



Sixth Form

Our mantra of empowering minds has come to the fore over the past week, with students taking their learning outside of the classroom. In the library, our Combined English students were tackling the language used in *The Handmaid's Tale* in preparation for their practice exam for 'Imagined Worlds'. They were exploring Atwood's presentation of women and whether they would be considered unified in the novel. Core Maths is about getting skilled with numbers in the real world, so where better to head in the real world than Jack's Gelatos in Market Square? Just what is the best ratio of ice cream scoop to wafer cone? Armed with our calculators, rulers and some handy formulas we headed out.



A-Level History on Tour - the Parker Library

One great privilege of living in a place like Cambridge is the opportunity to visit places which are simply without parallel anywhere on Earth. The Parker Library at Corpus Christi College is one such place, and Chesterton's three A-Level History students took a trip there

on Friday to find out why. This term we have been studying Alfred the Great, one of England's most important and fascinating kings, best known for the flourishing of learning that took place during his reign. Several works produced under Alfred, all bedrock texts of English literature and history, are held at the Parker Library, including the oldest surviving manuscript of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (a vital text on the early Middle Ages and one which our students have used substantially). Chesterton students were able to tour the permanent exhibition at the Parker Library and also to inspect and handle the thousand-year-old manuscript of Gregory the Great's *Pastoral Care*, for which King Alfred wrote an introduction which is the oldest writing by an English king. Maya led the group in translating a section from Old English into modern English (pictured). We were able to get close enough to the manuscript to notice holes where a worm had eaten through several pages! "It was fascinating to see texts we have studied, and it really increased our appreciation of Alfred's cultural impact," noted Jacob. And it wasn't all Anglo-Saxon rubbish - Imogen was very impressed to see a letter written and signed by Elizabeth I in her own hand. The tour also allowed Mr Ware to visit (a text by) his own history hero, the Venerable Bede (the father of English history). A successful visit by all accounts.



Children in Need

We would like to thank all parents, guardians, students and members of staff who made our Children in Need fundraiser such a success. It was wonderful to see the wave of Pudsey ears sweeping across the playground brightening up the day after a drizzly spell of rain. Thank you to our House Council for helping to sell Pudsey ears, wrist bands and stickers all in aid of Children in Need.

A grateful thank you to all of our students who donated to the bake sale on Friday. Your baked goods looked and tasted delicious! A special thank you to Kenzie for his support setting up the stalls at break and selling goods during the bake sale.

Congratulations to Emma for correctly guessing the Alias Pudsey was going by: Wilbur the Bear.

Together we raised a whopping £750 for Children in Need. This money will go towards changing the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the United Kingdom.



News From the Houses

Equiano House

Well done to all our Year 11 students who have completed their mock examinations. We hope this is a valuable experience for you and lets you see what the process will be like in May and June. If you found this exam period to be stressful or overwhelming, please do let your teachers or Head of House know so they can support you.

This week we had a school-wide focus of reading with different year groups attending talks from two different Cambridge-based authors. Chris Priestly, an author of books aimed at younger secondary school pupils, spoke to Year groups 7, 8 and 9 while Years 10 and 12 attended talks by Mark Wells who writes stories for young adults. All year groups engaged really well with both presentations when the authors discussed how they got into writing, where they get inspiration from and how they effectively develop characters. Chris and Mark both shared some tips for students who want to get into creative writing. It was a great opportunity for students to meet a published writer and we want to send big thank you to Mrs Phillips who organised everything.

This week Year 9 had a PSHE dropdown morning when they looked at healthy relationships, online trolling and household budgeting. The students learned a lot and there were many very positive reports.

Well done to Eddie, Marnie and Lara who are our Equiano Students of the Week for their superb effort in lessons; keep up the great work!

Hill House

Another week completed and what a busy one indeed! We were inundated with various visits this week. A select group of Year 11s and 12s got the opportunity to hear from a local journalist Emma Higginbotham. Years 7, 8 and 9 all heard from novelist and illustrator Chris Priestley, while Year 10s had their own visitor, Mark Wells, who inspired them with his Gothic stories set in Cambridge, extremely relevant for their study of *Jekyll and Hyde* and creative writing.

