



## Chesterton Sixth Form

Dear parents and carers,

We are delighted to see all our students start school yesterday looking so smart and eager to learn after the long summer break. Having visited all Year 7 classes yesterday I am really impressed with the way they have settled in so quickly having spent the morning in their tutor groups getting to better understand how the school works. We are very pleased with our first set of A level results this year with students achieving an average grade of a B which is higher than many sixth form providers in the area. I would like to extend our congratulations to Yr 11 students this year who excelled in all GCSE subjects. Our students made more progress than any cohort at Chesterton previously which is remarkable given the progress made by students in 2023 placed the school in the top 50 schools in the country. Over 83% of all grades were at least a 5 and 20% of all grades are at a 9. Students of all abilities achieved significantly higher grades than the national average. I will share with the full set of results with national comparisons once this is published by the DFE (usually towards the end of October).

**Rolf Purvis**  
Executive Headteacher

### Lecture Programme

The **Chesterton Lecture Series** is back this academic year! Chesterton Lectures are the ideal opportunity to enrich our students' academic experience, and inspire them to develop what could become life-long interests. If you or you know someone who has an area of academic expertise outside the curriculum; a personal interest that you or some else is passionate about sharing or a talent you would love to teach others – then we would love to hear from new and previous volunteers! If you would like to support Chesterton Lectures, this academic year, please **email** Mrs Hawkins by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September. It would be great to see the Chesterton community coming together to share their wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise with our students!



We are excited to share with you some information about Chesterton Sixth Form's 2024 A Level results. A fantastic 82% of university destinations secured were for Russell Group universities, reflecting strong student performance of which 72% of grades were A\* – B. It also highlights the bespoke nature of our support and the effectiveness of our futures and progression programme that all students receive.

We would like to make a special mention to Heather who achieved A\*AAA and will be reading Maths at Durham; Maya who will be reading History at York; Toby successfully securing his place to read Computer Science at Birmingham; and Delfi and Imogen who will be both heading down to Exeter to read Conservation Biology and Ecology, and Classical Studies with proficiency in Japanese respectively.

We are immensely proud of the effort and hard work students have put in as they have matured over the last two years. Being the first cohort was always going to be a challenge and it is something they absolutely rose to and should be hugely proud of themselves. They have helped shape the great culture and played a huge part in embedding our sixth form community within the school.

Throughout their time at Chesterton, the students have undertaken an immense amount of super and extracurricular activities to bolster their development and support preparing themselves for life beyond sixth form. This has included community work within the school and local community as well as social action in Kenya. We have been hugely impressed by just how aware they are of the benefits of these additional activities and experiences in terms of helping shape them and their futures.

We now wish all students the very best with their new chapters and look forward to hearing from many of them again in the future as part of our alumni programme.

If you would like to know anymore information about Chesterton Sixth Form, please visit our **website**.

## 'Rent' – an Unforgettable Performance

Chesterton Youth Theatre's production of 'Rent' occurred just at the end of the summer term, but it will be one which will be impossible to forget. Audience members described it as 'mind-blowing', 'phenomenal' and 'incredible', but sometimes there just aren't the words to capture how much art can mean and make one feel, and 'Rent' left some of us speechless! The cast themselves were almost all in tears after the final night, because the process of coming together to achieve such a level of work in the circumstances of school, exams, enrichment events and other life challenges felt so special, as well as because the subject matter of the musical itself is so moving and profound. We hope that the late Jonathan Larson was somehow looking down on our version of his masterpiece, and that CYT's interpretation might have met with his approval.



Thank you to everyone, from the dedicated technical and backstage team; the first-class band; the passionate creatives; the stellar cast; and of course, the enthusiastic audiences over four performances, for all you gave to make this Show happen. The whole experience of 'Rent' was – as the lyric goes – 'measured in love', and reflected just how vital it is to bring a community together through performance, to break down prejudice and to be 'in the moment' together. It will be hard to 'top' the final night of this production, but it will never be forgotten by those who were part of it, and we will continue to build on what this Company achieved. 'La vie Boheme!'

