

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 restful weekend.

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

## Accelerated Reader Launch

Things are a go-go with AR, with all KS3 students having done a STAR test to determine their Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) for reading, and many students are now busy reading and logging their reading points. Points will be monitored fortnightly, with rewards then issued to students who have hit targets. This will be a brilliant tool for monitoring and encouraging reading, and we are delighted to see how much our students are embracing the programme already.

Please can all KS3 students remember to have a reading book with them at school every day; this will be especially important on Mondays as form times will now be dedicated to reading.

## Comic Relief

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup>, we all supported comic relief through a non- school uniform day. Lots of students also bought Red Noses, with some lucky students picking out a limited edition gold nose!

**A big thank you to everyone who donated via parentmail and bought red noses - all proceeds are going to comic relief.**



## Chesterton Citizenship in Action Project

Chesterton's Year 11 Politics students are currently carrying out their Citizenship in action project on the proposed congestion charge for Cambridge city.

Students have studied the reasons behind the introduction of the previously proposed congestion charge, and have also analysed why the previous congestion charge was abandoned by the Greater Cambridge partnership.

The project students are carrying out now, involves them either making a case for or against the proposed congestion charge. To help them we would be grateful if **you could take 5 minutes of your time to fill in a quick survey**. The answers from this will form our primary data, which students will then analyse and use to change or edit their proposed plans before we sent them to the Greater Cambridge Partnership.

## Nature in the Classroom

Last week a group of year 10 students took part in an event by Cambridge University Press & Assessment to hear the views of young people on their experiences and opinions regarding the environment.

It was great to see our students sharing ideas with confidence and one student even took part in a video interview.



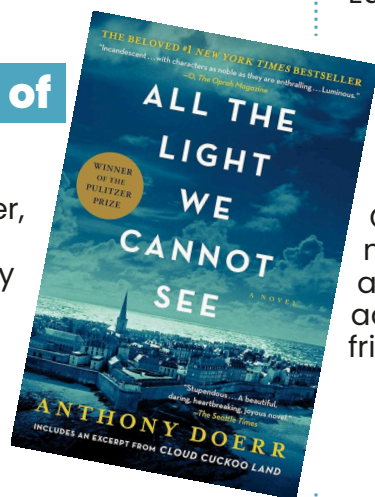
## Easter in your local library

Do have a look at what's on at Cambridgeshire libraries over the Easter break.

Families may be interested in Shakespeare and craft events - details [here!](#)

## Staff book recommendation of the week

Rachel Smith, Maths teacher, recommends "**All The Light We Cannot See**" by Anthony Doerr. **Mrs Smith says it is, "A beautiful story about struggle and resilience."**



## Year 8-9 German Exchange

**Herzlich Willkommen in Cambridge!**

**Herzlich Willkommen in unserer Schule!**

This week we have been welcoming 19 students and 2 teachers from the Kurpfalz Gymnasium in Schriesheim near Heidelberg to Chesterton. They have been staying with their partners' families and have spent the week exploring Cambridge, London and the Norfolk coast as well as spending a day with us in school.



There is no better way to learn a language than to live with a host family and it's a great way of setting down strong links with our European neighbours.

In July our students will be visiting Schriesheim for the second leg of the exchange, living with their partners' families and getting stuck into German culture.

Our thanks go to our host families who have made our guests so welcome and to staff across the trust who helped with the extra admin. We very much hope that the friendships made this week will continue!



## London Learning Adventure

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 14 A Level Economics and Core Maths students, accompanied by two members of staff had a superb day out in London. The trip included a visit to the Houses of Parliament where we were given an outstanding guided tour and learnt about the history of the Houses of Parliament, the changing relationship between monarch and government, and how the building has changed over time.

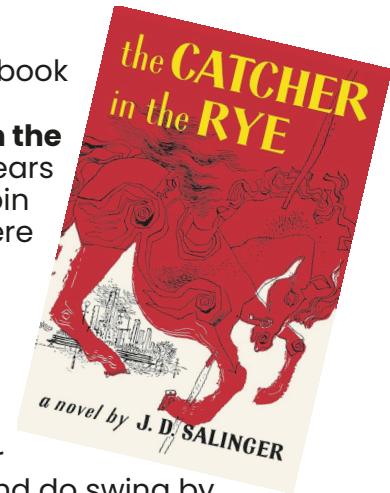


We went into the House of Commons and House of Lords (many commenting how small it is compared to what it looks like on the television!), saw the amazing Sovereign's Throne and stood in the spot where the late Queen lay in state. After the Houses of Parliament, we had a trip on the London Eye and took in the sensational views of London. After walking along Southbank in the sunshine, we arrived at the Bank of England where we looked around the museum – getting a sneak preview of the new King Charles III £5, £10, £20 & £50 notes that are due to be released in early June. We were also treated to an excellent talk on monetary policy and the workings of the Bank of England. It was a really super day and lots was learnt by all!

