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Create, Aspire and Excel
to 'Live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

Message from the Principal

Wow! What a start to the year it has been!

The new Year 7s have really hit the ground running as have Mr Humphrey and the dedicated team of Form Tutors. We have been so proud of how they have started! On my travels around the school, I have seen all students focused in lessons, eager to learn and engaged with the fun and exciting activities prepared by their subject teachers.

Our Values and Expectations

We expect all our students to work hard and to do their best to achieve 100% attendance this year. Our teaching staff work hard in their lesson preparation and teaching and we expect our youngsters to respond by being co-operative, thoughtful and respectful to their learning and their approach to everyday life. We are a Christian school, happy to support those with any religion or none. As you are aware, we have seven core values that we encourage all in our community to follow:

Compassion
Self-discipline **Love**
Honesty **Forgiveness**
Respect **Hope**

We have reminded all our students, as we have started the term, of our high expectations for their work ethic and with regard to their conduct. The students have been fantastic in their response. They have been smartly dressed, equipped for their studies and, as we would expect, polite towards staff and their peers. A copy of our uniform expectations can be found in student planners if you need to check what is and what is not acceptable.

Open Evening

The Open Evening on Monday attracted two hundred prospective future parents to the Academy. I have really appreciated the support and commitment of our students as they assisted in taking tours of parents around the site

or the many students in the department areas showing off their work. My thanks to the PTA for serving much needed refreshments for the evening.

Pedestrian Crossing Works

We are really pleased that this is now progressing. Please see the attached letter outlining the start of the construction of the pedestrian crossing. I would advise all our parents not to use this area at peak times, as there is going to be significant congestion during the period of the construction. It would be better to drop young people at the bottom of the hill and then they can walk up the hill to school. A short walk is good exercise and this will prevent your frustration of a three way traffic control and limited parking spaces.

Chewing Gum

In the last week we have reminded our students of our expectations on this. With the many new carpets and floor surfaces and furniture, chewing gum is not accepted anywhere on the Academy site. An automatic one hour detention is set if students ignore this simple rule. Please support us by not buying gum for your child/ren.

Parent Forum

Do come and join us for a general discussion or to share your ideas on any matter at the Parent Forum. This is open to all parents. We will meet in the main atrium at 6.30pm on Wednesday 13 October. Tea and coffee will be available.

Bikeability Award (<https://bikeability.org.uk/>)

We are pleased to be able to offer our younger students the chance to follow the Level 3 Bikeability Award. This is a subsidised scheme with parents paying just £10. Students will need a roadworthy bicycle and they will be given guidance on safe cycling. If your child/ren has already completed the Level 2 award and you would like them to be involved in Level 3, please email: office@chacademy.co.uk

The deadline for sharing your interest in this award is Wednesday 29 September.

Covid Update

Please do use the email covidalert@chacademy.co.uk to report a student's positive test result. We continue to have a good supply of lateral flow tests. These can be collected from Student Services and Reception.

Lockers

We are expecting that, in the next two weeks, the new lockers will arrive and be secured in place. As soon as these are confirmed we will then alert our families to use ParentPay for a locker for this school year.

Flu and Covid Vaccinations

We have been advised by the Schools immunisations Service that our date for Flu and Covid Vaccinations will be 5 November. This is only for students aged 12-15. An e.consent form will be sent out to parents/carers a few weeks prior to the vaccination date, as we do for all childhood immunisations.

We know that parents have concerns around the Covid vaccination for this age group and we ask that you have discussions as a family about this in the time running up to 5 November. Please be assured that no student will be coerced into having this vaccination but also be assured that the Bucks immunisation team will be on hand during the day of the immunisations to call any parent who is undecided and/or needs guidance.

Ms J Astles
Medical Room Manager

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event	Email address
24 September	Macmillan coffee morning	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
29 September	Open morning, 9.00 to 10.30am	jmilner@chacademy.co.uk
29 September	Y10 and Y11, <i>Macbeth</i> at the Elgiva, 1.30pm	sputman@chacademy.co.uk
29 September	Y12 Driving safety talk, 2.00 to 3.00pm	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
6 October	Y13 Driving safety talk, 2.00 to 3.00pm	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
2 October	CHA PTA Quiz night, 7.00pm	chapta@chacademy.co.uk
8 October	World Mental Health Awareness Day	
8 October	Staff INSET Day	
13 October	Parent Forum, 6.30 to 7.30pm	wsanders@chacademy.co.uk
14 October	Y7 Parents' Evening with Academic Form Tutors via Teams, 4.00 to 7.00pm	ohumphrey@chacademy.co.uk
19 October	CHA PTA meeting (AGM), 7.00pm	chapta@chacademy.co.uk
22 October	"Wear it Pink", Breast Cancer awareness	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
22 October	Y12/Y13 Halloween treat sale at break time	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
22 October	Last day of Autumn half term	

