

# CHURCHMEAD SCHOOL

February 2024 Newsletter



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Life in all its fullness has been celebrated throughout the term at Churchmead. The opportunities students have taken up and events that they have taken part in has been impressive, from curriculum activities to sporting achievements, from performances to taking part in various competitions both in school and beyond. A highlight this term was our Prize Giving Evening, it was great to see so many students receiving awards for their continued commitment to their education and to hear from our guest speaker Miles Barrow.

The school ski trip to Italy was again a great success with students taking up the challenge of learning a new sport or developing new skills from the previous year. The Performing Arts Showcase highlighted the growing talents in Music and Performing Arts. This term we also have our new Churchmead School song "Life in all its fullness" which can be viewed on our Instagram page.

The recent feedback from our Sixth Form Parents Evening has been very encouraging, a recent external review also highlighted how students were flourishing in their experience of further education at Churchmead. I would like to thank the students and the staff for their ongoing commitment to our Sixth Form programmes. We are in the final preparations for Year 11 and their GCSE exams with only a matter of weeks to go until their first exam. I wish them well as they go into this exam season as they work hard to achieve the grades required for their Sixth Form studies.

Our Easter service at St Mary's Church was a reminder of Jesus's resurrection and how our own lives can be transformed through serving other people.

Thank you for your continued support.

Chris Tomes  
Headteacher

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## **Key Dates**

### **Start of Term**

Monday 15th April

### **Year 11 Prefects applications**

Friday 19th April - Friday 26th April

### **Year 9 Student Progress Meetings**

Thursday 25th April

### **Start of GCSE exams**

Thursday 9th May

### **Christian Aid Week**

Monday 13th - Friday 17th May

### **Duke of Edinburgh 1st Expedition**

Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th May

### **PTA Meeting**

Wednesday 22nd May

### **End Of Term**

Friday 24th May

## Ski Trip, Prato Nevoso, Italy



Students and staff had a fantastic time skiing in Italy in February. Everyone made excellent progress, whether they were experienced skiers or complete beginners. In addition to skiing, students enjoyed tubing, playing games and a pizza party, as well as nightly awards for those who displayed our school values of courage, compassion and commitment.



## Performing Arts Showcase



Our students shone on stage with many different music, drama and dance performances as well as hearing the school choir sing our new school song. Thanks go to our talented students and Miss Peacock and Miss Tomes for putting together such an inspiring evening.

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## Careers Awareness

The careers department has been busy this term, exploring future career options available to all year groups.

### Year 7 and 8 - Electricity Roadshow



Year 7 & 8 were visited by BAE Systems, the Royal Navy & the Royal Air Force with their “Electricity” roadshow raising awareness of career pathways in STEM and related subject areas. Students were engaged and praised by all presenters for their level of involvement and the show of respect!

### Year 8 and 9 - Girls in Tech



Service Now, in Staines, hosted some of our Year 8 & 9 girls, as part of Girls in Tech workplace encounter where they spent the day designing an app to help others, and encouraging women to consider careers in Tech

### Year 10 - National Careers Week



During National Careers week, some of our Year 10 students visited Orange Business, in Slough. This workplace encounter gave our students an insight into the world of work and careers available to them.

## World Book Day



World Book Day was a huge success again this year, with students and staff celebrating their love of literature. Students were given the chance to take part in activities such as 'Book Tasting', making their own bookmarks and a Book Fair where so many students left with new books to read and inspire them. Proceeds donated went to the Queen's Reading Room charity.



## Royal Ascot Races Bake Off

Three of our budding bakers from Year 7 attended the "Learning to Work" Bake Off Competition at Ascot Racecourse. The event brought together 14 teams from schools across the local area who had designed, created, baked and decorated their own Tray Bake cakes. All the teams attending had already won the heats delivered in school to secure their place in the Final.



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## Mock Trials at Reading Magistrates Court

Our Mock Trial students embraced our school values to the fullest attending the Reading Magistrates Court for a Mock Trial event. They were exceptional in court and their support for one another was inspiring.



## Annual Prize Giving evening

Our Annual Prize Giving evening was a huge success and it was great to see so many parents, staff and governors celebrating our students, from all year groups and subjects. Special thanks to guest speaker Miles Barrow, and our photographer Tim, as well as the office and Senior Leadership Team for organising such a fantastic event.



