

# School Matters

October 2020



**Welcome** to the October edition of our School Matters newsletter.

As we wind down to the end of term, this edition highlights some of the fantastic work our students have been doing and also the activities that have been going on throughout our primary phase to celebrate our Big Health and Happiness Week.

I'd like to wish all our staff, students and their families a very good end of term break and hope you all manage to get that well-earned break.

*Regards,*

David James  
Principal



[www.ccs.northants.sch.uk](http://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk)



Primary: 01604 669210  
Secondary: 01604 669200

## In This Issue

### Key information

Principal's Update .....	2
Our response to COVID-19 cases .....	2
Reminders .....	3
Halloween and Bonfire Night safety .....	4

### Updates

Celebrating our Successes .....	5
2021/22 Year 7 Virtual Tour .....	5
2020/21 Foundation Stage intake .....	6
High Performance Learning .....	7
Remembrance Day .....	9
Sixth Form update .....	10
Vacancies .....	11

### Teaching and Learning

Foundation Stage, KS1&2 updates .....	12
Art & Design .....	15
English .....	17
Performing Arts .....	19
Sports .....	20

### Key Dates

<b>24 October - 2 November</b>	End of term break
<b>31 October</b>	Deadline for submission of secondary school applications
<b>2 November</b>	Teacher training day
<b>9 November</b>	CCS Friends meeting



# Key Information

## Principal's Update

We have now concluded our first proper full term back in school and I am really pleased at the way in which staff and students have settled back in. Students enthusiasm for learning is evident and we are continuing with our High Performance Learning strategy which is being incorporated into all lessons now, with a focus on a different Advanced Cognitive Performance characteristic each week.

Our Primary Phase held their first virtual Parents Evenings this week, which have been a huge success using Microsoft Teams. It provided a good opportunity for our class teachers to speak with parents, albeit virtually, which I know is a vital element that is missing at drop off and collection times. Again, a huge thank you to everyone involved in making this a success and to parents for their time (and patience) with this.

---

## Our response to COVID-19 cases

As you will be aware, as a school, we have now had 5 confirmed COVID-19 cases amongst our secondary phase and staff. We are confident that, on taking advice from Public Health England (PHE) and the local Health Protection Team on each occasion, the risk of infection within the wider school community from these cases is minimal and that all appropriate action has been taken with regards to specific students having to self-isolate.

Thanks to our robust arrangements around bubble systems and seating plans, the number of students who have had to self-isolate due to these cases has been minimal. As a school, we are continuing to ensure our safety guidelines are followed at all times to ensure both our staff and students are kept safe.

We would ask that you continue to do your bit for our community and, in particular, remind you of the request issued by the Director of Public Health, Northamptonshire on 22 October (and shared with you Friday 23 October) to, where possible, use the end of term break as a natural 'circuit breaker'.



## Reminders

Please can we remind you that all students in Year 7 and above are required to wear face coverings whilst moving around indoors, such as corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain, unless they are exempt for medical reasons and are wearing an orange lanyard.

Face masks should also be worn at all times outside, with the exception of when consuming food or drink during break and lunchtime. This includes, for the avoidance of doubt, when the students are outside in the 'street' area during breaks and lessons, and not consuming food or drink, and also to students studying in groups in the Sixth Form centre, unless facing forward. **Please can we ask you to reinforce this with your children.**

Please can we also ask students to bring a small bag to school to place their mask in when not being worn. For any students using a disposable mask, we would ask that they carry a spare in case theirs becomes lost or damaged during the day.

### Help keep our school safe



Clean your hands



Wear your face covering



Make space (2 metres apart)



## Halloween and Bonfire Night safety

We would like to share with you some useful resources that Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service have shared with us as part of their #CreepSafe campaign for parents, carers and students to all bear in mind in readiness for these upcoming events.