Governors' Voice

As you may be aware, one of the main roles for Governors is setting the strategic direction of the school. Every year we have a planning session with the extended Senior Leadership Team identifying themes for the Academy Development Plan that is developed over the summer. Last summer we took a longer term view and carried out research on external factors that could affect the school over the next 5 or so years. We looked at political drivers (mainly ideas from think-tanks likely to influence Government policy), economic drivers, social drivers (things in Chesham and the local community) and technology drivers. Whilst we have many detail elements that are relevant for us to consider in the coming years, three key themes emerged: curriculum, digital capability and community partnerships. You will see more about these in the annual Academy Development Plan that will be available for you to view later this term on the Academy website.

Mr A Brown
Chair of Governors

CHA Parent Governor Elections

We are very pleased to inform you that, following the request for nominations for the role of Parent Governor at CHA due to the previous post-holder's term of office expiring, six candidates have come forward. We will therefore now need to run an election.

At the end of this newsletter is an outline of each of the candidates that they have asked me to circulate prior to the election.

You may cast your vote by going on this link for the ballot paper:

[CHA Parent Governor ballot form 2021](#)

You may be assured that, although MS Forms automatically records the name of the voter, this information will not be shared and will be deleted in order for your vote to remain anonymous.

You may vote for only one of the candidates. All parents and legal guardians of students at Chiltern Hills are entitled to vote and may cast one vote each. You may not cast more than one vote for any candidate and parents with more than one child on roll are not entitled to more votes. If you require a ballot form to be posted out to you, please leave a message with our receptionist or email office@chacademy.co.uk. Copies of the ballot form are available from our receptionist and a ballot box will be placed in reception. Alternatively, you may hand your ballot form to the receptionist in a sealed envelope.

A helpful reminder, whilst making your decision who to vote for, that the Governor role encompasses the following main functions:

- To set the aims and objectives of the Academy
- To set the policies and targets for achieving those aims and objectives
- To monitor and evaluate the progress that the Academy is making towards achievement of its aims and objectives
- To be a source of support and challenge to the Principal (i.e. a critical friend).

Your vote should be received **by 4.00pm on Friday 1 October 2021**. Ballot forms received after this time will not be counted.

The result of the election will be notified to all parents within seven days of the election.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to support us in this way.

Charity Fundraising News

Thank you all very much for your support with our first charity day for Jeans for Genes. We raised £576.82, which is the highest amount we have collected for this charity.

We have our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 24 September, please make sure your son/daughter brings in a £1.00 or more for this charity event and to enjoy a delicious cake.

Miss L Harman
Director of Sixth Form

Student Voice Garden Update

We now have our new benches and planters ready to be installed and placed in our garden area. Once the building work has moved on, we will have full access to the garden area again and we will start to progress with our ideas. We cannot wait to put the benches and planters in and start to add plants to bring it to life!

A big thank you to all of you who have donated and/or given us your valuable expertise; it is really appreciated. We will continue to update you on its development and progress.

Miss L Harman
Director of Sixth Form

Geography

Subject to confirmation, Y13 Geographers will be out of school carrying out NEA fieldwork data collection on Tuesday 28 and Friday 1 October. They will be out all day.

Mr D Sweet
Curriculum Leader for Geography

Theatre Trip to The Elgiva

Years 10 and 11 are all looking forward to visiting The Elgiva Theatre next Wednesday, September 29, to watch a performance of *Macbeth*

The production finishes at 4.00pm when we will be dismissing the students from the theatre.

We have a number of tickets remaining if any other students would like to attend. Please log onto ParentPay to view availability.

Mrs S Putman
Director of English

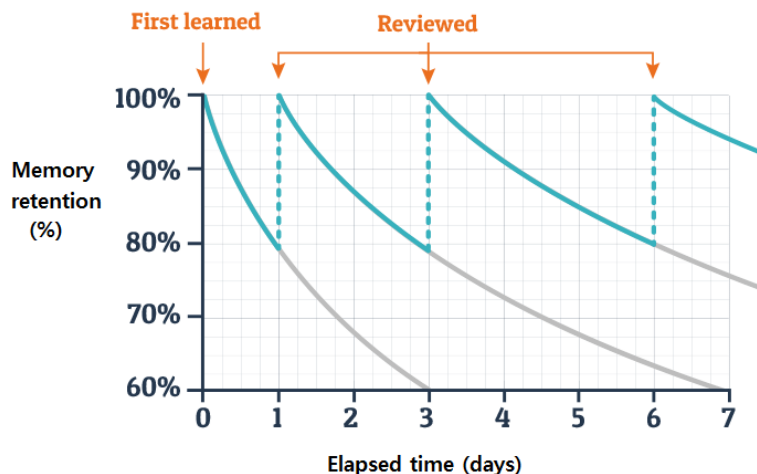
Mathematics

Topic Tests and Retrieval Practice

As part of good practice within the Maths Department, we set Topic Tests at the end of a unit of work. Topic Tests take place approximately every three weeks and aim to review work that has been covered in class. They last between 15 and 25 minutes, depending upon the year group. Each Topic Test is comprised of questions relating to what the students have been studying, that include applying the concept learnt in a word problem.

