

Newsletter

Issue 32: March to April 2022

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"One of the best events we have attended." *turn to page 3*



Welcome

As we come to the end of another term, I am delighted to introduce this spring newsletter, which captures once again how busy our school has been this term, bursting with activity both in the school day and through the enrichment clubs that run each week. Students are also very excited that we have finally been able to relaunch our popular Sports Tour to Malta and Art trip to New York.

Thank you to all students and staff who took part in our fundraising for Comic Relief and supporting Ukraine. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our students and their families, with donations for Ukraine filling our Sixth Form Common Room this week. On page 12 we have an update of the total funds raised for charity by our students and staff so far this year: £5,178.72, which I think you'll agree is an incredible amount and I would like to thank everyone for their support with this.

We were very proud to hear of the fantastic sporting achievements of two members of our school community this term: Sixth Form student, Bailey H and Year 10 student, Isabel C. Bailey represented England in an u18 School Boys Football match against Northern Ireland, he came on in the second half and set up the winning goal. We wish him luck in his next match against Scotland. Isabel won the Young Shot of the Year Award in the national Clay Pigeon Shooting Association Awards and we expect to hear more great news once the England selections are announced!

I am sure that you will enjoy reading about our recent Careers Fair, superbly organised by Mrs Sadat-Shafai. It was wonderful to see our students engage so positively and so enthusiastically with the various businesses who joined us on the day. They were so keen to learn more about the opportunities on offer now and in the future with our rapidly changing employment marketplace.

As we come to the end of term, we are saying goodbye to Miss Moores from our English Team, who is moving on to a role with another school. I know many students have enjoyed being taught by Miss Moores and will miss her smiling face in the LRC.

Finally, I am very pleased to say that once again Congleton High School is oversubscribed for September and I am very much looking forward to meeting the 225 Year 6 children in the next few months as they start on their transition in to Year 7. Separate letters have been sent to parents and carers about our arrangements for next term and also dates for our Summer School in August.

I hope that you all have a relaxing break over Easter and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in to school on Tuesday 19th April (which will be Week 2).

Mr Barlow
Headteacher



Message from our Chair of Governors

The governing body are delighted to confirm that funding for an expansion of the school to accommodate rising numbers of pupils has been secured. The school's continuing popularity has seen growing numbers of pupils applying for a place in Year 7 and this funding commitment means that all parents and carers of our partner primary school pupils who applied last autumn for a place in September 2022 have been successful.

The building project will represent probably the biggest expansion of our school and will address much more than the delivery of additional classroom space. More community space is also planned offering improvements to catering, meeting places and quiet areas.

As you are aware, Congleton High School is a member of The Learning Alliance (TLA) multi-academy trust. TLA led the negotiations with Cheshire East and some of the benefits that will arise as a result of this expansion project are as a direct result of our membership of TLA.

Project planning is still underway so please keep an eye on your school newsletter and social media for regular updates.

On a final note, if you are interested in becoming a governor at Congleton High School or simply want to know more about the role, please get in touch with Mrs Claire Gritton, Clerk to the Governors by email at: GovernorsClerk@congletonhigh.com

Mr Rich Benson
CHS Chair of Governors



A fair idea for the future

In March, we held our biggest ever Careers Fair, with over forty exhibiting employers, training and apprenticeship providers and educators arriving on the day to help our young people start to plan their futures.

Throughout the event, all students, from the eleven year olds in Year Seven up to the eighteen year olds in Sixth Form, had the opportunity to visit the Fair to learn more about the many roles within the wide range of sectors exhibiting. Some students were already sure of their future pathway and spent time delving deeper into their chosen career. Others used the event to see what was on offer, be inspired and find where their studies could take them as school leavers.



Organised by our Work Placement Coordinator, Mrs Sadat-Shafai, there really was something for everyone at the fair. Employers spanned a wide variety of sectors including engineering, public and armed services, finance, hospitality, retail, manufacturing, early years education, healthcare, insurance and legal. Students were able to find out more about the different roles within each of the businesses, make useful contacts and even start to plan and secure work placement opportunities.

The feedback from exhibitors was extremely positive, with everyone saying how impressed they had been with students' confidence, manners and level of engagement (see right).

Jennifer Wolstenholme, NHS Community Specialist

Paramedic, also commented: *"Thank you so much for the invite to your Careers Fair, it was really enjoyable. I met with some lovely students who had a legitimate interest in the ambulance service and the wider NHS. They asked some very good questions around career opportunities as a Paramedic and conducted themselves really well."*

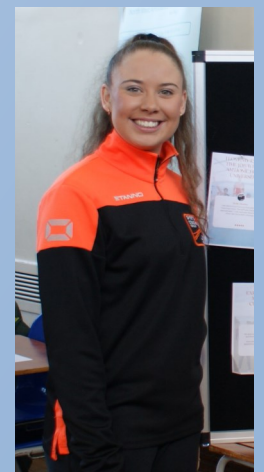


We are always keen to hear from any employers interested in providing opportunities for students to learn more about their business and help them develop work skills, whether that is through work placements, visiting speaker seminars, activity days or other initiatives. Please contact Mrs Jill Sadat-Shafai at Congleton High School on 01260 730123 or by email at jsadatshafai@congletonhigh.com.

