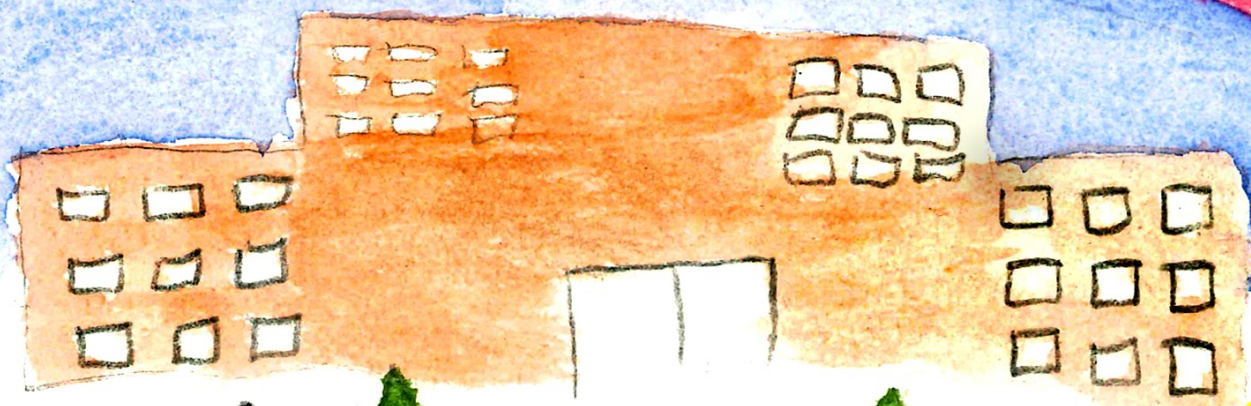


# Newsletter



**Congratulations to our CHS Christmas Card Winner** *Turn to page 14*

Issue 30: November to December 2021



# CHS FAMILY



# Welcome

to our Christmas Newsletter and an opportunity to reflect on some of the events of the term. I can hardly believe that we have come to the end of 2021, what can only be described as a challenging and very strange year for us all. I am proud of our school community and the way we have all pulled together and done our best to learn, educate, support, fundraise and help others.

As you will see from this festive edition, school continues to be a busy, vibrant and purposeful place, where the students and staff have worked hard to maintain normality. Whether it's about our musical and theatrical performers, scientists, historians or top sportspeople, it is fantastic to be able to share these stories of the many classroom and extracurricular opportunities taking place each and every week.

This is also a chance for me to thank everyone throughout the school community for their hard work and support this year and also to thank all of our parents and carers for their support and encouragement over these last twelve months. 2021 has certainly had its challenges, but the resilience, team spirit and positivity at CHS has shone through; there are some wonderful examples to read about in this newsletter.

The end of a term is often the time when we say goodbye to members of the teaching and support staff team. At the end of this term, both Mrs Francis (Maths) and Mrs Hall-Gillions (Performing Arts) are sadly (for us) leaving CHS. Mrs Hall-Gillions is taking up a promoted post and Mrs Francis is going to enjoy more time with her family. We wish them both well in the future.

As we approach the longest night of the year, I am aware of the darkness of this past year in terms of Covid-19 and the uncertainty, suffering and pain it has caused for so many people. However, those dark evenings will gradually turn a little brighter and, despite the challenges of a new Covid-19 variant, I remain hopeful and optimistic for a better year ahead.

Congratulations to Year 8 student, Jordan C, who was the winner of our Christmas card competition. You will see his wonderful design on the front cover and this has also been printed as our school Christmas card this year, which will be sent to all our local primary and secondary school colleagues and our many local business partners.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

**Mr Barlow**  
Headteacher



## What a performance!

After a year and a half of uncertainty, restrictions and cancellations, it was so wonderful to be able to hold our Christmas Concerts and showcase the amazing acting and musical talents of our Performing Arts students. Here are just a few images from our two very successful and much enjoyed evenings.



# Against the odds

Life has been far from normal or easy for anyone over the last year and a half, and it was certainly neither of these for our Class of 2021. So it was with great pleasure that we held a special Awards Celebration Assembly this half term to present our 2020-21 Year 11 students with their exam certificates and recognise and reward their effort and attainment with curriculum awards.



## Special Awards

We also presented a number of special awards, including our **Stacey Marsh Inspiration Award**, which, for the first time ever, went to the entire year group for their hard work and the resilience and sheer determination they demonstrated throughout.

**Pecks Restaurant Award for Excellence in Catering:** Charlie Moreton

**Macclesfield College Award for Effort and Determination:** Travis Dixon O'Neill, Kian Foster, Lucy Janes, Charlotte Moore and Alexander Upperton

**Cheshire College - South & West Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement:** Hollie Ambrose, Isaac Cumberlidge, Maddison Hughes, Kate Oakley and Natalie Tadjeran

**Governors' Award:** Anya Walker

**Citizenship Award:** Lucy Picken

**The EBacc Award:** Billy Heptin, James Lalkham and Sophie Mason

**STEM Award:** Sophia Adu-Gyamfi and Jordan Crowther

**Award for Outstanding Contribution to School Life:** Lily Smith

Congratulations to the award winners and to all of our 2020-21 Year 11 students.

