

**Blog – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

## **Chesterton Sixth Form**

### *Enrichment*

This week in the Sixth Form enrichment programmes got underway; activities ranged from sport to baking and visiting cultural sites around Cambridge. Students are thoroughly enjoying this aspect of the Chesterton Sixth Form offer and appreciate the opportunity to experience a wide variety of activities with each other and staff.

### *Vespa Mindset*

In school this week, students were introduced to the VESPA Mindset - a key element to refining and developing key academic and non-cognitive skills.

### *Post 16 Events*

The Sixth Form team have been delighted to meet year 11 students and parents across the county over the course of the last few weeks as they have attended the many Post 16 events being held. They have enjoyed talking about Chesterton Sixth Form and all that we have to offer. The team look forward to meeting Year 11 families at our own Post 16 evening on Wednesday 5th October (see later in this blog).

### *Meet Ed Bowles, Director of Chesterton Sixth Form*

“I am a Cambridge local and have spent the last six years as a teacher and leader in a boarding school in Cambridge.

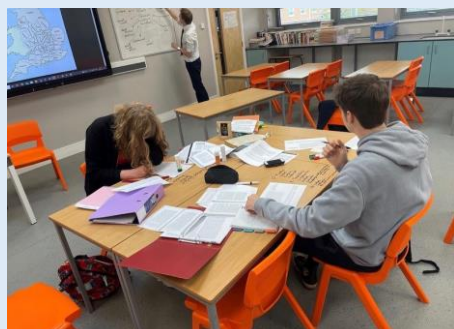
I studied International Business with Spanish at the University of Hertfordshire, which included a year living in Córdoba, Spain, working as a language assistant. This was my first experience working in a school and was pivotal in shaping my career in education. After training as a teacher I moved to London and worked in two schools for five years before returning to Cambridge.

At home, I am kept busy with my children, Milo and Maia. As a family, we love travelling and exploring the world; some of our fondest trips were travelling around California together in a campervan and exploring Nicaragua. At any opportunity, I will cook Mexican food. I am passionate about sports, particularly football and rugby. I have an old rally car that I love too much and have what some would say is questionable music taste - I completely disagree with these people.

I am thoroughly enjoying my new role at Chesterton and delighted by how friendly and supportive everyone is.

### *Sixth Form Life*

Some photos from this week



**Do come along to the Chesterton Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October to see the Sixth Form in action. Chesterton families from any year group are welcome to attend. More information to follow.**

## Careers & Post16 Event for Yr11 Students and their families

Most local colleges, schools and other providers will come together on the evening of the 5th of October at Chesterton to present their offer, answer questions from students and parents and hand out prospectuses and other information. The Progression Evening is always a very popular and extremely useful event for Y11 students and parents, we greatly encouraged to attend. See Parentmail for more information. The evening starts at 6pm and finishes at 7.30pm. The Careers & Post-16 Team look forward to seeing you there.

## Year 10 Trip To York:

Year 10 had an assembly last Friday to introduce them to the History and English Year 10 Trip to York, see parentmail for more information and how to sign up for the trip. The trip will be a great chance to visit a fascinating city, with visits to the National Rail Museum, Jorvik Viking Centre and York Minster Cathedral, as well as lots of other exciting events and free time to explore independently. A deposit of £15 is needed now, and the rest of the payment (£135, or a £95 subsidised payment) is due in 2023.

## Halloween Disco – Year 7

We have some exciting news from our Year 11 Events Operations team....They are organising a Halloween Disco for our Year 7 students on Monday 17th October. The event will take place in The Rex Freeman Hall between 17:00 and 19:00. The disco will give students an opportunity to socialise outside of usual school hours.

Tickets cost £4 per person which will include a drink. DJ Pain is scheduled to make a spooktacular return, fancy dress is highly encouraged with a competition taking place for best costume and much more. It is recommended that students bring some spending money (£3 maximum per student) as there will be a tuck shop where sweets and premium drinks will be available.

