

# School Matters

July 2021



**Welcome** to the final edition of our School Matters newsletter for the Academic Year 2020/21.

I hope you and your families are enjoying the summer break, and are safe and well. I am looking forward to welcoming your child and our new cohorts of Reception, Year 7 and Sixth Form in September.

In the meantime, we are pleased to share with you below some of great events which took place during Term 6, including some of the fantastic achievements of our students and important reminders for our return in the new academic year.

Regards,

David James  
Principal

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## Key Information

### Student Success

We'd like to say a big well done to Jamie W (Year 13) who was recently awarded Best Small Business in the Northants Life 2021 Awards.

We wish her all the best in her new business venture upon finishing her A Levels this year!

<https://m.facebook.com/jamiescakes88/>



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### Summer School

Our Summer School Extravaganza took place from Wednesday 21 July - Thursday 29 July for students joining our new Year 7 intake in September 2021.

Students got to experience lots of fun activities throughout their time on the programme, and meet many of their peers who are also joining our Year 7 intake in September 2021.

Activities during the programme ranged from Spanish Olympics, Forest School, learning to play the didgeridoo, circus skills, and much more!

Our Summer School programme provided a brilliant opportunity for students to get to know many of their peers for the new academic year, make friends, meet staff members who may be teaching them from September and also get to know our school layout.

We have received lots of incredibly kind feedback from parents which we are very thankful for, and are delighted that students enjoyed the experience and are eager to join us full-time in September.





## Testing arrangements for September 2021 - Year 7-13

On Monday 19 July we communicated to Secondary Phase parents and carers our on-site testing arrangements for when students return in September. There will be a staggered start in place to allow us to safely test all Y7-13 students when they return.

Please be aware that participation in testing is voluntary, but students are strongly encouraged to take part.

We require parental consent for students less than 16 years of age. To be certain we have this, please could you complete the [MS Forms questionnaire](#) which provides consent for your child to be tested. Students 16 years and over can give their consent. This will be given at the time of the test.

In case you missed our original communication with the detailed timings for each Secondary Phase year group slot for testing, please click on the link below to view our arrangements:

[On-site Testing Plan September 2021 - Year 7-13](#)



## Updates

### Caroline Chisholm Day

On Wednesday 14 July we celebrated Caroline Chisholm Day. The day was fun-filled with themed lessons and activities to honour Caroline Chisholm, and learn more about her life and achievements. Year 3 students even got to make their own Damper bread, a traditional Australian soda bread, in our Forest School.

Students were invited to come to school dressed in Australian or Indian themed clothing, and it was wonderful to see so many students get involved, and their wonderful outfits!

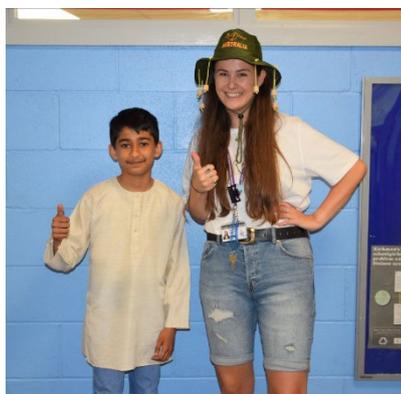
Thanks to the donations of parents and carers for the day, we raised over £970 for CoLive, a coalition of major Indian charities aiming to provide support packages to villages, as well as creating hospital infrastructure and providing healthcare equipment, such as ventilators.

Our House Team would like to say a big THANK YOU for your generosity throughout the year for all of our Charity Drives, and helping to raise funds for lots of wonderful causes.





# Caroline Chisholm Day





## High Performance Learning

### End of year newsletter

To celebrate the achievements of our students, and wonderful examples of HPL being used both inside and out the classroom, we have created an end of year High Performance Learning newsletter. To view the newsletter, please visit:

<https://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/about/becoming-a-world-class-school>

## Speakers for Schools

Speakers for Schools is delighted to announce a brand-new programme to support students: [Youth Card](#).

### WHAT IS [YOUTH CARD](#)?

[Youth Card](#) is a free mobile app that provides a one-stop shop for 11-25-year-olds for self-led discovery of educational, career and personal development opportunities in a safe environment.