One of the main reasons we undertake Topic Tests is for retrieval practice: this strategy involves bringing previous learning to mind to enhance and boost understanding. Deliberately recalling information encourages our students to pull their knowledge 'out' and examine and apply what they know.

The graph below is known as Ebbinghaus' Forgetting Curve, and it describes the ability of the brain to retain memory or new learning over time. The theory is that humans start losing the memory of learned knowledge over time, in a matter of days or weeks, unless the new learning is consciously reviewed repeatedly.



Without retrieval practice, our students are likely to forget or find it hard to recall their prior learning and Maths as a subject continually builds upon previous knowledge. Thus, Maths subject knowledge can be viewed like a Jenga Tower – if there are pieces of understanding missing or forgotten, then at the very least, it is hard for a student to build on that concept further.



VERSUS



To support your child with their Topic Test, they will usually receive at least one piece of homework based upon reviewing the content of the Topic Test. Because all Topic Tests are specifically tailored to each maths group, we expect each student to achieve a minimum of 50%.

Focus of next maths update:

- Presentation of work.

Questions or Queries

If you have any questions or queries regarding the teaching and learning of mathematics at CHA, please get in touch with the following members of staff:

KS3 (Years 7 and 8): Mrs Keith at skeith@chacademy.co.uk

KS4 (Years 9 to 11) and KS5 (Years 12 and 13): Mr Raju at rvaddiraju@chacademy.co.uk

Principal: Mr K Patrick MEd

Chiltern Hills Academy
Chartridge Lane, Chesham
Buckinghamshire HP5 2RG

Registered in England & Wales
No 07718351

Telephone 01494 782066
office@chacademy.co.uk
www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk

Registered Office Diocesan Church House Oxford,
Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, OX5 1GF

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OXFORD

A Church of England Academy



CHA PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS - CANDIDATES

Candidate 1

JO ELDER

I am keen to join the governing body of Chiltern Hills Academy as I believe I can represent parents and children from all walks of life. My son has just joined CHA in Year 7. I have lived in Chesham most of my life and attended schools in Chesham myself. I therefore wish to help and to steer the school in the right direction and retain its excellent reputation for academic success, now and in years to come.

In my son's previous school, I regularly volunteered to help with school trips and at functions; I was also the class representative for 2 years running.

I am a qualified solicitor working in the local area (soon to be working in Chesham) and I deal with all aspects of family law including the law relating to children. I believe that my skills will transfer well to the work of school governance and believe that I can contribute to all aspects of school life including reviewing budgets and policies, making sure children are safe as well as assisting with staffing issues. I am particularly keen to ensure all children are safeguarded well and can fulfil their potential, whatever their background special educational needs or disabilities. I am also keen to support the dedicated staff who work so hard to keep the school running smoothly. I am not afraid to challenge or ask difficult questions, if necessary, on behalf of the children.

I believe that I have the interpersonal skills to work in a team and I am committed to undertake any training and development required to acquire or develop the skills to make an effective contribution to governance. I hope you will consider voting for me and thank you.

Candidate 2

AGNES FLETCHER

I'm the parent of a Year 7 student, so we are both new to the school and just beginning to find our way around the timetable, homework and building. I'd like to become a parent governor at CHA to support the effective governance of the school. As well as contributing at a strategic level, I would aim to bring to the governing board insights from the range of experiences and needs of different students and families within the CHA community.

From 2016 to 2020, I was a community governor at Great Missenden Primary School. I also have governance experience as a trustee of four charities (two focussed on disability; one on advocacy, advice and information for NHS patients; and one promoting participation in the arts). I have been Vice-Chair of a national charity.

My professional work is in equality, diversity and inclusion, as an advisor, consultant and trainer. I have worked with organisations across sectors – from football, transport, retail and infrastructure to health, education and charities. Before working as a consultant, I was employed in the public sector as a Director of Communications and managed a £4 million budget and 40 staff in that capacity.

