



The Swan



July 2024

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Est 1982

Headteacher's Introduction:

I write this in the last few weeks of my first full academic year as Headteacher. It has been enjoyable and I have been able to identify and begin to make the changes that I believe will be for the good of the students, staff, parents and carers. I also have had to make some very difficult decisions due to the need to make savings of around £300,000 for September 2024. The reason for this shortfall is because of the widening gap between school funding and inflation. A report by the Institute of Fiscal Studies (4 June 2024), showed that per pupil funding in England is now at 2010 levels in real terms. Ultimately the pay rises, energy bills and consumable cost increases have not been fully funded and therefore we have to find more money from our own budget. I raise this point as there are so many things I would like to do but at this moment in time are just not possible.

In terms of the positive changes, I wanted to increase the number of enrichment and academic activities. Moving to a common break and lunch for all students with assist with this. Just a reminder that students need to arrive at 8:30 in the morning and school finishes at 15:15 (14:15 Wednesday).

To improve behaviour and student wellbeing we implemented a phone ban in June. This has already made a substantial improvement in behaviour and it is great to see students talking and playing together at break and lunch.

Parents and Carers have said that would like improved communication with school. Over the next six weeks we are moving to a new IT system and a new product called School Synergy. We will let you know the details in September but the app will keep an accurate log of what is happening in school and communication with home.

There is also a homework section where you will be able to track what homework is being set and when it is submitted. We are also implementing a new homework policy that we will share. As I identified earlier in the year, the current system was not fit for purpose but we had to wait until the end of the school year to make the changes required.

I have received many comments about improving the choice of food and allowing students more time to eat. To address this, we have just taken on a new catering supplier who will bring in new menus and more choice. Physically there will be improved service counters which should speed up serving times and we have also created a Year 11 common room. This means that the main canteen will only serve Year 7-10 over 50 minutes.

Sixth form students have also asked for an improved service so the newly created common room will now serve food throughout the day with new menus and we are also serving Costa Coffee. Sixth form students will no longer pay through ParentPay and instead, students can pay directly with debit cards. We hope to encourage students to remain in school and make better use of their study time and our newly created sixth form quiet study space will enable this to happen. The CHSA has kindly donated money to purchase extra Chromebooks for sixth-form students to use.



To address the need to make spending cuts we have had to evaluate every part of the school and we have taken the decision to reduce the number of teachers by four. The impact of this will be an increase in the average class size. We have made this change in as careful a manner as possible and we have managed to do this by not replacing staff who are leaving. Despite these challenges we have achieved a balanced budget, full staff recruitment and an oversubscribed school for September.

Staffing Changes

We say goodbye to Liz Hayden and Ruth Pritchard who are retiring this summer and who, in their roles as Heads of Department, have given many years of service to the school. We will miss their experience and dedication to the school. Adrian Francis is retiring from his Assistant Headteacher role but return as a part-time Geography teacher in September. Dot Thurston, our daytime site team cleaner, is also retiring this month as is our MFL language assistant, Marisa Serrano Marcos.

Congratulations to Jonny Clark who is becoming Head of PE at Sir John Talbot's School in Whitchurch. There are some big changes in ICT with Lynsay Lawson and Griffin Sharry leaving. I thank Lynsay for her excellent work in progressing the school's CEIAG curriculum.

We also have many staff coming to the end of their temporary contracts: Andy Woolley (Science), Sheila Williams (Maths), Ellen Oxtan (RE), Grace Griffiths (RE), Siobhan Mackenzie (English) and Kelly Briddon (English). We also say goodbye to Stella Crozier (Teaching Assistant) and Richard Thomas (Cover Supervisor).

Prom and Leavers Ball

It is the third year that we have held the Year 11 prom at Nunsmere Hall. I was so proud of Year 11 as they have come a long way over the past five years and their behaviour was excellent. Mr Rose was equally proud at the Year 13 Leavers Ball that took place at the Queens Hotel. We wish all our students the very best for the future.



Summer visits 2024

It has been a busy few weeks with Futures Week being a real highlight. It was enjoyed by all including visits to Snowdonia, Chester Zoo, Alton Towers, Liverpool as well as activities organised by Science, Careers, Art and Design and Technology. The weather was perfect for sports day with Years 7, 8 and 9 taking part. New records were set and the behaviour and engagement of the students were excellent.

Our Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to attract large numbers of students and so many students have attended expeditions over the past few months.

History recently visited the battlefields of Northern France and Languages have visited Paris and Normandy. Year 12 are just returning from Montreal as part of the Turing Scheme with CIS.



Ofsted Visit – May 2024

The long-awaited visit in May resulted in the school achieving Good in all areas. A Good rating under the current framework is a real achievement and one we should be proud of. The observations from Ofsted have been useful in identifying areas in our current development plan where we could further improve. Our new development plan is currently being formulated and will be closely focused on the key themes identified by Ofsted, external reviews, and the senior leadership team.



Exam results days are planned for August and we are very hopeful of strong results. We are predicting an average grade of B in the sixth form and a strong positive Progress 8 in Year 11. If our predictions are correct, we will continue to be one of the highest-achieving schools in Cheshire West and Chester.

