

# Newsletter



Issue 26: January to April 2021

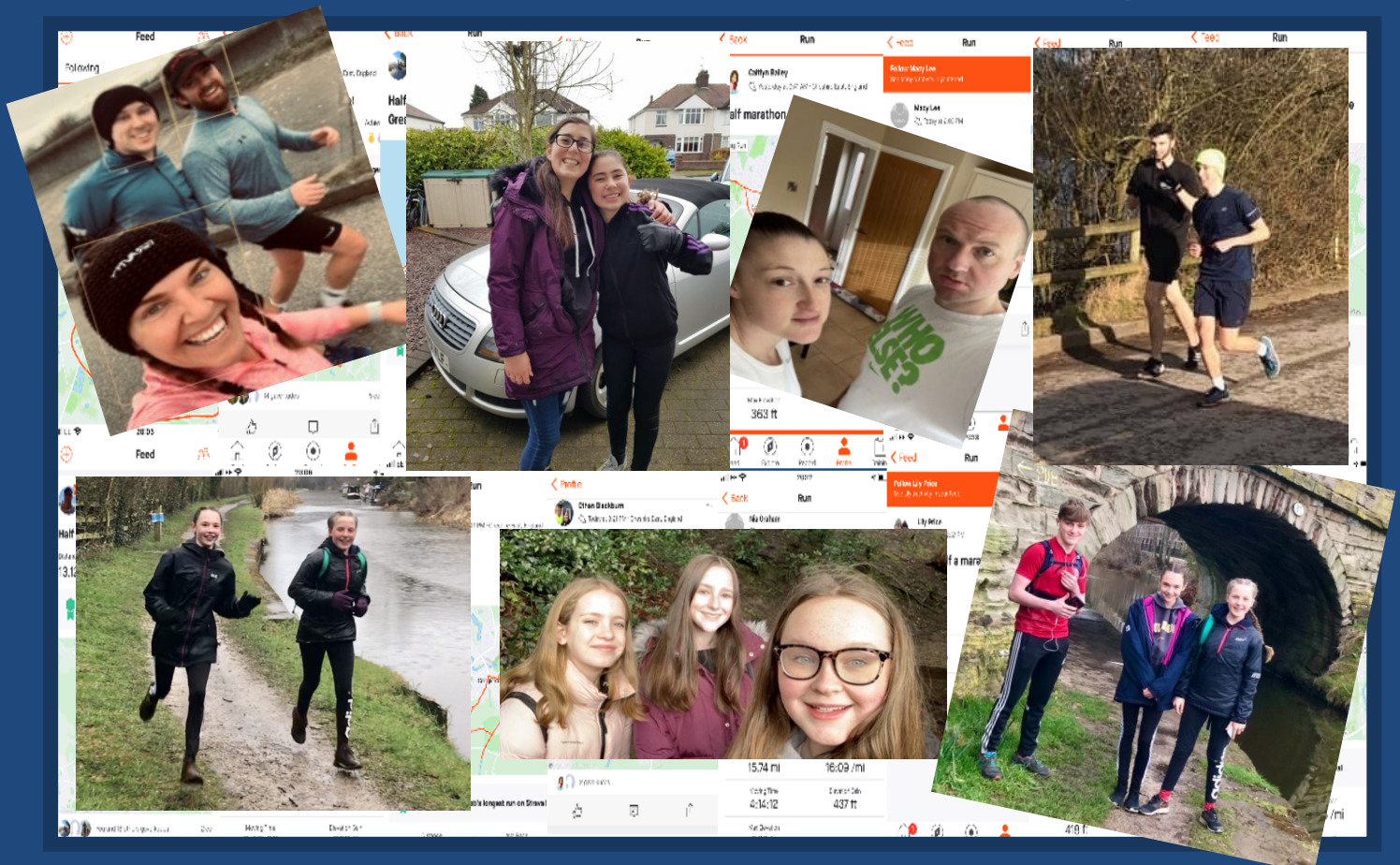
Achieving Success Together

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## CHS Half Marathon Raises over £2,000



Turn to page 11

# Welcome

It has been fantastic to have all our students back together in school again. I would like to thank them all for engaging in the Lateral Flow Testing with such positivity, and also acknowledge our team of staff and volunteers who worked so tirelessly to ensure the testing ran smoothly and efficiently. I would particularly like to thank the team of volunteers from New Life Church, who were invaluable to us during the main testing period.

As you will be aware, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March marked the one year anniversary of the first National Lockdown and I'm sure none of us expected the year we've had. All of us have been affected by the many challenges Covid-19 has brought and I know that some of our families have found things very difficult indeed. That is why I am so proud of the Congleton High School community and the support that we have given one another.

As we reach the end of this term, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Sheree Dunn from the XL Team. Mrs Dunn has worked with us at CHS for 17 years and many parents and carers will know from experience the huge positive difference she has made for so many students at our school. We wish her all the very best in her retirement as she enjoys spending more time with her grandchildren.

Despite the majority of students spending only few weeks in school this term, we still have much to celebrate. I hope you will take the time to enjoy reading through this latest newsletter, which gives you a snapshot of the successes that we see week in, week out at CHS.

As the weather continues to improve, it is lovely to think that we may be able to meet a few more people outside in the coming weeks. I am sure many of you have not been able to see friends and family for some time now. I hope you all have a lovely Easter break and manage to take the opportunity for some well-earned rest and relaxation.

**Mr J Barlow**  
Headteacher



## Update from our Chair of Governors

It is so pleasing to see the rooms and corridors at school full of energised students, eager to return after the latest (and hopefully last!) lockdown. Governors, once again, would like to thank all parents and carers for their positive support during lockdown and the way in which they have supported staff in the delivery of remote lessons.

Your Local Governing Body has continued to work on your behalf during these challenging times. Since last March our meetings have all been held virtually and you can be assured that Governors are extremely committed to ensuring that the school has the necessary resources to deliver the unique 'CHS Experience' to all of our students across all year groups.

I would also like to extend the Governors' thanks to all of the school staff, not only for their sterling work during lockdown, but for going the extra mile in support of our returning students.

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](mailto:GovernorsClerk@congletonhigh.com)

**Rich Benson**  
Chair of Governors



## A Massive THANK YOU!

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Tim Dalton at [Riverside Distribution Network](#) in Congleton, who delivered all of our free school meals to around forty families throughout the whole of lockdown.

We are so grateful for the support, especially as this was done on a voluntary basis and took up much of Tim's time each day.

We could not have managed without your generous help, Tim. Thank you!





# Who Goes? You Decide!

We are always trying to find new ways to celebrate and reward the good work, effort and kind acts of our students. Last year Mr Barlow came up with a brand new idea, based on Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 'Seat on the Plane'. An event was planned for summer 2020 but, like so many things, was postponed as a result of Covid.