[Youth Card](#) is uniquely placed to help students by offering:

- Free access to UK-wide work experience placements and workshops with leading employers, including: *Spotify, Bentley Motors, bp, Google, NHS, Virgin Atlantic, The Financial Times, Santander* and the *BBC*.
- Free access to UK-wide financial and enterprise programmes.
- Free access to a UK-wide network of 7,000 youth organisations.
- Free access to inspiring podcasts, broadcasts and short films by heads of industry and high-profile speakers like:
  - Nick Ross (TV broadcaster)
  - Rich Waterworth (GM of TikTok)
  - Shai Weiss (CEO of Virgin Atlantic Airways)
  - Gareth Southgate (England football manager – men's team)
  - Roger Federer (professional tennis player)
  - Dame Kelly Holmes (former Olympic athlete)
- Free access to a wide range of youth-friendly discounted services in the UK and Europe.

To find out more about Youth Card, visit [www.youthcard.org](http://www.youthcard.org)



## Year 12 - UCAT Day for Medical Applicants

On Tuesday 13 July, Mrs Ideson organised a whole day of training via Zoom with MedicHut for our Year 12 students who are preparing for their University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT). The students enjoyed the day and received lots of useful information!





# Teaching and Learning

## Primary Phase updates

### HPL Primary Icons

During Term 5, Primary Phase pupils were challenged to design their own HPL animals and superheroes icons, to be in with the chance of their design being selected to be created into one of our official HPL primary logos! We received so many fantastic designs, and look forward to sharing with students the winning designs in September. They may even see their designs on display within their classrooms... 😊





## Year 6

During the last week of term, Year 6 pupils enjoyed a week of celebrations as they leave Primary Phase for their Secondary adventure! We started the week with painting and quizzes to celebrate Caroline Chisholm Day, before spending the morning at Pinnacle Climbing Centre on Tuesday. On Wednesday, pupils enjoyed a lovely day out at Wicksteed Park in the sunshine and on Thursday, CCS Friends treated the pupils to a silent disco and McDonalds. By Friday we were all feeling tired, but the celebrations continued with a film and game day - lots of popcorn too!

It has been wonderful week and we know our Year 6 pupils will continue to be amazing in secondary. A message from the Year 6 team: *"Goodbye from us and thank you as it has been so much fun! Remember you are special and you're simply number one!"*





## Art & Design

Design Technology - New area for students to enjoy in Lower D wedge

Our Design Technology department have been working on a new area within the lower D wedge to proudly display student work, as well as provide an area for clubs and group work. Mr Millburn, our DT Technician, has created a brand-new table for the area for students to utilise and enjoy!

After a tough year for practical subjects like Design Technology, and the limitations of bubbles and COVID-19 restrictions, resulting in students not being able to enjoy our fantastic on-site facilities including our wood workshop and cookery rooms, we cannot wait for September and students to enjoy these rooms again and enhance their creativity skills. Our new area has lots of display cabinets, which we cannot wait to fill with students work in the new year.



## Performing Arts

Year 6 - Olympics

We were very lucky to teach two wonderful CCS Year 6 groups live on 'transition day' this year – both groups really impressed us with their creativity, imagination and commitment to the work. They also stunned us with their knowledge of the Ancient Greeks and the Olympics – who knew that the winners wore wreaths of celery leaves at one time?! These lessons were really enjoyable, and it was fantastic to witness the high standard of the work – thank you to Mrs Gregory-Ring for all the Drama work they have had this year!





## Year 10 GCSE Practical Devising Exam

Our Year 10 students have been working on their C1 practical coursework pieces since March this year. We explored 4 stimuli (set by the exam board) practically and then they chose one stimulus to research further and to work on in small groups. They were given the opportunity to participate in a mock exam one evening in June, which enabled them to have examiner feedback and time to amend and enhance their pieces. We have been really impressed with the standard of the work and the range of issues and themes explored, which have included:

- A piece comparing a modern woman at an anti-lockdown protest with a Suffragette
- A piece based on the attack and rape of a girl in America, where the perpetrator was given a controversial sentence of only 3 months!
- A fairy story that cuts between fantasy and reality based on a child who is abused
- A piece which explores three different scenarios based on the question, 'What is Freedom?' – looking at an anti-mask protest in 2021, the holocaust and a child soldier from Syria
- A performance which explores early on-set dementia and the impact on the family
- A dystopian piece based on a rebel group in a dictatorship who are then 're-educated'





### Year 12 A Level practical 'Re-imagined script/ devising' exam

The Year 12 students have been working on their C1 practical coursework this term, creating pieces arising from Jim Cartwright's play, 'Two' which is set in a Northern pub in the 1980's and explores different characters who come into the pub, and their struggles. The students are required to devise around the script, but must include some of the scripted dialogue in the performance.

