

# Newsletter

Issue 15: April - September 2017

Achieving Success Together

## In this issue

2

Welcome to Our New Head Girl and Head Boy

3

Celebrating Great Exam Results

5

Partner Primaries Discover CHS

10

Year 11's Cranage Hall Prom

13

Post 16 Work Placements

16

CHS Sporting Success

In our recent Parent Survey, 100% of parents agreed that they would recommend CHS to another parent!

## CHS Celebrates Superb Summer Results



# Welcome

to the first newsletter of the 2017-18 academic year, celebrating all our news from the last term here at Congleton High School.

Thanks to the wide range of curricular and extracurricular activities we offer, this is the biggest ever CHS newsletter and you will find the sixteen pages brimming with stories about our students and our school along with lots of useful information for both students and parents/carers.

If you are new to CHS, a Year 7 student or parent/carer, or have picked this newsletter up at our annual Open Evening or elsewhere, you'll find that this is a great reflection of life here at this vibrant and busy school, with each week packed full of the fun and challenging activities that make Congleton High such a great place to learn.

You will also be able to read about the fantastic exam results our students celebrated this summer. We were all particularly proud of the fact that, at 83% and 78% respectively for English and Maths at grade 9-4 pass rate, our results in August 2017 were significantly above the national average with boys and girls performing equally well.

We have now begun another busy and exciting year, yet again with a full-to-capacity Year 7, who are settling in well and already beginning to feel at home at Congleton High School.

I look forward to speaking to parents/carers at our forthcoming events and bringing you more news about all the exciting activities and events taking place over the next few months.

**Mr J Barlow**  
Head of School



## 2017-18 Head Girl and Head Boy

*Our new Head Girl and Head Boy took up their roles at the beginning of term, both keen to make a difference for their peers and further afield.*

Hi, I'm Chloe Tatton. I'm studying Business, Law and Psychology then plan to obtain a higher degree in Business Management after a year out to travel. I wanted to become Head Girl to give back to this incredible school through areas such as charity work and supporting the student body, making sure they're represented and enjoy their time here too.

Hello, I'm David Speed and I am studying History, Maths and Economics at A Level, hoping to go onto university to study Economics and History as a combined degree. I decided to become Head Boy to give back to CHS, which has invested in me for the past 6 years and also help younger students as they progress through their school life.

As Head Boy and Head Girl, there are a number of goals we aim to achieve this year, including fund-raising through the many events we'll run alongside CHS to support the local and national charities that students believe deserve our support. We also plan to help raise funds for the ongoing outdoor student shelter project to benefit the student body.

We will be looking to improve communication between year groups, to understand where each group feels improvements or changes within CHS could be made, along with listening to questions from individual students. We've already introduced Post 16 representatives in this area and plan to strengthen this even further over the year.

We are both looking forward to the challenge and welcome any suggestions from our fellow students for ways in which they think we can help improve their time here at CHS or help others in any way.



## Senior Student Leadership Team

Chloe and David will be supported in their new role by the Senior Student Leadership Team (*see below*). These eighteen Year 13 students, along with Chloe and David, are identifiable by the yellow lanyards they wear.

Student	Role
Sam Cosgrove	Deputy Head Boy
Jack Tranter	Deputy Head Boy
Alice Hill	Deputy Head Girl
Olivia Roberts	Deputy Head Girl
Aaron Barrett	Student Leader
Jack Bate	Student Leader
Emily Croft	Student Leader
Niamh Frogley	Student Leader
Max Hill	Student Leader
Mia Hopkins	Student Leader
Charlotte Howell	Student Leader
Caitlin Kirkwood	Student Leader
Hannah Morton	Student Leader
Ben Oakley	Student Leader
Oliver Proctor	Student Leader
Edward Sproson	Student Leader
Portia Taylor-Mountford	Student Leader
Emma Williams	Student Leader



# CHS Celebrates Great 2017 Exam Results

Summer 2017 was once again a time of celebration at CHS after GCSE students achieved exceptional results. With 164 students in the year, over half (54%) achieved at least one 7+, A\*/A or Distinction\*/Distinction (D\*/D) grade. In total, over 300 top grades were recorded, with all subjects, both academic and vocational, boasting a healthy share.

Maths and English proved equally successful at Congleton High this year, with 83% of students achieving a grade 9-4 pass in the new grading systems for English and 78% achieving the same for maths. The results for English were an impressive 15 percentage points **above the national average** and for Maths it was even higher at 18 percentage points. The school's Maths results also outperformed the Cheshire East provisional average of 74%. These superb figures will compare extremely well against some of the best performing schools in the country.

Remarkable pass rates were displayed across all subjects, with six GCSE courses - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Art, Media Studies and GCSE PE - all achieving an amazing one hundred per cent A\*-C pass rate. The Social Studies team had additional cause for celebration on results day with every single student studying the course scooping the top Distinction\*/Distinction grade!