Alumni return to inspire and inform

It was particularly rewarding for us to be able to welcome back so many of our former students as exhibitors, now reaping the rewards of their strong education at Congleton High. Meeting young people who once walked the same corridors and sat in the same classrooms was both inspirational and aspirational for the current students.

From left to right, some of the former CHS students who joined us for the Careers Fair and their current roles: Kayley Taylor - Business Relations Apprentice with Franklyn Financial Management; Ellie Forrester - Property Consultant with Stephenson Brown Estate Agents; Josh Robertson - Client Services Representative with BNY Mellon; Joe Burnham - Manufacturing Engineer with Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows; and Poppy Jones - Apprentice Childcare Lead with Sports Coaching Group.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

If you're not here, you're not making progress

Top tutor attendance this half-term

Rank	Tutor
1	8SK
2	7CE
3	8MPE

What about my grades?

Students with 100% attendance are **twice as likely** to achieve **5 or more Grade 4+ GCSEs** and **almost 3 times more likely** to achieve **5 or more Grade 4+ GCSEs** including English and Maths than students missing 15-20% of their lessons.

How many days of learning have I lost? (In a year)

Attendance (%)	Number of days absent
98	4 days
95	10 days (2 weeks)
90	20 days (4 weeks)
85	30 days (6 weeks)
80	40 days (8 weeks)

How does my attendance stack up?

OUTSTANDING	100%
GOOD	98-99.9%
Not good enough yet	Less than 98%

Punctuality

What about being late?

Minutes late (every day)	What have I lost? (In a year)
5 mins	3 days lost!
10 mins	6.5 days lost!
15 mins	10 days lost!
20 mins	13 days lost!
30 mins	19 days lost!

School starts at 08:40



Breakfast available from 08:00



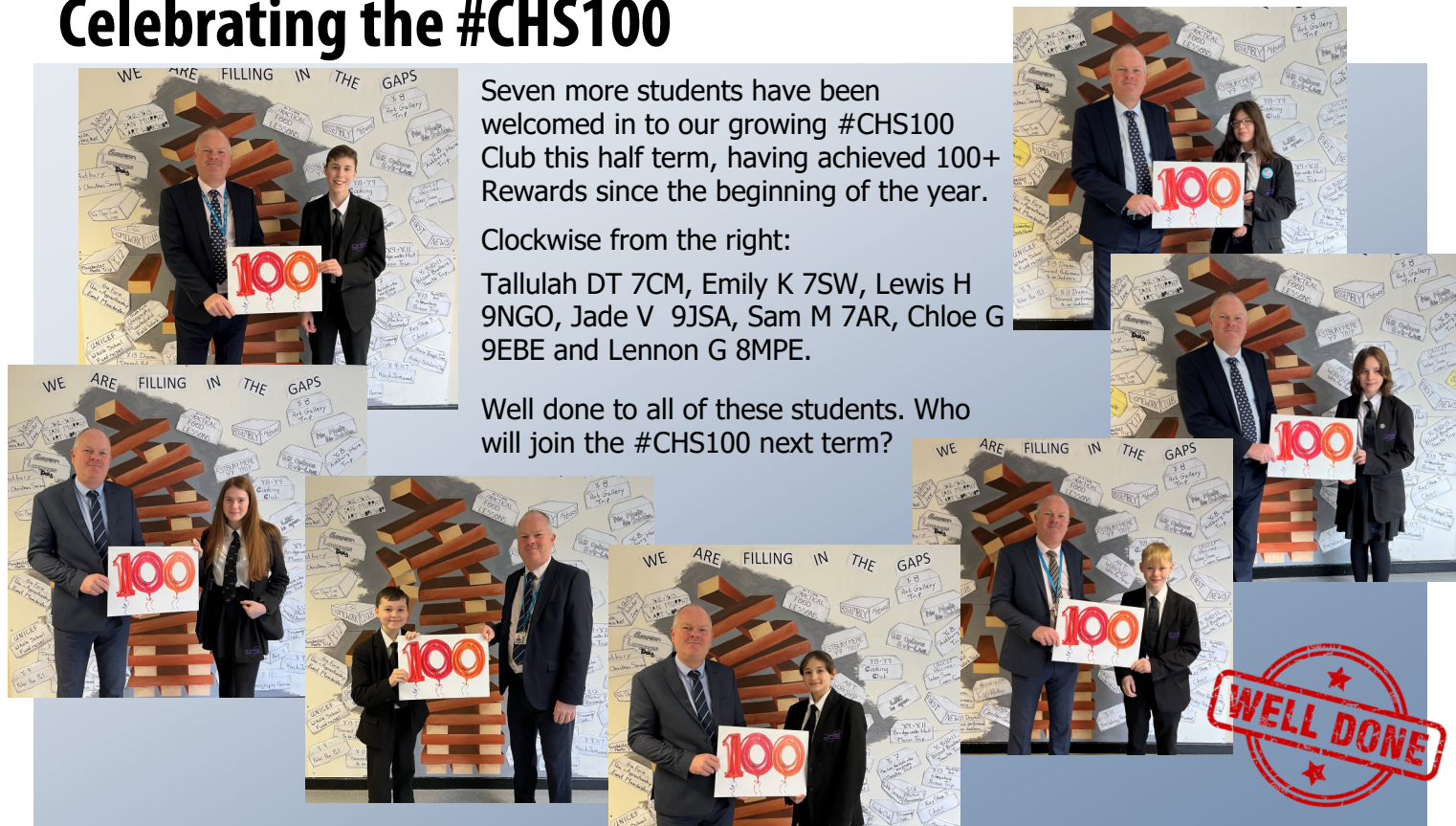
Celebrating the #CHS100

Seven more students have been welcomed in to our growing #CHS100 Club this half term, having achieved 100+ Rewards since the beginning of the year.