But it hasn't just been busy for English – Year 9s were treated to a dropdown PSHE day, learning about online relationships, drugs and how to manage a household budget.

Hill students should remember that there is a huge range of extra-curricular activities on offer: either check Weekly Notices or look at the school website (ccc.tela.org.uk). Hill students continue to excel with earning ABPs and in Year 7 we congratulate the following students for their high numbers: Ellie, Louis, Rebecca, Ella and Jiyu – keep up the good work!

Fawcett House

It has been an exciting week for Fawcett students. Year 9 had a PSHE dropdown morning on Thursday when they discussed issues like what are drugs and why are they addictive?

Students had an exciting opportunity to meet notable authors Chris Priestley and Mark Wells who visited the school talk to students about their books and how they each became an author.

Discussions in form times for PSHE have been focused on what morals are and debating the use of capital punishment. Students have been contributing their ideas and have made the most of the information given to them.

If you have any concerns, please get in touch with Mr Firth, Miss Malik and Miss Walton.

Robinson House

Hello Robinson House, this week's entry includes a contribution from our House Council representative; thank you, Kate! Robinson had a great week with keeping up our streak of having highest Above and Beyond Points, at 4507. Additionally, we have the lowest detentions and the highest attendance. Let see if we can keep it up till Christmas.

As always, make sure to look at all of Chesterton's clubs on offer as there are plenty of inter-house competitions going on. You can find these on the school website or in Weekly Notices.



We have been very lucky to have two authors in this week. Chris Priestly visited our KS3 students and Mark Wells visited our KS4 students. The authors told stories about their inspiring writing, what inspired them to write and how to get our hands on discounted signed copies of their books. We hope this inspires members of our House to do a sponsored read as it is not too late.

During tutor time this week we

discussed morals and joined buddy groups together to hold a debate on the morality of the death penalty.

Please continue to reach out to your form tutor, Ms McClean, Ms Chibbaro or worried@ccc.tela.org.uk if you have any concerns. Make sure to rest over the weekend and get ready for the coming week. There is lots to fit in and only 16 more schooldays until the Christmas holidays.

Finally, best wishes to our students celebrating their birthday this week: Roxane, Bryn, Tyler, Elin, Anna and Finley. Our whole house is wishing you the happiest of birthdays.



Cavendish House

Goodness, what a week! Chesterton students this week enjoyed a wide range of events of an enriching nature and Cavendish students naturally played their part. On Monday, Year 9 students were introduced to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, while Year 10 students had the opportunity to hear about the International Baccalaureate programme offered by our sister school, Impington Village College. Year 11 heard from the freelance journalist Emma Higginbotham, who seems to have interviewed everyone from Tom Daley

to Mary Berry (and we hope she told Year 11 about both). On Tuesday, Years 7, 8 and 9 enjoyed a talk by the horror author (note - not horrible author) Chris Priestly. Cavendish students told this reporter they were particularly interested in his illustration work and his process for writing, which involves sitting in the park or his back garden. And if they hadn't had enough, on Wednesday Year 10 met the Cambridge-based gothic novelist Mark Wells. Year 9 students also enjoyed a PSHE day on Thursday: "I learned a lot about drugs which I didn't know before," reported one Cavendish student. And to cap it all, many Year 11 language students were sitting their speaking mock exams. We are given to understand that you can't speak about whatever you like, which we feel is a shame. *Je voudrais discuter Louis XIV, ma roi francais préféré, Monsieur Kirkland.*

GCSE Art took a trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum (a good place to find art, we're told) and a special joint session of Debate Cub decided to re-forest the Wyn Williams and install miniature hydro-electric mills in the gutters to improve Chesterton's carbon footprint. We are also very much looking forward to the soloists music concert at St Andrew's Church, Chesterton, on Saturday - good luck to all those performing, particularly those in Cavendish House of course!