The information contains useful reminders and safety precautions to be aware of. Please can we encourage parents and carers to read this information and share with children, where appropriate. A copy of their newsletter can be found on our website via the following link: <https://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/news-and-events/letters-home/halloween-and-bonfire-night-safety>

If clothing catches fire, remember to

**STOP, DROP and ROLL**



**STOP** where you are, do not run.



**DROP** to the ground. Lie down flat.



**ROLL** over and over on the ground until flames are out.



### KEEP CHILDREN AWAY FROM CANDLES

Never leave them alone with naked flames, matches or lighters.



**CREEP SAFE THIS HALLOWEEN**

**#CreepSafe**







# Updates

## Celebrating our successes

### Students

We would like to continue to celebrate the successes of our students, both inside and out of the classroom. Below you will find a variety of positive feedback for students that our staff have put forward for recognition.

- "I'm absolutely loving teaching 9AAI what a great bunch of students! Enthusiastic, well behaved, join in class discussions and complete work" - Mrs Sawbridge



- "S Miskelly has found a new career path as a Theatre Sound designer/technician!!! He blew us away in a recent drama lesson with how he'd selected, manipulated and organised his sound clips into a successful playlist, to support a GCSE piece. He even made his own 'To Do' list, without prompting and added ideas he'd had to enhance the sound. Here is a luminous photo of him in action!" - Mrs Atherton
- "12c Spanish have recently done their second mini research presentation and got off to a great start with their work ethic, enthusiasm and openness to contribute to discussion and look at things from other perspectives. All key skills for successful languages A level students. Keep up the good work!" - Miss Unsworth
- "12D/IT are a great group of students, lots of independent work happening, did well in their first topic test. Really hard working and a pleasure to teach" - Mrs Sawbridge

## 2020/21 Foundation Stage and Year 7 intakes

We still have a few spaces in our current Reception and Year 7 intakes. If you are aware of any parents who may still be looking for a space in these year groups please make them aware. Applications should initially be made via Northamptonshire County Council by [clicking here](#).

If you have any questions regarding admissions please contact:

[admissions@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@ccs.northants.sch.uk)



## 2021 / 2022 School Admissions

Our Year 7 2021/22 Virtual Tour is now live on our website - <https://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/news-and-events/year-7-2021-virtual-tour>

The page includes an introduction from some members of our Senior Leadership Team and provides the opportunity to take a look at the facilities we have on offer, as well as subject specific presentations from our talented faculty leaders.

Please do spread the word to friends, families and colleagues who may have children transitioning to Year 7 next September to take a look. For any specific queries around admissions for September 2021, please email: [2021admissions@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:2021admissions@ccs.northants.sch.uk)

We are also in the planning stages of our open tours for Early Years Foundation Stage and our Sixth Form intakes for September 2021 which will also be held virtually this year. We envisage they will be ready to launch late November/early December and will keep our website and social media updated.






# High Performance Learning

## Family Challenge

We would like to share with you below a selection of HPL Family Challenges that we would encourage you to take part in over the half-term break. They are designed for the whole family to enjoy, and to incorporate both ACPs and VAAs in your home life too!

### Activities to practise ACPs and VAAs with your family



These challenges are designed for all of the family to enjoy. Some involve competition and some will make you think hard. Reflect on how you used the ACPs and VAAs. Did you achieve high performance?

<b>The Art Challenge</b> Each member of the family must draw a self portrait using only a pen/pencil and paper.	<b>The Quiz Challenge</b> Create a family quiz. Each member of the family chooses a category e.g. Music and writes 5 challenging quiz questions.	<b>The Learning Challenge</b> Each member of the family has to teach everyone in the family something new.
<b>The Family Challenge</b> Work together to create a mood board or collage that represents your family.	<b>The Time Capsule Challenge</b> Make a time capsule together that will represent life in 2020. It should contain no more than 10 things.	<b>The Kindness Challenge</b> Each member of the family has to do something kind for the rest of the family.
<b>The Film Challenge</b> Each member of the family chooses a film that you watch together. Give it a mark out of 10 and justify your decision.	<b>The Invention Challenge</b> Work together, in teams or individually to invent something new. Pitch your invention to the rest of the family. Choose a winner.	<b>The Memory Challenge</b> Choose something that you have to memorise e.g. a poem or the periodic table. What strategies did you use to memorise it?