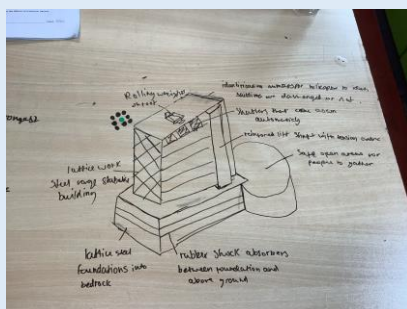
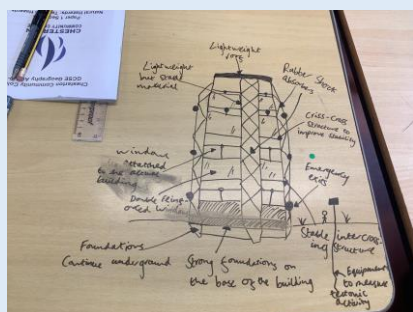
Tickets will be available to purchase by Parenmail, more details available soon. We shall be operating a guest list policy which means that no physical tickets will be sent out.

We hope to celebrate Halloween in style with as many students possible.

Event Operations is a qualification available at KS4, students explore all aspects of the Events industry including operating as an Events Company. Well done to the group for planning this exciting event for year 7.

## In lessons....

Some year 10 geography students have been revising tectonic hazards. Students were asked to design their own earthquake resistant building, and voted for which design was the most resistant.



## Open Evening

The college open evening is taking place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October from 6pm – 8pm for prospective families to come and see the school in action. Thank you to all the students who have volunteered to help on the evening either as a tour guide or demonstrating in a subject area. If students would still like to be involved they can volunteer as a tour guide via their Head of House or to help in a subject area by speaking to their class teachers.



## Bible Discussion Club

It's been great to welcome lots of lovely new Year 7s in particular to Bible discussion club. We've been looking at an overview of what the Bible is and how it was written, and we will then move on to looking at different extracts in more detail. There's normally a warm-up game and some sweets, as well as looking at a passage together. Both groups are large and friendly, and everyone is welcome to join in on Friday lunchtimes in L14 (first lunch) and L12 (second lunch). Bring your lunch. See Mrs Phillips or Mr Payne for more info or a dining hall queue jump pass.

## New Staff

We have welcomed a number of new staff for the new academic year, each week we are introducing some of those staff to Chesterton families. Today we are introducing: Mrs Naomi Barker, Head of Philosophy and Dr Francesca White, Teacher of English.

### Mrs Naomi Barker

I am pleased to join Chesterton as Head of Philosophy. Having studied at London and Cambridge, I have previously taught in London for a number of year and have had a range of roles both within my school and supporting others. These include being Head of PSHE, Head of Sixth Form and Assistant Headteacher. I am also an A level examiner, educational author and PGCE tutor.



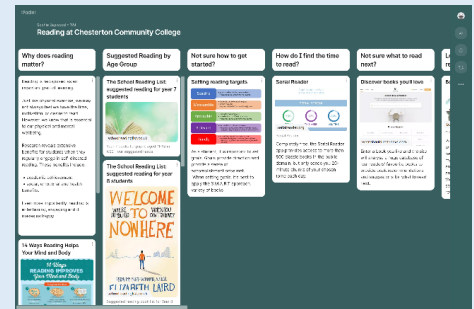
### Dr Francesca White

My name is Dr Francesca White and I am a new English teacher at Chesterton. I recently completed my teacher training at the University of Cambridge and before that I studied for a PhD in English Literature. I am delighted to be starting my teaching career at Chesterton and have been made to feel so welcome by staff and students alike. So far, I am enjoying debating the canon with Year 7, learning about Machiavellian characters with Year 8, reading poetry with Year 9 and analysing *Jekyll and Hyde* with Year 10!



## Reading at Chesterton

The school website has been updated and now includes a dedicated 'Reading at Chesterton' area. This can be found by selecting 'Life at Chesterton' followed by 'Curriculum' or by using this link <https://padlet.com/sbaywood/rbry582t6nncg0gb>. Take a look to find out more about how you can support your child with their reading, discover new reading recommendations, and explore a range of apps and websites designed to make reading more accessible and enjoyable. With more reading activities and events planned for the rest of the year, the site will continue to grow - watch this space!



