

Newsletter

Issue 3: July 2013

Achieving Success Together

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PREMIER LEAGUE SCHOOLS WINNERS



"It has been
an absolutely
amazing
experience"

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INTRODUCTION

As the 2012-13 school year draws to a close, it is gratifying to look back and see what a successful year this has been for Congleton High School. You can read many stories of students successes and efforts in the pages that follow and during the last week of term the good work and achievements of many students will be recognised in our Praise Assemblies for each year group. We are also very happy that earlier in the year Ofsted looked at our school again during an Interim Assessment and confirmed that we are still a good school.

Our main school buildings have changed out of all recognition and we now have not only more space, with new classrooms, science labs, meeting rooms and reception area, but a vastly improved environment in which our students and staff can work. Turn to page 4 for the full story and pictures of our newly opened facilities. As I write this, work has already begun to transform the XL and drama areas of the school as we continue our drive to improve our facilities.

I was extremely happy to meet so many of you at our recent community Summer Festival; it was great to see so many parents supporting PIP and so many parents, students and staff coming along to be a part of the event.

We have responded to your feedback about improving the way that we communicate with you, and now use e-mail as our main method of communication. E-mail is already used to send information letters, year group newsletters from our Guidance Team Leaders and our monthly E-Newsletter. If you have changed your e-mail address, then please let us know so that you do not miss out on important communications.

Several parents have contacted me to praise the efforts of the staff who work with their children, especially for going the extra mile. Heather and Alan Kemball wrote to me saying:

"We would like to express our thanks to all the teachers who have supported our three children over a period of ten years. Many different teachers have inspired and helped and cared about our children and we are very grateful. We thank God for you all."

If you have similar praise that you would like me to pass on to staff, then please get in touch.

We are looking forward to another good set of examination results in August and then to welcoming students back to school in September, refreshed from their summer break and ready to take on a new set of challenges and be the best they can be. Until then, I wish you all a peaceful and relaxing summer.

Mr D Hermitt, Principal

CHS IN TOP 20% OF SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND

We are very proud that we have qualified as one of the top 20% of schools in England for both high attainment and adding value in the GCSE examinations in 2012.

Every school in the country has been ranked by the SSAT (who are the representative body for schools), according to how well they performed in their GCSE results. The rankings were calculated by using official data to compare how schools across the country performed.

The first category is for raw results and is calculated by counting the best 8 GCSE subjects for all students. This category reflects each school's desire to achieve the very best results for their students. The second category is for adding value to their students' achievements at GCSE. This is determined by the progress students in a school have made between their national test results at age 11 and 16.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said: *"Congleton High School should be congratulated not only for their stunning achievement in securing some of the best GCSE results in the country but also for their performance in adding value to their students' achievements."*

The school has proved itself to be one of the best schools in the country at securing superb GCSE outcomes for their students and in outperforming expectations for their pupils and improving their future prospects. There is plenty that other schools could learn from Congleton High School's success.

Principal, David Hermitt, stated: *"We are honoured to be recognised in this way by the SSAT. Each year our students continue to achieve remarkable successes with the support of their parents and our staff."*

Chair of Governors, Richard Hinckley, said: *"This recognition backs up what we as Governors have believed for some time. We have a great school led by exceptional people who go the extra mile to secure the best for our students."*



L to R: Richard Benson, Vice Chair of Governors and Richard Hinckley, Chair of Governors with the certificates

COMMUNITY SUMMER FESTIVAL



We would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the parents, students, staff and families who helped out at or attended our community Summer Festival on Friday 28 June. Rain definitely did not stop play on the day, although the poor weather meant that Plan B had to be put into place and many stalls were relocated into the sports hall. However, this did nothing to dampen spirits and the fun carried on inside.

Students, parents, community groups and local businesses ran a wide variety of stalls promoting the very best of Congleton, whilst students entertained everyone with music and dance. The event, organised in conjunction with our Parents in Partnership group, aimed to raise funds and to bring the School and local community together.

Deputy Town Mayor, Dennis Murphy, gave much appreciated support, speaking to staff and students during the event. For those who were feeling peckish, there was plenty of food on offer, from a superb hog roast and barbecue, run by the school's Design & Technology staff and catering students to the delights of home-made cupcakes and strawberries and cream.

