



Dear parents

Welcome to our first Summer edition of our school newsletter. As you will see and read throughout, the school community have already been incredibly active in their endeavours.

It is certainly full STEAM ahead within our new STEAM centre as over the Easter break the initial preparatory works within the centre come to a close. It was extremely exciting to see just how the building work is progressing and to see the Climate Science Lab, with its new rotator blade design coming to life in preparation for practical experimentation and collaboration and to see the final instillation of furniture within our new textiles and sustainable fashion classroom. During this term, subject leads will be visiting the centre to finalise equipment requests for these new maker-spaces, ready for learning. Over Easter, it was fantastic to meet with the Mercury Theatre production specialists and also this week with Mr Lightning and Jerry Meeham, owner of Wendyhouse Studios and Bass Guitarist for Robbie Williams and One Direction, to finalise plans for the room design and to discuss the tech required for our new Recording Studio and Film/Media Rooms.

Last Friday, we were delighted to host the Cognita Schools' Digital Showcase event, welcoming over 20 schools into CPHS to benefit from the expertise of our staff and pupil Microsoft Expert Educators. Throughout this term, and in support of our Microsoft Showcase annual application, staff and pupils will continue to develop their expertise in the use of new Microsoft Applications, as many embark on completing the Microsoft Advance Educator (MAE) Award.

Finally, I am also delighted to share with you the excellent promotional video for language learning and acquisition, Linguascope. Thank you to all our pupils and staff for their participation and professionalism in this production; the final footage is something that our school should rightly be proud to have achieved. [Linguascope video](#)

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Ms Gracie-Langrick



'It was inspiring to put the creative hat on and think about how to best equip the space. I very much look forward to the fantastic experiences this is going to provide for our music and performing arts students' - Mrs Romero-Fernandez



STEAM POWERED FUTURE READY





CPHS Connected

WELCOMING NEW STAFF



We are delighted to welcome our new Head of Outdoor Learning & Global Enrichment, Mr Julier, who brings over two decades of experience to the role.

Mr Julier has a distinguished career, having led a large and successful Physical Education department in Colchester. He is the Chair of North East Essex School Sport, an organisation which CPHS takes pride competing in. Mr Julier is keen for CPHS students to become competitive in cricket, rounders, and netball in the coming months and his renowned expertise will only strengthen the school's sporting provision.



Mr Julier is no stranger to athletic pursuits himself - he competed as an age grouper for Great Britain at the Ironman 70.3 World Championships held in Finland last season and last Sunday he participated in the London Marathon. His participation in these events highlights his passion for inspiring pupils to set aspirational goals and demonstrate resilience to challenges.



We also welcome Mrs Miles to the role of Comms and Events coordinator.

Mrs Miles has a wealth of experience working within admissions in the education sector and most recently as a pastoral tutor for a Further Education college.

Mrs Miles is excited to embrace this opportunity to work at CPHS which involves working across the entire school community; prepping events, updating our social media platforms and communicating with parents; including becoming editor-in-chief of the newsletter!

Mrs Miles is passionate about the arts having trained as a dancer and in her spare time can often be found performing in musicals in the local area.

If you have anything that you would like to be added into future newsletters, please contact Mrs Miles directly on SarahS.Miles@cognita.com

Character Connected

EXTRA - CURRICULAR

It is important to recognise the importance of a well-rounded, holistic education which is why I advocate for pupils' participation in various extra-curricular activities at the school. They provide pupils with invaluable opportunities to develop new skills, explore their interests, and build lasting friendships.

I have launched a campaign encouraging parents to sign their children up for clubs at CPHS. By highlighting the numerous benefits of extra-curricular participation, I hope to enrich the educational experience for pupils and cultivate a vibrant school community.

- **Mr Julier**



Spotlight on Mercury Theatre Club



We are thrilled to be able to offer Mercury Theatre Club. This offers an awe-inspiring opportunity to work alongside an experienced West End Musical Theatre professional, Vivien Carter. Vivien has performed around the world and currently works as an acting and vocal coach.

The sessions will include singing, dancing and performance skills and will focus on the magical musical, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, leading up to a final performance on Thursday 4th July.

This club meets every Monday and is open to all in Years 3-8.

Should you wish your child to join this exciting new club, there is still time. Just email the office (info@colchesterhighschool.co.uk) to secure a place.

Furthermore if you wish your child/ren to join any of the other clubs on offer, again, please email the office with your request. Please note you will only be contacted if a place is not available.



D of E Award



Well done to Phoebe (Y10) who has completed her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and was presented with her certificate in assembly. A fantastic achievement.





Inspiring Visitors



Year 10 welcomed Louis Alexander to speak to them during their PSHE lesson last week. Louis is an adventurer, explorer and storyteller and the pupils were captivated by his inspirational tales of his endeavours.

Through his challenges, most recently completing a challenge to run seven marathons in the most remote corners of the seven continents, he also raised tens of thousands for charity.

With some interesting questions from pupils, he discussed the importance having support crews with him, of mindset and of finding purpose.



Music



We have lots excellent music exam results to celebrate:

- Felix (Yr 10) passed his Grade 5 Piano with Distinction
- Barney (Yr 5) Grade 3 Piano and Grade 3 Music theory, attaining a distinction in both.
- Robbie (Yr4) passed his Piano exam with Merit.

Well done all for these fantastic results!



Marathon Man



Special mention must go to Mr Julier who took part in the London Marathon last Sunday. Mr Julier represented the main Marathon sponsor, TCS Teaching Team. Mr Julier was able to speak to Radio BBC Essex about his

upcoming run and his determination to do it. He achieved it in a very respectable time of just over four hours. What an inspiration - well done, Mr Julier!



