# CCHSG E-Newsletter

17 July 2023

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## Executive Principal's Notes

I begin with heartfelt thanks to all our staff who have worked with such dedication, creativity and commitment throughout the year. It is clear from the coverage in this newsletter that our extracurricular and co-curricular activities have once again resumed to their full extent, perhaps now even exceeding the range that we were able to offer before the impact of COVID. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students ended the year very positively and we thank the staff involved in organising the excellent celebration events. We are hugely proud of all these students and the tremendous contribution that they have made to the school. We look forward to seeing many of Year 11 in the Sixth Form in September. There was also a very positive and vibrant atmosphere at the Induction Evening for the new students who will be joining us in Year 7.

I would like to congratulate one of our longest serving members of staff: Miss Bev Hodgkinson. Miss Hodgkinson joined CCHSG some 40 years ago. She has engendered a love of Latin and Classical Civilisation in generations of students and continues to be a much respected and well regarded teacher and colleague.

A number of longstanding staff are retiring this year:

Mr Martyn Gosling, our Catering Manager retires this July having been with us since 2001. He has developed our school catering facilities and provided a delicious variety of meals and refreshments for our students, staff and visitors for more than 20 years. Mr Gosling listens to students and staff and has always been keen to adapt to provide a healthy menu for all, including the Christmas dinners, Easter Hot Cross buns and cooked breakfast/brunches on Staff Inset Days.

Also retiring is Mrs Ann Ball, who joined CCHSG Maths Department initially in 2000. She taught Maths and also took on the role of Examinations Officer until leaving in 2005, returning in 2010 as Head of Maths. In recent years she reduced to part time teaching.



Ms Sue Stinson retires this year having joined CCHSG as part of the Pastoral Team in 2014. Ms Stinson has supported Year Leaders, been part of the Senior Leadership

Team and since 2019, has held a dual role which included MAT Administration and Business Development Manager.

We thank them for their valuable contribution to CCHSG wish them well for the future. *"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."* C.S.Lewis

As we hope that our staff and students will have the opportunity to restore and revitalise over the holiday period, we will also be taking the opportunity to complete some significant refurbishment work on our school site ready for September. Our staff carparks will be resurfaced, a new pastoral office completed, sides installed on the outdoor canopy, a number of classrooms will be renovated, corridor display boards replaced and some corridor and staircase areas repainted.

This half term saw the nation marking the 75th anniversary of the founding of the National Health Service, an institution of which we have rightly been very proud as a nation. This is an important moment also to give credit and thanks to all those who work in public service and particularly reflect on the efforts and sacrifices that they have made over the past few difficult years. While we as a school can reflect with pride on what our staff and students have achieved over this academic year and indeed over many years, it would be a mistake to become complacent. In the words of Aneurin Bevan, whose vision led to the creation of the NHS:

*"Discontent arises from a knowledge of the possible, as contrasted with the actual."*
(In Place of Fear, 1952)

Self-reflection and evaluation are important in allowing us to establish an informed understanding of our current position. Used effectively, this knowledge can also provide us with the impetus to plan realistically and move forward into the next academic year with enthusiasm and energy.

As always at this time of the year, a number of colleagues will be leaving us. We thank them all for the part that they have played in the CCHSG community and their contributions to the school.

Miss Maddie Seager has worked as a teacher of Biology since 2017. She also held the role of Public Speaking Co-ordinator. Most recently Miss Seager has worked as a Year Leader.

Mr Tom Fletcher joined CCHSG in 2019 as Head of Economics and Enterprise. He is moving to teach in Malaysia.

Mr Dan Williams completed his teacher training in 2016, at CTTC and was appointed as Teacher of Mathematics and PE at CCHSG. Mr Williams has organised the annual school ski trips.

We also thank Mrs Janette Cliff who has been at the school since 2016 as a part time Teacher of Biology, Ms Kathryn David who has worked as a Teacher of German since 2021 and Miss Virginia Grandi who started at CCHSG in September 2020 as Teacher of French and German after completing her teacher training with CTTC. Ms Ash Percival-Borley joined CCHSG in September 2022 covering a maternity leave as a temporary Teacher of History, having completed her teacher training with CTTC.

We thank all our students, staff, governors and their families for their much-valued support over this academic year and wish everyone an enjoyable summer break.

**Mrs Gillian Marshall MSc NPQH**
**Executive Principal & CEO**

**The CCHSG Newsletter is produced and edited by Kate Stubbs. All CCHSG staff are welcome to submit items via: kstubbs@cchsg.com**

**https://uk.linkedin.com/company/colchester-county-high-school-for-girls**

**CCHSG Connect is a Linkedin network for Colchester County High School for Girls staff and students, past and present.**

## Sixth Form Open Evening for Sept 2024 Entry

Prospective Year 12 students are warmly invited to our Sixth Form Open Evening on:
Thursday 2 November
6pm - 8.30pm

See our Sixth Form introductory video on the website:
https://www.cchsg.com/sixth-form/sixth-form-admissions/sixth-form-virtual-open-evening/

For regular news updates follow CCHSG on Facebook @colchestergirls or Twitter @CCHSG

# Freedom of Colchester Parade

**On 22 June all the 17 History Ambassadors represented the school as they watched 16 Air Assault Brigade's "Freedom of Colchester" parade in Colchester town centre held to mark Armed Forces Day. They were accompanied by Ms Percival Borley and Mr Paz. Ms Percival-Borley's passion for military history derives from her 12-year service in the Royal Army Medical Corp in the British Army, during which she served overseas on conflict and humanitarian operations.**

**History Ambassador Juliet Izbrecht said:**

***"We were able to see the 16th Air Assault Brigade which consisted of soldiers marching in ceremonial uniform, battledress such as Ghillie suits and even some operational vehicles. Many of the soldiers were very welcoming and offered high fives or conversations with the civilians watching. We even found out that one of the weapons held by one of the soldiers was designed by CCHSG's Mr C. Embleton himself!***

***The greatest moments from the trip were definitely when we saw Ms Percival-Borley's old medic regiment, which we cheered for the most and we managed to get a group picture with two fully battle dressed snipers. All in all, it was a great outing especially when our GCSE Hstory curriculum is mainly conflict and warfare based."***




Stepping off at noon and led by British Army Band Colchester, the parade took soldiers from East Hill along the High Street, passing the Town Hall, where the Mayor took the salute. This was the first time the brigade's freedom has been exercised since Colchester was granted city status as part of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, awarded in part due to its 200 years of service as a garrison.





# Year 7 - Cross-MAT Textiles Workshops

**Over 7 sessions, 140 CCHSG students attended a Textiles workshop at either Manningtree High School or The Gilberd School.**

**The students had an introduction to using a sewing machine and they were shown other textiles-based tools, equipment and techniques. They then applied these skills to make a stuffed toy.**

**Not only was this an exciting initiative across schools in the Alpha Trust, it was also cross-phase;  with Home Farm Primary also included in the activities.**

**Thank you to Mrs Swannell for organising the workshops, to the CCHSG staff who accompanied the students and to the specialist staff from Manningtree High School and The Gilberd School for running the workshops.**






Mrs Marshall was delighted to accept the gift of a beautiful soft toy made by a Year 5 Home Farm student during a Textiles session at The Gilberd. It was in the perfect colour scheme for CCHSG!

Mrs Marshall wrote to the student:
“I would like to thank you for taking the time to not only make your own chicken but think of me and make me one too.  The detail in the work is very impressive, you are a very talented, skilful seamstress.  I hope that you continue to enjoy being creative and using your skills to produce wonderful items like this.”

# Vinodh Gurusamy’s Kilimanjaro Trek Completed

We are delighted to announce that Year 7 parent, Vinodh Gurusamy, has successfully summitted Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa to raise funds for the PTFA. Vinodh, who has previously completed several summits in the UK, as well as Machu Picchu, in Peru before the pandemic, is delighted with his achievement. This is a fully self-funded trek, so all funds raised go directly to support CCHSG. To contribute, please visit:
https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/vinodhkilimanjaro






# “Reimagine” - Ceres Clean Energy Competition

Congratulations to the CCHSG students who were announced as winners of the 2023 Reimagine Clean Energy Competition at the Science Museum, London.

The competition was sponsored and organised by Ceres, a global leader in fuel cell and electrochemical technology, in collaboration with STEM Learning UK. Secondary school students from schools across the southeast of England were asked to submit up to three minutes of animation explaining an exciting and original scientific concept relevant to the net-zero mission. The competition aims to inspire the next generation of innovators to tackle the global climate crisis.

The Reimagine expert judging panel assessed entries on their level of creativity, depth of research and how far the ideas presented could have an impact on climate change. CCHSG competitors Chloe Adcock, Tilly Sharp, Ananya Balaji, Rebeca Balanescu, Venkata Salla, Fallon Viljoen and Eleanor Woodroof, several of whom run the school’s Eco Society, hugely impressed the judges.

One judge commented that they had approached the competition with a level of commitment and organisation that would be impressive at work, let alone while at school! The students won a trophy, which doubles as a real, working, Hydrogen fuel cell, as well as £200 each.

Our thanks go to Mr Adamson who supported the students throughout the competition.

