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

Message from the Principal

Welcome to the first newsletter of December 2021

Covid Update

Thank you to all our parents for ensuring that all our students arrive at school with a face mask. It is good to see more students wearing the washable design rather than a disposable type. Please do check that your youngster has a mask as they leave home each morning. Thank you in advance for your attention to this.

We have circulated more Lateral Flow packs this week. Please do ensure that young people are testing and reporting the outcomes. As always please do use this email: covidalert@chacademy.co.uk if you need to report a positive case or need advice with regards to the virus.

Do note that, for families with a youngster between the ages of 12 and 15, appointments to receive a vaccination can be made using this link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Please read the item later in the newsletter regarding our planned Lateral Flow testing on the return to school in January 2022, as was announced by the Government last weekend.

Christmas has started at CHA

A lovely **Christmas tree** was kindly donated by the Christmas Tree Farm in Chesham. Members of the PTA kindly decorated the tree at the weekend. It was lovely to arrive on Monday to see the tree.



Do remember that we have the **Carol Concert** on Thursday, 16 December at St Mary's Church. The church has plenty of room and, as a result, all our families are invited to attend. There will be sanitiser as you arrive and social distancing within the pews.

Do please remember our **Christmas jumper** day is on Friday 10 December. Rather than buy a special jumper, students are welcome to wear a suitably decorated top in place of their normal blazer.

Thank you for responding to the **Christmas lunch** request. The arrangements for this taking place next week are currently being made. See later in the newsletter for more information about this tasty meal.

Chiltern Foodbank



In the lead up to Christmas, we are collecting for the Chiltern Foodbank. There will be containers to place items in the main school entrance. Thank you in advance for helping our community in this collection. Items specifically requested by the Foodbank are:

Tinned Fruit
Rice pudding
Cooking oil

Custard
Longlife fruit juice/milk
Toiletries

Mobile phone update

Further to a recent assembly, it has been good to see that students are now silencing their mobiles as the school day commences and only checking their phones then at the end of the day. We have reminded students that any mobile phone seen to be in use during the day without staff permission will result in the mobile being placed in a school safe for collection by the parent. There is certainly no need for a young person to use a mobile phone at school. We have plenty of electronic devices students can use to support their learning.

Uniform update

As the weather gets colder, please do ensure that students have a warm outdoor coat. Hoodies are not part of our uniform and should not come into school please. A v-neck grey jumper is available to be worn under a blazer when the temperature does fall. This is a smart warm layer. A sweatshirt or other jumper needs to be avoided please.

Parent Feedback on Role of Principal

A reminder to parents/carers to please respond to this request sent by email from Andrew Brown, Chair of Governors, on Monday this week.

As you will be aware, the Governors at Chiltern Hills Academy have started the process of recruiting a new Principal, as Mr Patrick will be leaving in August 2022. A key element in the process is identifying the characteristics of the ideal person to fill the role of Principal. We are collecting views from our students, staff and parents, as well as other key stakeholders, and would welcome and value your feedback. We therefore invite you to answer the following question:

What three qualities are most important to you in the Principal for Chiltern Hills Academy?

Please send your feedback by email to Mrs Sanders, Clerk to the Governors, at wsanders@chacademy.co.uk with the word 'Principal' in the subject title. Please reply by Monday 6 December. Thank you.

Mr A Brown
Chair of Governors

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event	Email address
29 November to 10 December	Y11 and Y13 Mock Examinations	tdell@chacademy.co.uk
2 December	Service for parents, staff and students 3.45 to 4.10pm, refreshments available in atrium from 3.30pm	wsanders@chacademy.co.uk
3 December	Y13 UCAS deadline	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
9 December	Y12/Y13 Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud, 4.00 to 7.00pm	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
10 December	Christmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
13/14 December	Y10 Pantomime performance for Primary schools (hall), 9.00 to 11.00am	smitchell@chacademy.co.uk
14 December	Y10 Pantomime performance to parents, 3.30 to 5.00pm	smitchell@chacademy.co.uk
16 December	Christmas Concert at St. Mary's Church, 6.30 to 7.30pm	gupton@chacademy.co.uk
17 December	Last day of Autumn term (2), school closes at 1.00pm	
4 January	Inset Day	
5 January	First day of Spring term (1), 8.40am start	
10 January	Y13 Interview skills workshop (TBC)	lharman@chacademy.co.uk

Covid Vaccination Programme

MESSAGE FROM THE NHS BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

COVID vaccinations for children and young people

Due to some recent changes in the eligibility for Covid vaccines, we wanted to outline the current national position with regard to vaccinations for children and young people. This advice may be subject to change in future. A summary of up-to-date information can be found at:

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccines - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

12 – 17 year olds

The majority of 12-15 year olds are currently recommended to receive one dose of vaccine. The decision on whether a second dose will be recommended to this group has not yet been announced.

