

# Newsletter

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## Message from the Headteacher

It hardly seems possible that we are nearing the end of yet another academic year, it seems to have just flown by! This has been a very busy term for both staff and students alike.

As I write we are nearly at the end of Activities Week and I would like to thank staff for all their hard work in organising the residential trip for Year 7 and 9 and alternative activities for those not attending the trips along with a week of activities for Year 8. It is a mammoth logistical exercise which we start thinking about at the beginning of the academic year so this is the culmination of a good 9 months of planning, risk assessments and chasing students for those all-important permission slips! I do hope the students have enjoyed themselves.

## Uniform Reminder

I am writing to inform you that we are introducing a new skirt for students in Years 7-9 which will be compulsory for girls currently in Year 7 and 8 from September 2019. The current dropped waist skirt has become increasingly difficult to source in green and we are therefore moving to a Bottle Kelso Tartan skirt. Whilst the new skirt will be compulsory from September 2019, if you are intending on buying a new skirt in the near future for your daughter, then you have the option to purchase the new style skirt to wear from September 2018, rather than the old style skirt. The skirt will be compulsory for the new Year 7 starting in September.

This is also my annual plea to check the uniform policy in your son/daughter's planner before purchasing new uniform please. Can I remind you that shoes should be of a conventional type; Clarks and some of the Sports shops market some trainer type shoes as school shoes and these are not acceptable.

Could I remind you that if your son/daughter wants their head shaved then it should be no shorter than a number 2 on the clippers.

Nose and facial piercings are not acceptable and students will be told to remove them.

Hair colour – every year at least one student turns up in September with their hair dyed an unacceptable colour, because despite the fact the packaging has stated it will wash out over a number of washes, their hair has retained the colour. When students return in September their hair should be a colour which is naturally occurring and should not be two tone in appearance.

## Issue 24 - July 2018

- Messages from the Headteacher
- Charity News- The latest from CCGS
- Music - Joint concert for International Music Day
- Inspiring Minds - Report from Year 10 student
- Careers Day - Report from the highly successful event
- Computer Science STEAM Day - Sixth Form Students participate
- Activities Week - Year 8 go all Mathematical
- Staff Leaving - Goodbyes to staff departing CCGS.

## Charity Collections

The students have collected money for a variety of different causes this year, some of them related to their House Charity and others for national charity events. The House charity collections are:

### House Charities

KH (QEQM Rainbow Ward) £545.57  
MS (Macmillan) £281.17  
RP (Great Ormond Street Hospital) £620.50  
TS Pilgrims Hospice £666.81

**TOTAL House charity collections = £2114.05**

## Charity Collections

### Whole School

Children in Need £1335  
Save the Children Xmas jumper day £891  
Sports Relief £1175  
CCGS non uniform day £1100.75

On Thursday 21st June Mr Richford and Mr Goodwin did their annual Charity Event – this year 24 sporting events in 24 hours in aid of BLISS the charity which supports poorly babies and their parents. It was testament to the school ethos of community spirit and being a supportive and caring school, that there was only 1 event where they did not have other members of staff, family or students involved. Staff, students and family were here till late in the evening, staff joined them during the night to play indoor sport and other staff turned up at 4.30 in the morning to cycle with them. In the morning as the students arrived there was a hockey match going on with members of family and staff and most of the school came out either to run the final event with them or cheer them on.

As a school we raised £2750 for BLISS

**TOTAL Whole school = £7251.75**

**GRAND TOTAL RAISED 2017-18 = £9365.80**

Lots of staff and some parents also contributed to Mr Richford's Just Giving page which to date has raised £6785 and with Gift Aid that comes to well over £7000.

## Funding

I have mentioned in Newsletters last year and probably the year before about the shocking state of funding for schools and unfortunately the situation has not yet improved as we will only start to feel the benefit of fairer funding during the course of the next academic year. I want to thank those of you who have made a contribution to the school this academic year, whether it be a one off payment or a regular amount, it has been put to good use. If you have not yet been able to make a contribution, there will be a letter in your annual data pack encouraging you to contribute a regular amount to our school fund, all of which will go towards making sure we can afford the resources to support both the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

## CCGS form Massed Orchestra and Choir with St Lawrence College and Revelation Strings for International Music day

What a glorious way to spend an overly warm Monday evening... sitting in the cool splendour of St Luke's Church Ramsgate listening to a calming cornucopia of accomplished music making.

At the heart of the concert was the brilliant East Kent string orchestra 'Revelation Strings' with the wonderful David Burrige at the helm and the effervescent and inspirational Matthew Sharp - professional cellist- leading the cellos and exquisitely executing the solos as required. I have had various family members in the orchestra since its conception at the Deal Festival some years ago, and the standard is always high. It comprises professionals, keen amateurs and students, all of grade 6 and above.

