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Welcome

to our first newsletter of the 2015-16 school year. Once again it's been a busy term for us here, with our new year seven finding their feet and settling in and older students getting to grips with GCSE coursework and sitting mock exams. Our Head Girl and Head Boy, Sophie Hammond and Adam Bailey, are also adapting to their new roles, combining school duties seamlessly with their Post 16 coursework.

For many of you this will be your first newsletter, so I'd like to welcome you to the school and to the amazing team of students, parents and teachers that make Congleton High the great success that it continues to be. We remain the school of choice for many across south Cheshire and north Staffordshire, resulting in us being at full capacity in year seven with extremely limited capacity further up the school. The introduction of The Congleton College has created additional Post 16 places but our ability to offer 'something for everyone', both academically and vocationally, has seen a record number of applications this year and we anticipate that spaces there too will soon be at a premium. Our 'Not in Education or Employment' (NEET) figure, the number of our sixteen year olds not studying or in work training, is currently zero, a further testament to the success of our students, parents and staff, all 'Achieving Success Together'.

All schools in the Cmat family continue to see the benefits of our strong network of teaching and support staff and the ability to share best practice across all aspects of school life. Our wealth of education experience and expertise across all ages has also enabled us to work with other schools to raise standards and improve knowledge across Congleton and beyond.

We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to welcoming in another successful New Year with you all when we start back to school on 4th January.

Mr D Hermitt
Executive Principal (CHS)



Primary Partnerships

The great work we do here doesn't just start at year seven but begins way back when our students are still in primary school. Our close relationship with our partner schools in Congleton and Staffordshire enables us to work with our future students well before they join us full time. This helps them to feel comfortable with the school environment, teachers and older students and helps us get to know them too.

This term we've enjoyed a range of **Discovery Days**, enabling younger students to have access to our specialist teaching and facilities and also try their hand at something new.

Celebrating its fifth anniversary this year, our successful **Primary Art Exhibition** attracted entries from children aged four to eleven from nine schools. The 'Best of British' theme produced some fantastic work and visitors to our September Open Evening were treated to a stunning display of the paintings.

Always a popular event, our **Cultural Diversity Day** saw 180 year six students join us for a whole host of creative, musical and sporting activities including wheelchair basketball, drumming workshops, African beading and Bollywood dancing.

Our Art Department ran two months of **Art Discovery Days** this term, aimed at helping younger students build on their art skills. We saw some fabulous work from these primary children.

Working alongside our Primary Partner children is beneficial for our own students as well. Our Option K Sports Leaders recently ran **Badminton Masterclasses** for The Quinta, giving both sets of students the opportunity to learn and develop new skills.



Above: Art Competition Entries

Right: 180 children joined our Cultural Diversity Discovery Day



Above: Art Discovery Days

Right: Badminton Masterclasses

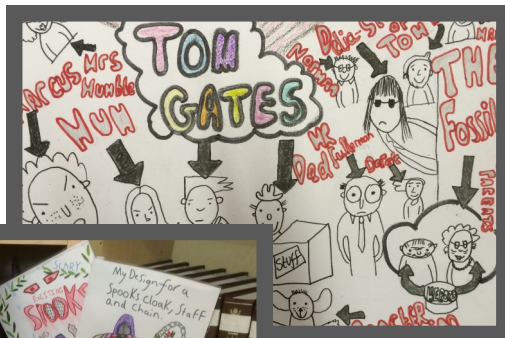


Year Seven Summer Spectacular

During the summer, our new year seven were set an English reading assignment with a difference.

Aimed at encouraging students to start thinking creatively and to keep them reading through the summer, the assignment required them to read fiction or non-fiction books of their choice and then undertake at least one of a range of tasks:

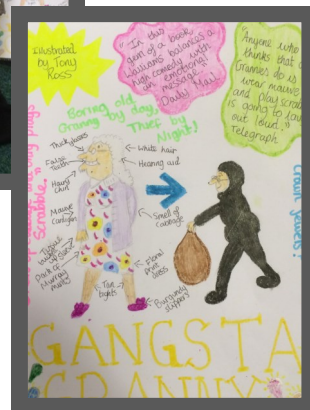
- Design a poster or book cover for one of the books they chose.
- Write a review of one of their books
- Design and keep a reading log with information about the books read over the summer.
- Create a 'Book Box' for one of their books including decorating and filling it appropriately.
- Design a poster of all the books that had been important to them in their life.