The majority of 16 and 17 year olds are now recommended to receive two doses of vaccine at least 12 weeks apart.

If a young person aged 12-17 has recently tested positive for Covid it is now recommended that they wait 12 weeks from the date of their first positive PCR or LFD result before they receive their Covid vaccine. This delay has recently been increased from 4 weeks due to emerging evidence suggesting that it will reduce the (already extremely small) risk of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) in younger age groups and because they are likely to be protected by natural immunity for these 12 weeks anyway.

12-17 year olds who are in a recognised clinical risk group should receive two doses of vaccine at least 8 weeks apart. Those aged 12 years and over who live with someone of any age who is immunosuppressed should also be offered

two doses of vaccine at least 8 weeks apart. Young people in these groups should still take up their vaccine offer if they are at least 4 weeks after COVID infection and do not need to wait 12 weeks. This is because their individual risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 is higher and so outweighs any benefit of delaying to 12 weeks.

Aged 18 and over

Adults aged 18 and over are recommended to receive two doses of vaccine at least 8 weeks apart.

If an adult (aged 18+) has recently tested positive for COVID it is recommended that they wait 4 weeks from the date of their first positive PCR or LFD result before they receive their COVID vaccine.

Accessing vaccination

The initial offer of COVID vaccinations in schools has now completed. However, there continue to be many opportunities to access vaccinations across the county:

- Anyone aged 12 and over can book an appointment through the National Booking Service.
[Book or manage your coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- Walk-in clinics are also available and details can be found here:
[Find a walk-in coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination site - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

12-15 year olds in a clinical risk group should receive a letter to inform them of their eligibility for a second dose, and should take this letter with them to any walk-in vaccination site. If they do not receive this letter but their parent/guardian thinks that they are eligible, or if they live with someone who is immunosuppressed, their GP surgery should be contacted.

Vaccination against COVID-19 remains the best way to protect ourselves and those around us from becoming unwell.

It is also important that people who are eligible, including children aged 2-15 years old and anyone between the ages of 6 months and 50 years old who are clinically vulnerable take up the offer of a free NHS flu vaccine this year as the best way of protecting ourselves and those around us from seasonal influenza.

Kate Holmes

Interim CFO, Buckinghamshire CCG
Chair Bucks Vaccine Cell

Simon James

Service Director: Education
Buckinghamshire Council

Jane O'Grady

Director of Public Health
Buckinghamshire Council

Covid Testing at CHA

Earlier this week, the Government requested that schools once again test students on their return to school following the Christmas break. Parents are also asked to continue testing their child(ren) over the Christmas break in accordance with current public health advice. Students will be given one test in January following the Christmas break. Testing for students will take place on:

Tuesday 4 January 2022 - Years 7, 11, 12 and 13

Wednesday 5 January 2022 - Years 8, 9 and 10

A full schedule will be published shortly.

We ask all our parents who would like their child(ren) to be tested to complete the consent form; a link to it is here and on the front page of our website. [Covid testing consent form](#)

This will be available from Friday 3 December. This needs to be completed, please, no later than 10.00pm on Sunday 12 December 2021. No consent can be given after this time and we are unable to test your child(ren) without consent in place. Students in the Sixth Form are able to provide their own consent but this must be done on the online consent form before the closing date.

We are asking for your support in participating in the testing programme to help protect all in our school community. Thank you.

Mrs S Carty
Finance Manager

Safeguarding

The following link will take you to INSIGHT'S 'Big 5' Parenting Skills (and 25 parenting tips). These are appropriate to children of all ages and definitely worth a look:

https://www.kilberryps.vic.edu.au/app/webroot/uploaded_files/media/the_big_five_parenting_ideas.pdf

Christmas Dinner

Further to the recent newsletter we are now pleased to announce that school Christmas dinner will be served on Wednesday 8 December and Thursday 9 December. The lunchtime has been slightly increased to accommodate demand and year groups will be served as follows:

Wednesday 8 December
12.50pm - 1.30pm - Year 7
1.32pm- 2.12pm - Year 8

Thursday 9 December
12.50pm - 1.30pm - Years 9, 12 and 13
1.32pm - 2.12pm - Years 10 and 11

Students wishing to use the Grab & Go can do so during their normal lunch time.

