

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

## EVERY BRILLIANT THING!

There's so much going on in terms of theatre over the next 2 weeks at Chesterton. From PantoFest24! to Year 7 House Plays Competition to our major production of the musical 'Rent', for which **tickets can still be booked here**. Our final production of the year, however, is not starring students, but one local, stand-out adult actor: David John from Corkscrew Theatre Company. On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 8pm, we are privileged to be able to host a one-off performance of their production '**EVERY BRILLIANT THING**'. The Show will have just finished a week's run at Corpus Playroom and is coming to Chesterton as part of Corkscrew's residency here. 'Every Brilliant Thing' reminds us of the power of human connection and that things can improve even in the darkest moments. Whilst it explores mental illness, it is ultimately uplifting and life-affirming.

Director Lesley Ford writes: "Everyone loves settling down to watch a show, safe in a cocoon of a red velvet seat. Lights down and you can, if you are lucky, be transported to a different world. Real life can drift away for a while. Sorry – not tonight!" ...The Show is interactive and improvisational, with audience participation: it will make you both laugh and cry. Added to the bargain, will be a trio of 2-minute monologues from Chesterton's finest actors. If you would like to be there for this treat, please arrive at Chesterton's drama studio just before 8pm, and you will be given a seat (please note trigger warnings apply). No tickets are reserved and there is a 'pay-what-you-can' policy at the door. The Show lasts an hour, and will mark the end to what has been a truly extraordinary year of theatre at the College. Before that, we have a lot of work to do, so good luck and 'break a leg' to every one of the 100+ students involved in Chesterton Youth Theatre's upcoming shows.



## Brew-Tifully Quoted Mugs

I'm excited to share a fun and creative activity our Year 10 students have been engaged in following their mock exams.

To make their revision more enjoyable and memorable, the students have been creating **"Brew-tifully Quoted Mugs."** They have designed mugs featuring their favorite quotes from "Romeo and Juliet." This activity not only helped them reinforce key quotations from the play but also allowed them to express their creativity and have a bit of fun in the process.

The mugs turned out wonderfully, with a range of inspiring, thought-provoking, and sometimes humorous quotes from Shakespeare's classic. It's been fantastic to see the students so engaged and enthusiastic about their learning.



## International Breakfast

On Thursday morning we held an International Breakfast in our school canteen; during this event the parents of upcoming year 7 international students had an introductory meeting with Ms Maffei, our EAL (English as an Additional Language) teacher and coordinator, some international parents of some of our current EAL students, and three other classroom teachers, Ms Cortazar, Ms Slood, and Ms Reavley.

Ms Maffei offered a presentation outlining our college's EAL practice, which promotes inclusivity as a pathway to ambition and success for all students, regardless of their proficiency in English. She outlined some of the main points of the EAL policy at Chesterton, which ensure that international students receive the best possible education and are fully supported in lessons by their classroom teachers with specific strategies. This allows the EAL students to improve both their communicative and academic English, so that they can socially integrate, whilst fully achieving their academic potential .

Ms Maffei informed the parents about her role at Chesterton, which consists in working closely with parents, students and classroom teachers, in order to support these children. Parents were also offered information in their first language about the secondary school system in England.

Following this, parents had the opportunity to meet each other and also to speak to classroom teachers about the ways in which EAL students are encouraged and helped to develop in lessons at Chesterton.

The International breakfast was a wonderful opportunity for teachers and parents to begin developing relationships which will lead to ensure the best possible provision for all students in September.