Well, that's quite enough for this week, don't you think? Thanks as always for your sunny enthusiasm and don't forget to be awesome!

Matilda Tickets

Tickets for our festive production of *Matilda* have been selling like Bruce's hot (chocolate) cake! Thank you to everyone who has bought a ticket and supported this production; we look forward to seeing you!

Tickets have sold out for Sunday 11th December and we are very close to a full capacity for the final show on Tuesday 13th December at 7pm. We still have tickets remaining for Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon.

Chesterton Youth Theatre's *Matilda* takes place in the Atrium Theatre from Sunday 11th December 7pm until Tuesday 13th December. Tickets are available to purchase from ticketsource.co.uk/chestertonyt. Tickets cost £10 per adult and £6 per students (+ booking fee).

We are excited to share all the work that the Year 7 Drama Club, Hip Hop Club and the cast of *Matilda Jr. the Musical* have produced. It's time to revolt!

Music Concert

Students from Years 7-10 are performing at St Andrew's Church, Chesterton at 4.30pm this Saturday. The concert will feature solos and small ensembles. Admission is free. Do come along to support the students if you are able to.

Wellbeing Newsletter

The Autumn 2 Wellbeing newsletter is now available. It includes lots of helpful tips, signposts and videos to support you, your children and family as well as a reminder about our in-house wellbeing referral system. The newsletter has lots of different resources, so please read at your own pace:

<https://sway.office.com/A7yoeOwKpd6jhXAY?ref=Link>

If you have any wellbeing questions or suggestions for our next newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Hawkins.

Chesterton Lecture

On Monday 28th November, 15:10-16:00, Mr Firth will be presenting a lecture on: 'The Science behind training at altitude.' The lecture will take place in E14, and during this lecture, Mr Firth will discuss with students: *'how your body responds to training in hypoxic conditions whilst also manipulating body weight. Eight participants ran a 5k race four times with differing levels of oxygen in the air - come and find out what impact low levels of oxygen had on performance.'*

If this is something your child/children are interested in, then please can you reply to Mrs Hawkins at: shawkins@ccc.tela.org.uk. Please can all replies be sent to me by Friday 25th November 2022.

50 ABP Event: Rewards coming soon

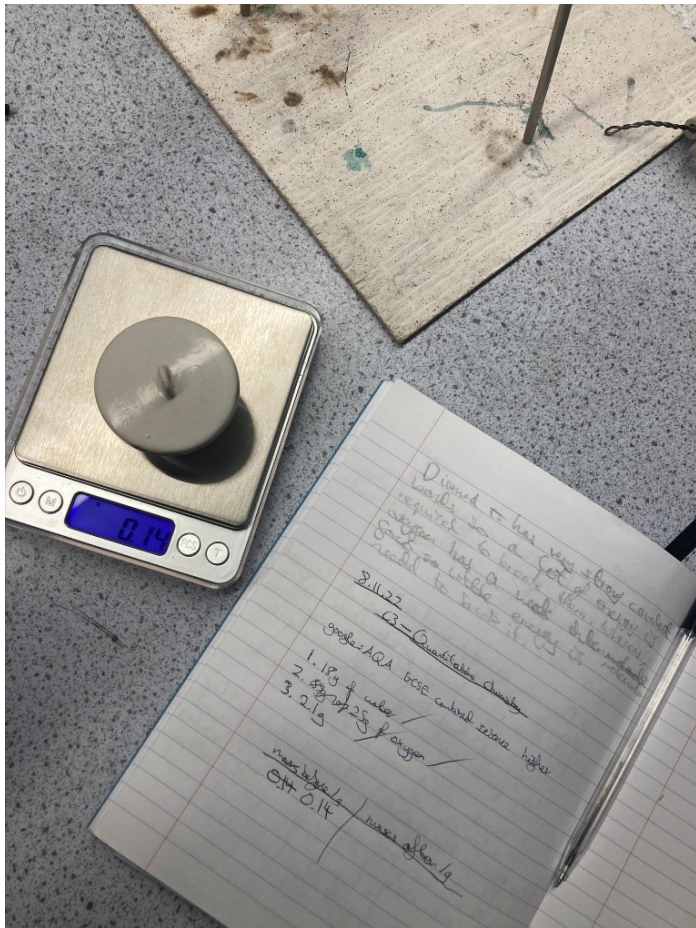
The first end-of-term rewards event is just around the corner and we are excited to celebrate with those students who have already achieved 50+ ABPs this academic year.

