



COLCHESTER  
PREP AND HIGH SCHOOL

# CPHS

# CONNECT

A FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

16 June 2023  
Issue 45



## Full STEAM Ahead

It was fantastic to celebrate 140 years of excellent education at Colchester Prep & High School with our whole school community at our Summer Ball on Friday night. Amidst the beautiful setting of Wivenhoe House, our guests enjoyed a delicious dinner, showed some fabulous footwork on the dance floor, and raised considerable funds to support ongoing educational enrichment. Like many a good party, there was indeed – an eclectic group of us still standing when the clock struck midnight!

In celebrating 140 years, our school, founded in 1882, has continued to build its reputation for providing an excellent all-round education, whilst preparing pupils to be confident, balanced individuals, ready for a rapidly changing world. Today, that reputation and central purpose still stands firm, whilst also moving forwards into the 21st century.

As such, I am delighted to share with our CPHS community – the exciting news that Cognita (our School's Group) has confirmed their investment in our **NEW, 'State of the Art' STEAM Centre of Excellence and Innovation**. Based at the Oxford Road site, our new STEAM Centre will include maker-spaces' dedicated to:

- \* textiles
- \* robotics
- \* broadcasting
- \* gaming
- \* electronics
- \* food science
- \* media and animation
- \* an additional Science Lab.



Opening for September 2024, it is anticipated that these forward thinking, future ready facilities will enable us to "Steam Ahead" for another 140 years; ensuing your child has the knowledge and mindset to be the next generation of entrepreneurs, digital creatives, wind energy engineers, driverless car mechanics, metaverse developers or telesurgeons of the future.

## Happy 140th Birthday

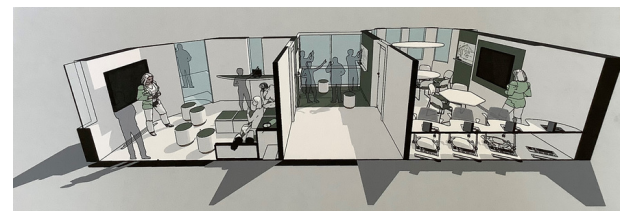
By Ben (Y10) - June 2023

It all began in 1882, our great school was created,  
Pinafores girls skipped down the corridor, tardy to their next lesson  
Wooden lidded desks crash as lids are slammed  
Bellows of angry teachers echo down great hallways  
The scent of fresh ink fills the classes whilst gossiping, giggling girls prepare  
Suddenly, alert at attention; as Groany strides forth...  
How fortunate are they, at this 'most desirable establishment for girls'?

60 years on and the horror of the second world war lays waste the normal rhythms of school life  
The playground shakes as the battle of Britain dog fights overhead  
Boys run with Mickey- mouse gas masks, stampeding to the bunker beneath the saddened  
playground  
Fears and hopes mingle as hugging children wish to survive,  
Savour their lives from the reaper which is war.

2023 and the boy arrives late again as buses surge past  
Laughter fills the corridors, resounding with the happiness of pupils supported in their endeavours  
Girls and boys integrated in their hopes, aspirations and ambitions for success  
The pandemic didn't stop them; laptops linking learning, teachers inspiring, future leaders enabled  
This great school, wisened with experience, remains triumphant.

Surging ahead, fast forwarding, STEAM powered!... we are future ready.  
Bold ambitions pervade all within these inclusive bounteous walls.  
Colchester Prep and High School.... Not only One- Four- Zero.....  
But ONE FOR ALL forever!



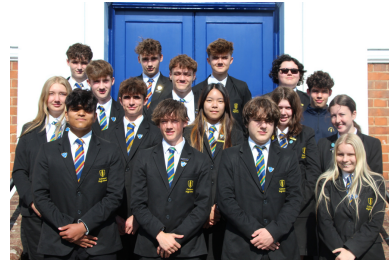
## 140th Summer Ball in Pictures



# CPHS Connected

## New School Leadership

Please join us in congratulating our new Year 6 and Year 11 prefects for the 2023-24 Academic Year. We are so proud of all the pupils who put themselves forward for these roles. We do hope that those who were not successful this time will put themselves forward for other leadership roles within the school community.



## CHSA Father's Day Stall

## Cognita Steps Challenge



Thank you to Mrs Freeman, Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Scott, Mrs Cleavelly, Mrs Baumbach and Mrs Whitbread for organising the Father's Day Stall. We do hope everyone enjoys their gifts.