You could cut these activities out, put them in a container and pick them at random.

Learn more about HPL  
[www.highperformancelearning.co.uk](http://www.highperformancelearning.co.uk)



## House update

The House Team would like to say a big thank you to all of the previous house captains last year for all of their hard work and dedication to their roles, even through the difficult times of lockdown. These individuals have continued to work hard and have communicated effectively on their individual Team's council channels this year to provide new innovative ways to continue our positive changes and to overcome the obstacles. Each council has now agreed their focusses for the year and will continue to adapt to make these positive changes happen.



We have been contacted by Collingtree Park care home who are working on a project which the House Team will be involved in. The Collingtree Park care home would like to create a display to remember those who lost their lives in WW1 and WW2. They would like to decorate their care home with poppies to create their own remembrance service for their residents.

As part of this project we will be asking all students who would like to take part to create a poppy of any size or material which we will then be distribute to the care home for their display. We would also like to thank the Art department in advance for their contributions towards this project.

The House Team would like to reach out to the local care homes and offer a virtual Christmas songs event. During these difficult times it makes it difficult to visit the care homes to provide them with social interactions and company. We will be working with the Performing Arts team to provide this opportunity to reach out to the residents and spread some cheer.

## House Captain applications

This term the House Team have advertised the opening for new House Captains. We would like to thank all of those individuals who have taken their time to write a letter of interest, create an application video or create a presentation about why they would be suitable for the role. We were looking for individuals who share our values and are keen on making positive changes. The House Team are excited to review these applications and will appoint the successful candidates imminently. For those of you who applied, please keep an eye on your emails. We will share with you next term our new team for the year.



## House challenges

We are starting to look at new ways to deliver our House challenges across the whole school to continue to promote the importance of working together, as part of a team. We are pleased to announce that we will be offering online house challenges next term for all year groups to compete in. These challenges will be made available via Teams in secondary phase for students to complete during their own time. For Primary students we will make these available on Teams to be completed as part of their morning activities.

More recently in the secondary phase, we have had our first house competition which was run by Mrs D. Sereno-Spicer from the English department, to celebrate National Poetry day. Entries to this competition focused on the term 'vision' and could have been presented in any form. All entries to this competition achieved points for their House and additional points were awarded for the winners. Thank you to everyone who took part in this competition.

In addition to this Collingtree Care Home have reached out to their community to ask for entries to create a "Collingtree Park" recipe folder to celebrate "World Food Day". For Primary students who would like to be involved in this competition there will be further communication about submitting entries to this competition after half term via a school comms. For secondary students who would like to be involved - please check your year group team on Teams for further information on how to submit your entry. Please could all entries include a list of all ingredients used, the process and any images of the food to accompany. House points will be awarded for all entries. We look forward to seeing your delicious results. Entries close on Friday 13 November 2020.

## Remembrance Day

As you can imagine, this year's Remembrance Day service will be somewhat different to years gone by, but Northamptonshire's Mayor is keen to not let this stop the fantastic displays from members of the public - whether it be a poem, artwork, or a message to the people of Northampton, they'd love to hear from you. Full details of how to get involved can be found here: [Remembrance Day 2020 – How you can be involved](#)







## Sixth Form update

### Y13 Internal exams

A big well done to all our Y13 students who recently completed their internal exams this month. The students have been working hard in preparation for this set of exams with a large number of students engaging in the "Ace your exams" program from Elevate education that we purchased and hopefully the results will reflect the hard work put in by the students. The purpose of these exams was to allow the students to ascertain how they are progressing and what areas they need to focus on moving forwards along with providing staff additional evidence to formulate accurate UCAS predictions.

