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

Message from the Principal

It has been a wonderful term, students have worked hard and we have all enjoyed working and studying in our lovely learning environment at Chiltern Hills.

End of Term Events

Fundraising

As always at the end of the term, there have been many exciting events. Some wonderful fundraising opportunities have taken place. With all of your support, we raised £283.45 in the Christmas Jumper collection.

Three large crates of food donated to the Chiltern Food Bank were collected earlier this week. Thank you for your support and compassion to this vital local charity. Students, too have been fundraising, with the prom committees in Y11 and Y13 raising funds to support their future proms.

Forthcoming events this term

We look forward to the Carol Concert at St Mary's Church on Thursday evening. Thank you to Mr Upton and our talented students for preparing for this lovely event. My thanks to the staff at St Mary's Church for the opportunity to utilise the church for this occasion.

End of Term Assembly

On Friday during period 4 we look forward to holding a Teams assembly for the whole school; celebrating the end of term and reflecting on the learning and work accomplished this term. There will be time to reflect too on the Christmas message and a reminder to us all of how lucky we are to be living and learning in Chesham.

Staff Leaving

We are saying goodbye to Mrs Milner in Student Services at the end of the term. We do thank her for her dedication in working with Y7 and Y8 students and, in particular, her help in the transition of students from Y6-Y7.

Christmas Lunch

On Thursday and Friday last week we held our most successful Christmas lunch ever, with 231 meals being served! There was a suitably festive feel to the hall, with tables laid and festive music played. My thanks to the Caterlink staff team for a sterling effort in making this an enjoyable event for everyone.



End of Term

This is the last newsletter before the Christmas break and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all parents and students a happy and enjoyable festive period. The Spring term commences on Wednesday 5 January. The end of this term is on Friday 17 December at 12.55pm, for Y7, Y9, Y12, Y13 and at 1.00pm for Y8, Y10, Y11. On Friday there will only be a breaktime food service and this will be for all students, including those in receipt of free school meals.

Visit to Westminster

I was privileged to recently attend an award ceremony with one of our students. Hana Hetherington collected a prestigious award in the 2021 Schools' Bible Project prizegiving ceremony. Hana wrote a fantastic response to a task set and open to all UK secondary schools to take part. Well done, Hana, for your carefully created written piece and congratulations on achieving this award.



Start of Term - January 2022

Please Note - Updated opening times for Spring Term 2022

Please find below an update from the previously published opening plans for January 2022. The testing team has been expanded and the tests are now a little quicker to perform. We feel secure that, with the numbers involved having asked for consent from parents, we will be able to undertake all the Lateral Flow tests on Tuesday 4 January. Therefore, we will not need to interrupt the planned start of term and all students will be able to start as published earlier in the year, on Wednesday 5 January.

Students should only attend their time for Lateral Flow testing if consent has been given in the last few weeks by a family member. If consent has not been given, testing can continue as normal at home using the packs distributed this week to all our students. This action will continue to keep families and our community safe.

Start of Term Plan for Opening and Covid Testing - Updated 15/12/2021

Lateral Flow test (students)

Tuesday 4 January (Staff INSET Day)

Y7 testing time based on their last name alphabetically (and then return home):

9.00am – 9.15am Surnames A - L

9.15am – 9.30am Surnames M - Z

Y8 testing time based on their last name alphabetically (and then return home):

9.45am – 10.00am Surnames A - L

10.00am – 10.15am Surnames M - Z

Y9 testing time based on their last name alphabetically (and then return home):

10.30am – 10.45am Surnames A - L

10.45am – 11.00am Surnames M-Z

Y10 testing time based on their last name alphabetically (and then return home):

11.30am – 11.45am Surnames A - L

11.45am – 12.00pm Surnames M - Z

Y11 testing time based on their last name alphabetically (and then return home):

1.00pm – 1.15pm Surnames A - L
1.15pm – 1.30pm Surnames M - Z

Y12/13 testing time (and then return home):

2.00pm – 2.30pm All Y12/13 students

Revised Plan for the Start of Term (Students)

Tuesday 4 January September (Week 1) - Staff Training Day (INSET)

All students, where recent consent has been given, need to attend on the INSET day for their Lateral Flow test (see above). Entrance/exit via the main door and go to the sports hall

Wednesday 5 January

All students attend, arriving for the normal start of the day at 8.35am. There will be a full school assembly (via Teams) in Form rooms during period 1.

We look forward to seeing you in 2022!

