

It is only right that my last blog of the year pays tribute to **Donna Hubbard-Young**, who leaves Chesterton this week after almost 20 years with us.



Donna has had an immeasurable impact on every single area of school life, from her early work with the Drama and English departments, through to her leadership of a wide range of areas as part of the senior team, and finally as Head of School.

Donna's work has always focussed on unlocking the very best opportunities for young people at Chesterton, and her commitment to offering excellent experiences for all regardless of individual background has always sat at the forefront of her work.

Staff and students alike will miss Donna's warmth, passion and commitment to our community.

Lucy and I wish her and her family all the very best as she relocates back 'home' to the north east.

Thank you Donna, from all of us at Chesterton.

Rolf Purvis
Executive Headteacher

Library Borrowing

We are delighted that many students are now using the **Libby** app to borrow audiobooks and ebooks. Students have been logging their listens in the library, and we hope that using Libby will be a brilliant way to keep easily accessing books over the summer holidays.

Books being borrowed from the school library now have an extended return date of September. We are keen that all our students have plenty of great things to read over the summer, so on **Monday 17th** after school, we are opening up the library for another popular reading café event. We hope that parents and carers might join us in the library 3.05-4pm for some refreshments, and time to browse, borrow and read. Staff and sixth form helpers will be on hand to support students in choosing and borrowing books. Families might consider borrowing multiple copies of the same title from our book club selection, so that families can read and discuss the same book over summer.

Year 12 Geographers Head to the Beach

The year 12 Geographers made their way to the coast this week to hone their fieldwork skills and knowledge of coastal processes. Students collected data to examine how the profile of the beach and the sediment changes before moving on to look for evidence of mass movement at the cliffs. With a large tidal range and excellent coastal features to discuss lots of hard thinking took place.



'HE'S BEHIND YOU!'

Last Friday as part of the first year 6 transition day, over 50 year 8 students performed pantomimes to audiences of upcoming Chesterton students in the Atrium Theatre. The Year 6 students were challenged to vote for their favourite panto, and better still, join in with the Show! Congratulations to the 8 Boyega group who won the morning audience's vote; and the 8 Spielberg group who won in the afternoon: both winning casts performing very different and daring versions of 'Cinderella'! Most importantly, every student performer entered the spirit of the day with aplomb, and the year 6 students were generous and enthusiastic in their audience participation. We hope they will want to be performing their own pantomimes in two years' time, and thank you to the year 8s for being such dynamic role models!



Wheelchair Basketball

Nothing to report, other than our year 10 students had a fantastic amount of fun, playing wheelchair basketball this week! It was a warm up for when the Houses lock horns in the college sports day wheelchair basketball next week.



The Class of 2023 - Four Rowing Scholarships

Some of our year 8 students had the opportunity to showcase their rowing skills on the river Cam this week. They were absolute beginners only five weeks ago, so it was great to see obvious progress as a result of the Try Rowing! initiative with Rob Roy Boat Club.

Congratulations to Anita, Florence, Aran and Jay on being presented with one-year scholarships to join the club from September.





Music Extravaganza Thrills Chesterton!

It has been a very busy fortnight in the music department!

On Friday 30th June, over 20 students from Years 7-11 gave a lunchtime concert at St Andrew's Church, Chesterton. There were string, woodwind, brass, vocal and piano performances within the varied concert, featuring both soloists and small ensembles. Students performed brilliantly and the concert was very enjoyable. Well done to all involved.

Also on Friday 30th June, the samba band, folk fiddle band, and Year 8 and 9 bands 'BLANK', 'Charlie, Charlie and the Band', and 'Zephyrus', performed at the PTA Bash. It was great to see so many students involved and supporting the PTA. Thank you to everyone who came to watch.



Finally, on Thursday 6th July, we had our school summer outdoor concert, held in the Wynn Williams Garden. We were delighted that over 180 Chesterton students, as well as some Year 6s due to join Chesterton in September, took part in this concert, featuring all our school ensembles and choirs. The event was a celebration of all the music we have made this year in the music department and showcased a wide variety of styles of music. Thank you very much to all those who performed in and supported the concert – it was wonderful to have such a large audience.



We still have plenty to look forward to in the music department in the last week of term and beyond – firstly, 102 children and 15 staff are going to the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall, London to watch Prom 4, The Four Seasons, on Sunday evening, 16th July. The prom will be televised, so do look out for us on the BBC!