A particularly rewarding result for the school was the overall improvement in male students' results. Nationally, boys have traditionally lagged a fair distance behind girls in English and Maths, so the school has placed additional emphasis on male student teaching and learning methods. The hard work has definitely paid off and although the girls have continued to perform to a very high standard, the boys have closed the gap experienced in previous years down to just a single percentage point. 74% of girls achieved a grade 4 and above in English and Maths with an impressive seventy 73% of boys doing likewise.

On results day, teachers, parents and governors gathered with students to celebrate their success and were again joined throughout the morning by Sky News, who filmed students opening their results and, later, interviewed them live on air to share their exciting news.

A Level students performed equally as well with pass rates of 21% for A\*/A, 41% for A\*-B and 98% for A\*-E. Forty two A\*/A and Distinction\*/Distinction grades were achieved across the wide range of subjects offered. CHS is keen to support academic and vocational pathways equally so was delighted that both attracted such impressive results, with many students successfully combining academic and vocational courses in their Post 16 years.





# The Importance of Literacy

We held our twelfth annual Reading Week in July, helping students to develop a love of reading for pleasure and an opportunity for staff and students to share their literary experiences with one another.

For Year 7, the week was rounded off with their Literacy STOP Day, a series of workshops all on the theme of 'Communication'. Working with teachers, Governors, parents and community members, who helped them to consider communication in its many different forms from inter-personal to mass communications, students wrote poetry, debated national issues, wrote Twitter stories, problem solved, became story detectives and presented their own news items to camera.



Year 8 students were also able to benefit from a dedicated Literacy STOP afternoon this year and took part in a range of activities designed to build on last year's work and further help them understand the power of communication.

The students in both years had a wonderful day and we would like to thank all the staff and volunteers who made the day possible and so enjoyable.



## Success Outside School



At 8am on Sunday 4th June, three Year 12 CHS students: Eloise, Summer and Holly, joined friends, Kayleigh and Chloe, to make the daunting 23 mile walk from Congleton to Manchester Children's Hospital to raise money for those affected by the attack at the Manchester Arena. They finally arrived at their destination at 5pm, where they were met by the manager of the Manchester Children's hospital.

They worked hard to organise the walk and raised awareness and support by appearing on Heart FM, BBC Manchester, Signal 1 and Silk FM. The team of five raised an amazing amount of money for the victims and their families.

Eloise set up a Just Giving page for anyone wishing to contribute <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eloise-dale> and the total sponsorship raised to date is over £1000. Congratulations and well done to all five girls and to their families.

Cousins, Madison and Haydyn, have both been following in the footsteps of their grandfather and aunt and have seen great success in canoeing. Taking part in the sport for the last three years as members of Gailey Canoe Club, Penkridge, the Year 8 pair have amassed armfuls of medals and trophies and are both ranked at the top of the leaderboard for their age groups in the various disciplines in which they take part, such as Sprint and Marathon. We look forward to hearing more about their successes this year.





# Partner Primary Discovery Days

By the time students start at CHS in Year 7, our aim is that they'll already be familiar with the school, with many of the teachers, the layout of the building and also have experienced some of our lessons. We achieve this through the programme of 'Discovery Days' we host for our Partner Primaries, mainly from Year 5 but occasionally earlier. Combined with our primary school sports activities and other competitions we run for Key Stage 1 and 2 children, these events enable our future cohort to get to know us, understand how our students learn and see what is expected of them. The transition from primary to high school becomes much smoother and easier in this way and isn't such a big step.

Our first Discovery Day of the Academic Year, held each September is our popular Cultural Diversity Day, which gives Year 6 children an insight into other cultures and how others live their lives. This year, we held workshops on African Beading, Bollywood Dancing, Drumming and Disability and Sport Awareness.



Our final Discovery Day takes place at the end of June for all Year 6 students due to start with us. It is a full day of introductory lessons and familiarisation activities that enable Year 7 to 'hit the ground running' in September. The images above depict the different things we do during our New Intake Day but, more than this, they show how relaxed and happy Year 6 already look in these familiar surroundings.

Along with taster lessons in a range of subjects including Science, Languages, Drama, ICT and Design and Technology, the New Intake Day includes a 'Map Trail' around the school, which enables new starters to get to grips with where each department can be found, the location of essentials such as the LRC, refectory and cloak rooms and also introduces them to areas they may not have previously come across on earlier visits. Year 6 are able to spend time in their tutor groups, making new friends and getting to know their form tutor. Far from students spending the summer worrying about starting high school, we find the day results in the majority of them counting the days until they can start at CHS full time!



# Post 16 Success on Stock Exchange

Four of our Post 16 students battled with over 10,000 nationwide teams to make it in to the final of the Student Investor Challenge Competition. Using their maths acumen, knowledge of stocks and international currencies and their research and presentation skills, the four boys, Scott Billcliff, Will Hawkins, Chris Rae and Alfie Seddon, finished the seven month challenge in an amazing second place overall.