Some of the fantastic examples of the work completed during the summer.

The students chose a wide range of books and produced some extremely mature work, showing great imagination. Everybody put in an enormous amount of effort and the English Department teachers were delighted with the results.

It was a difficult choice to make but the overall winners were Oliver Beardmore, Reve Clowes -Michael, Katie Darmon and Bradley Stevens. Well done to everyone that took part.



Working Together at Kingswood

Not long after joining us, year seven embarked on our annual residential trip to the Kingswood Colomendy Centre in North Wales. Designed to help our new intake create new friendships and develop valuable team building skills, the trip is always memorable and great fun!

The students experienced a packed schedule of exciting and challenging activities including testing their nerve on the aerial walkway, experiencing the feeling of three times gravity on the 3G swing and put their skill to the test in fencing. Climbing, caving, bouldering and a vertical play pen also added to the adventure.

To encourage them to widen their friendship groups, students were put into teams with others they didn't know. This proved no obstacle, with everyone working together to face challenges, test their own limits and conqueror fears, including heights and small spaces. Some also learned some essential life skills such as making their own bed!

The fun and excitement didn't stop there! With no computers or game consoles, students enjoyed good, old fashioned fun in the evenings - bingo and quizzes on the first night with a disco raising the roof on the second. There were a lot of tired but happy faces when year seven returned to school, with confidence raised and new friendships formed that will last their entire school life and beyond.

The school motto is 'Achieving Success Together' and, over the three days, the year seven students learned that working as a team is definitely the most effective and fun way of succeeding!



Year seven were able to try a whole range of new activities, some more challenging than others!



Recognise, Reward and Encourage

We understand that all children progress at different rates and have different aptitudes and our aim is to help every student achieve the very best they can. One of our key goals at CHS is to 'add value', helping our students go further than their expected levels and, in 2014-15, we were delighted that 31% of pupils exceed their predicted level in Maths and 23% in English.



To help encourage students in their efforts and reward their continued hard work and determination, we held our first ever Key Stage Three Celebration Evening this term. Similar to our long running and well established year eleven and year thirteen celebrations, the event set out to recognise and

reward students who are achieving great results and also encourage those that try their best regardless of whether they secure high marks.



Chair of Governors, Mr Benson and Executive Principal, Mr Hermitt, presented a range of subject, tutor and special awards and guests were entertained with performances from Key Stage Three musicians.

The evening was a great success and a wonderful way to mark students' first three years with the school. Moving in to year ten will mean students embark on their GCSE and BTEC options with a view to planning the next stages of their education

and careers. The school's work in these early years aims to provide a strong foundation on which students are able to build a successful future.

Of course, no talk of a Key Stage Three Celebration could ignore the amazing feat of one of our of our Key Stage Three rising stars, Ru Morgan, our inspirational year seven (now in year eight) who, aged just 12, was awarded A* GCSE Mathematics in August!

Right: Ru Morgan on GCSE Results Day with his parents and Mr Hermitt



KS3 Celebration Evening

Thursday 14th October 2015

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

The Wombats, 'Kill the Director'

by
Ed Lane, Joseph Nixon, Sam Harden,
Ewan Ling, Harry Bodmore

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

by
Mr J Barlow - Head of School

REFLECTIONS ON KS3

by
Mrs J Fitzsimmons
Mrs K Martin
Mr G De Souza

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

by
Mr R Benson - Chair of Governors

SUBJECT AWARDS

REVIEW OF KS3

TUTOR AWARDS

SPECIAL AWARDS

Outstanding Contribution to Performing Arts

Outstanding Contribution to Charity

Outstanding Contribution to School Life

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

James Bay, 'Hold Back the River'

by
Katrina Flaherty Jephcott, Olivia Donelon,
Aife Tarrant, Zanele Greenwood

Left: The Wombats -
Ed, Ewan, Harry
Joseph and Sam -
performed 'Kill the
Director'

Making Reading Millionaires



This term all students in year seven have been participating in the internationally acclaimed Accelerated Reader programme, reading for twenty to thirty minutes each day and completing an online quiz to check their understanding of what they have read.