Clockwise from the right:

Tallulah DT 7CM, Emily K 7SW, Lewis H 9NGO, Jade V 9JSA, Sam M 7AR, Chloe G 9EBE and Lennon G 8MPE.

Well done to all of these students. Who will join the #CHS100 next term?



Landing a new role

During our Social and Emotional interventions this term, students have created three new XL Student Leader roles to help promote positive behaviour, focusing on compassion for others, respect and kindness.

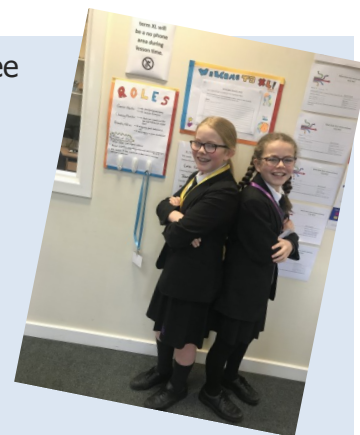
These roles and responsibilities are:

- **Friendly Officer** - Recognising good behaviour in XL (letting staff on duty know to give that student a 'tick' on the XL Exemplary Behaviour sheet. Five ticks earns the student a Hot Chocolate Friday nomination!
- **Games Master** - Start games, put away games, include everyone and encourage a calm environment.



- **Cleaning Monitor** - Make sure rubbish is put in the bin and that tables are wiped down.

This is a great idea and we look forward to hearing how these roles are developed in the future.



On the move

We were delighted to take delivery of the first of our two brand new school minibuses in March.

Our buses mean that we can provide transport for CHS and Partner Primary students to a whole range of educational and sporting opportunities.



Food for thought



What a great way to expand your Spanish vocabulary! Our MFL teacher, Mr Cliffe, challenged his Year 8 students to cook some Spanish food and Bella H really excelled, delivering a whole banquet for her family!



Rock school

Our March whole school STOP Morning had a focus on Health and Wellbeing, and each year group took part in a tailored range of activities, including emergency First Aid



training, presentations from external speakers and CHS staff including: avoiding online fraud, abusive relationships, healthy lifestyles, online stress and FOMO, and understanding and preventing extremism.

Sixth Form students heard from charity, Change Grow Live, about keeping themselves safe in relation to drugs and alcohol. They also chatted with students afterwards and gave out bottle toppers to help prevent drink spiking.

One of the highlights of the day was definitely the performance by faith rock band, Amongst Wolves, who really got the school rocking!



Ready to work

Mrs Sadat Shafai took four of our Year 13 students: Josh W, Olivia W, Tyler C and Oliver J, to Alderley Park in March for a Mock Assessment and Employment Readiness Programme attended by a number of local and national employers including:

Franklyn Financial Management, Barclays, Apprentify, Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows and Everybody Leisure.

The event was run by The Pledge and was really beneficial, with group tasks, mock interviews, meet the apprentice and a tour of the Alderley Park site.

The students said that the afternoon has really helped them with their preparation when applying for jobs.

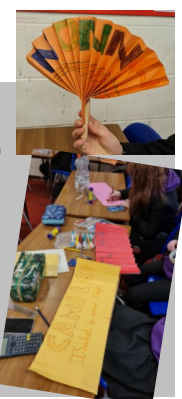


A fan of languages

Our MFL Team's after school Spanish Culture Club students enjoyed learning about flamenco music and traditional Spanish fans this term.



They also got the chance to make their own Spanish, European or Encanto themed fans.



In Cheshire East we're running a **free Easter holiday club programme** for children on free school meals. Come and enjoy fun activities, healthy meals and more!

It's easy to book on an Easter activity – just visit the [Family Information Service Events Cheshire East website](#) or call: 0300 123 5033



**HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES
AND FOOD PROGRAMME #HAF2022**


Department
for Education

WBD at CHS



World Book Day celebrated its 25th birthday this year and we marked this milestone with a whole host of activities at CHS, including a Form Group Quiz to

identify books from their covers, which we also shared on social media for parents/carers to have a go.

Four of our teachers disguised themselves for a Book Character Hunt. Students had to track them down across the school and identify their book character.

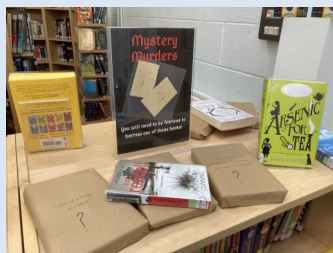


At the beginning of each lesson on World Book Day, students heard one of our teachers read part of short story, *The Landlady*, by Roald Dahl. Our readers were Mrs Fitzsimmons, Mrs Dearnaley, Mr Franklin, Mrs Cooper and Mrs Mackreth.

