



Newsletter

Issue 28: June to July 2021

Achieving Success Together

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An awesome, spectacular, amazebeans day! *Turn to page 4*



Welcome

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year. I am incredibly proud of the way our students and staff have responded to the many challenges this year has presented. This newsletter celebrates some of what has been achieved, but so much more has happened which is not recorded here. There have been multiple acts of kindness, care shown within the Congleton community and beyond, and a 'togetherness' that has been remarkable. The way our students, staff and families have adapted to change at such short notice has been exemplary and truly shows how strong our school community is.

Although some of our usual end of term events had to be postponed, over the following pages you will see that our school has remained a vibrant place to learn and students have been actively involved in a range of activities. In particular, I was delighted that the whole school could come together for our annual Sports Day a few weeks ago, where cheering from the crowd and broken school records put smiles on all of our faces.

As we reach the end of another year, we are saying goodbye to Ms Bentley (Science), Mrs Paling-Sparkes (DT), Mrs Robson (English), Miss Frimston (Drama), Miss Stacey (MFL), Miss Hark (Geography), Mrs Lycett-Smith (Art), Mr McHale (Teaching Assistant) and Mrs Vernon (Teaching Assistant). Whilst some of these staff have only been with us for a short time covering colleagues on maternity leave, others have been with us for many years and have made significant contributions to the school and student outcomes. I would like to express my immense gratitude to them and wish them every success for the future, both professionally and personally.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank colleagues and students this year for collectively making this year work. It has taken a huge amount of hard work and dedication, but we have made it through. I also want to thank our families for the encouragement and support you have shown throughout the year. I hope all of you have an enjoyable summer break and find time to relax and refresh ready for the new school year in September.

Mr Barlow
Headteacher



Message from our Chair of Governors

As we approach the end of another academic year disrupted by the unwanted presence of Covid, we look forward to next September and a new school year, hopefully free from many of the constraints that Covid has visited upon us. The school staff have strived hard to make Congleton High a safe place during the pandemic and they very much welcome the tremendous support they have received from parents and carers - thank you.

We wish our departing Year 11 and Year 13 students the very best of luck as they embark on the next leg of their journeys. We are pleased that so many of our Year 11 students have chosen to continue their studies with us in our Sixth Form, taking advantage of the wide range of courses available to them.

A special welcome to all of our new Year 7 students, who will be joining us next September from primary schools across the area. Once again we are oversubscribed this September, a measure of the growing popularity of our school, and we will continue to adapt our expanding school to ensure that all of our students receive the highest quality teaching, care and enrichment opportunities.

Governors have given their approval for a programme of new school investment over the summer, which will see some essential improvements to the fabric of the school together with measures to enhance the Sixth Form provision.

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 the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Claire Gritton, by email at:

governorsclerk@thelearningalliance.co.uk

Mr Rich Benson
CHS Chair of Governors



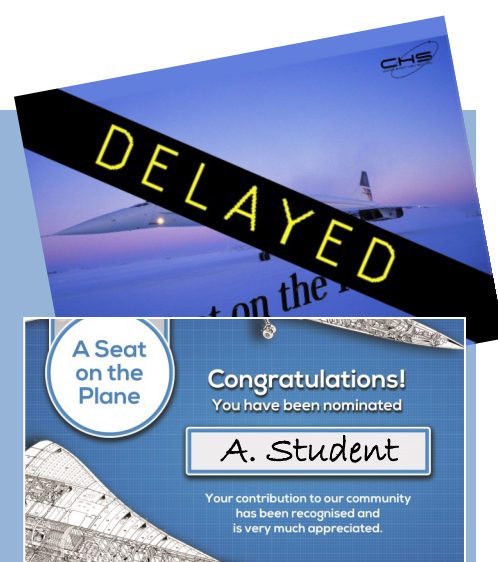
Flight delayed!

Unfortunately, A Seat on the Plane, our special recognition trip planned for this term, has become another Covid casualty. We have been advised not to run any trips outside the Cheshire East area. Luckily, this is only temporary and the 'flight' just delayed until we get the go-ahead.

This does, however, mean that you can keep nominating any of our remarkable students. We have heard so many wonderful stories already and below are just a few we have received recently:

- Mrs Salt, our Assistant Headteacher, nominated Year 7, Elsie W, following a glowing report from a trainee teacher on placement who found Elsie to be "a fantastic example of the ethos and values of the school, with such a positive contribution - a shining example!"
- Year 9, Caitlin PH, and Year 10, Jake T, were nominated by Caitlin's Grandma "for their super effort in raising over £300 for Cancer research UK with a sponsored bike ride."
- Year 12, Aaron O, was put forward by Mr and Mrs Boon, who are both in their 70s and really appreciate all of Aaron's help with their garden, their car and throughout the pandemic
- Year 11, Bobbi CY, was nominated by her grandparents for helping them in so many ways, not least with "her fantastic sense of humour", which has brought them lots of fun and laughter. She's also educated them on the world of Marvel films, greatly enhancing their quizzing knowledge!
- Matthew H in Year 11 was nominated by a neighbour for being "a lovely, caring young man" who is "well spoken and polite". The neighbour has appreciated that Matthew has taken time to chat with them throughout lockdown and that he has also helped out his grandparents greatly.

If you would like to nominate one of our students for being 'remarkable'; a kind act, helping out, success in their hobby/sport, personal achievement, commitment to schoolwork or part-time job etc, there is still time. Please email the details to Mr Barlow: jbarlow@congletonhigh.com



Collecting exam results

This year, A Level Results Day is Tuesday 10th August and GCSE Results Day on Thursday 12th August. Students will be able to collect their results in person from the Main Hall between 9:00am and 11:00am.

If you are unable to collect your results, you may receive them by post (please send a stamped, addressed envelope to our Exams Officer, Mrs Isherwood.) NB: The results will be posted out to you on the actual Results Day, no earlier.