Mrs Marshall said:

*“We are really proud of the outstanding performance from our students against some tough competition. As a school we work to engage students with global environmental issues and the students’ submission successfully brought together elements from across the curriculum, such as Geography, Art and Physics. We are also focused on moving towards the use of sustainable energy sources across our site and on protecting and enhancing the environment for nature within our immediate surroundings. It is very pleasing to see our students demonstrating so much commitment and creativity in facing these global challenges.”*

For more information about the students’ animation as well as the company itself see:
https://www.ceres.tech/reimagine/winners-2023/

The trophy doubles as a working Hydrogen fuel cell.






# Year 11 Celebration Evening

Year 11 enjoyed a fantastic Celebration Evening on 29 June at lovely East Mersea Hall.

Highlights included the woodfired pizzas, chocolate fountain and commemorative cake. The “Magic Mirror” photobooth proved very popular and the dance floor was packed for most of the night.

Our thanks to Mrs Daniels, Mrs Ward and Mrs Frost for organising the event and to the East Mersea Hall staff for all their help.

We wish all Year 11 an enjoyable summer break!



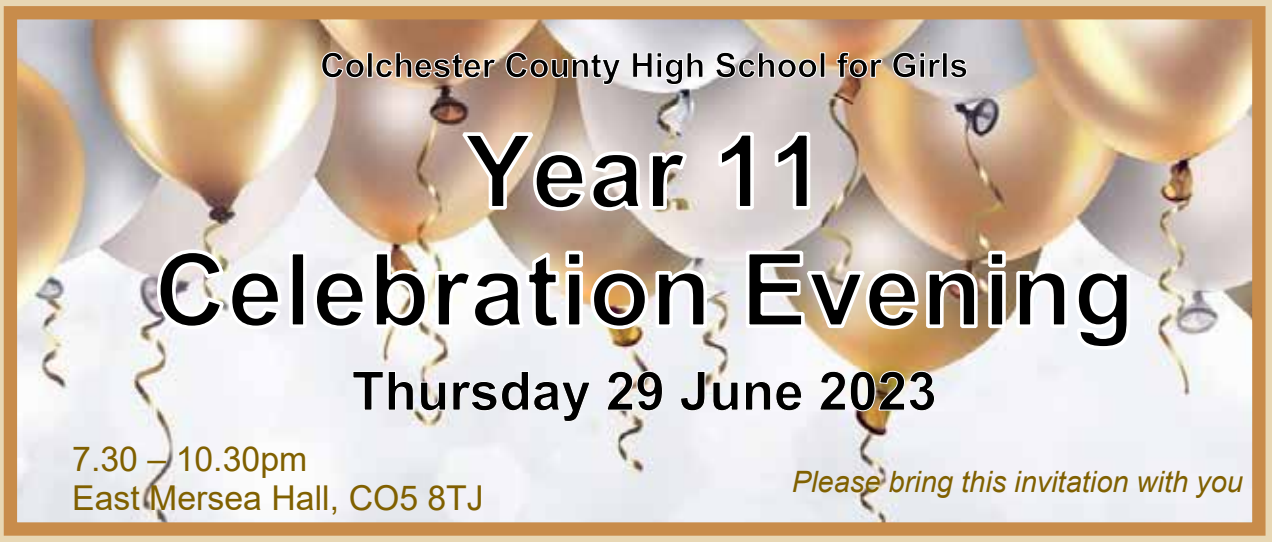




























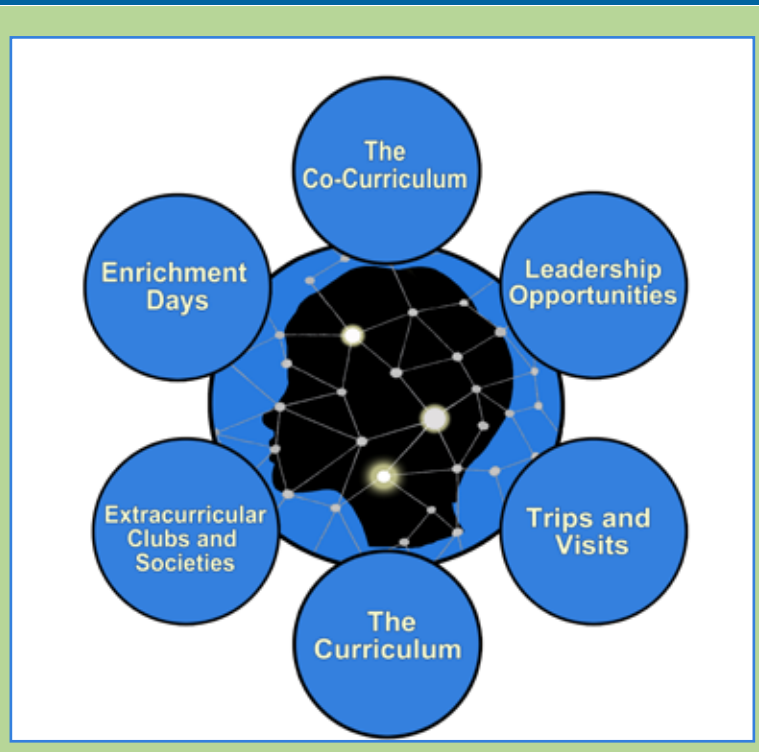




# Year 9 Matrix Days

**The Year 9 Matrix blends the transition between the accelerated two-year Key Stage 3 programme and the three year Key Stage 4 programme. The Matrix consists of a flexible and balanced curriculum, the co-curriculum, STEM opportunities, trips and visits, optional instrument lessons and a programme of enrichment days.**

**The Matrix provides opportunities for students to access subject areas they may no longer be formally studying as part of their GCSE preferences. The enrichment days focus on Computer Science, Creative Arts, Geography, History, the environment, wellbeing and Enterprise Education.**




# Computing - 27 & 28 June

Year 9 had the opportunity to learn programming skills and design their own App in the latest Computing Matrix Day.

Session 1: Programming activities level 1 – with support from the team leader and staff the development team learn the basics of Python, then they complete challenges to earn stars to be used later.

Session 2: Programming activities level 2 – Team leader is still supporting the team but can now also earn their own stars. Other members of the development team can now tackle more difficult challenges and earn more stars.

Session 3: Talk with a female game developer – Stephanie Bazeley, a programmer with Team JunkFish.

Session 4: Group development task – using their stars to bid for which application the groups would like to design, the development team work together to build their app.




Session 5: Present the results to the others

The highlight of the session was the talk from Stephanie Bazeley who is a senior programmer and partner in a games development company called Junkfish. She dialled in for a live remote call to talk to students about programming and her job as a games developer.




## Session 1 – Getting the basics right

1. Each make a folder called "Programming Matrix Day" you will need this to store the challenges you complete before uploading them to Teams at the end of this session.
2. Gather your team, and quickly discuss a strategy – remember in session 1 – your team leader (GCSE Computer Science student) cannot actually complete any of their own challenges, they can only teach and support the others in doing so.
3. Select challenges that you think are appropriate to your level, complete the challenge, ask your team leader to assess its completion against the mark scheme in MS Teams, if you have met the criteria you earn the number of stars on the challenge for your team.
4. Record all of the challenges you complete on your individual recording sheet.
5. 5 min before the session ends – upload your programs to the **Session 1** Teams assignment, complete the individual and Team recording sheet in MS Teams.

## Session 2 – Developing your skills

- You are still working as Team to complete as many challenges as you can – only this time you're team leader is also allowed to complete challenges and record their own stars.
- Now you know the basics, you may need to be more independent at solving problems, debugging your own code and using the learning resources in MS Teams to help you through the challenges.
- Select challenges that you think are appropriate to your level, complete the challenge, ask your team leader to assess its completion against the mark scheme in MS Teams, if you have met the criteria you earn the number of stars on the challenge for your team.
- Record all of the challenges you complete on your individual recording sheet.
- 5 min before the session ends – upload your programs to the **Session 2** Teams assignment, complete the individual and Team recording sheet in MS Teams.

## Session 4 – Building your own App

- You will now work as a team of developers to build your own software application (don't worry – you won't have time to program it fully, instead you will be working on the concept).
- You will need to:
  - **Produce some working code that shows proof on concept ie could it work if you had more developer time**
  - **Choose a name for your app**
  - **Design an icon and / or logo**
  - **Outline a digital marketing strategy ie maybe a meme or viral video**
  - **Explain how you intend to generate income ie paid app, advertising space, in app purchases / enhancements**
- The more stars you have earned give you more choice over what type of app you can develop:
  - **AI Chatbot / Digital Assistant – Any number of stars**
  - **Quiz Game – More than 40 stars**
  - **Gambling app – More than 60 stars**
  - **Dice Game – More than 60 stars**
  - **Text-based Adventure Game – 80 stars**
- 5 min before the session ends – upload all your content to the **Session 4** Teams assignment, ready to be shown to the other teams.

# Environmental Sustainability Day - 3 July

Year 9 took part in the Environmental Sustainability Day on 3 June, part of the Matrix Programme. The day challenges students to look more critically at the World they live in and the impact that their decisions as consumers have on the environment and society across the Globe. The day starts with an expose going “Behind the Swoosh” of the major brand Nike. Students see the factories where clothing and shoes are made, learn about the environmental degradation that is happening around the factory in Tangerang, Indonesia as well as learning more about the quality of life and standard of living of the people making their clothes. The session ends by allowing students to consider the ethics of the companies making the clothes in their wardrobe as well as opening their eyes to alternative, more sustainable and ethical brands. Discussion around sport scholarships at US Universities came up allowing students the opportunity to think about their future academic choices.



