

### Christmas Weekly Round-up

The end of two very long terms is in sight and we have packed a lot in to them. Here is a round-up of some of the events that have happened in just the last few weeks! **Just a reminder that school closes on 19<sup>th</sup> December at 2.05pm and re-commences on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 8.40am.**

### Christmas Jumper Day

A very big thank you to all our students, whose jumpers have brightened up our day and for the generous donations to the foodbank, we managed to fill an office with our donations!







### **It's Panto Time again! Oh yes, it is.....**

40 wonderful Year 10 students used one of their three wishes, dusted off their flying carpets and took a trip to 'Old Sturry Road' to watch the rags and riches story of Aladdin at the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

It was a truly marvellous show full of music, mummies, and mayhem. Lots of laughter was had by all, although they hadn't bargained on getting drenched!





## **D of E**

Here at Chatham & Clarendon the Duke of Edinburgh Award has started up again for the 2023/2024 year and we are all very excited to help students either start or continue, on their DofE journey, whether this be at Bronze or Silver level. Bronze has kicked the year off with our biggest cohort yet, which saw an incredible 84 students in Year 9 signing up to do it (45% of the year group!!) whilst our Silver cohort has 42 spaces available starting next term; the information for that has been sent out! If you or your son/daughter have any questions about the DofE award, please do get in touch!

I would also like to take this opportunity to make a plea; some of you may be upgrading outdoor type equipment this time of year and we would love to make use of any old personal equipment that you may have. Some students are put off the award as they cannot afford their own boots, sleeping bags or rucksacks etc. Whilst we do have a supply in our stores already, as the award is growing each year, we would be very grateful for other pieces of personal equipment that we could utilise, so if you have any unused or unwanted equipment gathering dust at home, we will make good use of it.

Finally, I would like to thank my DofE staff who helped me tremendously this last year! Mrs Morgan and Mrs Stoner, thank you for all of your support on all of the 6 expeditions, and to Mr Mayo for your continued support during every training session as well! I could not offer the students this tremendous opportunity without you. Mr Topping - *Duke of Edinburgh Award Manager*



## PE

We have had many sporting events take place already this year ranging from Rugby to Futsal, Dodgeball to Swimming. Updates are regularly added to the PE Instagram account, including photos from many of the competitions. To stay fully informed please follow the PE Instagram account at @ccgs\_pe\_dept

### **Schools Challenge 2023**

I am really pleased to say that this year, CCGS entered 3 teams (one intermediate and two senior teams) in the Schools Challenge competition. This is the equivalent of University Challenge for secondary schools across the country. This term we played our first-round matches against the City of London School, Ripon Grammar School and the Haberdashers' Boys' School. All 3 teams defended the school colours well, showing a wide range of subject specific and general knowledge. The team who played Ripon Grammar was victorious and is awaiting news of who they will be drawn against for the second round. We are looking forward to the next stage of the competition.  
S. Thelliez

### **KS4/5 French Film Club**

Once a term, le Francofil gathers a few aficionados of French cinema who love nothing more than to share popcorn, sit back and dive into two hours of French entertainment. In Term 1, we watched "Entre les Murs", which had won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Festival in 2008 as well as being Oscar nominated in the category of Best Foreign Language Film of the Year. This term, it was the light hearted comedy "Pourris Gâtés", featuring the much-loved French actor Gérard Jugnot. It is always a pleasure to welcome those who share my love of French and of cinema and are happy to spend a bit of their time exploring a different culture. I look forward to welcoming a few more at next term's showing.

S. Thelliez

### **TS Charity Week**

TS Charity week was held from 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> November, raising money for the Pilgrim's Hospice. Students across Thomas-Sharman approached this week with their usual enthusiasm and all year groups got involved in planning events. What was particularly heart-warming was seeing students from across different year groups helping and supporting each other in their efforts to raise money. Money is still coming in, but we have raised in excess of £1200 for this worthy cause. Thank you to all who took part and all who supported us.

Mrs Cackett and Mr Harris

### **Geography students work hard to keep the school clean.**

During the last week of Term 1, a number of Geography classes took part in a big push towards keeping our environment clean. In one afternoon, two classes were able to clear 15 large black bin bags of rubbish from across the Chatham House school site. In total, more than 25 large black bin bags of rubbish were cleared over the course of the week, with thanks going to 7BY, 9KHG and 8TSB. In Term 2, 8GZ and 9KHG also took part in a litter pick across the school site in a bid to keep our environment clean and raise standards of cleanliness. It is important that we all play our part in keeping our environment tidy, and there is never a bad time to borrow a litter picker from Mrs Stoner or the site team to do your bit. A big thank you from the Geography Department to all involved.



### **Marathon Man!**

Our Payroll Manger & Catering Manager, Mr Baker-Milner will be running the 2024 London Marathon in support of Multiple Sclerosis UK, following his wife's recent diagnosis. Any donation,



no matter how big or small, would be very much appreciated! You can donate here - [Mark Baker-Milner](https://www.justgiving.com/Mark-Baker-Milner) is fundraising for MS-UK ([justgiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com)) OR – scan the QR code below.