You may also ask someone else to collect your results for you but you must send the name of this person, in advance, to Mrs Isherwood:

(kisherwood@congletonhigh.com) and proof of identity must be shown by the person collecting on Results Day.

Please follow all required Covid safety guidance on the day.

A smash hit for CHS

We would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to our wonderful Parent Teacher group, Parents in Partnership (PiP), who have funded four fantastic outdoor table tennis tables. The tables are located between the Sports Hall and our MFL/ Performing Arts block and have been a great success with students and staff since they were delivered at the end of term.

Everyone is welcome to use this great facility - just as soon as we can get Mr Barlow to hand over his bat!

Positive Covid tests

We have provided all students and staff with Lateral Flow Tests to use at home and ask that they test twice weekly in term time, ideally Sunday night/Monday morning and Wednesday night/Thursday morning.

If the test is positive, please do NOT send your child in to school. Notify Mr Barlow by email: jbarlow@congletonhigh.com straight away and arrange for your child to have a PCR test to confirm the diagnosis. If this is also positive, please inform Mr Barlow and follow the latest [Government guidance](#) on what to do next.

All students will be required to take two tests in school at the beginning of next term, one before they start back and one after they return. Emails will be sent to parents/carers with an appointment date and time for their child to attend.



An awesome, spectacular, amazebeans day!



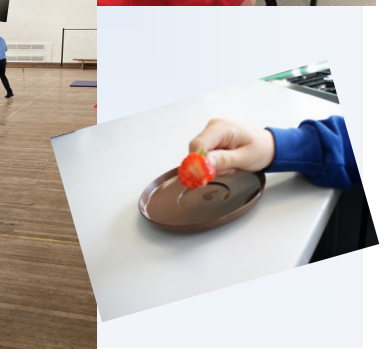
In normal years, we are able to invite all of our new Year 7 intake in to CHS at the end of the summer term to spend a full day with us, getting to know their new classmates and teachers, and starting to find their way around school. However, Covid has presented us with some big challenges in the last few years and we were unable to hold our New Intake Day at all in 2020



This year, however, we were determined to find a way to invite our new Year 7 that would keep everyone safe but would mean that these children did not miss out on this fabulous opportunity. Rather than the whole year group visit on the same day, we decide to run a full week of New Intake Days, inviting certain primary schools on each day.



On Monday 28th June, we were joined by Astbury St Marys, Buglawton and Smallwood. On Tuesday, a large group of pupils from Quinta came along. Wednesday was Saint Mary's, Scholar Green, Thursfield, Woodcocks' Well and Woodhouse. Castle, Daven, Havannah, Marfields and Mossley joined us on Thursday and Black Firs came along on Friday. 200 children took part in thirty sessions put on by the CHS teams from Art, DT, English, Humanities, ICT, Maths, Modern Foreign Languages, PE, Performing Arts, Science and Social Sciences.





Along with a range of taster lessons in a variety of subjects, the groups were challenged to plan and write an "About Me" letter to our Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Darling. This gave the children the chance to tell us all about themselves; their likes and dislikes, favourite subjects, their family and friends, their hobbies and pastimes etc., really helping us all get to know the year group ready for when they start full time as the new CHS Year 7 in September 2021!

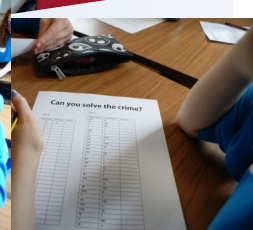
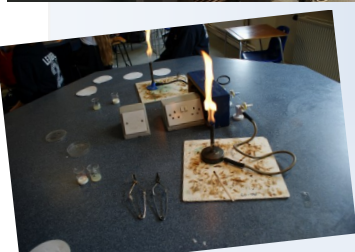
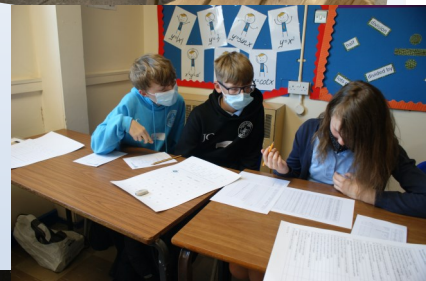


At the end of each day, every pupil was awarded an attendance certificate and a special ice cream or ice lolly treat. We were delighted that we were finally able to welcome the year group into school and that they all enjoyed the opportunity. We heard some great feedback from them and a list of their very creative descriptions of their new intake days can be seen opposite!

Mrs Figiel, who organised and oversaw the days and will be the year group's Guidance Team Leader throughout their time at CHS, commented:

"The children participated in a range of different sessions from invisible writing in Science to murder mysteries in Maths! From the conversations we had with them, they have loved their high school experience and are eager to start at CHS in September. Our staff have also commented on the politeness and enthusiasm shown by the pupils."

"An amazing start and we are looking forward to seeing them all in September!"



A breath of fresh air



Our students have had some fabulous opportunities in Music this term. They have had fun and made outstanding progress during these sessions

We have also started a new **Saxophone, Flute and Clarinet Club** that gives Year 7 and Year 8 students the opportunity to learn in a group setting. Instruments are provided by CHS and enable the students to develop new skills and discover the benefits of playing a musical instrument. They have been able to sample and develop initial instrumental skills with a view to taking up lessons, as there will be more opportunities with a new Woodwind Instrumental Teacher.

The afterschool club, for Year 7 and Year 8 students, takes place each Wednesday from 3-4pm in room E0:15.

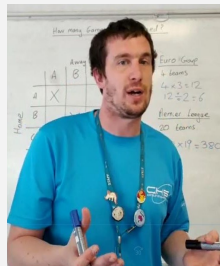


Mr Holt's maths movies

Our Maths teacher, Mr Holt, has become somewhat of a media sensation with his series of "How to" Maths videos that we have been sharing to YouTube and on our social media.