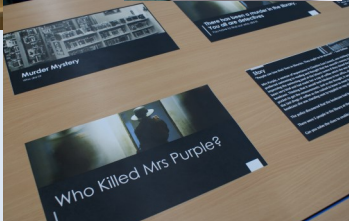


We transformed the LRC into a crime scene and Key Stage 3 participated in a Murder Mystery event, led by our librarian, Mrs Richardson. The students thoroughly enjoyed becoming detectives and working collaboratively to solve the clues to unravel the mystery of *'Who killed Mrs Purple?'*

As well as a mysterious death in the LRC, there were also mystery books.



To encourage students not to 'judge a book by its cover' and inspire them to read something new, they were invited to borrow one of the hidden books. The only clue to which book lay beneath the brown paper cover was a single line from the blurb!



Message for Year 6 pupils

A warm **'Hello'** to our September 2022 Year 7 students!

We are excited to now have the full list of the 225 new students who are joining us in September. We have written to your parents and carers with all of the details of our busy induction programme planned for the summer term. We will have lots of things going on to help you feel ready and eager to join our school community.

We realise that you will be feeling a mixture of excitement and perhaps some nerves, but we will look after you and can't wait to meet you all soon.



Help, we need somebody!

We're seeking some parent/ carer/ family/ community volunteers to work with us on a number of projects, starting with some gardening and car repair/ maintenance work.

If you're a Landscape Gardener or Motor Mechanic and have an hour or so to spare after school each week (from 3pm) to work on some practical projects with students, then you could be just the one for us!

The plans are still in the developmental stage so we would welcome any suggestions for what each project could cover.

Please contact Mrs Vale to discuss this further:
Tel: 01260 730123 or email: hvale@congletonhigh.com



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.

Wellbeing matters at CHS

The emotional and physical Wellbeing of the whole school community - students and staff alike - remains a priority at CHS and, as such, we continue to identify areas where we can offer support or work with third parties to secure more specialised information or practical help.

Below is an update on our ongoing Wellbeing support this term.

SWANS counselling drop-in sessions have been introduced to try to help us to reduce waiting times for counselling appointments. These sessions are open to all students in all years (including Sixth Form) and take place at lunch times from 12:30pm in the main reception area meeting room. Students can just drop in and do not need to make an appointment.



MyCWA delivered a valuable assembly to our Year 9 students regarding healthy relationships. There will now be 12-week support group put in place to support students. Miss Franks is organising this so please email her at: lfranks@congletonhigh.com if you feel this would be useful for your child.

Our new **Mental Health Matters** group continues to make such a positive impact for Wellbeing at CHS. Year 11 students, Sophie C, Derry B and Lincoln dB, have worked hard to increase the availability of SWANS appointments and also to continue to raise the profile of Mental Health and Wellbeing matters at CHS.

We were pleased to welcome **Cheshire Young Carers** in to school in February to deliver an assembly to all of our students. The assembly was followed up with drop-in sessions at break and lunch in The Hub to offer additional information and support.



If you would like to know more about the support that is available for students with caring responsibilities, please visit: <https://www.cheshireyoungcarers.org/> or email Miss Franks: lfranks@congletonhigh.com

Mr Holmes and Ms Jackson-Moss delivered an assembly on inappropriate sexualised behaviours and hate behaviours in February as a further reminder of the importance of behaving with respect and kindness within the CHS community. All students were made aware of the **PREVENT** process and what happens behind the scenes when any incident is reported to staff.



Our **Body Positivity**, **ACT CIVIL** and **PRIDE** groups continue to meet regularly to discuss issues around wellbeing, harmful behaviours and LGBTQ+ matters. Thank you to Miss Haney and Miss Bates for leading these sessions. Everyone is welcome to attend these, speak with Miss Haney or Miss Bates for more details.

A CHS parent has very kindly recommended some resources for any parents/carers or students who may need support around the area of self-harm. You can find and download these in the [Student Welfare](#) section, in both the Student and Parent/Carer areas of CongletonHigh.com. Please contact Miss Franks if you would like further information or support regarding self-harm.



In March, Year 9 students heard an assembly on Gratitude from GTL, Mr O'Brien. The assembly helped students to recognise that no matter what may be going on around us, we generally have things we can be grateful for. Identifying these positives can often help us to cope better with any negatives. If students are struggling to deal with any issue in school or at home, we encourage them to speak with someone; whether that is a friend, family, teacher/support staff or any of the organisations listed on their **'Someone who can Help'** card or in the Student Welfare section of our website, in the Student and Parent/Carer areas.

If your family is experiencing a challenging time, please contact school to let us know. We may be able to help, even if it is to offer informal support to your child. It really helps if we know in advance so that we can have support ready. Your child's form tutor or guidance leader is usually the best point of contact in the first instance. You can also speak with any member of the **Safeguarding Team** or email ldarling@congletonhigh.com or lfranks@congletonhigh.com if it is a more confidential or sensitive issue.

If you need support and you would rather speak to somebody outside of school, we have information and contact details for a wide range of organisations in the **'Someone Who Can Help'** page of the Student Welfare section of our website. **Please don't struggle to cope alone.**

Confidence booster

As reported in our last newsletter, a group of our Year 8 students have been taking part in Cheshire Fire and Rescue's **RESPECT** course.