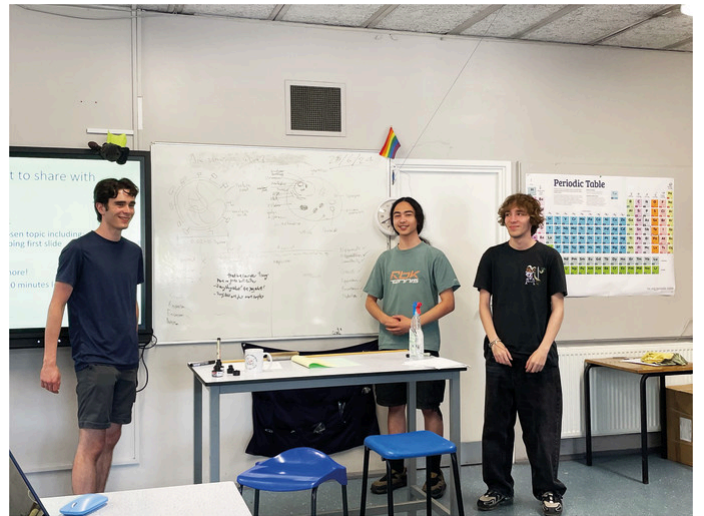


## Travel Trial

Year 9 geographers have been putting travel on trial this week. The lesson began in 'CCC's Law Firm' where the students acted as solicitors building up the strongest case. The designated barristers then presented their team's argument in 'CCC's Court Room' to Miss Howard, acting as the judge. There were several highlights to the court cases over the week, particularly the personal statements given by our witnesses.



## Invertebrate Biodiversity Study



Y12 biology students were sampling invertebrate biodiversity this week. They designed their own capture-mark-release-recapture study to measure the abundance of *Cornu aspersa* in 'The Dip' nature reserve, and are using samples collected from tree beating in the same area to calculate the Simpson's Diversity Index. ID work is still ongoing, but highlights included a number of impressive bush crickets!



## SPORTS DAY 2024: A DAY OF FUN AND COMPETITION AT CHESTERTON

Last Friday, the weather gave us a break from the heat, allowing us to celebrate Sports Day 2024 at Chesterton. Each year group, from Year 7 to Year 10, participated in various activities, including athletic events, triathlons, inflatables, wheelchair basketball, and many other activities.

Students showed great attitude and performance, aiming to score as many points as possible to get their house in the first position. Also the staff, taking part in the relay race, in which Fawcett stood out as the clear winner, showcasing remarkable speed and consistency in the changeovers. Mr. Lawrence's sprinting the last leg of the relay was crucial in securing the victory for Fawcett. Another highlight of the day was the 1500m staff vs. students race, where Andrew Year 10 emerged as the clear winner, followed by Mr. Firth in second place, and Julius Year 10 securing third. It was fantastic to see so many teachers and staff taking on the challenge.

This celebration was made possible thanks to the Chesterton staff, who on the day became coaches, umpires, and supporters. At the end of the day, Cavendish House was crowned the winner of the 2024 edition. Big congratulations to Cavendish House!

### Overall final standings:

1<sup>st</sup> Cavendish: 1006

2<sup>nd</sup> Equiano: 951

3<sup>rd</sup> Fawcett: 919

4<sup>th</sup> Hill: 893

5<sup>th</sup> Robinson: 813





## A very busy week in the music department!

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June saw our annual summer outdoor concert in the Wynn Williams garden at Chesterton. Well done to all of the many (over 200) students who participated. A great evening was had.



On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June samba and jazz band performed to welcome everyone to the field at Sports Day. A lively welcome! In the evening, Year 9 band Mirada played a fantastic set at the Year 11 Prom, which was really well received.

