

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

Chesterton Lectures

On Monday 16th October, 15.15–16.00, we have our second Chesterton lecture of this academic year. Chesterton lectures are the ideal opportunity for students' academic experience to be enriched by wider members of the Chesterton community. Parents/carers are also welcome to attend.

Daniel Foster will be presenting a lecture on the school site titled '**Fantastic Forests and where to find them!**'

The lecture in E14 will delve into the British Isles' deforestation, its impact on UK tree planting targets, and global consequences due to rising timber demand. It will also emphasise the enduring significance of wood products and their role in contemporary society. The lecture will touch on global climate initiatives for biodiversity protection and showcase local forests and natural habitats near Cambridge. Daniel, an expert in this field, offers a captivating opportunity for insights and questions. If this is something you or your child/children are interested in, then please can you email Ms Barker at: nbarker@ccc.tela.org.uk Please can all replies be sent to me by 9am on Monday 16th October.

Open Evening

It was fantastic to see our school shine on Thursday Evening for our annual year 6 Open Evening. Our staff and many of our students went above and beyond to make the evening extra special and we are so thankful to everyone involved.

The evening saw year 8 – 13 students providing tours for families as well as year 7 students supporting departments in classrooms. We had a range of events and performances throughout the evening, including a flash mob, high school musical performances, piano pieces, buskers perform and so much more.

Once again, we are so thankful to all the students and staff involved in making the evening so successful.

A Creative Journey into the Iliad with Year 8 Students

The school year has gotten off to a great start for the Classics department, with students accessing a new software for word root learning called Vocabulous.

Year 8 students in Ms Holmes' class have been doing particularly well in their study of the Iliad. After learning the causes of the Trojan war, students made playdough figurines of some of the key characters to reinforce the descriptions of the characters given in Homer. Let us introduce you to beautiful Briseis!



Year 10 trip to see "Romeo and Juliet" at the ADC theatre

On Wednesday 4th October, over one hundred Year 10 students went to watch a new production of "**Romeo and Juliet**" at the ADC theatre. It was a brilliant experience for students to see their set GCSE Literature text brought to life on stage, and students reported that the interpretation of the American theatre company gave them a fresh perspective of the story. The theatre also kindly arranged for students to have an exclusive time to speak to the cast and ask questions.



Many thanks to Mr Howells and the English department for organising the trip, especially on such a busy week, and of course to Year 10s and their parents for their participation.

Live Lounge

Well done and thank you to our Year 7 musicians who performed at the Live Lounge on Tuesday after school. We heard a fantastic array of string, woodwind, brass, voice and piano performances. It was great to have such an appreciative audience too.

The next Live Lounge will take place on **Tuesday 7th November at 3.45pm** and will be open to all year groups to perform. Interested students should sign up as soon as possible on the sheet on the music office door!

The inter house season has started

The first inter house sports competitions for KS3 started this week. It was great to see the houses locking horns in football and badminton, and for a change..... Robinson House is not at the top of the leader board!

Black History Month: October 2023

We are celebrating Black History Month in the library with a display of black authors and historical figures, and we keep having to replenish it because of enthusiastic students wanting to borrow them, which is wonderful.

Along with the History department, we are promoting a creative writing competition. Details [here](#). The competition is open to all school students to enter by writing a poem with a focus on celebrating inspirational black women, famous or personal to the writer. The deadline is 15th November and we'd love to see if any of our students get their work published in the 'Saluting our Sisters' poetry anthology.

Senior Citizens' Christmas Entertainment

New in the music department calendar for this year – we are hoping to host an afternoon of festive music for local senior citizens on Wednesday 6th December. Please see the below image and if you have any family members or neighbours who may be interested, please do share it with them. Booking is essential and all details can be found on the image.

Year 7 and 8 boys rugby

As a warm up for the rugby world cup quarter finals at the weekend, our year 7 and 8 rugby teams were in action against Impington Village College this week. There were some regular great phases of play from all the teams, and in the end it was honours even – year 8 winning a close game, and year 7 losing a close game.