This very special rewards afternoon at Manchester Airport has now been rescheduled for later in the year (Covid permitting)! We hope to be able to offer 30 remarkable students a ticket to join us in July for a special tour of the aviation park, including the chance to go on board Concorde:

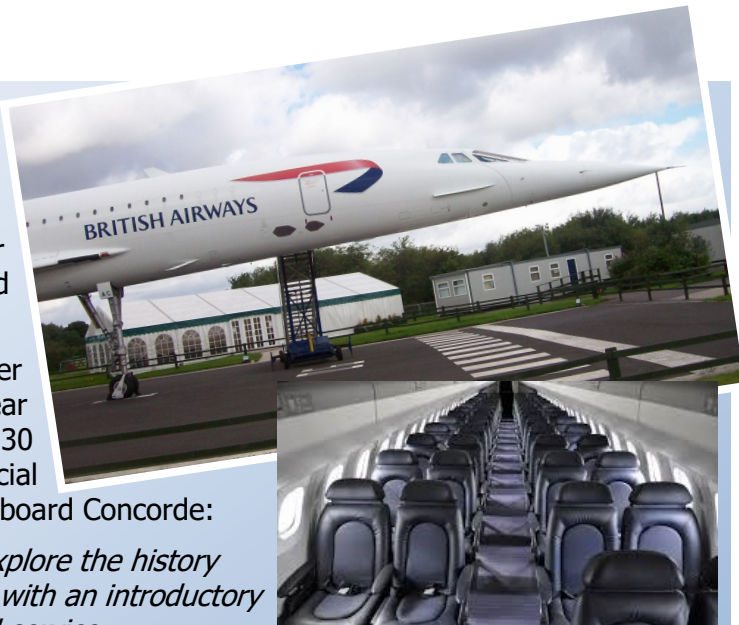
*"This new socially distanced experience allows you to explore the history and beauty of Concorde. The tour will start underneath with an introductory video, showing Concorde during its years of commercial service.*

*You will then board the famous G-BOAC aircraft, sitting in the luxury leather seats as our tour guide tells the story of the aircraft's years of history."*

Our guests will also get the chance to spend time in the visitor park to see the other aircraft and watch the take offs and landings on the main runway. We'll complete the afternoon with some light refreshments before our return flight (coach trip)!

Students can only achieve a *Seat on the Plane* by being nominated by a fellow student, member of school staff, parent/carer, neighbour or community member. We know that so many students demonstrate special qualities and are quite remarkable in so many ways so know that deciding who goes won't be an easy task. We have already asked our staff to nominate any student who they think has done something a bit special, such as an act of kindness in school or the community or is achieving something very special in their school work, sport or hobby. After Easter, students will also be able to nominate too.

If you know someone in the CHS community who deserves a 'Seat on the Plane', then please email Mr Barlow with the details ([jbarlow@congletonhigh.com](mailto:jbarlow@congletonhigh.com)).



## On the Cards



At the end of term, in our Modern Foreign Languages department, our Year 8 French students enjoyed designing and making Easter cards for their French pen pals.

Joyeuses Paques!

## Tour Guides

### VISIT THE WIZARDING WORLD OF HARRY POTTER

Come and join us at Harry Potter world and live the adventure of a lifetime... you won't regret it. If you are a Harry Potter fan, the Warner Bros. Studio Tour is not to be missed! Experience our wizarding ways where secrets will be revealed like no other. Participate in how sets were used in the films going "behind the scenes" seeing props, costumes etc. A perfect family day out (all ages)

#### What do you do at Harry Potter studios?

There are many interactive experiences to indulge in. Maybe you want to know how to use a wand? How about learning Quidditch? As you make your way round the tour you can expect to see lots of live demonstrations and shops selling souvenirs and photos.

What you should expect too see on your tour... the most iconic sets

#### THE GREAT HALL

As some would say The Great Hall is the most iconic set and used through all the Harry Potter films. The Spectacular Hall includes the costumes of iconic students from each



Mrs Smith's Year 11 English group spent time learning how to write a tourist guide to somewhere they may visit with family. Following the lesson, they composed their own comprehensive guides.

Particular credit goes to Daisy M, Danya A, James L and Megan B, who all submitted great work.

Hopefully, it won't be too long before we can actually visit some of these places!

Not a fan of rides...  
Not to worry, there are plenty of other areas to explore during your stay if rides simply aren't your thing! Such as:

- Enchanted forest tree top quest: a fantastical outdoor adventure set within the, captivating woodland of the Enchanted Forest;
- Alton Towers Gardens: provide a stunning view of the park where you can discover the peaceful side to our attraction;
- Alton Towers Spa: fancy a chilled-out day? This is the perfect place for you! Our spa offers exquisite treatment - a tranquil oasis for you to unwind and refresh mind, body and soul;
- Extraordinary Golf: test your skills with two wacky 9-hole courses featuring obstacles themed around some of the famous Alton Towers rides;
- Splash Landings Waterpark: an oasis of fun for all the family, boasting hundreds of fantastic water features.

Prices

Adult Tickets:

- Gate Price: £55.00
- Online Price: from £41.00

**Thorpe Park - A conclusive guide to the park**

Thorpe Park is one of the UK's most adrenaline seeking theme parks. It offers a vast variety of heart-pounding attractions such as: The Screamer, Scudman - Inferno, Stealth, and the world famous Colossus. The ride and attractions. With restaurants and food outlets located all around the park this is a perfect day out for Teenagers and Older Kids. So long as you meet the height requirements.

**Thrilling tour was around**

The park itself contains many themed areas - each with their own custom sets and that adds something unique to the park. Many attractions here are sponsored or heavily influenced by the movies or other popular media such as their newest attraction, The Dark Mirror (a roller coaster). Personally, I am very excited to try this. I think it's supposed to add an unsettling sensation to make you feel like you're in a movie. Personally, I am very excited to try this. I think it's supposed to add an unsettling sensation to make you feel like you're in a movie. Personally, I am very excited to try this. I think it's supposed to add an unsettling sensation to make you feel like you're in a movie.

Excerpts from Mrs Smith's Y11 English Group Visitor Guides

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From live shows featuring jaw-dropping stunts to fun rides for both seas as well as thrill seekers, there's something for everyone to enjoy

- Magical Parades, Sparkling Shows**

Watch your favorite characters come to life as they parade through the park along with light and music to create a magical atmosphere.

**What's on?**

Enjoy extra special times at Disneyland Paris, with unforgettable seasonal events no matter the time of year, there's always something spectacular at Disneyland Paris! Take a look at some of the exciting events in the Disney Parks throughout 2021!

- Disney's Halloween Festival**

Everyone's in for an unforgettable time with spectacular activities for all ages taking around every corner.

- Disney's Enchanted Christmas**

Join your Disney favorites for magical festive celebrations. You're in for an unforgettable experience for the whole family to enjoy and make this Christmas one that you'll cherish for ever.