Round one of the competition began back in October 2016, with teams investing £20,000 of 'virtual money' into two portfolios of stocks. The Congleton team, *Hargreave Ladsgown*, progressed straight through to the next round in a very respectable 20th place. The semi-finals saw a total of 500 teams competing from February to March, at the end of which, Hargreave Ladsgown had risen to fourth place and secured a seat in the London final on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

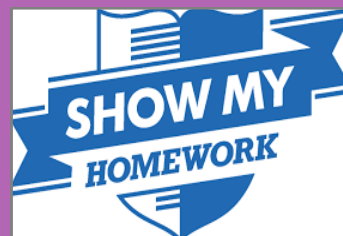


The CHS team competed against seven other teams in the crucial last leg of the competition. The first challenge required them to trade a range of commodities, using a trading training simulator, which saw Hargreave Ladsgown steaming ahead by a large margin and judges commenting that they had "*dominated the trading session*". In the afternoon, teams were tasked with researching a specified currency and presenting their predictions for how it would fluctuate over time and subsequent recommendations for investors. CHS researched the Yen, presenting their findings confidently and with real understanding of the questions posed by the panel of judges. Alfie, Chris, Scott and Will all worked hard to prepare for the presentation and it was gratifying that many of the industry representatives attending the event congratulated them afterwards on the quality of their presentation and the professional delivery.

The competition throughout the whole Student Investor Challenge was extremely tough, with the standard exceptionally high. At the end of seven months of trading and competing and one very challenging and exciting finals day, the CHS team, Hargreave Ladsgown, finished in a fabulous second place out of all the 10,000 plus teams who began the competition. An amazing achievement! Each of the four students was awarded a prize of £150, with the school receiving £1500 and a commemorative plaque.

## Show My Homework

For the majority of our students, we have now replaced the previous planner system with a new online system, [Show My Homework](#). This will enable both students and parents to see what homework has been set each day and also check whether each piece has been handed in on time. It improves on the previous system in many ways, ensuring that homework instructions are correct and relevant sheets are not mislaid. All students and parents should have received log-in details. Anyone experiencing any problems with should contact [Mrs Tarpey](#) on 01260 730123.



## Inspirational Teacher of the Year!

The team at Congleton High were delighted to learn that its popular PE teacher, Mr de Souza, had been named as the Inspirational Teacher of the Year in the finals of the 2017 Cheshire Schools Awards held in Chester in June.

Mr de Souza was nominated for the award following glowing feedback during the school's annual 'Extra Mile Awards', which allow students to vote for the staff that they feel go above and beyond the call of duty when it comes to helping them achieve their best, both in and out of the classroom.



Three staff members and four students attended the awards and were able to share Mr de Souza's elation when his name was called and he was presented with the award for Inspirational Teacher of the Year 2017 by television personality, Dianne Oxberry.

Mr Barlow, CHS Head of School, commented on the award:

*"We are immensely proud of Mr de Souza's achievement. He is a great teacher and a well-liked and respected colleague and truly deserved to win. He represents all that we stand for at CHS, enthusiastically promoting principles of teamwork, perseverance and self-belief. Mr de Souza is often the first Congleton High teacher that our partner primary school children meet and he always leaves such a great impression with them, ensuring that they are always excited about the move up to high school."*



# Art and Engineering Go Hand in Hand

On Wednesday 5th July, ten students, chosen for their strong skills in Maths and Art, met at The Siemens Factory in Congleton. Siemens have been keen to build links with the CHS Art department this year, supporting and acknowledging the importance of drawing and creativity in Engineering.



The students were treated to a fantastic morning, full of information about the company, visiting different departments where staff were on hand to explain their different job roles. Matt Clarke, one of the tour guides, had studied at CHS and has been an apprentice with Siemens for the last twelve months, so he was a great inspiration to the students.



The group was impressed by the latest technology used at the site including their 3D printer and VDU Cave where students were able to dismantle engineering products and redesign the factory layout using virtual reality software. They were also inspired by the enthusiasm staff had for the different roles and projects they had worked on.

Siemens' Human Resources team gave the students in depth advice about employment opportunities within the company, including their apprenticeship schemes, which can be accessed at various levels.

After gaining a strong understanding of operations at Siemens Congleton, students went onto a team building exercise, "The Tower of Power". This task is used within the company to build communication skills and team work, which, like CHS, is a strong ethos of the organisation. The students performed the exercise extremely well, all working together to balance the tower of blocks with only the use of ropes. Their team work and communication skills came to the fore and lots of laughter and just a little frustration combined to make a great activity.