- Friday 9th December – Lesson 1 & 2 : Years 10 & 11
- Friday 9th December – Lesson 5 & 6 : Years 8 & 9
- Monday 12th December– Lesson 1 & 2: Year 7

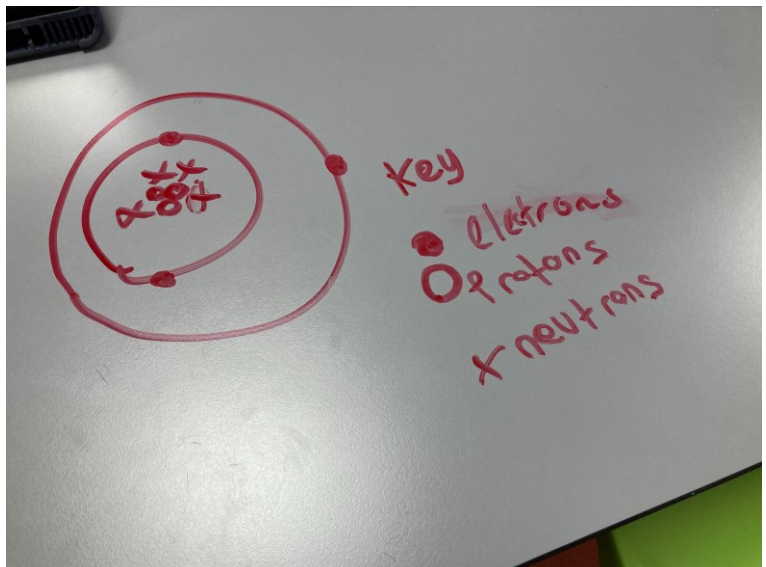
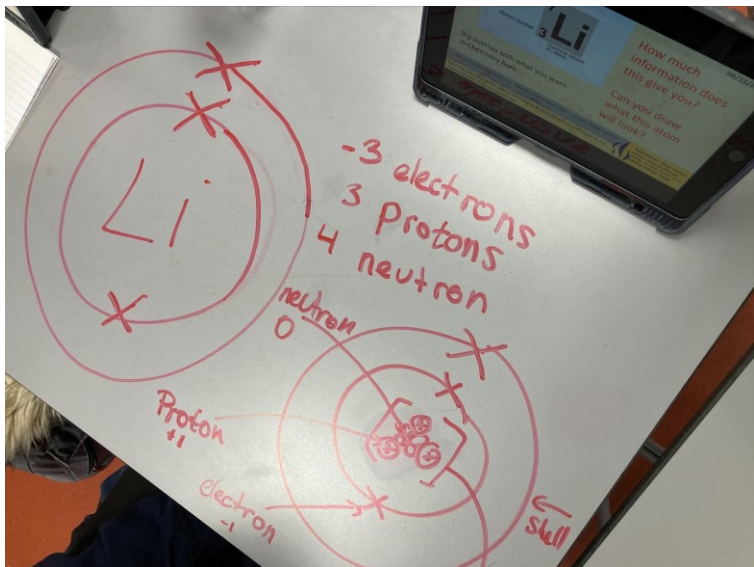
Another event will follow in the Spring term.

Science Department

Year 10 has been proving conservation of mass in Chemistry cover lesson.



Year 10 has also been getting to grips with atomic structure.



Fine Art

Year 10 GCSE Fine Art students were given the opportunity to sign up for a three-week oil painting workshop taught by Mrs Murray Williams. The course started this week and students enjoyed receiving their packs of paints, brushes and canvas. They learnt and put into practice the basic principles of oil painting such as 'fat over lean' and 'underpainting'. Photos to follow as work progresses.