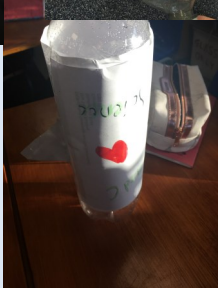
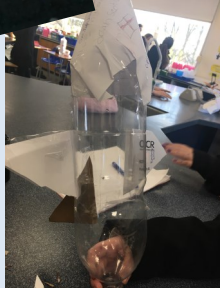
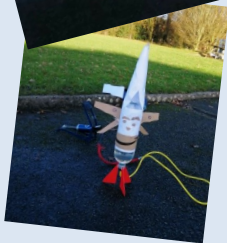
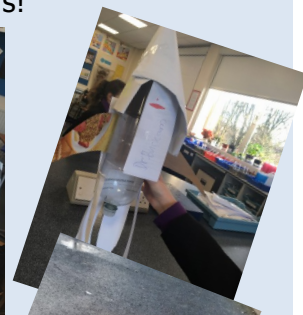
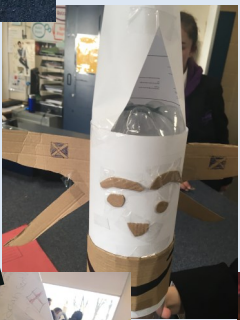
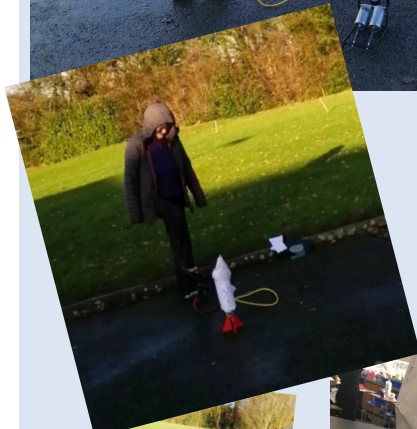
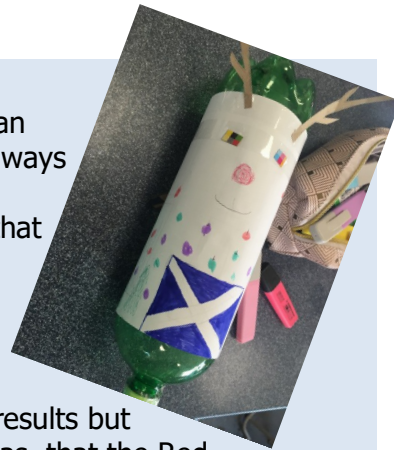
- Legends of the Force - A Celebration of Star Wars**



# Up, Up and Away!

Just as we broke up for Christmas, our Science teacher, Dr Buchan, treated her Year 7 class to an afternoon making water bottle rockets. This is always a popular exercise and students learn about the many different forces at play and the elements that make up the perfect rocket. After designing and creating their individual crafts, the class went outside to see whose rocket would perform best.

We are still waiting for an update on the actual results but secretly hoping, given it was just before Christmas, that the Red Nosed Reindeer Rocket had some magical flying powers!



# Legends and Myths

In their Drama lessons this term, Year 7 students studied Greek Theatre, with one lesson focusing on the myth, 'Theseus and the Minotaur'. They were asked to read the story, bullet point the key events and then produce a storyboard detailing the plot. The students produced a great variety of strong work.



# Job Joy

We would like to congratulate our former student, Ryan Harold, on his appointment by Franklyn Financial Management. He joined the company's Auto-Enrolment and Group Benefits Department as a Client Manager earlier this year.

Ryan left our Sixth Form in Summer 2020, after studying A Levels in Business, Psychology and History.

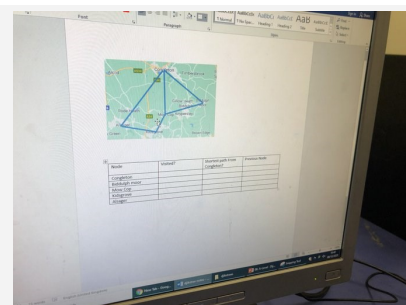


# From A to B

Back in December, our Year 13 Computer Scientists began building their own sat nav.

For the route calculations, they used something called *Dijkstra's Algorithm* to calculate the shortest distance between two points.

The algorithm exists in many variants but the original version goes right back to 1956 when it was first conceived by computer scientist, Edsger W. Dijkstra. He recounted that he designed the algorithm in twenty minutes whilst out on a shopping trip in Amsterdam!





Random act of kindness 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021

I tidied up my room without being told to because I'm always told to and I thought they'll be surprised if I do it without being told to and for them (they mean my mum and dad). I felt good that I did it and they were very happy but surprised that my room was clean.



14th-20th February 2021 was International Random Acts of Kindness Week and we challenged students to take it as an opportunity to think about others and how they could make a difference, even just in a small way. We were overwhelmed by the fantastic response.

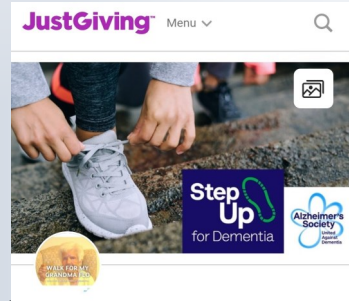
Students, parents, carers, neighbours, organisations and members of the public all sent in stories of the many different ways our students had found to make another person's life a little brighter or easier.

We had many messages and photos of delicious looking cakes and bakes delivered to very grateful care workers, neighbours and family members.

In addition we had stories of help around the home with every day activities along with gardening and big DIY projects.

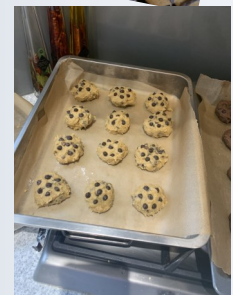
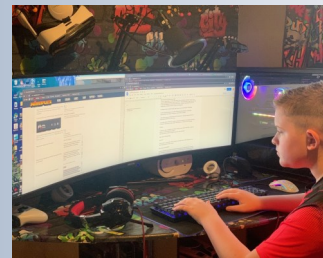
We were also delighted to hear about students using their own skills to help to others or undertaking vital fundraising for charity.

A huge WELL DONE to all of you, your thoughtful acts really succeeded in making life better for so many people.



Pay it forward

Over the past few weeks I have been paying it forward by making homemade meals for my family and helping out around the house by tidying my room and bringing in the dishes from the table. I did this to make my carer for my parents as I know I was doing a real job. I felt really good as I knew I was doing something good. My family thanks me after making tea and bringing in the dishes.



Hi Mr. name is Hollie Hughes and this week it is random act of kindness week so my school's also so I have decided to make you all a cake to say thanks for all the hard work you have put into your job. I hope you like it.





# Throwing the Result



Last term, our Year 13 Business Studies students learned about *Sensitivity Analysis* relating to investment decisions. We're informed that this all starts with throwing paper balls into a bin, a vital element of studying this topic!

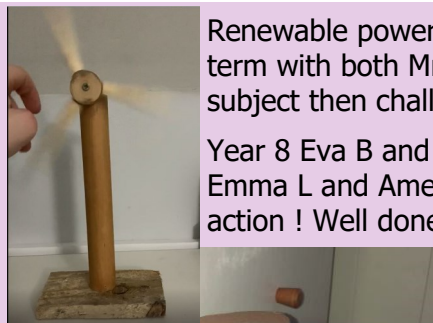
The students spent time learning about investment appraisal techniques (e.g. looking at the potential return on investments to inform business decision making). They investigated Sensitivity Analysis, which - rather than looking at one outcome - looks at the best case, expected and worst case outcomes in order to help with decision making.

The students throwing the paper balls had to decide on their best case out of three (ie. how many they would get in the bin), their expected and their worst case. Everyone else in the class also predicted the result for the three throwing the balls. Mr Davis gave "special thanks to Joe for aiding the example by deliberately missing all three!"

	JOE (1)	SM (3)	GRACE (2)
B	3	3	3
E	1	2	1
W	0	1	0

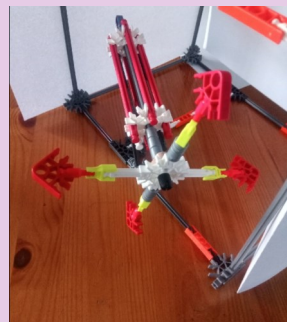
This practical demonstration of the principle then led the enlightened class into the theory work.