An exciting year lies ahead as we hope to see the fruit of all of the hard work and changes that are taking place. There will be an evening in September to meet me and my leadership team and learn more about our results, the parental questionnaire and the future direction of the school. I will be in touch soon with a date.

Good luck to Year 11 and 13 on results day, and remember we will be here to help you. Have an enjoyable and restful summer,

Mr Smith.



Science News

Celebrating Insect Week: A Photographic Triumph in Our School!

This year's Insect Week, from June 20th to 30th, was a buzz of excitement with our Year 7 and 8 photography competition. We are thrilled to announce that the winning entry came from Takara Baker (7Ba2), who captured a stunning and rare pink grasshopper. Takara's photograph stood out for its rarity and vibrant colors, perfectly capturing the extraordinary beauty of this unique insect.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the students who participated in the competition. Your enthusiasm and creativity shone through in the amazing array of photos submitted!

Congratulations to Takara Baker for her outstanding achievement, and thank you to all who participated. Keep exploring, capturing, and celebrating the wonders of nature!



World Oceans Day

On June 8th, Mrs. Woolley organized a quiz for students in years 7-9 to celebrate World Oceans Day. The winning form was 8BY1, and they all received a chocolate prize.



Science News

18th May was International Astronomy day. Year 7 celebrated by completing the "Eggstronaut has landed" project. They had to build a space shuttle to safely get their Eggstronaut (egg) back down to planet Earth (dropping it from a height).

We had to build an escape pod for the Eggstronaut to land back down safely on planet Earth after a fire broke out on the Space Station.

There were lots of materials available to use but the rules included:

- The egg had to be seen through a plastic film window (this enabled us to check for cracks),
- 40 minutes to build
- Some materials were limited

The dependent variables (the ones we measure and find out) were the length of time it took to fall and whether or not the egg survived. The 2 categories that the judges (Mrs Woolley & Mr Sellar) were looking to award were the slowest time to fall and best design.

We dropped the escape pods from approximately 10m.

I won the slowest fall time with my parachute design that consisted of a 3 by 3 rectangle of paper cellotaped together and 2 balloons on top. The corners of the paper had some string tied to them which was then taped to a plastic cup which held the egg-with cotton wool underneath- and had the plastic film on top. I chose a parachute as it was simple and also had lots of air resistance to slow down the fall.

Everyone received a prize for participating, and everyone enjoyed it. I would gladly do it again as it was a lot of fun. Even if you're not the smartest, you can still give it a try. I would recommend STEM competitions to anyone.

Aled Smalldon 7BY2

Winner of The Eggstronaut Has Landed competition.



On May 22nd, we celebrated International Day for Biological Diversity.

Biodiversity is crucial for supporting all life on Earth, including humans. A wide range of animals, plants, and microorganisms are necessary for maintaining healthy ecosystems that provide us with the air we breathe and the food we eat.

To celebrate the day we had a competition in Science. Participants were required to take photographs of native plants and insects/animals that are important to the ecosystem of the area they live in.

The winning photograph was taken by Harry Wyrko 7L1. The photo is titled "*The Robin*" - "*Who is looking at who?*"



CHS Hustings

On Friday the 21st of June Christleton High School held its usual general election hustings event. Candidates from Chester South and Eddisbury were invited to the school to take questions from the students and debate key political issues in the run-up to what was an incredible election. On the day we had Conservative candidate Aphra Brandreth, Labour candidate Angeliki Stogia, Liberal Democrat candidate Rob Herd, Reform UK candidate Peter Langley and Green Party candidate Steve Davies present. Independent candidate Gillian Edwards also sent in a short speech to be read out.

The candidates were really put through their paces with insightful and well-researched questions from our Sixth Form students. The session flew by with each candidate having the chance to reply to questions put forward by our student audience with topics ranging from the economy to voting reform. This was a great educational experience for our students and really gave our first-time voters something to think about before going to the polls.

A special mention has to be made to our year 12 student hosts Chloe Makinson and Olver MaClaren who did a great job controlling what was at times a heated debate and to Mr Ralphson, who organised the electronics that made the whole event possible. On behalf of everyone at Christleton High School, we would also like to thank all the candidates who gave up their precious time to make the event such a success and help to galvanise young people in politics.



CHS General Election

With help from the year 12 Politics students and the History Hot Scholars the Christleton High School General Election took place on Thursday 27th June, one week before the real thing.

All students and staff at the school had the opportunity to vote for candidates and parties running in the Chester South and Eddisbury Constituency including Conservative candidate Aphra Brandreth, Labour candidate Angeliki Stogia, Liberal Democrat candidate Rob Herd, Reform UK candidate Peter Langley, Green Party candidate Steve Davies and independent candidate Gillian Edwards. The polls were manned by Politics students throughout lunchtime and hundreds turned out to vote.



The atmosphere at the polling station was a sight to behold with students ranging in age from 11-18 in heated discussions about who to vote for and why. Following on from the hustings event the week before, Sixth Formers had a lot to think about and there were staff and students on hand to answer questions from any of the younger pupils.

After an afternoon counting votes the returning officers Mr Max Pritchard and Mr Dewi Smalldon shared the following CHS results.

The winning candidate was Angeliki Stogia from the Labour Party.