Readathon

We approach the end of November and the end of our school readathon, in conjunction with Read for Good. The reading momentum has been kept alive throughout the month through regular slots in different subject lessons to discuss reading with virtual visits from some celebrities, and through plenty of chatter on the Teams reading pages, as well as visits from a journalist and two authors this week. We look forward to crowning the most enthusiastic reading Year group with a reward on Friday, and to receiving free new books for our school library. Thanks to parents for supporting this event by engaging with their child's reading and sponsoring them. Details can be found: <https://readforgood.org/>



Chris Priestley Author Visit

On Tuesday 22nd November, Years 7, 8 and 9 had a real treat in the form of a visit from award-winning young adult author and illustrator, Chris Priestley. Chris told us about lots of his different books and the influences behind them; students were particularly interested in how books and films he read and watched as a child shaped his writing, and how he had taken characters from famous books, like Ignorance and Want from "*A Christmas Carol*" and the monster from "*Frankenstein*", and developed them into his own stories. The students did a fantastic job listening attentively, and lots had great questions prepared (more questions than he had time to answer – some keen beans stayed on to ask him

more). Many students have borrowed copies of the author's books from the school library; some brought copies of their own for him to sign. Chris was very complimentary about the behaviour of and thoughtful ideas from the students – a big well done to them, especially as listening to an extended lecture is a new experience for many of them. We all left the event feeling inspired and with a greater understanding of the process of writing, including the many edits needed before a book gets to publication. A big thank you to Chris for coming in, and for staff for accommodating him.

Thank you also to parents for their support; we have extended the deadline for parents and carers who still wish to make a financial contribution towards the event - details are on Parentmail.



Debate Club and Debate Union

This week, Debate club and Debate Union joined together to take part in a debate to consider how they would spend £400,000 to make Chesterton more eco-friendly.

Students shared exciting ideas from an eco-friendly school uniform, water mills in gutters, roof top allotments, Meat Free Mondays, LED light bulbs, potted plants in classrooms, solar panels and many more amazing and creative ideas.



LARA'S AMAZING PLAN TO HELP CCC SOLVE CLIMATE CHANGE

Proposal 1
Have an electronic clear out. Delete any files, documents etc. which are no longer needed. Electronic storage requires enormous amounts of energy each year.
↳ All teachers and students at the beginning of each half term!
cost: £0

Proposal 2
Switch to carbon neutral, recycled suppliers for work books, school supplies and school uniforms.
↳ S.U.T. cost: £15,000 for books

Proposal 3
Only serve food in the canteen that is made from local organic? - reduces of pesticides? good. Serve vegetables that are in season. Serve left overs the next day to reduce food waste.
Chef's role at the beginning of each half term to go and negotiate with the supplier

£400,000

① LED lightbulbs [45,000]

② [25,000] no single use plastic
Roof top allotments
Meat free, veggie Monday
Composting system

③ water mills in gutters [15,000]

④ lights/electricity Solar Panels free?! [1000]
motion sensors

⑤ school uniforms [100,000]

⑥ [8000] lotsa wind turbines

⑦ potted plants in (band) classrooms [225]

⑧ plant trees on school ground [30,000]

⑨ live oaks [200,000]

⑩ potted plants outside as well [1050]

English Department

In English, Year 10 students began to think about interpreting rather than merely responding to a task, making inferences and asking questions based on their deductions. Pictured is a murder mystery investigation students took part in to practise these skills. Connor, the lead investigator was certainly dressed for the occasion.