The afternoon gave the opportunity to bring creative skills in to play, as students were split into teams and given the brief to produce ideas for posters to build awareness of how Siemens tackles environmental issues. Students had an in-depth introduction to the hugely varied way the company tackles issues like CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy saving, use of natural resources and community support. Students were amazed by the depth of work the company undertakes to protect the environment.



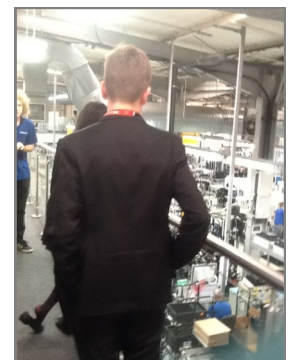
They took all the information and began to visualise how employees and contract staff could be further encouraged to participate in this important aspect of the company's work through developing posters to raise awareness and participation. This project will now continue with students realising these initial concepts back in school and returning to Siemens in September to present their ideas for the poster campaign.



Other projects supported by Siemens this year have been a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) Event - with all Year 7 students. These five STEAM disciplines were combined to produce sculptures based on scientific and mathematical equations. Engineers from Siemens joined the event to discuss the importance of drawing in Engineering and to judge the final sculptural pieces.

The CHS Key Stage 3 Art Exhibition was also supported by Siemens, with a theme of "Inventions for the Future" and inspiration offered from the innovative design drawings of Leonardo Da Vinci. Students were tasked with inventing a machine they would most like to see made. This produced a wealth of ideas from robot pets to homework machines. Again, members of the Siemens team visited to judge the winners and award prizes at the exhibition.

We hope that the links made this year will continue to thrive in the future, supporting our students and helping them and others to appreciate the importance of drawing and creative thinking within the design and engineering processes.



# Kind Donation Helps Budding Film Makers



Sophie, Joe and Chris Javin with some of the new equipment

At the end of last term, CHS was delighted to accept a range of fantastic camera equipment from Staffordshire University to support our budding filmmakers here at the school. Staffordshire University's Media Centre donated the industry standard kit after discovering that our Media Department was keen to upgrade its aging cameras.

Chris Javin, a Technical Instructor specialising in Film Production at the University, explained:

*"We usually update some of our equipment every summer and write off redundant kit. What I've wanted to do for a while is to help out local schools who I know will really benefit from this equipment. It's great to see assets that would usually have been forgotten go to people who will be able to put them to good use. I'm looking forward to going back and seeing some of the films that the students produce!"*

Several former CHS students have gone on to study on Staffordshire University's Media (Film) Production courses and lecturers have good links with the school, providing guest talks and feedback on students' films.

Miss Eardley teaches Media Studies and Film Studies to GCSE and Post 16 students at CHS, along with running the popular Film and Media Club and was delighted to accept the donation:

*"This new equipment will make an astonishing difference to the quality of work students can produce because the cameras that we have been using previously are quite basic. Now, even from the age of 14 and 15, our students will be using professional kit and be able to create really professional looking coursework, achieve higher results and be ready for the hugely competitive world of media."*

The equipment included cameras, Marantz audio recorders and microphones and the CHS students got the chance to get 'hands-on' with the kit for the first time before they broke up for summer.

Year 11 student, Joe Fuller, studying GCSE Media Studies, said:

*"It's better to have this high quality equipment compared to the small cameras we've been using. Hopefully using better cameras will mean that we can greatly improve both our skills and our grades."*

Sophie Dodson, added:

*"I think it's really exciting and will allow us to do the best that we can with our coursework. We had limited supplies before so this will make a big difference."*



Film and Media students try the new equipment for themselves

## An Eye on the Future

With an eye to the future, our students were interested in seeing the many different STEM career paths on offer when they spent the day at the Big Bang Fair with CHS. For one Year 9 student, Yarhooly Downes, that view of the future became even clearer after winning a week's work experience with leading high street opticians, Specsavers, in a competition she entered at the Fair.

All the young people visiting the Specsavers stand were able to take part in the competition, which involved tracking down letters hidden around their show booth and putting these in the right order to make the correct word. Yarhooly, along with many of her friends, enjoyed the challenge on the day but, after a few weeks, she had totally forgotten all about it. So, in the holidays, when she received the phone call from Specsavers to say that, as the first correct entry to be picked, she was the winner of the work experience opportunity, Yarhooly was both stunned and overjoyed.



She will spend a week with the company, seeing all aspects of the work that an optician undertakes in each area of their business. Yarhooly is excited about the opportunity and really looking forward to learning more about the eye, how it works and what can go wrong with it. This year she will be selecting options for GCSE subjects and believes that this experience will lead to her choosing to pursue more science subjects.

The exact dates and location of her week with the company have yet to be confirmed but we look forward to hearing all about it afterwards.



# Calling all Box Lane Ex-Students



Whether you are a past student of Congleton High or came to school on this site when it was Heathfields or Congleton County Secondary School for Boys, we would love to hear from you.