Aphra Brandreth (Conservative) - 10
 Steve Davies (Green) - 89
 Gillian Edwards (Independent) - 6
 Rob Herd (Liberal Democrats) - 51
 Peter Langley (Reform UK) - 85
 Angeliki Stogia (Labour) - 161

Art Summer Sketchbook Winners

	Year 7	Year 8
1st	Hugh Roberts 7L2 Jodie Smith 7BY1	Louis Gardner 8K2 Megan Burton 8BY2
2nd	Ralph Parker 7BY1 Nidhi Vasanth 7L1	Hanson Tsui 8By1 Rachel Thomas 8K2
3rd	Alex Counce 7BA1 Amaya Olubodun 7BA2	Max Pritchard 8L1 Esmee Patterson 8BY1

	Year 9
1st	Henry Welsh 9L2 Zoe Xiong 9Ba1
2nd	Jacob Williams 9BY2 Annaliese Worth 9L2
3rd	Charlie Hinde 9K2 Lily Dawson 9BY2

Frankie's Sunshine Garden

It all started during lockdown. Frankie grew sunflowers from seed and left them on neighbours doorsteps to help us all stay connected during the pandemic. What started out as a random act of kindness has grown into a flourishing business where Frankie has been able to support over 15 separate charities donating hundreds of pounds from her plants, home grown seeds and fresh produce.

She now offers workshops and has recently been supporting the Warrington Refugee and asylum seeker group by demonstrating how to make origami seed packets and how to plant sunflowers. At home she grows everything from celery and strawberry plants to nasturtiums and giant pansies. She spends most weekends in the spring and summer months at fetes and car boot sales, selling her seedlings and established plants. Her new range is dried homegrown mint and basil, for seasoning.

KS3 Chess Tournament

This year's Key Stage 3 Chess Tournament came to a dramatic conclusion, with a showdown between William Cooper 8K1 and Josh Roberts 8BA1.

Both finalists had triumphed over competitors from various year groups to book their seat at the top table. The final got off to a slow start with the competitors coping well with the pressure (not going to pieces), despite the crowds that had formed to check out the game. As the final battle raged on, both students felt the heat from the crowd; both friends and former competitors calling out rookie moves and cheering on the pair. This was the longest game of the tournament so far, with each competitor putting up an excellent fight. The final king of the castle, however, was William Cooper, with a well-deserved victory.

Whilst the tournament has wrapped up for this year, chess club continues on Monday lunchtimes in M7. It is open to anyone who wishes to get involved, from rookie to grandmaster. For those wishing to take part next year, watch out for the announcement in the bulletin and get training!



Christleton High Schools Inaugural Science Fair!

During Science Week in October this year, we invited KS3 students from Christleton and KS2 students from catchment primary schools to take part in our first ever Science Fair.

The theme of British Science Week this year was 'Time'. Students were invited to work individually or in groups to complete a project of their choice linked to 'Time'.

Students then presented their projects at the Science Fair on June 5th. We were very impressed to see the variety of projects as well as the imagination and effort that went into them. We certainly have some budding Scientists in our midst!

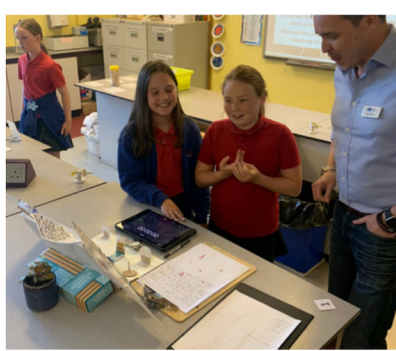
Well done to all those who won rosettes in the different categories and our overall winners!

Thank you to the CHSA who provided refreshments and to our judges Paul Heath (Christleton Governor) and Paul Vernon (from UKRI).

IT Transition event

The BITE (Business, IT and Economics) department was visited by 60 keen Year 5 students from Huntington this half term who came to develop their programming and IT skills.

They had the opportunity to complete coding on Python, image editing and to also design an App. All students had a fantastic time and many said they were excited to come to Christleton next year to develop these skills even further and we look forward to welcoming them to our school.



STEM Club

During STEM club, students have been exploring multiple possibilities with their ideas. This year's projects have included 3D printed aircraft, a bespoke formula one track, a periscope design as well as clock mechanisms!

The club has involved the exploration of different mechanisms to create functional objects, learning new skills through 3D printing, laser cutting, and engraving as well as encountering new materials such as Polymorph.

Students have embarked on conceptual challenges and have worked collaboratively to produce high-quality outcomes



Futures Week

Year 8 Geograpy Trip to Snowdonia

In year eight, we visited Betws-y-Coed and Cwm Idwal. Both places were incredibly beautiful and had stunning natural features. We learned about these locations in our geography lessons, discovering that they were formed by glaciers during the ice age.

Betws-y-Coed is a small town in Wales near Snowdonia. We went there to study the impact of tourism on the environment. While there, we visited local shops and even bought ice cream. We also took the time to sit on the grass and create a chart evaluating the area's tourist facilities and green spaces, as well as the availability of information for tourists.

Cwm Idwal, located in Snowdonia, also showed evidence of being shaped by glaciers during the ice age. It was a breathtaking place. Upon our arrival, we walked up to the quarry, enjoyed our lunch near the beach, and then continued further up. We observed and recorded the weather and scenery in our books. It was a great opportunity to take a break from school while learning about the beauty of our local environment.