### UCAS applications

This month saw the submission of all our early applicant UCAS applications. Early applicants are for those students who are aiming to study at Oxford or Cambridge or are applying for medicine. We held an online Alumni meeting with current year 13s and two former students who have just started Medical school, which was an excellent opportunity to learn from their success and experience. We have also welcomed a visit from an Oxford graduate twice this term, for sessions with Year 13 and Year 12 potential Oxbridge applicants, helping to inspire students to aim high.

Our early applicant students had extensive assistance from Mr. Bloor and Mrs. Ideson to help prepare these applications. We had 12 early applicants this year, and we wish them all the best in their applications. A significant amount of work has also been put in place to help support the rest of the year group with their applications. The majority of students met their form tutors this month for an academic mentoring session and, as part of this meeting, time was allocated to providing feedback on the students' personal statement. Staff are currently completing subject references with form tutors, adding the details of the students extra and supra-curricular details and collating these so when the students make their university choices and finalise their personal statements, these applications will be ready to be submitted to UCAS.





## Y13 extra and supra-curricular activities

This month we were also really pleased to hold small and socially distanced assemblies (we did three to ensure the students were socially distanced) to Y12 students launching extra and supra-curricular activities. Engagement in these activities play a key part to the students developing the strength of their applications for their chosen pathway after they finish their A levels. This development of their character in addition to their academic studies plays a key role in students' success when applying to university, for a higher/degree apprenticeship or looking to go straight into employment. The details of these opportunities will be advertised to students via the year group Microsoft Teams channels. If, as a parent, you are reading this and you would be interested in offering any of these opportunities to our sixth form students please get in touch with the sixth form team.

## Vacancies

We are always on the look out for talented people to join our school. Please keep an eye out for any suitable opportunities that may arise on the vacancies section of our website: <https://ccs-northants.careers.eteach.com/>, or send in your CV via the link to join our Talent Pool.





# Teaching and Learning

## Foundation Stage, KS 1 & 2 updates

### Big Health and Happiness Week

To celebrate our Big Health and Happiness Week our primary pupils have had the great opportunity to take part in a variety of fun activities.

In Foundation Stage, the children have taken part in a range of activities for Big Health and Happiness week including party games, yoga, story telling and mindfulness.

Within our Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED) unit 'Here we Are' the children were learning about planet Earth and thought about all of the things that they loved about it. These included animals, flowers, the ocean, people and buildings. They have also been working really hard with their reading and number skills.







## Year 1

Our Year 1 children have been using their meta-thinking and linking skills in a recent lesson of orienteering. Pupils were given a map of the school field and set the task with trying to find as many check points for their chosen course.







## Year 4

Northamptonshire Sport recently visited our Year 4 pupils and set them the exciting task of creating spaghetti towers from marshmallows and spaghetti. The children showcased their Agile and Creating HPL skills during this task and created some fantastic final designs.



## Beebombs

On Wednesday 21 October, our Year 5 pupils planted Beebombs in our nature area. Beebombs are designed to grow a variety of flowers to allow bees to pollenate from. One of our Year 5 students, L Dawson, thought of this brilliant idea in a bid to help save the bees from extinction, as they are currently an endangered species.

What a thoughtful idea, well done! We look forward to seeing the flowers grow over the coming months.