We are building up a register of our alumni, which will enable us to share your stories with current and future students who may be wondering where their studies could take them or confused about the different routes at 16+

We plan to use the stories in a number of ways, including as case studies in our termly newsletter and on posters around school, where students can learn about and be inspired by the young people who were once where they are now. We have an alumni section on the website enabling current and prospective students and parents to see the sorts of things our alumni have gone on to do and also show the many different routes to success. You can find this at <http://www.congletonhigh.com/222/our-alumni>

We're equally interested in hearing about vocations that have taken decades to develop and may not have followed a 'traditional' route, alongside those that began at Options stage and have progressed seamlessly. Sharing your accounts will be of immense value to students who'll be able to learn from your experiences.

If you would like to be part of our project and share your story with our students now and in years to come, please email our Communications Officer, Katrina Kenyon [kkenyon@congletonhigh.com](mailto:kkenyon@congletonhigh.com)

## Record Setting Summer Market



Each year our Year 10 organise and run a charity fundraising Summer Market, raising a substantial amount each time for their chosen charities. This year was certainly no exception, raising a record **£2341.72** for **Teenage Cancer Trust**.

This incredible amount was almost £650 more than last year, which was at that time the highest figure recorded of any Summer Market.



There was a vast array of stalls offering something for everyone, whether they wanted to use up energy after sitting in lessons, a delicious food or drink treat to keep them going until lunch or just looking to support the good cause and maybe win a prize or two.

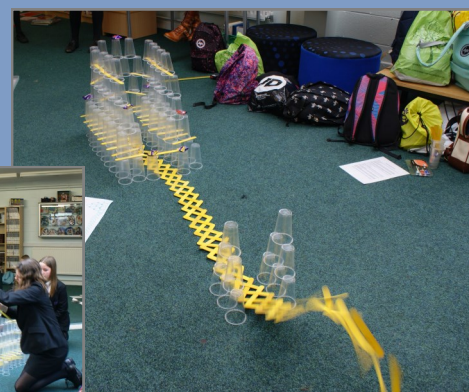
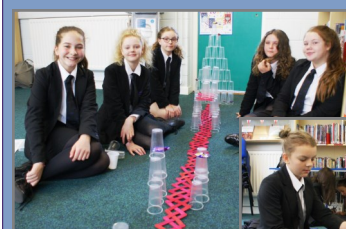


## Encouraging Girls into Engineering



Twelve of our Year 8 girls joined a Siemens 'Girls into Engineering' workshop along with Eaton Bank students last term. The aim was to encourage girls to begin to consider engineering as a career possibility when choosing options in Year 9.

During the 'Stick-splosion' exercise, teams engineered towers from plastic cups, which would be demolished when a chain reaction stick 'fuse wire' was activated. Despite a few accidents with sticks activating too early, or towers collapsing, all the groups managed to rebuild their towers in time for the final grand Stick-Splosion!





# Year 11 Cranage Hall Prom





# A Trial Run for Year 12 Law



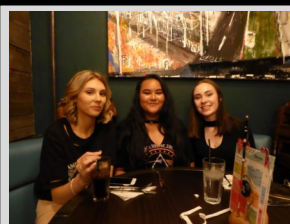
The annual Year 12 Law Mock Trial took place in June. As in the past, all the Law students worked exceptionally hard to prepare their cases and fine tune their questioning techniques. Although the Year 12 students took on the main roles of barristers and witnesses, the trial could not have taken place without a jury and luckily, a team of Year 10 volunteers stepped forward to undertake this important duty.

The 'jury' listened carefully to the evidence and arguments put forward by the team of barristers and then deliberated their verdict in the jury room. Unusually for this process, the group could not reach a unanimous verdict and this was a good reflection, not only of the very strong arguments from both the prosecution and defence barristers but also the care and attention paid by the jurors to the arguments they heard and the evidence put before them.

There was a really strong performance from all those involved and their teachers, Mrs Wiggins and Mrs Becker, were delighted with the level of effort put in.



## Fashion Students See the Future



Above: Y12 students, Bethan, Amy & Shelby



Below: Mrs Paling Sparkes with Polly (Left) & Aly (2nd on Right)

Last term, the Year 12 BTEC Fashion and Clothing students attended the end of year Fashion show at Manchester Metropolitan University. This show demonstrated cutting edge ideas from the students finishing their BA (Hons) Fashion Degree course at the end of the year. The aim was to experience experimental and expressive work that would inspire our Year 12 students.

It was a particularly exciting visit as two of our past students, Aly Henshall and Polly Davis, were displaying their designs in the fashion show. Mrs Paling Sparkes was very proud of her former students and their amazing achievements.