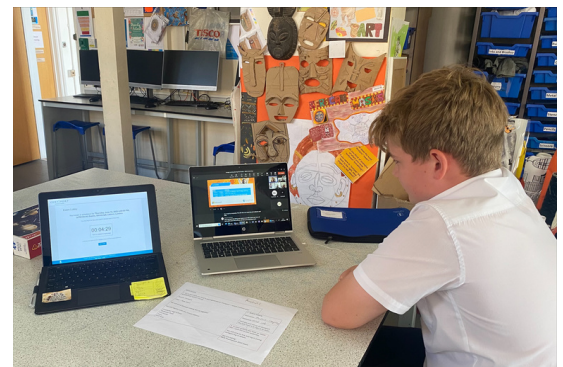


Congratulations to Mr Door who came 3rd in The Cognita Steps Challenge for 2023 (31 days of May) with a grand total of 898,528 steps! Mr Door received a personalised water bottle for his efforts.

# Digitally Connected

## Top Performer at MOS UK & IE Championship

On Thursday 15 June **Austin (Y9)** took part in the MOS UK & IE Championship. He was selected to participate based on his high pass rate in his initial Microsoft Office PowerPoint exam out of over 40,000 pupils. Austin worked amazingly well in the MOS UK & IE championship and achieved 4th place overall. He has already said he is going to focus on his MOS Word ready for next years championship that takes place in Florida Well done Austin!.





# Academically Connected

## Careers Talks: Engineering and Constuction



Thank you to Amy Barr and Mrs Bradley from Colchester Institute for coming into school recently to give a talk to pupils from Year 6 to Year 10 about careers in the Engineering and Construction industry. The importance and relevance of our STEAM curriculum was clear to all our pupils as they thought about the role they can play in tomorrow's rapidly evolving and ever changing workplace.



## Inspired through Competition

By Oliver (Y6)

On Tuesday 23 May, Alex, Emilia, Eleanor and I went to Littlegarth School for the annual Prep School Maths Challenge. I thought the competition was a great way to inspire pupils to work hard, it also shows other schools what learning at our school is like. One of the many challenges we faced was a mathematical word search and the ongoing 'stinker' round. The whole competition was challenging, but we all had fun. Mrs Rush was really impressed with our team who were the only ones to quickly understand the challenge that she was in charge of!



## Year 1 and 2 Walton Seaside Visit

To support their Humanities and Science topics this half term, Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a beautifully sunny trip to Walton-on-the-Naze where they completed beach studies, map work and some observational drawings. They also learnt the importance of water safety. They also got to take the train to Walton which was a particular highlight of their day!

This is what the pupil's had to say:

**Elizabeth (Y1):** "We learnt about beach safety and the coastguard."

**Amelia (Y2):** "If you see the red flag flying in the air, it means it is dangerous for you to go into the sea."

**Duke (Y2):** "We learnt about green energy and wind farms. It was so windy our hats blew off!"

**Dontae (Y1):** "We dug a hole and we found water under the sand."



## ISA Coronation Art Challenge

Congratulations to Noah in Nursery whose artwork has been added to the ISA Coronation Art Challenge Gallery. He was also very proud to receive a prize of a mug with his artwork printed on from [Art Projects for Schools](#).



# Community Connected

## Play and Learn – Cold Cookery



It was lovely to welcome so many children and parents to our May Play and Learn session. The children enjoyed a cold cookery activity session where they made their own colourful and very tasty fruit kebabs. The children also had the opportunity to play in our Early Years Outdoors garden in the beautiful sunshine.

## A Space Escape Adventure – Year 5 STEAM Day

It was such a delight on Saturday 20 May to welcome Year 5 pupils from across Colchester to our Space Escape Adventure event. Pupils had accepted the mission to be locked in space and had to use their powers of observation and knowledge of STEAM to work together to escape. This was our 3rd annual Full STEAM Ahead event and we were so pleased to see that all the pupils safely returned to earth.



# Character Connected

## Tea Time Concert: Performing Arts

On Wednesday 28 May, pupils from across the school entertained their parents, friends, and staff with some fabulous performances at our Summer Term Teatime recital. From our youngest performer in Year 2 showing us how a recorder should be played to a professionally performed Grade 8 violin performance of 'Méditation' by Jules Massenet accompanied by Ms Romero-Fernandez on piano, we were mesmerised by the talent and confidence of our pupils who also introduced their performances. Teatime recitals are a lovely opportunity for our pupils to perform in front of a small audience in a safe space and helps build within them the self-confidence and self-esteem to take centre stage throughout their lives.



Please note that our next Musical Concert will be "A Night at the Movies" and will take place on Thursday 29 June at 5.30pm.