The second session of the day looks into sustainable urban living. Introducing students to A Level concepts such as Egan’s Wheel, used today by town planners and developers across the World in attempts to make our urban areas minimise their ecological footprint. Students were able to relate global issues to their local place, seeing images of dereliction and homelessness in London and Colchester. With the problems in the urban World identified, we put it to our “Leaders of the Future” to get their heads together and consider how to design an urban utopia. Taking inspiration from sustainable developments in Beddington, London and The Sustainable City, Dubai, the Geography Department was astounded by the ideas generated and the plans produced. Students collaborated to bring in ideas from the subjects they have been studying; incorporating scientific aspects of environmental sustainability as well as consideration for Social, Moral, Cultural and Spiritual aspects of urban life and in some cases working out exact







percentages for each land use. The hive mind of Year 9 worked in overdrive, considering the mistakes of the past to design a better future.

The final session of the day returned to look at the business model of “Fast Fashion”; questioning if we could impact the Transnational Corporations by our consumer decisions, putting Adam Smith’s “Invisible Hand” (A Level Economics) to the test. The students looked at the colossal waste generated by “Fast Fashion”; over 1 refuse lorry of garments burned or buried each second globally and the human cost of producing the garments we wear. The students then needed to put all their learning from the day in to creating a new fashion brand, producing a 3 garment collection, made entirely of newspaper, with a story of sustainability behind it. The creations were fabulous and would not have looked out of place on the catwalks of Milan, Paris or Dagenham. With only an hour to get their products to market, all six Forms worked as a team and the finished creations left staff in awe of their artistic flair.

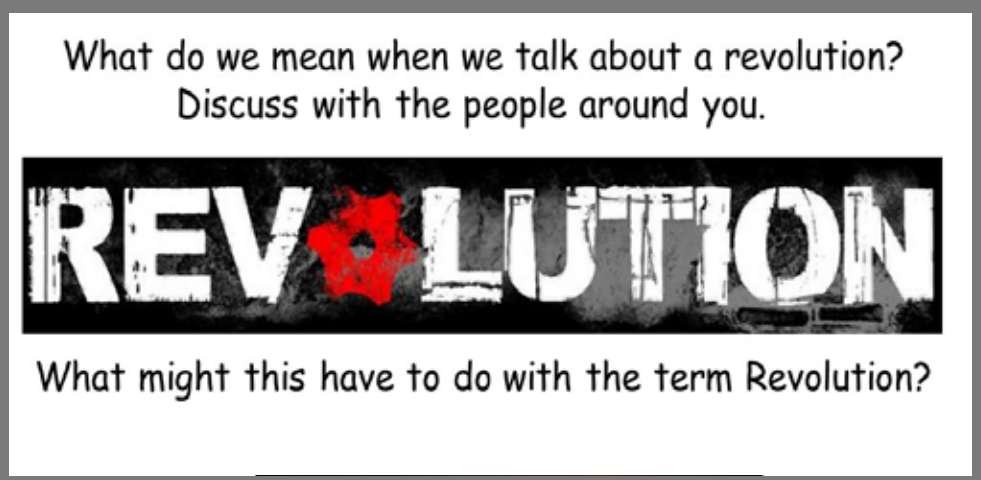
The day left students questioning the sustainability of the World in 2023, opened their eyes to what goes into giving them the lifestyle they have and more importantly the desire and belief that they are the ones to go out and make the changes. Students gained a richness of experience, supplementing and extending their curriculum learning and an appreciation of the resilience needed to enact change.

**Mr Holdsworth**



# Year 9 Languages Matrix Day

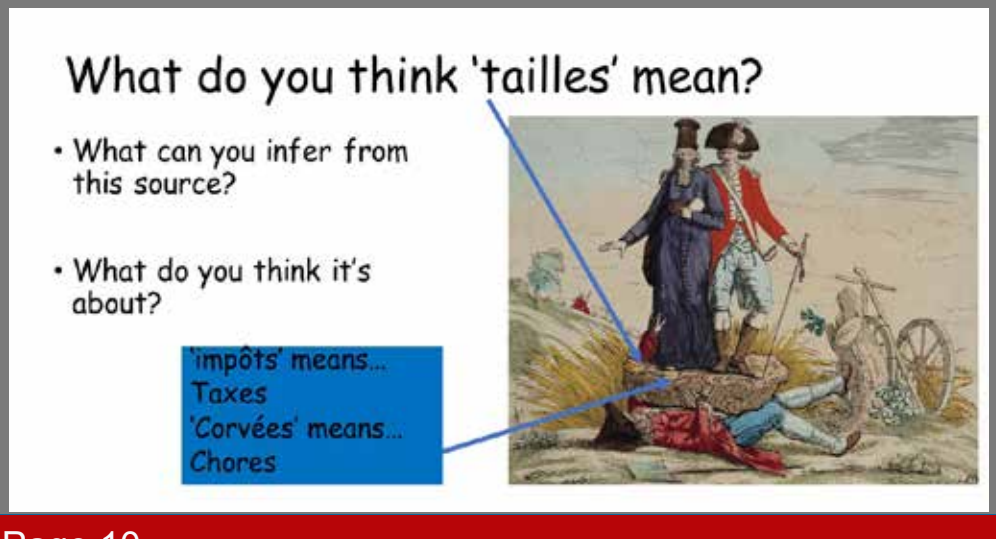
Languages Matrix Day focused on the French Revolution and Napoleon. **Nina Godden-Murphy writes:**
Unveiling the French Revolution for Young Minds: Year 9 had a French Revolution Matrix Day which added variety to the curriculum, whilst captivating interest from students!




In our exploration of the French Revolution, we unravelled the class system's impact on society and studied influential philosophers like Rousseau, Voltaire, and Montesquieu. We were involved in a captivating simulation where police would collect fake money from the lower class as taxes, igniting the revolution's spark. This was particularly popular with students, but also showcased the fury in the lower classes as roughly 1/5 people were arrested for protesting the inequality of these taxes, overflowing the Bastille (which was comedically represented by a corner in the hall).




We also explored the timeline of revolution, including the transformative Tennis Court Oath and the inevitability of revolution due to disproportionate representation in the flawed Estates General. Through a thought-provoking quiz, we assumed the roles of advisors to the King, realizing the effect of our decisions, not only for France but threat to our lives. This condensed the pursuit of justice into the first 3 periods of the day.




In the final 2 hours of the day, we explored the French Revolution's impact on modern society as well as incorporating French texts. We learned about French language, and sung the national anthem with enthusiasm, and even competed for chocolates by demonstrating our revolutionary spirit. 9C (my Form) was the loudest and were promised chocolate as a prize.

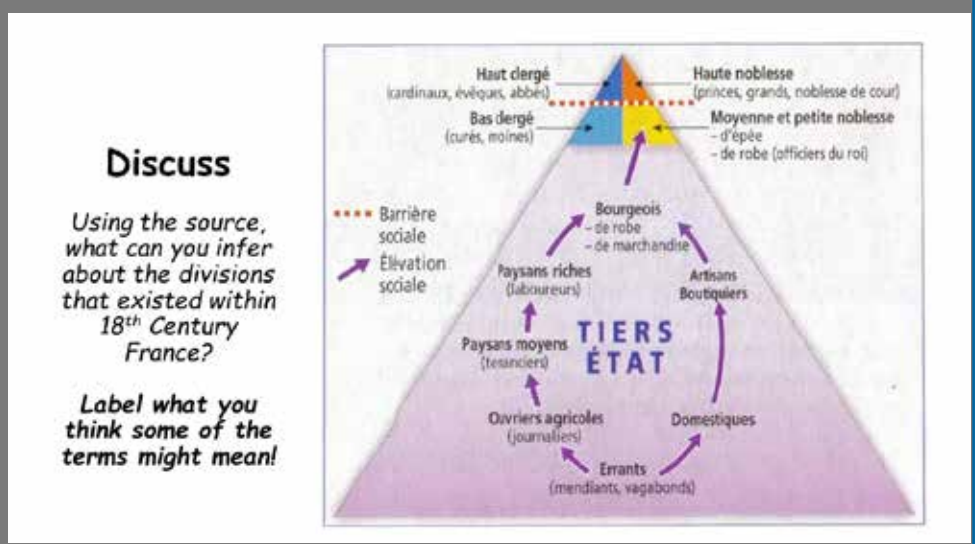


**BIG ENQUIRY: The French Revolution – Why it happened? How it happened? Its impact?**

The events which happened in France in 1789 have become known as the French Revolution. The Revolution is important as it is the birth place of modern demands for freedom, equality and democracy. The political systems in most of the democratic world are based on principles of FREEDOM, EQUALITY AND BROTHERHOOD created during the French and American Revolutions.

We also covered Napoleon's rise through the ranks to his role as elected Emperor, especially challenging relationships with neighbouring monarchies and his legacy such as the Napoleonic code, the basis of our justice system. Students also discovered how the French Revolution relates to today's civil rights advances, with links to our GCSE History unit about Germany (1890-1945) providing context and explanations for improvements in civil rights, especially for women.