Our music students, and those from St Lawrence College, had, during the afternoon, joined together in workshops and were now an integral part of the evening's concert.

Both schools' advanced choirs sang a piece each; AVE chose to perform the beautiful composition by Owen Barnett who sadly was on holiday and wasn't able to hear it!

The other works all included Revelation Strings. Our percussion players, Zara Kumbasaroglu, Hannah Baker and Katrina Booth were well used, and they, together with the wind and brass added much to the overall sound and texture. The pieces ranged from arrangements of Queen and Django Reinhardt's evocative Nuages (movingly arranged and played by John Myhill), via Shostakovich and Holst to the film music for The Mission and the song 'For Good' from Wicked. This last was sung with style and feeling by our own Kayleigh Stevens-Keatley and Charlotte Williams.

The choir also participated, notably in Jenkins' Armed Man Benedictus, and in the rousing finale; 'O Fortuna' from Orff's Carmina Burana'.

You can see a recording of this on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aoFoOSEyX7M>

It was wonderful to see our students working alongside those from St Lawrence and benefiting from the marvellous opportunity, rarely afforded, of singing and playing with a good full orchestra.

Another huge congratulations to our students and to Ms Hollman.

For a full list of participants, turn to page 4

### Year 7

Olivia Yalinkilski  
Francesca Coldham

### Year 8

Molly Jones  
Ollie King  
Edmond Rudland  
Anna Worledge  
Joseph Yoofoo

### Year 9

Bradley Bissett  
Daisy Crush  
Finlay Dunk  
Joe Eldred  
Sam March  
Lydia Nottingham  
Ellie Page

### Year 10

James Butler  
Noah Dodson  
Beth McKeand

### Year 11

Rosie Axon  
Hannah Baker  
Katrina Booth  
Sam Gerlack  
Zara Kumbasaroglu

### Year 12

Luke Cornwall  
Liam East  
Alfie Lawrence  
Kaden Pearce  
Olly Saunders  
Daisy Shingles  
Andrew Viney

### Year 13

Marth Carter  
Bethia Carter  
Cerys Griffiths  
Ali Manclark  
Josh Walton  
Ross Worledge  
Elliot Lane  
Kayleigh Stevens-Keatley  
Charlotte Williams

## Inspiring Minds

Over the last 6 months I was invited, along with a number of other Year 10 students, to participate in a project called Inspiring Minds. The project took place at Canterbury Christ Church University.

Each Saturday we would attend the sessions and there would be a 'big question'. For example one week it was, 'Does Siri just listen?' To accompany this question the university brought in robots as a demonstration. Also in each session there would be a health and well-being aspect to it. So one session, the topic of the health and well-being was about stress. They told us what stress is and how to handle it properly.

One other thing that we have been working on to complete is our bronze Crest Award. To complete the award we had to pick a topic and create a poster/presentation. The topic that our group chose was 'How optical illusions work' and how we see them. Our group decided that we would make a poster about the different types of illusions and how our brain is easily deceived. At the end of the 6 months all of the groups had to present the presentation at a science fair.

I think that this experience has been really good and I would want to go ahead to complete my silver Crest Award. I would like to thank Mrs Hood and Canterbury Christ Church University for the opportunity and fun throughout the past 6 months.

Connor Wilcox  
Yr10



## Careers Day Report

Year 10 students had the opportunity on the 16th of July to talk to a collection of people about their career sector or company as a part of careers day and also took part in a number of focus groups. The careers on display included teaching, the NHS, the police, engineering and many more. Representatives from local colleges and universities were also present to talk to students about further education and what it entails, obtain information about college courses, 6th forms and apprenticeships – these consisted of Canterbury and East Kent Colleges, Canterbury Christ Church University and UCA amongst others.

Students were also given talks about career pathways from CXK and additionally took part in a vision statement writing session – to begin to address the skills they will need in the workplace of the future and how the workplace in the future will change with the increasing use of artificial intelligence and robotics.

The students very much enjoyed getting the chance to ask people in such diverse fields questions and learning further about what certain careers entail, including the pathways they require to achieve careers within different sectors.

Charlotte Pringle-Lait Y12



## Year 12 Computer Science STEAM workshop 27-28 June

Year 12 Computer Science students recently participated in the Genetic Moo workshop event held at Margate's Dreamland. The students were using a language called 'Processor' to deliver game programming skills.

On both days our students were working with a selection of primary school students from local schools. They aided the groups in making shapes to be entered into a competition between two teams. The objective being to catch as many balls as possible in the created shapes. The team with the most amount of scooped balls won.

Both organisers and teachers commented in the professional way in which the students interacted with the kids, carried out instructions and got them involved.



