

Dear parents and carers,

Please see below this week's Chesterton blog. We hope you enjoy reading the updates from departments and teams across the school.



Thank you so much to all our staff and students for their ongoing hard work.

The team at Chesterton are always keen to hear from parents who'd like to get involved with school life: please don't hesitate to get in touch if this is true for you.

All the best for a lovely weekend.

**Rolf Purvis**  
**Executive Headteacher**

## Drama Festival

**Chesterton Youth Theatre is making its final preparations for the 2023 Festival: it's going to be mind-blowing!** The scope of theatrical works includes everything from the characters of wicked step-mothers to romantic bee-keepers; Shakespearean tragedies to contemporary comedies; and daring original plays to classic musical theatre numbers. There is, quite literally, something for everyone, so do come along to one, more or all of the events scheduled: information can be read and tickets can be booked from the link on the poster at the bottom of this blog. Meanwhile, we wish the 100 students from years 7 – 12 and professional adults who are all taking part in this Festival at some point between Friday and Tuesday: 'toi toi toi' with all your performances! Medals will be awarded to the winners of each category, in line with the competitive element that the Ancient Greeks included in their drama festivals of two and a half thousand years ago, producing the likes of Sophocles! However, medals aren't everything: the most important aspect of this event is not to promote winners, but to celebrate how essential it is that oral and creative expression remain part of our human experiences! Go for it Chesterton Youth Theatre: this is a chance for every single performer to find their voice!

## Puppet Challenge!

During the Thornhill reading session, Year 7 students delved into the intriguing world of puppets and explored the various connotations associated with them. As a refreshing brain break activity, they were presented with an exciting challenge: to work collaboratively in groups and craft a puppet using only three sheets of paper, two pairs of scissors, and a trusty glue stick. This hands-on task encouraged their creativity, problem-solving skills, and teamwork, as they embarked on the journey of bringing their unique puppets to life.







## Physics Workshop

On Wednesday, 30 year 7 students travelled across Cambridge to the University of Cambridge's Physics Department at the Cavendish Laboratory to take part in an exciting workshop ran by online platform Isaac Physics. The students worked in the physics undergraduate laboratory where they investigated the stretching properties of different sweets. The students were surprised by how much weight peach loops could support before breaking and were able to conclude which sweets would stretch the most. Once the students had finished their experiments and drawn graphs to present their findings, we moved into the Pippard lecture theatre. Students were very excited to sitting in a real lecture theatre where they learned more about weight forces and used their problem-solving skills to answer questions based on planets with different strengths of gravity!

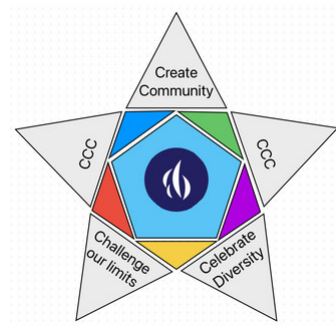
All students engaged very well, they learned a lot and really enjoyed being in a university building. One student even said, *"Miss, I thought I was really bad at Physics, but I am getting all of these questions right!"*.

## Chesterton Values

Last week we launched our design competition for our new Chesterton Values

- C**elebrate Diversity
- C**reate Community
- C**hallenge our Limits

We have had some absolutely fantastic entries and before we announce the winner next week, we wanted to share some entries with you all.





## International Breakfast Fosters Community

On Monday we held our International Breakfast to welcome our new international parents in our very diverse and vibrant school community.

About 50 parents from all over the world took part in this event organised by our English as Additional Language Teacher and Coordinator, Ms Maffei.

The event was a success: we were able to meet each other and exchange all the information parents/ carers and school staff, need to share to provide our students with the best possible learning experience.

Our partnership with parents, who may be less familiar with the English school system, culture, secondary school setting, and new local community, helps our international students to feel safe, valued, and fully supported to achieve their full potential.

If you were not at the event but would like to be involved to volunteer for, or just be part of our international network (you don't need to speak an additional language) Ms Maffei will be delighted to hear from you.

Please email her at [RMaffei@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:RMaffei@ccc.tela.org.uk)

## Year 7 fieldwork

This week the Year 7's in Geography have been undertaking some field work around the school. They had the opportunity to apply their learning on water infiltration by testing the rates of absorption on different grounds around the school before heading back to the classroom to analyse and present their results!





# eureka

INSPIRING  
CURIOUS  
MATHEMATICIANS

The Cambridge Maths School organised a fantastic event Eureka Day in the Centre for Mathematical Sciences. Students from year 9 took part in different maths activities and interesting talks. The famous Sir David Spiegelhalter, Statistician, Professor and Author gave a lecture on the numbers in the news and social media. Students also had lots of fun participating in a Dragon Quiz against other schools, solving a series of interesting Maths Problems. Teamwork did not stop there – using their knowledge of forces and structures, they worked effectively on building paper cranes that could hold a 300-gram weight (kudos to the Chesterton team who won!) Nrich gave the final lecture with a “tshirt” problem!



## Upcoming Library Trips

The English department are very excited that next week we are taking out almost half of the Year 7 cohort and half of Year 9 students on some exciting library visits. Parents, please check parentmail for details of what students will need for the day.

We are thankful to the team at Central Library for organising for our Year 7s a programme of a tour, a Dewey decimal scavenger hunt, and an introduction to their Manga section and Manga club.

Also to the University Library staff for agreeing to take Year 9s students on exclusive tours of the library stacks, and allowing us to visit a fun Raymond Briggs exhibition.