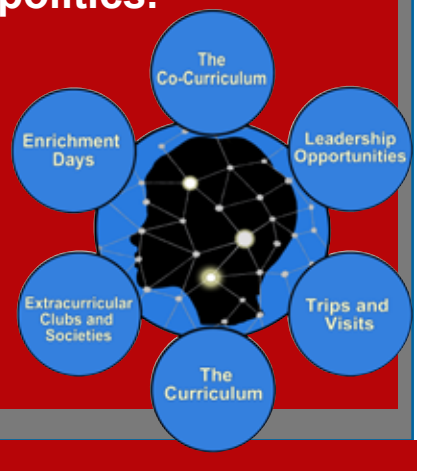
**Nina Godden-Murphy**




**I really loved the simulation; it was a lot of fun!" Abirami 9C**

**"It was great to hear different perspectives on effects on society and politics." Evaline 9H**

**"French Revolution Day was informative, but also enjoyable. It didn't feel like studying at all!" Srivarsha 9C**



# Year 9 Matrix Day - Healthy Lives



Year 9 enjoyed a Matrix Day focused on wellbeing. Activities included mindfulness, with reading or colouring. There was an input from the WARMS team with useful tips and wellbeing advice and students also has a workshop encouraging them to use creativity in a therapeutic way. In the hall it had never been quite so quiet as Form Groups settled for yoga and relaxation sessions. Students also enjoyed meeting the gorgeous therapy dog and spending some time walking and talking outdoors.

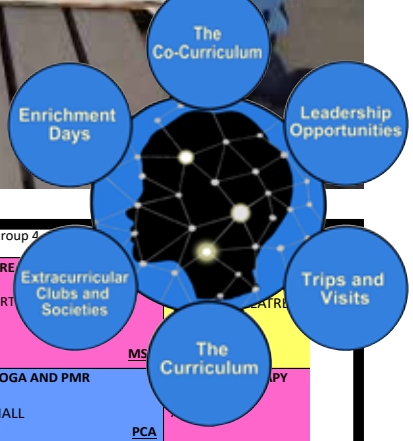








| | Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3 | Group 4 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **MINDFULNESS** Reading/ Colouring F14 **LDY/BLA** | **DOG THERAPY / WALK AND TALK** SCHOOL FIELD **KLA** | **YOGA AND PMR** HALL **PCA** | **CRE** ART **MS** | |
| 2 | **WARMS** LECTURE THEATRE **TAD** | **MINDFULNESS** Reading/ Colouring G6 **ACL/NCO** | **DOG THERAPY / WALK AND TALK** SCHOOL FIELD **NKE** | **YOGA AND PMR** HALL **PCA** | |
| 3 | **CREATIVE THERAPY** ART BLOCK **MSA** | **WARMS** LECTURE THEATRE **MSU** | **PHYSICAL** Benchball GYM **PCA/KPH** | **DOG THERAPY / WALK AND TALK** SCHOOL FIELD **IPA** | **YOGA AND PMR** HALL |
| 4 | **YOGA AND PMR** HALL **KMA** | **CREATIVE THERAPY** ART BLOCK **MSA** | **WARMS** LECTURE THEATRE **PCA** | **PHYSICAL** Benchball GYM **LDY** | **DOG THERAPY / WALK TALK** SCHOOL FIELD |
| 5 | **DOG THERAPY / WALK AND TALK** SCHOOL FIELD **LDY** | **YOGA AND PMR** HALL **KMA** | **CREATIVE THERAPY** ART BLOCK **MSA** | **WARMS** LECTURE THEATRE **NKE** | **PHYSICAL** Benchball GYM **PC** |



# Great Debate Competition in Windsor

The Historical Association is the UK National Charity for History. It supports history teaching and learning at all levels. Their 2023 Annual Great Debate final was held on 25 March at the Vicars' Hall, Windsor Castle. The question for young people to address was: "Why does history matter to me?"

Across the course of the day the judges and audience listened to talks on the personal experiences of finalists' relatives in the past. These covered topics such as; important social movements such as women's rights and battles against racism; the impact of empire and colonialism; key figures from history, including scientists and social campaigners; key events from across the globe such as the Algerian war of independence, the recent World Cup final, the war in the Ukraine and the Spanish Civil War.

We congratulate CCHSG Year 12 student Arthi Vijjayamurgan who was selected as one of the Great Debate finalists. She spoke passionately about the role of her great, great grandmother in the campaign for women's suffrage and Indian Independence.

You can hear Arthi's full speech via the link below:

Arthi Vijjayamurgan - Colchester / The Great Debate 2023 - Speeches / Historical Association (history.org.uk)



Historical Association
The voice for history

# Student's Charity Fundraiser

Guide Dogs

Ella Connor raised over £700 for the Guide Dogs charity by running 50 km during the month of June. Her Tutor, Mr Adamson and Form Group 8E wanted everyone to know about her achievement as they are so proud of her.

Ella wrote:
"Hello Everyone!
This month, I am running 50 km (31 Miles) to raise money for the Guide Dogs charity. This is a charity that is quite close to my heart.

On the 31 March 2022, nine adorable puppies were born to become guide dogs. In May, one of those bundles of joy was given to us. His name is Otis, he is ¾ Labrador and ¼ Golden Retriever. We had the pleasure of loving and raising him for a year and then in May 2023, he went to Redbridge for his intense training to become a guide dog. While with us he matured into a well mannered dog who could travel on the bus, train and behave correctly in shops and supermarkets. I am so happy that he has been part of our lives, he brought us so much joy and we can't wait to hear how he progresses in his training. It was so heart breaking to let him go (there were lots of tears) but I know he is going to change someone's life and I am so proud to have been part of his life. Otis you have taken a piece of my heart....

If you would like to find out more you can watch this 18 minute documentary on BBC IPlayer.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p0f5q3qp/britains-guide-dog-shortage

Congratuations Ella!



# CTTC Graduation Event - 7 July

The Colchester Teacher Training Consortium graduation ceremony marked the successful completion of teacher training courses for the year, with the current cohort of students achieving Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

Mrs Marshall said:
“We thank Mr Alistair Heath-Robinson and the team for their hard work and dedication to the Initial Teacher Training Programme. It is fantastic to feel we are making this contribution to the next generation of teaching professionals.  Congratulations to all our new teachers and we wish them every success and happiness in their future careers.”

We wish Mr Alastair Heath-Robinson well and thank him as he leaves CTTC to take up a promoted post at the end of this term.  Mr Heath-Robinson started as CTTC Primary Course Director in January 2017 having been a Primary Headteacher for a number of years.  He later became CTTC Director and has successfully developed and expanded the CTTC programmes, which now trains some 80 new teachers each year.




**Are you looking for new opportunities and the chance to develop new skills while pursuing a professional career pathway?  Do you want to join a profession where you can make a real difference to the lives of children and young people?  If you already have a degree, or are currently studying for a degree, now is the time to explore the opportunities to train to teach in Primary or Secondary education with CTTC based at CCHSG.**

**Established in 2003, CTTC works in partnership with over 60 schools and colleges across North Essex and Suffolk.  The training hubs are located in both Colchester, on the CCHSG site, and Ipswich, to serve the local schools.  The school centred programme allows trainees to gain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) alongside a Master’s level PGCE (opt-in required for salaried trainees), through a combination of taught sessions, academic reading and research and guided school based teaching.**

**CTTC programmes are run in collaboration with our partner schools and CTTC was judged outstanding across all areas by Ofsted.  In 2022, 100% of trainees commended the quality of CTTC’s curriculum and programme.**

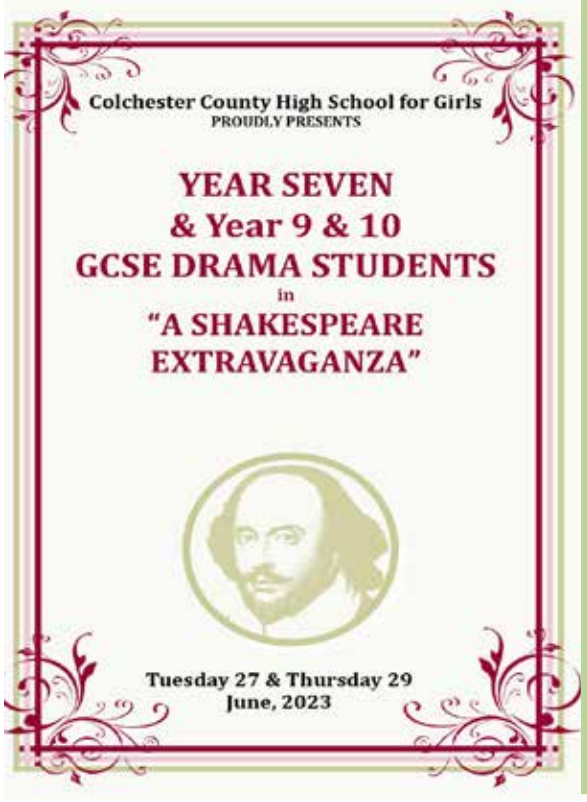
**Local schools are keen to employ trainees from the partnership and many Early Career Teachers and former trainees move quickly into leadership and management roles.**




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**(Mon - Fri, 8am - 4pm)**
**enquiries@colchesterttc.org.uk**
**www.colchesterttc.org.uk**

# Year 7 Shakespeare Extravaganza




The whole of Year 7 staged abridged versions of Shakespeare plays as part of their English and Drama curriculum. Over the course of two evenings parents and friends were invited to attend performances of "Midsummer Night's Dream", "Macbeth" and "Romeo and Juliet". Particular thanks go to Mrs Cudmore-Rice and Mr Fogarty who directed the productions.