The scheme aims to encourage and motivate students to read, by helping them to choose books from a library of 30,000 titles that are suitable for their reading level yet still challenging enough to maintain their interest and enthusiasm. The

Accelerated Reader scheme also enables students to complete the comprehension quizzes and monitor their own progress and quiz results online. They can check the number of words and books they have read and also see their average book level.

Students are encouraged to become members of our 'Millionaires' Club' - reading one million words by the end of the year. Certificates and chocolate were awarded in October to celebrate the fantastic reading achievements of Susannah Utting who had read 155,221 words, Emilia Alcock - 87,494 words, Francesca Bettany - 78,632 words, Chloe Anderson - 68,859 words, Eloise Grice - 62,158 words and Daniel Walton - 62,005 words.

Since then, however, Jacob Tyrell (*right*) has become our first year seven student to become an Accelerated Reading Millionaire by reading a million words from his chosen books in the scheme.



We look forward to many more year seven students joining Jacob in this achievement.

Celebrating Hard Work and Success



This term we hosted our annual GCSE awards evening, welcoming back last year's GCSE students to collect their certificates and learn who'd been selected as winners of the additional curriculum area and the nine special awards. Guests were also able to hear Head of Sport at BBC Radio Manchester, Sarah Collins, talk of her own school and university days and pass on some of the lessons learned along the way that may help our students.

Following a drinks reception, a welcome by Mr Hermitt and an affectionate review of year eleven by Guidance Team Leader, Miss Heys, Chair of Governors, Richard Benson,

presented GCSE certificates to every student. Sarah Collins, handed out a further two awards in each curriculum area, one for outstanding attainment and another for outstanding effort, rewarding not just those who secured high grades but also those that put in the work and really tried their best.

Right: Billy Proctor entertained guests.



Taking a break from the business of awards presentation, guests were treated to a fantastic musical interlude courtesy of student, Billy Proctor, who performed a combination of two Coldplay pieces. Congratulations were also in order for Billy, who has recently learned that he has been awarded a place at the musical equivalent of Oxbridge, The Royal Northern College of Music.

Sarah Collins took to the stage with a rousing talk of her own route from school to

her current role as Head of Sport at BBC Radio Manchester. Freely admitting that she had not performed as well at either school or university as she might have, her key message was one of determination, perseverance and belief.

With these words still ringing in their ears, the guests were then able to discover who had been chosen to receive the nine special awards, including the Governors' Award, the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, the Citizenship Award, Award for Outstanding Contribution to School Life and the Stacey Marsh Inspiration Award, named in honour of a former student that has sadly since passed away and presented by Stacey's parents.

The fantastic evening was brought to a close by Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl, Adam Bailey and Annie Ball, who, on behalf of the governors, staff and fellow students, thanked all the guests that had given their time to present the awards and also thanked everyone that had come along to the event to join in the celebration of the

five tremendous Congleton High years of the class of 2015.

A full list of all the winners of the Special Awards and the individual Curriculum Area Awards can be found in the News section of our website, www.congletonhigh.com.



Left: Outstanding contribution to School Life Award winners with Sarah Collins



Above: Parents of Stacey Marsh with Amanda Worthington

Right: Ross Doolan, Excellence in Catering Award winner, with Fiona Hampton



Above: Timothy Bowers, Governors' Award winner, with Mr Hermitt

Left: Deputy Head Girl, Annie Ball and Head Boy, Adam Bailey, closed the evening



More Rotary Success



Our creative students have once again seen success in Rotary Club competitions, this time with three of our year nine girls taking first, second and third prizes in the Rotary Arts Competition.

Entrants were asked to produce a piece of art work based on the theme of 'Congleton', which was assessed by four independent judges including a local artist. Prizes of art materials were awarded to the winners at a presentation in Congleton Town Hall and the winning entries were all framed by local company, Weaver Craft.

Caitlin Kelly was awarded first place, Rebekah Heathcote's entry secured her second prize and Lorien Wheatly completed the CHS hat trick, scooping third place with her art work.

