

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 half term.

Rolf Purvis
Executive Headteacher

Culture Day

Celebrating diversity is one of our core values here at Chesterton. This week, we honored the various cultures represented in our community with a non-uniform day. Many students proudly wore traditional attire from their cultures, creating a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere. The day sparked numerous conversations and fostered cultural exchange among students.

During break time, the front courtyard was transformed into a marketplace. Students set up stalls to share foods they had cooked and baked, showcasing traditions from around the world. The event was very popular, not only in bringing our community closer but also in raising £143 for local charities. It was a day filled with learning, sharing, and celebration.



CHESTERTON YOUTH THEATRE

PROUDLY PRESENTS

RENT

SCHOOL EDITION

BOOK, MUSIC & LYRICS BY

JONATHAN LARSON

EDITION LICENSED BY

MTI INTERNATIONAL

BEING PERFORMED ON

TUE 16 JULY & WED 17 JULY | 4PM & 7:30PM

@ THE ATRIUM THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE

TICKETS: £12 ADULT, £8 STUDENTS (+BOOKING FEE)

FOR TICKETS PLEASE VISIT: WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHESTERTONYT

RECOMMENDED VIEWING AGE 12+

MUSIC SUPERVISION AND ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS BY TIM WEIL
ORIGINAL CONCEPT/ADDITIONAL LYRICS BY BILLY ARONSON
MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS BY STEVE SKINNER
DRAMATURGE BY LYNN THOMSON
RENT WAS ORIGINALLY PRODUCED IN NEW YORK BY NEW YORK THEATRE WORKSHOP AND
ON BROADWAY BY JEFFREY SELLER, KEVIN MCCOLLUM, ALLAN S. GORDON
AND NEW YORK THEATRE WORKSHOP

SCHOOL EDITION SPECIALLY ADAPTED AND LICENSED BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL
THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL
ALL AUTHORISED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI WWW.MTISHOWS.CO.UK



CHESTERTON YOUTH THEATRE LAUNCHES TICKET SALES FOR 'RENT'! – 'NO DAY BUT TODAY!'

Chesterton Youth Theatre is deep into rehearsal with its production of Rent (School Edition), which will be performed four times at the Atrium Theatre, Cambridge on 16th & 17th July 2024; ticket sales for this production are open [here](#).

Set in the East Village of New York City, Rent is about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical, Jonathan Larson's masterpiece has become a pop cultural phenomenon with songs that rock. Based loosely on Puccini's La Boheme, this musical follows a year in the life of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. How these young bohemians negotiate their dreams, loves, and conflicts provides the narrative thread to this groundbreaking drama. Rent is exuberant, passionate, and joyous; its qualities as a musical mirror those of Chesterton Youth

Theatre's starry company of around 30 crème-de-la-crème performers from the College. Members of National Youth Theatre and leads from National Youth Music Theatre, ranging in age from 13 – 17 years, bring their experiences from performing at The Globe and Sondheim Theatres in London to Chesterton's own stage. In this Show, the Atrium space is to be reinvented to an immersive thrust configuration, with the New York skyline painted into the background. The creative team is led by professional singer Lee Cooper, and we are thrilled to be collaborating with Corkscrew Theatre Company chiefs, Lesley Ford and Will Males, whilst bringing the drama and music department together with a live band of adult pros and exceptional student musicians conducted by Fern Thurlow. If you're interested in theatre which dives deep; rings true; shatters hearts; and the puts them back together again to beat even faster, this is the show for you! Book early to avoid disappointment. (Recommended viewing age is 12+ and tickets must be purchased by persons over 16 years of age.) 'How do you measure a year in your life?'

Movie Magic

On Saturday 18th May, 30 Year 9 and 10 students attended the Cambridge Philharmonic 'Magic at the Movies' concert at West Road Concert Hall. They enjoyed seeing and hearing the orchestra play a wide variety of themes from different films. It was great to see them cheering in the audience! Thanks also to the staff who supported the concert by attending.

We are now preparing for our school Summer Concert on 27th June as well as performances for some groups at Chesterton Festival, Jesus Green Lido and the PTA Bash, the Gabrieli Roar Choral Residential and a trip to the BBC Proms. Lots to look forward to next half term!

It is not too late for students to get involved in these events; please contact the music department for further information.

Wildflowers Bloom in Dip

With the warmer (and wetter) weather some of the wildflowers have started to show colour in the dip. These were planted by some year 7 & 8 students earlier in the year with funding from the PTA.



Year 10 Speak Out!

Last Friday, a group of Year 10 students attended public speaking training from Jenny at the Speakers' Trust.

This organisation works with adults and young people all over the UK to develop their skills and confidence in speaking up for themselves.