## KS4 English Texts

We recommend that students in KS4 have their own copy of the texts studied in English (parents in KS4 will have received a parentmail). Students are welcome to use any copy of 'Jekyll and Hyde', 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'An Inspector Calls' and we encourage them to be brought into lessons when a particular text is being studied. If students don't have their own text please complete the form here and we will arrange a copy for them: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6RhkhoHBGky\\_bXW7Pm1P5daQR9\\_mr5tJg-1cpuYrryNUN1k2RUw0S1MxN0FHMEo0VVJFRUPLQkZFRc4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6RhkhoHBGky_bXW7Pm1P5daQR9_mr5tJg-1cpuYrryNUN1k2RUw0S1MxN0FHMEo0VVJFRUPLQkZFRc4u)

## Book Clubs

“Books and biscuits” KS3 reading club is still welcoming new faces each week. Students are welcome to drop in for a session or to come every time – we meet Tuesday break times in the library. This week, after some fun chat about our favourite Roald Dahl stories, the book clubbers voted for a more grown-up novel, Harper Lee’s “To Kill a Mockingbird”. We look forward to hearing how they get on with this very important and thought-provoking book.

It’s not too late to join the KS4/5 and staff book club in reading or listening to the radio play, “Under Milk Wood” for this half term. Copies are available in A11 and the radio play and film can be found on YouTube. As well as an online forum, we plan to meet on Monday 17th October to discuss our thoughts on the play. Parents are very much encouraged to read and discuss alongside students.

Graphic novel club is open to all students who wish to gather on Wednesday breacktimes in the library.

## Poetry

Thursday 6th October is national poetry day, and what better way to celebrate than to put pen to paper and try writing a poem about a topic that matters to you? The Power of Poetry national writing competition is open to students age 11-18 who would like the chance of having their poetry published, plus a chance to win prizes for the top five entries. See <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-5/power-of-poetry?view=ind> for more details, but poems can be any style and length, and on any theme which is important to the writer. Please send poems to [sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:sphillips@ccc.tela.org.uk) to be entered into the competition. Students in Year 8 and 9 may wish to discuss their poems at creative writing club which meets on Thursday lunchtimes in A14 – bring your lunch.



## **BBC 100: Share your story**

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, students in year 8 &9 participated in a lecture from storytellers at the BBC- Carla Fowler & Flora McCorquodale. Carla is a Video Journalist working with Yorkshire TV and she spoke about her background and building confidence through her career, whilst Flora is a Production Management Apprentice with the BBC. Flora spoke about her experiences with dyslexia and how radio became her escape. The session was very informative whilst had high levels of engagement from the students. This was an exciting opportunity for our students to be involved in, as the BBC UK tour was to celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> year of broadcasting!



## **Chesterton Lecture Series**

On Monday 3rd October, 15:10-16:00, Daniel Foster will be presenting a face to face lecture at school. This lecture will be on: 'International Development - A Tale of Two Countries.' The lecture will take place in E14, and during this Daniel says of his lecture: "I will explore the Himalayan Mountain range and how it is sometimes called the 'Roof of the World' as it is the source of important rivers, such as the Ganges & Yangtze. In this lecture, I will look back at my experiences & describe the threats that faced this magnificent part of the world. I will also compare the changes that have occurred across different countries & explore future trends." Please encourage students to book their free place at the lecture by emailing Mrs Hawkins at: [shawkins@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:shawkins@ccc.tela.org.uk).

## **Inter-house Above and Beyond Points Leader board**

1st Place- Equiano: 1,634 ABPs

2nd Place- Robinson: 1,585 ABPs

3rd Place - Hill: 1,547 ABPs

4<sup>th</sup> Place- Fawcett: 1,440 ABPs

5<sup>th</sup> Place- Cavendish: 1,426 ABPs

Total: 7,632 ABPs

## **Equiano House**

This week closes out September and our first month back at Chesterton. Our Equiano students have come back with a bang and are really showing their enthusiasm both in and out of the classroom. This is evident in the House Competition where Equiano are still sitting at the top of the leader board with a huge 1634 Above and Beyond Points!

