

Chesterton Blog

12th September 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It has been excellent to welcome our students back to Chesterton after a well-deserved summer break, and to meet our year 7 and year 12 students for the first time.



Following a summer where Chesterton students achieved truly exceptional examination results across GCSEs and A-Levels, we have seen a positive and energetic start to the year, as students and staff alike have thrown themselves back into school life.

Thank you as always for your support, and I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend.

Rolf Purvis
Executive Headteacher

Admissions Update

A ruling made by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator (OSA) on 3rd September regarding admissions arrangements at Chesterton as well as at Parkside Community College has meant there is a need for some revisions to be made to our Admissions Policy. These changes will impact on Year 7 admissions for September 2026. We are working closely and collaboratively with the Local Authority to consider and model potential amendments to our policy to ensure they are in line with the OSA ruling.

We understand that some of our families are in the process of making applications to our school for September 2026 and that you may have questions. We expect to finalise any amendments to our policy by the end of this month and will write to you with a full update as soon as we are able to ensure you have plenty of time to take into account any new criteria ahead of the 31st October admissions deadline.

We thank you for your understanding.

Lacemakers Triumph

Chesterton's talented lacemakers have won a Medal of Excellence for their group entry to the prestigious Lace Guild Triennial competition. The 2025 theme was 'Treasure' and their piece 'At the End of the Rainbow' has been hanging proudly in a public exhibition in the Glasshouse Heritage Centre in Stourbridge during July and August.

Another member of the group worked some of the lace in 'Infinity Gauntlet', which also won a Medal of Excellence at the prizegiving ceremony on 30th August. A massive well done to all those involved!

Lacemaking Club meets in W12 on Mondays after school. Contact nataliethelacelady@gmail.com for more details.

Exceptional GCSE Results

We are absolutely delighted that, once again, our CCC GCSE results were exceptional and we extend our huge congratulations to the Yr 11 leavers on gained such superb grades. All our CCC headline figures well surpassed the national average figures.

The average grade students achieved was a grade 6.6 (national average = 4.5) with 25% of these grade being the top grade: grade 9 (national = 5%).

66% of grades were a strong pass (grade 7) – compared to a national value of 22%, and 94% of grades were grade 4 and above (national value = 67%).

A huge well done to all our Yr 11 leavers, and wishing them all the best for the next chapter of their educational journey.



Incredible Sixth Form Results!

We are absolutely thrilled to congratulate so many of our students on achieving an amazing set of A Level results! Overall 36% of grades achieved were at A* – A, 12% of grades at A* which are well above national averages in all measurable areas of outcomes. We are incredibly proud of all of our students who managed to achieve these grades whilst giving so much to other aspects of their sixth form experience, from volunteering, social action in Kenya and even community building in Cornwall on the very first day!

Our students will be progressing on to some fantastic destinations, with well over 90% of students receiving an offer from their first choice university. Some of our destinations include: KCL; York; Bristol; Warwick; Oxford; Cardiff; Exeter; and Sheffield.

Special mentions must go to the following students:

- **Marco** who achieved A*A*A* and is headed to Oxford to read History.
- **Annabelle** who achieved A*A*AA and will be reading Natural Sciences at Cambridge.
- **Janos** who achieved A*AABB and will now read Egyptology at Oxford.
- **Karim** who achieved A*AA and will be going to KCL to read Politics, Philosophy and Law
- **Catrina** who will be going to Leicester to study Medicine.
- **Amelie** who achieved AAA and will be studying Psychology at Warwick.
- **Amelie** who achieved A*A*B and will go onto reading Psychology at Bath.

Mirada Kicks Off the Year with a Fiver Performance

Our Year 11 band, Mirada, are set to take the stage at The Fiver on Friday, 12th September. This is a fantastic opportunity to see our young musicians perform their original music while celebrating the start of the new academic year.

