of our Students Timmy and Miriam eloquently presented our year groups GCSE action project to tackle and reduce homelessness within the city. Mr Zeichner was very impressed with Year 11's findings and has promised to put these actions forward to the government and local authority.

There was time at the end for questions from Year 11 directly. Students asked some very insightful questions on topics from the proposed congestion charge to Labour's prospects of winning in 2024.

Daniel Zeichner 🤣 @DanielZeichner

On Friday I had an excellent visit to Chesterton Community College where I had the pleasure of speaking to their students and hearing about the issues they raised. It is great to see so many young people interested in politics



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We are hoping for this to be the first

of many sessions where we can have our students interact with representatives from both parliament and locally to encourage them to be active citizens.

Chesterton Lecture

On Monday 27th March, 15:15-16:00, Daniel Forster will be presenting a lecture on school site titled '**The Great African Divide'**.

The lecture will take place in E14. Daniel will talk about how:

'March is the month of Fair-trade Fortnight, World Water Day & Earth Hour. In my lecture, I will be using these themes to discuss aid & development in Africa - relating some of my past experiences of promoting sustainable farming through soil & water conservation, along the African Rift Valley. I will also look at how some African countries have faced significant challenges in recent decades & how this glorious continent can prepare for the future.'

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 by 9am on Monday 27th March.

Carnegie Shadowing Group

Thank you to the students and staff who have shown interest in Carnegie shadowing. More details have gone home via Parentmail to families of students in Year 9 and up, because of some of the more adult themes in some of the books. The shortlisted books have now been announced – Do you think the judges have picked the best books?

We will have an initial meeting on Thursday breaktime in the library (with cookies from the canteen) to admire the books on offer and choose which book to take home to start reading. We look forward to further Carnegie events.



Dragon Week in the Library

Lots of our students love a story about dragons. Mrs Pinder-Ashenden and the library team have gone all out to organise a dragon-themed week in the library, with lots of lovely activities on offer. Please pop in to see the dragons and dragon-related books on display, including a new graphic novel series, "Wings of Fire." There's some mindful dragon colouring for everyone, dragons in literature quiz with different levels of difficulty ("What is the name of Hiccup's dragon in Cressida Cowell's popular dragon series?"), special dragon 5

crafts on offer for Year 7 on Monday and Wednesday, and prizes to be won. Please do come along... and bring a dragon!



Cambridge Literary Festival Trip

We have been very lucky to be awarded tickets for 30 Year 9 students to attend an event about refugees as part of Cambridge Literary Festival. It is sure to be a very special and moving experience for students to attend, as we reflect on stories and first-hand experiences of people forced to flee for safety. The event takes place on 21st April during the school day, and there are still spaces for students who should like to sign up – please email Mrs Phillips if you would like to be allocated a ticket.



Busy in the Library

The library team are particularly busy keeping on top of all the jobs of returns and reshelving, with some helpers tackling the more daunting KS4/5 section, which tends to get more muddled. We have a thank-you event with an Easter egg hunt for our team of assistant librarians next Friday breaktime, meaning the library will be closed to other students – please come back at lunch or after school.

Mrs Pinder-Ashenden has been busy processing books which have been kindly donated, as well as getting very creative with dragons, and Mrs Phillips keeps updating displays. For example, we have had a poetry display out to celebrate World Poetry Day this week, and we are partnering with the Science Department to promote Science Week next week, with lots of illustrated coffee table-style science books out for students to look at. Please do come along and make sure you borrow something good to read over the Easter holidays.



County Cup Finalists

Congratulations must go to the under-14 girls football team on progressing to the County schools cup final. The semi-final was a dominant display of possession, with goals scored at the end of both halves (Becca and Paloma). Our opponents looked dangerous on the break, but the defence held firm, thanks to Lola, Maddy, Emily and Rozie. Looking forward to the final!



Double Semi-finalists

The Year 7 girls football team has now reached its second cup semi-final of the season. After having recently progressed to the county cup semi-final, the team added another semi-final to the calendar by winning 5-2 in the district cup. An unusually slow start meant that Chesterton were 0-1 down at half time. A change of focus in the second half resulted in a 5-2 victory. Among others, Aleks steadied the ship!



Year 7 Football: A successful season comes to an end

The Year 7 football team played its last game in a successful first season at Chesterton. There was a great County cup run which extended to the semi-final, but this was topped off with a 4-0 win at Impington Village College. Peter (2), Cian (1) and Hayden (1) were the goal scorers this week.



Year 8 and Year 10 Netball Success

This week the Year 8 and 10 netball teams enjoyed success in matches at Impington Village College. High scoring games were a reward for their hard work, with Carrie (Year 10) and Olivia (Year 8) leading the way as goal shooters.



National Schools Cross Country

Pippa (Year 8) took part in the national schools cross country competition this year. Having qualified earlier in the year, she travelled to Nottingham to run on a suitably high quality course (tough!). A great performance, and already we're looking forward to seeing her perform again next year, when she will be at the top of her age group as a Year 9 student.



National Schools' Symphony Orchestra

Well done to Lilly and Elke in Year 9 who have both successfully auditioned for a place in the National Schools' Symphony Orchestra. Elke will be taking part in the Academy orchestra and Lilly in the Philharmonic orchestra. This is a fantastic achievement for both students and we look forward to hearing about their time on the Easter course.



Thank you to all the students who participated in the Music Department Spring Concert at West Road Concert Hall on Thursday evening for a tremendous concert. The students worked brilliantly throughout the afternoon in rehearsals and came together to give a great performance.

The concert featured the school orchestra, guitar and ukulele group, senior strings, recorder group, combined choirs, junior choir, steel pan band, samba band, Chesterton Singers, folk fiddle band, senior upper voices, cello group, jazz band, solos from Zac and Harry in Year 11, a Year 9 rock band and a choir performance from Mayfield and Milton Road students. There was a great variety displayed. A huge thanks also to all the staff who assisted with the afternoon and evening, and to all the families who supported the concert and preparations.

Chesterton Yoga Club

The extracurricular yoga club has got off to a good start this week with students learning the basics. Students can join at any time. We would like to extend our thanks to <u>CamYoga</u> for donating us some mats to be able to use.

Chesterton Yoga Club

Build strength, flexibility and a calm mind.

No experience or flexibility needed.

See Edulink for details and for sign up.