## Gabrieli Roar – Ely Cathedral

From 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> July, a great group of Year 8-11 Chesterton choir members took part in the annual Gabrieli Roar residential choral course, this year held at Gresham's School in Norfolk. Students rehearsed the Verdi Requiem as part of a large youth choir, with young singers from across the country, culminating in a fantastic performance in Ely Cathedral on 24<sup>th</sup> July under Paul McCreech and the professional orchestra of the Gabrieli Consort and Players.



Students represented Chesterton fantastically across the week and made huge progress in their choral singing. We would like to thank the Gabrieli Consort for this amazing opportunity for young people. We look forward to returning to Ely Cathedral with all choir members in November for the Gabrieli Christmas project, and to next year's residential summer course.





## BBC Proms Trip

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August students and staff enjoyed our annual visit to the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall in London.

After an afternoon in the V&A or Natural History Museum and purchasing our evening meal, we walked to the Hall. We had excellent seats in the Rausing Circle which allowed a great view of the orchestra, soloist and chamber choir.

This year we were privileged to see a rousing and moving performance of Holst's *The Planets*, alongside Sibelius' *The Wood Nymph* and a brilliant new commission for soprano and orchestra by Lara Poe.

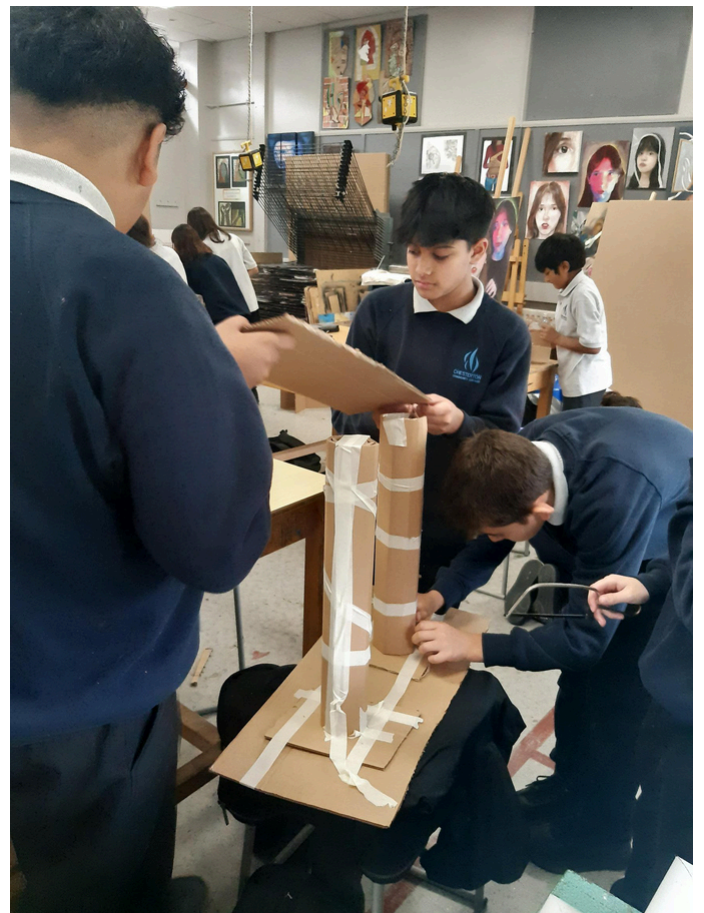
*The Planets* was a particular highlight for many students, many of whom were familiar with some of the melodies, whether that was from their own listening or music-making, being part of the school orchestra, or singing 'World in Union' in their classroom music lessons!

The students were absolutely brilliant on what was a long day out; thank you also to all the staff who supported this visit.



## Designs in Progress

Year 8 had a great time getting stuck into their first DESIGN ROTATION this week. You can see some students developing their card manipulation skills and chair prototypes in 3D design.