Academically Connected



Year 10 History: Junk Modelling



The Year 10 History class last week used 'Junk modelling' to create Norman castles to show methods of William the Conqueror's control over the English. Pupils were placed in teams, and given a box of junk and a choice of designing a Norman Keep or a Motte and Bailey castle. Once completed, they presented their castles to the rest of their class.



Mrs Larwood had the tough job of deciding a winner but Motte and Bailey just pipped the other team to win a homework pass. Great work for both teams!



Forest School



This week in our outdoor learning, we created our very own Mandala. A Mandala is a geometric pattern, often a circle that is used in spiritual traditions to symbolise the universe.

We collected nature items from the woodland environment, counted the sticks and created a pattern by using green and brown leaves. They worked brilliantly together, once we had arranged our Mandala in a circle we all stood around it and practised saying the word Mandala.



Cover design

Wishing all our pupils who have entered their cover design for the Tending Show, the best of luck!



Design a cover for the programme

Over 71 entries so far! ©

**TENDING
SHOW
2024**
Brought to you by Tending
Hundred Farmers' Club



Digitally Connected

Cognita Digital Showcase Day



Last Friday, we welcomed staff from around 20 other Cognita Schools for our Cognita Digital Showcase Day.

It was a fantastic opportunity for both staff and pupils to share their expertise and skills for using technology for personalised teaching and learning.

"I loved explaining to everyone that many of us at CPHS are digital champions and Microsoft Office specialists and how we are learning workplace skills and using Edtech to make us future ready. It makes me feel very proud of being the Prep Head boy at such an amazing school, and one which is the only Microsoft Showcase Schools in Essex." - **Ben (Y6)**



"I thoroughly enjoyed the Cognita Showcase event and to meet new people who are part of the Cognita community. It was a great experience to teach others and to learn many new things. Thank you to the teachers who gave us this amazing opportunity." - **Darcey (Y6)**



Microsoft Office Exams



Pupils who are ready to sit their Microsoft Office Exam in PowerPoint, Excel or Word will be sitting them next week beginning Monday 29 April (exam window is all week). Ms Haggerty & Mrs Smith will advise pupils of times.

Please encourage your child to practise at home on the 'GMetrix' platform (they will only be put forward for the exam if they are ready!)

Good Luck!



Actively Connected

SPORTS AND CLUBS UPDATE

Since returning from the Easter break, we have been focussed on fitness with our bleep tests taking place. There has been an incredible effort from the pupils to improve their scores - special mention to the Year 7s who could not have tried harder! - **Mr Dowson**

Senior House Football results 2024

Congratulations go to the **Danes**, the 2024 House Football Winners!

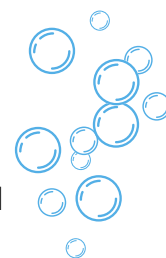


	NORMANS	ROMANS	SAXONS	DANES
YEAR 7	4	3	1	9
YEAR 8	1	9	6	1
YEAR 9	1	4	2	9
YEAR 10	4	5	3	4
POINTS	10	21	12	23



Colchester Schools Gala

On Tuesday 21 March, our senior swimming team travelled to Leisure World for the Annual Colchester Schools Gala. The team were brilliant, with wins for: Adam (Backstroke) and the Year 9 Freestyle relay team (William, Eli, Aaron & Jed). Second places went to Safia (Medley relay), Year 7 boys Medley relay (Freddy, Eli, Kallum & Sam), Charlotte (Medley relay) and Year 9 Medley relay (as above). Well done to you all!



SPORTS FIXTURE NEWS

Year 7 Football at Thurstable School - Tuesday 19 March

Thurstable 5 v CPHS 1 - A much better performance from the team, with lots of positives and full commitment until the final whistle. Player of the Match was our captain and goal scorer, Joseph.

Year 8 & 10 Friendlies at Colchester Royal Grammar School - Tuesday 26 March

CRGS 4 v 2 Year 8 - Archie and Adam scored the goals, but defender David was our Player of the Match

CRGS 9 v 1 Year 10 - Playing with a team of only 10 made the match a challenging task. So, a huge thank you to Player of the Match Sam for helping us to make 11. Nathan scored the CPHS goal.

Congratulations go to:

Aaron (Y3), who has been given a medal for his super refereeing at David Lloyd Club. Aaron said, "I enjoy it. I didn't have to give any cards out but sometimes the players are tricky." Well done Aaron!





Notices

New After School Club Phone



After School Club has a new mobile phone number. Please delete the previous number and add the following to your directory.

07776601647

This number can also be used for Breakfast Club and Nursery Wraparound if required.

Diary Dates

May

Wednesday 1

Year 10 Parents' Evening (in person)

Thursday 2

Open Morning

Thursday 9

Community Choir session

Saturday 18

STEAM Taster Day - Year 5

Monday 20 - Friday 24

Year 7-9 GL Assessment Week

Thursday 23

Teatime Recital (by invitation)

Friday 24

Nursery Play and Learn

June

Monday 3 - Friday 7

Year 1 - 6 Assessment Week

Monday 3 - Friday 14

GL Assessments Seniors

Saturday 8

Year 3 & 4 Journey Around the World Event

Events

Our next Open Morning is Thursday 2 May 9.30am-11.30am.

The Open Morning will provide prospective parents with an opportunity to learn more about our school and our STEAM Powered Future Ready curriculum. Please feel free to attend if you would like to learn more about what we are offering your children in the next key stage of their education. To book a place, please fill in the short form [here](#) or contact the Admissions Team on 01206 589 998.

Get ready for a STEAM Space Escape Adventure on Saturday 18 May 9.30am-11.30am. This is open to anyone currently in Year 5 so please invite friends to come along. Booking is required so please call 01206 589 998 to confirm a place.