## Curriculum Awards

Art	Sophia Adu-Gyamfi	PE Cambridge National	Zak Hargreaves
Art	Olivia Field	PE Cambridge National	Maddie Cooke
Photography	Lissie Fieldhouse	Drama	Grace Kennedy
Photography	Jessica Wilson	Drama	Lily Smith
Product Design	Sophia Adu-Gyamfi	Music	Ben Sproston
Product Design	Jordan Crowther	Music	Toby Pass
Food & Nutrition	Kian Foster	Biology	Kate Oakley
Food & Nutrition	Charlie Moreton	Biology	Jordan Crowther
English Language	Natasha Scott	Chemistry	Isaac Cumberlidge
English Language	Kate Oakley	Chemistry	Anya Walker
English Literature	Grace Kennedy	Physics	Leo Wilcock
English Literature	Luke Doorbar	Physics	James Lalkham
Media	Ruby Cotton	Combined Science (Biology)	Kian Foster
Media	Will Johnson	Combined Science (Biology)	Charlie Moore
Geography	Kian Foster	Combined Science (Chemistry)	Sophia Adu-Gyamfi
Geography	Angel Arthington	Combined Science (Chemistry)	Callum Lumb
History	Isaac Cumberlidge	Combined Science (Physics)	Flo Ashworth-Booth
History	Will Lord	Combined Science (Physics)	Adam Taylor
RE	Lucy Janes	Sociology	Lucy Janes
Computer Science	James Lalkham	Sociology	Billy Hepting
Computer Science	Riley Cosgrove	Health & Social Care	Amber Henderson
Creative iMedia	Thomas Hatton	Health & Social Care	Hannah Booth
Creative iMedia	Eleanor Keane	Child Play, Learning & Development	Angel Arthington
Mathematics	Ryan Cartlidge	Child Play, Learning & Development	Caitlin Wright
Mathematics	Maddison Hughes	Business	Natalie Tadjeran
Mathematics	Pierce Harvey	Business	Emily Moody
Mathematics	Natalie Tadjeran		
Level 2 Further Mathematics	Travis Dixon O'Neill		
Level 2 Further Mathematics	Chloe Craddock		
Statistics	Finn Garner		
Statistics	Daisy McAllister		
German	Isaac Cumberlidge		
German	Natasha Scott		
Spanish	Angel Arthington		
Spanish	Tainn Clowes Michael		
Spanish	Hollie Ambrose		
GCSE PE	Kate Oakley		
GCSE PE	Harry Bosworth		



# Walk-in wardrobe



What a Christmas treat for our Year 7 students! Just before we broke up for Christmas, 140 of them visited The Lowry in Salford to experience a live performance of C.S. Lewis' classic tale, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

It was a spectacular experience for them and Ms Figiel, our Year 7 Guidance Team Leader, told us:

*"The show was fantastic with some amazing visual effects! Highly recommended and everyone loved it!"*



# Consider the future

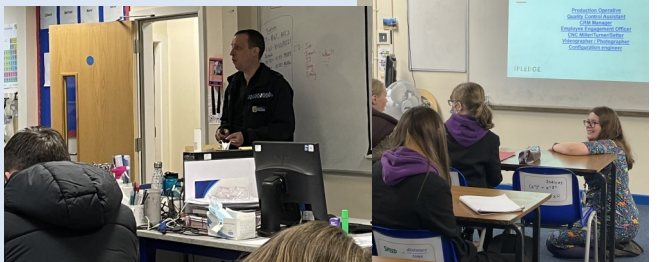
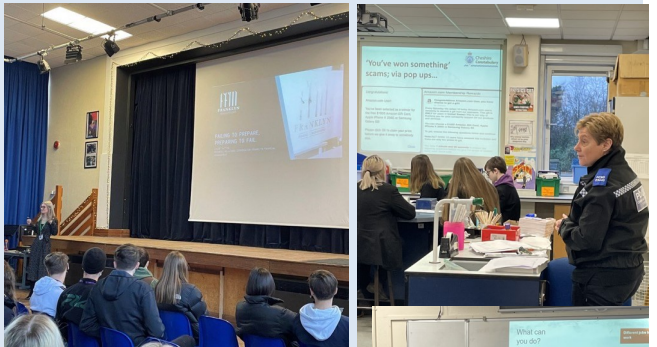
At the end of term, we held a Careers and Finance PHSE STOP Morning for students in Years 7-10

We heard from speakers on a range of associated topics including: Maximising Employability, Apprenticeships, Equality and Discrimination in Employment (a former student also helped in a Challenging Stereotypes session) and the Dangers of Gambling.

Representatives of Cheshire Police, including Police Youth Engagement Officer, PC Andrew Cornall, discussed illegal financial activities and how to avoid being scammed.

Our 2017-18 Head Girl, Chloe Tatton, now Business Relations Coordinator with Franklyn Financial Management, also spoke to our Sixth Form about CV building and interview skills and also discussed her own experiences of preparing for the future.

It was a very informative morning and students and staff alike learned a great deal.



# Your help with road safety

We still have a serious issue with road safety around the school site. There are a number of cars parked on Box Lane at the end of the school day, blocking both the pavement and the road, causing a dangerous obstruction for pedestrians and other cars. It also results in chaos as the road becomes blocked with single lane traffic unable to move in either direction due to the parked cars.

Please work with us in the following ways to prevent an accident and help the traffic to flow:

**A) Do not park on Box Lane - there are plenty of safe parking areas, away from the school and only minutes' walk that also do not inconvenience our very patient neighbours. (Please also park considerately and not across driveways/ junctions, in turning circles etc.)**

**B) Remind your child of their own road safety responsibilities including staying alert when next to roads and also waiting for crossing lights to turn green before stepping into the road.**

**C) Please also turn off your engine while waiting**

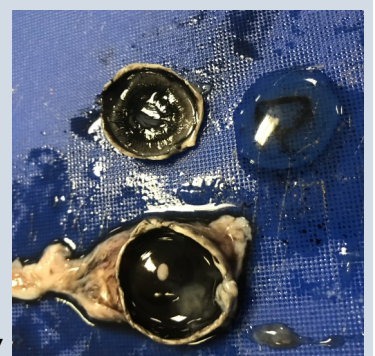
[Thank you for your support.](#)



# Oh, eye see!

Ms Figiel's Year 8 Physics class have been studying light and sound, and looked at the structure of the eye to understand how we see.