## Year 7 House Plays Festival – a Cohort to Watch!

In the final week of term, thirty Year 7s took part in a festival of new plays based on the stimulus 'skeletons in the cupboard', which they had devised with help from CYT ambassadors, and which they performed in the drama studio in front of parents and friends, as well as former Globe dramaturg Sam Plumb as adjudicator.



The standard of performance was mightily impressive and the creative talent on display was hugely exciting to behold. Congratulations to Fawcett for winning Best Overall Play, written by Caleb; Cavendish for winning Best Group Skills; plus Genni and Emma for winning Joint Best Actors. Though these performers received prizes, every single performer deserves a medal for their bravery, self-expression and collaboration. This Cohort is definitely one to watch when it comes to theatrical talent and originality!

## Year 7 Ignites Scientific Skills

Year 7 are off to a fiery start in science with students learning to use Bunsen burners in their first lessons.

There are lots of new skills many of our year 7s will be using for the first time including controlling the heat on a Bunsen burner by using the small opening at the base, method writing using jam sandwiches and problem solving. These skills are embedded in our first science lessons and used regularly for the 7 years students may say with us, each year building in complexity. This is just the first step and we can't wait to see our new scientists progress!



## Miranda

Come watch Y10 band Mirada perform at the Junction Fiver, September 20<sup>th</sup>. It'll be a fun night for everyone and a chance to hear talented, new bands play. Get your tickets using this [link](#) using code 'MIRADA' at checkout for a 33% discount. Thanks for supporting!



# FIVER



**STAYCATIONS**

**LAY / BYE**

**LIAMG**

**VINTAGE REC.**

**MIRADA**



**CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION**

**Friday 20 September**

**6:45pm (doors)**

**£7.50**

**[junction.co.uk](http://junction.co.uk)**



# DRAMA ENRICHMENT CLUBS 2024-2025



## **Production/Devising Rehearsals**

Day: *Monday*

Time: *3.15 – 5.30pm*

Room: *Drama Studio & Atrium Theatre*

Year groups: *Year 10 and 11 only*

*This club runs from 23rd Sept until March 2025 for Year 10 and from the 9th Sept until October half-term for Year 11*

## **Musical Theatre Club**

Day: *Tuesday*

Time: *3.15 – 4.30pm*

Room: *Dance Studio*

Year groups: *Year 7 – 10 with CYT*

*Ambassadors*

*This club runs from 10th Sept until the end of the Autumn term*

## **Leads Rehearsals**

Day: *Wednesday*

Time: *3.15 – 4.30pm*

Room: *Dance and Drama Studio*

Year groups: *Various - by invitation only*

*The club runs from 25th Sept until the end of the Autumn term*

## **Play Rehearsals**

Day: *Thursday*

Time: *3.15 – 5.15pm*

Room: *Drama Studio*

Year groups: *Year 9 + invited Year 7 (cast of 'Lord of the Flies')*

*This club runs from 5th September – 21st November*

## **Hip Hop Dance Club**

Day: *Friday*

Time: *8:00 - 9:00am*

Room: *Dance Studio*

Year Groups: *All*

*This club runs from 20th September and is ongoing – sign-up for a term at a time*