Candidate 3

REINHARD KOWALSKI

Reinhard has been working as a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist in the NHS for 40 years in a variety of clinical, teaching, supervisory and managerial roles within mental health services. He has published and edited several books and many research papers in the field of psychotherapy. He has also been a Staff Governor on the Council of Governors of Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust for six years. Reinhard is a Mindfulness Teacher and has been running Mindfulness courses in the NHS and beyond for 12 years. In his private practice, Reinhard's focus is on the psychological treatment of trauma and on using Mindfulness as a therapeutic tool, areas in which he has taught many courses in the UK and abroad. He has a daughter at Chiltern Hills Academy.

Candidate 4**CAROLINE MASTRORILLI**

I have 3 children; one has completed their education at Chiltern Hills Academy, two are currently still there.

Over the past 4 years I have had the privilege of being a parent governor at Chiltern Hills Academy. During my governance I worked hard to ensure that all parents can have a voice in helping to achieve the best possible outcomes for their children. As part of my role, I established "Parent Voice" to provide a platform for parents to give feedback on many different aspects of school life. "Parent Voice" has enabled me to connect with a broad range of parents to hear their views and suggestions which are then fed directly to the Principal and into governor meetings, ensuring these views are listened to and reacted upon. The feedback received to date has helped shape and affect positive changes, ensuring that our children are given the best opportunities.

I have lived in Chesham for over 22 years. I've loved being an active part of the local community and representing parent's aspirations and needs from our local educators. Having worked for Childline and spent 11 years in primary education, I would welcome the opportunity to continue this work.

Candidate 5**CORAL NESBITT**

I'd like to stand for Parent Governor, as I feel I could contribute positively to the school community. I am personable, organised and I am a good communicator. I believe in supporting young people to develop their strengths and support their ideas and wishes.

I have a wealth of over 25 years volunteering experiences, as well as varied roles within my professional work life. I have worked within various sectors, Retail, Care, Education, Construction and Social Housing. For the last 8 years, I have worked within community focused roles.

I know how to relate to people and I know how to get the task in hand delivered.

I appreciate the levels of commitment required for this role and I understand the responsibility, in the work needed, as well as contributing to the open, approachable and transparent behaviour of the school community.

Lastly, I'd like to help in a small way, young people find their way in this world. If I can be part of something that contributes to safe, stimulating and good life experiences, then that's a winner for me.

Candidate 6**SARA OSMAN**

I am a full time working mother of two children; one in year 10 at Chesham Grammar School and one who has recently joined Year 7 at Chiltern Hills Academy.

As a parent, I value education and well-being highly, and would work to keep the level of both offered at Chiltern Hills Academy to a high standard for the benefit of all pupils. I am an enthusiastic, well-motivated individual with over 30 years' experience in marketing and business. I was also a member of the Schools of Chesham Carnival Committee for 4 years and would relish the opportunity to use my skills and experience in making a difference to the education of the pupils at the school.

I would look to work with parents, teachers, the Principal and other Governors to help drive the continued improvement needed to provide our children with the best chance of success. I have lived in various wards of Chesham all my life and am keen to start giving back to the community. I would hope to be an asset to the school, dedicating my time to be a proactive and effective parent governor.



Transport for Buckinghamshire

Directorate for Communities

Contract Director: Louise McCann
Transport for Buckinghamshire
Aylesbury Vale Area Office
Corrib Industrial Park, Griffin Lane
Aylesbury
HP19 8BP
01296 382416
www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk

TO THE OCCUPIER

21st September 2021

Dear Sir/ Madam

Chartridge Lane, Chesham – Installation of a Signalised Pedestrian Crossing

Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) will be carrying out the installation of a new signalised pedestrian crossing on Chartridge Lane, Chesham outside Chiltern Hills Academy. The works will consist of various civils works including widening of the existing footway, installation of the signals, carriageway resurfacing and road marking works.

These works are programmed to take place from Monday 27th September 2021 and are expected to be completed within 6 weeks subject to weather conditions.

To enable the works to be executed safely, 3 way temporary traffic lights will be setup and left in place 24 hours a day (including weekends) along with a bus stop suspension near the junction of Penn Avenue. In November there will also be a night time road closure with a signed diversion route required for approx. 3 nights to enable the carriageway resurfacing works to take place.

Every effort will be made to maintain access for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders throughout the duration of the works.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Should you have any questions on the above please contact the contact centre on 01296 382 416.

Yours faithfully

Construction Delivery Team, Transport for Buckinghamshire
Corrib Industrial Park, Griffin Lane, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP19 8BP

Sunday 7th November

Winter Craft Fayre

10:30 – 15:00, Free Admission

craft stalls

Christmas raffle

refreshments

at Chiltern Hills Academy

Interested in holding a stall?

Email chapta@chacademy.co.uk for further details