# Newsletter



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# Message from the Deputising Principal

I hope you all had a great half term break. It was so good to welcome the students of Chiltern Hills Academy back to school for the final half term of the year on Monday. There is much to do and the focus for the students now is to work hard and achieve well in all their lessons to give themselves the best chance of success in their education.

This week has seen the return of Year 11 and Year 13 students, as they continue their GCSE and A Level examinations that they have worked so hard for over the last few years. It is so important that all students are respectful of this fact at this time and conduct themselves calmly around the school, especially in areas where the examinations are taking place. Thursday 25 May was the final day for Year 11s before they began their study leave. They had a special assembly with the now legendary 'shirt signing' event. They were so respectful during this time and conducted themselves brilliantly. We are really looking forward to celebrating with Years 11 and 13 at their end of year celebration assemblies and Proms this half term.

Plans are now very much in place for the Chiltern Hills Sports Day on Thursday 22 June. The whole school will be taking part in this event, medals have been ordered and staff have been given their roles for the day. We are also meeting again to plan the CHA Culture Day which will take place at the end of term too.

Once again I would like to ask you to think about joining our brilliant PTA. This is a small group of parents and friends of CHA who meet regularly to plan events to raise money to support the education and well-being of the students at the school. On Saturday they will be involved from early morning at the Chesham Carnival – cooking on the barbeque! Hopefully it will be a great day. The sun is set to shine on us. If you are interested in joining the PTA please contact Sarah Webb at <u>chapta@chacademy.co.uk</u> to give you an example of the work they support at CHA. They have recently agreed to help with funds towards the production of 'Oliver!' at CHA, support literacy for Year 7s and 8s and purchase new football goal posts for the field.

It is certainly going to be warm in the coming weeks. This means that our students will be able to utilise the fantastic outside spaces during break and lunchtime. May I remind you that students wishing to use the AGP (Artificial Grass Pitch) at break or lunchtime must ensure they have the correct footwear. May I also remind you about the importance of ensuring that students wear full school uniform and that you do notify us of any issues regarding this matter.

Tim Dobbs

# **Diary**

Date	Event
15 May to 27 June	GCE/GCSE Examinations
19 to 30 June	Y10 and Y12 Mock Exams
22 June	Sports Day
30 June	Y11 Leavers' Assembly, 11.30am to 12.30pm Y11 Prom, 7.00 to 10.00pm
1 July	CHA PTA Football Tournament, all day
3 July	Chiltern District Championships Athletics, all day Y6 Parents' Evening (for September intake), 6.00 to 7.30pm
4 July	Y8 Work shadowing day Y6 Induction day
4-5 July	DofE Bronze Award qualifying expedition
7-9 July	DofE Silver Award qualifying expedition
10-14 July	Y12 Work experience week
11 July	Dance – Summer Showcase, 7.00 to 8.30pm
12 July	Y9 trip to Hampton Court
13 July	Y10 trip to Hampton Court
14 July	Y13 Leavers' Assembly, 11.30am Y13 Prom, 6.30 to 10.00pm
17-18 July	Y6 Soft Landing Transition, 10.00am to 2.45pm
21 July	Last day of Summer term, school closes at 1.00pm

### **Parent Meetings**

Working in partnership with parents/carers is a crucial aspect of ensuring the highest of outcomes for our students. Your role is invaluable in maintaining high standards and we very much value your views. We are delighted to offer face-to-face bookable appointments with the Senior Leadership Team. These 15 minute appointment slots are available if you have anything that you wish to raise or share. If you would like to book an appointment, please contact Mrs Sanders: <a href="www.wsanders@chacademy.co.uk">wsanders@chacademy.co.uk</a> to arrange a mutually convenient time.

### **PTA News**

It was such a great PTA meeting this week. We were able to give funds to the English, Drama and PE departments. We are pleased to be able to put funds towards the Book Buzz programme for Y7s and 8s, the autumn production of 'Oliver!' and also to provide new football goal posts. The monies we raise are all put towards such great causes and equipment for the students, proving how important it is that we continue to raise funds... and how important your support is.

In this vein, I would really like to reach out to you and ask that any parents/carers who would like to join the PTA in the autumn term to send me an email! Our committee is small, predominantly made up of those whose children have left the school. With a couple of members leaving the PTA this term, our numbers are dwindling and some new faces would be really wonderful to see. Our meetings are held usually on the first Tuesday of the month and you will have seen from the newsletter the six or seven events that we run each year. No-one is expected to attend everything, but a desire to have fun and the ability to make and serve copious cups of teas and burgers is!