The programme is led by Youth Engagement staff and firefighters from various stations. It is designed to help students to grow in confidence, develop resilience and improve their self-esteem.

Participants are encouraged to:

- embrace challenges
- share their ideas
- maximise their potential
- reflect on their experiences
- Use their communication skills
- work effectively with each other



Over the weeks, following a full safety briefing, the group have taken part in a range of activities starting with getting kitted out with their firefighter uniform and learning how to get in to it in record time!

In week two the firefighters demonstrated how to successfully remove a car roof in order to release a casualty. Afterwards the students helped clean up and even got to use a fire hose to wash down the area.

Week three saw our Year 8 team learn how to set up a fire hydrant, run hoses (including rolling them back up again) and how to correctly hold a hose when in operation. They finished off with drills in the yard in preparation for their graduation after Easter



Anxiety support

Congleton-based emotional health charity, Visyon, are running a series of 8 workshops (from 27th April) designed to help parents and carers support their child with any worries and anxieties.

Please email Lynne Fitton at Visyon: lynne.fitton@visyon.org.uk for more information or to book a place.



At the Hub of it all

The Hub, located in F0-10, is a vital part of our Wellbeing provision and provides us with a base for students and a space to run a number of our clubs and groups, including our Tuesday lunchtime Body Positivity Club.

Whilst there, students can also enjoy some of the tasty snacks and drinks donated by local businesses, including Morrisons and Co-Op. In addition to their kind donation in February, Morrisons' Community Champion, Vicky Lawton, delivered more goodies in March, which included some very generous in-store donations from their customers too.



You matter

Mr Franklin and Year 12 student, Khaya M, led an assembly for Year 11 boys about looking after their mental health and some of the barriers that males can experience.



Students were advised who to go to for support and which agencies they could contact if they didn't want to speak to an adult in school. Thank you to Miss Wilson-Jones for organising this.

Year 11 boys have also received some follow-up sessions in their friendship groups around their mental health concerns and specific strategies to consider. Thank you to all of the staff who kindly volunteered to lead these sessions.

We also stock a supply of period products in The Hub and the medical room for anyone requiring them.

Where will it take me?

Following on from our Careers Fair earlier in the week and rounding off British Science Week at CHS, we welcomed a group of speakers from the world of Science in to school in March to inform and inspire our Year 9 students about the many careers opened up by studying Science.

The group comprised:

- Chris Hughes-Ricardo - consultant in Environmental Hazards
- Stephen Lynch - MMU lecturer and inventor in Mathematics
- Lis Morris - Reaseheath lecturer and researcher
- Cath Carter - Astra Zeneca associate director for Global Engineering
- Matt Harrison - GSK VP and head, Vaccine Projects and Digital Sciences

They each spoke about their own career path and what they do in their current roles, highlighting the diversity of Science careers and the routes in to them. Thank you to our five speakers for spending time with our students.



Live action

Earlier this term, a group of our Year 10 and Year 12 students visited the Science Live event in Manchester, a great way to help them recover some of the lost learning over the last few years.



They were able to see and hear from five of Britain's top scientists, including Prof. Robert Winston, Prof. Jim Al-Khalili and Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock.

Each student also received a booklet containing details about all the scientists, the lectures and some general articles about studying Science and working as scientists - as well as a number of useful pieces from an experienced chief examiner on success with Science GCSE.

Blast off!

Hot on the tail of the Rollercoaster, this term's six-week challenge for the Science/DT Faraday Club was Rocket Cars!

Students had to create a streamlined car that could incorporate the 'rocket' and run smoothly when fired by the rocket launcher.

Using their great design and engineering brains, they came up with

some super end products.

Luckily the corridors were empty at testing time!



Post your ideas

As part of British Science Week, our Science Team challenged students to design a poster on the theme of 'Growth' and enter it into the national competition here: <https://www.britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/poster-competition/>

All the competition rules and information can also be found on the webpage.

The deadline for entries is **6pm on Friday 15th April**. Good luck!



Crystal clear



Our Science Teacher, Dr Jones, shared this image of the amazing copper sulfate crystals her Year 11 Chemistry group made during British Science Week.

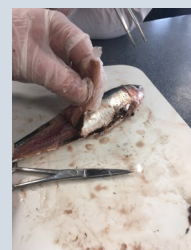
"They're the best I've seen yet from this practical; preparing a pure, dry soluble salt from copper oxide and sulfuric acid.

"This particular practical will be assessed in their summer exam, so it was important for Year 11 to practise the experimental techniques. I was very impressed with their efforts!"

A bit fishy

Our KS3 Science Club students spent their British Science Week Club session dissecting mackerel. They were able to find and identify the brains, ribs, muscles, eye balls and more!

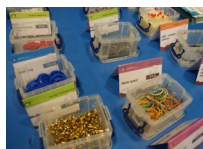
The group 'enjoyed' the activity but, unsurprisingly, nobody asked to take the mackerel home for supper!



A challenging day

36 of our Year 8 students took part in an Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET). Faraday Challenge Day in March, organised by Science teacher, Dr Jones, and DT DCTL, Mr Watkins. The day was run by IET Challenge Leader, Dr Mick Dunne.