Principal, Mr Hermitt, said *"We were overwhelmed by the level of support from students, parents and local businesses, many of whom donated time and resources to make the event a genuine community effort."*

Organiser, Mrs Caroline Eckersley, thanked all who contributed to making the Festival such a success: *"We are immensely grateful to everyone who supported the event and committed to working alongside our school community."* She added *"we were unlucky with the weather this year, but have the sunshine booked for an even bigger Festival next year!"*



WORKING WITH OUR PARTNER PRIMARY SCHOOLS

We have been doing a lot of work with students from our partner primary schools as usual this term – introducing Year 4s, 5s and 6s to CHS and sharing some of our expertise and facilities. This is a great way for students to learn new skills, techniques and subjects and also to gradually get to know the school so that at the end of Year 6 there is a natural and easy transition up to us here at CHS.

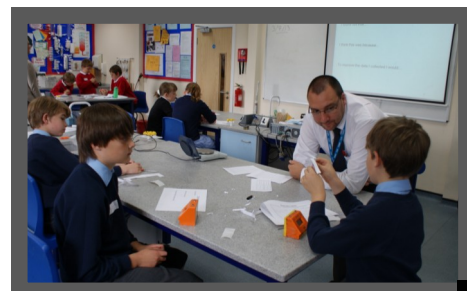
This term, these opportunities have included:

- Art Enrichment day for High Achieving Year 5 students
- ICT Fun day for Year 5 students
- Science Investigation sessions for Year 5 students
- Mixed activity sessions for Year 5 students (Art, Music & Drama, Science, PE and Design & Technology)
- After school Clay Workshops for students from Y4, 5 and 6

In addition, we have provided support to our partner primary schools for sporting events, English, Maths and Engineering projects. Design & Technology staff have also run a training session for staff from two of our partner primary schools to learn how to make puppets or marionettes, equipping them with the resources and skills they needed to deliver the project to their own classes back at school.

Feedback from students attending the ICT day was extremely positive: *"I had a wonderful day and would definitely come again if I had the opportunity."* *"There is nothing I would like to change as it is already EPIC!!!!!!"*

Opportunities for students continue in September with a Cultural Diversity Day already organized for Year 6 students early in the Autumn term.





We are pleased to report that our current building work is almost complete. The new entrance to our main building is now open to the public and many parents will no doubt have seen for themselves what a difference our new reception area has made to giving visitors a positive impression of our school. In addition to a spacious waiting area, the new reception has a bookable meeting room and has security doors through into school, making it more secure and improving our safeguarding of students.

Beyond the new reception area, there have been many internal changes that have greatly improved our school environment, including:

- The building of six fabulous new teaching spaces, which will be the new home for our Humanities curriculum area
- The creation of two new science laboratories and one Sixth Form teaching space
- A new Student Reception Area and office housing Admin and Finance staff
- General improvements to the main building, including new doors and double glazed windows, improved insulation and the latest auto-closing fire doors along the corridors

And the improvements don't stop there. The next phase of our building work has already begun and will continue over the summer holidays and includes a full redevelopment of the XL and Drama areas.

As a school, we would like to thank

Jay Ashall Architects,

JMC Construction Ltd,

our neighbours

and all other contractors for making possible the change to the school buildings over the past twelve months.



STUDENTS CELEBRATE IN STYLE

Year 13 Prom

Now that they have finished their A Level examinations, our Year 13 students were able to let their hair down and celebrate at their Prom night, which was held at Hollin Hall in Bollington. The students enjoyed the opportunity to dress up and enjoy a party, as did many members of our staff team who celebrated with them. Students were able to thank the teachers for all the support that they had given them over the last seven years. After an evening meal, they enjoyed dancing the night away and having the chance to say their final farewells before moving on to university, jobs and Apprenticeships.

Year 11 Prom

Similarly, our Year 11 students celebrated the end of their GCSE exams in style with a glittering prom at Cranage Hall recently. With the sun beaming down and not a cloud to be seen, many of the students arrived in array of the most exotic, luxurious and stylish cars to be found. Several of our students chose to make their entrance to the prom that bit different and opted for different modes of transport. Amongst the most memorable were

a bicycle (complete with balloon-adorned handlebars), a tractor, horse and carriage, push-scooter, a motorbike, a range of vintage and classic cars and a fire engine!