These skills are assessed in the English Language GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement. Beyond that, though, speaking skills are always in demand in life after school - and they look to be high on the policy agenda for improvement in the years ahead.

The brave students, regardless of their level of previous experience, threw themselves into the challenging exercises that Jenny gave them.

They learned principles for coming up with ideas on the spot; making (and rounding off) clear points; engaging confidently with an audience; and developing a story to tell that was authentically their own.

The day finished with a competition to craft and deliver their own speeches for the national Speak Out Challenge competition. Jenny was deeply impressed by the students' engagement.

Hats off to all who took part - and particularly Romily, Connie, Rosa, Francois, Deniz and Kalina, who are through to the next, in-school round. One of these students will then be chosen to represent Chesterton at the regional final at Anglia Ruskin University on 25th June.

Chesterton Students Witness Lions' Victory

A group of 48 students traveled to the O2 Arena on Sunday, to watch the British Playoff Finals. It was an exciting day filled with basketball as they witnessed the London Lions' victories in both the women's and men's finals! The London Lions have evidently gained some enthusiastic new fans at Chesterton Community College!



Athletics training underway!

Rain isn't stopping our athletics this summer! We've had awesome indoor lessons this week, but we can't wait for some sunshine so our teams can compete outside.



More time to train and get ready for the Jubilee Cup (June)!

Rowing



The PE department have some fantastic links with local sports clubs, one of them being Rob Roy Rowing Club. Every year, our year 8 students have the chance to try out for a space in a fully funded summer term rowing programme, where 12 students will be taught how to row at Milton Country park.

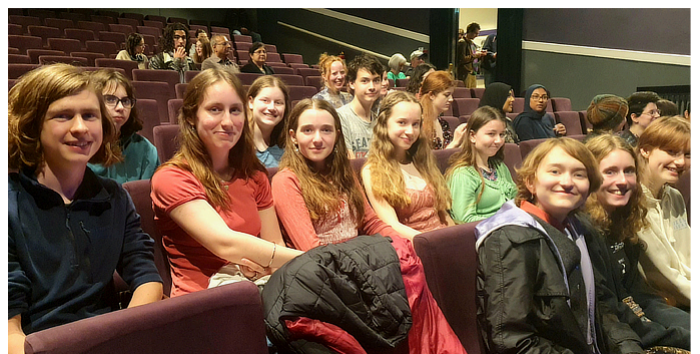
Well done to Evie A, Maya H, Maya K, Anna L, Emma B, Anya G, Amelia C, Ella P, Lily N, Adi A, Sophia P, Tasha G!

Classics department trip

On Tuesday night, Mr Ware, Miss Legg and some intrepid Latin, Greek and Classics students braved the rain to watch a performance of Sophocles' renowned play, Oedipus Tyrannus.

The play opened with a captivated speech by the Messenger. As the play hurtled towards its inevitable end, students and teachers were amazed at the transformation Oedipus underwent, particularly in the final scene.

Thanks in particular to Mr Ware for coming along and making this trip possible!



Artwork of the Week!

birds, and butterflies

KELLY STANFORD

The drawing shown here is a hyper-realistic observational drawing done with coloured pencils, from her hyper-realistic insect illustration collection.

She pays a lot of attention to detail in her work, which can be seen in the depths of her shadows and the individual hairs of the bee.

My favourite part about her art is the highlights, as they bring a lot more depth and intrigue to the bee, and show a sharp contrast between the black paper and the object.



Kelly Stanford is a Manchester based science communicator who uses art to teach the public about science and get more people interested. She uses many different mediums and styles, from paintings to 3D design.

This collection also symbolizes the passing of time. We drew one bird a day since her father passed.



erflies

SUTAPA BISWAS

Sutapa Biswas is a British Indian conceptual artist who works in a range of media, from painting to film and time-based art.



Much of her art is sentimental to her. Such as her 'Time Flies' collection, an ongoing series of bird drawings dedicated to her late father, who was 'strangely bird-like'. It represents love and loss, coping, and how life is fleeting.

LEVON BISS

Biss splits each insect into approximately 30 sections, lighting each in a way most flattering to that part. He can end up taking anywhere from 8-10,000 photos, which he edits together to form a seamless final product.

He wants to be able to look at things in high detail, to do something never done before, and to show that bugs have a lot of personality, even if it's too small to see.

LEVON BISS

Levon Biss is a British photographer, best known for his macro-photography. He is known as the greatest macro-photographer of his generation.

He is regularly exhibited around the globe, in various museums.



Michelle Croll, year 8, has been refining her colour pencil skills. These stunning drawings show strong use of blending, colour mixing and attention to detail. Very impressive!