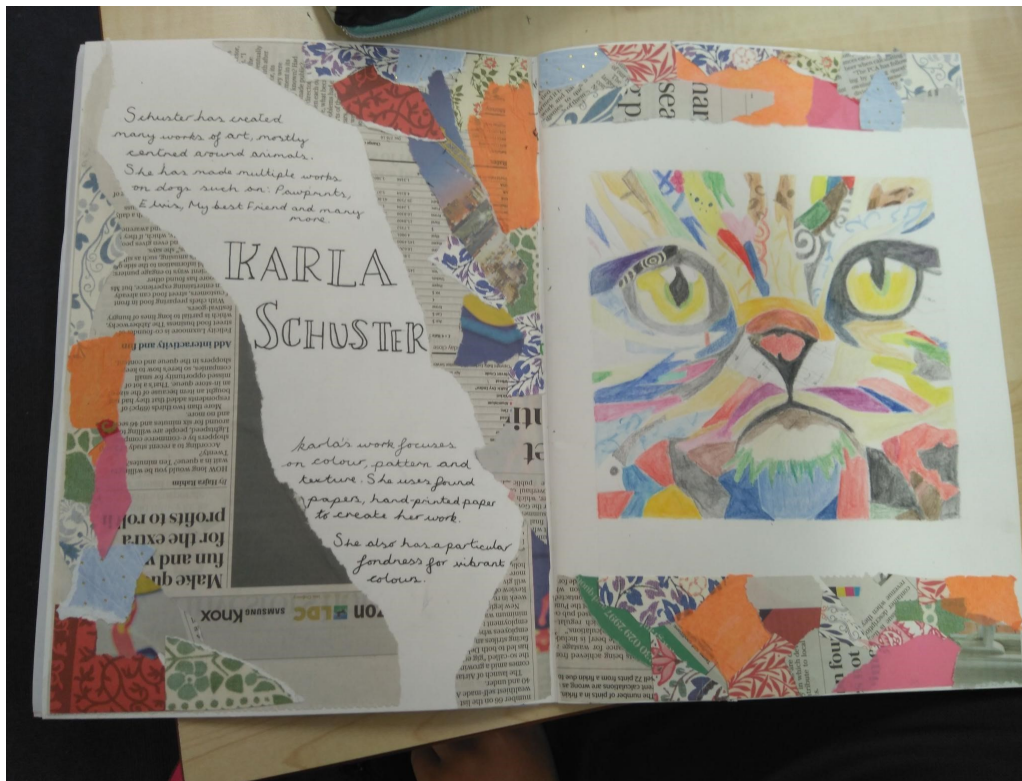




## Art & Design

### Artist link - Karla Schuster

Our Year 8 students have been looking and learning about the artist Karla Schuster in their recent art lesson. Student L Owen has created an incredible art piece for this project - how brilliant!



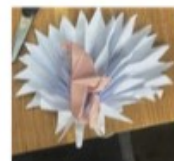
### Origami prototype



O Beezhold



T Knox



P Sansom

Year 9 students have created some fantastic origami prototype's for their Design and Technology work. O Beezhold has created an atom, T Knox has designed a flower and P Sansom has created a peacock. What a great effort from all students - Miss Horton would like to say well done to you all your hard work!





## Royal Academy Youth Summer Exhibition

We are immensely proud of Loki Plummer, who had his work exhibited recently at the Royal Academy Youth Summer Exhibition in London. Loki's mum said "Loki was really pleased, the curator spoke with him and said they received "more than 17,700 inspiring and inventive submissions from artists and whittled it down to 392 artworks, congratulations", we are incredibly proud.

Please see below the photos of his entry and of Loki at the opening of the exhibition..... it was his birthday on the same day too!!



**111**  
**Loki, age 13**  
*Super Massive Shoe*

I live in Northampton which is historically a shoe town with brands like Churches and Dr Martens. Recently there has been an art project in Northampton with community sculptures of large-scale shoes being placed around the town. This inspired me to create my own version of a big shoe. Because of Coronavirus I had to use materials from my home, upcycling wallpaper and bits of wood from my dad's shed to make my super massive red shoe.





## English

### Black History Month 2020 "Dig Deeper, Look Closer, Think Bigger".

In the UK, Black History Month celebrates the huge contribution that black men and women have made to British society. This month long celebration recognises the events and people who have shaped and continue to shape our society. It is important to read diversely all year round and here are just some recommendations that we have enjoyed. As with all suggestions, parent discretion is advised.