The assembly of students at the front of Cranage Hall for the group photographs was a wonderful sight, with our students looking fabulous in beautiful dresses and sharp suits. Following a three-course meal, the students danced the night away. Special mention must go to our Prom King and Queen, Ronan Clayton and Siani Cooper, who were voted for by the guests throughout the evening.

The Year 11 Guidance Team would like to thank Mr Pear for the generous donation of the use of a vintage Bentley as transport to the prom for our competition winner, Dan Mongillo and guests.



WE WILL ROCK YOU—IN PRODUCTION

Following on from the success of Grease in 2012, our much anticipated production of 'We Will Rock You' will be performed on **Wednesday 17th, Thursday 18th and Friday 19th July at 7:30pm** at **The Daneside Theatre** in Congleton. Don't miss out on what promises to be an incredible production—get your tickets now from school or from Congleton Tourist Information Office.

Featuring the music of the rock group, Queen, the musical was originally written by Ben Elton and the schools version explodes onto the stage in a dazzling circus of lights and sound. Staff and students are currently at the Daneside in their final week of rehearsals and we have been for a sneak preview backstage. From what we have seen so far it is going to be an incredible production, full of energy and with some exceptional music, dance and drama performances from students.



HIGH ACHIEVERS

We are proud of our programme of activities to stretch our most high achieving students. Below are just a few of the activities organised by our team of 'High Achievers' co-ordinators over the last term.

Oxbridge visits



We have once again been able to take a group of high achieving Sixth Form students on residential visits to attend Open Days at two of the most prestigious universities in the world—Cambridge and Oxford universities. We arrange these visits annually, in collaboration with Eaton Bank Academy and they enable students from both schools to see and experience what these two prestigious universities are like. The visits also serve to connect students from both Congleton schools, who may have similar interests and ambitions.

Citizenship workshops

We were pleased to welcome Craig Doughty from Keele University's History Department to CHS recently to run some citizenship workshops. Around 50 high-attaining students from Year 10 participated in the sessions, which were based on the theme of Capital Punishment.

Students explored what capital punishment is and where it is implemented around the world, with several case studies being examined. They were then presented with some moral and ethical dilemmas and were asked to advise on a course of action.

Space Conference

Thirteen Year 9 students attended the Space Conference at Keele University in March, held as part of National Science and Engineering week. The students were selected for the visit based upon high achievement in Science and they got to experience a day in the life of a student at Keele, by attending lectures and taking part in activities on the campus.

There were strong winds and a dusting of snow but it didn't put the students off. They walked up to the Space Observatory to learn about how using the telescope was leading to new discoveries. This was followed by a session in the Stardome and molecular modelling to show the building blocks for life. The students had a fun and interesting day and as a result some of the group will be assisting in the monitoring of asteroids using a website that they were introduced to at the conference. This could result in them finding something completely new and they could even end up naming it.



SIEMENS ROLLERCOASTER CHALLENGE

A team of students from CHS recently took part in the Siemens Rollercoaster Challenge, competing against students from Eaton Bank Academy and Macclesfield Academy. The competition was run over a 3-month period during the Spring term and culminated in a prestigious awards ceremony in Congleton Town Hall at the end of May.

The competition was designed with the aim of widening the appeal of STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) in local schools. Using a supplied kit of parts, and working with a Siemens mentor, the students had to design and build their very own working roller coaster. Congleton High's team – Medieval Team – won the trophy, certificates and prizes in the 'Presentation and visual appeal' category.

Impressed by the dedication displayed by all the teams and the quality of the entries, Finbarr Dowling, MD of Siemens Congleton, commented *"It is great to see young people becoming so involved in a competition such as this. It has highlighted the importance of engineering to the local community as well as the economy as a whole. We hope to have created some budding engineers who will go on to a career with Siemens in the future."*



Irene Bartley, Assistant Principal with responsibility for our Engineering Specialism, said *"We would like to thank the team from Siemens and our mentor, Joe Burnham, in particular for all their hard work on this project. This was a really stimulating competition for our students last term; it was great to see the variety of entries submitted, and the celebration event at the end was a lovely occasion for both students and their parents."*

ROTARY YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION

Recently a group of Year 9 Catering students from CHS took part in the Rotary Young Chef competition, which was held at Eaton Bank Academy. Each student had to produce a dish using locally sourced produce within a given budget. This dish had to be prepared and cooked in just an hour and a quarter timeframe under pressurised competition conditions, with many external dignitaries and local Chefs judging the finished dishes.