Mrs S Carty
Finance Manager

Free School Meals

We are writing to remind parents and carers of children who are eligible for free school meals of the food options available. Students are able to choose any of the food options available to the value of £2.50 per day. Students are also able to use their Free School Meal allocation at break time if they wish. At present our service provides a “grab and go” solution whereby our students are able to choose from a selection of food, including sandwiches, wraps and a hot pasta option. We currently offer a hot meal or a variety of street food items. All meals come with a choice of fruit/vegetarian jelly and a bottle of water.

We would also like to remind parents and carers of the process to register for Free Schools Meals (FSM) if you think you may be eligible. In order to claim FSM, a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-Based (not contribution based) Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- The Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400

- Where they are entitled to Child Tax Credit and also Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week, their children are entitled to free school meals.

If you think that you are eligible to apply for FSM for your child, or if you are not sure, you may want to contact us to obtain an application form or fill in the form which can be found on the school website:

<https://www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk/site/data/files/documents/letters%20for%20parents/712F563C5D105B7B3E9098582CBD1F07.pdf>.

Please talk to your child and encourage them to use this service. Please note that no one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you may be receiving. Other students will not know that your child is in receipt of FSM.

Y8 Trip to Oxford University

Last Monday a group of Year 8 students had the opportunity to visit Somerville College at Oxford University. Somerville College was originally created for women only, when universities refused them entry, and remained an all-female college until 1992. Now Somerville female and male students represent the world and many go on to change that world too.

There are many famous alumni from Somerville including:

- **Margaret Thatcher**, Prime Minister of the UK
- **Marjorie Bolton**, British author and poet
- **Indira Gandhi**, Prime Minister of India
- **Dorothy Hodgkin**, [Nobel Prize winning](#) scientist
- **S. Byatt** English novelist, poet & Booker Prize winner
- **Esther Rantzen**, TV personality



When the students arrived, they were given a talk on 'Why University' and 'Why Oxford?' and had a guided tour of the college. Afterwards, lunch was served in the vast dining hall (Somerville is one of the few colleges where you don't have to wear your academic gown at formal dinners!).

After lunch, the students had a walking tour of Oxford to see the various University colleges which are scattered around the city. The last stop was the Pitt Rivers Museum, where the students took part in a mini workshop.

It was an incredibly inspiring day which the students thoroughly enjoyed. Thank you to Mr Falcon and Mrs Hemsworth for accompanying the students.

Mrs J Groom
Careers Administrator

Loan Laptops for Homework

If any student does not have a suitable device to use at home for their studies, we have some laptops we can issue. The Department for Education will also be allocating some additional devices to the school which should arrive shortly. Please do request to borrow one of these loan laptops if your child would find it helpful with completing homework.

Send an email to: rtole@chacademy.co.uk stating the child's name and form group. You will be added to a waiting list and contacted when a laptop is available and ready to issue. Parents/carers will need to collect any devices loaned from school and sign a loan agreement form.

Those students who were issued with laptops during the school closures last year can continue to use their device at home until they leave the school or we contact you to request that the laptop is returned.

There are some instructions for IT use on the school website:

<https://www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk/parents/it-guides-and-faqs>



Mrs R Tole
ICT Support

Learning and Teaching

Supporting Your Child's Learning in Year 7 and 8

This week's focus is on Supporting Your Child by encouraging a positive attitude to learning, and the curriculum focus is maths.

Encourage your child to do well for their own sake rather than for money, a treat, or to please you. By doing this, you encourage your child to be intrinsically motivated, that is, wanting to learn for the joy of learning and achieving as opposed to extrinsically motivated. Extrinsic motivation is about being 'paid' to do well, or it may sometimes be to just avoid a negative outcome or consequence.

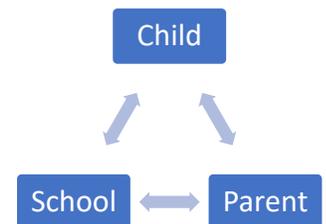
For further information regarding intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, please use the following link:

<https://www.verywellmind.com/differences-between-extrinsic-and-intrinsic-motivation-2795384>

To help your child develop intrinsic motivation, you can explain that exams are not an end in themselves but a gateway to the next stage of life - to another Key Stage or GCSEs, BTECs, A levels, University, College, work or an Apprenticeship. Good results are the best reward for hard work and will encourage your child to be proud of their achievements.

Ensure that your child knows you're interested in their work and that you'll be proud if they work hard and do the best that they can and that your love and support of them does not depend on exam grades. Reassure your child that you are behind them 100 per cent, even if things such as test results do not go to plan – look for solutions to overcome setbacks, including asking teachers for ideas of how your child can improve. Remember, learning is a journey.