Art in the Heart of Liverpool

All our year eight were given the opportunity to take part in our annual Liverpool Art Trip in November and experience leading classical and contemporary international art works for themselves.

Visiting The Walker Art Gallery, John Walter's striking 'Pug Virus' sculpture stood out for many with others preferring some of the more traditional works. The World Museum was next on the itinerary and offered even more ideas and reference sources.

Students were also able to see the several thousand handmade 'Weeping Willow' sculpture poppies, relocated from the Tower of London and now streaming down the city's St Georges Hall.

Experiences like these enable students to draw from a wide range of material and get ideas and inspiration for their own work. Visitors to CHS will already be aware of the amazing and original artistic talent we have in the school, which is aided and



Pugs and Poppies in Liverpool



Media Studies Goes Behind the Scenes



Students had the opportunity to see a different side of cinema

In November, Media Studies students travelled into Manchester to conduct audience research and tour the independent cinema/ art venue, Home, which opened earlier this year following the merger of Cornerhouse and The Library Theatre Company.

Students were able to access the projection booth and compare older 35mm film with contemporary digital format and got the opportunity to talk with the projectionist and other staff members about the technical and commercial aspects of running an independent cinema.

The visitors were also treated to an intimate screening of film documentary, 'He Named me Malala' on the smallest screen.

CHS film buffs are on a very special 2015 Christmas countdown. On 17th December, 30 members of Film Studies and Film Club are off to see the new Star Wars film, The Force Awakens on the day of its UK release.



The Serious Business of Football

Finding new ways to make to keep subjects relevant and interesting year after year is often a challenge for teachers but Mrs Wiggins found the perfect way to put a new spin on her Business Studies lessons with a trip to the home of Manchester United.

Following a tour of the ground and the museum, year ten Applied Business students heard about the different aspects of the club business, all of which provided useful material for their exams next year.

The group learned much about the day-to-day responsibilities of running a Premier League club from the high-tech remote pitch management systems to finding the funds to cover a weekly wage bill in the region of £4 million!

Students were able to see how the business models that they have learned about and discussed in the classroom applied to this real life high profile example and the day definitely scored highly with all the visiting team!



Taking Learning Out of the Classroom



A small group of year twelve English students were fortunate enough to be able to attend an English Language conference in Manchester's Northern Quarter recently to hear a series of lectures presented by authors and AQA examiners, Dr Marcello Giovanelli of the University of Nottingham and Dan Clayton.

The pair addressed a number of topics that the students cover in their coursework including Language and Gender, Language and Social Groups and Language and Representation.

The speakers have authored many of the group's text books so hearing them speak really brought the texts to life.

In court for all the right reasons! Year thirteen Law students sat in on a trial at Manchester Crown Court this term and were able to observe witnesses giving evidence and being cross-examined by the barristers. However, the group all agreed that the questioning techniques of our year twelve in their mock trial held earlier had been far superior!

Following the trip to court, the group went on to Manchester University Law School where they were able to learn more from the Law Admissions Officer about studying the subject, how they should prepare and what they could expect while there.

They were also given a tour of the campus by the undergraduates, which gave them the ideal opportunity to find out from those already there what the course and university were really like.

All agreed that the day had proved extremely useful.



Above: Year 12 shone in their mock trial

Left: Law students visited Crown Court

Working Together for Future Success

As many of the articles in this newsletter show, at Congleton High we aim to encourage, acknowledge and reward hard work, determination and achievement throughout all school years and this doesn't stop once students reach the end of year thirteen.

Keen to continue to support and reward our students as they progress along their educational journey, we invite our departing year thirteen to apply for an Alumni Scholarship, a small financial award towards covering some of the costs of their future studies.

In return, recipients lend their support to the school to help with activities aimed at encouraging and inspiring younger students planning similar educational and career paths to their older counterparts. Undergraduates previously awarded the scholarships have returned to the school to take part in assemblies and lunch time meetings, sharing their own experiences of school and university. Students are also able to contact them by email with their questions about particular universities, courses or even career paths.



Recipients of the award at the end of their 2014-15 school year were (L-R):

Joe Hearson - taking a year out before going on to studying music.