## Full of Wind



Renewable power was a popular theme in Science lessons for many of our students this term with both Mr Thomas' Year 8 and Mrs Fitzsimmons Year 9 students learning about the subject then challenged to create their own wind turbine models.

Year 8 Eva B and Jasmine L shared photos of their creations along with Year 9 Jessica L, Emma L and Amelia H. Oliver H went one step further and actually filmed his wind turbine in action ! Well done to all six of you, you have clearly shown that you understand the subject.



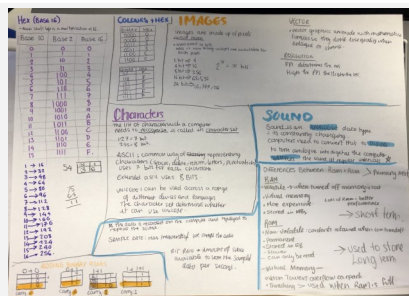
## Focus the Mind

Our ICT Teacher, Mr Davis, found a great way to help his Year 10 Computer Scientists put together effective condensed revision notes.

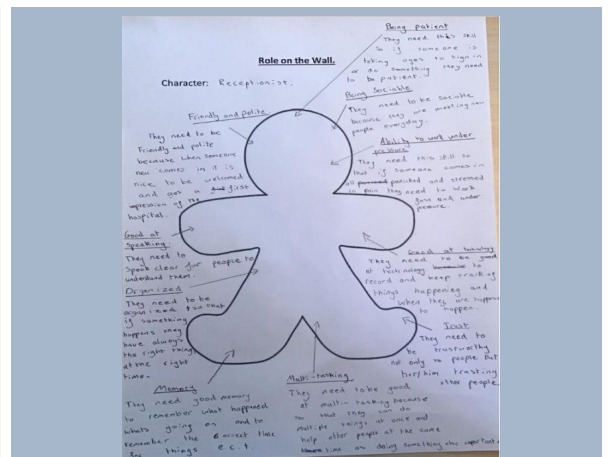
He deliberately gave the class just a few day's notice for a topic test but told them they could take in to the test one piece of A4 paper to help them.

The students loved this because they felt like they were "being allowed to cheat on a test". However, Mr Davis loved it even more because the class took the opportunity to produce some high-quality, condensed revision notes for the topic.

Mr Davis commented: "The students probably would not have done such a good job had I just asked them to make revision notes and not done the test. The extra focus worked well, helped them to really concentrate on making the notes concise and was a great lesson in creating effective revision aids."



## Role Up



In their first Drama lesson with Miss Frimston, Year 8 investigated how to develop a successful character. Drew S chose the character of a Receptionist in a hospital setting, exploring it here through the 'Role on the Wall' project.

Miss Frimston was very impressed with Drew's 'wonderfully detailed' work.





We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our new Year 7 students in to the CHS community in September.

The current Coronavirus restrictions have unfortunately meant that we may be unable to invite you in to school for our normal programme of Transition events. However, we have been lucky enough to spend time with the majority of you in previous years in our many primary school activities, so most of you will already be familiar with the school and many of the teaching and support teams.

We have lots of useful information to share with you on the September 2021 Transition pages of our website. This includes a series of short films to help familiarise our new starters with the CHS community and enable you to get a real flavour of what will be on offer when you start with us in a few short months.

There is also lots of information for your parents and carers too, to help them make sure you are ready to become our Year 7 Class of 2021.

Once again we received far more first choice applications from Year 6 students than we have Year 7 places so we apologise to those students and families who were not successful in securing a confirmed place for September 2021. You may choose to be added to the waiting list as we have found that places do become free between March and September. To do this, please contact your Local Authority (not CHS) and request to be added to the CHS Waiting List.

If you or your parents/carers have any questions about the Transition process, please email our Deputy Head, Mrs Darling: [ldarling@congletonhigh.com](mailto:ldarling@congletonhigh.com)

*The [September 2021 Transition](#) webpage can be found in the [Transfer from Primary School](#) section of the Starting at CHS area of [CongletonHigh.com](http://CongletonHigh.com)*

## The Art of Persuasion

During lockdown, Mrs Robson's Year 8 English group spent time working on their Persuasive Writing skills by composing compelling adverts to sell one of these items: a pair of wellington boots with holes in the toes, a toy car with no wheels, a cup with no handle or a phone with a broken screen. Great work, who could resist after reading these!

Buy this phone and you won't be disappointed. The incredible screen and powerful parts inside make it the best phone for you! This phone may have seen better days, however, think of it this way, it's two for the price of one and with just a little bit of work, this phone will be as good as new. The screen is especially made to not hurt your eyes and it is the perfect size to fit in your hand. This phone is a million times better than the others and is perfect to your needs.

Joe H

What's the point of wasting resources? Even with the minor damage inflicted upon it, this toy car is still a time passer for the smaller of children. It now has a reduced choking hazard, and it would be great to boost your child's imagination. Where did it lose its wheel? In a fight against dragon? Let your child develop and broaden their imagination!

Daisy A

Can you help to fulfil this cup's destiny? Give this cup a second chance of life. How would you like it if someone gave you up when you hurt yourself or you were sad? This cup may not have a handle, but you can have many lovely drinks out of this beautiful ceramic cup. Other people might say that this cup is past its best, but I have different opinions and you will too.

Nicole T

Are you looking to get your toenails done without feeling the coldness of the salon's air conditioning? Well then, I have the perfect product for you! These super stylish wellington boots with holes fitted perfectly for your toes keep your feet warm whilst still allowing you to have beautifully pampered toes. They come in a variety of colours that I am positive there would be an appealing colour for you. Some people may stare at these boots but who cares? You will have beautifully pampered toes and a nice new pair of chic boots. Soon, everyone will have them!

Caitlyn B

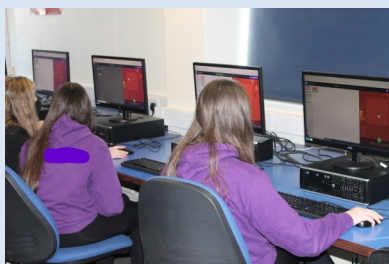
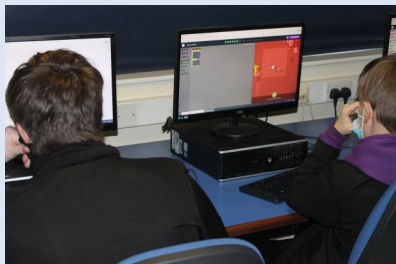
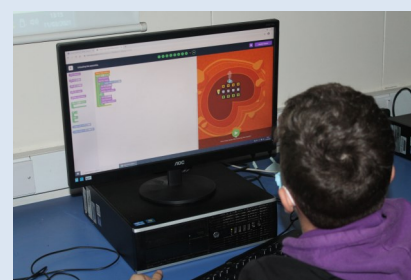


# Getting Back to Normal



Our Computer Science team have been delighted to see a seamless transition from students' remote study after Christmas to face-to-face IT classroom learning.