#### Key Stage 3

- **High-Rise Mystery (and series)** by Sharna Jackson
- **Refugee Boy** by Benjamin Zephania

#### Key Stage 4

- **The Black Flamingo** by Dean Atta
- **Noughts and Crosses (and series)** by Malorie Blackman
- **Pride** by Ibi Zoboi
- **Children of Blood and Bone** by Tomi Adeyemi
- **You Should See me in a Crown** by Leah Johnson
- **Cinderella is Dead** by Kalynn Bayron
- **Punching the Air** by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam

---

### National Poetry Day 2020

This year we celebrated National Poetry Day by holding a cross-phase competition where students were encouraged to 'see it like a poet' and write an original poem based on the theme of 'Vision'. We had some outstanding entries and we now know there are many budding poets in our midst! Each winner has been awarded House Points and a £10 Waterstones gift card.

#### The winners are as follows:

Perth - E Spencer 7CGS

Sydney - C Jenkins 7BU

Melbourne - P Miller 7BU

Brisbane - Z Billy 7IRR



## Spooky Halloween reading recommendations

It's the perfect time of year to grab a blanket and cosy up with a suitable spooky novel or collection of short stories. Here are ten hair-raising recommendations guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat. As with all suggestions, parent discretion is advised.

### Key Stage 3

- **The Pumpkin Code** by Martin Smith
- **The Raven Boys** by Maggie Stiefvater
- **Pet** by Akwaeke Emezi
- **Twelve Minutes to Midnight** by Christopher
- **Anya's Ghost** by Vera Brosgol Edge
- **The Graveyard Book** by Neil Gaiman

### Key Stage 4

- **The Winter Ghosts** by Kate Mosse
- **The Ghost of Gosswater** by Lucy Strange
- **Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children (and series)** by Ransom Riggs
- **The Reckless Life of Harriet Stoker** by Lauren James





# Performing Arts

## Year 10 Drama

10A have produced some really beautiful, focussed work in their recent drama lesson. They performed sections of the Greek Play - Oedipus. They planned, devised and rehearsed this work solely on their own and one group volunteered to learn new roles and stand in when 3 people were suddenly absent.



## Year 11 Drama

11B are working on practical coursework pieces, ready for a performance after the end of half-term break, exploring a variety of issues. They are also all coming in during the break to rehearse with us, which is really dedicated!

Pictured are some of our students practicing their performance. The boys are currently working on a piece that explores different genocide incidents through the ages.





## Year 12 Drama

Our Year 12 Drama students have recently been performing scenes from 'Curious Incident of The Dog in the night-time' in their lessons. The students have shown excellent focus and responses.



## Sports

### Caroline Chisholm School PE on Twitter

Don't forget to follow our school PE page on Twitter and Facebook to stay up to date with events and fun PE activities in school. Please click on the button below to visit our social media pages.



@CarolineChisholmSchoolPE



@CCS\_UK\_PE

### Northamptonshire FA Girls Talent Pathway

We'd like to congratulate student F B Gibson on securing a place in the Northamptonshire's FA Girls Talent Pathway Under 12's squad! 🏆



## October students of the month

The students listed below have been selected by their PE teacher for demonstrating positive attitudes and skills recently in their PE lessons. Examples of this include good performance in an activity; effective leadership; in depth analysis of performance; classwork completed to a high standard; willingness to engage in answering questions.

Well done to them all, keep up the hard work.

- K. Newbury
- C. Hayes
- S. Mumford
- J. Maskell
- R. Matovu
- R. Chinyanganya
- J. Rayfield
- R. Mistry
- E. Spencer
- I. Scott
- K. Fidler
- X. Johnston
- H. Smith
- J. Bedford
- E. Offa-Jones
- N. Pestell
- J. Archer
- J. Barnes
- E. Knight
- M. Vickers
- L. Tinubu
- Z. Lotter
- T. Thorne
- I. Segal
- H. Bennett
- D. Giddings
- L. Turner
- C. Lodge
- R. Jeffery
- A. Tonu







## PE... But not as we know it!

We have been delighted with the way the students have adjusted to the changes in PE since our return to school in September. The curriculum has seen a move away from the more traditional sports, due to restrictions in place. Students have been working in mixed gender/ mixed ability groups and the outcomes have been fantastic. It has been great to see the students apply themselves to these new activities. The weather has also been kind to us and long may it continue! We are looking at ways in which we can safely begin to resume our extra-curricular sport offer and more details will follow regarding this in the new year - but in the meantime, we have launched our virtual extra-curricular provision, for which see further below.