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event	Email address
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 12.55pm for Y7, Y9, Y12, Y13 and 1.00pm for Y8, Y10, Y11	
4 January	Staff Inset Day (student lateral flow tests)	
5 January	All students arrive for lessons at 8.35am	
10 January	Y13 Interview skills workshop (TBC)	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
11 January	Y12 Evaluate Education workshop, 9.30 to 10.30am	lharman@chacademy.co.uk
11 January	PTA meeting, 7.00 to 8.00pm	chapta@chacademy.co.uk

Parent Voice

I would like to say a big thank you to all parents and carers who provided Governors with feedback on the most important qualities in a Principal at Chiltern Hills Academy. This feedback has been essential in finalising the Person Specification for the new Principal candidate pack.

I would also like to thank all parents and carers for your feedback on Parent Voice topics this year. It really does help in bringing about positive change.

On behalf of the Governors, I wish you all a safe, restful and happy festive break.

Mrs Caroline Mastrorilli
Parent Governor

Walkie Talkies

In the New Year we will be introducing walkie talkies in the school to be used by Senior Staff and some teachers during the school day. We have ordered a number of these and staff will begin to use them in early January.

This decision has been made as we are now a much bigger site and walkie talkies will allow for much quicker and easier communication around the school. It will also help to ensure the safety of the students as faster communication means that any issues can be reported much more quickly and responded to in a timely fashion.

If you have any questions relating to this, please contact Mr Dobbs.

Loan Laptops for Homework

If any student does not have a suitable device to use at home for their studies, we have a laptop we can issue to them. 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 for 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.



Mrs R Tole
ICT Support

Auditions for 'Lord of the Flies'

On Tuesday 18 January in OF4 we will be holding auditions for the school show, 'Lord of the Flies'. The auditions will begin at 3.10pm and end at 5.10pm. Students will be provided with a script on the day. Students who will be singing will be asked to prepare a song of their choice. We will be looking for actors, singers, and dancers. There are 12 leads and a large chorus that may have a speaking role. Students need to be available to rehearse on a Tuesday and Thursday after school from 3.10 to 4.10pm.

Miss P Leathers
Curriculum Leader for Drama



Careers

December's edition of Classroom to Career available [here](#) has a special focus on hospital and medical work experience. There are interactive workshops run by doctors and you can even take part in a Surgery Live course. Keep up to date with careers events happening in December including PWCs Flying Start Programme, Apprenticeship webinars with Deloitte and find out what top 5 skills you need for a career in Law.

There are webinars from Imperial College London if you would like to become a Researcher, Apprenticeships in the Army and opportunities for women in the Rail industry.

Find out all this and more [here](#).

Careers Update

Here is a quick preview as to what is coming up next term from the Careers Department.

Next term we are arranging a series of Employer Talks for Years 9 & 10. Organisations include The British Army, Wycombe Wanderers, Pinewood Studios, Thames Valley Policy, European Astroreach, Waddesdon Manor and many more. These will take place during form time on Wednesdays.

Our Year 11s are having one-to-one career interviews with an independent careers adviser from Learning to Work. Each student will have a 30 minute interview and receive a personalised careers action plan.

Year 10s will be taking part in the RISE programme next term, which is designed to help students become aware of their skills and attributes and consider how they can develop these in school. Facilitated by a Talent Foundry professionals with support from participating employers such as BDO, EY, Grant Thornton, KPMG and PWC.

There will be an EPIC Engineers STEM workshop for Year 9s, delivered by HS2, highlighting the challenges engineers face and showcasing the creative, technology-driven solutions used in rail and infrastructure industries.

We haven't forgotten about Year 7 & 8s. They will be focusing on careers and the wider world in their life skills lessons during the Spring term. As always, we welcome any feedback on the events we have put in place.

Mrs J Groom
Careers Administrator

Y7 Update

It has been a fantastic first term for Year 7. Most students have settled incredibly quickly. I have been amazed by their resilience, not just for the last two years of school life but also in the first few weeks at CHA. Starting a brand-new school during a big building project is never easy. In addition to this, we also filmed a new promotional video using our current Year 7 students. I am excited to share this with those involved and the wider school, it looks fantastic! A great start. Well done to all Year 7.

PC1

We have now had our first Progress Check of the year. We have 3 in total. These help us to track the learning journey students are on and their current academic abilities. Following these progress checks there may be some movement in the sets. This is nothing to worry about and is done to make sure classes are being taught of a similar ability to



support the most amount of progress. You should always be informed of any set changes in advance. If you have any questions relating to this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Sims App

I wrote in the newsletter last week about our introduction of the Sims Parent App that will enable parents to manage their contact information, view student timetables, rewards, behaviour incidents, receive school communications directly to the app and much more.

