

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

Chesterton Wins 'Performing Shakespeare' Finals for East of England!

On Wednesday evening we were absolutely thrilled to win the Eastern Region Final for the English Speaking Union's 'Performing Shakespeare' Competition, which was held at the Perse School, Cambridge and included performers from Norfolk and Suffolk as well as Cambridgeshire. The event showcased three Chesterton students – Anna and Leila from Year 7, and Laurie from Year 9 – who performed a monologue and duologue from 'Twelfth Night', as well as making speeches about their connection to Shakespeare's work, which were being judged in equal measure to their performances. Chesterton's duologue entry was chosen by 3 ESU judges to be the winner, and to represent the region in the Grand Final of the Competition which will be held at the Globe Theatre, London in June. Laurie and Leila will battle it out once again in this prestigious event, alongside 9 other entries from across the Country who will have made it to this fourth and final round. Chesterton was the only school – amongst several independent schools – to have two pieces selected for the Regional Finals, and Anna was told her monologue was very close to winning instead! The duologue

performers were ultimately chosen because of their use of exposition, and the musicality of their interpretation. We are extremely proud that they have made it to the Globe, and wish them the best of luck in competing to be the national overall winner!

Lamda Distinctions All Round

A huge congratulations to Chesterton's LAMDA cohort, brilliantly led by Kate Khairdean, who all achieved Distinctions for their recent LAMDA grade 3 examinations in drama. Annabel, Florence, Javier, Sammy and Danny from Year 8 excelled themselves in achieving the highest judgement for their performances in examination. They have worked very hard to learn speeches and employ the vocal, physical and character skills and knowledge to succeed; we feel very lucky to have LAMDA teachers enriching our curriculum at Chesterton! Bring on the next grades...



Water Safety Assembly

On Tuesday 7th May Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue presented an assembly to our year 7 students about water safety. Students learnt different lifesaving techniques which were shown by the Royal Lifesaving Society, understood the dangers of open water and what to do and how to act if you see someone getting into trouble in water. The students conducted themselves in an excellent manner, and engaged with the scenarios posed to them with such maturity.

Year 1 Tennis Festival at Chesterton!

On Wednesday, we celebrated the annual Year 1 Tennis Festival at Chesterton. The Year 9 and Year 8 Sports Leaders did a fantastic job running this annual festival. Thank you very much to Milton Road, Arbury, and Mayfield Primary Schools for coming to Chesterton!

Primary teachers shared that they were impressed by the Chesterton students, as they showed great enthusiasm and skills. A big thank you to Coach Rob from Cambridge Tennis Academy for preparing our students for such a significant event!

Year 10 Netball team reached semifinals of the District Tournament!

Well done to the year 10 netball team. They've shown lots of dedication to club all year, and their hard work has paid off... semi finalists in the district tournament.

Sixth Form Update

We would like to wish all of our Y13s the very best of luck over the next coming weeks as they come to the end of their timetabled lessons and A Level exams officially begin. We have been immensely impressed with your preparation this year and in particular in the build to your exams and wish you all well with your upcoming exams.

In other news, we want to say a huge congratulations to Jay Tufnell who has been awarded a 1st place prize for Oxford University's Rex-Nettleford Essay Competition on Colonialism and its Legacies. Here is a little info on Jay's entry:



"I chose the question "What role has education played in the history of colonialism?" and centred my essay around the practices and curricula implemented by colonial Britain in Palestine during the occupation and Mandate period (1917-48). The conflict in the modern-day region is very current, and I was interested in learning about its long-term causes - especially the role that the British Empire played in deliberately creating divisions. I found that a segregated and censored

education system implemented by the British was at the heart of modern conflict. This has only cemented my belief that a well-rounded education which promotes tolerance and understanding is one of the most vital and powerful tools in the world.

Year 9 Lilijana playing the Premier League Basketball finals

On the Early May Bank holiday weekend, Lilijana L-M (Cav 9) took part in the national junior premier league basketball finals, playing for Milton Keynes Breakers girls U14. Training four times a week, and unbeaten in the southern premier league the girls headed up to the National Basketball Performance Centre a mile from Man City's Etihad stadium.



On Saturday, the girls won their tough semi-final against the Sheffield Hatters, progressing into Sunday's noisy grand final against Manchester Mystics. As showtime fell, the teams went basket for basket for most of the first half, showing off a range of top ball skills. Manchester Mystics managed a small lead in the third quarter, but the MK Breakers tenaciously fought back to make it a 1 point ball game with just 5 minutes remaining. Ultimately, the championship honours went to Manchester Mystics 78-69. Lili's team were emotional to miss out, but second place after a year of national competition was its own reward.

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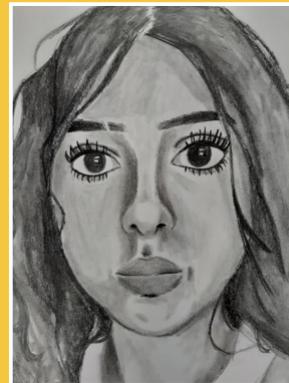
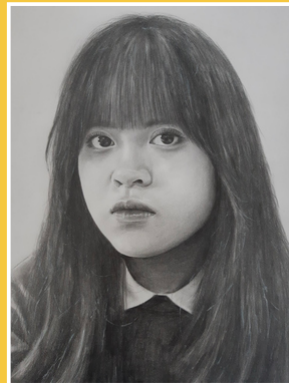
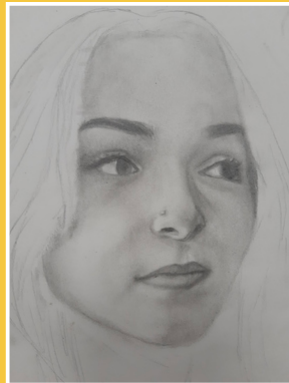
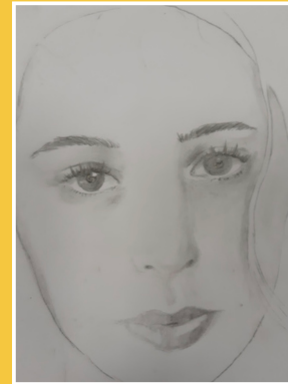
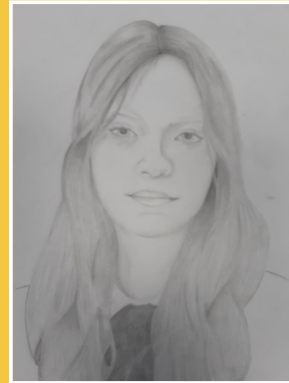
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Chesterton won first Athletics match of the season!

Chesterton secured the top spot in the first Athletics match of the season, with Soham claiming second place and Bottisham coming in third! Both the Year 8 and Year 10 teams travelled to Bottisham, enjoying fantastic summer weather. It's wonderful to witness such active student participation and enthusiasm for their events. Looking ahead, next week we'll be hosting the second Athletics match of the season at Chesterton, with Year 7 and Year 9 students performing for our school. Wishing all the participants the best of luck!

Artwork of the Week!



Blown away by this class set of self portraits by year 10 art students!