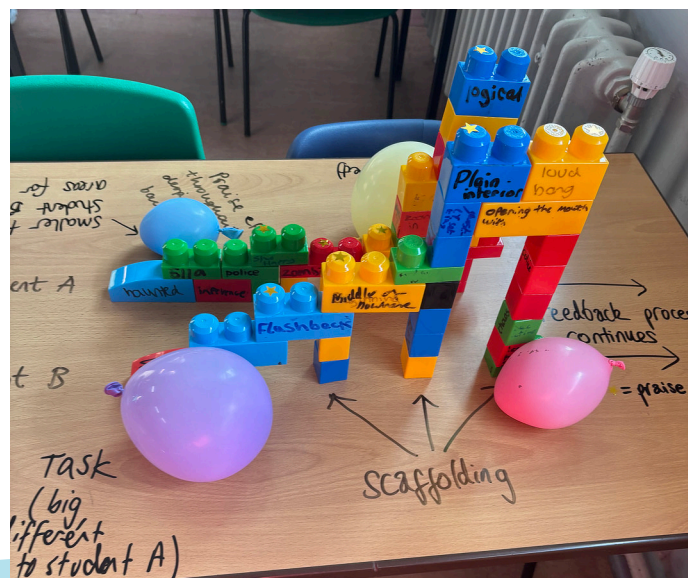
Mirada are off to an incredible start, having been nominated in three categories for the New Music Generator awards, which celebrate music across the region. The ceremony is on 19th September, and we wish Mirada the best of luck!

Don't miss out! **Tickets for The Fiver are available via the Cambridge Junction website** here. Use the code MIRADA25 at checkout to receive a special discount.

Staff training days – 1st and 2nd September

We had a fantastic two training days as a staff body at the start of the new academic year. Focused on our strategic vision of being world class, staff entered into a series of professional development sessions centred around a taskmaster theme!

It is a credit to the Chesterton community to have such dedicated professionals who all embraced the opportunity for these pedagogical conversations. This culminated in a house competition where Robinson took a confident victory...will they keep their lead as the year progresses?!



A Summer of Music

At the start of the summer holidays, a group of students from Chesterton and CMS participated in the Gabrieli Roar choral course. After a week of rehearsals, musicianship skills, and social activities, they then performed Haydn's Seasons in Ely Cathedral, alongside the professional Gabrieli Consort and Players. The students were exemplary throughout the course and a pleasure to take! The course will run again in July 2026 and be open to all students who attend a school choir in Years 8+.

At the end of the summer holidays Years 7-10 students took part in our annual visit to the BBC Proms. A great day was had by all, from the travelling by train and underground to the concert itself, with an afternoon museum visit and time for buying some food, before heading home. Well done to all involved.

Music extra-curricular activities for 2025-2026 are up and running! There is a huge list of weekly music groups for students to join, which has been sent to students and parents on Edulink. All are welcome. Highlights for this term in the music department will include the Christmas Concert at West Road Concert Hall on 4th December and the Carol Service at St Andrew's Church, Chesterton on 10th December – as well as many other performances.



Latin Students Make History

Chesterton A Level Latin students were given a unique opportunity to contribute Latin translations to the Society of Antiquaries which were included as part of a special exhibit celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta and the Charter of the Forest.

This week, students were invited to the Society headquarters in London and were given a behind-the-scenes tour, including access to the archives, the library and the Fellows room, followed by a handling session. The translations produced by our students have helped the more than 4000 visitors to the exhibit in their understanding of this extraordinary document and will become a permanent part of the collection.



The
**Atrium
Theatre**

 **CORKSCREW
THEATRE**

A MIRROR

"A mischievous, stark and powerful play"

By Sam Holcroft

24 - 27 SEPTEMBER 2025 7:30PM

THE ATRIUM THEATRE, GILBERT RD, CAMBRIDGE CB4 3NY

TICKETS: £17 ADULTS, £14 CONCESSIONS

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An amateur production by arrangement with Nick Hern Books