For one of the BTEC Fashion and Clothing students, Bethan Owen, this was also quite an important visit as it helped confirm her future plans:

*"I now know that this is the course I want to apply for. I can imagine myself showing my own work here in three years' time".*

Polly Davis' End of Year Show



## London Fashion Week Success



Following the Year 12 visit to the MMU Fashion Show, Mrs Paling Sparkes was thrilled to learn that Aly Henshall had been invited to show her collection in the student show at 2017 London Fashion Week in September!

Leading fashion and retail trade magazine, Drapers, tipped Aly as one of the 'Stars of the Future', so she is definitely a name to look out for.



Aly Henshall, Manchester School of Art

## Dreaming Spires Inspire



Each year, our high achieving Post 16 students have the opportunity to visit both Oxford and Cambridge Universities to find out more about studying there. In July, ten Year 12 students visited to see for themselves what life is like at these top universities.

The group stayed in Pembroke College, Oxford and St Catherine's College, Cambridge before spending a day at each university's open day. They were able to tour the different colleges, attend lectures in their chosen subjects and speak with students who have already completed their first or second years. The visit gave students a real flavour of Oxbridge and served to inspire them to want to win one of the few coveted places.



# Building Business Partnerships



The Congleton College team held a very successful STEM Business Breakfast Briefing last term, with around thirty representatives from many of its local business partners.

The team, including Congleton Multi-Academy Trust (Cmat) CEO, Mr Hermitt and Mrs March, former Head of Post 16 at Congleton High School (CHS), were able to share with the delegates their plans for a new Studio School and the status of the associated funding bid.

The Congleton College team was also delighted that local business owner, CHS governor and Cmat Board Director, Mr Andy Pear, strengthened their presentation team and was able to address the idea of a Studio School from a business perspective.

Mrs Sadat-Shafai, Work Experience Coordinator for the College, talked about the positive impact of their successful work experience programme on students' progress and development. As living proof of the many benefits for student and employer alike, the group also heard from ex-student, Dan Mongillo, who undertook work experience with motoring legal experts, ALPS and is now Marketing Manager for the company.



Following the briefing, a number of the party looked around CHS' Design and Technology Department and were highly impressed and excited by what they saw and heard about the work that students do there and the opportunities they have.

It was an extremely successful and positive event and The Congleton College team would like to thank all those who came along and shared their experience and knowledge to help benefit both current and future students.

Anyone keen to become involved with The Congleton College, interested in finding out more about the work students undertake or able to offer work experience placements should contact Miss Julie Boulton by email: [jboulton@congletonhigh.com](mailto:jboulton@congletonhigh.com) or Tel: 01260 730123.

## Dreams Becoming Reality

We were delighted to learn that a former student, Jayne Booth, who studied at CHS from 2008-15, has been awarded a coveted internship with Airbus UK.

Jayne (seen on the right being awarded her Arkwright Scholarship in Year 11) fulfilled her dream of studying Mechanical Engineering and, two years into the course successfully secured the year-long internship, after which she will return to university to complete the final two years of her degree.



*You can read more about Jayne's experience since leaving CHS on the [Alumni](#) page of our website.*

## A Winning Opportunity

Earlier in the year, five of our Year 12 students - Dan Smith, Sam Cosgrove, Chloe Tatton, Jack Tranter and Max Hill - won a week's work experience with leading pharmaceuticals company, Astra Zeneca. They had won this great opportunity after taking part in the company's Challenge Day, with Dan and Sam awarded the work placement as part of the winning team and Chloe, Jack and Max also securing a placement on the basis of their personal performance on the day.



The team were able to take up their work experience at the end of last term, which proved extremely successful for both the employer and the students, with the company commenting that the students were a 'credit to the school'.

All five students benefitted greatly from this remarkable opportunity with one saying afterwards:

*"It was really great to see the different aspects of the company and experience what it's like to be part of it. I had a great time and would like to thank everyone at Astra Zeneca for the opportunity."*



# Working Towards a Better Future

At the end of the summer term, over fifty Congleton High Post 16 students were able to put away their books as they ventured out into the real world of employment and took up work placements in a wide variety of industries.

The aim of the work opportunities, arranged by CHS Work Placement Coordinator, Mrs Sadat-Shafai, was two-fold, firstly to give the students a flavour of life in their chosen field of work and secondly to help them build some essential employment skills.

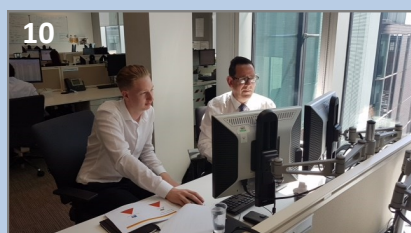
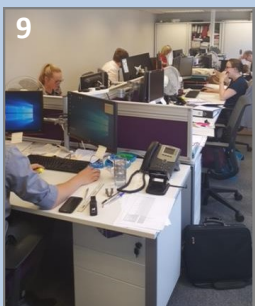
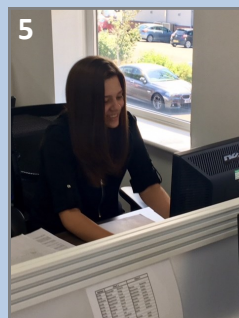
Students took up work placements in a wide range of businesses including: medical, financial, horticultural, insurance, manufacturing, museums and marketing. (See the photographs to the right and below for a range of the work placements undertaken by our students.)