Students were required to design, make and present a product - specifically something to keep a child in hospital entertained - that incorporated electronic systems. They worked as a team to create their concept and bring it to life, using their F120 budget to buy construction materials from the 'shop' to manufacture their product.



The winning team: Brooke S, Emily A, Holly M, Alfie H, Evie F and Aston M, were presented with a trophy and Amazon vouchers.

IET Faraday Challenge Days are one-day cross-curricular STEM activity days that introduce students to engineering, inspire them to consider it as a career and help to develop their practical and employability skills, including team working, problem solving and creative thinking.

IET
The Institution of
Engineering and Technology



Time to celebrate

Our 2022 Year 11 Prom is now booked for Thursday 7th July at Shrigley Hall Hotel. Guests will enjoy a welcome reception, three-course meal, speeches, and dancing until carriages at 10:30pm.



Tickets are £45 (with £30 payable by Apr 1st).

For more information, please visit the Letters to Parents/Carers page in the Parent/Carer Area of CongletonHigh.com or contact Year 11 GTL, Mrs Wilson Jones.

Roll on summer!

Our Performing Arts Drama Club students have been continuing with their rehearsals of **Our Day Out**, which will form part of their Summer Showcase in the final weeks of the academic year. They've been working so hard and become such a strong team.

Keep an eye on our social pages for Showcase ticket details!



School pick up and drop off

Following our Safeguarding provision inspection by SCIES in January, where the traffic at pick up and drop off times was raised as a major concern, we are asking for the help and cooperation of parents and carers to keep students and staff safe in and around the school site.

You are permitted to access the school site via the main entrance (in front of reception) to pick up and drop off.

Please DO NOT use the other entrances (the Bus Park or the rear car park/Sports Hall entrance).

There are plenty of safe parking areas only a short walk from school. Please park considerately, not across driveways/junctions, in turning circles etc.) and turn off your engine.

Avoid parking on Box Lane, as this blocks both the pavement and the road, causing a dangerous obstruction for pedestrians and other cars. It also results in chaos as the road becomes gridlocked with single lane traffic unable to move in either direction.

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

Thank you for your support.



Equals opportunity

The end of the Spring term saw the last Maths Masterclass for our Year 6 Partner Primary number whizzkids! Each partner primary chose three of their high achieving Maths pupils to take part in the coaching and they have enjoyed twelve sessions at CHS since September.

The children have worked in teams to solve number problems and play Maths based games to build on their existing skills and knowledge. We look forward to welcoming many of these students in September when they will be able to continue to work with our Maths team to take them to even greater levels of Maths excellence.

Thank you to all the primary schools and pupils for taking part and to our Deputy Curriculum Team Leader, Miss Fernihough, for all her hard work.

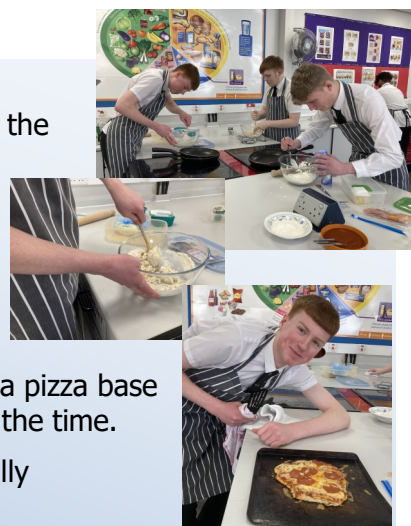


Pizza the action

Year 11 Enterprise and Marketing students had been set an assignment based on creating a business proposal for a new pizza idea. They spent months researching the market, identifying customer profiles, conducting secondary research, analysing results, creating pizza ideas, drafting designs and then finally calculating potential sales and profit.

After all that hard work, it would have been a shame not to actually have a go at making their chosen pizza recipe. They only had a one-hour lesson to create their pizzas and clear up afterwards, so CHS Food Team, Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Horsley, came up with an innovative recipe for a pizza base that allowed them to get their creations prepped and cooked within the time.

There were some excellent results, with a number of students actually discovering a definite talent for pizza making!



Contacting us

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

CONTACT
US

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 send a student success story for us to share in our newsletter and social media, please email: success@congletonhigh.com.

Charity round up

Our students, staff and CHS parents and carers have been incredibly generous with their time and donations again this term and between us we have managed to raise a tremendous **£4,578.72** so far this year.

This breaks down as £600 for Children in Need, £2,338.23 for Unicef, £824.35 for the Georgia Ogden Foundation, £138.60 for the NSPCC, £508.61 for Comic Relief and £168.93 for Disasters Emergency Committee (Ukraine).

We were also able to pass on a fantastic amount of donations to the Storehouse foodbank at Christmas.



When we asked if anyone could spare any items for Ukraine, we never dreamed that we would get so many donations of food, medical supplies, stationery, household goods and so on.

These vital supplies have been passed on to one of the charities who will deliver them to the many struggling and displaced families in Ukraine and neighbouring countries.

Our Year 8 students also held a Cake sale at the end of term to support Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine Fund.

Thank you to you all and to all of our students for their amazing support for our charities this year.



NSPCC



Spotlight on student success

A massive well done to our Year 13 student, **Bailey H**, and the English Schools' Football Association u18 team for their 2:1 win over Northern Ireland on Saturday 25th March.