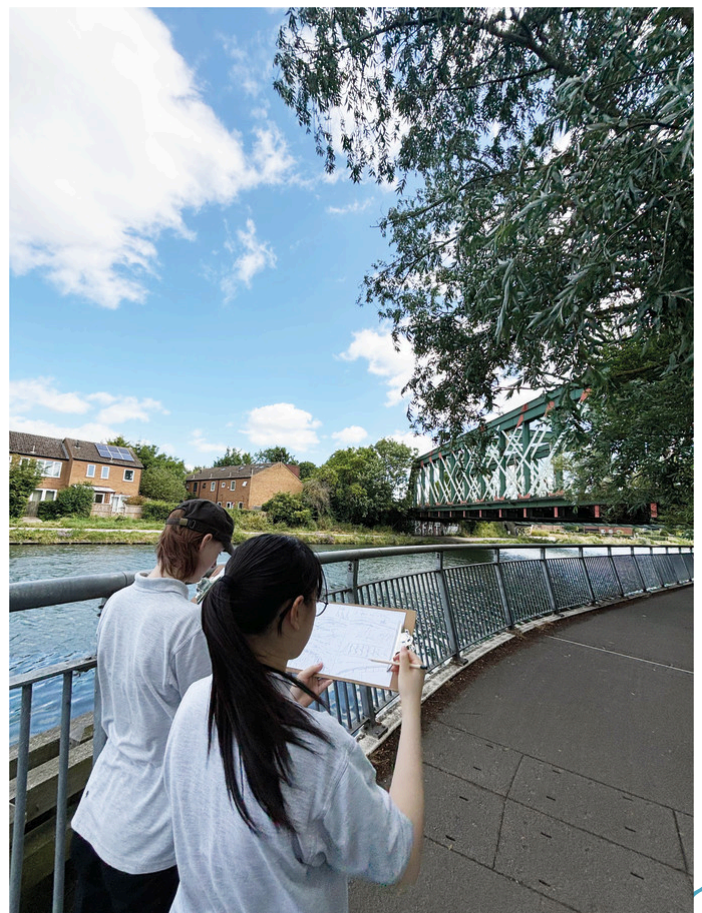
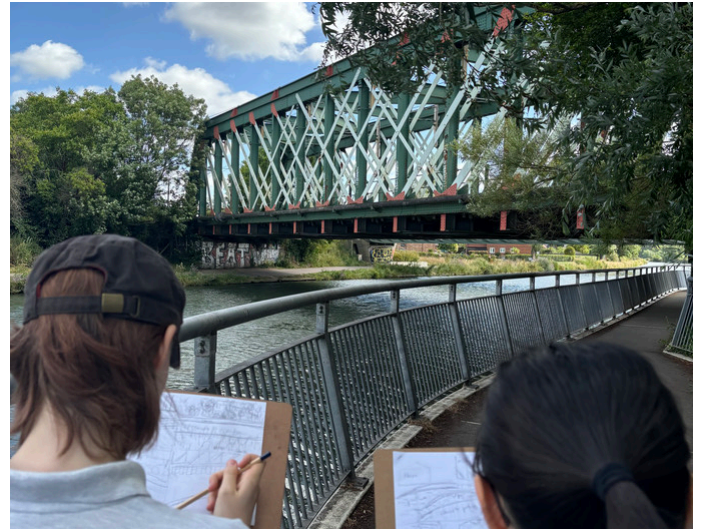
On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, samba band, folk fiddle band, jazz band, Mirada and Zephyrus performed at Chesterton Festival. All the groups made a great contribution to this community event.

This coming week sees a lunchtime concert at St Andrew's Church Chesterton, samba, folk fiddles and student bands playing at the PTA Bash, and Zephyrus playing at the National Festival of Music for Youth in Birmingham. Still lots going on in music!



## Geography Fieldwork

Year 10s have been completing their GCSE physical fieldwork this week. This included them carrying out data collection in Coldham's Brook. In the photo you can see students completing a field sketch, bringing their geographical knowledge and skills out of the classroom.





## A very busy week in the music department!

A big well done and thank you for singing so beautifully and speaking so engagingly about 'Rent' on the radio this morning. Hopefully it will sell a few more tickets, but either way, it was great promo for Chesterton, the Atrium Theatre (and we even got 'Every Brilliant Thing' in there, as instructed Will!).

