

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



Big news!

Chesterton Sixth Form are delighted to congratulate **Heather** on being offered a place at **St Catharine's College, Cambridge** to read mathematics next year.

This is fantastic news - and just shows the power of CSF's bespoke approach to university entry. All students are supported individually to apply ambitiously for places at the UK (and the world's!) top universities.

Our early entry programme supports students with specific ambitions to apply for Oxbridge with the unique application system, and draws on school and trust-wide networks of experience to fully prepare students for application and interview.

A huge well done to Heather, and our other year 13 students who are applying to university this year. We're excited that as we continue to grow our cohorts year on year, we'll be able to extend our work in this area exponentially.

Year 11 students investigating the human body's responses to change in temperature. Robin Sills (left) Juan Modollel (right)

Parkinson's UK – A Symphony of Giving

On Sunday 28th January, 16 young musicians from Year 7 and 8, as well as 9 musicians from Mayfield Primary, will be performing at Cambridge Guildhall.

The students have devised their own orchestral pieces and libretto with professional musician Alice Poppleton. They will be performing these as part of a charity fundraising concert for Parkinson's UK.

Further information is in the flyer at the end of the blog.

Well done to all involved for their brilliant effort and creativity so far.

School library opening times

Just a reminder that the **school library is open from 8.20am each morning, and stays open until 4.30pm Mondays to Thursdays**, with occasional special events on Fridays. Students are all encouraged to have a reading book out, and there are plenty of opportunities for them to visit the library to return their book and choose a new one; we are often very busy at break and lunch times. Our next library open event for parents will be Friday 1st March, when parents can come to browse the selection of books in the Scholastic Book Fair we are hosting.



A Very Productive Week!

For Year 13, the last week has been a fairly serious affair where students have been carrying out mock exams. Today they returned to lessons and now look to completing the latter stages of course content.



For Year 12, all students took part in a writing workshop led by ex-student Inbali Iserles from the Royal Literary Fund. The session covered how to successfully structure and write an essay from a range of question styles, what makes academic writing, and how to distinguish and utilise different writing styles. Students engaged really well in what was a very thorough day and no doubt their refined writing skills will show in their respective subjects and future applications.

Last week's enrichment saw the launch of the new architecture group where a keen group of students worked with Ms Hallam designing their ideal studio / holiday retreat! We hope that they will soon turn their sights to sprucing up our office!

The Sixth Form Team have been busy processing another incredible number of Year 11 applications. This week guidance meetings started up again; it has been a real pleasure meeting the applicants thus far and we look forward to meeting everyone else throughout the rest of the term when they come in for their face-to-face guidance meeting.



Reading updates

Students in Years 7–9 should now have all completed the NGRT tests. These are online nationalised quizzes to monitor reading ages and progress. Thank you and well done to students and teachers for fitting them in – they provide really helpful data about how our students are doing with their reading.

Upcoming reading dates for your diary:

- **Tuesday 6th February** – next meeting of the KS4/5 and staff book club, to discuss “Animal Farm”
- **Tuesday 13th February** – pop-up book exchange event in the atrium
- **28th February – 6th March** – Scholastic Book Fair in the library (students can use their World Book Day vouchers, plus we are running competitions to win additional book vouchers)

Creative writing club update

Creative writing club meets **week 2 Thursdays in L14 at 3.15pm** with Miss Trevett. Students from all Year groups are working on their own creative writing projects, practising with different prompts, and taking part in discussions around and about creative writing with other passionate students!

Staff reading recommendation of the week

Miss Reavley (English teacher) recommends **'No Season But The Summer'** by Matilda Leyser.

Miss Reavley says, "It's a really interesting exploration of climate change from the perspective of the Demeter - Persephone myth. In many ways, an exploration of grief on a historical, ecological and personal level."



Local library events

Cambridgeshire libraries are holding a vote about which live events the public should like to see in their local libraries.

As a school, we have worked in partnership with local libraries and with some of the nominated artists, such as illustrator Tonka Uzu who has previously visited the school to run comic workshops. To have your say, see [here!](#)

Worldwise Quiz

Evaluating Chesterton students' geographical acumen, spanning from recognizing famous landmarks to identifying national dishes.

Congratulations to the two victorious teams set to represent CCC at the Geographical Association Quiz next month at Long Road Sixth Form.

This marks the inception of what I hope will become an annual tradition at our school!



Artwork of the Week!

Supporting mental health issues in schoolchildren

The news that Theresa May is focusing on mental health for teachers (Report, 10) is speechless. As I read a paper about the failure of the are for children, the closure of S... and the government's dishonest res... climate change, I reviewed articles turning to charity and closed. It became clear that it is not that teachers' mental health here is minimal. This government's causes of, or, these do... thousands... diagnosing the need... **Will Wallis**
...ston Clinton, B.

Once again the government comes up with a new idea for teachers to do... sed to be able to do... ne cuts. C...

Teachers don't do anything to their job. You must give them what works.
Christine Butterworth

'Domestic extremism' is no way to describe...