Summer Dawes 8By1



We went on a school trip to Cwm Idwal and Betws-y-Coed and we learnt lots of interesting things. On the walk at Cwm Idwal we were walking on the natural looking path as our teacher pointed out that there was an erratic rock on the hill. An erratic rock is a rock or boulder that differs from the surrounding rock and is believed to have been brought from a distance by glacial action.

When we arrived at the lake we had a scenic picnic then we made some observations. One of the observations that I made was that the corrie was a similar shape to an armchair. It was a very interesting walk.

Afterwards we went to Betws-y-Coed and explored the area. It was very fascinating and I loved walking around Betws-y-Coed as it is a very picturesque village. We sat on a vast field and wrote some notes in our booklets about the surrounding area. We then went to some dainty shops and had a look around.

Some of us got ice cream and they tasted delicious. I really enjoyed the trip as I learnt lots of new and intriguing information. It was a great day out and everyone had lots of fun.

Anya Bentham 8By1



Futures Week

Year 7 STEM Maths Activities 2024

Two rooms were set up with lots of puzzles and activities including tessellations, pentominoes, games, knots, data collecting, symmetry and lots, lots more.

Students rotated around each room, trying their best to complete the activities. All students were engaged and showed resilience throughout. It was a fantastic experience from a staff point of view, to witness how students reasoned and problem-solved, and worked together.

Here are some quotes from the students:

"I enjoyed making mirror images, it was very challenging" "I had fun" "I liked the flea race"

"I had fun learning new things and doing things we don't normally do"

"The activities were fun and engaging. I learnt some new and interesting things like how to make knots and to solve pentomino problems"

"I really enjoyed the puzzles"

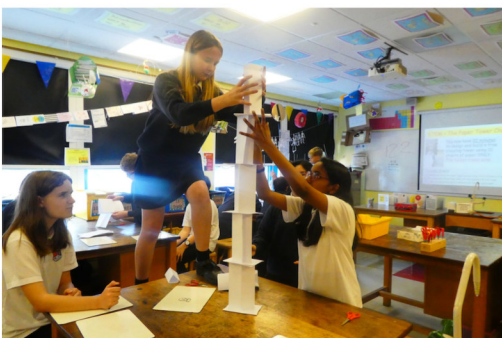
"Good range of activities and they were challenging and interesting"

by Belle, Daisy, Dylan, Isaac, Lena, Jess and Jessica, Year 7

Tallest paper Tower STEM challenge

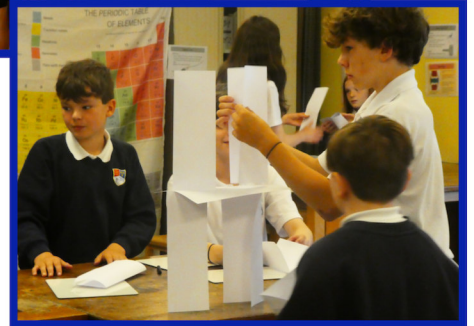
During Future's week, we had a STEM day. This stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. As one of our activities, we had to use our STEM skills to build the tallest paper tower with only 10 sheets of paper. We could not use glue, staples, tape etc just scissors and paper.

It was very competitive between each team and lots of towers kept collapsing and had to be rebuilt. However, we built the tallest tower at a whopping 148cm tall and were the overall winners.



This challenge required teamwork, patience, problem-solving and resilience. It was lots of fun and something that year 7s next year can look forward to.

Belle Cogan-Williams and Daisy Millar 7BY2



Design & Technology Year 9 Challenge

Year 9 students were set the challenge to create their very own nest box within four hours. Nest boxes are instrumental in providing a safe place for birds to nest.

The day provided students with the opportunity to put their woodworking skills to the test, requiring students to measure, saw, drill and use biscuit joints to create their pine nest box.

The day resulted in a complete set of accurate nest boxes with either a finish or laser-engraved decoration applied to the surface!



Futures Week

GCSE Food and Nutrition

Students who have opted to study GCSE Food and Nutrition spent the day learning a variety of skills and techniques needed to make a Victoria Sandwich Cake. This included lining cake tins, making a sponge mixture, making buttercream, piping and decorating skills and chocolate craft skills such as chocolate shards, feathering and honeycomb chocolate. Some great cakes were produced and fun was had by all.



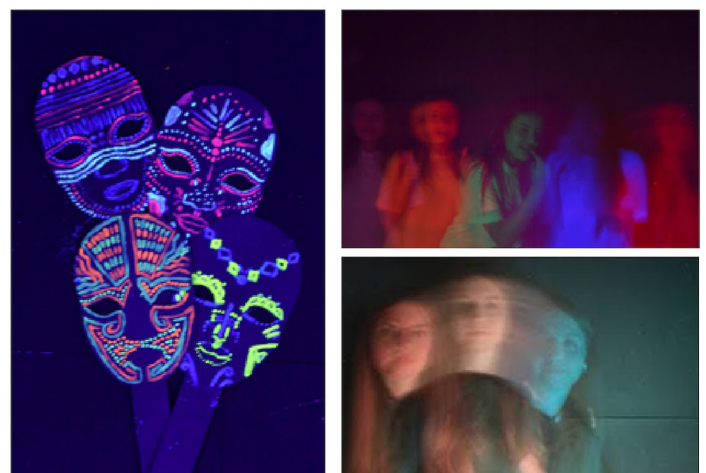
Futures Week Photography

Today's art activities were eye-opening. Instead of working on the usual things we do in KS3 Art lessons, we had the opportunity to try out what GCSE Art and A Level Photography are like. We started by painting a mask using paint that stands out in UV light.