As always the standards were extremely high and all the CHS students produced some stunning dishes with technical difficulty such as breast of chicken stuffed with haggis and wrapped in Parma ham with a whisky sauce, spicy fishcakes with a crispy salad, and sirloin steak with a garlic and mushroom sauce. Second prize was awarded to CHS student Isabella Statham, who will now progress to the Regional final along with fellow student Joel Massey.

Catering teacher, Mrs Thorpe, said *"Well done to all the students who took part, you were a credit to the department."*



DID YOU KNOW....?

Changes to catering services

From 1 September 2013 we will be directly managing our catering service because we are committed to providing our students with nutritional, good quality food for a reasonable price. Students will be able to choose from a variety of meal deals, meals, snacks and drinks each day and there will be themed events linked to the school calendar and curriculum.

Refectory opening times:

- Breakfast 8.15am to 8.40am
- Mid morning break 11.00am to 11.15am
- Lunch 12.20pm to 12.55pm
- After school 3.00pm to 3.20pm

You can follow us on Twitter (@CateringCHS) for daily menus and offers.

Cashless catering and online payments

Congleton High School operates an online payment system which enables parents to pay for school meals, visits and other activities using the Internet. Parents are provided with login details and a unique online link code when students start at school. The school refectory operates a cashless catering system and all students use a biometric reading of their thumb when they wish to purchase any food. Parents can top up their accounts electronically via the CHS website, or students can load money onto their accounts at the ReValuer machine in school. Parents who have any queries about online payments are asked to contact Karen Triner in the Finance Office on 01260 387012.

Changes to school uniform

Are you aware that we are starting a phased introduction of a new uniform from September 2013?

Year 7 students will *have to* wear the new uniform, whilst students in years 8– 11 may *choose to* wear it or else wear the existing uniform. Our supplier for the new uniform is Sportswear International (www.swi.com) and items can be ordered online, by telephone or by post. Delivery can be made to you at home or you can choose to have your order delivered to school for collection.

For full details of the new uniform, guidance notes and a guide to ordering from SWI, please see the 'School Uniform' section in the 'Parent Area' of the school website at www.congletonhigh.com or contact school and we will send you a paper copy.

GCSE and A Level Results days

Students who are expecting to receive GCSE and/or A Level results this summer should note the following important dates:

Thursday 15th August: AS / A Level results

Thursday 22nd August: GCSE results

Students may collect their results in the hall from 10am until 12 noon on each day. If you would like someone else to collect your results on your behalf, they need to speak to Mr Warren on the appropriate day and should bring with them a signed letter from you to this effect. Alternatively you can send a large (A4) SAE to Mrs K Isherwood at school and she will post your results out to you.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

We are increasingly using e-mail as a method of communicating with parents as it is quick, efficient and cost-effective for the school. Please therefore make sure that we have your current e-mail address so that you do not miss out on important communications. As we start to embrace the new technology available to us, we also now have several other ways in which we can distribute information and news about what is happening in school. You can follow us on Twitter:

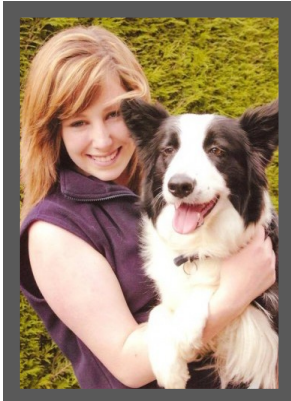


@CongletonHS — for general school news and announcements

@PhysEdCHS — for PE news and up-to-the minute information about fixtures etc

You can also sign up for our monthly E-Newsletter via the homepage of our website at www.congletonhigh.com

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



Birmingham National Dog Show

Year 11 student, Paige Jepson, continues to have great success with her dog handling and grooming. Earlier this year we reported that she took part in the Young Kennel Club National Dog Grooming finals at Crufts, where she came 3rd in the age 12-17 groom-through group.