### **Senior UKMT Maths Challenge 2023**

The results of the Senior UKMT maths challenge have arrived and we are so proud of our young mathematicians. Our students achieved an amazing 81 certificates overall, with 7 gold, 22 silver and 52 bronze certificates in this national competition.

The seven students with a gold certificate have made it to the follow-on round, the Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo and they are already busy prepping for it.

Congratulations to all our mathematicians taking part, well done!

#### **Gold certificates:**

Jake McGregor, Zaki Richards, Marco Guzina-Gibson, Alicia Luxford, Amy Joseph, Francesca Coldham, William Harrison

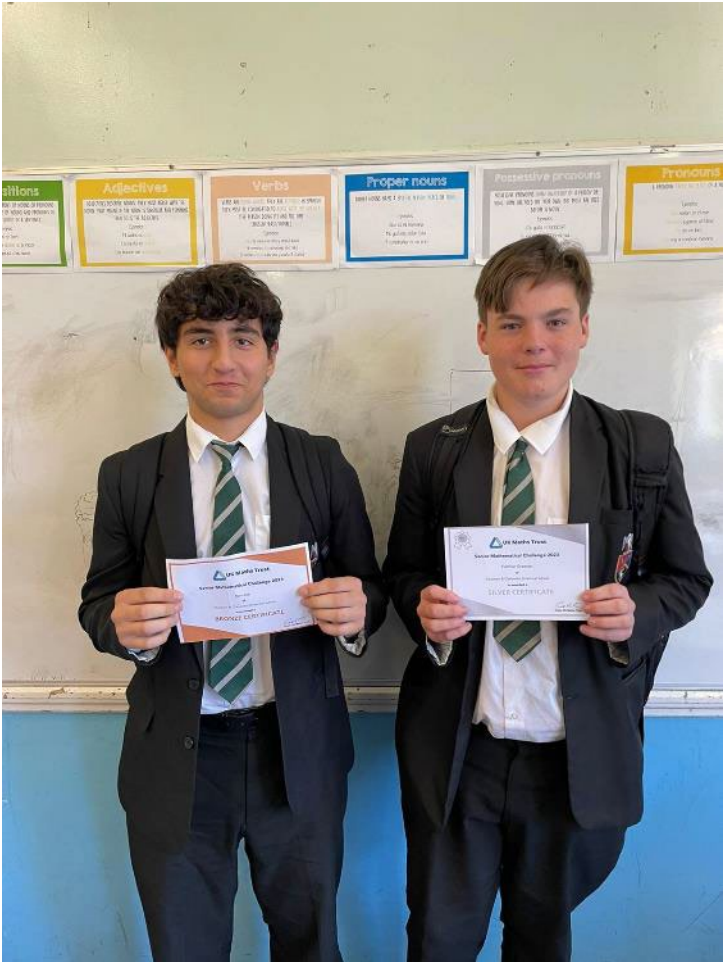
#### **Silver certificates:**

Hayden Gittins, Sorcha Power, Mac Yang, Lyon Downton, Logan Remedios-Sykes, Max Baker, Luke Nash, Natasha Townsend, Matthew Green, Peter Ni, Namish Jain, Sam Thompson, Audrey Benjamin, Reece Davies, Lucas Bush, Sebastian Merry, Alexandra Townsend, Fletcher Greenan, Jack Atkins, Cody Smith, George Hall, Lizzie Laffey

#### **Bronze certificates:**

Charlie Bishop, Kyle Alltoft-Stockwell, Emily Ogilvie, Malachi Phasey, William Groombridge, Archie Sweeney, Olive Yalinkilicli, Lewis Gore, Leon Lee, Elijah Moir, Jason Searles, Triston Burrell, Ollie Pope, Daniel Wallden, Samuel Pearson, Ruby Saunders, Ron Zaki, Charlie Lastella, Tilly Crimmins, Finlay Jarvis, Oliver Burch, Jimmy Gallagher, Jack Soileux-May, Renuga Rasiah, Callum Mackinnon, Logan Sandwell, Arthur Jeffries, Ben Macaulay, Logan Jenkins, Sam Bowley, Cassia Harris, Ethan Dalecki, Delaena Debre, Thomas Andrew, Frank Broadbent, Marley Barham, Jem Harris, Katie March, Jack Robbins, Filip Grigoras, Rosie Burgess, Willow Dryden, Harry O'Neill, Adam Patrick,

Vedant Rai, Josh Jackson, Charles Westby, Freya Cole, Izzy Denby, Kirsty Burgess, Freya Dharmasena, Amy Topping







## **HOUSE DRAMA 2023;**

### **ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS**

What a great day Miss Burke, Mr Such and myself, Mrs Myhill, had again, judging the House Drama. It's always so encouraging to see all the years taking part, and this year, in particular, we had lots of year 7s. We enjoyed all the plays, and the decisions were hard to make.

Unfortunately, there was one recurring problem this year; lack of projection. We lost hearing so many lines from a number of the cast members, sometimes making their plays much harder to comprehend!