The Year 8 classes have been working on coding tasks looking at repeat loops and 'if statements'.



Meanwhile, Amy in the Year 13 Computer Science class has produced some great project work, developing a working stock management system, complete with barcode scanner.

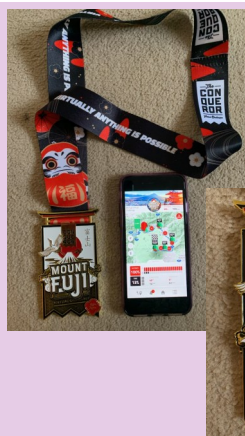
## Mistaken Identity?

Well done to everyone who took part in the Humanities Winston Churchill Gingerbread Man Lookalike contest. Lovely biscuits but think some may have confused Mr Churchill with someone else!



Inspired by the Rocky films, Year 9, Katelyn S, created this fabulous drawing, which her proud dad posted on his Instagram. It was picked up and shared on his own social media by an American artist who produces artwork for Rocky (Sylvester Stallone). Wow, well done, Katelyn!

## Student Success



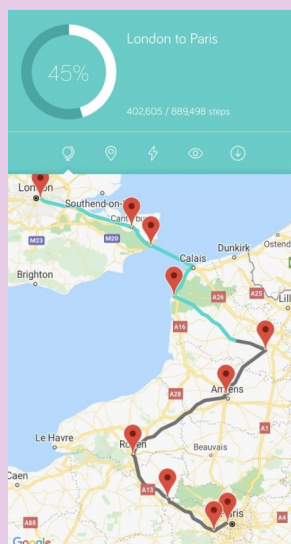
Year 8 student, Bethany S took up the Mount Fuji Virtual Challenge, walking a total of 46 miles, equivalent to the height of Mount Fuji, the highest volcano in Japan.

Bethany completed the challenge in a fantastic time of 14 days.

Congratulations to Year 8 student, Bethany S, who took to Facetime for her piano lessons last year. She also sat an exam and achieved the Grade 2 Piano Award with Distinction during the summer. Great work, Bethany!



From January, Elkie B, a Year 7 student took part in a London-Paris equivalent steps challenge with her gym. When we heard back in March about her achievement, she was walking up to 5 miles a day and had already covered 45 per cent of the distance. She was also meeting online via Zoom once a week with her fitness class for a group 'London to Rome' challenge.



### Footballer Kate thanks firm for sponsorship



An English Schools U15 footballer has thanked her sponsor for his support by presenting him with a framed, signed shirt.

Kate Oakley made the presentation outside Dermott Hughes' firm Westend Agri at Riverside Mill, Congleton.

The firm provided financial support for Kate's kit and travel costs in 2019/20.

Mr Hughes said: "I've lived in Congleton for 25 years and Kate went to The Quinta School with my children. She's a great player and we've watched her progress. We are pleased to support Kate's continued development in the English Schools Football Association football programme for girls."

"Kate also continues to play for the Stoke City FC U16s Regional Talent Centre despite the coronavirus restrictions and hopefully can follow in the footsteps of other young players who are progressing with the big clubs."

The English Schools Football Association posted the picture of Kate presenting the shirt to Mr Hughes online with the caption: "Kate Oakley presented her player sponsor, Westend Agri with their signed shirt as a thank you for supporting her England journey in 19/20."

(Submitted photos)

Our Year 11 England Football superstar, Kate O, appeared in the Congleton Chronicle when she thanked her 2019/20 travel and kit sponsor, Dermott Hughes of Westend Agri, with a framed signed shirt.

Kate continues to be a football face (and pair of feet!) of the future - Watch this space!



# Covid 19 Home Testing



Students have now been provided with Covid testing kits to enable them to be tested at home. These tests are relatively straightforward and the kits contain full instructions for use. Please ensure that each student is tested every Sunday and Wednesday, including throughout the holidays. Initial reminders will be sent out via satchel:one. You need only inform school of any POSITIVE test results.

If you require tests for other household members, you can obtain these from any of the local testing sites or online via <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

If you or your child show any symptoms of Covid-19, even if they are only mild, it is essential they are **not** sent into school. If you or any immediate family members test positive, your child **must** be kept at home and in isolation for a period of ten days, and you **must** inform the school immediately please. If outside school hours or at weekend, please email Mr Barlow directly on [jbarlow@congletonhigh.com](mailto:jbarlow@congletonhigh.com)

Any student isolating will be able to find all the relevant school work for their year group/courses on [satchel:one](#)

## Take Heart

After a single Science lesson with Mrs Figiel, learning about the heart, Year 7 Brooke S created a salt dough model and tried to label it (even though they hadn't got as far as that in the lesson).

Mrs Figiel was delighted and awarded her an R4 for *"an amazing attitude towards her independent learning. I'm very impressed."*

Great work, Brooke!



## The Sum of All Parts

During the week of 1st to 4th of February, twenty-three of our students from Years 9 to 11 took part in the national Intermediate Maths Challenge.

The Challenge is a sixty minute, multiple-choice competition, aimed at students across the UK. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

The problems on the Intermediate Maths Challenge are designed to make students think. Most are accessible, yet still challenge those with more experience.

Of our students who took part, six earned the Bronze certificate, two gained Silver and a further two achieved the top rated Gold certificate. These awards placed those students in the top 40%, 20% and 10% respectively of all entrants nationally.

Huge congratulations go to Elitsa R in Year 9 and Isaac C in Year 11 for qualifying for the follow-on Olympiad rounds of the competition, putting them in the top 600 entrants nationally!

Well done and thank you to all those students who took part.

## Drawing Comfort

Many of our students found that spending time being creative, drawing and crafting, really helped them to cope though lockdown. We loved seeing photos of the results of their efforts.

Year 8, Daisy A, shared some of her fantastic anime work - including a life-sized 5 foot cardboard figure - with her Art teacher, Mr Walsh

Year 9, Robyn H, created some wonderful artworks throughout lockdown using a variety of different media. What a great way to reuse old bottles and jars to make something useful and interesting.



United Kingdom Mathematics Trust			Intermediate Maths Challenge Certificates		
UKMT			UKMT		
Bronze		Silver		Gold	
Emma L Corey W Laura C Olivia K Daisy M Charlie M		Carmen W Ilsak de T		Elitsa R Isaac C	
Best in Year 9 Elitsa R		Best in Year 10 Ilsak de T		Best in Year 11 Isaac C	



# Real World Ready

At the beginning of February, five of our Sixth Form students: Melanie A, Amy J, Jacob H, Tom D and Justin H, took part in the annual Siemens Mock Assessment. The purpose of the event was to give students a 'taster' of what a real-life assessment would be like when participating in an Apprenticeship interview. The Mock Assessment Centre used activities conducted in genuine assessment centres within Siemens' apprenticeship programme. The students were split into two groups and they all took part in activities including practice assessment centre tests, team building tasks and speed interviews. They were also able to meet current Apprentices to find out more about the programme. The day was a great success and each of the students found the opportunity and all of the activities really useful, creating a strong foundation for their future.