Then more recently she competed at the Birmingham National Dog Show where she handled her border collie, Poppy, and came first out of 8. She also handled a Spanish water dog champion and came 5th out of 8. These achievements have qualified her to compete for the title of Young Handler of the Year at Crufts in 2014. Congratulations Paige!

Bass Guitar Grade 5

Well done to James Shatwell in Year 12, who recently achieved a Distinction for his Grade 5 Bass Guitar exam. James, who has

studied with peripatetic music tutor Steve Proctor for many years, had to play five performance pieces for the exam and was marked on various things such as fingering techniques, dynamics, structuring and general performance. The examiner praised James saying he gave 'a very accurate and confident performance', that his 'rhythmic control was tight' and that his 'solo was well phrased.'



Snowdon climb

We would like to congratulate a group of Year 9 students who recently successfully completed a walk to the top of Mt Snowdon as part of an outward bound course run jointly with The Oakhanger Project. Mr Hodgson, who accompanied the students on the challenge, said "We really must congratulate the students - this was a fantastic achievement by all those involved".

Pictured: Students Nuala McDermot, Abbie McDonald, Anna Shatwell, Khaled Saafan, Calum Lowe, Reece Carbutt, Jack Appleton, Beth Hancock and Fran Marchese with Mr Donnelly and Mr Hodgson at the summit of Snowdon.



Around the World in 80 Words

Congratulations to Year 7 student, Rebecca Bailey, who has become a published author. Rebecca's story, 'My Paradise' was selected to appear in the anthology *Around the World in 80 Words*, following her successful participation in a creative writing competition earlier this year.



Rebecca attended the lunchtime Creative Writing Club and rose to the challenge of penning a short 80-word piece on the theme of travel. Her resulting mini-saga was subsequently selected by Young Writers and now appears in their collection of chosen submissions from across the North West. Mr Higgs, who runs the Creative Writing Club said, "We are thrilled that Rebecca's piece was selected and her story truly deserves its place in the anthology. Her richly worded, vividly sensory piece leaps off the page with its explosion of tropical details." He added "The short trek to the LRC, and the even shorter one to page 76 of the school's copy of the anthology, will afford curious travellers the chance to visit Rebecca's fabulous paradise. Any students inspired by the journey should consider a more regular trip to Creative Writing Club each Thursday lunchtime for further forays into the realms of the fictional..."

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING



From 24 – 26 June, all students in Years 7 – 10 took part in our annual Reading Week event. This year's theme was 'reading and STEM' (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). The students spent 30 minutes each day engaged in quiet reading, after which they completed numerous activities around STEM topics. Students learned about Marie Curie and Albert Einstein; they cracked Literacy codes using their Maths skills and they used their reading, speaking and listening skills to help them make paper frogs!

Mrs Robson, Literacy Co-ordinator, who organised the Reading Week event, said "Once again, Reading Week has been a huge success; it is a great opportunity for students to enjoy reading for pleasure and to use their reading skills in other tasks."

YEAR 7 LANGUAGES DAY

Foreign Languages form an important part of the curriculum at CHS. In Year 7, all students study Spanish and then in Year 8 and 9 they study a second Modern Language, either German or French.

During the year, the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum area organise 'Languages Days' for different year groups, in which students get totally immersed in the language and culture of various different countries. Tuesday 11 June was 'Year 7 Languages Day' and student Rebecca Bailey (7DWN) has written this excellent report of what was involved:

"Languages Day was really fun! Each group started the day by going to either a German, French, Spanish or Italian lesson where we learned about the culture of each country and had a go at learning some basic language such as "Bonjour" and "Guten Tag".

In the French lessons we got to try some French food (the crepes were delicious) and the German lesson was fun because we learned some traditional German dancing! Most lessons involved a short quiz at the end with some questions about the country itself and other questions about what we'd learnt in the lesson. The quizzes were nearly as much fun as the lessons and I learned some new facts about each country.