They've proved to be really successful, not just with students, but also with parents, carers and the general public, who have all welcomed Mr Holt's "Maths Hacks"!

If you've not yet seen any of these and are keen to find out when half a pizza is better than a whole one, how to easily spot if a number is divisible by three, your chances of winning the lottery and many more answers to everyday Maths problems, visit our YouTube Channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCongletonHigh>. You can thank us later!



Buy, sell, donate

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

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

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



Free Office software

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

You're fired!

Our Year 8 Art students have been working with their teacher, Mr Walsh, this term to create a whole family of Dragons.

Working in stages, they started by designing and crafting the heads from clay. They then followed this by making the bodies and wings, firing and painting them.



Real life Repair Shop

If you're passing through Eaton, you can't help but notice their newly restored village sign.

It's all thanks to the wonderful research, repair and restoration skills of our DT Technician, Mr Naish, who was commissioned to bring the sign back to its original condition.

Mr Naish carefully stripped back the layers of paint, whilst taking careful note of the original colours used.

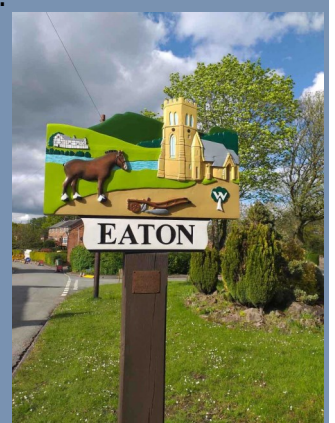
He repaired the sign, reinforcing it and reconstructing parts that had been lost over time, including one of the horse's ears and its mane.

After priming, he replicated the original paint tones as closely as possible and then sealed with a few layers of weatherproof varnish.

The results really do speak for themselves and will be enjoyed by villagers and passers by for many more years to come.



Before and after



Information for our new Year 7 starters

We are excited to welcome our new Year 7 cohort on Thursday 2nd September. We were so impressed by your behaviour and enthusiasm during our Intake week in July and have thoroughly enjoyed reading all of the letters that you wrote to our Deputy Head, Mrs Darling, to tell us about yourselves. Each one of you will be receiving a personal reply from Mrs Darling and this will be sent to your parent/carer's email address.



We hope that you are also able to join us for our New Starters Summer School but, if not, then we look forward to welcoming you in September.

At the start of the new school year, please arrive at CHS between 8.20-8.35am on **Thursday 2nd September** and go straight to the main hall ready for your first official assembly as Year 7. Staff will be on the front gates to welcome you and help you find your way. Don't forget to bring a packed lunch on Thursday and any medication that you may need too. You won't need to bring your PE kit on this day.

NB. All Year 7 students will be required to come in to school on Wednesday 1st September for a Covid Lateral Flow Test. The specific appointment time for each child will be emailed out to parents/carers in advance.

Parents and carers: You should have received an email with our Induction Pack attached, which has some important documents for you to complete via Microsoft Forms. If you have **not** received this, please check your 'junk' inbox and then contact CHS main reception by telephone: 01260 730123 or email: enquiries@congletonhigh.com.

There is also a copy of all Transition information on our website on the [September 2021 Transition](#) page in Starting at CHS/Transfer from Primary School.



Challenging our new Year 7 and new Year 8 students

Our Science team is challenging our September 2021 Year 7 and Year 8 students to take part in year group challenges over the summer.



The big bug hunt 2021

Discover what is right at your feet!

Our new Year 7 can take part in a big summer bug hunt, to investigate where bugs are found in their local area/ garden,

make their own bug traps, log all the different creatures they find, take photos of their traps and the bugs they have caught and put together a short report or produce a poster of the results.

This challenge will help them develop their investigation and data collecting skills (and have some outdoor fun)!

The task for our new Year 8 students is to build a rubber band powered vehicle, and the creators of the best designs could be chosen to represent our school in the national Faraday competition and be in with a chance of winning £1,000 for STEM activities at CHS AND personal prizes too!

All the details and lots of advice and information on both these challenges can be found in the [News](#) section of CongletonHigh.com

Good luck, everyone!

NATIONAL FARADAY CHALLENGE YEAR 8 COMPETITION

Summer mission: to create a 'rubber band powered vehicle', such as a boat, car, bike, plane.

The challenge involves team-work, creative thinking, mathematical skills, practical application and construction.

Do you think you have what it takes?

3 teams from those entries will be invited to a 4-week engineering challenge.

The winners from this will then be entered to take part in the National Faraday competition!

The winners of each Faraday Challenge Day will win prizes for themselves and a trophy for their school and gain a place on the national league table. The top teams from across the UK will get to go through to the National Final at the end of the season to compete for a cash prize of up to £1,000 for their school to spend on STEM activities.

WIN GREAT PRIZES!!

GET INVOLVED TODAY - CONTACT US THROUGH SATCHEL ONE AND WE WILL REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AND WILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH KEY INFORMATION.

Celebrating student success

Once again, we are delighted to be able to share so many stories of our students' continued sporting success outside school.

Year 11 **Kate O** has scored a two year contract with [Liverpool FC Women](#) U21s. Kate spent seven years at Stoke FC and was awarded the Liverpool contract following a recent successful trial. She enjoyed great success playing for the England Schools Football Association, which saw her taking part in matches all over the country and also an overseas training camp. Despite training four nights a week in Liverpool, Kate is determined to continue her studies in our Sixth Form after summer.

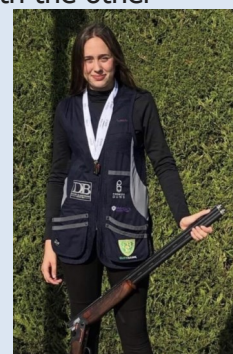
Herbie J in Year 9 was delighted to hear in May that Manchester City Academy had renewed his contract for a further two years, with an opportunity to be part of their full-time education programme, Herbie's mum commented: "Herbie is buzzing! He's been working very hard to look after his health and wellbeing. We are extremely proud of his achievements and attitude to his success."