First up was RP, Revolution in the Classroom. Written and directed by Daniel Young, Ruby Tipple and Luke Gore, this had some extremely funny moments in it, but meandered a little too much, and definitely suffered from some too-quiet line delivery. This was such a shame as the production had so much to commend it, and I was unsuccessfully (and silently) willing people to speak up! Some of the cast, however, were great (notably Maddie Bowes), and there looks to be much upcoming talent amongst the (uncredited on the programme) younger cast members.

MS performed next, with a much simpler, linear idea. And because it was such a clear plot, the fewer soft lines weren't as crucial! The whole play aptly encapsulated the theme, and Rachel de la Barra Stone's central skipping performance was delightful.

KH's play was much too short, and there was such good opportunity for expanding some of their scenes... We particularly enjoyed the too-brief Shakespeare tableaux. Theirs was entitled "We're doing a sequel" and had a good overall premise, though it didn't fit the theme quite as well as

MS's. It was great to see so many year 7s taking part, and their lead, Rosie Rapone-Ducker was one such who really showed potential.

TS, who won overall last year, were last to perform, and did not disappoint. From the strong opening of their "Words Left Unspoken" onwards, they entertained us, made the most of the given theme, and had some particularly strong performances. Apollo Stocker, as usual! commanded the stage, and showed a tender maturity in her on-stage relationship with Emily Field's character. Ruben Lanciaprime once again shone in his comic role as the creepy Anthony, but year 7, Ewan Patterson, also revealed a masterly gift in comedy, timing, and understanding. Some of the actors here could also afford to project better, but the flow was never lost, and we understood the entire plot. The café scenes were particularly well handled, including the slick moving of the furniture.

Some of the awards were harder to reach decisions on than others, but our choices were...

Best Programme: TS; clearly laid out, lots of info, everyone's names included, with the extra detail of cast resumé's. MS were runners-up.

Best Backstage: We look at sound, lighting and stage management... and RP won this, with particular mention to Harry Cory for manning the follow spot.

Best Supporting Junior Actors: Ruben Lanciaprime TS and Ewan Patterson TS.

Best Supporting Senior Actor: Maddie Bowes RP.

Best Junior Actor: Rosie Rapone-Ducker KH.

Best Senior Actor: Rachel de la Barra Stone MS.

Best Script: Ruby Redwood MS.

Best Director: Carys Weedon TS.

To award the top, "overall" prize, we have to take so much into consideration, but eventually we decided on...

1. TS 2. MS 3. RP 4. KH

Congratulations to ALL who took part, including backstage, and, above all, a huge "well done" to the directors. The time they have to get these plays together is so short, and it can be incredibly difficult to get the whole cast together to rehearse.

Mrs Myhill.





### **The Great Christmas Bake Off**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December students from year 7 and 8 took part in the Christmas Bake Off. The talent from our students always amazes us, from their focus to their creativity.

All 8 students were outstanding and created great dishes that showed not only technical skills but included the Christmas Card theme.

It is difficult being in the kitchen for 3 solid hours but as always they did a great job.

The final results were as follows

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Robyn Potter 7RPG

2<sup>nd</sup> Evie Johnson 8KHG

1<sup>st</sup> Lucas Foreman 8TSB

Lucas was the only student to do a savoury dish this year, he created a Christmas dinner Wreath, not only did he make the bread but he also made cranberry sauce with a hint of orange. An outstanding effort! These are the winning dishes and the Prizewinners.







## **Helping our Environment at Chatham & Clarendon Grammar School**

On Wednesday November 29th 2023 a group of students and staff gave up their break time to help plant 30 tree saplings within the school grounds at the Chatham House lower school site.

The school's Technology Technician, Mr Joe Spain, has been liaising with the Woodland Trust over recent weeks with the view to obtaining a variety of trees; the arrival of 30 trees (10 Wild Cherry; 10 Silver Birch and 10 Rowan) was gratefully received.

We are pleased to announce that when the call went out for volunteers to help plant them, we were inundated with offers – over 40 students said they would like to help!

Names were put into the hat and six students from years 7, 8 and 9 were chosen at random: Jack 7KHb; Annabelle 7MSg; Tom 8TSb; Sophia 8RPg; Rachael 9MSg and Ebony-star 9TSg together with two 6th form students, Melissa and Iman.

The students really enjoyed working together and we are hoping to plant many more trees in the New Year.



## **And Finally.....**

We have two members of staff leaving us at the end of Term; Mrs Kudinova – MFL, is leaving us to join another school and we wish her every success in her new job.

Dr Spencer – Science is also leaving us and we wish her all the best for the future, whatever it may hold.

I want to say a big thank you to both members of staff for all their hard work and dedication, supporting our students to do their best and reach their potential in both their subject areas.

**On behalf of all the staff at CCGS I want to send all parents, carers and students best wishes for the festive season, however you are spending it. I hope you all have a very peaceful Christmas and hope that 2024 is everything you hope for.**

Debra Liddicoat

Headteacher