Journalist visit

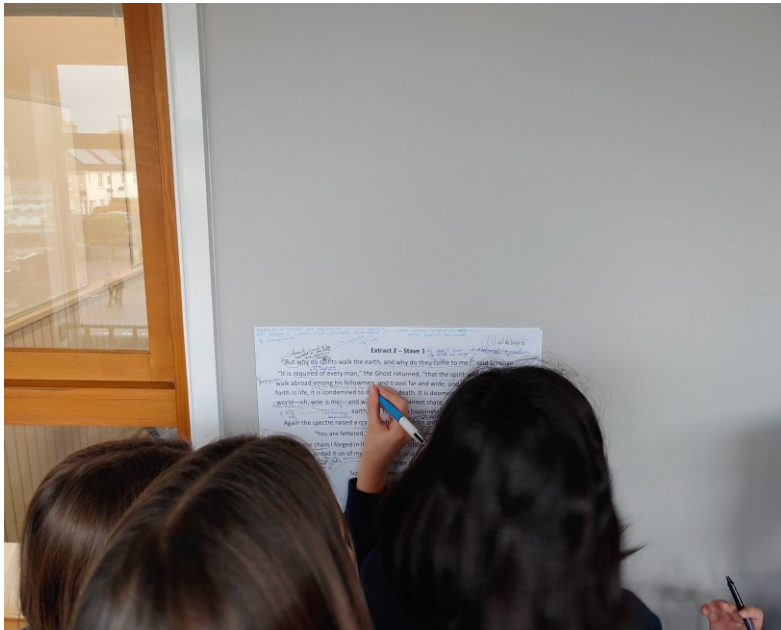
This week Year 10 and Year 11 students had the opportunity to meet with local journalist, Emma Higginbotham. Emma told students about her previous roles: journalistic opportunities such as driving new cars, reviewing restaurants or destinations. Students learnt about the many famous people Emma has interviewed and will interview. From a Uruguayan Air Force Flight 571 survivor to an upcoming interview with Olly Murs, students received the top tips on interview techniques and writing that engages the reader. Emma Higginbotham explained to students the differences between “fluffy” writing they may use in creative writing and concise writing that is required in journalism. From the way to structure your writing considering the 5ws and H, a wonderful running-up-the-hill analogy and using punctuation to consciously consider



the leisure of reading for the reader. Emma Higginbotham wrapped it up by responding to questions from students and left us with a wonderful quotation on crafting your writing from Oscar Wilde: *“Excuse the long letter, I didn't have time to write a short one.”*

Year 8's Collaborative Work

Students in Year 8 had the opportunity to investigate the protagonist of *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge, as his character has progressed and changed over the course of the



novel. Students worked together in groups to annotate extracts in just three minutes, and then build on and challenge other groups' work, as they analysed six different moments from Stave 1-3. Students wrote in depth, coming to interesting conclusions on Dickens' intention for his protagonist's arc.

BBC Film

Two Year 10 students, Quinn and Cayley, were recently selected via self-tape audition to present a BBC short film interviewing Dorothy Edwards, President of Murray Edwards College, Cambridge. Filming took place at that location on Thursday this week.

The experience was utterly inspirational. We were told by the Film Director and crew that the two students were exceptionally well-prepared and professional in their approach, and Dorothy herself described them as 'wonderfully bright'.

As part of the interviews they conducted with her, she hosted them in the President's Lodge; took them on a tour of the College; and strolled through the gardens whilst the film crew shot all three discussing the Women's Art Collection and architecture surrounding them. Dorothy shared stories of struggle as well as success, leaving Quinn and Cayley with the 'takeaway' that you should always be yourself and not let anyone shout you down when you believe in something.

Ms Marston, who facilitated the event, commented: "It's hard to imagine a more uplifting educational experience; a more qualified educator; or more articulate and gracious students. Thank you to the BBC, and especially Eliza and Chiara from Econ Films, for making it happen." We look forward to seeing the film online as part of the BBC Lessons with Leaders series in a few months' time.

PTA Updates

Drama Mics Fundraiser

A huge thank you to all those who have already generously donated to the PTA's campaign toward the purchase of state-of-the-art microphones for Chesterton Community College's Youth Theatre. We are thrilled to have already raised £425.

If you are able, please help us reach our ambitious target of £2000 before the end of term in December 2022 so that the mics can be used in the much-anticipated performance of *Matilda* this term as well as all future performances.