# CONGRATULATIONS GO TO.....



**Jacob** (Y6) who passed his Level 3 Ballroom Dancing UKA dance examination with highly commended and his Level 2 Latin Dancing examination with commended.  
**Darcey** (Y5) who earned her LAMDA Level 1 Award in Performance with Distinction.

# Globally Connected

## Clean Air Day - 15 June 2023

Take a deep breath and please join us to celebrate the importance of clean air and it's impact on our wellbeing. Clean air is not just a luxury; it is a fundamental requirement for a healthy and thriving environment.

We are excited to share with you how our school community demonstrated our commitment towards improving air quality on Clean Air Day. The day started with members of our school Eco Club reminding our parents to switch off their engines around the school premises to help keep our school a safe place of learning. Did you know that if you sit stationary outside school in your car with the engine running that you, and any other children you may have in the vehicle with you, will be breathing in air which is up to seven times more polluted than the air outside the car?

Our Prep Eco Club pupils also took the time to meet in our outdoor classroom and talk about what clean air means to them. All of them appreciated the addition this year of the living wall to the outdoors classroom which was installed to help purify the air, reduce the ambient temperature and promote biodiversity in the school grounds. Thank you to the CHSA PTA for funding this addition to our school environment and supporting us in our sustainability goals.

Jess, Jack, Lewis and Millie from Year 10 also met with Ms Gracie-Langrick to discuss what Cognita could do to make our schools more sustainable and we look forward to exploring their suggestions further as we work towards our aspiration to be net zero by 2030.

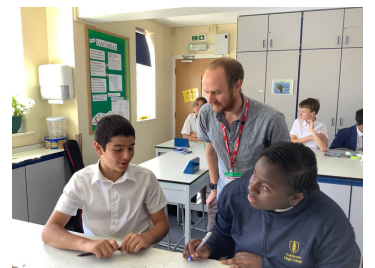
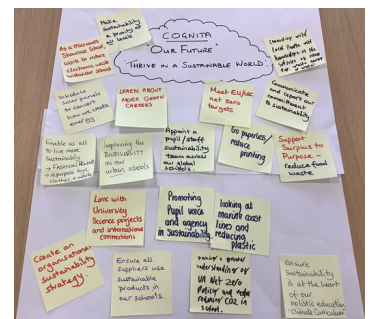
This afternoon, our Year 9 pupils had a practical science lesson with Dr Robert Fergusson, lecturer at Essex University, where they undertook microbial air sampling across our school. Dr Fergusson will be incubating the pupil's microbial action on petri dishes and we look forward to analysing the results.

## Pre-Loved Community Event



Congratulations to the Wellbeing Ambassadors on another highly successful 'Pre-Loved Clothing and Toys' event. We hoped you all picked up some bargains! All monies raised will go to Y.E.S and we have also helped to reduce our carbon footprint by recycling unwanted clothes.

An estimated £140 million worth of used clothing goes to waste every year - that's around 350,000 tonnes. Binned clothes fill up landfill sites, raise greenhouse gas emissions, and harm the environment.





# Actively Connected

## SPORTS & CLUBS UPDATE

by Mr Dowson

*Working together to provide sporting opportunities for our young people.*

## Sports Day 2023

It has been such a delight to hold our annual Sports Days over the last few weeks and I have been so inspired by all our pupils who worked so incredibly hard on improving their personal bests in a range of athletic activities. Events have included track, long jump, shot, cricket ball throw and turbo javelin and of course our novelty races of egg and spoon, skipping and the sack race. It was lovely once again to also see the amazing camaraderie as all the pupils cheered each other on and supported their Houses! Special congratulations go to:

### Our new school record holders:

Taylor (Y9) – shot putt and javelin,  
Adam (Y7) – 600m  
Quentin (Y9) 100 m

### Our House Winners:

Pre-Prep – Saxons  
Prep – Romans  
Seniors – Saxons





# SPORTS RESULTS

## Cricket at Gosfield School

On Wednesday 17 May, our U-11 Cricket team had their first 20-over soft ball match of the season over at Gosfield School. The two teams batted and bowled in pairs, with Gosfield batting first and making 88 runs. CPHS went on to reach a winning score of 89 with only one over remaining. **Ted, Rafe, James, Logan and Harry** all took wickets with the ball and there was some good fielding. **Ted, James, and Alex** top scored with the bat.

Meanwhile our Year 7 & 8 team participated in their first 20-over hard ball cricket match of the season. **Aaron** was in great form with the bat and the ball, taking 3 wickets and retiring on 20 not out. **Nicholas and Adam** made the crucial catches at the end, as CPHS made a fantastic 118 runs vs Gosfield's 84 all out.