We had the opportunity to experiment with photography which is a subject you can do at A level and even a little in GCSE Fine Art! We started off by making beautiful neon masks which we coloured with special neon paints. We started by making a mask with scissors and a craft knife. Once we had finished our neon patterns, we took lots of cool photos with our friends. We stuck the masks onto the studio wall and, when the light was turned off, we turned on the UV light and the masks looked amazing! The pictures turned out really well as we all had masks with different colours. I've learnt how to paint using a new kind of paint and how to direct people to take pictures. Here are the results!

After lunch, we moved on to blended images using pulsed flash. We used flashing lights and long exposures to make it look like each person was in each picture more than once. We had to work in a pitch-black room and wear a black cape so that we were partly obscured. We did screaming actions and tried to make wings out of our arms. It was so much fun, especially when we used coloured light. We can't wait to start our GCSE course in year 10!

By Abigail Egan and Cinnia Cheung 9L1



Futures Week

Paris Trip - Year 8

Paris was such an incredible trip, from the beautiful views at the top of the Eiffel Tower to karaoke with Sean (our coach driver) and Coco (our fabulous tour guide). Like I mentioned, the views on top of the Eiffel Tower were stunning and even worth the real workout to get to the top. We also went on a coach and ferry trip around Paris, looking at all the beautiful monuments such as the Arc de Triomphe which was amazing to see firsthand. My favourite part was visiting the Chateau de Fontainebleau due to its gorgeous and intricate architecture and rooms, I wanted to move in. I would definitely recommend the trip as I honestly could not fault it one bit.

Martha Elston 8BA1

Our trip to Paris was magnifique! The staff made the trip great, especially Coco's karaoke, which was the highlight of our trip. Shaun, our coach driver, was also fabulous. The pain au chocolat made me feel very French; however, the escargot was unique.

Julia Kotlinska 8L2

The 2024 CHS Paris Trip was absolutely amazing! I would definitely recommend it! We had loads of fun going up the Eiffel Tower, speaking French to locals, going on a boat tour on The Seine, and even visiting and buying from an authentic French market. The PGL accommodation was lovely and so were the staff, would do it again a million times!

William Cooper 8K1



Year 10 Careers Day

What an incredible week Year 10 had! Over 200 pupils went on work experience for the week. They were placed in various locations including local primary schools, local businesses, and even a London TV set!

To kick start the week, Year 10 were in school on Monday, July 1st, where they had sessions on CV writing, interview techniques, lifestyle finances, and apprenticeships. We even had a former student of CHS run one of the sessions.



The feedback from employers has been amazing, with many describing our students as having a "can-do" attitude, being positive role models for the school, and demonstrating proactivity.



Futures Week

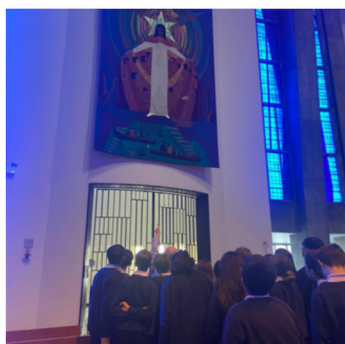
Year 8 RS Places of Worship Trip

Winding roads lead us to a little Temple in Runcorn, Wat Phra Singh. We disembarked the coach and were welcomed into the open arms of an overwhelmingly beautiful Buddha statue. Perched up high, the monk dressed in various different robes taught us all the different Buddhist meditations and aspects of the culture. This enlightened us and soon we began to queue on our knees to get a little white string bracelet in memory of the event. Many of the teachings were very interesting and all of us had exciting questions to contribute to the experience. Some of them being, "How is the lotus flower is relevant to Buddhism?" To which the monk replied with stories and linked back to how the religion came to be.

Then we made our way back onto the coach where we advanced onwards to the Allerton Orthodox Synagogue. There we learned much about the Jewish teachings and commandments, we even got to see sacred objects such as the Torah Scrolls, the Ner Tamid (eternal flame) and the menorah (a Jewish candlestick).

We then made our way to the Metropolitan Cathedral. This towering building was very modern and the architecture provided different lighting in each room. Everything was strategically placed and many of the sculptures/art around the Cathedral referenced the city of Liverpool. As we made our way around, we all appreciated the true beauty of what we had seen! It was an absolutely amazing trip and I'm so glad that I got the opportunity to learn more about religions I might not have gotten the chance to before. Thank you very much to all the wonderful teachers and staff on the trip we are all thankful.

Tisa Smoje 8K1



This was an amazing day filled with lots of exciting new places that lots of us had never visited before. We learnt so many new things about three different religions and what the people of that religion practice. We started the day off with a bus ride to a Buddhist temple where we met two Buddhist Monks. One of the two men explained to us the story of Siddhartha Gautama. Some of us asked questions such as: what the Monk's lifestyle was like, and their favourite part of their religion and some people asked the Monk about decorations in the temple.