The feedback received from the employers was exceptional, with some of the students subsequently offered paid work as a result.

Mrs Sadat-Shafai commented:

*"These work opportunities are invaluable for our students, who learn so much during their placement week. They develop skills that they are able to use later in life and the experience does make them far more understanding of the world beyond the school gates and the pressures that they will be under after they leave us."*

*"Our work placements are also a great link with local businesses who are always so supportive of us and work with us to help provide the most useful and effective opportunities for our students. I would like to thank all of our business partners who have enabled our young people to be able to learn so much in such a short space of time. We are always keen to hear from any local businesses that would be able to offer a work placement opportunity to one of our students."*



Key:

- 1 Amy Johnson - Macclesfield Hospital
- 2 Adam Fastiggi - Outpost
- 3 Tom Strick - Birmingham Airport
- 4 James Johnson & Jack Bate - AO Logistics
- 5 Mia Hopkins - Franklyn Financial Management
- 6 Olivia Roberts - Congleton Museum
- 7 Portia Taylor Mountford - Biddulph Grange
- 8 Charla Pointon—Congleton Co-Operative
- 9 Niamh Frogley - Hammond McNulty
- 10 Ben Oakley - BNY Mellon
- 11 Scott Cheadle & Luke Cooper - Rolls Royce
- 12 Jack Tranter, Chloe Tatton, Dan Smith, Sam Cosgrove, Max Hill - Astra Zeneca
- 13 Connor Cottrell - Reliance Medical
- 14 David Speed - Salt Box
- 15 Paul Levers - CHS Refectory Kitchens
- 16 Molly Dugmore - National Grid
- 17 Harry Couchman - ALPS

# More Sports Day Records Broken

We enjoyed another very successful Sports Day at the end of last term. **Thirteen** new school records were set on the day, breaking several of the oldest school records, some dating as far back as 2004!

Event	Student	Record	Notes
Y7 Boys Long Jump	Callum Lumb	4.40m	Beat record set in 2004 by Josh Barrard by 3cm
Y7 Girls Javelin	Taylor Rowe	16.19m	Beat record set in 2004 by Emily Goode by 9cm
Y8 Girls Long Jump	Ruby Spencer	4.80m	Beat record set in 2004 by H Proctor by 50cm
Y8 Girls Long Jump	Ruby Spencer	4.80m	Beat record set in 2004 by H Proctor by 50cm
Y10 Boys 1500m	Harper Whitehead	4m 57s	Beat record set in 2006 by A Woodall by 5s
Y8 Boys 300m	Max Rigby	46s 48ms	Beat record set in 2015 by Nathan Jones by 1.832s
Y8 Girls 800m	Ruby Spencer	2m 38s	Beat record set in 2015 by Lexie Harrison by 4s
Y7 Boys 200m	Reuben Perry	29s 55ms	Beat record set in 2013 by Elliot Darmon by 1.265s
Y7 Boys 100m	Pierce Harvey	13s 50ms	Beat record set in 2016 by Joe Eyre by 5.951s
Y9 Girls 100m	Abby McCusker	13s 93ms	Beat record set in 2004 by Holly Jones by 0.417s
Y7 Mixed 4x100m	SK	1m 2s	Beat record set in 2013 by JSA by 2s
Y8 Boys 4x100m	DKN	57s 6ms	Beat record set in 2015 by SDR by 12ms
Y9 Boys 4x100m	SJE	54s 46ms	Beat record set in 2013 by GXT by 724ms

## Sporting Achievements Recognised and Rewarded

Our Sports Awards Evening, held each year in July, is an opportunity to publicly congratulate and reward the students who have demonstrated commitment and dedication to achieving in sport, both in and outside school.

162 Awards were distributed during the 2017 Sports Awards Evening, celebrating the achievements of both individuals and our many sports teams. The awards included Contribution to School Sport, Future Champions, Player of the Year, Athlete of the Year, Team of the Year, Sports Person of the Year, The Daniel Sturridge Rising Star Award and the Lynda Arnold Award.

The **Daniel Sturridge Rising Star Award** went to swimming ace, Megan Sheard and was presented to her by Daniel's father and uncle, who also gave her a signed photo and football shirt.

The **Lynda Arnold Award** went to Beth Jones.

**Sports Person of the Year** awards went to Tegan Ansell, Eme Noakes, Molly Hurst, Lexie Harrison, Megan Aldred, Milo James, Mason Hopkins, Ru Morgan, Owen Lees and George Johnson.