We also spent a lot of time discussing this weekend's carnival. As usual, the PTA are running the barbeque in the park and we really look forward to serving you burgers and bacon rolls. The sun is due to shine. See you there!

Mrs S Webb Chairperson CHA PTA <a href="mailto:chapta@chacademy.co.uk">chapta@chacademy.co.uk</a>

# Safeguarding

#### **How TikTok is Affecting our Children's Mental Health**

TikTok is a social media app that allows users to create and share short videos. It was launched in 2016 by a Chinese company called ByteDance and it now has over a billion users in 150 countries.

The content on TikTok ranges from funny skits to dance videos, lip-syncs, cooking tutorials, and more. The app is particularly popular among younger generations.

Recent research, however, suggests that TikTok can be extremely addictive and is having a highly negative impact on some of our children's mental health. Constant scrolling and clips containing 'toxic masculinity', gender stereotyping, body perfection etc. are all contributing to children's anxiety and having a negative effect on mental health.

Please click the link to see a report from The Children's Society on the potential impact of TikTok.

https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/how-tiktok-affects-childrens-mental-health

Mrs J Conway DSL

### **Student Contact Details**

It is vitally important that the school holds the correct contact details for all of our students.

If you have the SIMS app, please would you check <u>all details are correct</u>, especially phone numbers and email addresses. Any updates can be made if you go on your child's name and then click the Data Collection box and we can then update our records.

Mrs M Khurshid Student Services Administrator

### **Sports Day 2023**

We would like to invite you to Sports Day on Thursday 22 June.

Parents are welcome to join us for the afternoon, where they will see all track events (excluding 1500m). The event will begin at around 1.10pm, so please arrive at any time after 12.30pm. The event is planned to finish roughly between 3.10pm and 3.20pm.

Please confirm your attendance by completing the Microsoft Form here (the deadline for responses is midnight on Sunday 18 June):

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=OPAGdXcKEU2XMOmg-SicyLz3vmSCrU5Jtklyox5G4VVUQVBOV05ZSFdWTEVMRlpLM0E5SFBGTVFTVS4u

If you have any questions or issues, please email Mr Muddiman: <a href="mailto:gmuddiman@chacademy.co.uk">gmuddiman@chacademy.co.uk</a> or Mr Sperring@chacademy.co.uk

Mr G Muddiman and Mr O Sperring Teachers of PE

### Eid ul Adha

Eid ul Adha is a very important festival, celebrated among Muslims all over the world in remembrance of the sacrifice that Prophet Ibrahim (A.S.) made of his strong faith in Allah. Ibrahim (A.S.) showed a willingness to sacrifice his son Prophet Ismail (A.S.) but his son was replaced with a lamb by Allah. Allah was so pleased with Ibrahim's (A.S.) submission to him that he made this demonstration of sacrifice and faith a permanent part of a Muslim's life. This event is mentioned in Quran - Surah As-Saffat (37:102).

#### When is Eid ul Adha 2023?

Eid ul Adha 2023 or Bakra Eid 2023 is expected to be celebrated on Wednesday 28 June 2023. This is the tentative date as the actual date is contingent on the sighting of the moon of Dhul Hijjah, 1444, the twelfth and last month of the Islamic Calendar.

#### Celebrating Eid ul Adha 2023

If you are celebrating Eid, please remember that only one day is given for this and only one day will be authorised for any absence.

Please inform us of your intention to celebrate Eid by completing the online form on our website.

Please use the following link <a href="https://www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk/absencereportingform">https://www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk/absencereportingform</a>

Miss N Nash Attendance Officer

### **Y8 Options**

Thank you to all Y8 students' parents/carers for a smooth Options process. I am pleased to say that 98% of students got all their first choices. When Y8s start Y9 we will not move any students for the first term unless there is a valid reason to change subject. This is because class sizes are limited in some practical areas. It will also give students a chance to have time to focus on that subject they have chosen. We will be offering a core information evening for students in the first autumn term of Y9 and this will provide you with the knowledge on how to support your child with the content of English, Maths and Science.