# SIEMENS

Following events like this, we are used to receiving positive feedback from employers and training providers about our students, but we were particularly delighted to learn that Melanie had impressed the Siemens team so much that she had received special recognition from the company and is to be recommended to the Siemens Human Resources Team. In an email sent to her by a member of the Assessment Team, she was given the good news about the special recognition and congratulated: *"Well done, you were brilliant!"*

## SnowBOT Robots

Never one to miss a teaching and learning opportunity, as soon as the first few flakes started to fall in January, our Science teacher, Mr Holmes, set his Key Stage 3 students a SnowBOT Challenge: *Make a robot from snow, name it and state its primary function.*

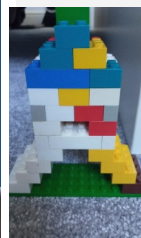
A whole host of wonderful creations followed, with a wide variety of imaginative and incredible functions. Meet Beebop, Snowman Building Bot, Erni, Trampoline instructor, Hot Chocbot, Frostbite, Mr Kit, Marshbot, Steve, Snowface, Bob, Snowmando, Collin, Bob 2 and Snow Turret.



## An Eyeful of Towers

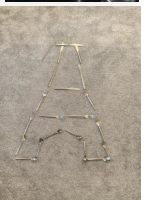
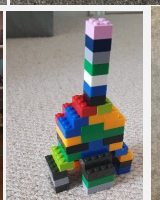
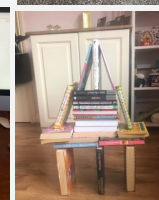
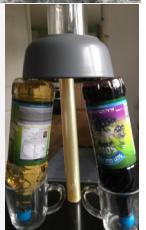
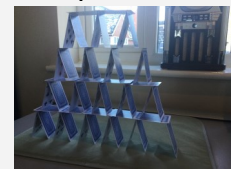


If you've ever wondered how many ways there are to reconstruct the Eiffel Tower, our Year 8 MFL students can help



Following their online Les Pays lesson in February, they were challenged with creating their own 2D or 3D version of the iconic Paris landmark.

Cutlery, pencils, bottles, lego - nothing was left out in the quest to create a Parisian masterpiece!



## Buy, Sell or 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.



# No Half Measures

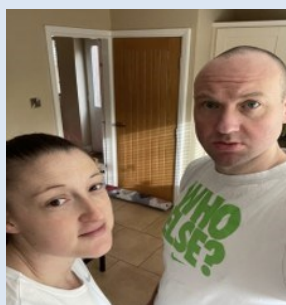
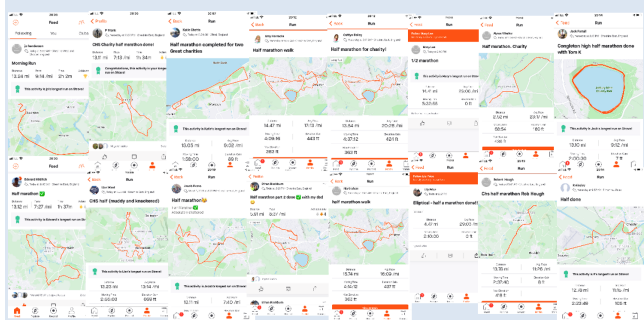
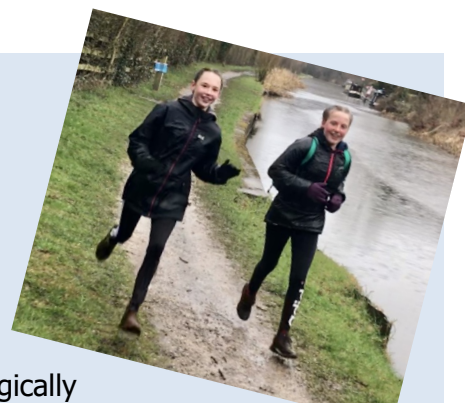
Sunday 14th March marked the culmination of weeks of preparation and training by our students, staff and PE Team. The day of the CHS Half Marathon had finally arrived!

The event was much more than just a physical challenge, it was devised to help the school raise much needed funds for two charities - Brake and The British Heart Foundation - in memory of Georgia and Lucy, two CHS students who both tragically passed away last summer.

We were overwhelmed by the fantastic response from those wanting to take part and a Strava group was set up to help everyone train and prepare together.

The PE Team had set an initial fundraising total of £500 but this was very quickly reached and soon overtaken with donations flooding in from all around. When the final contributions were counted, the team was delighted to announce that a wonderful £2,270 had been collected!

**Great work,  
Team CHS!**



## Textiles Success

Keen to keep up their design and sewing skills in lockdown, many of our students have been creating wonderful products over the last few months.

Year 9, Jessica R, recycled a pair of trousers to make a hat. Textiles teacher, Mrs Paling Sparkes, was very impressed: "*Working with a check pattern is enough to challenge even a professional seamstress, but Jessica handled it well, making a quality item.*"



Two other Year 9 students, both planning to develop their skills further by opting to study Fashion and Textiles in Key Stage Four, also shared some of their work.

Jessica R demonstrated good skills, producing a fabulous tote bag, despite having to tackle material that was very slippery and difficult to control. She is also supplementing her classroom knowledge by watching programmes such as 'The Great Sewing Bee' and 'Next in Fashion' on Netflix, to learn and understand more about the subject. The bag she created was inspired by one of these programmes.

Along with constructing this stylish top, Naomh M has also started to put together a sketchbook, which is a strong start as this is exactly how Textiles students work in Key Stage 4.

It was great to see students who are passionate about the subject being creative to help them through lockdown.

Excellent attitude to learning, girls.





# By Design

In February, DT teacher Mrs Paling Sparkes set her Key Stage Three students a Prototyping project. The challenge was based on a competition to design a product that could be sold in the shop at the Design Museum in London.

Students were briefed to design a product for adults, young people or families that followed three rules:

- The product must improve someone's everyday life.
- The product must be sustainable/eco-friendly and recyclable.
- The price of the final product should be no more than £10.00.

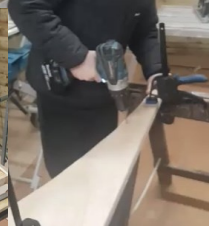
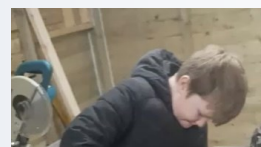
The students really relished the challenge to get creative and there was a wonderful array of products produced.

Jack N in Year 7 really excelled, with three different prototypes for a cutting board for the elderly. Mrs Paling Sparkes was very impressed and commented: *"This work could be entered for GCSE! Well done, Jack, a really thoughtful piece of work with genuine benefits for many people."*

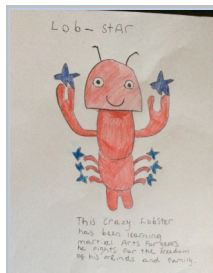
Year 7, Zack B, took his prototyping project to the next level, designing a skateboard ramp and using power tools to construct it!

Year 8, Marcia M, responded to the challenge with some lovely

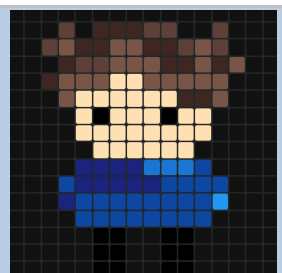
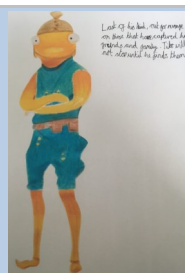
floral creations crafted from drinks cans. A great way to give a new lease of life to what was once 'rubbish', creating a really decorative product.