This has gone live for Year 7 parents last week and will be rolled out to the rest of the school after Christmas. We hope it will help to improve students rewards and behaviour, as parents will be able to see it daily but will also help you, as parents, to feel better connected to the learning journey students are on. We are aware of a few parents struggling to access this. Please do email ohumphrey@chacademy.co.uk to let me know of any problems.

KS3 Support

We are saying goodbye to Mrs Milner this Christmas who is taking up a new position at Dr Challoners Grammar School. Mrs Milner has supported Year 7 & Year 8 for the last 4 years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her personally, and on behalf of students all the way up to Year 10, for the work she has done and the positive impact she has had on so many of our students.

Mr O Humphrey
Academic Year Leader & Transition
Geography Department

Sixth Form Corner

Year 13 have been continuing to complete their UCAS applications. It has been very exciting for students who have already had responses from their selected universities. I look forward to continuing to hear more news as the applications are completed. A reminder that all personal statements and internal UCAS applications must be ready and submitted by the Christmas break.

Our Year 12, and some Year 13 students, have been going into a variety of lessons, supporting teachers and younger students in subject areas of their choice. This has been a fantastic help to our younger students and our Year 12 students have really benefitted from attending these lessons, many asking to go into more lessons to support.

Sixth Form students watched a very harrowing but insightful Safe Drive presentation on Tuesday 7 December. All students were impacted by the detail and seriousness of the presentation, enabling them to take away some very important factors to consider when driving or as a passenger in a car. This complements the external speaker that all Sixth Form listened to last month.

I have just finished running all of my Sixth Form promotional events for our new intake in September 2022. This was led with a huge support of our Year 12 and 13 students, their support and dedication to the sixth form over this time has been amazing. I am extremely grateful and proud of them all. The vast majority of the sixth form attended the evening on Thursday 25 November, many spoke to our current Year 11 students during a promotional assembly and when they came for breakfast in the sixth form area. A special thank you to Isaiah Jones, Jemima Bacon and Grace Adams for preparing and delivering a speech for the sixth form video. They were fantastic!

Thank you to all parents, carers and students who attended the recent Sixth Form Consultation Evening. It was a very positive and well attended evening.

Every year I ask Sixth Form to lead on a charity of their choice in their form groups. This year we have had some fantastic fundraising for very worthy charities. I will be updating you on our charities and what we raised in my next newsletter.

Dates to remember this term;

Internal UCAS application deadline, Friday 17 December

End of term, Friday 17 December.

Miss L Harman
Director of Sixth Form

Autumn Merits at CHA

The lists below show the top 10 students in each year group for merits this term

YEAR 7 MERITS

1. Shhivika Balaskanthan
2. Niyah Haines
3. Jolie Barnes
4. Cohen Garrett
5. Libby Osman-Duffin
6. Skye Dolling
7. Jake Grover-Smith
8. Jayden Hanchant
9. Connor O'Keeffe
10. Alfie Austen

YEAR 8 MERITS

1. Stefania Brujan
2. Jennifer Jones
3. Nathan Vockins
4. Freddie Robbins Burgess
5. Ash Maddern
6. Carmen Davenport
7. Noah Emms-Davies
8. Charlotte Duncan-Anderson
9. Luke Bell
10. Adam Leigh

YEAR 9 MERITS

1. Ethan Wilton
2. Campbell Kamli
3. Jon Jaffri
4. Danielle Ofosu
5. Taylor Stanley

6. Cameron Sharp
7. Xander Cave
8. Gaby Edmonds
9. Shivanshu Poudel
10. Harry Whitwood

YEAR 10 MERITS

1. Sophie Dell
2. Rosie Webb
3. Merida Tubb
4. Alfie Clifford
5. Fleur Mason
6. Maisie Trimmer
7. Deven Prajapati
8. Thomas Ashton
9. Ashleigh-Jade Brooks
10. Ella Reynolds

YEAR 11 MERITS

1. Eleanor Zindi
2. Katie Frankham
3. Zakki Verhulst
4. Benton Sear
5. Mia Frankham
6. Liberty Rymill
7. Jacob Stock
8. Freya Tubb
9. Hana Hetherington
10. Sophie Flood

Y8 Parents' Evening

The Year 8 Parents' Evening will be taking place on Thursday 13 January 2022 between 4.00pm and 7.00pm.

The booking system for the online Parents' Evening will be going live on Friday 7 January at 4.00pm.