After we visited the Temple, we made our way to a Jewish Synagogue. Here we met a Jewish person named David. He explained to us lots of interesting things about Judaism and what he practises. He also showed us different parts of the Synagogue such as the Torah Scrolls. At the end of our visit to the Synagogue, David blew a large ram horn called a Shofar which is used on Jewish public and religious occasions.

After we had finished we took another bus ride to a Sikh Gurdwara. In this place of worship, the girls had to wear headscarves and the boys had to wear a cap to show respect towards the Sikh people in the Gurdwara. We went upstairs and were told to put our hands together and bow to the Guru Granth Sahib and then went and sat cross-legged on the floor. One of the men in the Gurdwara showed us a video about Sikhism and once that had finished took some questions about the Gurdwara.

Our time on the places of worship trip was a really exciting experience for all of us that went.

Georgie Allwood 8BY2

Year 12 Turing Trip to Canada

On Friday, 28th June, 24 Y12 students participated in a work and cultural experience trip to Montreal in Canada. This trip was fully funded by the Turing Scheme, which is a new UK Government program aimed at promoting international opportunities for students. It was announced after Brexit as a replacement for the EU's Erasmus program and has provided funded placements for students from schools.

The funding through the Turing Scheme allowed the education providers to give their students the opportunity to:

- Develop their skills
- Gain international experience
- Boost their employability
- Develop their language skills and acquire a deeper understanding of other cultures

The following is a reflection on the trip completed by Ella Hassells and Rose Levitt in Year 12:

Being a part of the Turing Scheme trip to Montréal was an amazing opportunity. Throughout the trip, we benefited from cultural and work-related experiences, such as visiting museums, guided tours through the city, and working in conjunction with "Les Amis de la Montagne," an environmental charity based in Montréal. We learned a lot about the city and its people through the museums such as the MEM, which sheds light on the lives of Montréalers, and the McCord-Stewart Museum, which had an exhibition on the lives of the indigenous peoples of Québec, providing us with important insights while in Canada.

We were fortunate to be there during both the Montréal International Jazz Festival and Canada Day, which provided us with a deeper insight into the culture and celebrations present in the city. Sharing these experiences early on brought us closer as a group. In addition, we gained more understanding about the people in Montréal by visiting the police station, which gave us insight into their work and experiences.



The work projects were centered around the symbolic Mount Royal. With our project, we focused on the conservation of the mountain. This project required us to research aspects of the city that we wouldn't have known about otherwise, and put into perspective the hike we had done earlier in the week. We rounded off the trip with a celebratory dinner after presentations, during which our group was delighted to have won the prize for the best presentation!

Overall, we had an incredible trip to Montréal because we gained a deep cultural understanding, which was especially beneficial for us as language students. It was important for us to explore a different francophone culture, particularly in a city that differs so much and is very multicultural. We're so grateful to the CHS and CIS teachers who were so supportive. They truly made this trip a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

Ella Hassells 12.3 and Rose Levitt 12.4



Sixth Form Futures Events

UCAS Convention

On Friday 14th June the year 12 students all went to Liverpool for their annual UCAS conference. This yearly event provides students with an exciting opportunity to learn about different options available to them after Sixth Form. There were a number of talks on a variety of topics ranging from student finance to apprenticeships in addition and stalls from lots of Universities and employers. Days like this help inform our students of the plethora of opportunities available to them and give them a chance to ask questions of admissions teams and employers.

Work Experience week 1st-5th July 2024

Students have secured placements in various fields such as arts colleges, farriers, hospitals, Unilever, and hospitality. Some have also participated in digital placements offered by companies like the BBC and NHS, reflecting the realities of the modern flexible workplace. Employers have provided universally positive feedback, and it was wonderful to see students return with increased confidence and a renewed understanding of the purpose of their 6th form studies. A big thank you to everyone who hosted our students on work placements; this is a truly important and beneficial experience for them.

Careers Conference 8-9th July 2024

Christleton Sixth Form's annual careers conference was a great success again this year! During day one, students all had the opportunity to hear talks from a host of professionals ranging from civil servants to festival organisers; from CEOs to surgeons. These talks provided students with a real insight into what these jobs entailed and, most importantly, how our students can get into the career they are interested in. We finished the day with some team-building and the Christleton spirit was evident as students threw themselves in enthusiastically, collaborating fantastically with others and committing fully to their teams!

Day two was our mock interview day. Our smartly-dressed students arrived at the school ready to be interviewed by our guest professionals.

This was their opportunity to show themselves at their best, while at the same time getting a real taste of what competitive interviews are all about. As always, the professionals did not hold back, grilling them with questions as varied as "What law would you change if you came into power?" and "Which Mr Men character best represents you?". The students performed exceptionally well, with many of our guests saying, that had it been a real job, our students would have been hired and offered them lots of valuable feedback. This year we were also lucky enough to have a workshop led by Carol from the Money Charity on Finances & Living Independently.

A huge thank you to all of those people who gave up their valuable time to come to school and help prepare our Sixth Form students for the future. Without them, the days would not be possible.