As part of this topic, they dissected an eye, which gave them a far greater understanding of the theory than they would get from just looking at pictures in a book.



# The road to recovery

Mrs Vale, one of our Curriculum Team Leaders, is leading our Post Covid Lockdown Recovery Programme, and she has shared an update on how this is progressing.

Our Recovery Programme is being developed in three strands:

- **Recovering lost curriculum learning**
- **Social and emotional recovery to enable a good learning environment**
- **Recovery of the school as a community**



## 1. Curriculum Recovery

- All subjects have a Recovery Development Plan and this is reviewed and revised as necessary. Data is informing us on **knowledge loss** and, along with **attendance, Attitude to Learning (ATL)** and **social and emotional** aspects, is helping us to identify those students needing further support.
- A range of strategies are being put into place by Guidance Teams to support specific groups of students and there has been an additional emphasis on **Rewards** for great work, positive behaviour, kindness etc .
- Additional money has been granted for supplementary **revision materials**, mentoring and specialist enhancements e.g. trips and visiting speakers.
- The new school year started with a wonderful **Summer School** for our new Year 7s, which was a great success, and we feel this has played a big part in Year 7's excellent start.
- Whole school reading remains an important focus for the school, with each curriculum area working together on this. The introduction of **First News**, the online newspaper, has helped, giving students the opportunity to read reports that are topical and relevant to many areas of school and general life.
- **Attendance** is being monitored carefully as part of each student's recovery.
- We have also used this term to reinforce **good learning practice** e.g. Smart Starts, Equipment, Uniform Rules, Promptness to lessons, with the aim of re-establishing a purposeful learning environment post-lockdowns.



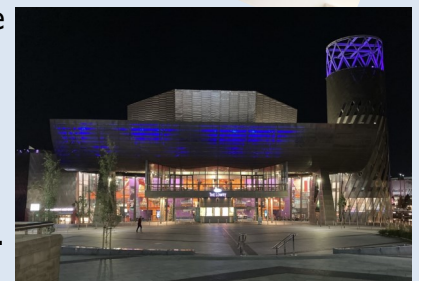
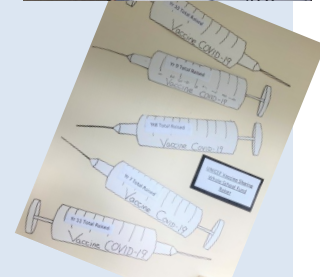
## 2. Social and Emotional Recovery

- We have introduced a two-week programme of **registration activities** that includes reading/careers/ Recovery focuses. This has been supplemented with Stop Mornings.
- Posters were displayed asking students '**How will you Fill the Gaps,**' encouraging them to consider which aspects of CHS life they had missed during lockdowns. We now have a giant Jenga display in our main corridor, which is filling up with blocks showing these 'missing' activities being reintroduced to school life.
- All students have a 'Filling in The Gaps' **learning log**, which will chart each student's Recovery throughout the year.



## 3. Rebuilding the School Community

- We have reintroduced **enrichment and extracurricular** activities to restore missed learning. Clubs are back up and running, sports fixtures have returned and we have welcomed speakers and theatre companies back in to school. Music, Drama, Geography, Art and Photography have been able to enjoy a variety of school trips.
- The whole school is involved in **fundraising** this term for UNICEF Vaccine Sharing, promoting teamwork and giving us a shared goal. This is in addition to the many other charity initiatives supported this year by students and staff.
- We will run regular **Student Surveys** to continue encourage and include student voice in supporting our Recovery.
- In the Summer Term we are hoping to attempt a **Guinness Book of Records** for the longest rounders game, again giving students and staff a shared focus and helping us to work together as a single team.



# Local historians

We launched our History Scholars Programme in November for Year 8 and Year 9 students wishing to get 'hands-on experience of History research'. For their first project, we decided to try our own version of the television show, A House Through Time.

Previous to the launch of the programme, our Humanities team put out a call for a suitably historic home and very soon had a research property on Howey Lane, Congleton.

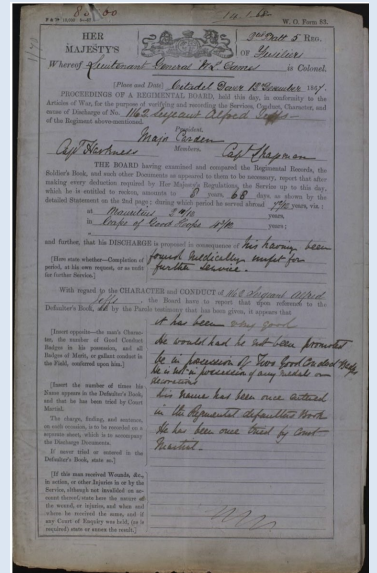
In their first session, the group watched a bit of 'A House Through Time' and started to explore the area around their research project house using a 1908 map. They discovered a nearby church, schools and fustian mills.



After studying the Cheshire Tithe Maps, the History Scholars now know the house must have been built after 1840.

Following these findings, the group undertook some brilliant research into their study house's first known resident, a Sergeant Alfred Jeffs.