## Gosfield U-10 Kwik Cricket Tournament

On Friday 19 May, our U-10 Cricket team took part in the annual Gosfield U-10 Kwik Cricket tournament. Although the team were defending the title that they won last year there were some big schools present, and the competition was very tough. Nevertheless, the team learnt a lot and certainly had some exciting moments in their games.



## ISA Junior Athletics, Southend

Congratulations go to our Prep School athletics team who took part in the ISA Junior Athletics Championships at Garons Park in Southend on Wednesday, 24 May. Competition was extremely tough with lots of ISA schools from all over Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire present. Star of the day was **Rosemary (Y4)**, who fought until the finish line in the Year 4 Girls 600m to finish second and earn a place at the ISA Nationals in Birmingham on Monday 19 June. Well done to all of our team.



## ISA Senior Athletics, Cambridge

Congratulations go to all of the team who took part in the ISA Senior Athletics at Cambridge University Athletics Track on Thursday 25 May. Amongst tough competition, there were event wins for: **Taylor (Y9)**(Javelin & Shot Putt), **Jude (Y10)**(1500m) and **Ben (Y10)**(800m). There were also silver medals and runner up spots for: **Niamh (Y7)** (1500m), **Adam (Y7)**(1500m), and **William (Y9)** (Discus). Well done to all of the team. I hope you enjoyed the day. The ISA Nationals are on Monday 19 June in Birmingham.



## Essex Schools Athletics

Congratulations to **Arthur (Y10)** who won the Essex Schools 3000m on Saturday 10 June and has been selected to go to the English Schools event in Birmingham. And to **Taylor (Y9)** who came 6th out of 20 in the Javelin.

## CONGRATULATIONS GO TO.....

**Oscar (Y9)** who won "Players Player" of the year, nominated by his local football team, Beacon Hill Rovers, U14s and got through to the Essex County LTA Tennis final start "Play your way to Wimbledon".



**Oscar and Ethan (Y9)** who both recently attended a 4-day football academy tour to Scotland with Ipswich Town, playing against Glasgow Rangers & East Fife, training at Glasgow Rangers indoor centre and enjoying a tour of Ibrox Stadium.



# Notices

## Summer Hats and Sunscreen

Please can we remind all parents that sunhats are available for purchase from the CHSA. Hats are £5 each and **the only hats to be worn in school**. Nursery pupils are also asked to leave a named bottle of sunscreen (SPF50) in Nursery. All other pupils are asked to apply sunscreen in the morning before coming to school.



## Dogs

Please note that dogs are not permitted on the school car park during collection and drop-off.

## Toys Donations

The Nursery and Reception kindly request any donations of toys that your children might have outgrown. Donations can be dropped off at the Main Reception.



# CPHS Events

## Play and Learn – Teddy Bear Picnic

**COLCHESTER**  
PREP AND HIGH SCHOOL

### Play and Learn

A Parent and Toddler  
First Steps in Learning Event

**Friday 30 June**  
10 am to 11 am

Please bring your favourite bear and  
join us for a Teddy Bear's Picnic and  
morning of playing, singing and music.

For children aged 2 - 4 years

To Book Your Place  
E: [info@colchesterhighschool.co.uk](mailto:info@colchesterhighschool.co.uk)  
T: 01206 573 389

Please bring your favourite bear and join us for a Teddy Bear's Picnic and morning of playing, singing and music at our Play and Learn on Friday 30 June.

All children must be accompanied by a parent, grandparent or other guardian and not currently a pupil at CPHS.

Please contact us to book your place by emailing [info@colchesterhighschool.co.uk](mailto:info@colchesterhighschool.co.uk) or by calling 01206 573 389.

## Diary Dates

### June

#### Monday 19

Year 7 Induction Day  
Prep School Move up (pm)

#### Monday 19 & Tuesday 20

Years 6 - 10 Careers Days

#### Tuesday 20 - Friday 23

Year 7 & 8 Residential Trip

#### Monday 26

Nursery Key Person Meeting

#### Tuesday 27

Character Development  
Presentations - Years 3-9  
Dramafest Year 8

#### Wednesday 28

Character Development  
Presentations - Year 10  
Nursery Key Person Meeting  
ESB Exams - Prep

#### Thursday 29

Summer Concert

#### Friday 30

Play and Learn  
Teddy Bear Picnic  
Year 11 Prom

### July

#### Monday 3 - Friday 7

Year 5 & 6 PGL Trip

#### Wednesday 5

Year 1-4 Zoo Visit

#### Thursday 6

CPHS Art Exhibition

#### Friday 7

ESB Examination - Year 7

**Please refer to the calendar on Cognita Connect for dates and events.**