## A busy week ahead in English!

We are looking forward to a week of activities organised by members of the English department.

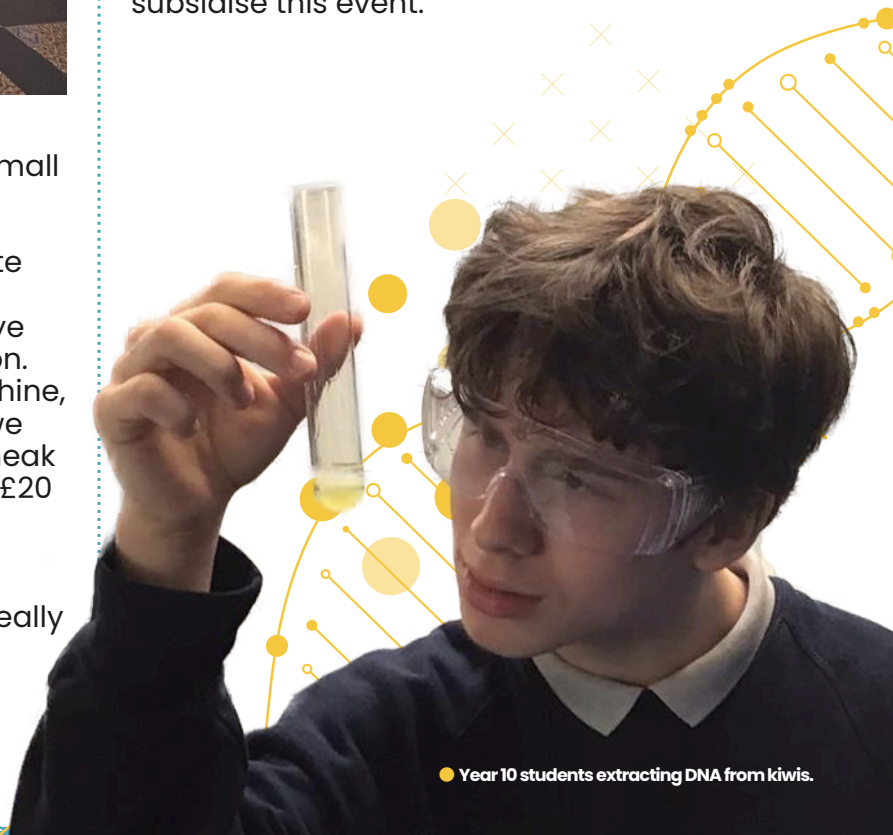
On Tuesday, the KS4/5 book club meet at break to discuss "**The Catcher in the Rye**" – all students in Years 10 up are welcome to join us in the library and there will be biscuits!



On Wednesday, we will host another pop-up book exchange in the atrium – do bring in your preloved books for house point rewards, and do swing by to pick up free books.

Also on Wednesday, all Year 9 students will attend a workshop with local charity Romsey Mill. Neil Thomson, Fundraising and Communications Manager, will be explaining how charity campaigns work, to enhance students' understanding of the art of rhetorical communication which is their current topic in English lessons.

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Year 10 and 11 will be treated to a live theatre performance of "Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde" in the auditorium. Many thanks to the PTA for their kind donation to subsidise this event.



● Year 10 students extracting DNA from kiwis.



## Royal Drawing School Scholarships

We offer a number of 50% and 100% means-tested scholarships for each course. If you think any of your students would like to join a course and may be eligible for a scholarship, they or their parent/guardian just needs to email [youngartists@royaldrawingschool.org](mailto:youngartists@royaldrawingschool.org).

**Norwich Courses** (Scholarship or £165). St Mary's House, Duke Street, Norwich. Saturdays commencing 27 April 2024 to 29 June 2024 (10 sessions)

Our Saturday 10 week-courses in Norwich are a great opportunity for students in School Years 5 to 13 to develop drawing skills in a supportive studio environment with teaching from professional artists.

**Online courses** (Scholarship or £200) Saturdays commencing 27 April 2024 to 29 June 2024 (10 sessions) Young Artists Online offers live and interactive art tuition from your own home, in a creative and safe online environment. Find out more [here](#).

## Multiskills Festival

Last Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March we welcomed 120 year 2 students to Chesterton for a multiskills festival. It was great to see so many children involved and excited by sport, and our year 9 sports leaders did a fantastic job of running the event.



## Athletes Shine at English Schools Cross-Country Championship

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March, Lilijana L-M and Pippa B represented CCC and Cambridgeshire County at the English Schools Athletics Association Cross-Country Championship



It all began in November when Lilijana and Pippa competed in the school fields and qualified for the district Championship held in Netherhall. They then progressed to the next round of the competition, the Cambridgeshire County Schools Cross Country, held at Ferr Meadows Park in Peterborough in January. Once again, they secured a place in the following round, this time for the English Schools Championship held in Pontefract, Yorkshire.