Mr A Griffiths Vice Principal

# **Chesham Literary Festival News**

#### **Chesham Literary Festival News**

People were invited to submit poems to the Chesham Literary Festival which had over 430 entries! These entries were divided into 3 categories and our very own Chiltern Hills Academy Seb, in Y9, submitted one of 5 poems to be awarded as "Highly Commended" by a panel of local poets and authors. They were awarded the certificate in a ceremony at the Town Hall on Thursday 1 June attended by friends and family, Mark Jackson-Hancock of Chapter Two and Parveiz Aslam MBE.

Congratulations Seb!

Mrs K Davenport Librarian



# **All Star Cheerleading - Winner**

Over half-term, one of our very own Year 9s, Chloe, and her team 'Hurricane' from Chiltern Cheetahs went to Barcelona to compete on a European level, but also to try to win a bid to attend the Summit World Competition in Disneyworld Florida in 2024! The Summit competition is the highest competition for All Star Cheerleading globally for her age.

Chloe's team not only gained first place in their division but were also awarded the coveted bid for the Summit competition in 2024 in the US to compete on a world stage!

The school are immensely proud of the achievements that Chloe has been a part of with her All-Star Cheerleading and cannot wait to hear about how her team gets on when performing in Florida 2024.

We will make sure we will keep you updated next year when she makes us proud once again.

Mr O Sperring Teacher of PE

### **Classroom to Careers**

The June edition of Classroom to Careers is available <u>here</u>, packed with revision tips for exams, information on bursaries for university degrees plus the best career workshop, events and other opportunities to help you make the most out of your six-week summer break.

Mrs A Hemsworth Careers Lead

# **Duke of Edinburgh**

A little over a week ago, 52 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 embarked on an exciting journey to the Oxfordshire countryside. Valuable life lessons were learnt along the way, one of which was using the map that they were carrying and how to use a compass. The DofE training expedition is all about overcoming these obstacles as a group and, despite the early setbacks, every group succeeded in tackling the challenges they faced and found their way to the campsite by the end of the day. No one said it would be easy but our students are nothing if not resilient.

With 52 students safely returned to parents (and their creature comforts), the entire training expedition was a great success. The OceanRock staff and campsite owners commented on the wonderful, polite and well-behaved students of Chiltern Hills Academy. I could not be prouder of them. Only four weeks to go until the qualifying expeditions!







Mr S Driscoll Duke of Edinburgh

### **Current Vacancies**

#### **Executive Assistant to Principal**

35 hours per week, term time plus INSET days, plus 4 weeks (43 weeks with 5.1 weeks holiday pay) Bucks Pay Point 5-6 (£29,192 - £35,715 pro rata) dependent on experience

#### Permanent contract, required from September

We are seeking to appoint a highly organised and flexible EA to the Principal, who will act as a main point of contact for the Principal to provide professional, confidential and efficient administrative support. They will deliver exceptional levels of customer service, will pro-actively manage the Principal's diary together with a variety of other tasks.

The person we are seeking will be a clear thinking individual with initiative and a 'can do' attitude. Someone who acts with integrity and discretion who is able to relate well with people across the school and our external partners. The role will suit a first class administrator with excellent time management, communication, (written and verbal) and IT skills and a proven track record of providing high level administrative support to senior level, preferably at a school.

Closing date for applications: Friday 23 June 2023

#### **Alternative Provision Tutor**

Term-Time, Permanent

Bucks Pay Range 3 (£24,310- £26,295 pro-rata)

Required from 1st September 2023

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and passionate Alternative Provision Tutor to provide teaching support to improve the learning opportunities of those students who are not attending school due to being signed off as medically unfit. The successful candidate will provide a complementary service to teaching and support staff in an off-site setting (home, library or other appropriate venue) and will work co-operatively with key staff to ensure progress and achievement for our young people.

Closing date for applications: Friday 30 June 2023

#### Science Technician

25 hours per week, term time plus INSET days (39 weeks with 5.1 weeks holiday pay)

Bucks Pay Point 2:11 (£21,879 pa FTE pro-rata, £12,471 pa actual)

Permanent contract, from 1st September

Applications are invited for a part-time Science Technician. The hours of work will be 10.00am to 2.30pm with half an hour unpaid lunch break. Responsible to the Head of Science, the role involves maintaining a high quality technician service to the science laboratories by supporting the teaching staff in meeting the needs of students in support of the curriculum. Previous experience of working in a lab would be preferred but training will be given.