Jamie Bernardi - now reading Natural Sciences (Physical) at St John's College, Cambridge.

Mark Joyce - currently at Leicester University reading Geography.

Ellen Booth - reading Pharmacy at Queen's University, Belfast.

Jacob Jeffries - reading Philosophy at University of Leeds.

Jayne Booth - studying Mechanical Engineering at Liverpool and is also in receipt of sponsorship from Amec through the Institute of Mechanical Engineers. She was one of only twenty successful applications for scholarships out of 100. In addition to having to achieve the stipulated grades and complete an application form, she also had to take part in a challenge to improve or redesign something found in a student's room. Her innovative tanglefree headphone design helped secure the funding that will help support her through her degree.

History Helps Future Planning

Our A-Level History students received a taste of university education when they participated in a session led by an Oxford University academic. Dr Peter Claus, Access Fellow and Lecturer in History at Pembroke College, delivered a talk exploring poverty and welfare in nineteenth-century London.



Students were challenged to think about their conceptions of the past and took part in some stimulating discussions. They also had the opportunity to find out more about studying History at university and the importance of independent learning, resilience and wider reading.

Dr Claus visited as part of Pembroke College's Pembroke North scheme which is an intense academic programme run in collaboration with South Cheshire College and with the aim of broadening the horizons of Sixth Form students in the North West.

Left: Sophie Hammond, Dr Peter Claus, Matthew Jones, Annie Ball and Angus Coutts

Calling our 2014-15 Year Thirteen

If you completed year thirteen with us last summer then don't forget to join us on Thursday 7th January to celebrate your success with family, friends and teachers.

We'll be presenting A level and BTEC certificates and also awarding a number of special prizes for those whose hard work and dedication shone out. There will also be the opportunity to hear from our special guest speaker.

The evening will begin with a drinks reception at 6.45pm before the main event, which starts at 7pm.

If you would like to attend but haven't yet replied to your invite, please contact school on 01260 730123.



You are cordially invited to attend our

Sixth Form Awards Evening

Thursday 7th January 2016 at 7pm

at Congleton High School, Box Lane,
Congleton, CW12 4NS

- Special guest speaker
- Presentation of certificates
- Presentation of Special Awards
- Join us for drinks from 6.45pm

Please RSVP no later than Monday 14th December
Dress code: Smart



Keeping in Touch



Don't forget, our main switchboard telephone number will change to **01260 730123** from Wednesday 16th December. Callers using the old number will be forwarded to the new one until January, after which they will be asked to redial using our new contact details. Please update your records and mobile phones etc.

NB: Caller ID will display our new number and no longer the central Cheshire East 0845 number as previously shown.



We are increasingly using e-mail as a method of communicating with parents as it is quick, efficient and cost effective. Please therefore make sure that we have your current e-mail address so that you do not miss out on important communications.



In addition to this termly newsletter, we also produce an E-Newsletter. You can sign up for this via the homepage of our website at www.congletonhigh.com



We also distribute up-to-the-minute information via Twitter and Facebook:

@CongletonHS - for general school news and announcements

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**



www.facebook.com/pages/Congleton-High-School/526370394106880

The Teamwork Behind the Scenes

The smooth running and continued success of our school is down to many people, not least our amazing students and dedicated team of staff. However, there are two particular groups that play a massive part in keeping us on track, ensuring that we maintain our high standards in terms of education and pupil care.

The Student Voice

We have a very active and respected Student Leadership Team (SLT) who represent the whole student body throughout the year. The team meets regularly and is made up of elected representatives from each year group. Students suggest agenda items, discuss all aspects of school life and contribute to the evaluation and further development of teaching and learning at CHS. To date, the SLT has been responsible for many improvements at CHS including more ICT rooms, updates to our Post 16 study room, toilet and catering facilities and even changes to the uniform.

Students also form a panel to meet and question prospective new members of staff when they come for interview and their opinions are considered during the selection process.

Each year our Head Boy and Head Girl are invited to become Associate Governors and to attend full governor meetings to represent the views of the student body. They are also joint chairs of the Student Leadership Team and in the Autumn term they carry out a survey of all students to gain their views. These are then presented to the full Governors meeting in the Spring term.