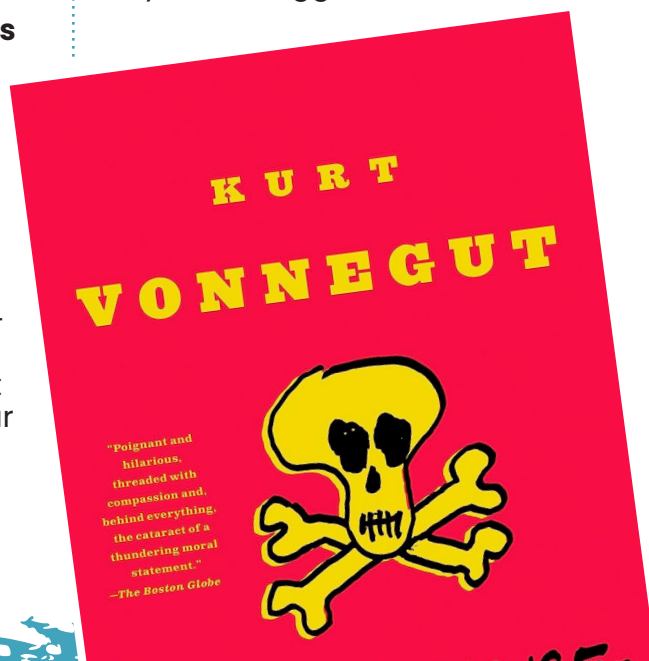
## Transition

We were so excited to welcome our future year 7s onto our school site on the 30th June and 3rd July. The students had 2 jammed packed days of transition activities, from team building; giant portraits; the big fat Chesterton quiz; assemblies, tours and so much more. It was also lovely to meet parents at our Parent Evening on Monday where all new parents were able to meet our Head of House Team and some Senior Leaders. The days were really successful and we are already looking forward to welcoming our new students back on the 6th September.

## Staff reading recommendation of the week

**Miss Weedy (English teacher) recommends Slaughterhouse-Five by Kurt Vonnegut.**

This book is perfect for those readers who wish that harrowing, first-person accounts of traumatic, historical events had more aliens and time travel. Slaughterhouse-Five is a semi-autobiographic science fiction-infused anti-war novel, inspired by Vonnegut's own experiences during the fire-bombing of Dresden in 1945. Vonnegut is a master of dark, absurdist comedy, and right from the beginning the novel is a tug-of-war between laughter and tears. Aimed at KS5 and up because of adult themes.



# CHESTERTON YOUTH THEATRE'S DRAMA FESTIVAL '23

FRIDAY 7TH TO TUESDAY 11TH JULY 2023 - THE DRAMA STUDIO

7TH

**YEAR 7 HOUSE PLAYS COMPETITION: 'THE SERPENT'S TONGUE' - 4.45PM — 6.30PM**

YEAR 7 ACTORS FROM CAVENDISH, EQUIANO, FAWCETT, HILL & ROBINSON – WITH DIRECTORS FROM THE OLDER YEARS - BATTLE IT OUT TO WIN 'BEST OVERALL PRODUCTION' AND 'BEST ACTOR' AWARDS. 60 TICKETS AVAILABLE. £2 EACH.

9TH

**'EQUUS' BY PETER SHAFFER — AUDIO PERFORMANCE - 6.30PM — 8.30PM**

PROFESSIONAL ACTORS LINKED TO CHESTERTON PERFORM A RADIO VERSION OF THIS LANDMARK DRAMA AND A LEVEL SET TEXT TO A LIVE AUDIENCE, WITH SOUND DESIGN FROM YR 12'S JOSH AND DIRECTION FROM SUZY MARSTON. 40 TICKETS AVAILABLE (AGE GUIDANCE 13+). FREE.

10TH

**THE YEAR 8 PANTO-FEST - 5PM — 6.30PM**

DIFFERENT GROUPS FROM YEAR 8 PERFORM THEIR ORIGINAL PANTOMIMES IN COMPETITION TO WIN 'THE SPIRIT OF PANTO' AND 'PANTO STAR' PRIZES! 60 TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR A FAMILY AUDIENCE. £2 EACH.

**'THE IMPROV HOUR' - 7PM — 8PM**

A WORKSHOP IN IMPROVISATION FOR ALL WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE AND/OR OBSERVE! 40 PLACES AVAILABLE (YEAR 8+). £1 EACH.

11TH

**'HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL' HIGHLIGHTS - 4 — 5PM (IN THE ATRIUM THEATRE)**

THE CAST OF 50 AND THEIR DIRECTORS SHARE HIGHLIGHTS FROM 'HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL': WORK-IN-PROGRESS PRIOR TO PRODUCTION AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER. NO DESIGN ELEMENTS. 50 TICKETS AVAILABLE. FREE.

**CYT: THE REPERTOIRE - 6PM — 8.15PM (INCLUDING INTERVAL)**

A SHOWCASE OF SCRIPTED AND DEVISED DRAMATIC EXTRACTS AND MUSICAL THEATRE SONGS PERFORMED BY INVITED SOLOISTS FROM CHESTERTON: 2023'S "GREATEST HITS" AND SOME NEW MATERIAL. 60 TICKETS AVAILABLE. £4 EACH.

TKTS

ALL TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED VIA OUR TICKET SOURCE ACCOUNT. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE HAVE A STRICT LIMIT OF 2 TICKETS PER CUSTOMER FOR ALL EVENTS DUE TO LIMITED CAPACITY IN OUR DRAMA STUDIO. ALL TICKETS SUBJECT TO A BOOKING FEE.

[WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHESTERTONYT](http://WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHESTERTONYT)