As always, our brilliant students threw themselves into all these chances and conducted themselves with maturity, confidence and enthusiasm. Many are making insightful decisions based on the information and advice they received or the new experiences they have enjoyed. We are about to start the UCAS application process and I can't wait to support them towards their various ambitions!

New Sixth Form Facilities - coming soon!

The designs for the new Sixth Form centre are nearly complete. This brand new silent study area will be available exclusively for Sixth Form in September.



We are also excited to announce that there will be a Costa Coffee Bar in our brand new Sixth Form Centre - ready for the new Sept 2024 entry!

COSTA
COFFEE



Pembroke Scholar's Essay competition

Huge Congratulations go to Archie Croft, in Year 12, who has won the Pembroke Scholar's Essay competition for Science!

Archie has been taking part in the OxNet programme, which gives students the opportunity to experience teaching from professors at Oxford University.

For the essay Archie had to discuss of the approaches of two scientists; Khun and Popper, and incorporated his knowledge of and interest in Formula One. Archie said "Studying History at A-level potentially gave me the edge over some of the science students, because it helped develop my analytical skills and I deliberately chose to include Formula One as it was more original and I hoped it would stand out."

Archie won the offer of a place on the Pembroke College summer school. He wants to study Aerospace Engineering at University and we're sure he has a fantastic future ahead of him.

Bank of England Visit

Year 12 Economics and Politics students had a visit from a Senior Executive at the Bank of England this term. This was a great opportunity for the students to learn about the history of the Bank of England and its significant role in the UK economy. They also got to explore career options in the financial markets and ask questions.

It was an insightful talk that provided the students with firsthand knowledge about the impact of key decision making and will support them in their future careers. Many students were inspired by the pictures of the blocks of gold, leaving the main question: who will be the first to have one?



RS 3D Art Competition:

After the success of the RS Departments 'My Culture Through My Eyes' competition, RS Hot Scholars launched one of their own!

The competition was an RS themed 3D Art Competition. Students were encouraged to create a piece of 3D art to showcase a religious festival of their choice. The winner of this competition was 7K2's Chanidu Huruggamuwa. He created a beautiful depiction, out of clay!

Chanidu said the following about his piece of art: "I made this clay model about a scene in Buddhism. It shows when Queen Mahāmāyā gave birth to the Lord Buddha. He then walked on the ground and took seven steps, after every step a lotus flower grew from beneath his feet. He then pointed to the sky and said 'I am the Supreme One'."

Chanidu received a £20 Amazon voucher for winning the competition and his artwork can be seen in the RS Department display cabinet.



ELSA - Emotional Literacy Support Assistants

This year 2 members of staff, Maria Chapman Specialist (TA) and Rachel Rees-Hughes (Wellbeing Co-ordinator), have undertaken a yearlong course run by CWAC Educational Psychologists to become fully qualified ELSAs. ELSAs are warm, kind and caring people who want to make children and young people feel happy in school and to reach their potential socially, emotionally and academically. They understand the barriers to learning that some children and young people might have and can help them with this.

An ELSA is not there to fix problems but to help them find their own solutions and offer that important support to a child or young person.

Rachel Rees-Hughes - "An outstanding moment for me this year was a Year 7 student who had struggled with the transition from Primary to High School and had ELSA support from me. She came confidently to the Hive to introduce a friend of hers to me as her friend had friendship issues. She introduced me to her friend, and as the three of us were trying to establish the support needed, the student who had had previous ELSA support then began to give her friend some insightful, emotionally intelligent advice"

Maria Chapman - "I have carried out individual sessions since the Autumn half term and have only just recently started group sessions working on friendships.

One student commented that "it was the best activity ever" after their latest one.

It is great to see students develop their emotional literacy skills and enjoy doing it at the same time"

We often have to explain to young people that we do not sing *Let It Go* during sessions.



Rewards:

The 5Cs

We recognise it is important to celebrate our students not only in their academic performance but also in how students demonstrate our 5Cs on a daily basis. These values uphold our school ethos and we believe are extremely important in contributing to a happy, hardworking and caring environment. In order to celebrate our students, we asked form tutors to nominate 5 students in their form who have demonstrated one of these values. This was by no means an easy task and each student has been rewarded with a certificate. Each Head of Year has then selected 5 overall winners for each group who they believe have demonstrated the 5Cs consistently throughout the year. Well done to all students who have been selected!



Golden Ticket Winners

We have also celebrated the progress our students have made this year on their learning habits and teachers and support staff had the opportunity to award the Golden Tickets to deserving students. All students who received a ticket were entered into the prize draw and the overall winners were selected and won a range of prizes which included, Costa vouchers, stationery and bowling tickets. Well done to all who received a ticket and a prize!