All four groups this year chose to explore the characters of Roy and Lesley, a couple who are in an abusive relationship. One group chose to set the piece in the late 80's as a female couple, centred around the AIDS epidemic, another group chose to set the piece in lockdown, demonstrating the impact of this on a female couple and a male couple. Another piece is also set in lockdown with Roy losing his job and Lesley working from home and the strain this places on their already fragile relationship. The final group chose to set their piece in the 1940's showing Roy as a German Officer in Nazi occupied Jersey and his expectations of his Jersey born wife.

We thoroughly enjoyed watching and examining the performances with our first live audience since December 2019! Thank you to the parents and friends who came to watch, and for following our strict 'Covid guidelines' and for being so supportive – it was wonderful to have people in the studio again to appreciate the hard work the students have put in.



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### Student Success - Drama

- Gracie (9EU) successfully auditioned for the role of 'Teen Fiona' in the forthcoming production of 'Shrek' with Northampton Musical Theatre Company. Gracie beat off stiff competition to get the role and will be performing at the Deragate in October 2021. Well done Gracie!
- Georgia M (Year 12) has recently passed her Grade 8 English Speaking Board Examination with Distinction. This is worth 30 UCAS points and is a tremendous achievement.



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## Exciting News

COMING SOON... In September we are launching our new school musical – Nativity the musical! (Similar to the film but with more songs!) – Please look out in the first two weeks for notices – we will be holding an initial meeting for those who are interested and then learning a song from the show and then auditioning after this. In the meantime – any questions – please see one of the Performing Arts Team.

# Nativity!

## The Musical

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## Sports

### Extra Curricular PE

As the 2021 academic year draws to a close, it ends a successful reappearance of in school extra-curricular PE.

In a challenging year for all, CCS pupils have had the opportunity to keep physically active with an online platform from October to March and an in-school provision from April to July.

In the past four months CCS pupils have had the opportunity to take part in Athletics, Basketball, Tennis, Cricket, Rounders, Multi gym, Archery, Football, Rugby, Netball, Hockey, Badminton and Table Tennis.

Well done to all pupils who have attended post 3pm. We hope the provision has allowed you to value the physical and mental benefits of physical activity and sport, whilst enjoying additional time with fellow friends and classmates.

Thank you to all staff who have given up their time to allow such a range of activities to be delivered to pupils.

I hope everyone has a great summer! Keep active, keep moving and extra-curricular clubs (and fixtures) will be back in September 2021.

Take care

- Mr O'Reilly



## Contact details

A reminder that in order to ensure proper safeguarding and well-being of all our students, it is important that contact details we hold for you are kept up to date. If you have recently changed address, names or contact details for your child/ren, or if your family circumstances have changed in any way, please let us know so we can keep our systems up to date.

To update your records, please email the specific phase email for your child:

- [primaryoffice@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:primaryoffice@ccs.northants.sch.uk) for Primary Phase
- [office@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:office@ccs.northants.sch.uk) for Secondary Phase
- [sixthformteam@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:sixthformteam@ccs.northants.sch.uk) for Sixth Form

## Google review

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have received lots of kind words and messages of appreciation from parents and we'd like to say thank you to each and every person who has shared their feedback. This period of uncertainty with students learning remotely has indeed been hard for us all, but we're so proud of how our students have behaved and just how brilliant our all-through school community is.

If you would like to leave a Google review for our school and share with us your positive feedback, please click on the following link: [Google review - Caroline Chisholm School](#)

## Keep up to date

To stay up to date with key events, information and news here at Caroline Chisholm School why not follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and stay updated! And feel free to share the links with your friends too!

**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