# Year 9 & 10 GCSE Drama Students in “The Tempest”


















# Year 10 History of Medicine Trip

On 20 June, a group of Year 10 History students embarked on a trip to London: they visited the Hunterian Museum and the Old Operating Theatre.






The Hunterian Museum is a museum of anatomical specimens, located in the building of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Firstly, in the Hunterian Museum, they were split into groups and tasked with making a virtual tour about many different aspects of medicine through the Renaissance period, including blood, patient experience, and many more.





As they made their way through the museum, they recorded many important objects in the improvement of health and medicine over time. For example, the ether mask used by Robert Liston to undertake the first major, painless operation: a leg amputation of Tederick Churchill in 1846.



One student said, “The Museum was very interesting and it was fun to look at all the specimens.”

After stopping off for lunch, they went to the Old Operating Theatre Museum, where they were able to listen to a short talk about early surgeries, amputations and dissections. To our luck, this took place in an operating theatre on the original site of St Thomas’ Hospital, once used for students to watch surgery. While being informative and useful to our studies, the speech was wonderfully entertaining, interesting and even interactive: one unlucky student from each group had an ’amputation’ from the lecturer, who described how an amputation would have taken place in the early 1800s (before anaesthetics).

Overall, it was an extremely enjoyable and informative day, where students learnt all about health and medicine from prehistoric times, all the way into the 21st century!

**H Wright**



THE OLD OPERATING THEATRE
MUSEUM & HERB GARRET



# Young Engineer of the Year 2023




Congratulations to Ranita Ariyibi on her amazing achievement in winning the Big Bang National Engineering award for "Intersign", her ground-breaking invention which aids deaf people. InterSign acts as electronic interpreter between British Sign Language (BSL) and English, meaning it can see a sign then give the meaning in English – both spoken and written on screen. Similar to smart speakers like Alexa, it has the additional advantage of being able to take action. So, signing 'help' could trigger the device to call emergency services or a family member.

The Big Bang UK Young Scientists and Engineers Competition allows young people aged 11 to 19 across the UK to showcase their skills and creativity. The competition is organised by EngineeringUK, a not-for-profit organisation passionate about inspiring the next generation of engineers and creating a diverse future workforce that enables the UK to thrive. Participants have the opportunity to build confidence, teamwork skills, and problem-solving abilities, whilst also receiving expert feedback on their projects.

Dr Hilary Leevers, chief executive of EngineeringUK, said: "Huge congratulations to Ranita. She has worked incredibly hard on her InterSign project, trying different approaches and coding solutions to create a device that does what she set out to achieve. I look forward to seeing how InterSign develops and what Ranita does in the future."

The judges were really impressed with Ranita's creative ideas, problem-solving and determination, all important elements in engineering.

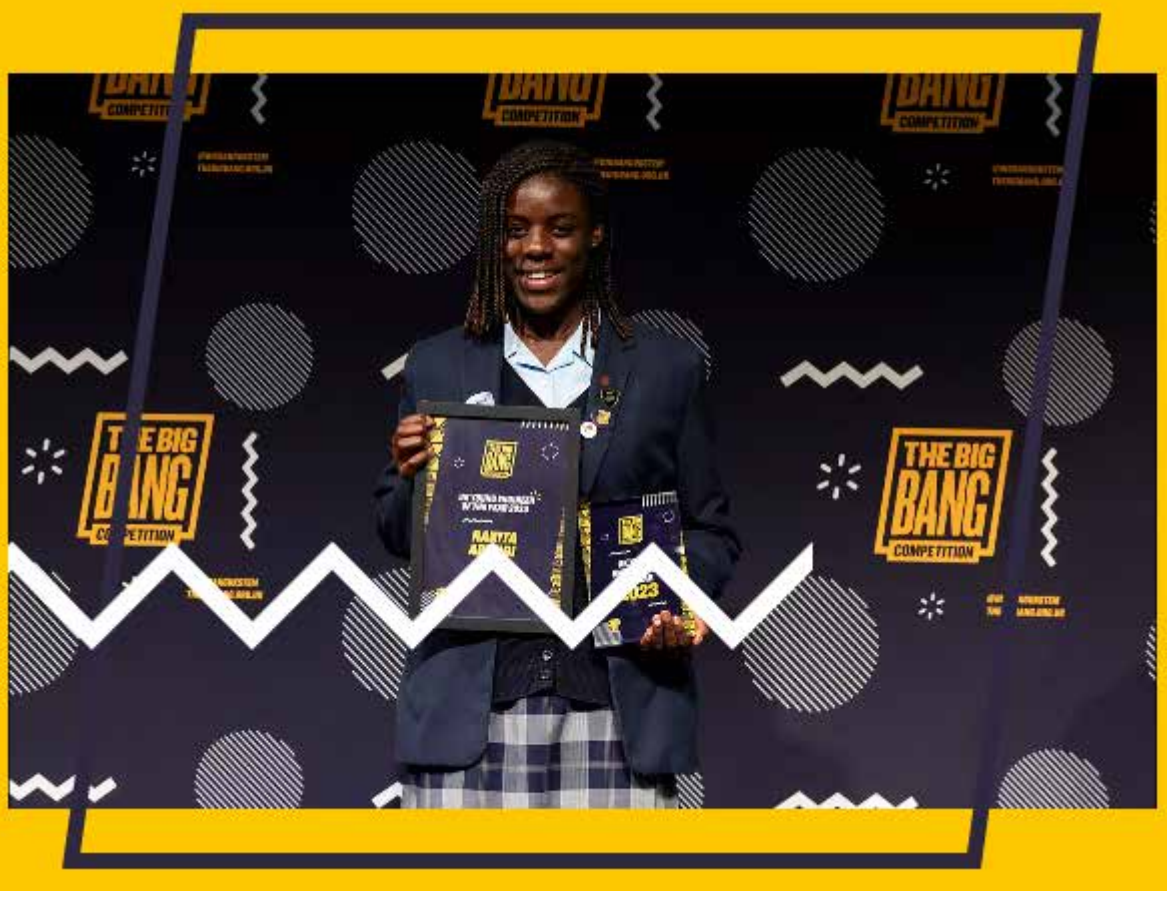
We were delighted that Ranita also had the opportunity to discuss her invention on BBC *Look East.* Thanks to Mr Nachman for his support with the competition entry and in supporting with the interview in school.

EngineeringUK has released a new report which brings together the available evidence on interventions that aim to increase girls' aspirations for engineering and technology careers. Despite some improvements, women are still significantly underrepresented in engineering and technology - making up just 16.5% of the engineering workforce, compared with 47.7% of the overall workforce. Providing high-quality impactful STEM outreach activities for girls is a vital part of addressing this.

**Key recommendations include:**

- Start engaging girls with engineering and technology activities at a young age
- Include activities that challenge gender stereotypes around engineering and technology
- Learn about the needs, interests, and preferences of girls when designing outreach programmes
- Understand the limitations of gender as a binary concept
- The use of role models that are a similar age can help bridge the developmental gap between students and professionals
- Showcase a range of engineering and technology careers

https://www.engineeringuk.com/media/318995/rapid-evidence-review-girls-stem-aspirations-final.pdf




## UK YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR 2023

Ranita Ariyibi, a student from Colchester County High School for Girls, has been crowned as the **UK Young Engineer of the Year** for her project InterSign.

InterSign acts as electronic interpreter between British Sign Language (BSL) and English, meaning it can see a sign then give the meaning in English – both spoken and written on screen. Similar to smart speakers like Alexa, it has the additional advantage of being able to take action. So, signing 'help' could trigger the device to call emergency services or a family member.

www.thebigbang.org.uk

# Geography Department Fieldwork 2023

As part of their studies and to coincide with the Geographical Association's National Fieldwork Fortnight the Geography Department undertook its fieldwork trips for both GCSE and A Level. Fieldwork is an essential part of a geographical education as well as being a National Curriculum, GCSE and A level requirement. It enables young people to develop their subject knowledge, gain a range of skills that are difficult to develop in the classroom and helps them to understand the 'messiness' of geographical reality. This was an excellent an opportunity to take our classes out to investigate, observe, discover, challenge, test out ideas and gain a deeper and wider understanding of the world around them.



For their first trip, the GCSE Geographers in Year 10 ventured to Walton-on-the-Naze to study the impacts of coastal erosion and the effectiveness of coastal management. The students were exemplary and weathered the cold north wind without complaint!  Due to excellent planning(?!) the tide was low and the students were able to see the exposed wavecut platform and the pill boxes, they were amazed to see just how far the cliffs had retreated in only a few decades. They were able to see first hand the sub-aerial processes of mass movement and rotational slumping.



For their second day, they travelled to Ipswich to study the regeneration of the dock area – famously stalled by the 2008 financial crisis, the area is now picking up the pace and speed of regeneration, while also being impacted by cladding issues. Students took it upon themselves to interview local estate agents who gave a valuable insight into the issues they currently face.



For A Level students undertook two days of fieldwork, the first in the urban environment of Colchester, looking at a range of urban processes including regeneration at First Site, gentrification in the Dutch Quarter and Globalisation of the High Street, as well as studying the more abstract concepts of Place Making and Sense of Place. For their second day they studied coastal geomorphology at West Mersea including beach micro features, sand dune transects, salt marsh and spit formation. They also looked at flood defence works and the issues around coastal squeeze. In the anchorage they looked at place meaning and past connection to place – studying the way heritage shapes places.