This week students and staff came together on Friday to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. In form time we had a special quiz that challenged our students on the founders of Macmillan Cancer Support as well as some of the celebrity ambassadors for the charity. Our school community also made a special effort to wear something green as part of our non-uniform day to again show support and try to raise some money. There were also plenty of treats on sale as well as prizes to be won throughout the day.

Thursday next week is our Y6 open evening! Lots of our students have been volunteering to be tour guides or to help out in specific subjects. If you would like to get involved you should speak to your head of house or a subject teacher.

Keep up the great work everyone!

## **Cavendish House**

It has been another jolly week in the life of House Cavendish. Staff and students are eagerly anticipating the school's famous Open Evening next week. Many Year 7 students are looking forward to playing their part in the subject displays, and many of our Year 8-11 students are to be acting as tour guides. Rumours abound about the special treats and prizes available...last year Drama gave out chocolates and Geography had pizza. If any Cavendish students would still like to take part in Open Evening there is still time - speak to one of the team to get your name on the list. This week Cavendish students enjoyed an assembly for International Day of Languages and PSHE sessions on diversity and cycle safety - remember that even Vikings wore helmets! Year 10 students also received information about the trip to York - even though it is in March places are filling up quickly, so book now to avoid missing out! Congratulations to Cavendish 3 for being the cumulative school-wide winners of the weekly form quiz, having come joint first in all two of the quizzes so far! That's all from us this week. Don't forget to be awesome, Cavendish!

## **Hill House**

Another exciting week at Chesterton, with lots of clubs and activities now happening each week, it's still a great time to join and make the most of the range of options. On Tuesday the school hosted a team from the BBC, and students had the chance to explore more about journalism, which was really positively received by students. For our Year 11s, there is the Post-16 Progression Evening from 6-7:30 on Wed 5<sup>th</sup> October, this is a great opportunity to meet a huge range of post-16 providers and find out more about courses before applying. Finally, it was great to see so many students in their own clothes for the first non-uniform day, supporting Macmillan Cancer Support, and the huge range of cakes that were both made and eaten at break time! We would also like to congratulate the following Year 9 students for making a great start to the year and going above and beyond: Niah, Ella, Eisha and Charlie.

## **Fawcett House**

The weather is getting colder but the sun was still shining on us this week. This week in PSHE we talked about safety and the importance of wearing a helmet while cycling, as well as ideas about inclusion and equality. Assembly celebrated the International Day of Languages. Some year groups were also treated to a talk from the BBC. On Friday we had non-uniform to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Everybody wore different shades of green to show their support. There was also a special quiz, with a range of prizes available and during break time there was an opportunity for students to buy cake and participate in some games as part of the fundraising event. Thank you to all students that took part. As always, if you need some support please speak to Miss Malik, Mr Firth, Miss Walton or your form tutor.

## **Robinson House**

As September draws to a close, we would like to tell you how proud we are of the start you have made to the new

academic year. Keep up the routines you have put in place, and you will reap what you sow! Reach out to your form tutor if you need any advice or help and remember you can also contact [worried@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:worried@ccc.tela.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

In the Above and Beyond Points League table, we are sitting comfortably in second place with 1,585 Above and Beyond Points! A huge well done to everyone who has helped our house achieve this.

During tutor time this week, we discussed the importance of wearing our bike helmets, equality, diversity and inclusivity. We had valuable discussions in our Buddie Groups and developed some fresh perspectives.

We would like to wish the happiest of happy birthdays to those of our Robinson students celebrating their birthday: Ciaren, Janos, Hashir, Genevieve, Julia, Monsur, Tim and Finlay.

Have a wonderful, well-deserved weekend all and enjoy the autumn weather.

“Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away; Lengthen night and shorten day; Every leaf speaks bliss to me Fluttering from the autumn tree.”

- Emily Brontë.