Bailey came on in the 62nd minute, terrorised the opposition's right back and set up the winning goal! A great result for him and the team. He commented afterwards that he'd never had so many children ask for photos and autographs after a match! You can watch the England V Northern Ireland match on the BBC here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/live/football/59617194>

On Friday 1st April, Bailey and the team travel up to Durham to play Scotland. We will bring you further news of the match play and full-time results on our social media pages.



We were extremely proud to hear some great news from the national Clay Pigeon Shooting Association (CPSA) annual awards. Our Year 10 student, **Isabel C**, has seen growing success in her sport since taking her first shot at 10 years old, and in March her efforts were rewarded once again as she was presented with the prestigious Young Shot of the Year Award, voted for by CPSA members.

Congratulations, Isabel, this is very much deserved. We're looking forward to hearing more great news once the England selections are announced!

More congratulations go to three of our Year 7 football faces of the future: **Callum L, Josh B and Elliot D**, who were part of the Vale Juniors u12s team that won the Mid Cheshire Youth Football League Cup recently. All three played their part in the fantastic 4-1 victory, with Callum scoring one of the goals.

The u12s Vikings Manager, Chris Riley, commented:

"Their attitude to training and in the games has been amazing and they fully deserve this moment to celebrate what was an excellent victory." Well done, boys.

We were extremely proud and honoured that our Year 13 student, **Lily S**, represented us at the unveiling of the Elizabeth Wolstenholme Elmy statue on International Women's Day, March 8th 2022. Lily carried the banner and recited her original poem, '**CW12 2DW**,' about Elizabeth.

Here is a short extract from Lily's poem:

*23 Buxton House.
Who bothers? Peers closely.
Ordinary building: extraordinary history.
A blue sphere of recognition; a cursory stamp bled into red brick
A modest token bestowed by the local civic society.
Another forgotten fragment of English heritage.*

*23 Buxton House.
Who knows? Inclines to care.
Home sweet 54 year home to an activist driven by equality:
'The brains of the suffragist movement'.
Heralded by Emmeline Pankhurst- a name
Etched in history, complimenting a name
Whose power and influence have ceased to exist.
The forgotten of the suffragist movement.
Perdita. Oblitus. Ignota.*

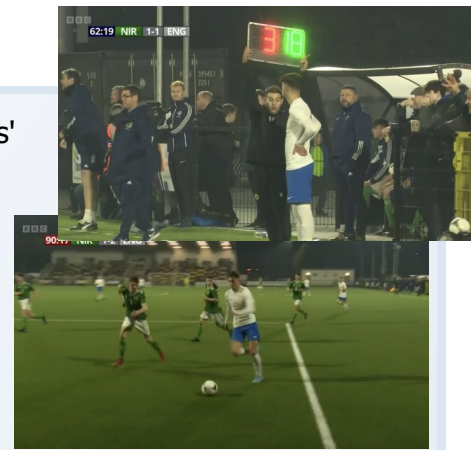


A poem was read by Lily Smith, from Congleton High School. (22-10-044).

You can read Lily's poem in full in the News section of our website, CongletonHigh.com

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.

(NB. Please make sure you have parent/carers permission to share the story.)



Aiming to take a shot at England selection



Future dreaming

Our recent Key Stage 3 **Future Dreams** Art competition and exhibition reminded us once again of the exceptionally high level of talent we have here at CHS. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 were given the theme of Future Dreams and left to interpret that in any way they saw fit - and we weren't disappointed by the level of imagination and creativity.

Year 9 **Becky Lin** was announced as the overall competition winner with her image (top right) of a sleeping girl and her dream adventures.

Three main prizes were awarded in each year group (see below) and another forty students received Highly Commended certificates

Year 7

- 1st - Matthew Graham
- 2nd - Eve Pykett
- 3rd - Mollie Rose St Leger

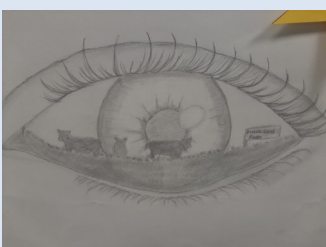
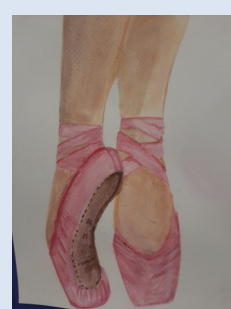
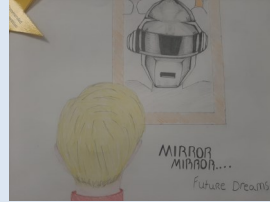
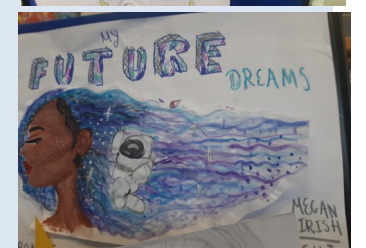
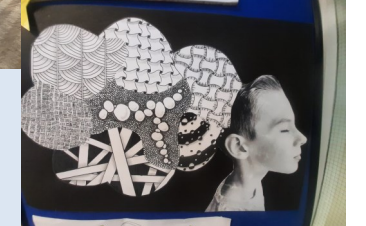
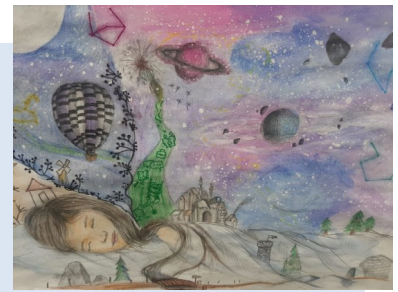
Year 8