On all days, the students were exemplary and a credit to the school and the Geography department. It was an incredibly proud moment when both locals and shop keepers complimented the students on their behaviour and insight.

Mr Holdsworth

# Year 13 Leaver's Ball - Wivenhoe House



Year 13 enjoyed a fabulous Leaver's Ball at Wivenhoe House, University of Essex. We hope they are all enjoying the summer break and wish them every happiness and success as they follow their chosen pathways next year. Thanks to Mrs Hughes and Mrs Tarrier for organising the event and to all the staff who attended.












PROM







# CCHSG's Inaugural Adventure LARP Event

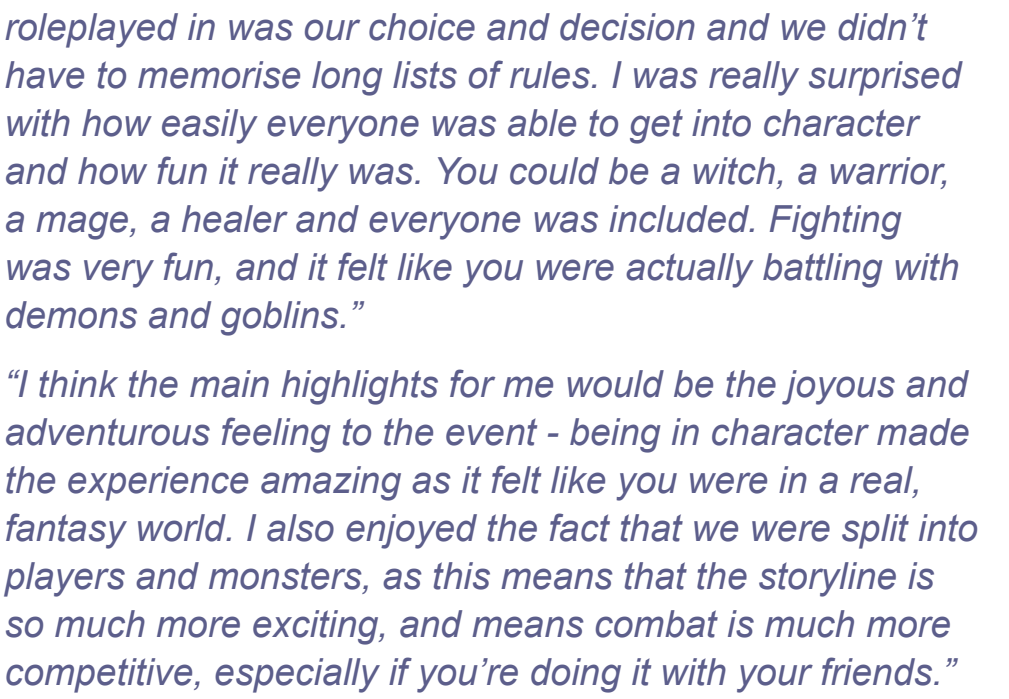
## Heroes Battle Monsters at CCHSG's Inaugural Adventure LARP Event

Saturday 8 July 2023 saw CCHSG's first ever LARP (Live Action Role Play) event, organised by The Adventure Society. Ten student participants and two staff volunteers donned home-made armour, fantasy costumes and took up LARP-safe foam swords (kindly purchased with the support of the PTFA), to protect the innocent and earn treasure and reward in the fantasy world of Aekuron.

Adventure LARP is an offshoot of CCHSG's popular Adventure Society, the after-school club for Dungeons and Dragons, Magic the Gathering and other storytelling games. Where Adventure Society sees its members clustered around tables, telling stories together of excitement and adventure, Adventure LARP allows the players to fully embody the characters they create: walking, talking and in some cases fighting, as their character.

Adventure LARP is part improvisational theatre, part contact sport; with rules governing combat, commerce and magic, allowing the players to literally battle with demons in the field, or with each other over the diplomacy table. The initial idea of the world the "Shattered Realm" of Aekuron has been seeded, but already the students are embellishing and growing this "persistent" world, which will continue to grow, change, and develop as they play. In years to come the players will be able to tell newcomers about the stories and legends already forged, allowing new players to build further and create their own.

LARPing is a form of expression that borrows from many fields including: drama, sport, public speaking, politics and economics, and blends them together in a safe environment where the students can explore new ideas about the world and themselves. They can trade commodities with each other, forge alliances or break treaties, and their decisions have an impact on the ongoing fantasy world. **Mr Stebbing**



**Here's what some of the Players had to say:**

*"The recent LARP event was absolutely amazing. It was something I had been looking forward to for quite a while, which combined my love of acting and being able to have absolute freedom with my character."*

*"I really enjoyed the fact that the entire world that we roleplayed in was our choice and decision and we didn't have to memorise long lists of rules. I was really surprised with how easily everyone was able to get into character and how fun it really was. You could be a witch, a warrior, a mage, a healer and everyone was included. Fighting was very fun, and it felt like you were actually battling with demons and goblins."*

*"I think the main highlights for me would be the joyous and adventurous feeling to the event - being in character made the experience amazing as it felt like you were in a real, fantasy world. I also enjoyed the fact that we were split into players and monsters, as this means that the storyline is so much more exciting, and means combat is much more competitive, especially if you're doing it with your friends."*

*"I highly recommend doing LARP as it is a way that you can have fun with your friends by dressing up, creating characters, exploring mystery worlds and fighting monsters in combat! It was an incredible experience, and I would 100 percent do it again." "*






**Any student who would like to sign up for Adventures both Table-Top and/ or Live Action, can email: AdventureSoc@cchsg.com or visit our table at the Societies and Clubs Fair on 15 September. Adventure Society will return in September on Wednesdays in the Library from 15:35 to 16:45.**

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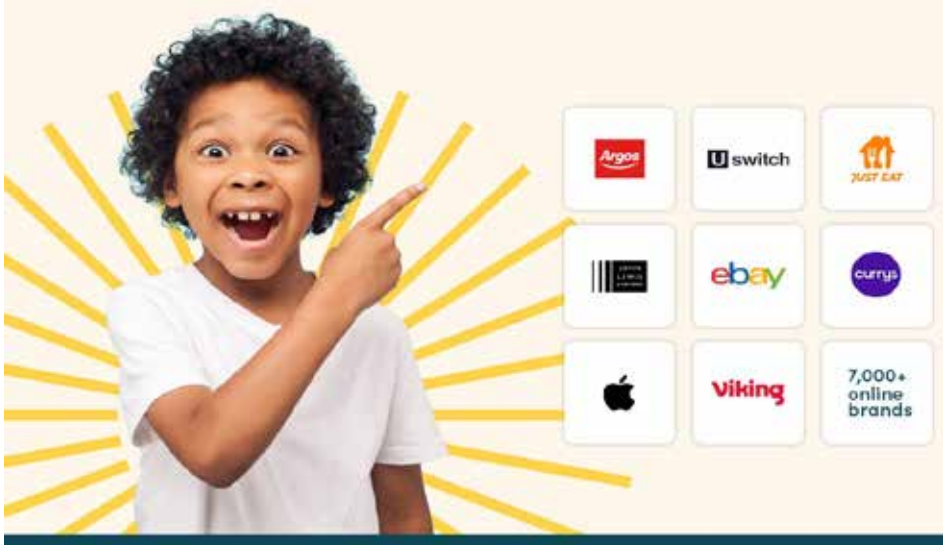
CCHSG PTFA earns up to 30% commission on all sales of these multipurpose name labels for all school items. Name labels are essential for busy parents and schools who don't have time to deal with lost property. Stikins are an easy self-adhesive solution with no sewing needed. CCHSG PTFA have been allocated a unique code 35809 for parents to use. Visit https://www.stikins.co.uk to order online.

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# Summer Concert - “Simply the Best”




Presented on two sell out evenings this year’s Summer Concert “Simply the Best”, featured dance, drama and music with the theme of “Divas”.

Around 200 students took part and the CCHSG orchestra accompanied many of the items. Well done to all those involved and to Mrs Jefferies for the musical direction and Mrs Cudmore-Rice who produced and directed the performances.

We thank all those staff who supported with front of house and backstage and the PTFA volunteers who provided the bar and refreshments.

Look out for our Winter Concert next term and our spring production of “Oliver”.





















## The Production Team

**Directed & Choreographed by:**
**Mrs M Cudmore-Rice**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Musical Director:** | **Mrs F Jefferies** |
| **Junior & Senior Choir:** | **Caitlin Feakes, Maria Chennattu** |
| **Lighting and Sound:** | **Mrs K Sharp, Tilly Sharp, Kirsty Ray, Soundaryavalli Valliappan** |
| **Front of House:** | **Mrs S Stinson, Mr J Garland, Mr D Williams, Mr K Kidby, Mr T Adamson, Mr M Holdsworth** |
| **Backstage Crew:** | **Mr P Fogarty, Evelyn Croall, Mary Murray, Ella Barber, Edie Duffy, Lauren Holmes-Cook** |
| **Programme & Publicity:** | **Ms K Stubbs** |
| **Ticket Sales:** | **Mrs S Aves** |
| **Special thanks to:** | **Mr J Kalisz, Mr A Cunningham, Mrs C Burt, Mr M Ferdenzi, Mr M Hipperson** |

7



# Sixth Form Trip to Disneyland Paris 2-4 July



## ITINERARY

**Day One (Sunday 2 July)**
Morning 06:20 The coach will collect us from school early (07:00) in the morning for the journey to the Channel port and crossing to Calais.