This is the link: <https://chestertoncc.enthuse.com/cf/mics>

We'll also be serving refreshments during intervals of the *Matilda* performances so look out for us there.

Christmas Fair

Thank you for all your donations so far for the 'Last-Minute Presents' table at the Christmas Fair on 16th December. Please send more!

Every year the 'Last Minute Presents' table is hugely popular as kids can pick up nice things for someone special – a parent, carer, grandparent, sibling or friend – between 20p and £5. The PTA volunteers wrap any present for free so that the children can bring them home ready to go under the tree.

Donations should be a gift in great condition (unopened and unused), ideally still with labels, and one that you also wouldn't mind yourself receiving at Christmas such as:

chocolates, toiletries, gift sets (such as bath sets or make-up sets), scented candles, nice treats for men, gardening accessories, accessories such as gloves, hats, and scarves (including sets), costume jewellery, toys for children, stuffed toys, gadgets, and family board games, Arts and crafts and stationery sets, cookery books, etc.

All contributions can be left at the school reception for the attention of the PTA from now until Friday 9th December.

Easyfundraising

Finally, please do remember to sign up for easyfundraising using this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=44849&invite=H8O6JX&referral-campaign=c2s>

and raise FREE donations for Chesterton PTA. Over 7,000 online brands including John Lewis, Argos, Uswitch, eBay and M&S are ready to give a free donation every time you shop online. Plus once you've signed up and raised £10 in donations, easyfundraising will give us an extra £10 bonus donation.

Many thanks for all of your support.

Double Basketball Success



The current under-16 boys basketball team is hoping to lift the district schools trophy this year, in order to repeat what was achieved by last year's squad. The season started well this week, with a 60-29 win at Cambourne, and a 42-15 win against Cottenham. The

players have worked hard since the Covid lockdowns and were pleased that it showed in their performances. Kwasi was our player of the week.



The College Netball Season Has Started

Netball has arrived again at Chesterton, with three separate clubs taking place every week (Year 7, Year 8 and Years 9/10/11). As a taste of what is to follow, the Year 7 girls experienced their first Chesterton tournament on Tuesday, with the yellow team finishing as the eventual winner of the PE Department chocolate box! This turned out to be great preparation for the first inter-school fixture against Cottenham Village College – Chesterton students enjoyed the win and the performance.

Author visit – Mark Wells

On Wednesday 23rd November, students in Years 10 and 12 had a fantastic experience with a visit from bestselling author Mark Wells. Mark spoke to students about becoming an author, his Gothic stories and inspirations, advice about getting writing published, and gave us all some goodies – as well as making some of his stories available for Chesterton students to read (available here: <https://BookHip.com/WJHKFWX>). Students took away postcards with links for online locators so that they can have an immersive experience of his tales. Mark was very complimentary of our students, who listened well and asked good questions, and he has offered to run a Gothic creative writing competition for us – more details to follow.

Parents who still wish to make a financial contribution towards the event, or to purchase a discounted signed copy of his book can still do so – see Parentmail for details.

Library Updates

If you've been in the school library recently you'll have spotted new book displays: a football-themed one to celebrate the World Cup, and a Roald Dahl-themed one to celebrate the school's upcoming production of "*Matilda*". Our Chris Priestley display is much depleted and will soon be removed after there has been a real rush on his books by KS3 students following his recent visit.

Our library helpers have also helped put together a selection of Christmas books, and with the author visits behind us, we are now plotting our Christmas events, including a festive jigsaw, a book recommendation tree and the festive reading evening. We now have a strong trained team of library helpers who know when they are on the rota to be on duty and who have been allocated particular areas of the library to keep organised. They are also helping with jobs like making sure all our new books have the identifying Chesterton stamp on them.

The library team have put together a new induction lesson about the library to ensure all our students feel confident in understanding what the library has to offer, how it is organised, and how to easily find different books.

This Week's Staff Reading

Recommendation

Ms Bigglestone (Director of Logistics and Teacher of English) recommends '*Circe*' by Madeline Miller.