Although bribery isn't advisable, it's ok to give praise and small treats by way of encouragement - perhaps a sweet treat or something that appeals to your child when they have completed all a revision session. Regarding praise, make it specific; for example, I like how hard you worked on your history homework instead of general praise such as well done or great work. In addition, the end of Progress Checks and exams can be celebrated with a treat that the whole family can look forward to, such as a takeaway or a meal or trip out.



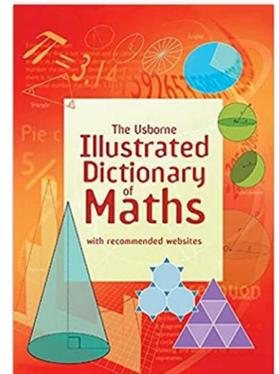
Keeping up-to-date with the news helps with schoolwork. Try to encourage your child to read a newspaper at least once or twice a week or watch BBC Newsround or even a humorous news review. Find news stories that connect to lesson topics. If your child is researching a subject, suggest the online archives of a good newspaper or the BBC website.

If you're planning a day out, a trip to a museum or gallery need not be expensive. Many museums and galleries are free to enter and have areas to either eat your pack lunches or buy something to eat. Visiting a museum or gallery can support your child with their work in subjects such as Art, English, History, Geography or Science - this can be a fun way to add depth and interest to your child's learning. Trips to museums and galleries can bring your child's schoolwork to life and encourage an interest in a specific subject.

Curriculum Focus – Maths

Many people believe that maths is a language in itself, and part of this point of view comes from a large amount of mathematical terms students need to learn from nursery to Key Stage 4 and sometimes into Key Stage 5. It is helpful to have a maths dictionary at hand when supporting your child with mathematical vocabulary. The following maths dictionary by Tori Large can be purchased for around £7.50 (that works out as £1.50 per year) online and includes all the mathematical language your child needs to know from Year 7 to Year 11.

This informative study guide is organised thematically and covers all aspects of the maths curriculum, from algebra to APRs (annual percentage rates), volume to vectors and trigonometry to transformations. It has clear definitions of mathematical terms and concepts, supported by colourful illustrations and diagrams to help clarify and explain each subject. It also includes over 100 examples to show how to put the theory into practice and internet links to recommended maths websites. If you have any questions or wish for further information regarding this update, please get in touch with skeith@chacademy.co.uk



Mrs S Keith
Second in Dept/KS3 Lead – Maths
Learning and Teaching Lead Practitioner

Readathon – 6-13 December

This week is Readathon Week. Every year we hold this sponsored event and as well as encouraging all Year 7 and 8 students to read a book of their choice; it is raising money to buy books for sick children in hospital.

We have been running Readathon for many years and have raised over £18,000 for this great charity. Students will be reading their books in English lessons and we hope they will continue to read at home. This is a great opportunity to encourage your child to read and experience reading for pleasure. This is a link to the site <https://readforgood.org/>



Mrs S Putman
Director of English

Principal: Mr K Patrick MEd
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A Church of England Academy



Registered in England & Wales
No 07718351

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

Thank you for helping local people in a crisis



Please donate to our local foodbank
this Christmas.

Here are some examples of what can be brought in.



Items required are:

Tinned Rice Pudding

Custard Powder

Tinned Custard

Tinned Fruit

Tinned Hot Dogs

Cooking Oil

Tinned Salmon

Shampoo

Toothpaste

Long-life Fruit Juice

Christmas Puddings

Christmas Cake

Pickles

Christmas Crackers

Sponge puddings

Tea, Coffee

Jam

Washing up Liquid



Please place in the crates in the school foyer.
On Friday 10 December or Monday 13 December



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



CHESHAM UNITED FC

FULL TIME EDUCATION AND FOOTBALL ACADEMY FOR 16-19 YEAR OLDS

STUDY

- BTEC in Sport Level 3 (Ext Dip/Fnd Dip)
 - Alternative to college
- In the classroom with your teammates
- Work experience in the world of sport



Pathways to universities



Pathways to scholarships abroad



All matches filmed



Semi-professional opportunities

TRAIN

- Three days a week
- Experienced UEFA/FA licensed coaches
- Improve technically, tactically & physically
- First team/development team pathways

REPRESENT

- Chesham United FC
- In the ESPFA League & Cup
- Games played at the first team grounds
- First team/development team pathways

DECEMBER TRIALS

Tuesday 21st December | 2pm - 4pm

Chiltern Hills Academy All Weather Pitch, Chartridge Lane, Chesham, HP5 2RG

APPLY NOW @ [ESPFA.CO.UK/REGISTER](https://www.espfa.co.uk/register)

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instagram.com/ESPFAcademy | youtube.com/ESPFA