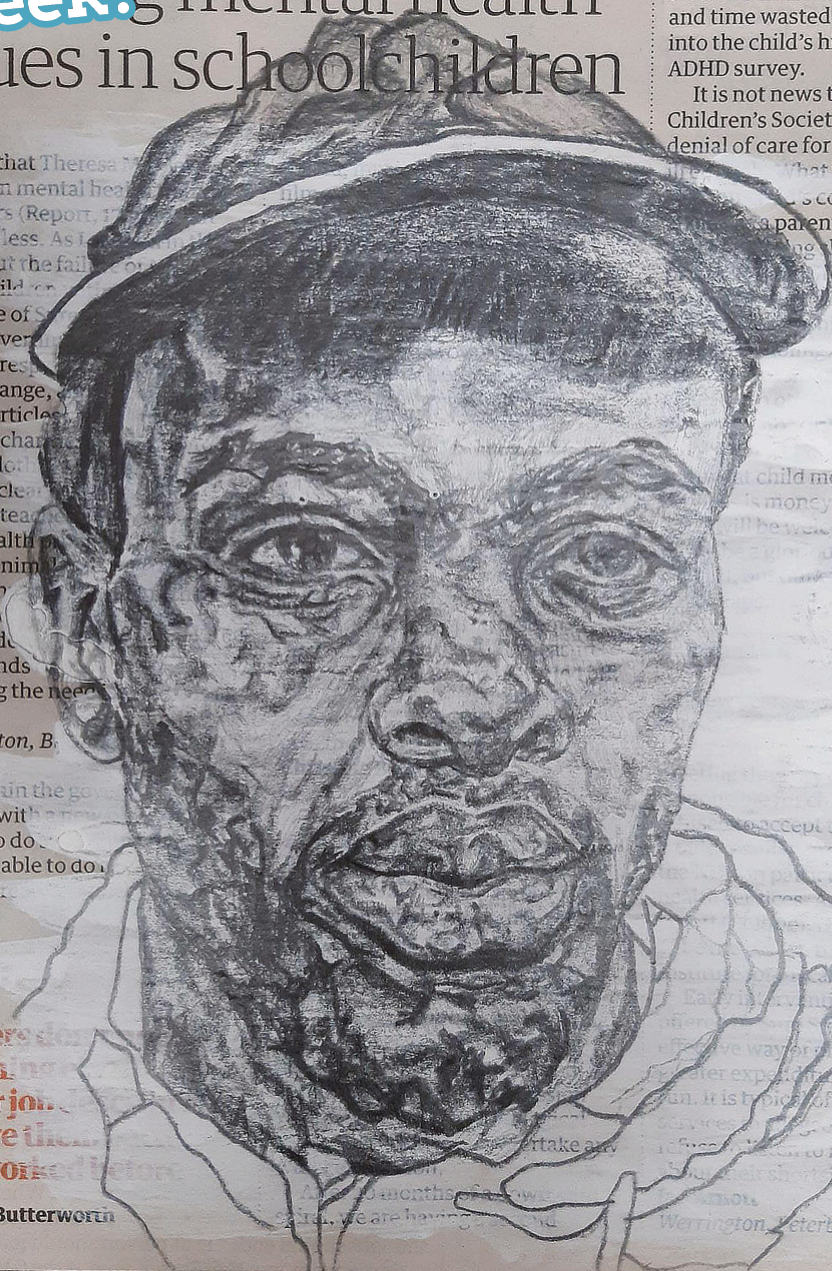
opinion within CAMHS, and only after much damage has been done and time wasted are they looking into the child's history or using an ADHD survey.

It is not news to us that the Children's Society reports extensive denial of care for those deemed not... that we have learned is... condition/behaviour... a parenting problem, with... shared with other... that no one... of his... is... see... that... as a means of... government... child mental health... money spent... to late,... HS... in... it at... d's... using.

ough city... ts Sure Start... tion

s services... accept that the... on... for mental... you say in your... as proved... y the... studies... support... est... ve way... enting... a... ter exper... in the long... it is... of the Times to... ut... dy... but... to rational argumen... s... hied app... each... months... we are having... Warrington, Peterborough

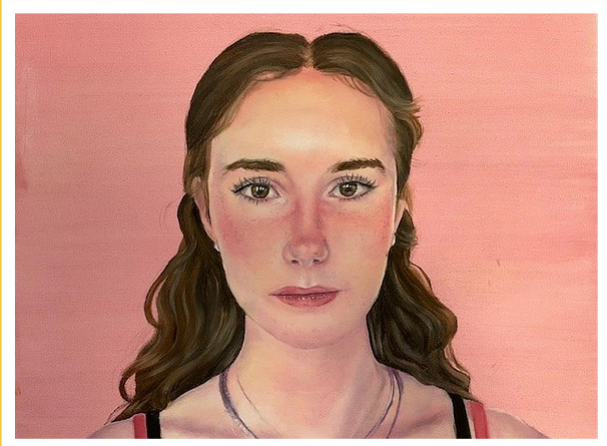
adequate protection against the arbitrary use of police powers. We collectively support the



Osana Au, Year 8



Isobel Widmer, Year 11



In aid of

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.



A SYMPHONY OF GIVING FOR THE MAYOR'S CHARITY

with the Cambridge Philharmonic, Accorde, and
students of two Cambridge schools

Sunday 28th January 2024, 4pm
The Guildhall, Market Square, CAMBRIDGE

For tickets please visit
<https://parkinsonsukcharityconcert.eventbrite.co.uk>