## All Fun and Games

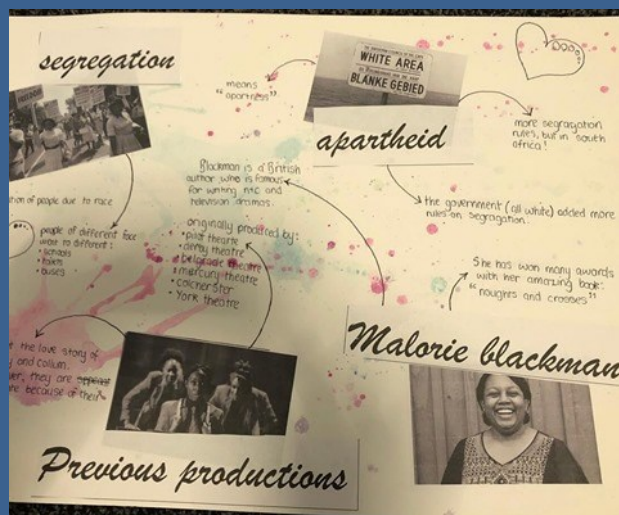


At the beginning of term, Key Stage Three ICT students were investigating the computer games industry. Our ICT team linked this work to the BAFTA Young Games Designer competition <http://ygd.bafta.org> and this led to the creation of some great game characters, with a wide range of special powers and in-depth back stories from the students.



## Dramatic Production

Great work by Year 9 student, Corey, in Miss Frimston's Drama class, who produced this detailed creative research task as part of the year group's module on Malorie Blackman's novel, *Noughts and Crosses*.



## A Winning Formula

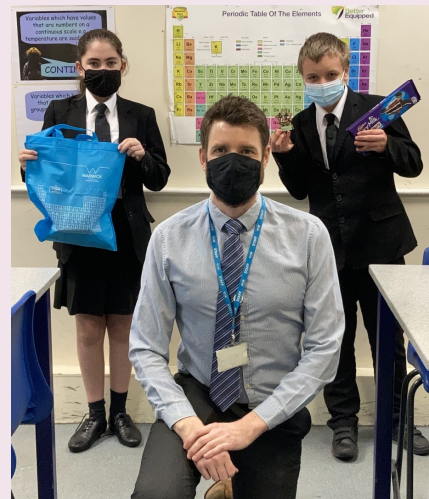
Congratulations to the three Year 8 winners of Mr Holmes' Key Stage 3 British Science Week Kahoots quiz.

The competitors were tested on a wide range of general Science knowledge covering topics including planets, the human body, elements and scientific processes.

David M took first place with 21,184 points, second was Barney M with 18,561 and third was Charlotte F with 18,451.

David won chocolate and a trophy, with a science goodie bag going to both Barney and Charlotte.

Well done to all the students who took part.





In February 2020, four of our now Year 10 students took part in the AO Big Bang Green Logistics Challenge. This was a competition *'calling on young minds in Cheshire and Staffordshire to help reduce our carbon footprint.'*

Schools across the region were challenged to design an environmentally friendly vehicle for the AO logistics team. Students in Years 9, 10 and 12 were encouraged to research and create a new vehicle to reduce, or even eliminate, carbon emissions from the AO delivery fleet.

Then in Year 9, Alexander J, Izsak, Ben D and Myles S all took part in the challenge, developing a viable concept, then submitting their proposals online for consideration by the AO panel. The teams were judged on their Communication, Scientific Investigation, Visual Presentation and Creativity/Innovation, with marks awarded for each category.

Once all the entries were submitted and judged, a presentation event was planned for March 2020 but, as we all now know, things were set to change drastically and everything came to a standstill, including the presentation.



Although disappointed that the original event was postponed, the CHS team was pleased to receive the announcement earlier this year that the presentation event would go ahead online almost a whole year later. They were even more thrilled when they learned that they had actually WON the competition, scoring a phenomenal 46 marks out of a possible 50!

The judges gave some glowing feedback *"Great research and analysis of our products for sale - you went the extra mile for that! Simple but effective idea, which can actually be implemented relatively quickly. Your main idea is right on point with new initiatives, not only in AO but the industry as a whole."*

The winning team received Amazon Fire 7 tablets and will each get to name one of the four AO electric charge points located in Potters Bar and Haywood.

We are delighted that the boys were finally able to receive the recognition they deserve for all their hard work and effort working on this project.



## Fabric of Life



Covid 19 has once again meant that our DT team has had to change their usual Key Stage 3 projects. Whilst careful not to limit students' creativity, the team is adapting to the social distancing rules and keeping the range of equipment that requires sanitising to a minimum.

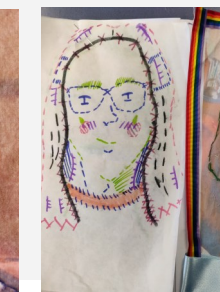
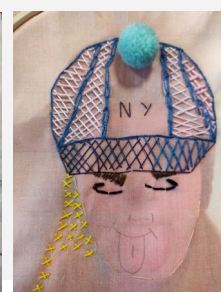
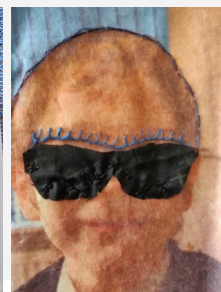
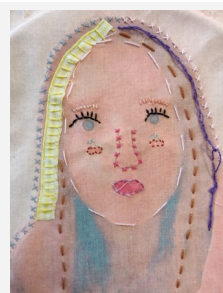
In Textiles, students studied portraiture and the 'story' that a picture tells us as the viewer. Students took photos of themselves, which were printed onto fabric using Sublimation Printing. These images were then worked into using a range of embroidery techniques.

Textiles teacher, Mrs Paling Sparkes, was very pleased with the results from this project and, from the feedback received, the students enjoyed the work too.

Joe: *"This work makes you calm down."*

Daniel: *"You need to use patience when threading a needle."*

Alice: *"Do not rush and learn lots of stitches to make your portrait effective."*



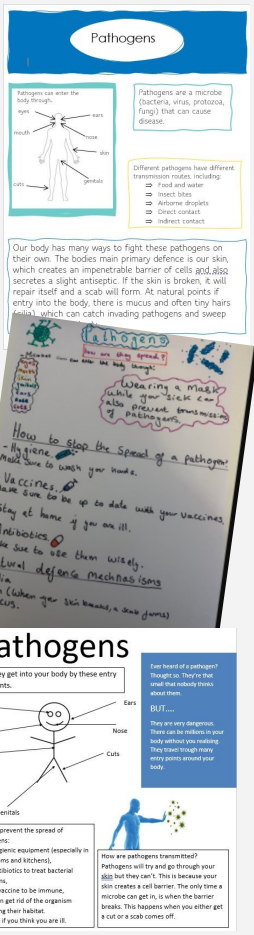




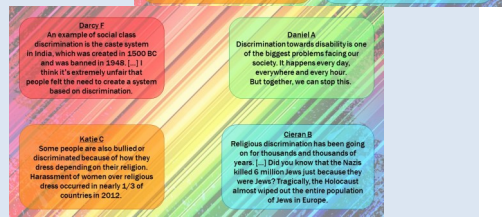
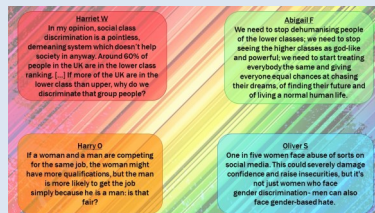


# Coughs and Sneezes... Considering Discrimination

Mrs Fitzsimmons set some very topical work for her Year 9 Science groups, investigating pathogens and transmission of disease and how to prevent it. They were then challenged to create a poster to share the information. Great work!