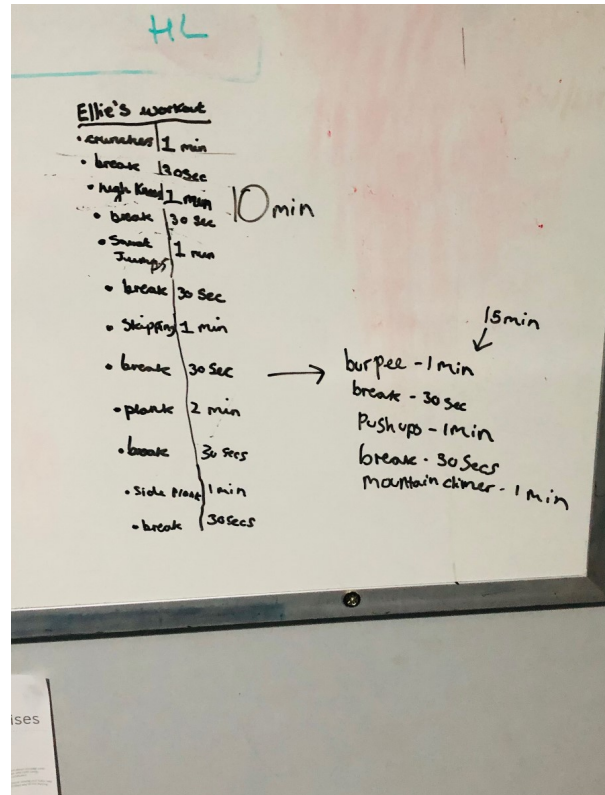






## PE at home!

Year 7 Student E Spencer has proudly been showing her teachers how she is partaking in her PE lessons at home whilst currently isolating. She has created her very own workout based on the work set by her PE teachers - what a brilliant effort!



## Virtual Extra-Curricular PE

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, we cannot currently provide an in school extra curricular PE timetable but we still want pupils to be active after school! Our PE department have launched a new Virtual Extra-Curricular facility where students can get involved in 4 different activities each week to stay active at home.

For more details, please visit: <https://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/curriculum/home-learning-resources/pe-at-home>



## Contact details

If you have recently changed address, names or contact details for your children please can we remind you to ensure you let us know in writing so that our systems can be kept up to date. Please send these in to [office@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:office@ccs.northants.sch.uk) for secondary phase and [primaryoffice@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:primaryoffice@ccs.northants.sch.uk) for primary phase.

---

## Attendance

A reminder to all students and parents/ carers that all children are expected to be in their base rooms, ready to be registered for their first period at their allocated start time. Any secondary phase students arriving on site after this time will unequivocally be issued with a 30 minute detention on the day allocated to their year bubble, any primary phase students arriving after their allotted time slot will be marked as late on the register.

If you require support or further information with regard to attendance, please contact the attendance officer on 01604 669200 or e-mail [lamurphy@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:lamurphy@ccs.northants.sch.uk).

Absences should be reported via our text service on **01604 420132** or via the **School Gateway App**, which is a free messaging service that you can download to your phone.

For planned absences of one or more days, please complete a leave of absence form (available on our website).

Thank you for your continued support.

---



**Telephone Number:** 01604 669200

**Website:** [www.ccs.northants.sch.uk](http://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk)

**Principal:** David James

**Vice Principals:** Andrew Fisher Katherine Patterson Gary Wakefield

*Caroline Chisholm Education Trust is a charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 7638756 whose registered office is at:  
[The Wooldale Centre for Learning, Wootton Fields, Northampton, NN4 6TP](#)*