At the end of the languages day there was an awesome craft lesson. Everyone made their own paper fan and a lot of people decorated it with phrases like "Hola" and Bonjour" along with stickers and some Spanish flags.

Languages day was a really great experience and I really enjoyed it. I can't wait to learn another language in Year 8 since I already love learning Spanish."



COMENIUS PROJECT

Over the last year or so, staff and students from CHS have been working on a Comenius Project with schools in France and Germany. The project has involved looking at European energy supply and it culminated recently with a conference in Les Sables d'Olonne in France.

The project has been extremely well supported by all of the schools involved and the conference was attended not only by students and staff, but also by the Headteachers from all three schools. The school's team of Annie Banks, Lucas Grice, Sophie Hammond, Emily Harris, Gemma Harvey and Lydia Turner had to present the findings of their work on looking at energy options for the year 2050, which they did in the form of a video and a short cartoon.

Our Principal, Mr Hermitt, enjoyed meeting his counterparts from the French and German schools and they spent some time over lunch discussing the similarities and differences between our education systems. CHS was also supported by a Governor, Mr Hilditch, who is an expert on the nuclear power industry.

As well as looking at European energy supply, this project gave the students involved an opportunity to gain a knowledge and understanding of different cultures, nations and ways of life. Principal Mr Hermitt said *"We are very proud of our links with schools around the world, including schools in France, Germany, Spain and South Africa, and this project is just one example of the many different opportunities we provide for our students to connect with students in other countries and take part in educational visits abroad."* CHS has held the British Council's International School Award since 2007.



WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME

Over 50 Year 12 students attended a work experience placement instead of school during the last week in June. The students found placements for themselves so that they gained experience of approaching employers, going through an application process and being interviewed for a job. The students managed to secure a very wide and varied range of placements, including some who worked at Airbus, Airbags International, Astra Zeneca, Flowcrete and NatWest. One student even managed to secure a placement at the Houses of Parliament, arranged by our local MP, Fiona Bruce. Others worked at local primary schools, restaurants, accountancy firms, retail companies, local artists and a translating service.

Director of Sixth Form, Wendy March, said *"We believe that encouraging our students to gain work experience will enable us to ensure that they move on to worthwhile further education and employment after leaving our school."* She added *"We are delighted that our 2013 NEET figure (Not in Employment, Education or Training figure) is a tiny 0.6%, showing just how many of our students go on to positive destinations, in spite of the very challenging current economic climate."*



It has been an incredible term and an incredible year for sport at CHS. For the first time ever, one of our teams became national champions (see below) and 8 teams finished as South Cheshire Champions, 8 teams as South Cheshire League winners, 2 teams as South Cheshire Inter-School Champions and 2 teams as School Sports Partnership Champions.

Premier League Schools winners

In May, our under-13 girls football team experienced something no football team has ever experienced before. They stood on the turf at Anfield as winners of the Premier League Schools Tournament and raised the new trophy especially created for the competition - a replica of the Barclays Premier League trophy that was handed to Manchester United on Sunday at Old Trafford.

The team of Emma Nisbet, Lydia Bennett, Verity Ward, Hollie Massey, Caitlin Green, Amy Rodgers, Rebecca Barlow and Kia Cooke-Bailey had achieved something beyond their wildest dreams and the whole school is now celebrating their success with them.

The Premier League Schools Tournament is a fantastic event which allows hundreds of young players the chance to experience the thrill of being treated like a Premier League footballer. Each of the 20 Barclays Premier League Clubs stages their own competition to select a school to represent them, with more than 800 schools and 6,500 players battling it out for the right to play at Anfield on finals day. The team from CHS were selected by our local Premier League Club, Stoke City, to represent them in the tournament.

The girls travelled to Liverpool the day before and stayed overnight in a hotel, having meals together as a team before going to Anfield itself for the finals. They wore proper Premier League club kit, used the same dressing-rooms that the professionals use on match-day and were even refereed by Premier League match officials.