Left: Our Student Leadership Team represents all school years.

Below: Head Boy, Adam Bailey and Head Girl, Sophie Hammond



'A Critical Friend'

Right: New Chair of Governors, Richard Benson.



Below: New Parent Governor, Mark McCusker



At CHS we are fortunate to have a full complement of twenty school Governors drawn from a variety of sources including staff, parents and the local community. They come from all walks of life, bringing with them a vast range of skills and experience.

Their role is entirely voluntary and is that of a 'critical friend', there to support but also to question and challenge our everyday activity throughout the school to ensure that everything is undertaken to the highest standards, to our best ability and following best practice models

Our appointment process for new governors is rigorous, ensuring that we have a dedicated team, only concerned with delivering the highest possible standards of care and education for our students.

In the case of our new Parent Governor, Mark McCusker, the first part of the process was being nominated and voted in by his peers, followed by an in-depth interview with Executive Principal,

Mr Hermitt and Chair of Governors, Richard Benson. With all the usual child safety checks undertaken, Mark was then clear to undertake a comprehensive induction period covering all aspects of school life.

Mark's two children currently attend CHS so he wanted to get involved to help maintain our high standards but was also keen to assist in other areas. His work as an energy and property manager with a major retailer will enable the school to benefit from his wide range of transferable knowledge and skills, including helping us to improve our own energy efficiency, reducing wastage and potentially cutting costs.

Mark is a welcome new addition to the successful team of students, parents, staff and Governors that keeps our school running smoothly and successfully.

Our Sports Success



Mid Season Netball Results

7A - 3rd

7B - 3rd

Y8 - 2nd (with a game in hand)

Y9 - 2nd

Y10 - 2nd (with a game in hand)

Seniors - 5th

Netball News:

This year there have been changes afoot with the girls' Netball teams entering the Macclesfield leagues. Year seven and the seniors both play in one league with all schools involved and year eight, nine and ten are split into an A and a B League.

As a new school entering the league, we initially start in the B leagues but play all schools, with those who are not in the same league playing friendlies.

Moving leagues was always going to present a challenge for us and this proved the case from our first fixture against Kings School, Macclesfield in the very first week back in September. However, our mid-season results are looking far more promising with some good results and the potential to have all teams promoted to the A leagues next year.

BTEC Sport Residential:

Twelve year thirteen BTEC Sports students successfully completed their residential activity weekend in November. Leading and participating in two 'Outdoor and Adventurous Activities' (OAA) of hiking/mountain walking and mountain biking, the team tackled their challenges with relish and passed with flying colours.

The residential, which took place in Beddgelert, Snowdonia, forms part of the Unit 10 requirements for the BTEC course and saw the group build on the invaluable teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills encouraged at CHS that will stand them in good stead for



their future endeavours.

Students and staff alike faced and overcame the elements and both mental and physical challenges, working together to ensure the safety of the team and the success of the weekend. Both goals were achieved!



Sporting Superstars

We are never short of sporting superstars at CHS and this year we are proud to be able to have two of our very own 'This Girl Can' role models.

Megan Sheard is our year ten swimming champion, racking up a whole host of personal bests each time she competes.

After taking part in Nationals in Sheffield over summer, where she swam a number of lifetime bests and won her first national medal, a Silver for 400m Individual Medley, she travelled to Mataro, Spain, for an eight day swim camp with her Stockport swimming club.

In November, she competed in the Stockport Open Meet and achieved eight personal bests, smashing her current times by as much as 27 seconds and easily qualifying for the ASA Short Course Nationals at Ponds Forge, Sheffield taking place at the end of December.

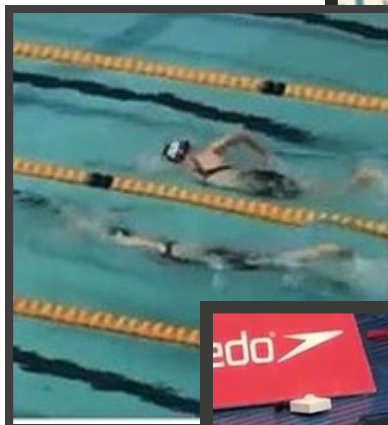
We wish you every success in Sheffield and beyond, Megan.

