



Principal's Bulletin

Friday 9 February 2024



In support of Children's Mental Health Week 2024 and this year's theme 'My Voice Matters', we have been proud to share assemblies, competitions and two new videos, each focusing on young people's voices. Our 'Mental Health Stigma' video encourages people to talk about their feelings, while 'Wellbeing Myth-buster' separates the truths from the myths about mental health and bullying. You can view these videos on the CCS website's [wellbeing pages](#). Children's Mental Health Week serves as an important reminder of the significance of speaking about mental health. By encouraging open communication, we can create supportive environments where children feel safe, valued, and empowered to prioritise their mental wellbeing with the support they require to thrive.

To learn more about where to find several NHS-approved apps and resources, simply scan the QR code to the right. You'll gain access to a wealth of carefully curated information designed to assist. From enlightening videos to helpful apps, informative websites, recommended books, and beyond, there's something for everyone.



In Primary, our friends at 'Now and Beyond' taught children in KS1 about friendships, while KS2 learned how to turn feelings of anger into useful energy. This week we also introduced the Wellbeing Snug, created by Primary TLSA and Wellbeing Team member Mrs Bunker for our KS2 pupils. This is a space away from the classrooms where students can calm, refocus, and explore mindfulness. It has already proved popular and very busy, with students collaborating to help set the area up.



Key dates

PPEs begin for Year 11 and Year 13
w/c 12 February

The second round of PPEs for our Year 11 and Year 13 cohorts will begin next week and continue during w/c 26 February. Students are encouraged to check their Edulink account to confirm locations and timings.

'Caring is Sharing' Food Drive
Monday 12 February

If you would like to donate, please drop off your donation before 4pm on Monday 12 February. For details, see communication sent 6 February.

CCS Friends cake sale
Friday 16 February

CCS Friends will be holding a cake sale in the Primary playground after school on Friday 16 February to raise money for the school, with cakes kindly provided by families of students in Year 3. Cakes are just 50p each and can be paid for by card or cash, so let's celebrate the end of term with a tasty treat!

Last day of Term 3
Friday 16 February

We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 26 February for the start of Term 4.

Latest vacancies

We currently have a number of vacancies live at the moment, including:

- Teacher of Business and Economics
- Teacher of Computing
- Senior Safeguarding Officer
- Cover Supervisor
- Key Stage 3 Director
- Key Stage 4 Director
- Key Stage 5 Director

For more details on the positions available, please visit:

[Caroline Chisholm School | Tes Jobs](#)

On Thursday, we held our Year 9 Parents' Evening and with GCSE option choices ahead we trust that you found the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teachers beneficial. Additionally, we would like to remind you that our [GCSE Guided Choices](#) webpage is available for more detailed subject-specific information. Furthermore, Edulink remains accessible throughout the academic year for any concerns or inquiries you may have.

A gentle reminder to please ensure that your information on Edulink is regularly updated. This includes changes to email addresses, phone numbers, and other relevant details, ensuring that you receive important information regarding your child promptly.

To further support our Year 11 students in preparation for their summer exams and also put their HPL skills of both analysing and linking into practice outside of the classroom, our English department took 180 students from the cohort to the Royal & Derngate on Tuesday, as part of the annual Poetry Live conference.

Trip Leader Mrs Spencer was keen to share with me how brilliantly the students behaved and a short report of the day's events: *"Students were able to watch poetry performed that they have studied in preparation for their upcoming exams. They were also able to ask the poets questions, helping to further develop their connection finding and critical thinking skills when listening to their works. A chief examiner was also present, who talked students through answering exam questions and what the exam board expects from written responses. It was so wonderful to see so many students adding to their own notes and taking everything they were being taught on board. Thank you to all staff and students involved."*



Our Foundation Stage learners have been diving into the vibrant traditions of Lunar New Year, which falls on Saturday, 10th February. In celebration of the Year of the Dragon, the children read the tale of Cedric, a persistent dragon, in Emily Gravett's book 'Again'. They have also been able to try their hand at chopsticks and enjoy some delicious noodles while learning about the holiday celebrated by many Asian cultures around the world. It's been a wonderful opportunity to incorporate their linking skills, foster curiosity, and enjoy a new experience.

Wishing you a fantastic weekend ahead!

Warm regards,

David James
Principal