There has been a real buzz in school about the tournament and about 50 students and staff travelled to Anfield to support the team, which is captained by England Under-15 midfielder Hollie Massey and also includes midfielder Amy Rogers, who plays for Everton Ladies. Hollie commented *"We had a great turnout and a lot of classmates came along. It's just been a great day. I'd like to thank Stoke for helping us, too."*

PE teacher and team coach, Chris Naylor said *"It has been an absolutely amazing experience and it has helped us to sell football to girls at the school. Girls have been asking if they can join and when does the football start again. It is one of those where success breeds success."*

Congleton High School will be the first name engraved on the green-stained mahogany base of the new trophy and the school will get to keep the trophy for 12 months. Principal, Mr Hermitt, commented *"We are so proud of the girls for this achievement. We already have a thriving PE department and we hope that this sort of high profile success will encourage even more students, both boys and girls, to get involved in sport."*

You can read all the match reports and how the girls made it to the finals by reading the Congleton High School Sports Blog at <http://www.congletonhighsports.blogspot.co.uk/>.

South Cheshire Athletics Champions

Approximately 100 students from Congleton High School competed for the school in the South Cheshire Athletics Championships on 8th July at the Cumberland Arena in Crewe. Congleton High School won the Minor (Year 7) boys competition and the Intermediate (Year 10&11) girls competition. CHS also dominated the combined team competition, winning by over 200 points from the school in 2nd place to once again be crowned the South Cheshire Schools Athletics Champions.



Commenting on the day, PE Teacher, Chris Naylor, said *"What an incredible day; the red hot performances of the students matched the soaring temperatures on the track."*

Curriculum Team Leader for PE, Louise Salt added *"This is the sixth time in the last 10 years that we have won this competition. We are so proud of our students, who have shown such great commitment to their sports this year. Without exception they have shown the desire and passion to achieve the highest possible standards and their enthusiasm has been rewarded with this fantastic achievement!"*

CHS cricketers win their own version of the Ashes

A CHS cricket team recently beat a school touring side from Australia in a match arranged through our tour provider Tours 4 Sport. The game was hastily arranged after the side from Haileybury College, Melbourne, had a fixture cancelled at short notice. The tour company contacted CHS, who were happy to oblige by putting together a select XI team made up of current Year 12s, Year 11s that are returning in September and some recently departed year 13s. The CHS team put in a great performance in the emphatic win, with BTEC sport student, Nick Atkinson, scoring 67 off 63 balls and taking 3 wickets to gain him recognition as 'Man of the Match.'

Mr Cross, Deputy Curriculum Team Leader for PE said

"Our appreciation and thanks goes to Peover Cricket Club for hosting the game at short notice and to Mr Naylor for taking the team. We extended a warm welcome to our visitors and hope to stay in contact with them in the future."



Year 8 Rounders Team – South Cheshire Champions

On Tuesday 25th June the Year 8 Rounders team won the South Cheshire Tournament. The team was undefeated in the group stage, beating Shavington, Eaton Bank, Brine Leas, Kingsgrove and St. Thomas More. They then played Sandbach High School in the final where they got all 9 players out in 9 balls and won the final 6½ rounders to 1.



Invitational Relay Champions

Congratulations to our Relay teams, who have proved to be unstoppable, with outstanding performances from both the girls and boys teams at a recent event. The evening consisted of 14 races of varying distances; the girls teams took 5 wins and two 2nd places and the boys teams finished with 4 wins, two 2nd places and a 3rd place. The overall results led to a convincing win for the team. Congratulations to all involved!

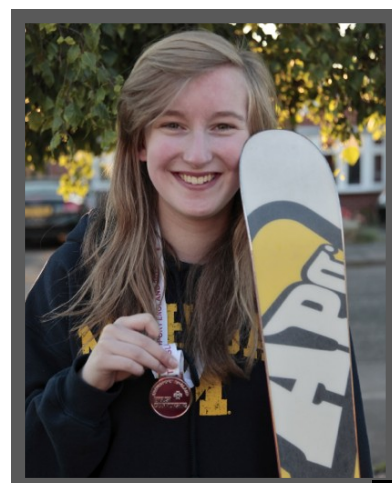
CHS students represent Cheshire at Inter-Counties Trophy

Three Congleton High School students were chosen to represent Cheshire Schools Athletics team at the Mason Trophy Inter Counties Schools Athletics Championships in Birmingham on 15th June 2013. CHS were one of the most represented schools in the Cheshire team and being selected was a fantastic achievement for our students. At the competition, they competed against students representing nine other counties and acquitted themselves extremely well.