Year eleven football hero, **Amy Rodgers**, plays her best both in and out of school and was recently selected to play for the England Women's Under 16 Team in a friendly fixture against Germany.

Played at the FA's St George's Park Football Centre in Warwickshire in November, the England side lost but Amy put in a great personal performance, remaining on the pitch for all but ten minutes of the match. Definitely a footballing face of the future!



Above: Megan with her Silver medal



Left: Megan competing in Sheffield in August



Above: Amy played well on the day

Right: Amy in full England Kit



Below: England and Germany Team Handshake



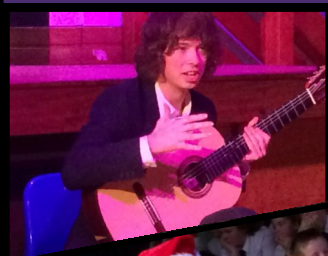
And finally....

A huge congratulations to our hardworking and dedicated PE Team, whose success led to our nomination as School of the Year in the 2015 Everybody Sport and Recreation Awards.

We have a great team of teachers and support staff at CHS who give up their own time to support students and help them to progress in their own goals and dreams.

Our PE department are certainly no exception and deserve an extra mention as they're the ones outside in the dark and the cold cheering on our sports teams, long after most of us are home. **Well done guys!**

Spotlight on Success



Each term we like to turn the spotlight on to some of our amazing students, both past and present, to share the news of their success.

Any students, friends or family lucky enough to have been able to hear year thirteen, Billy Proctor, perform at either the GCSE Awards evening or the Christmas Concert won't be at all surprised to hear that he has won a coveted place at the Royal Northern College of Music. Regarded by music aficionados as the musical equivalent of Oxbridge, Billy will be in the perfect place to help him take his exceptional talents to even greater heights.



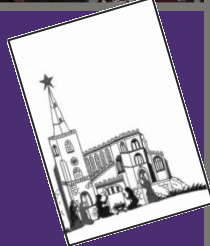
Isobel Cooper was one of only eighty four students in the North West region this year to be awarded a prestigious Nuffield Foundation Research Scholarship. The year thirteen student spent four weeks in the summer holidays at Keele University where she worked with a team on a project investigating the use of thermal imaging to detect human remains.



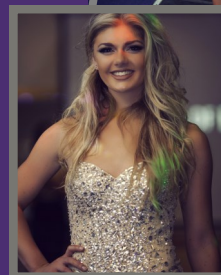
In October Isobel travelled to Liverpool to attend a celebration evening where she presented her findings to fellow students and members of the public.



Last term we shared Lizzy Corfield's success with her winning logo for the Congleton Open Space Arts Festival. This term our determined year nine has been rewarded again, this time with a well deserved 'Act of Courage Award' at the Silk 106.9 Local Hero Awards. She was nominated for the award by her mum, proud of the way she had regained her confidence after being bullied at primary school. Lizzy also designed the fabulous front cover artwork for this year's Christmas Service at Astbury St Mary's Church.



Of course, all our students have been model students (!) but one former CHS girl, Isabella (Izzy) Burnham, really can lay claim to that title, recently securing second place in the Top Model of England 2015 event. After completing her A Levels at South Cheshire College, Izzy plans to go travelling before settling down to study Law and Business at university.



Key Dates for your Diary

Friday 18th December 2015 - 1:10pm finish	School closes for the Christmas holidays
Monday 4th January 2016	School re-opens
Thursday 7th January 2016	Ex-Year 13 Awards Evening
Thursday 14th January 2016	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 20th January 2016	Year 9 Options Evening
Wednesday 27th January 2016	KS3 Art Exhibition
Wednesday 27th January 2016	Parents in Partnership Meeting
Saturday 30th Jan - Saturday 6th February 2016	Ski Course - Les Deux Alpes
Tuesday 2nd February 2016	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 9th February 2016	UCAS Parents' Evening
Friday 12th February 2016	School closes for half term holiday
Monday 22nd February 2016	School re-opens to students

NB: Please also note the changes to the 2016-17 Term Dates on our website