They discovered that Sgt. Alfred served in Mauritius, an island in the Indian Ocean, and the Cape of Good Hope at the tip of South Africa, before being discharged from the forces due to 'opacity of the cornea', a condition of the eye.



This project is such a fantastic way of giving history a whole new meaning for these students. They are having to uncover the facts for themselves and are loving every minute of it.

# Economical with the truth!

At the end of last term, our Year 13 Economics students began to look at Oligopolies and Game Theory.

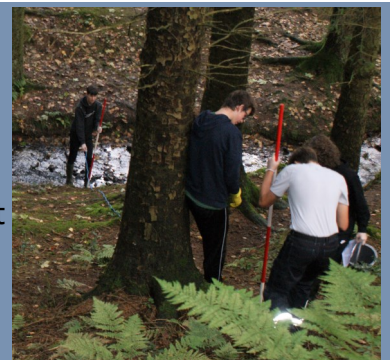
So what better way to put the theory into action than with a quick penalty shootout!

At least, that's what Mr Davis told us anyway!



# Out in the field

For their first field trip of the year, our Sixth Form Geography students visited Macclesfield Forest in October to investigate the Water Cycle.



Their brief was to measure infiltration rates in the soil to gauge the effect of slope angle and proximity to the stream.

Their data has since been analysed and their findings presented.



# Buy, sell, donate

If you haven't already joined our Facebook group, **CHS Buy, Sell, Swap and Donate**,

please feel free to sign up and list all your school related items - uniform, PE kit, required reading texts, textbooks etc.

We also welcome any donations of text books, revision guides or items of uniform you no longer need, please drop them in to Main or Student Reception, where they will be gratefully received and passed on.



# Free Office software

All CHS students have a **free** Office 365 account. Speak with Mr Davis or Mr Curry in our ICT Team for further details.



# Spotlight on student success

We are delighted to again be able to bring to you more stories sent in by students, parents, carers and family members about our students' amazing success outside school.



We have a growing number of students excelling in a range of Martial Arts disciplines, including Year 9 student, **Olly P** who competed in the Professional Unification of Martial Arts (PUMA) British Taekwondo Championships in Bristol on Sunday 28 November.

He really excelled and achieved the Gold medal in the Bostaff discipline, making him the British Junior Champion! He also took the Bronze medal in the Patterns discipline.

Olly is very dedicated to his sport, training four nights a week with Bidduph-based SLF Taekwon-Do and Little Pumas, in addition to training with the national squad in Bristol at least once a month.

Well done, Olly, your discipline and dedication are really paying off. We look forward to hearing more news of your success in the future.

Year 7 **Faye L** is another of our Martial Arts stars and she achieved her Junior Brown Belt in Kick Boxing at the beginning of October. Fantastic news, Faye!

Congratulations to our Year 9 student, **Georgia B**, who achieved her Ju Jitsu Black Belt at the end of November after a successful grading.

Georgia has been involved in the sport since she was very young and has remained dedicated and enthusiastic. That's definitely the way to succeed!

More great news from our Year 10 student, **Isabel C**, who is a familiar face on this page. She braved the snow in November to scoop three fantastic titles at the English Skeet Annual Challenge Event in Nottingham.

Shooting a personal best of 98/100, Isabel achieved Lady High Gun, Junior High Gun and Runner Up in the overall High Gun match. Well done, Isabel, a fantastic achievement!



Swimming superstar, Year 7 **Oscar dV**, scooped 14 medals (3 Gold, 8 Silver and 3 Bronze) at the Stafford Apex Swimming Club Winter open Swimming Gala at the beginning of December.

He was the overall top performing boy, achieving 14 personal best times resulting in multiple county and regional qualifying times for next year's events. His fantastic performance in all his races helped his club, Biddulph Amateur Swimming Club (BASC), take the overall win at the Gala. Well done, Oscar!

It was a real treat to hear one of our amazing Sixth Form bands, **The Hot News**, on 6 Towns Radio at the beginning of November with their EP, Spinning Bottles.

The band includes Stephen Davies, Max Rigby, Ewan Cover, Tom Yates and Maya Jorgensen.

Definitely a band we'll be hearing great things of in the future!

**If you have something you'd like us to share in our newsletter and social media, please email details and photographs to: [Success@CongletonHigh.com](mailto:Success@CongletonHigh.com). (NB. Please make sure you have parent/carer permission to share the story.)**



Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	
100 Skeet Annual Challenge	
High Gun	Steve Leggington 99
Runner Up	Isabel Cartledge 98 + 25 x 8
Lady High Gun	Isabel Cartledge 98
Veteran High Gun	Bob Tucker 98
Junior High Gun	Isabel Cartledge 98
Cash Prizes	
AA 1 <sup>st</sup> Cash Prize	Steve Leggington 99
A 1 <sup>st</sup> Cash Prize	Pete Goffin 98
B 1 <sup>st</sup> Cash Prize	Isabel Cartledge & Neil Orr 98
C 1 <sup>st</sup> Cash Prize	James Mackinnon & Neil Turner 91



6 Towns Radio  
LIVE

# A merry Christmas to us all!



Not quite Christmas, but on a Friday morning in November, our Year 10 English students enjoyed a live performance in the main hall of their GCSE text, Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

It was a real treat to be able to welcome the ManActCo team in to school for the performance, which was followed by a really useful Q and A session.



## Art restoration

One of the trips really enjoyed by students and missed so much last year is our annual Year 8 Liverpool Art Trip.

We were so happy to be able to reintroduce it this year and, at the end of November/ beginning of December, our Year 8 students were able to visit the Walker Art Gallery and the World Museum, with a few forms travelling across each day.



The year group were able to see the wonderful artworks first hand and complete their own drawings to help them in school with their next project, which will be based on Culture.