Year 11, **Thomas W**, and his Burscough Youth FC team mates, won the Junior Premier League U16s national final at Gloucester City at the beginning on July. A very proud moment, having come out top against the likes of Kidderminster Harriers, Tranmere Rovers, AFC Fylde, York City and Chester etc. To top it off, Thomas has also won the JPL One League Title North West, U17s Merseyside and Warrington Premier League and the U17s President Cup this season!

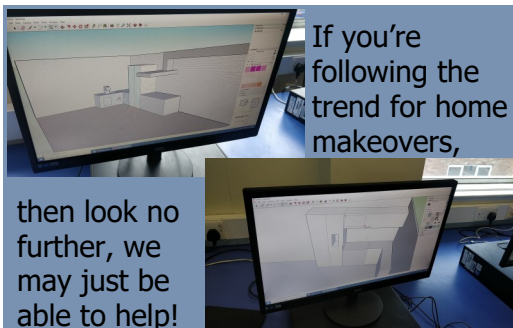
It's not all about the football at CHS though, we also have two students who are seeing great success with clay pigeon shooting.

Year 7, **Fern L**, took part in the CPSA (Clay Pigeon Shooting Association) English Open Competition at Barbury Shooting Ground in May. She was shooting in the Colts Ladies Section (up to age 16) and achieved second place, only 6 behind the winner. Fern was presented with a medal along with the other winners on the day. She shoots regular CPSA competitions and the week previous to the English Open, shot a personal best of 70/100 at Garlands Shooting Ground.

We have regularly brought you news of Year 9, **Isabel C**'s ongoing success with skeet shooting and she now has a chance to shoot for the national team. After submitting her five best shooting scores from three different grounds for the last two years, she made it to the short list of the best fifteen in her category and was invited to take part in the England Team selection shoots in June and at the end of July! Good luck, Isabel, and we look forward to hearing the outcome!



Kitchen sink drama Stamp of approval



If you're following the trend for home makeovers,

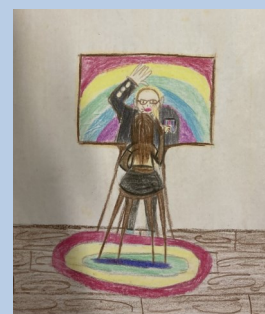
then look no further, we may just be able to help!

In May, as a revision task, our Year 8 ICT students were designing kitchen diners using SketchUp software.



We invited our students to take part in the Royal Mail Heroes Stamp Design Competition this term. Entrants were asked to design a stamp featuring their own Coronavirus heroes. It was no surprise to see Captain Sir Tom Moore in a starring role but Marcus Rashford and scientists also appeared.

Well done to Year 7 students, Alice C, Mayleen B and Sadie K and Year 8, Lottie F for their fantastic designs. The winners will be announced by Royal Mail after 30th September. Watch this space!



Recognising great behaviour, effort and attainment

Throughout the year our students have demonstrated some excellent examples of behaviour and school work despite all the challenges and disruption that they have had to face with lockdowns and isolation periods. These students have been thanked and rewarded with one of our Recognition awards.

From September 2020 to July 2021, a fantastic **39,172** R3 Recognition awards have been awarded and a further **2,500** R4s (and congratulatory texts sent to home) achieved through exemplary performance or 'extra mile' school work.

We have many students consistently demonstrating commendable behaviour, trying hard with their school work and achieving high standards. This has resulted in many receiving multiple Recognition awards and achieving one of our certificates:

- **722** Bronze Certificates have been awarded to the students who have achieved 20 R3s this year.
- **504** Silver Certificates (40 R3s)
- **275** Gold Certificates (60 R3s)
- **122** Platinum Certificates (80 R3s)
- **48** Platinum Plus Certificates (100 R3s)



The term, from May to July, the year groups, forms and students who have secured the most R3 Recognition awards are:

<u>Year Group</u>				<u>Form Group</u>	
		<u>R3s</u>	<u>R4s</u>		
1st	Year 7	2116	51	7LJO	463
2nd	Year 8	2039	41	8AHA	400
3rd	Year 9	1379	44	9MHO	249
4th	Year 10	996	25	10CF	163

The individual students in each year group who have achieved the most R3s this term are as follows:

Year 7:	Lola C	7LJO	30
	Bella H	7AWT	30
	Beatrix AB	7AWT	30
Year 8:	Thomas S	8RTU	35
Year 9:	Kebba G	9CMJ	26
Year 10:	Robert B	10CF	43

Congratulations to all these students, forms and year groups on their wonderful achievement this term and throughout the whole year. Keep up the great work, you will set a wonderful example for our new September 2021 Year 7 students!

Field of research

Although Covid prevented many school trips taking place this year, our Year 12 Geography students were still able to undertake their field trips this term, albeit only as far as Sandbach Road, West Heath and Loachbrook!

Using anemometers and thermometers to do transects along Sandbach Road, they measured the microclimate of Congleton, seeing if land use and distance from the centre affect wind and temperatures.

They assessed the standard of living at West Heath, looking at impacts of housing quality, traffic, noise and environment. At Loachbrook they examined infiltration rates to establish whether slope and distance from a stream affect the rate.

Students have all planned the work themselves with teacher support and it is all in preparation for completing their own original piece of research over the Summer.



It all adds up

Congratulations to all our Year 7 and Year 8 students who took part in the UKMT [Junior Maths Challenge](#) (JMC) in April this year. The JMC is a 60-minute, multiple-choice paper, aimed at students across the UK in Year 8 or below. The challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

Over 272,000 children took part in the competition this year and we were delighted to see so many of our students achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Gold award winners, Dawid M and Becky L, were able to move onto the 'Junior Kangaroo', an invitation only, score based follow-on round, which is offered to only a few thousand of the original hundreds of thousand of competitors. Dawid and Becky sat this additional challenge in June and we are waiting excitedly to hear the results.