Arrive in  Paris 19:00We will check into our accommodation and then we will make our way to the Disney Village for dinner.

**Day Two (Monday 3 July)**
Morning  07.00-09.30
Continental breakfast in hotel

A free shuttle bus departs regularly from the hotel for the parks and Disney Village.  The hotel is also in walking distance of the Parks.

Full day spent between the Theme Parks.

**Day Three (Tuesday 4 July)**
Morning 07:00-08:00
Continental breakfast in the hotel
09.00 Depart hotel

Evening
19:00 Arrive Colchester County High School







Year 12 and 13 very much enjoyed their recent trip to Disneyland Paris.  Many thanks to Mrs Hughes for organising the trip and to all the staff who accompanied the students.






Tina Chan: T*he journey to disney is very smooth and organised. Love that we can spend the whole day in Disney.*

Aimee Ashton: *I really loved the thrilling rides and the magical and euphoric vibes that Disneyland had*

Alena Mueller: *It was a really fun trip and enjoyed spending time with my friends. There was lots of laughter and lots of screening on the rides! I also loved watching the light show in the evening…it was so magical to see*

Daisy Stubbins: *It was so much fun to spend some quality time with friends and go on rides together creating an amazing break after a year of hard work*

Pareesa Zafar: *I loved seeing Disneyland it was so big and pretty. I liked the fact that most of the time we were able to walk around with our friends. I liked spending time in the ferry too and even seeing teachers in a different light.*

Megan Taylor: *I really enjoyed all the rides especially Tower of Terror and the Avengers Rollercoaster. We also had a lot of fun exploring the Disney village and the fireworks in the evening*

Maria Chennattu: *I enjoyed being in a different country and seeing a little bit of the culture in France e.g. using Euros and communicating in basic French.*

Hana Lewis: *I enjoyed going to the Disney village for dinner on the first evening. I really enjoyed the rides at Disney and the light/drone shows.*



# Sports Presentation Evening

On Tuesday 11 July, the PE department held their annual Sports Presentation Evening. Due to the large number of athletes who represented CCHSG this year, we had to limit attendance to one parent per student. This shows how many students have competed in sport, which is a fantastic achievement in itself.

As a school we have a really strong reputation in sport, being the strongest in the area, and region, and this year we have continued to maintain this standard. This is something the department, the school, and the students should be immensely proud off.

The evening celebrated all the sporting achievements from the department across the year, showcased the infamous sports presentation video and then went through the individual awards. The winners were:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sports Personality | Madison Allen |
| KS3 Sporting Excellence | Georgia Banyard |
| KS3 Performer of the Year | Grace Cooper |
| KS3 Outstanding Contribution | Bessie Ratley |
| KS3 Team of the Year | U14 Regional Badminton Team |
| KS4 Sporting Excellence | Lyla Belshaw |
| KS4 Performer of the Year | Tilly Hewitt |
| KS4 Outstanding Contribution | Imogen Jones |
| KS4 Team of the Year | Inters Cross Country Cup Team |
| KS5 Sporting Excellence | Megan Taylor |

A word from Mrs Knight (Head of PE);
“We hold this evening to recognise the young talents we have at the school, and to encourage sportsmanship, self-belief, success, and the competitive spirit. While these students are working hard and achieving such fantastic things academically, I feel it is also very important to recognise the hard work they put into their sport and to continue to motivate them to shine.

I look forward to hearing about the department’s success and highlights throughout next year. Well done to all students that have represented CCHSG, and thank you to the PE department for their continued support, enthusiasm and dedication.”
Mrs Knight”


















## Netball Essex Cup

**U16 Team – 2ND**

Beatrice Sivyer
Eva Swann
Francesca Howell
Imogen Jones
Kate Archer
Krisha Donepudi
Lily Tyler
Lyla Belshaw
Molly Nee
Noya Alegeh



## Central Venue Tournament

**Year 7 Team**

Alexa Hall
Devaprayaga Velakunnu
Emilia Cooke
Haneefa Quadri
Hawaa Patel
Sienna Roberts
Sophia Harrison
Talya Ramadan
Varsha Babsurbramanian



## Cross Country Lee Valley

**Year 8 & 9**



Abigail Prince
Ella Denham
Ella Hudson
Georgia Banyard
Naomi Sandercock

**Year 10 & 11 – 2nd**



Amy Milburn
Carys Sergeant
Francesca Howell
Lily Tyler

## Basketball Colchester League

**Year 7 Team - Winners**



Faye Holliday
Poppy Rykens
Sienna Roberts
Varsha Balasubramanian

**Year 8 Team - Winners**



Ella Hudson
Emily Tien
Georgia Banyard
Isobel Maddison

Juliette Hemeury
Lily Opefi
Rosie Candler

## Cross Country Junior Essex Championships

**Year 7**

Annabel Murphy
Emily Rulten
Faye Holliday
Hawaa Patel
Mya Atkins
Poppy Rykens
Sienna Roberts

**Year 8 & 9**

Edeigh Irvine
Ella Hudson
Freya Crathern
Georgia Banyard
Helena Fairbank
Isobel Hinde
Sophie Reed



## Regional Relay Championships

**Year 7 & 8 Team**

Amelia Arnold
Bessie Ratley
Carys Westgarth
Emily Tien
Rosie Candler
Sienna Roberts

**Year 9 & 10 Team – 7th in Medley Relay**

Eveline Gaydon
Francesca Howell
Gabrielle Meyer
Lyla Belshaw



## District Cross Country

**Year 7 Team – 1st**

Annabel Murphy
Emily Rulten
Florence Mee
Hawaa Patel
Mya Atkins – 1st
Poppy Rykens

**Year 8 & 9 Team – 1st**

Abigail Prince
Ella Denham
Ella Hudson
Georgia Banyard
Jemima Garner
Naomi Sandercock – 1st

**Year 10 & 11 Team – 1st**

Amy Milburn
Beatrice Sivyer – 3rd
Carys Sergeant
Francesca Howell
Lily Tyler – 2nd
Lyla Belshaw – 1st

**U19 Team – 1st**

Amelia Green
Kaela Swaine
Rose Sheppard
Maddy Allen



## Badminton Teams

**U14 Team**

Adithi Thayur
Aishani Srikanth
Caitlin Kong
Harleen Nanda
Lipika Fangoo
Molly Brown
Natasha Adkins
Nivedha Kunnath
Samridhi Singh
Sahasra Narne
Srivarsha Puvvada



## Cross Country Essex Cup Championships

**Year 7 & 8 Team – 7th**



Ella Hudson
Georgia Banyard
Isobel Hinde
Rosie Candler
Sophie Reed

**Year 9 & 10 Team – 2nd**



Beatrice Sivyer
Francesca Howell
Lily Tyler
Lyla Belshaw
Naomi Sandercock

**Year 11 Team – 5th**



Amy Milburn
Carys Sergeant
Eva Marshallsay-Clarke
Imogen Jones

## Badminton Teams

**U16 Team**

Anuji Madanayake
Daisy Rea
Delisha Khachane
Diya Vinoop
Kruthi Ramkumar
Olivia Adkins
Saanvi Kumar
Tanisha Raviraj



# Athletics Success – Track and Field National Finalists!

On 18 May, 28 athletes were selected to represent CCHSG at the Track and Field Athletics Championships. At this competition, the athletes have to compete in both a track and a field event and are working together as a team to build up the highest number of points. The Inters team (Year 9-10) then qualified for the Regional round which took place on the 14 June, placing 2nd regionally! After all regions have competed in their rounds, the top scorers are then selected for Nationals.

The news came in that we have qualified which is a CCHSG first. The students achieved a combined score of 478, which puts them in third place nationally going into the final, a huge achievement in itself. Luckily, the final on 8 July, was held in Chelmsford this year – it could have been anywhere in the country! The students placed an incredible 5th in the country!

Well done to the 14 athletes;
Janet Oshoja, Lily Tyler, Francesca Howell, Tilly Hewitt, Beatrice Sivyer, Ryder Izbrecht, Ellie Spurr, Saanvi Kumar, Gabriella Goldsmith, Amelie Taylor, Dabeluchi Okoli, Jadesola Fawehinmi, Naomi Sandercock and Jemima Garn.