## Contacting us

Please email, [enquiries@congletonhigh.com](mailto:enquiries@congletonhigh.com), or call: **01260 730123** if you wish to contact school to send a message or make an enquiry.



Please do not use any of our social media channels as these are only monitored in school hours and in term time only and messages may not be seen.

If you would like to share a student success story for us to share in our newsletter and social media, please email: [success@congletonhigh.com](mailto:success@congletonhigh.com).

## What an ADVENTure!

As a special treat, our English Team shared an advent calendar with a difference this year!



A poem, short story or extract was put on to the satchel:one CHS Reading Advent Calendar as a flexible task each day throughout December.

From classical literature to contemporary Christmas poetry, there was something for everyone! Students enjoyed works from authors and poets including Jane Austin, Benjamin Zephaniah, George Eliot, Samuel Pepys and many more.

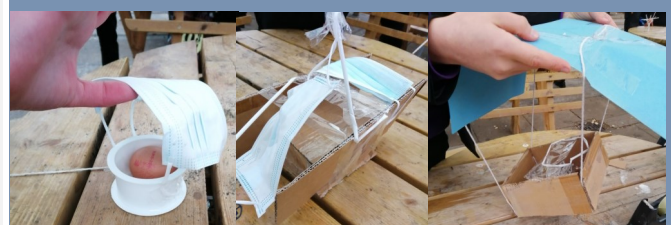
Keep an eye out for our English Team's new CHS Reading Instagram account, we'll share the details once it's up and running.

## Great egg expectations

After looking at spacecraft and space landings, our Science Club students created their own 'Egg Landers' to help an egg travel through space and land safely.

The group was provided with a variety of materials and free range (!) to think up their own designs. Dr Buchan and Miss Haran were delighted with all the different and very imaginative versions, showing lots of thought about how best to keep the egg safe during 'flight' and provide a soft landing .

The Egg Landers were then dropped from Humanities' balcony, with each being timed to see which stayed in the air the longest. Surprisingly, despite all egg expectations, a few of the eggs actually survived!





# Wellbeing matters at CHS

The Wellbeing of our whole school community continues to be key focus at Congleton High School, so 29<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December was designated as **CHS Wellbeing Week**. We hoped to help students and staff make their own emotional and physical wellbeing top priority and, in turn, create a positive difference for themselves and others.

**My Wellbeing Pledge**

Give yourself a score out of 10 for each of the following areas of your wellbeing routine:

GREATDREAM

GIVE- Do kind things for others \_\_\_\_\_

RELATE - Connect with others \_\_\_\_\_

EXERCISE- Take care of your body \_\_\_\_\_

AWARENESS - Keep your mind in the present and don't worry about the past or the future \_\_\_\_\_

TRY OUT- Keep learning new things \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTION - Have goals to look forward to \_\_\_\_\_

RESILIENCE - Find ways to bounce back \_\_\_\_\_

EMOTIONS- Look for the good in things \_\_\_\_\_

ACCEPTANCE - Be comfortable with who you are \_\_\_\_\_

MEANING - Be part of something bigger than yourself \_\_\_\_\_

I promise myself that I will try to improve my wellbeing by focusing on the area of: \_\_\_\_\_ (pick one from above).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

During the week, we reflected on how to further improve our wellbeing. Students completed a **Wellbeing Pledge**, encouraging them to look at their own wellbeing routine and agree one area they could work on in the future.

They also had the opportunity to show their gratitude to others by writing and sending **Thank You** notes to the people in our school community - their peers, teachers or support staff - they feel have really helped them. We installed a new post box at Student Reception for students to post their thank yous and our Year 12 students collected the notes and delivered them during registration. Staff were also able to use this as a way of letting their colleagues know that they are appreciated and valued.

We also looked at the importance of laughter for our wellbeing, which generated some really rather dreadful jokes from staff and a host of particularly terrible dad jokes from Mr Barlow!



Three Year 11 members of **ACT CIVIL** (Isabella, Ella and Amelia) delivered assemblies to all year groups in December about inappropriate sexual behaviours. There was a particular focus on what the Law says and advice about sexting. It was a very useful assembly that gave clear messages about how we should all behave towards each other and what happens when this is not the case. Students were again encouraged to report any of their concerns to a member of staff. This was the second in a series of assemblies addressing this important issue.

## Wellbeing Week at CHS



Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December



Throughout **Anti-Bullying Week 2021** in November, all our year group assemblies, delivered by Guidance Team Leaders and our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, addressed the theme, looking at how we can work together as a school community to tackle bullying. "One kind word can lead to another."

We have been made aware of some very good **parenting support programmes**, (including Cheshire East Family Service's 'The Incredible Years,' for parents/carers of children up to 12 years old) to help families who, for whatever reason, may be finding things tough at the moment. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Darling or Miss Franks at the school and we will guide you through the process. If you have any concerns about your child but do not want to go through school, you can call 0300 123 5012 (option 3) for support and advice.



We want all students to thrive at CHS and know that, at times, we all need a little bit of extra support. An idea that was generated in one of our ACT CIVIL meetings was the **Someone Who Can Help** card that was given to every student in Wellbeing Week. The handy sized card can fit easily in to a phone case or blazer pocket and lists useful numbers of organisations who can help when school is closed.



Please also have a look on the **Student Welfare** page, in both the Student and Parent/Carer areas of our website: <https://www.congletonhigh.com/205/student-welfare> to see other organisations who can help, or contact your child's Form Tutor, Guidance Team Leader or a member of our safeguarding team.

We are here to help so please do get in touch.