You may recall from Issue 26 of our Newsletter, that many of our Year 9 to Year 11 students took part in the Intermediate level Maths Challenge in February, also securing a whole host of awards. We have now heard that Year 9 Elitsa R and Year 11 Isaac C both earned a Distinction, putting them in the top 25% of entrants. Elitsa was also awarded a medal for being in the top 100 entrants for her age group! Fantastic news!

Road to recovery

The Team at CHS are continuing to work hard to plan and implement strategies to support all our students to recover lost learning. This will continue as a main theme of the school's development work next year.



In addition to Curriculum adaptations, we are also looking at how we can bring back the memorable events that make school life so special. Extracurricular clubs will hopefully return in full force from September as will school trips, live assemblies and end-of-term celebrations as we aim to return to normal and rebuild the community spirit that CHS is known for.

Opportunities for students to attend additional activities to 'Fill in the Learning Gaps' will be advertised next term.

Puppets on a shoestring

What can you do with three sheets of newspaper and nine pieces of tape? "Not a lot!" you may well think, but our creative Year 8 Performing Arts students have used exactly that to produce some excellent puppets this term and worked on manoeuvring them too.



Fantastic creativity!



 United Kingdom Mathematics Trust		Junior Maths Challenge Certificates	
Bronze		Silver	Gold
Oliver F	Tyler S	Alex P	Dawid M
Ethan B	Barney M	Sam B	Becky L
Sam T-W	Jay T	Nathan J	
Tilly G	Sam T	Ella C	
Iseabail N	Jayden K	Lennon G	
Isabelle T	Oliver S	Jozsef de T	
Lauren C	Karol S	James C	
James G	Darcie C	Matthew E	
Sam H	Libby H	Bethany S	
			Best in School Becky L

Wellbeing matters

We have placed a great deal of emphasis on Wellbeing this academic year. Weekly wellbeing form tutor sessions, "Managing your emotions" training, an increase in the number of [SWANS](#) appointments on offer and the growth of our Learning Mentor Team have all helped us to survive and thrive during a very unusual time.

As a school community we have coped really well with Lockdowns and periods of self-isolation. Some of us have needed more support than others but one thing that has really stood out is how well we all look after each other and how willing we are to ask for help if we're having "a wobble".

Mrs Wilson-Jones, Mr O'Brien and Mrs Sadat-Shafai have worked really hard to arrange additional interventions for students and there are more exciting plans in place for September, including two new Learning Mentors in the Guidance Team.

Don't forget that if you are struggling to cope over the summer holidays, you can find contact details for lots of organisations who can offer practical help and advice on the Student Welfare page of our school website, which you can access via both the Student and Parent/ Carer areas: https://www.congletonhigh.com/uploads/asset_file/3_1761_who-can-help-if-school-is-closed.pdf

We continue to work very hard to help our students make informed choices and be kind to each other.

We set up our LGBTQ+ Club in October 2020 and have recently created a group called 'Act Civil,' which will address the national issue of inappropriate sexualised behaviours, sharing of indecent images and harassment. In addition, we will be forming an Anti-Racism Club in September 2021, which will allow all members of our community to explore and discuss important topics including intolerance.

We are very grateful to our students for the time they are investing in raising the awareness of the whole school community. If you are interested in any of these clubs or have other areas where you feel we can be an even more inclusive community, please see Mrs Darling.

BBC sees CHS positivity

We were delighted to be able to welcome BBC Midlands Today reporter, Laura May McMullan, in to school in June to talk with some of our Year 7 and Year 12 students and Miss Bates about the Body Positivity Club she runs after school. The students were able to share how the club works, how it has helped them and the positive changes they have been able to make in their own lives. The interviews were shown on BBC Midlands later that day.



Take pride

Miss Haney has been supporting LGBTQ+ students at CHS with lunchtime Pride Groups since March. The Pride Group is student-led and provides a safe place for students to socialise, support each other, talk about LGBTQ+ issues, and work to end homophobia, biphobia and transphobia.



Although students have been in year group bubbles, they have been enthusiastic about promoting equality and diversity and the importance of challenging prejudice and discrimination.

They have taken part in a variety of activities including writing letters to their younger selves, giving words of encouragement for younger students, quizzes and mindfulness colouring with many more planned for the future. An anti-bullying assembly was also presented by Miss Haney and Year 13 student, Sam W.

We have an LGBTQ+ Role Models display in the main corridor to inspire and educate students as well as providing support information.

Students across the school also found a number of different ways to mark and celebrate Pride Month 2021. Year 7, Izzy W made a series of bookmarks to keep Pride front of mind. Year 13 Sam W also represented Congleton Pride and took part in discussions with church leaders about the positive support they can offer to the LGBTQ+ community.

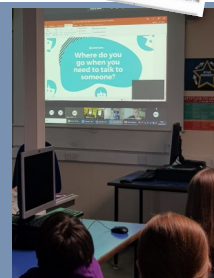
For further support for LGBTQ+ or questioning young people, please visit: theproudtrust.org/for-young-people/ or stonewall.org.uk/



Wellbeing support

In May, all of our Year 7 students participated in a live online assembly run by [Kooth](#), the confidential online wellbeing and counselling service for children aged 11 to 18.

They were introduced to the service by Emily Hawley, who explained about the advice and support available. Parents and Carers can also access Kooth's services and support.



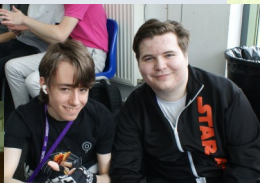
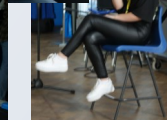


Have a great summer, Year 11. See you in Sixth Form!