Year 8 student, Jonathan Adderley, came fourth in the junior boys discus, competing against Year 9 students. He threw a personal best of 30.79m. Year 9 student, Beth Jones, came tenth in the junior girls 100m and Year 11 student, Sam Whitehead, finished fourth in the inter-boys 1500m. The Cheshire team were runners-up in the competition. Our congratulations go to all three students for representing their county and doing so well on the day.

Silver medals for Year 13 student

Congratulations to Year 13 student, Beth Britain, on her two silver medals at Snowsport England 2013. Beth has only just returned to competitive freestyle skiing following a back injury and what an excellent return it was! In the slope style competition Beth finished second in her age category and 6th overall. She also took part in the skiercross competition where she finished 2nd in her age category and 2nd overall. Well Done Beth!



MAN UTD MIDFIELDER, NICK POWELL, IS SPECIAL GUEST AT OUR SPORTS AWARDS EVENING

Manchester United midfielder, Nick Powell, gave our young sports stars memories they will treasure last week as he joined us for our 6th annual Sports Awards Evening and presented them with their awards.

Over 100 awards were presented during the evening, celebrating students' sporting successes both inside and outside of school. Awards were given for Contribution to School Sport, Future Champions, Player of the Year, Athlete of the Year, Team of the Year and The Daniel Sturridge Rising Star Award, named after the former student of the school. The coveted 'CHS Sports Person of the Year' award was won this year by Megan Aldred and George Johnson (Year 7), Rebecca Barlow and Lewis Bent (Year 8), Beth Jones and James Garside (Year 9), Mille Henderson and Brian Barton (Year 10) and Nina Bennett and Tom Hampton (Year 11). Hollie Massey, Captain of our Premier League Schools-winning football team, received the Daniel Sturridge Rising Star Award and the Lynda Arnold Award for Outstanding Contribution to School Sport was given to Nathan Stirk.

Principal, Mr Hermitt, said *"We were extremely privileged this year to have special guest Nick Powell of Manchester United to support the evening. He was interviewed by some of our Sports Journalists and gave the students an insight into what it is like performing at the highest level as well as some advice for our own Future Champions."* Mrs Louise Salt, Curriculum Team Leader for PE added *"The opportunity for the students to meet and receive awards from such a high profile performer is a memory they will treasure and a great way for us as staff to thank our students for the hard work and commitment they have demonstrated to their own sport this year."*

Reflecting on an incredibly successful year of sport for CHS, Mrs Salt said *"PE and School Sport at CHS is going from strength to strength with more students participating in extra-curricular clubs and more competitions entered than ever before. We are developing a legacy of sports students who not only enjoy their competitive sport but are also willing to volunteer their time to support the work of the PE department in helping to run School Games events for both our own school and the local primary schools."*

As well as the sport, invited parents, students, Governors and staff, were treated to a 3-course celebration dinner provided by our GCSE and BTEC catering and hospitality students. The students had to plan the whole event as part of their coursework and took on the roles of assistant managers. They served the guests a 'Great British' themed meal consisting of breakfast salad or leek and potato soup for starters, Steak and Ale or Vegetable Pie for the main course and a delicious raspberry cheesecake to finish. Commenting on the event, Year 12 catering student James Vickers, said *"Overall the day was a great success and we received countless compliments; many said it was the best they have attended."* One guest complimented the students on their excellent meal *"A lovely evening, food very nice again, service with a smile"*.

We are extremely grateful to Siemens, who sponsored this event covered the cost of all the trophies.



Key Dates for your diary

Wednesday 24th July 2013—1:10pm finish	School closes for the summer holidays
Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2013	Teacher INSET Day—school closed to students
Wednesday 4th September 2013	School re-opens to students
Thursday 26th September 2013—2:00pm finish	School closes early for Open Evening
Thursday 26th September 2013 6:30—8:30pm	Open Evening
Friday 18th October 2013	School closes for half term
Monday 28th October 2013	Teacher INSET Day—school closed to students
Tuesday 29th October 2013	School re-opens to students
Friday 20th December 2013	School closes for Christmas holidays