**Don't struggle to cope alone.**  
If you are worried about yourself or somebody else, there are lots of ways you can get support when school is closed.

- In an emergency dial 999
- Hopeline UK 0800 068 41 41
- The Mix helpline - 0808 808 4994
- SHOUT text 85258
- Childline 0800 11 11
- Samaritans 116 123
- Visyon call 01260 290000 or text 07508074748
- NHS text 07507 329908
- KOOTH.com

*There is always somebody ready to help you.*

# Social media safety

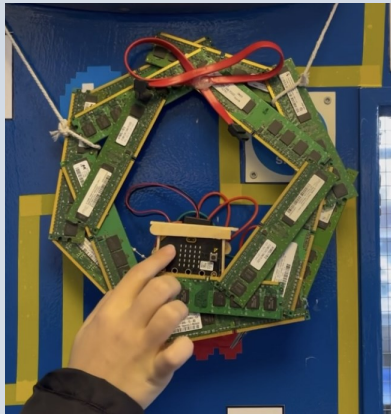
A very big thank you to PC Andrew Cornall, Police Youth Engagement Officer at Cheshire Police, who came in to speak with our Year 7 students in December about keeping themselves and others safe on social media.

This was a valuable and informative presentation for everyone. We have been very grateful to PC Cornall for talking with many of our year groups over the years about this subject, which is growing in importance as social media becomes a way of life for everyone.



## Wreathcycling

They're not keen on wasting anything in our Computer Science Department, so they turned some e-waste into an audio visual Christmas wreath for their classroom door! Everything on their flashing, musical masterpiece (apart from the Micro:bit) came out of the waste bin.



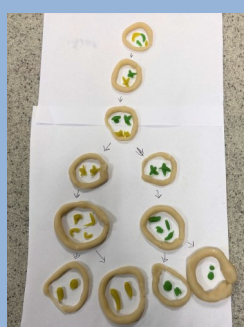
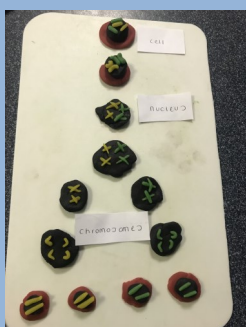
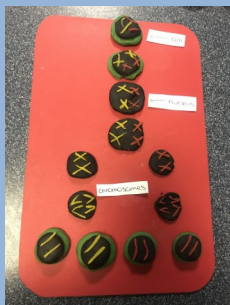
What a brilliant example of festive creative recycling!

## Joy division

Our Year 11 Biologists have been exploring Inheritance and cell division in their lessons with Mrs Fitzsimmons and Miss Figiel.

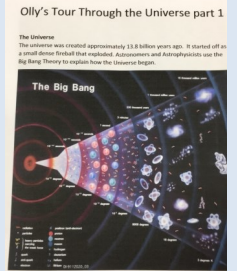
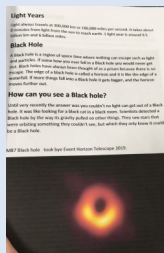
To help with their understanding of the Meiosis process, the students were challenged to create labelled models of "cell division by meiosis to produce gametes".

Of course, the students created some great models, making their teachers very happy and demonstrating that they had listened and understood!



## Science star

Our Science teacher, Dr Buchan, was delighted and very impressed with Year 7, Olly J, this term. Olly produced some fantastic work on Space as an extra piece of homework, creating a very comprehensive and fascinating guide.



Well done, Olly, a great start to your CHS school life.

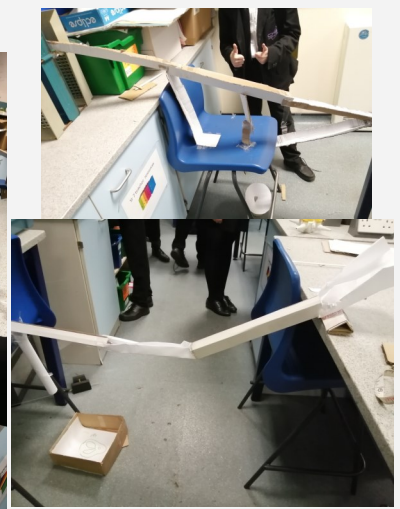
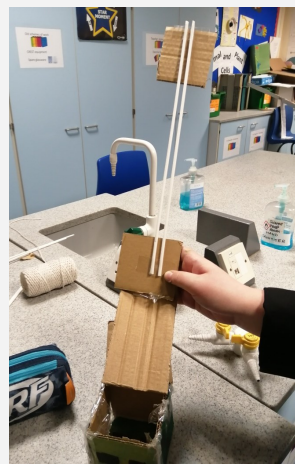
## Marble-ous thinking

Our after school Science Club students (almost) lost their marbles this term when they were challenged to design and create a functioning Marble Run!

With a variety of materials on offer and no restrictions on design, they once again showed great thinking, skill and creativity.



Thank you to Dr Buchan and our Senior Science Technician, Miss Haran, for running our after school Science Club. Our students have great fun and learn so much.



# Highly decorated

This half term, Mrs Lindsay has been running a Year 7 Christmas Crafts Art Club. Students have made clay decorations, which have been fired then decorated in gold and silver. There have been some fantastic decorations created, and some of the students have allowed us to use theirs to adorn the CHS reception Christmas tree.

Thank you!



# Computer solutions

Our ICT team want to say a BIG thank you to Alan O'Donohoe from the Exa Foundation, which supports outstanding computing in schools. Alan led a HackJam session with our Year 9 Computer Science students at the beginning of November.

Supported and guided by Alan, the students worked together to design and create some fantastic prototype devices with the aim of reducing climate change.