## Year 8 Activities week- Maths challenge day

Year 8 were treated to a day full of mathematical activities and competitions. There were 5 rounds: group round, crossnumber, mini-relay, big relay and paper pi chains. We had several winning teams for each round and overall winners as well. Each team worked with a mathematician from our sixth form who checked their work, supported them and cheered them on.

The day got really competitive with teams running for full 40 minutes during the big relay round and tensions running high during the time pressured mini-relay. Paper chains round was a popular round where practical skills and ability to work as a team were even more important than maths skills.

The overall winners were

Year 8 boys teams:

3rd We cannot count to 3!:) )

2nd: All ogre now!

1st: Die vier bratwurst

Year 8 girls teams:

3rd: Sadd05

2nd: Jagel Bagel

1st: The Prime team

A selection of lovely quotes from the day:

I loved maths day! I went into school not looking forward to maths but ended up loving it. I especially liked making paper pi chains! (Ollie)

This was a really fun and interesting day and I learnt a lot. Everybody participated and everyone was smiling. The sixth formers were very helpful and the pi chains were really fun! (Evie)

Today was really good and better than I thought. I enjoyed the relay. Well done to the maths department and thanks to the sixth formers. (Tom)

I enjoyed the day more than I expected, I really enjoyed the bigger relay just because of how intense it was. (Lennon)

I particularly enjoyed the relay race but I had a really good day, the teachers turned a subject I don't really enjoy into a fun action-packed day. Thank you teachers. (Sienna)

I think that to involve the sixth formers was a really good idea and that ours was really nice. I think that the day was really good. Esther was a really good sixth former and she was confident in us all day.

## Staff Leaving

Mrs Davis, Geography, is leaving us after 22 years at the school and I want to thank her for all her hard work and dedication in supporting students through their Geography studies from Key Stage 3 through to A Level. Not only that Mrs Davis was a Head of House for a number of years and there will be many students who benefitted from her calm and compassionate approach when providing pastoral support. We wish her a long and happy retirement from the teaching profession.

Mrs Hood, Senior Tutor upper school, is leaving us after 10 years at the school, she has supported hundreds of students both pastorally and academically with a firm but fair approach and with kindness and TLC when necessary. She will be sadly missed and we wish her good luck in her plans to relocate.

Mrs Johnson, MFL and Head of Knight Heath House lower school is retiring after 32 years at the school, an amazing length of time! It would be hard to calculate how many students have benefitted from her knowledge of French and Spanish and have gone on to get great GCSE grades as a result. It is also incalculable how many students have benefitted from her wealth of experience and wisdom when dealing with pastoral matters and I am sure there are many students both past and present who will remember and be grateful for her support when they have needed it most. We wish her a long, relaxing and happy retirement.

Mrs Macauley, Geography and Teaching Assistant, is leaving us to take up a post as a Learning Support Teacher at St Lawrence College. I want to thank her for stepping into the breach in the Geography department to cover for absent colleagues, teaching both Key Stage 3 and A level, we have been most grateful for her help. There will also be many students who have benefitted from her help both in the classroom and in student support. We wish her every success in her new post.

Mr Moody, Geography & Head of Sixth Form, is retiring after 32 years at the school as a teacher and a further 7 years as a student that is dedication to the school! Mr Moody is not only an experienced teacher of geography and there will be many students, (some of them now staff) who will have benefitted from his knowledge of all things geographical and will have gained good grades both at GCSE and A Level as a result. Mr Moody has been an integral member of the Senior Leadership Team for many years, writing the timetable (an often complex task) and since 2005 has been Head of Sixth Form both at Chatham House and as the schools came together as Chatham & Clarendon. His sometimes gruff exterior belies a caring and compassionate nature which many hundreds of students will have been grateful for over the years. In any decisions we have made which affects the Sixth Form Mr Moody has always placed the interests of the students at the centre of that decision making process. His knowledge of the UCAS process and support for writing personal statements will have helped hundreds and hundreds of students to secure their university place of choice. He is leaving big shoes to fill! We wish him a very long and happy retirement which will involve some travelling, so all we ask is a postcard now and then!

Mrs Rosen, Science, who has been at the school for 9 years is leaving us to be a writer. Her first book is due out in October. We wish her every success in the future.

Finally

May I take this opportunity to thank all the staff at the school for all their continued hard work this year in supporting our students to be the best they can be. I could not wish for more supportive and dedicated colleagues, and I wish them all a very relaxing and well deserved holiday.

I wish you all a safe and restful holiday. We look forward to welcoming new Year 7 Students to the Chatham site on Tuesday 4th September at 8.40am and Years 8 -11 at 10.30am at their designated sites. Year 12 begin on Wednesday 5th September at 8.40am in the Sixth Form Centre. Year 13 begin on Monday 3rd September at 8.30am in the Sixth Form Centre for coursing.

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