## **Improvisation Club**

Day: *Friday*

Time: *3.15 – 4.15pm*

Room: *Drama Studio*

Year groups: *Year 7 & 8*

*This club runs from 13th September until the end of the Autumn term*

## **Technical Theatre Club**

Day: *Friday*

Time: *3.15 – 4.15pm*

Room: *Atrium Theatre Office*

Year groups: *All*

*This club runs from 13th September until the end of the Autumn term*

*"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts."*

*As You Like It, William Shakespeare*



# Student Wellbeing Support Tiers



WE ARE HERE TO HELP

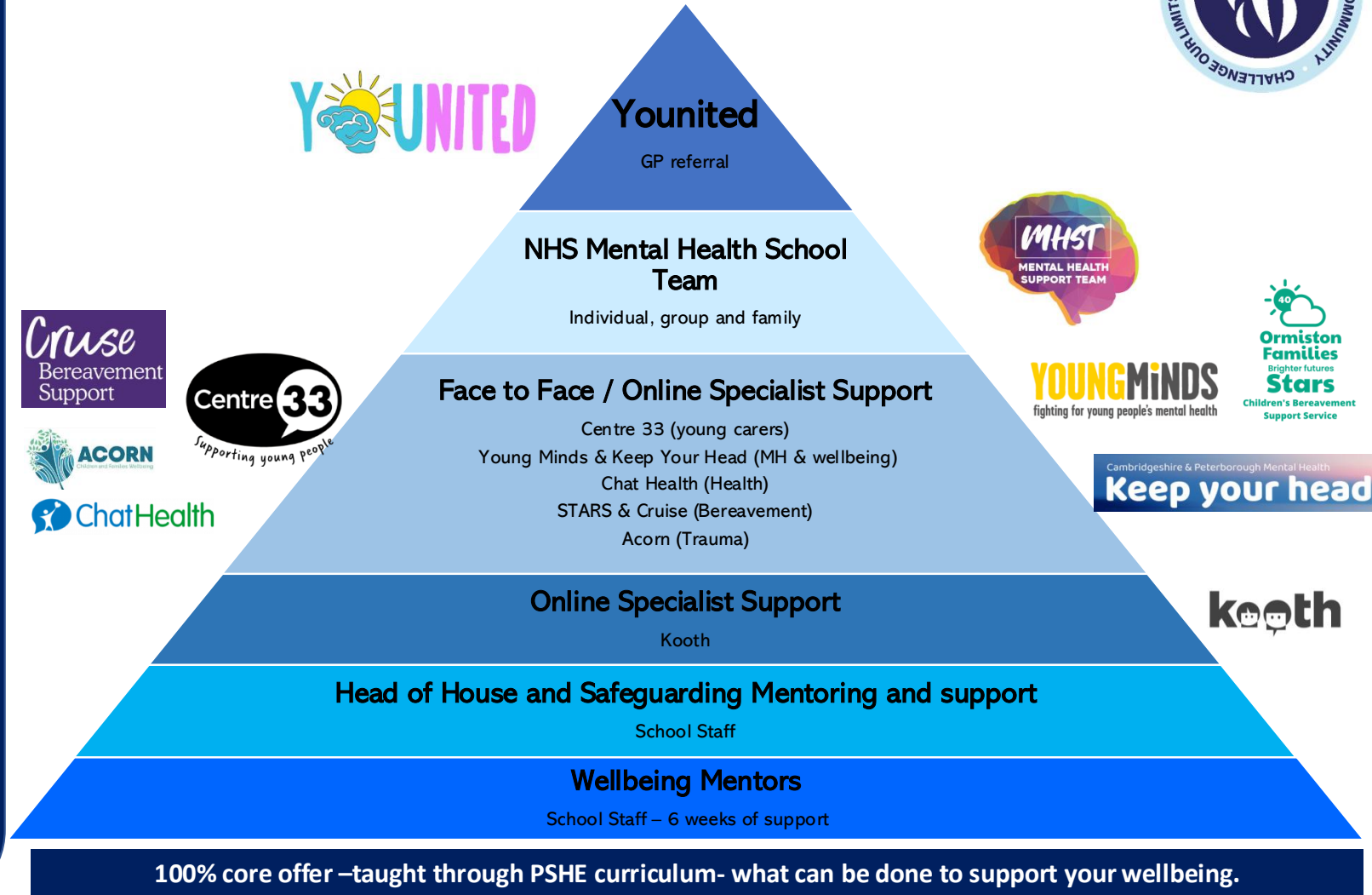


**Mrs Hawkins**

Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead  
Office: Next to A8

Speak or email your class teacher, form tutor, Head of House.

Email:  
[worried@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:worried@ccc.tela.org.uk)







Chesterton Youth Theatre's  
production of  
**Rent**