Great teamwork and great results, Year 9!

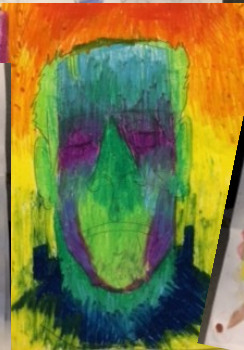
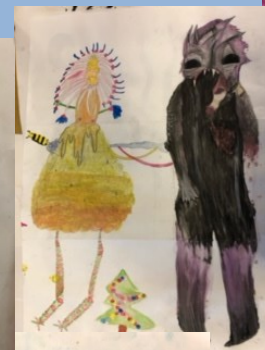
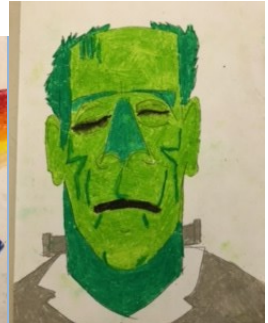


# Monster club

Last half term, our Year 7 students had great fun creating weird, wonderful and extremely scary looking fantasy creatures just in time for Halloween.

Mr Walsh's Wednesday Art Club students learned how to create and draw these fantastic monsters using paint and oil pastel.

Not sure who the students have based their monsters on - can't be Mr Walsh!



# Overwhelming kindness

We would like to say a huge thank you once more to everyone who has sent in items for our Sixth Form's Foodbank Friday collections. Yet again we have been overwhelmed with the generosity of the CHS school community at a time when most of us are starting to feel the pinch from rising prices.

The Storehouse is a lifeline for 500+ Congleton families, but it is really struggling to gather enough supplies at the moment as a growing number of people are turning to them for help. Your generosity has enabled them to continue to support these families and will help to ensure that they are able to get through Christmas and even enjoy a few little luxuries.



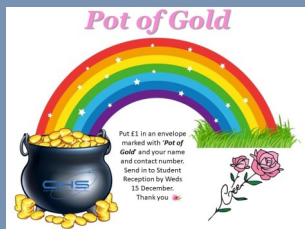
# Generosity for Gee

This year we are supporting a charity very close to our hearts. The Georgia Leigh Ogden Foundation was set up by the family and friends of one of our students who sadly lost her life in 2020.

We held a raffle with a range of amazing prizes donated by local businesses including Pear Hospitality and Retail Group, Serenity Designs, Salon 29, Tesco, Marks and Spencer, Morrisons and our own Catering Team. We were thrilled with the support shown and were able to raise over £250.

Just in time for Christmas, we launched the Pot of Gold initiative. People sent in £1 in an envelope marked with their name and then one envelope was drawn to win half the total donations. We raised a total of £128, which meant that we were able to inform Year 7, Marley P, that he had won £64!

Along with the Raffle and Pot of Gold we also have a roaming collection box helping us to add to our funds. It is slowly working its way around school and we have seen the level steadily rise as students and staff have kindly shared their loose change.



# Summer in December

Each year, our Year 10 students hold a Summer Market in aid of their chosen charity. This is always a great event and as much fun for those organising it as for the students and staff attending.

Unfortunately, the Summer Market was yet another casualty of Covid last year and the year group was unable to follow in the footsteps of their predecessors by hosting their own event. Undaunted, they decided to set up a donation page, raising £320 for Cancer Research.

Their urge to run a market hasn't faded though, so our now Year 11 group have taken the decision to hold a Christmas Market instead. This will be open to students and staff on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December, after their return from our annual Christmas Service at Astbury S<sup>t</sup> Mary's Church.

There will be a whole range of festive food and drinks available - mince pies, doughnuts, sweets, hot chocolate etc - along with festive face painting, a lucky dip, sweet pong and a even a Christmas Snowman photobooth. **#HappyCHSmas**



# Boxfuls of joy



CHS families helped us to put together 45 shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child UK appeal.

Once again, thank you to everyone who sent in a filled shoebox or items to be included. These will bring smiles and happiness to children around the world.



# Putting the fun in fundraising



Our Sixth Form Children in Need Fundraising Team did a fantastic job back in November, selling cakes, sweets, raffle tickets and Pudsey merchandise. They also brought some sparkle to our day with shiny hair braids!

As our lunches are now split for Covid prevention purposes, we held two Children in Need fundraising events, with the Upper school and Sixth Form celebrating on the Wednesday and Lower School on the actual Children in Need Day, Friday 19th November.

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who sent in cakes for the sale or donated in any way. We raised over £600 for the charity. Our Parent Pay contributions were £83 and we made a further £517.27 in school with the cake sales and other activities! Well done and thank you, everyone.



# Thank you, Miss Moore



Mrs Smith's Year 11 English Study Group would like to thank our TA, Miss Moore, for giving a talk about her visit to Auschwitz.

The class have been studying the John Boyne novel, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, and this talk and the poignant images Miss Moore shared helped give them a greater understanding of the Holocaust. Miss Moore was kindly and ably assisted by Brandon P, who operated the IT, whilst she talked.

# We shall remember

We were both proud and honoured that our Head Girl and Head Boy, Zara and Tyler, attended the Congleton Remembrance Parade on Remembrance Sunday and laid a wreath on behalf of our school community. We were also very proud to see so many of our current and former students in attendance.

Our Sixth Form students also sold remembrance poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion at registration, break and lunch times.



# Thought provoking and emotive

Two of our Year 13 Drama students completed their Component 2: Devising Exam in December, which will make up 30 percent of their overall A Level mark.