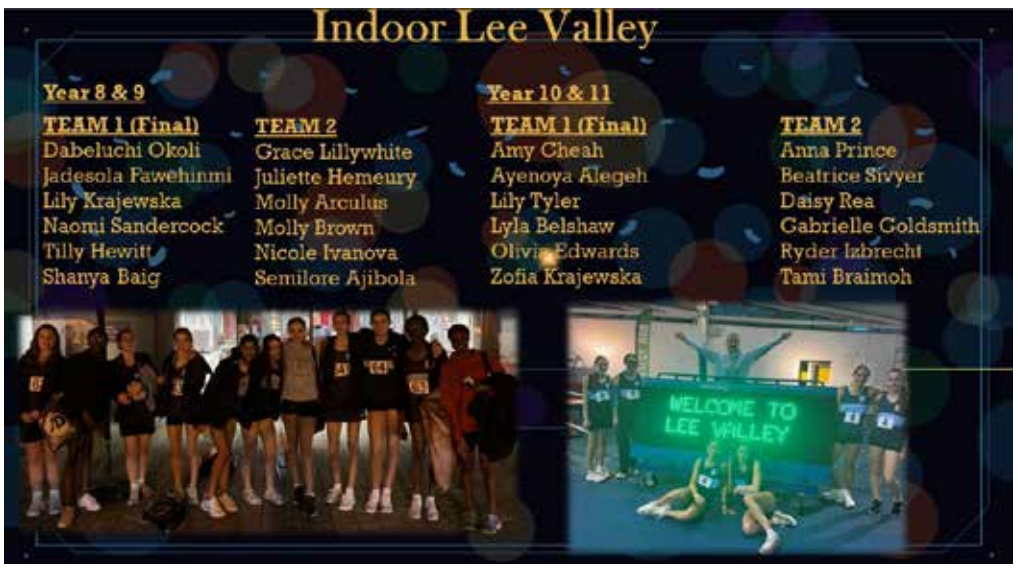
**Mrs Knight**

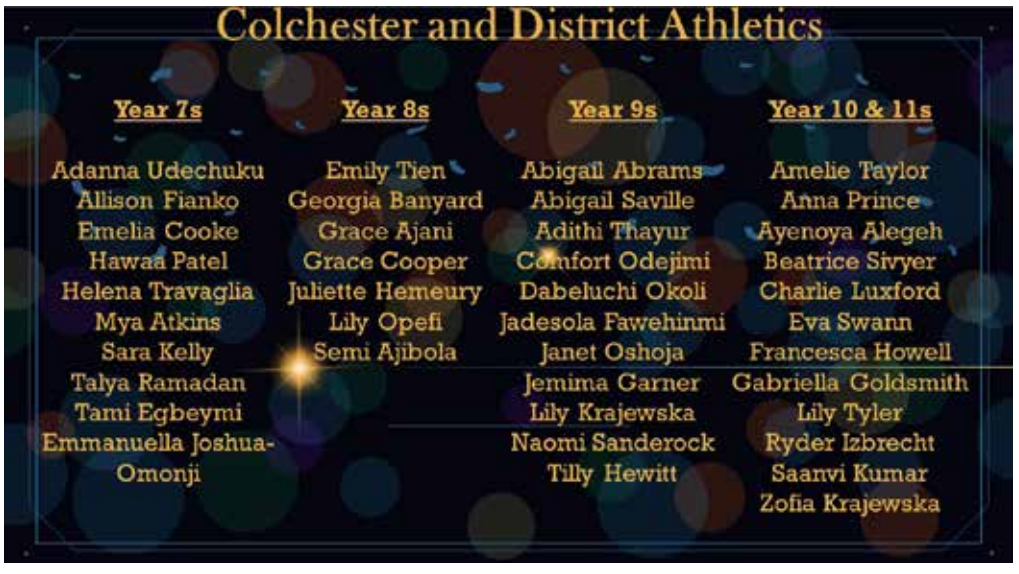


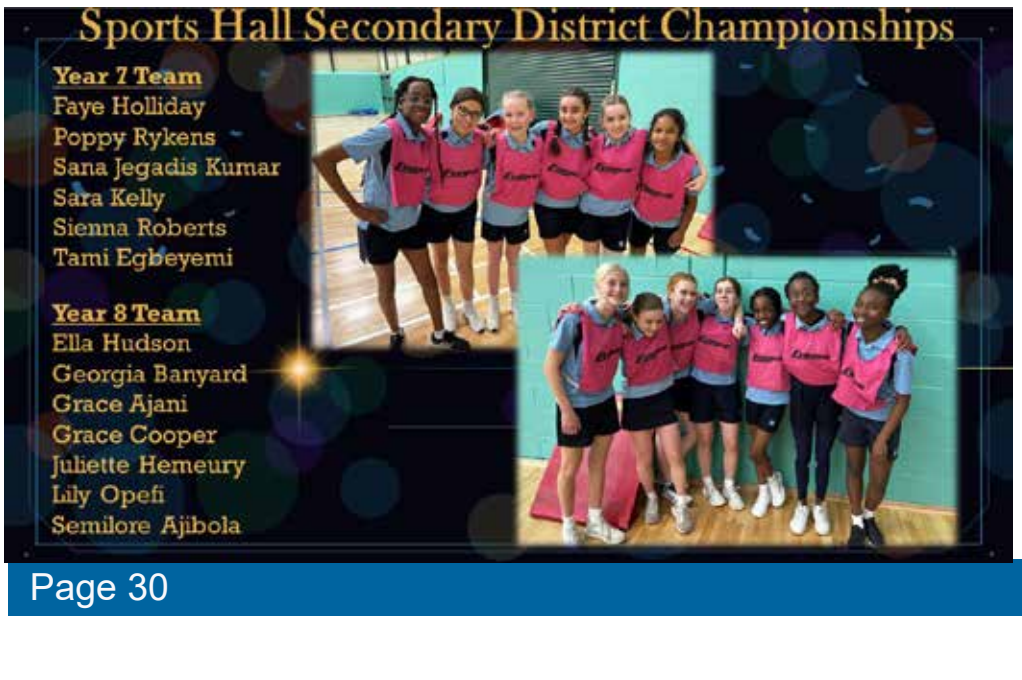









# Athlete in the Spotlight

**Every half term the PE Department will be selecting athletes to be in our "Athlete Spotlight". Athletes are invited to share their sporting success in and outside school as well as their training schedule, long-term goals and more!**

**This half term's Athlete in the Spotlight…**

## Jadesola Fawehinimi



CLUB:
Colchester Harriers Athletics Club

TRAINING SCHEDULE:
An hour and a half on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS:
New P.B of 12.44, track and field cup nationals

LONG TERM GOAL:
To go to the Olympics

INSPIRATION:
Shelly Ann Fraiser Price, Dina Asher-Smith

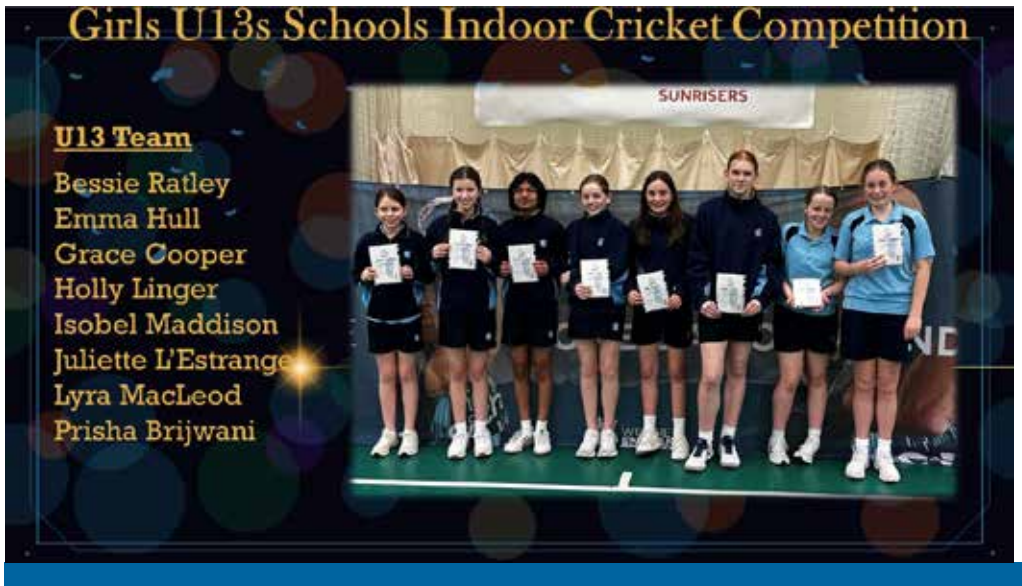
PREMATCH MEAL:
Jollof rice, pomegranate seeds and a donut

# 2023 Cricket and Rounders Update












# PTFA

**PTFA CONTACTS:**

Chair: Anni Cullen
cchsgptfa@gmail.com

Registered Charity No. 110464

## Autumn Term Dates for Your Diary

- **PTFA Annual General Meeting:**
  Tuesday 26 September 2023
- **New Year 7 Welcome Party:**
  Friday 13 October 2023
- **Nearly New Uniform Sale:**
  Saturday 25 November 2023
- **Annual PTFA Christmas Market:**
  2 December, 2023 - 12noon - 3pm




## Summer Term Nearly New Uniform and Book Sale Feedback

**On Saturday 8 July the PTFA held the last Nearly New Uniform and Book sale of the academic year. Over £1,800 was raised! This means that together with the new Year 7 intake sale, we raised a total of £6,000. The PTFA would like to thank all the parent volunteers who gave up their time and helped with preparing the sale on Friday afternoon and staffing the sale on Saturday morning – your help was invaluable.**

## PTFA Uniform Team Volunteers

**None of our Nearly New Uniform and Books Sales can run without the kind support of volunteer staff/parents/carers. To help us to continue to provide this vital service, please email cchsgptfa@gmail.com to join the PTFA Uniform Team volunteers.**

**CCHSG PTFA thanks you in advance for your support.**







## Save the date!

**Stalls still available.**

**To book email cchsgptfa@gmail.com**

Special thanks to our PTFA volunteers, in particular, our hardworking team of volunteers for the Nearly New Uniform Scheme. We wish everyone a restful and enjoyable summer break.