Closing date for applications: Friday 16 June 2023

#### **DT Technician**

30 hours per week, term time plus INSET days (39 weeks with 5.1 weeks holiday pay)

Bucks Pay Range 2 (£21,879- £23,961 FTE) pro-rata

Permanent contract, from 1st September

The Chiltern Hills Academy are seeking to appoint a Design Technology Technician. Responsible to the Curriculum Leader of Design, the Technician will contribute to the efficient running of the Design Department. They will be responsible for the preparation of materials and equipment, stock checking, storage of students' work, worksheets etc. and assisting students as directed by the Curriculum Lead.

Closing date for applications: Friday 30 June 2023

#### **Senior Science Technician**

32.5 hours per week, term time plus INSET days (39 weeks with 5.1 weeks holiday pay) Working pattern 8.30am – 3.30pm daily excluding 30 min unpaid lunch break Bucks Pay Point 4 pro rata (£26,477 - £28,645 per annum FTE) dependent on experience Permanent contract, required to start as soon as possible

Applications are invited for a Senior Science Technician. The hours of work will be 8.30am – 3.30pm with half an hour unpaid lunch break. However, flexibility is essential for this role. Responsible to the Director of Science, the role involves maintaining a high quality technician service to the science laboratories by

supporting the teaching staff to meet the needs of students in support of the curriculum. We are fortunate to enjoy state-of-the art science facilities.

We are seeking a responsible, methodical individual to provide practical assistance and advice to the Science Department and lead the other two technicians to support the achievement of outstanding outcomes for our students. Previous experience of working in a lab would be preferred but training will be given.

Closing date for applications: 18 June 2023

#### Site Manager - casual hours

Hourly rate £11.87 - £13.34 dependent on experience Required as soon as possible for an immediate start

We are seeking to add to our existing team to assist Site Management in the running of the Academy's facilities. They will work as an integral part of the team and be responsible for all aspects of site management, including health and safety, cleanliness and security. Flexibility to work differing hours, including evening and weekends to cover absence, school events and evening lets when the facilities are hired to external users is required.

Interviews will be arranged as applications are received

#### **Learning Support Assistant**

32.5 hours per week, term time plus INSET days (39 weeks)

Working pattern: 8.30am – 3.30pm Monday to Friday. Salary: Bucks Pay Range 2 £20,258 - £22,766 pro rata (actual £15,092 - £16,960) dependent on experience.

Permanent contract, required for immediate start

We are seeking to appoint enthusiastic and committed Learning Support Assistants to join us. SEND students are at the heart of our Academy and this role is integral to helping some of our most vulnerable students to progress and succeed. Do you have:

- A passion for education and for lifelong learning?
- The ability to relate to young people, to support their increasing resilience and inspire them to become independent, enthusiastic learners?
- Excellent communication skills, a flexible approach and a sense of humour
- · Empathy, patience and understanding

This is a fantastic opportunity for someone who may be considering a career supporting academic and pastoral progress. You may also be interested in progressing to a career in teaching but looking to first gain experience in a school environment. Training will be provided so no prior experience is necessary within a school setting, although this would be advantageous.

Interviews will be arranged as applications are received

#### **Cover Supervisor**

32.5 hours per week, term time plus INSET days (39 weeks with 5.1 weeks holiday pay) Working pattern 8.30am – 3.30pm daily excluding 30 min unpaid lunch break Bucks Pay Point 4 pro-rata (£25,216 – £27,281 per annum FTE) dependent on experience From September 2023

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and motivated individual to supervise students during the absence of a teacher. The successful candidate will ensure that students carry out a prepared lesson and respond to their questions appropriately. They will create an effective learning environment through positive classroom management including taking responsibility for the students' behaviour and safety. You will need to be pro-active, organised, enthusiastic and able to use your initiative. The ability to use IT effectively in the classroom is a necessary requirement. A willingness to be flexible and develop as a professional are desirable attributes of the ideal candidate.

For more details please go to chilternhillsacademy/staffrecruitment

Completed applications should be submitted by email to <a href="https://example.co.uk">HR@chacademy.co.uk</a> and should include a letter indicating your strengths for this position. Please note we cannot accept CVs. Applications should include a letter indicating your strengths for this position. The school reserves the right to close the advert early if the right candidate is found.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. All staff appointments are subject to preemployment vetting checks which include an audit of social media presence and an enhanced DBS check. Chiltern Hills Academy is an equal opportunities employer.

Principal: Ms S Chapman Chiltern Hills Academy Chartridge Lane, Chesham Buckinghamshire HP5 2RG

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