## Red Nose Day

For Red Nose Day this year, we invited students to come dressed in their traditional cultural clothes, or colours from their countries flag. We had some wonderful outfits displaying cultural pride and we raised over £228 for Comic Relief.



Churchmead School raised

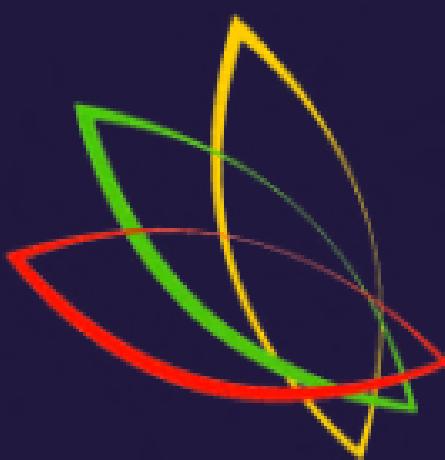
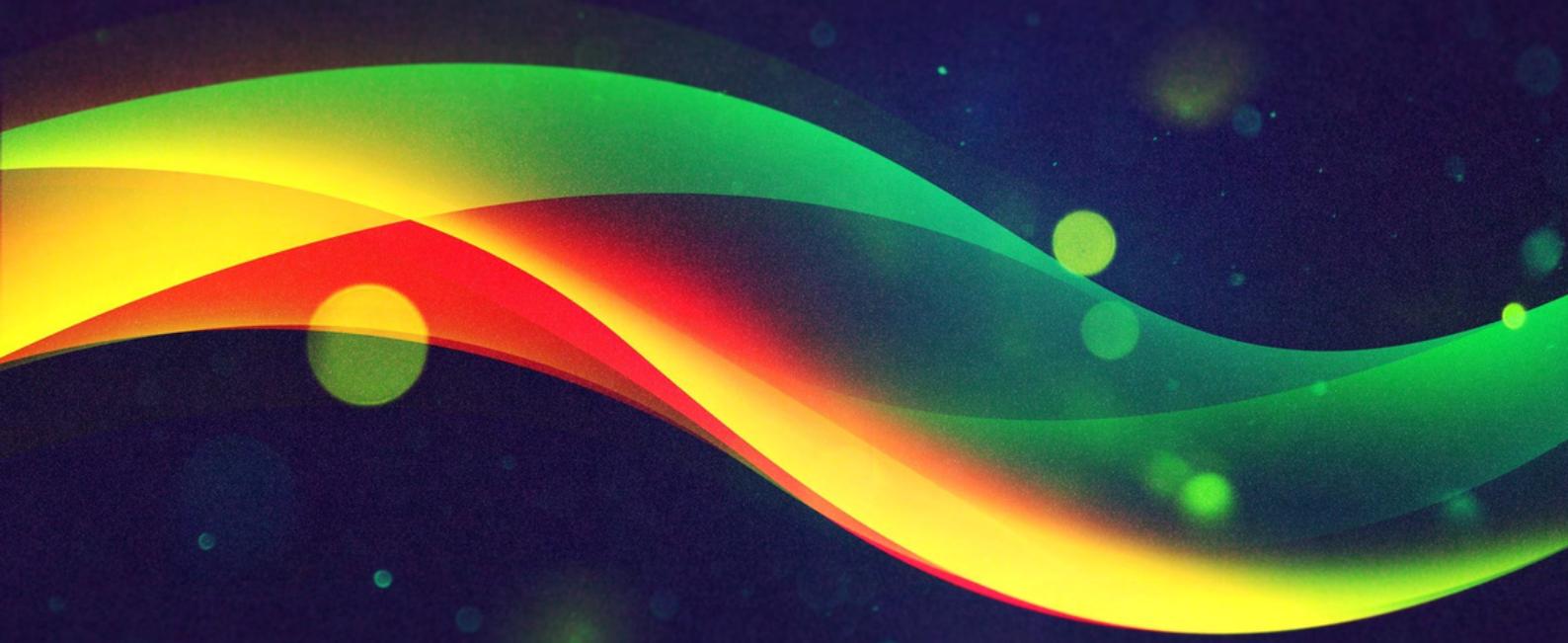
**£228.69**

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## Slough Jets Ice Hockey Mascot



Year 9 student Isabelle, had the opportunity to be the mascot for the Slough Jets Mens Ice hockey team this month. Isabelle is a keen ice hockey player herself, playing at with the clubs juniors. We are so proud the hard work she is putting in both inside and outside the classroom, well done Isabelle!



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