More paired readers

It's lovely to be in the library at form times and see our pairs of reading buddies. Feedback so far has been really positive, with lots of our Year 7s saying how nice it is to have someone encouraging them and tracking their reading. Thank you to a new wave of sixth form reading volunteers, which means we are able to extend the scheme, and will soon be sending out invitations to more KS3 students, including some students who have English as an additional language, in order to help boost their vocabulary.



KS4/5 and staff book club

The KS4/5 and staff book club met in the library on Tuesday 10th for our first meeting of the year. We spoke about which types of books make it onto the literary canon, and which go in and out of fashion for set reading in the British curriculum. We made a bucket list of books we consider essential reading, and have picked "To Kill a Mockingbird" as our book for the next half term. Whether or not they made it to the meeting, students in Year 10 up and members of staff are welcome to join in reading with us, and we will meet to discuss our impressions in December.

Upcoming book exchange: bring out your books

Tuesday 17th October we are holding a pop-up book exchange in the atrium. Students are encouraged to donate preloved books from home (with an incentive of a house point reward) and to pick up preloved books to take away, including weeded books from the school library. Please pop along at break time and/or lunch time to see the books on display and drop off books from home.

Christmas Carol Service

We are beginning preparations in music for our annual carol service, to be held at St John's College Chapel on Thursday 14th December. Students involved will receive a letter at rehearsals this coming week.

Elite Player Development Programme

Congratulations to both Alfie and Idriis on being selected for the Northampton Saints Under 15 elite player development programme. We look forward to seeing where their rugby journey takes them.

Beano week – now extended

We've been having a jolly time in the library with hundreds of Beano magazines and annuals. It's great to demonstrate to our students that all reading (including comfort reading) has benefits. Thanks to another kind donation, this time from one of our new Year 7s, we've decided to extend the fun and celebrate Beano week next week too. There are still plenty of fun Beano puzzles available for students to have a go at, and every completed one earns a house point.



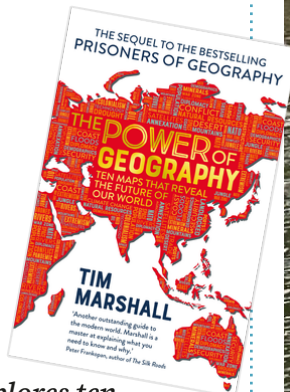
Under 14 National Cup – Round 4

The Under 14 girls football team progressed through another round of the national schools cup, after a convincing 4-0 victory at home to Comberton Village College. Our next visitors will travel from Bedfordshire. Watch this space!

Staff book recommendation of the week

Miss Howard (Geography Teacher) recommends 'The Power of Geography' by Tim Marshall.

Miss Howard says, “Marshall explores ten regions that are set to shape global politics in a new age of great-power rivalry: Australia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the UK, Greece, Turkey, the Sahel, Ethiopia, Spain and Space.”



Two Olympic sports collide

Two Olympic sports met on the River Cam this week. Our year 11 PE cyclists took a late detour to watch our year 11 PE beginner rowers in action. The rowers were able to showcase exactly what they've learned from the Cantabs Rowing Club coaches, over the last four weeks.



The Trade Game

Year 9 geography students are currently learning about why some countries are more developed than others in the Divided World topic. The Trade Game is an interactive lesson that aims to demonstrate some of the causes of uneven development.

Student author recommendation

Solomon in Year 7 recommends **Roald Dahl**. Roald Dahl is always a popular author in our school library!

Solomon says that he has a lot in common with the author, with both Dahl and Solomon being from Norway, speaking English and Norwegian, both avid readers, and with an interest in planes (Dahl was a pilot in WW2).

Solomon especially enjoys 'The BFG'. **He says,** “I like this book because it has exceptional vocabulary, a good storyline, plot twists and pronounced descriptions.”





SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT

Wednesday 6th December

Arrivals from 1.45pm

Music from 2-3.20pm

Chesterton Community College,
Gilbert Road

Local senior citizens are warmly welcomed to an afternoon of music provided by the Chesterton Community College Music Department. There will be the opportunity to join in with some carol singing, to listen to musical items and enjoy some seasonal refreshments.

Booking is essential.

Please book via this QR code
or via the college reception on

01223 712150.





Join us for our **Open Evening.**

17th October 18.00 – 20.00.