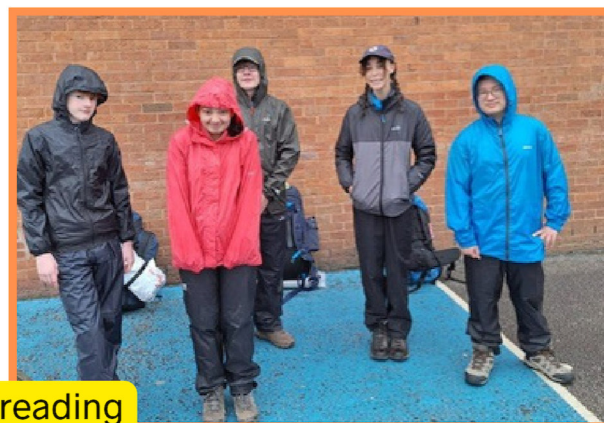


Duke of Edinburgh



BRONZE

“Well worth it, even if we did go wrong. Orientation is key”



“I was dreading the walk but I enjoyed DofE”



“I love all of what we have done, learnt lots and eaten loads”

Duke of Edinburgh



"I'm proud of overcoming my anxiety/fear of the cows."



"I am proud of improving my map skills, perseverance and team work"



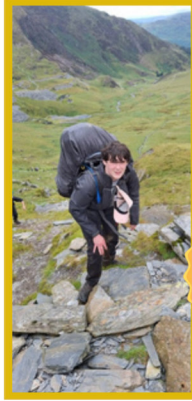
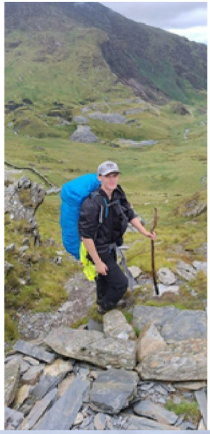
"I've had an amazing time and now know how to take a bearing"



"Friday was difficult as we made a big mistake, but because of that we have been better at making correct decisions when map reading"



Duke of Edinburgh



GOLD

“Practice makes perfect”



“Roller coaster of emotions”



Welcome New Year 7 Students!

Having met them several times over the last few weeks we are very excited to welcome our new cohort of Year 7 students in September!

Our programme of transition events includes: -

- Visits to local primary schools to meet Year 6 children with Mrs Barlow, Mr Cosstick, and Mr Francis.
- SEND Transition Morning
- New Intake Day in July, when our incoming Year 7 students meet their new form tutor, and follow their secondary school timetable for a day
- New Intake Evening for Parents and incoming Year 7 students
- Summer Activities: see details below.

We have really enjoyed meeting all of these children and look forward to them making a great contribution to the school in September.



Year 9 Battlefields Trip

In July of this year, a group of 40 Year 9 students from our school had the incredible opportunity to embark on a meaningful and educational Battlefields trip to Belgium and France. During this trip, students had the chance to visit a number of poignant memorial sites and graveyards, where they could pay their respects and even search for the resting places of their own family members and Christleton soldiers.



They were also able to immerse themselves in history by walking through the very trenches and tunnels that were once navigated by soldiers during World War I. Furthermore, the students visited 'Talbot House', a historical location where soldiers sought rest and recovery after enduring the hardships of war - an experience that profoundly deepened their understanding of the human aspect of conflict.



As a particularly moving honor, this year, three of our students - Genevieve Swinney, Harry Edwards, and Zoe Higgins - were selected to lay a wreath at the Menin Gate ceremony, paying tribute to the fallen and serving as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made during times of war.



Sports Day 2024

The sun was shining for our first full KS3 Sports Day in over 6 years! It was only fitting in an Olympic year that we carried on our Olympics theme with houses based on continents and each form representing a country!

The flag parade was a sight to behold and students went all out on the decorations with some incredible representation of the countries and colours including bunting, flags, balloon arches, food by Y8 winners 8BY2 Canada and their epic pancakes, blow up crocodiles and cork hats from Y9 winners 9KE1 Australia and even a life size 3-person cardboard Zebra created by year 7 decorations winners 7BA2.

Onto the events and it was an absolute joy to see so many students (and staff) taking part from the participation 800m run, along with all the field and track events, with quite literally records going all over the field...

Including the following school records:

Tia O - Long Jump & 200m

George X - 100m

Ed R – Long Jump

Nye E S - 300m

Nathan O - 100m

Warren W - 300m

Abby A - 300m and equalled the Long Jump record

Overall Winners:

Year 7 BY1 Jamaica

Year 8 BY2 Canada

Year 9 KE1 Australia

Thank you to all KS3 students, the buzz on the field was tangible and students really seemed to embrace the day and all its activities!

Follow us on Instagram to see more pictures and read about our successes this half term.

@christletonhighpe



Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 6th November 2024 (5:00 - 7:15pm)

Come and hear about the 27 different A-level and Btec courses on offer, our 360 Futures programme, the Extended Project Qualification, Mathematical Studies, and our first-class careers guidance and university application support.

To register your interest for this event, please email Mrs Jenny Brown, our Sixth Form Administrator, on brownj@christletonhigh.co.uk

We look forward to meeting you!

The school prospectus and enrolment pack will be available for collection at the event.



CHRISTLETON
SIXTH FORM

Term dates and dates for your diary:

- 19.07.24 Close for Summer Break
- 15.08.24 A-Level Results Day
- 22.08.24 GCSE Results Day

Autumn Term 2024

- 02.09.24 Staff INSET (students not in)
- 03.09.24 Year 7 & 12s only in school
- 18.04.24 All students return to school (Week A)

Please visit our [website](#) for further information.
Follow us on [@ChristletonHS](#) and [christletonhighpe](#) on Instagram for all our sporting news.



Have a safe and
restful break, see you
in September!