The girls ran 3.2 kms with gritty determination in heavy Yorkshire fields, past fallen runners and shoes stuck in the bog. With a time of 00:12:47, Lili had her Season's Best run. She finished in the top half of the field of 345 runners, 3rd for Cambridgeshire and 17th for the Anglian region. Pippa also ran well posting an excellent time of 00:13:35. This was in addition to a strong run the previous Saturday representing Cambridgeshire in the 2024 UK Inter-Counties Cross Country Championships.



## Geographers Explore Coldham's Brook

Last week Year 11 Geographers journeyed to Coldham's Brook on Ditton Meadow.



They investigated changes along the stream, which involved getting in and measuring! Many thanks to the PTA for funding many pairs of wellies. As a result, almost all students were able to participate.

## U/14 District Cup Football

The U/14 boys football team travelling to Bassingbourn last Wednesday where they were narrowly beaten 3-2 after an impressive performance from the team. We took the lead after 10 minutes thanks to a sweeping goal from Solomon on the edge of the box but failed to extend our lead. Bassingbourn came back into the game and Eric did well to keep them at bay. They eventually scored just before half time, and then added two quick goals after half time. Rumi pulled a goal back with 5 minutes left with a superb left foot volley from the edge of the box, but it was too late in the day to equalise and take it to penalties. We wish Bassingbourn good luck in the next round!

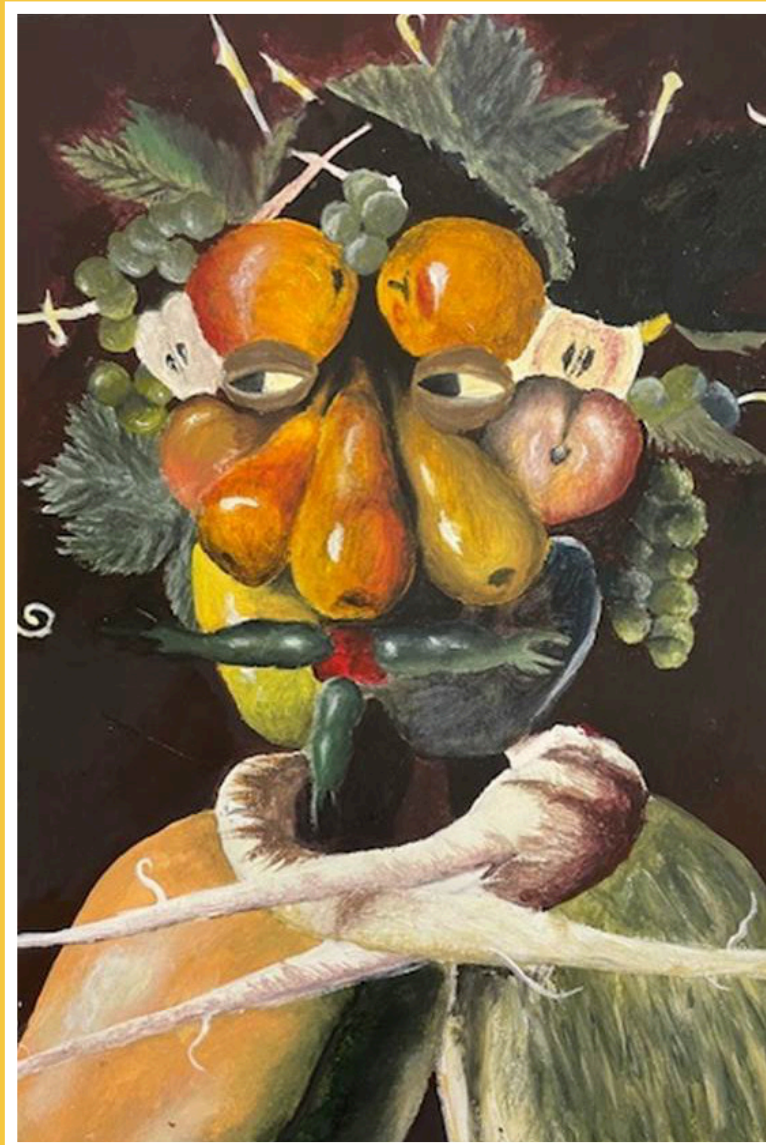
## Geographers Showcase Sustainable Home Designs

Year 7 Geographers have been learning about how buildings and communities can be sustainable. For last week's homework, students designed their own sustainable homes. This has resulted in some fantastic sustainable creations!





Artwork of  
the Week!



Sian Phippen  
Arcimboldo study