Head of Performing Arts, Mrs Mackreth, was delighted with their work: "This has been a long time in the making, including both girls having Covid at different times, but we made it."

"I couldn't have been prouder of the girls' resilience and they produced a hard hitting, thought provoking and emotive piece on Violence against Women."



## Designs on Christmas



Once again we have been amazed at the creativity, quality and variety of entries to our annual Key Stage 3 Christmas Card Competition. We had so many wonderful designs sent in that it was very hard for Mr Barlow to choose our runners up, let alone a single winner. In the end, it was Year 8, Jordan C's image of our school (as seen on the front of this newsletter) that was chosen for our official Christmas card. Well done, Jordan!

Congratulations also go to:



- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2. Sally K - 1st place Year 7         | 11. Lucy W - Highly Commended Year 8 |
| 3. 2nd place Year 7                   | 12. Ollie B - 1st place Year 9       |
| 4. Mille D - 3rd place Year 7         | 13. Becky L - 2nd place Year 9       |
| 5. Darcey Y - Highly Commended Year 7 | 14. Lillie H - 3rd place Year 9      |



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 6. Francesca C - Highly Commended Year 7 | 15. Emily C - Highly Commended Year 9  |
| 1. Jordan C - 1st place Year 8           | 16. Lily A - Highly Commended Year 9   |
| 7. Annabelle G - 2nd place Year 8        | 17. Lenny dR - Highly Commended Year 9 |
| 8. Edie S - 3rd place Year 8             | 18. Olly P - Highly Commended Year 9   |
| 9. Sophie A - Highly Commended Year 8    |  |
| 10. Alice C - Highly Commended Year 8    |  |



# Academy award



Our Sixth Form Academy Netball team celebrated their first win of the year in November - 58-12 against Southport College! Great effort by all. Player of the Match was Eme N.

Later in November, the team played a very close game against Carmel College but suffered a 37-45 loss.



# Climbing high



Another great win for our Sixth Form Sport Academy Netball team, a 44-17 result against The Grange.

Player of the match went to Zara.

We couldn't fail to be impressed by the Grange's amazing climbing wall, though. Can we have one please, Mr Barlow?

# Give it a try



It was an amazing night of Rugby for our Year 9 Boys in November.

A 9-5 win in their match against Eaton Bank!

# First round wins

A big well done to our Year 7 and Year 8 Girls football teams.

Back in November they both won their first round English Schools Football Competition matches.

The Year 7 team achieved a 1-0 win against Macclesfield based



Tytherington High School.

Our Year 8 Girls also won their first round match, scoring 4-2 against Cheadle Hulme High School.

# Making a comeback

We saw a fantastic comeback by our Under 13s Girls team in the English Schools Football match against Ryecroft in November.

Facing a 2-0 defeat, they fought back to win the match with a 3-2 triumph!

Great work, girls and well done to both teams



# More sports news

- Great Netball results in November, with wins for Year 7a/7b, Year 9 and Year 11 teams in their matches played against Holmes Chapel.
- Well done to the Sixth Form Sport Academy Boys Football team, who won their November match against Marine 2-0!
- Mixed results in our November Year 7 Boys Football fixture against Eaton Bank. It was a very close game for our 7a team, ending in a 2-1 defeat, but our 7b Team had a great game and won 4-1!

# Leading the way

At the beginning of December, our Sixth Form Sports Leaders spent the afternoon working with Year 5 pupils from nearby Quinta Primary School! They ran a basketball session for the children, introducing them to the sport and sharing lots of game tips and advice.



Sports Leadership is part of our Sixth Form Enrichment Programme. It gives students the opportunity to plan and lead sessions with primary school pupils in sports including Football, Netball, Basketball, Athletics and Badminton, and promote an all-round passion for sport.



Students work towards a leadership certificate as part of this role. It is a great opportunity to demonstrate to Universities or employers their confidence, planning, leadership, teamwork, communication and organisation skills.



# Football future

It was another great night for sports at CHS, with the annual Primary School Datastor Cup, which we hosted on our 3G facility in November. Thirteen teams took part and we saw some great football across all the matches.

Congratulations to Black Firs who were the overall winners of the competition and to Mossley who were the runners up.

Well done to each of the players from all of the primary schools who took part.



Above: Black Firs Primary School won the Datastor Cup



Right: Mossley Primary School were the worthy runners up.

# Keeping in touch



Our main switchboard **telephone** number is **01260 730123** and will show as this on caller ID



We use **e-mail** as our main method of communicating with parents and carers as it's quick, efficient and cost effective. Please make sure we have your current e-mail address so you don't miss important communications.

We also distribute up-to-the-minute information via **Twitter**, **Facebook** and **Instagram**

**@CongletonHS** - for general school news and announcements **@newsta1** - for news from the MAT



We also have departmental Twitter accounts for area-specific information including sports team fixtures: **@chsartists**, **@CHSBus**, **@CateringCHS**, **@CHSEnglishDep**, **@CHShumanities**, **@honoursprog**, **@CHSICT**, **@CHSLanguages**, **@LawCHS1**, **@chsmathsdept**, **@chsmediadept**, **@CHSPerformers**, **@PhysEdCHS**, **@CHSSciences**, **@CHS\_Sixth\_Form**, **@CHSSocSci** and **@chstechdept**



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**congletonhs**      **physedchs**      **chsperformers**



Parents and carers can access a wide range of information regarding their child's school day, attendance and performance via SIMS and will receive log in details when their child starts in Year 7. Any queries or problems should be referred to Miss Casey, via email: [kcasey@congletonhigh.com](mailto:kcasey@congletonhigh.com) or telephone: 01260 730123.