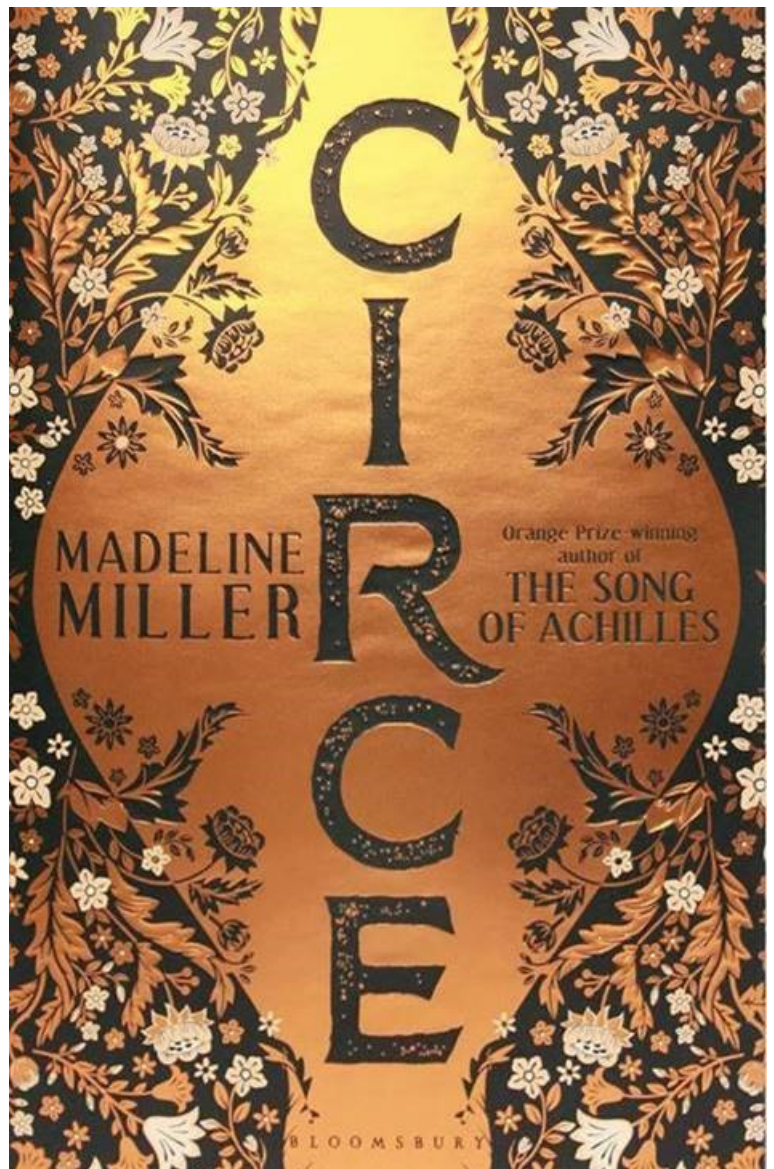
Ms Bigglestone says, "Miller offers us the well-known story of Circe, the immortal goddess, retold with a feminist slant. It's a totally intoxicating tale!"

Young Writers Creative Writing Competition

Thank you to students who have sent entries for the creative writing competition. The current challenge is to write a mini-saga in exactly 100 words, and the theme is 'numbers'. With World Cup fever in the air, students might like to try a story which begins, "1966 was our last victory...", "6,500 empty seats..." or "Shirt number 9..."

Students who wish to take part should send their stories to

sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk for a chance to get their work published and to win prizes.



Year 7 Mythology Competition Finalists

Congratulations to Caleb (animation), Michelle (artefact) and Oliver (creative writing) who are going through to the finals of the University of Cambridge's Year 7 Ovid Competition on Friday 9th December. They produced some wonderfully imaginative work based on the myths of Echo and Narcissus, Demeter and Persephone and other of Ovid's stories. They will attend the online finals alongside numerous other entrants from schools across the country and will be treated to a live storytelling performance as well as a chance to see all

the other entries.