The issue of discrimination has been addressed by a number of year groups in their English lessons this term. Mrs Robson's Year 8 group composed some compelling speeches tackling discrimination.



I smashed the glass.

My foot cracked down onto it with a force that caused it to spider web satisfyingly under my shoes. I did it again, ignoring the shards that flew everywhere as it finally caved in under the force. If any managed to injure my bare legs, I couldn't feel it – all I could feel was the elation that I was somehow fighting back as the screams and sirens and fires raged all around me in the surge of anger which provoked us.

In Year 9, students have been studying *The Hate you Give*, by Angie Thomas, which follows a young girl as she grapples with racism in her poor American neighbourhood.

The novel invites the reader to think further about civil rights and the Black Lives Matter movement. The students were asked to produce a piece of creative writing based on a section of the novel, where the characters find themselves in the middle of a protest following the acquittal of a police officer who had shot an unarmed black teenager.

I was working late at my father's shop that night; it had been vandalized the night before (although, we had written 'black owned' on the two front windows. they ended up on the floor). We quickly learnt our lesson. I was at the front desk picking up the last of the broken glass from the windows, my whole body was seething with sweat. I started to hear layers of screeching cars, loud chants and screaming shop owners ring in my ears. I had heard the news of the grand jury decision and was dying to protest with the rest of the garden, I knew just as much as the rest of them that if we don't do something now, everything will just get worse. I mean, how many dead black people killed by racist white cops does it take for people to realize the brutality that is happening with some cops. But my father wouldn't let me go. But it was not long before the chants for Khalil and the unity of my neighbors got me into a frenzy of rage.

The class all did a fabulous job of the assessed piece, with Ivy BH and Abbi R producing some stand-out pieces.

## Flipping Great Success

To celebrate Pancake Day 2021, our DT Food Technology teacher, Mrs Thope, launched a pancake competition with a difference. Not only were budding chefs able to compete to win a prize with their pancake skills, our students with a flair for design and engineering were also able to flex their creative muscles and be in with an equal chance of winning.

We asked the students to choose from one of two challenges

Challenge A, the Chef Challenge, to design and make a creative sweet or savoury pancake using at least two fruits or vegetables in its design. Marks were awarded for creativity and imagination, promoting healthy eating, and incorporating a variety of skills including pouring, mixing and chopping.

Or Challenge B, which was the Design and Engineering Challenge, to design and make a 3D pancake object or scene using either sweet or savoury pancakes. Marks were awarded for creativity and imagination, structure and design, and use of colour and pattern.

We received so many entries, making it extremely difficult for the judges, who got hungrier with every photo they saw! Eventually a decision was reached.

In Challenge A, 1st was Y10 Jessica J for a special diet pancake recipe, including fruit, oats, almond milk and honey. 2nd was Y7 Holly M for her ladybird made with milkshake powder for colour and 3rd place went to Y7 Aston M for his fabulous fruit faces

In Challenge B, 1st was Y7 Evie F for her Burger and Chips, 2nd was Y8 Amelia G for her Celebration of the NHS and 3rd was awarded to Y7 Caitlin L for her Beehive Structure

1st prize was a £15 Amazon voucher, 2nd prize a £10 voucher and 3rd prize was an Easter egg. Everyone else who took part also received a runners-up prize. Well done to all the competitors, it was a really hard decision for the DT team.

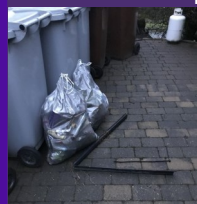
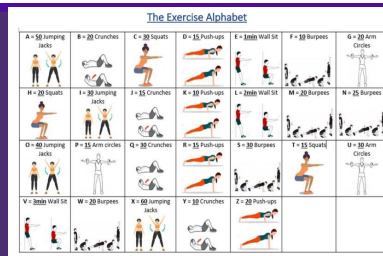




# A Good Fit

With so many of us staying at home, it has often been hard in lockdown, particularly while home schooling, to stay active and keep motivated. Fortunately, our dedicated PE Team were on hand to try to help our students with lots of suggestions to add a bit of exercise to the day and break up the online lessons.

The team helped to give students (and often parents, carers and staff) a fitness focus, with a number of challenges that they could fit easily into the day.



The 100k Challenge set students a target of covering 100 kilometres, walking or running, in 4 weeks. They could do this either on their own or, where possible and Covid secure, with a partner. To share their progress and to help keep them motivated, students were able to download the Strava app and join the CHS Running Group. One student, Lottie H combined her walks with a litter pick, managing to collect two full rubbish bags on her travels!



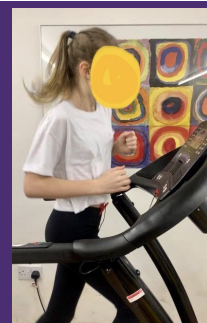
The 'Exercise Alphabet' Challenge comprised 26 different exercise suggestions that could be attempted in one go (by the very fit) or broken up throughout the day. Lots of our students enjoyed this challenge as it offered plenty of variety without too much of one thing.



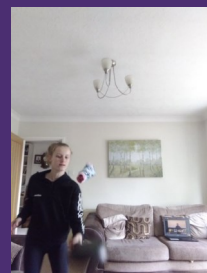
'Chance to Shine' gave students a range of different mini-challenges, that were suited to all abilities and gave them each a 'chance to shine'.

The final challenge was the CHS Half Marathon and you can read all about this on page 11.

In addition to the challenges set, the PE Team and the students remaining in school held live online lessons with the students schooling at home. It was a rare opportunity for a little bit of normality, with everyone working together.



Rank	Athlete	Distance	Runs	Longest	Avg. Pace	Dist. Gain
1	 Lily Pyle	214.1 km	49	14.3 km	11:05/km	1.3 km
2	 Dylan Doyle	213.9 km	22	12.8 km	10:26/km	776 m
3	 Julie Chertea	190.5 km	27	10.2 km	10:34/km	138 m
4	 Jacob Evans	186.7 km	20	15.0 km	10:48/km	871 m
5	 Frank Frenk	147.6 km	18	14.8 km	10:44/km	480 m
6	 Henderson	112.5 km	20	10.0 km	10:32/km	804 m
7	 Katelyn Baggley	111.7 km	19	10.0 km	10:41/km	427 m
8	 Ethan Blackburn	109.9 km	13	13.3 km	10:57/km	646 m
9	 Alex Mahoney	103.4 km	20	9.5 km	10:21/km	287 m
10	 Samuel Blazynski	102.8 km	18	13.0 km	10:27/km	632 m



## 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 **@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 Cloud School (formerly Progresso) and will receive log in details when their child starts in Year 7. Any queries or problems should be referred to Mrs Isherwood, via email: [kisherwood@congletonhigh.com](mailto:kisherwood@congletonhigh.com) or telephone: 01260 730123.