Summer
2024



A large group of students and staff members are posed for a group photo on a green lawn. The group is arranged in many rows, with students in the front and staff members towards the back. The students are dressed in casual clothing, and some are wearing lanyards. The staff members are also in casual or semi-formal attire. The background is a vast, open green field under a clear sky.



Paper view

Talented Year 11 Art student, Lily S, created this stunning costume as part of her Art and Design GCSE.

She selected the theme of *Alice in Wonderland* for her coursework project, which allowed her to paint, draw and make fabulous three dimensional design pieces like this incredible costume, created from a variety of materials.



Your help with road safety

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

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

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

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

C) Please also turn off your engine while waiting

Thank you for your support.



Performance review



Across Drama and Music, our Year 7 students have been working on

a song. Each form were given the choice of a pop song or a song from a musical and they have learned choreography in Drama and the tune and lyrics in Music.

The finished performances were recorded in lessons to be shared with all of the Year 7 forms during their last week of term!



The Performing Arts team has been extremely impressed with the enthusiasm our Year 7 have shown for this project.



In conference

Despite all the Covid restrictions affecting the every-day running of schools, our students are still able to take part in a wide range of activities in person and online.



At the end of June, a group of our Year 12 Sixth Form A Level English Language students attended an online English Language conference with lectures from leading university linguists: Dr Rob Drummond from Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), Dr Amanda Cole from the University of Essex and Dr Sylvia Shaw from the University of Westminster.

The conference addressed topics including Language debates in the media, Attitudes towards accents and Gender representation in the media.

This was a really beneficial opportunity for all the students who took part.

Getting back to normal

Attendance

Students, we know that many of you have had periods of self-isolation over the past 12 months and some have also been absent due to illness. We would like to thank you all for doing your very best by attending school each day that you are medically able.



As a school community we will be aiming for 98% attendance next year and an easy way to achieve this is for every child to arrive in school on time. The **latest** a student should be on school site is **08:40am**. From September the gate/entrance doors will be closed at 08:40am and students will be required to sign in with a senior member of staff and will then be issued with a late detention. Parents/carers will be informed when their child is late to school. Allowances will, of course, be made for essential medical appointments that cannot be done outside of the school day. If you need support getting your child into school on time, please do contact your child's Guidance Team Leader or our Family Support Worker, [Mrs Roach](#).

Uniform

We are returning to our full uniform policy from September 2021. We have made some allowances over shoes and CHS hoodies due to Covid requirements since September 2020. We have found that one area children always try to persuade their parent/carer to be lenient about is shoes. We have updated our [uniform guide](#) (see the Parent/Carer Area of the [CongletonHigh.com](#)) and will be emailing a copy to all parents and carers so that



you can see very clearly which shoes are acceptable. If your child tries to persuade you that a pair of shoes are "really ok", please do check our guidance first to save any unnecessary expense. Where shoes do not meet the CHS standard, a replacement pair will be provided by our Guidance team until parents/carers have an opportunity to purchase new ones.

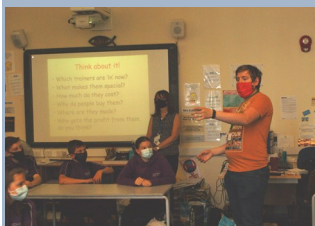
If you require support with purchasing uniform, please visit the John Holford Charity at: <http://johnholfordcharity.org/>. We also have a supply of good quality, previously worn uniform, which we will provide free of charge. (Please email your child's form tutor or Guidance Team Leader if you would like further information). You can also sign up to the **CHS Buy, Sell, Swap and Donate** Facebook group, where Parents and Carers pass on uniform outgrown or no longer required by their child.

Fair game

This term, our Year 7 RE students have been taking part in our Fairtrade Trading Trainer's Game.



They've learned about the impact of unfair trade on communities around the world and the importance of buying Fairtrade products.



It was coming home

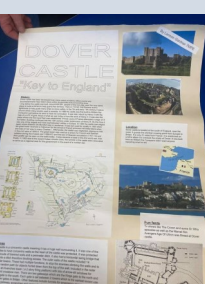
In their Science lesson on the Friday before the final of Euros 2020, 7MPE were challenged by their teacher, Ms Figiel to design and build a 'Windy Racer' using paper, straws, cardboard and Sellotape, purchased using a strict budget of just 10 tokens!



The winner, by far, was: *"It's Coming Home."* It seemed like such a good omen on the day!

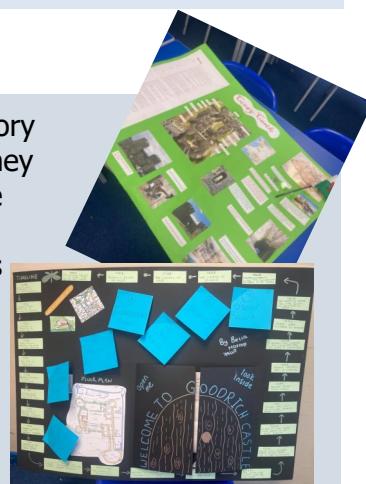
Making history

At the end of term, our Year 7 History students used all the information they have learned about castles to make



some spectacular information posters for a year group competition judged by Mr Barlow.

Watch this space for the winners!



A helping hand for the future

Although our Year 11 students officially finished for the summer break in June, they have returned to CHS since then to join us for our Experience Days, a range of talks and discussions aimed at providing them with some useful "tools" to help prepare them for their next life stage.