**Team of the Year** awards went to the Year 11 Boys Football Team and U13 Girls Football Team.

**Athlete of the Year** awards went to Milo James, Fin Stratford, Jack Farrall, Harper Whitehead, Josh Robertson, Ruby Prior, Ruby Spencer, Mia Donathy, Meera Shanati and Helena Cresswell.

**Sports Leader of the Year** awards went to Ellie Shaw and Will Dinnis.

*A full list of award winners will be posted on the school website.*





# Sporty Spanish Summer

Students enjoyed yet another amazing sports tour at the end of the summer term! The PE team took a group of students to the Spanish resort of Pineda del Mar on a week-long water sports tour. Over the week, students were able to take part in a wide range of water activities, on paddle boards, catamarans, sailing, kayaking, and windsurfing in the Mediterranean Sea near sunny Barcelona.

Mrs Salt, Assistant Principal and Curriculum Team Leader of PE, who led the trip, was extremely proud of the group on the visit:

*'All the students were fantastic from start to finish. They represented Congleton High School with pride and we had lots of members of the public comment on how well behaved our students were in such busy areas of Spain.'*

The group went to Waterworld waterpark and enjoyed a tour of Barcelona city centre including world famous landmarks such as Las Ramblas and the Camp Nou, home of FC Barcelona.

The students seemed to have had the best tour ever as they were constantly singing, dancing and enjoying themselves from the moment they landed in Barcelona Airport. Mr de Souza, PE Deputy Curriculum Team Leader, told how the students were some of the most entertaining he'd ever encountered:

*'The group ranged from Year 8 to Year 11 and got along so well. They were all a pleasure to go on tour with. Leaving at the end of the school year, they all brought a fantastic energy on the trip especially after Sports Awards Evening, Sports Day and the rewards afternoon.'*

All students are invited to join the Water Sports Tour, which takes place every two years. The PE Department at Congleton High School offers many other sports tours for students, such as football, netball, rugby and ski trips.

Any student interested in finding out more should speak to a member of the PE Team or keep an eye out on the PE Department's twitter account, [@PhysEdCHS](#) to look out for the next tour taking place!



## Key Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10th October 2017	Year 10 Parents' Information Evening
Friday 13th October 2017	Year 7 Teambuilding Day, Astbury Waterpark
Wednesday 18th October 2017	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening
Friday 20th October 2017	School Closes for Half Term Break
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2017	DT Bologna Trip
Monday 31st October 2017	Teacher INSET Day - School Closed to Students
Tuesday 31st October 2017	School Open to Students
Wednesday 8th November 2017	GCSE Awards Evening
Tuesday 21st November 2017	Post 16 Open Evening
Thursday 30th November 2017	Academic Mentoring Day
Monday 4th December 2017	Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
Monday 18th December 2017	Christmas Concert
Tuesday 19th December 2017	A Level Awards Evening
Friday 22nd December 2017	School Closes for Christmas Break
Monday 8th January 2018	School Open to Students

**Please note - Term dates, Parents' Evenings and other important school events and activities can also be found in the website [Parent Area](#) and [Calendar](#)**

# School Sporting Success for 2016-17

At the end of the 2016-17 academic year, we were able to celebrate some great sporting results across the school for the many regional and national competitions in which we take part each year.

## ATHLETICS

Year 7 Boys	Winners - Sandbach Sports Partnership (SSP) - Indoor
Jnr Girls	3rd - English Schools Track & Field
Minor Girls	3rd - South Cheshire Champs
Minor Boys	6th - South Cheshire Champs
Jnr Girls	2nd - South Cheshire Champs
Jnr Boys	2nd - South Cheshire Champs
Inter Girls	6th - South Cheshire Champs
Inter Boys	2nd - South Cheshire Champs
Overall	3rd - South Cheshire Champs

## FOOTBALL

U13 Girls	Winners - CFC Premier League Tournament Fair Play Award Winners in National Premier League Schools Finals SSP Winners Represented Crewe Alexandra in English Football League Tournament
Year 7 Boys	South Cheshire Cup Runners Up
Year 11 Boys	South Cheshire Football League Winners S Cheshire Cup Winners U16 Regional Futsal Cup Runners Up
Sport Academy	AOC Football League Runners Up

## NETBALL

Year 7A	5th - Macclesfield & Dist League
Year 7B	5th - Macclesfield & Dist League
Year 8	4th - Macclesfield & Dist League
Year 9	Runners Up - Macclesfield & Dist League
Year 10	Winners - Macclesfield & Dist League
Seniors	6th - Macclesfield & Dist League

## BASKETBALL

Year 9	South Cheshire Cup Winners
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# 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 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



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](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Congleton-High-School/526370394106880)



**Congletonhs**



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