Mr S Falcon
Academic Year Leader

Enrichment Opportunities

Year	Topic	Date	Provider	Link
All	Cambridge Application Process	17/02/22	University of Cambridge	https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9YXirOp4iSEsaiO
All	Personal Statements & Super-Curricular Exploration	14/07/22	University of Cambridge	https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9YXirOp4iSEsaiO
All	Interviews & Admissions	01/09/22	University of Cambridge	https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9YXirOp4iSEsaiO
All	Philosophy Science Taster Day - Digital Event	07/01-14/01	University of Oxford	http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/philosophyplus/
All	Ageless: the science of getting old without getting older	13/01	The Royal Institution	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ageless-the-science-of-getting-old-without-getting-older-tickets-212515217737?eboga=873498421.1635752279
All	'Why'd you have to go and make things so complicated?' Non-Darwinian routes to the evolution of life's complexity	18/01	The Royal Institution	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/whyd-you-have-to-go-and-make-things-so-complicated-tickets-219782384027?eboga=873498421.1635752279
All	Virtual worlds and the problems of philosophy	25/01	The Royal Institution	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/virtual-worlds-and-the-problems-of-philosophy-tickets-217433799347?eboga=873498421.1635752279
7-9	Explore Book Club – Who Framed Klaris Cliff	15/12	University of Oxford Nikki Sheehan	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/explore-book-club-live-with-the-author-nikki-sheehan-tickets-186869721367?aff=website
12-13	Studying Engineering	Various	University of Edinburgh	https://app.geckoform.com/public/?utm_campaign=3014264_SRA%20UG%20Teacher%20%26%20Adviser%2021%2F22%20October%20State&utm_medium=email&utm_source=dotmailer&dm_i=27JU,1SLTK,A99FT4,66YZR,1#/modern/FOEU03b9xB8ZQUQn
12 Eng	English / Theology Taster Day on John Milton	Feb 2022	Christ's College – University of Cambridge	https://www.christs.cam.ac.uk/admissions/open-days-prospective-applicants/english-taster-day

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The language of cooperation



Here are 10 simple language techniques you can use to invite cooperation from your kids. Try these techniques out to see what works for you.

- 1 Describe the problem**
E.g. "The living room is messy."
- 2 Describe the problem PLUS+**
E.g. "The living room needs to be cleaned up before dinner."
- 3 State the rule or the practice**
E.g. "We clean one lot of toys away before getting another lot out."
- 4 Describe what you feel**
E.g. "I don't like it when your toys are on the floor all day as I feel like everything is a mess."
- 5 Put it in writing**
E.g. "Dear Jimmy, Please clean me up before dinner. I will feel much better if I can see some daylight. Regards, The carpet. PS: It helps sometimes to clean up one mess before starting another."
- 6 Tell them what you will do**
E.g. "I will listen to you when you have calmed down."
- 7 Choices**
E.g. "You can stay inside if you are quiet. If you want to be noisy you can go outside."
- 8 The broken record**
E.g. Parent: "It's time to clean your teeth." Child: "But I don't want to." Parent: "It's time to clean your teeth." Child: "My teeth aren't dirty." Parent: "It's time to clean your teeth."
NB: It helps to look away as you repeat yourself. Lack of eye contact makes a huge difference.
- 9 When ... then**
E.g. "When you have done the chores then you can turn the TV on."
- 10 The invitation**
E.g. "Can you help me out by clearing the table away after dinner?"



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71, Broadway
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15th December 21

Dear Mr Patrick,

I am writing to thank you, and all at Chiltern Hills Academy for your generous donation to Chiltern Foodbank. The total weight of the donation was an amazing 60.2 kg.

Over the past twelve months we have provided over 47,304 meals to local people in need, 37.3% of whom were children.

All, excepting our coordinator, are volunteers and our overheads are around £50,000 p.a. your gift will be used to contribute towards these costs and, where necessary, purchasing food.

We are also aware of other forms of poverty that affect our community and we have taken measures to help with these too, for example; Digital Poverty and Fuel Poverty. Working with local Secondary schools to provide necessary computer equipment for children in need. Also, by working with The Paradigm Foundation, who have match funded Chiltern Foodbank's donation, we have established a fund that provides small grants to those who are on low incomes to top up their gas and electricity accounts.

Despite having to close all our distribution centres for face-to-face meetings during the pandemic we have continued to provide food for those in need using a home delivery model. Our Referral Partners have moved from issuing paper vouchers to an e-voucher system that has enabled staff working from home to ensure that those in need are still able to access food from us. Although we long to return to the holistic service that we provide with face-to-face meetings with clients, the safety of our volunteers and clients is of utmost importance and we will continue with the home delivery model for as long as necessary.

Thank you again for your kindness and for helping those who are the most vulnerable in our community.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Jill Pye
Chiltern Foodbank
01494 775668

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