Over two days, the groups were able to:

- Hear about university study from Sally Challoner of [Higher Horizons Keele University](#)
- Discover a wide range of Apprenticeship opportunities from Careers Advisor, Jaydeen Pickles.
- Focus on the important aspect of Wellbeing issues with [Youth Fed's](#) Rebecca Hardman
- Learn how to keep themselves safe with School's Liaison Officer, PC Cornell, who also addressed the dangers and implications of drug use.
- Take part in problem solving exercises and physical challenges with the [British Army](#).
- Enjoy some fun games and activities with Lizzie Fry from [Friends for Leisure](#) and Lucy Wilder from [East Cheshire NHS Trust](#) and find out more about Volunteering opportunities with the organisations.
- Pick up lots of good financial management tips and advice from our ICT, Economics and Business teacher, Mr Davis, who talked to the group about successfully managing their money in the future, whether that is a student loan or a wage from employment.
- The special "Star Speaker" was our former Head Boy, Alfie Kelly, who is currently realising his dream and in the final stages of training to become an airline pilot. Along with talking through life in CHS Sixth Form and the school's requirements and expectations, Alfie was also able to share his experiences of pilot training.

Our Year 13 students were also able to take part in a similar range of talks and we would like to thank all our guests and staff for sharing their knowledge and experience and also all the students who joined us.



Outdoor Science

At the end of term, Mr Thomas and Ms Figiel took their Year 9 Science group out in to the grounds of CHS to investigate how the percentage of grass distribution changes using the line transect method.



The students analysed their results and explained the relationship between the amount of sunlight and grass coverage. Some were also able to explain the link with

photosynthesis; the chemical process where plants use sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide to create oxygen and energy in the form of glucose.

On display

Our Year 9 Art students have been working on the theme of Environments this term.

They selected to study either tropical or underwater environments and worked in teams of three to create these fantastic stage set style pieces.

The three dimensional creations will be completed with some clay work and put on display in the LRC next term.



Also on display very soon will be our **Year 8 Art Club CHS Bear Mural** in the XL courtyard. All the pieces have now been decorated and it will be assembled and installed over the summer break!



Strike a chord

Our Year 8 Music students have composed songs this term based on the "4 chord trick", a set of chords used in hundreds of pop songs.

They've learned how to play them, written their own lyrics and set these to a melody they've composed. They have also used music technology to record these songs entirely by themselves.

You can hear the songs for yourself in the [Audio Gallery](#) in the School Life section of CongletonHigh.com



Languages for life

At the end of term, all our Year 7 students enjoyed a full day of language-based activities including sample Latvian, Portuguese, German and Italian lessons, food

tasting, singing and dancing, Italian opera, art and craft activities using different languages, with lots of competitions and prizes.

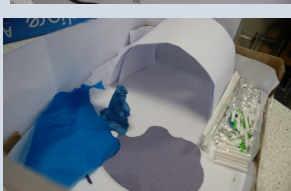
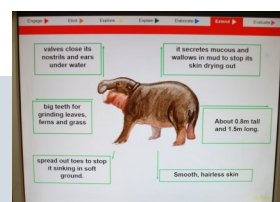
It was a great way of introducing students to different cultures, the importance of the global dimension and the benefits of learning a modern foreign language in today's society.



Happy Hippos

In their Science lessons this term, Year 7 students have been investigating why species become extinct. As part of this, Mrs Jackson Moss challenged them to create a suitable enclosure for the endangered Pygmy Hippo.

They worked really hard, taking all of the animal's requirements in to consideration. The results would definitely make some very Happy Hippos!



A day for celebrating sports and our school community

With the 2020 Sports Day cancelled due to Covid school closures, it was great to actually be able to hold the event this year and get the whole school community together in the afternoon.

There was a wonderful atmosphere throughout the day, with some strong performances across all the year groups. Field events took place in the morning with students competing in a range of events including javelin, shot put, discus, long jump and triple jump. Track events took place in the afternoon with students running individually and in teams across a range of distances and cheered on by the whole school.



Well done to everyone who took part in the day, as competitors or as spectators providing great encouragement to their peers. A special congratulations go to:

- Year 10 Jack R who smashed a 19 year old school record for Y10 Boys 800m by 8 seconds with his time of 2m 11s!
- Year 9 Kebbe G who, with his jump of 5m 44 added 9cm to the Y9 Boys Long Jump school record set by J Wood in 2005!
- 9CMJ, whose time of 56s 96ms knocked 91ms off the school record for Y9 Mixed Relay set by 9HL in 2019!

The final Form Group points for each year are as follows:

Year 7	
Form	Points
7MPE	135
7EHA	129
7AHK	123
7LJO	97
7MXC	93
7TST	92
7AWT	83

Year 8	
Form	Points
8EBR	136
8FH	128
8JSA	127
8RTU	116
8SCL	112
8RCH	105
8AHA	96

Year 9	
Form	Points
9CMJ	140
9KJM	140
9AH	137
9MBU	115
9LF	91
9MHO	90
9JWR	57

Year 10	
Form	Points
10AJF	149
10GXT	144
10CF	123
10ACO	113
10VKI	105
10MH	104
10MWA	93

The best performances by Year Group are as follows:

Year 7

Winners			
100m Girls	18s 21ms	Brooke Stevens	MPE
100m Boys	16s 57ms	Oliver Finch	LJO
200m Girls	34s 7ms	Poppy Johnson	EHA
200m Boys	33s 37ms	Reuben Wallace	MPE
800m Girls	2m 57s 0ms	Annabelle Jackson	AHK
800m Boys	2m 39s	Sam Brightwell	AHK
1500m Girls	6m 51s	Loren Cox	LJO
1500m Boys	5m 53s	Fin Ansel	AWT
4x100m Girls	1m 5s 15ms	EHa	
4x100m Boys	1m 3s 50ms	MPE	
4x100m Mixed	1m 4s 67ms	MPE	
Long Jump Girls	4.23	Annabelle Jackson	AHK
Long Jump Boys	4.05	Sam Brightwell	AHK
Shot Put Girls	4.56	Connie Rigby	EHA
Shot Put Boys	6.53	Reuben Taylor	AHK
Discus Girls	15.10	Kadie Robinson	EHA
Discus Boys	12.00	Harry Akker	MXC
Javelin Girls	9.80	Lucy Williams	EHA
Javelin Boys	17.50	Connor Hercock	AHK