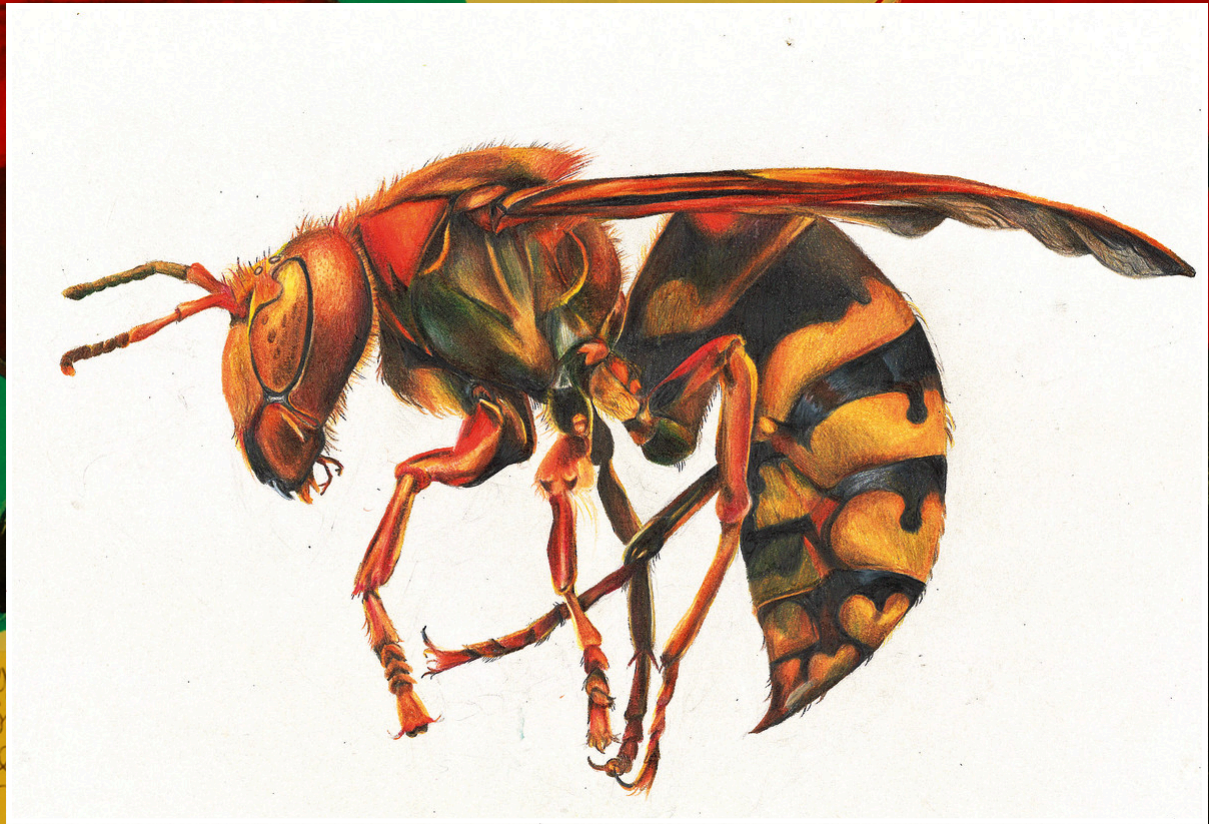
Below are the pictures Alex took and the [link](#) to go back and listen - she said a podcast will be available tomorrow.

You did a great job and I hope the experience will serve you well in future interviews when you're famous actors.

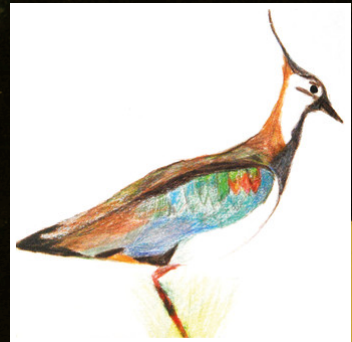




# Artwork of the Week!



I was inspired by Sutapa Biswas and her birds which she saw after her I chose to use paper was easy to use the strokes were



Some highlights for the year 8 Birds, Bugs and Butterflies art project

I think it represents crows is called a