- 1st - Lucy Williams
- 2nd - Edie Smith
- 3rd - Ella Carvell

Year 9

- 1st - Olly Payne
- 2nd - Lenny Dos Reis
- 3rd - Katalina Woodley

We were delighted to be able to welcome guests in to school for the exhibition of all the artwork and received so much fantastic feedback from our visitors. Well done to all our students who took part. You can see some of the great artwork on this page.



A day with the police

This term, a group of our Year 10 ASDAN students got the opportunity to visit Congleton Police Station, where our Police Liaison Officer, PC Andy Cornall, showed them around.

The students learned all about the different vehicles, saw the equipment that police officers use and even had the chance to talk to some of the staff in the building about the work they do each day at the station.

The highlight of the trip was, of course, spending time in the cells and trying on the riot gear!

A big thank you to PC Cornall and all of Congleton Police Station team for this fantastic opportunity.



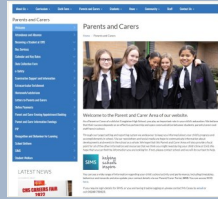
A whole new look

If you've visited CongletonHigh.com recently then you'll have been greeted by our brand new website! Hopefully you'll find this much easier to navigate (and far easier on the eye).

A few things have been relocated, such as the Transition section, which is now in the Parent/Carer area, so it may take a little getting used to.

It remains the best way to get everything you need such as letters, key dates, news and more.

As always, we welcome your feedback, so please do tell us if you think we can make improvements, or if there is something more you would like us to include.



Super sonnet

Well done to Year 7 student, Madi F (7JF), who won our English faculty's Key Stage 3 Shakespeare Sonnet competition this term.

Madi won an Easter egg prize and the runners up, Year 9 Ryan J (9EBE) and Year 7 Finley AE (7JF), won chocolate Easter bunnies.

You can read Madi's brilliant sonnet in the News section of our website.



We love reading

Our Reading Influencers group, set up to help share and promote a love of reading throughout the school community, held their first meeting in March.



They now have their own Instagram account, **chsreadinfluencers** so you can keep up to date with all their latest activity and plans for the future.

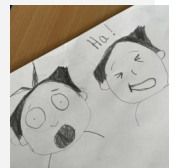


Quick on the draw

A group of our Year 7 English students had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a live presentation with 'Tom Gates' author, Liz Pichon, in an LRC lesson this half-term.

Alongside a really fun draw-along session, Liz shared with the students her inspirations for her popular series of books.

Looks like we have our own budding cartoonists!



Netting the wins

It has been great to get back to playing sports again and Netball has been no exception, with the wins clocking up for all years.

In February, our Sixth Form Sport Academy Netball Team achieved an amazing 33-32 win in the Sisters n Sport cup that sent them through to the Semi-Finals of the competition. Our Head Girl, Zara E, was named Player of the Match.

We were so proud of the team in the semi finals match. Despite a loss, they all played so well in the competition and could hold their heads up high. Well done to the whole team!

Congratulations too to our Year 7a Team, who clocked up a great win at the beginning of the month.



A great start



We were very proud to see our Year 7 Netball Team play in their first County Tournament on at the beginning of March. Great start, Team CHS!

Just the beginning

Volleyball at CHS continues to go from strength to strength, with our team developing a real love and a great talent for the sport.

Stockport Volleyball and their wonderful founder and chair, Adrian Stores, continue to work with the team, providing coaching, kit and lots of encouragement.

Adrian commented on the CHS Team: *"Once again these terrific girls were an absolute pleasure to collaborate with. New starters to the sport yet play every game with smiles on their faces and an abundance of humour. All the opposition teams commented on just how much they have improved."*

We really do appreciate this fantastic opportunity for our students.



Environmentally led

We're pleased to be able to share that our 3G pitch floodlighting will be replaced with LED floodlights during the Easter break. It's hoped that these will be far more environmentally friendly and longer lasting, offering significant energy and cost efficiencies.



Pyramid scheme

There's nothing better than a spot of balancing on a Thursday, and Mr Ainsley's Year 7 students demonstrated just how easy it is!

Watch this space for the announcement of the Staff Human Pyramid Team!



Positive partnerships

Once again our PE Team and Sports Leaders have hosted, organised and run a range of events for our Partner Primary schools. These events are always such fun. Our staff and students really enjoy being involved and it is great for the primary schools, many of which have limited facilities, to be able to share all the benefits of the large sports hall and our 3G that comes with its own sheltered seating for teachers, parents and carers!

This term, we have run a number of Athletics afternoons and, over a number of months, hosted the Year 5/6 Football League tournament. In addition to being a great way to help smooth the transition to high school, helping primary pupils familiarise themselves with the school and the staff, it's also great experience for our Sports Leaders, the PE Teachers of the future!



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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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 or telephone: 01260 730123.