Year 8

Winners			
100m Girls	16s 72ms	Masie Shaw	EBE
100m Boys	14s 52ms	Oliver Sharman	FH
200m Girls	34s 84ms	Chloe Gillett	EBE
200m Boys	28s 94ms	James Castle	AHA
300m Boys	0m 47s 44ms	Harry McFarlane	FH
800m Girls	3m 14s 0ms	Charlotte Farmer	FH
800m Boys	2m 54s 0ms	Bobbi Brightwell	JSA
1500m Girls	6m 54s 0ms	Isabella Squires	FH
1500m Boys	5m 38s 0ms	Archie Pearce	SCL
4x100m Girls	1m 5s 57ms	FH	
4x100m Boys	0m 57s 12ms	FH	
4x100m Mixed	1m 2s 16ms	EBE	
Long Jump Girls	3.61	Isobel Squires	FH
Long Jump Boys	4.32	Harry Shipley-Jones	EBE
Triple Jump Boys	8.48	Jayden Kirk	JSA
Shot Put Girls	4.83	Lilly Carter	SCL
Shot Put Boys	8.03	Lucas Bennett	RCH
Discus Girls	11.25	Maisy Shaw	EBE
Discus Boys	11.90	George Beech	RCH
Javelin Girls	12.40	Ellie Jean	FH
Javelin Boys	18.60	Drew Sibbald	SCL

Year 9

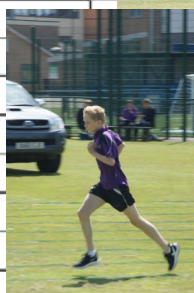


Winners					
100m Girls	16s 18ms	Sophia Machin	AH		
100m Boys	12s 94ms	Herbie James	KJM		
200m Girls	34s 78ms	Ella Boon	KJM		
200m Boys	29s 18ms	Lucas Scholes	LF		
800m Girls	3m 19s 0ms	Mia Thorley	MBU		
800m Boys	2m 39s 0ms	Sammy Wilcock	KJM		
1500m Girls	7m 3s 0ms	Lola Craddock	CMJ		
1500m Boys	5m 25s 0ms	Ethan Knapper	AH		
4x100m Girls	1m 3s 76ms	MBU			
4x100m Boys	0m 54s 96ms	AH			
4x100m Mixed	0m 56s 96ms	CMJ		NEW SR	-0m 0s 910ms
Long Jump Girls	4.22	Amelia Stansfield	MBU		
Long Jump Boys	5.44	Kebba Gaye	CMJ	NEW SR	0.09
Shot Put Girls	4.80	Lizzie Howard	JWR		
Triple Jump Boys	7.33	Caelan Hughes	CMJ		
Shot Put Boys	6.79	Kieran Richardson	KJM		
Discus Girls	14.40	Lola Craddock	CMJ		
Discus Boys	17.30	Oliver Crewe	KJM		
Javelin Girls	12.00	Olivia Hurst	MHO		
Javelin Boys	17.10	Cruz Gallimore	LF		



Year 10

Winners					
100m Girls	17s 3ms	Grace Heath	CF		
100m Boys	14s 4ms	Callum Barber	MWA		
200m Girls	33s 41ms	Ellie Jade Oliver	AJF		
200m Boys	26s 35ms	Lewis Beardmore	CF		
300m Girls	59s 32ms	Shauna Ross	ACO		
400m Boys	1m 1s 56ms	Toby Harrison	ACO		
800m Girls	3m 0s 0ms	Ruby Jennings	CF		
800m Boys	2m 11s 0ms	Jack Riley	GXT	NEW SR	-0m 8s 0ms
1500m Girls	6m 55s 0ms	Thalia Lynch	AJF		
1500m Boys	5m 19s 0ms	Jacob Evans	GXT		
4x100m Girls	0m 53s 67ms	GXT			
4x100m Boys	1m 6s 8ms	CF			
4x100m Mixed	1m 0s 21ms	ACO			
Long Jump Girls	3.69	Olivia Kirby	VKI		
Long Jump Boys	4.67	Izaak de Takats	MH		
Triple Jump Boys	8.12	Callum Barber	MWA		
Triple Jump Girls	8.65	Grace Wintle	GXT		
Shot Put Girls	5.43	Hannah Smith	AJF		
Shot Put Boys	10.35	Jack Riley	GXT		
Discus Girls	10.00	Lilly Robinson	AJF		
Discus Boys	14.30	Hal Randall	MH		
Javelin Girls	11.00	Ella Woodman	CF		
Javelin Boys	20.37	Liam Campbell	VKI		



A glowing report

Our PE teacher, Miss Chetta, was sad to say goodbye to her Year 11 PE class in June as they had *"been an amazing year group, fully getting involved in Core PE"*.

As a special treat for their last lesson, the group enjoyed a dance in the dark with glow sticks!

Look forward to seeing many of you again in Sixth Form.



Tackling mental health

For six weeks of this term, some of our Year 8 and Year 9 students took part in a programme called, *Tackle It*, run by Sale Sharks Rugby Club and aimed at improving the mental health of young people.

The programme for the two groups of twelve students was broken down into an hour's classroom work around respect, mental health/well being, communication and self esteem, and an hour on the pitch developing their rugby skills.

We would like to thank Sharks Community Trust and, in particular, our fantastic and very patient Sale Sharks coach, India P, for this wonderful opportunity, which has benefited these students greatly. We hope that more students will be able to take part in the future.



Community sports

Back in May we were delighted to host the Datastor Cup football tournament. Thirteen primary schools took part and our Year 12 students were on hand to officiate and score.

The final was between Mossley and Black Firs, with the full time score 1-nil to Mossley.

Bill Wright, Managing Director of tournament sponsor, Datastor, presented the trophies.



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 or telephone: 01260 730123.