



# Colchester County High School for Girls

## Parent Weekly Bulletin

### 10 December 2021



#### Term Dates 2021 – 2022

##### Autumn Term

Wednesday 1 September  
Friday 17 December

##### Half Term

Monday 25 October  
Friday 29 October

##### Spring Term

Tuesday 4 January  
Friday 1 April

##### Bank Holiday

Monday 3 January

##### Half Term

Monday 14 February  
Friday 18 February

##### Summer Term

Tuesday 19 April  
Monday 18 July

##### Bank Holiday

Monday 18 April  
Monday 2 May

##### Half Term

Monday 30 May  
Friday 3 June

##### Non-Pupil Days

Wednesday 1 September  
Thursday 2 September  
Thursday 21 October  
Friday 22 October  
Friday 17 December  
Tuesday 4 January  
Tuesday 19 July  
Wednesday 20 July  
Thursday 21 July

#### Prov Term Dates 2022 – 2023

##### Autumn Term

Thursday 1 September  
Tuesday 20 December

##### Half Term

Monday 24 October  
Friday 28 October

##### Spring Term

Thursday 5 January  
Friday 31 March

##### Half Term

Monday 13 February  
Friday 17 February

##### Summer Term

Monday 17 April  
Friday 21 July

##### Bank Holiday

Monday 1 May

##### Half Term

Monday 29 May  
Friday 2 June

#### Non-Pupil Days TBC

#### Safeguarding: Never Acceptable

to report a concern:

[Click Here to make an Anonymous Report](#)

Link to Whisper an anonymous third-party service for CCHSG

#### Dates for Your Diary

Monday Week B	Dec	13	Yr 11 SLT Discussions, Period 3 School Music Concert Rehearsals School Music Concert 19.00
Tuesday	Dec	14	School Music Concert 19.00
Wednesday	Dec	15	Former Yr 11 Certificate Presentation during Registration in the Hall
Thursday	Dec	16	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Yr 11 and Sixth Form Charities Assembly School Finishes at 15.00
Friday	Dec	17	Non-Pupil Day

#### Student Home Testing

We encourage all students to continue testing twice weekly. Results should still be recorded via [www.testregister.co.uk/login](http://www.testregister.co.uk/login) and [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result).

All students should be wearing face masks in communal areas, e.g. Dining Hall and corridors, except if exempt. Frequent hand washing/sanitising and keeping social distance when possible are encouraged. All these actions are helping to keep our school safe.

We encourage all students to continue testing throughout the Christmas Break.

#### End of Term Arrangements

On Thursday 16 December students will be able to wear non uniform including a Christmas Jumper to support the Yr 11 and Sixth Form Charities, with £1 payment via ParentPay.

There will be an extended Tutor Time including Assembly in the afternoon and school will finish at 15.00. Students catching school buses will be supervised in classrooms until 15.35.

#### Start of Term 2022

In line with government guidance, we are required to test all students on their return to school next term, as well taking Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs) at home. We are therefore proposing a staggered start, with online live learning being provided via Microsoft Teams but also resources on SharePoint for all students who are not in school. Parents will be advised of the arrangements by a separate letter.

#### Covid-19 Information Accessibility

It is important that families have information that is accessible with regards to regular testing and vaccinations.

On [GOV.UK](http://GOV.UK) there is information and guidance on how to take and report lateral flow tests at home translated in Polish, Chinese, Punjabi, Romanian, Arabic, Gujarati, Persian, Urdu, Slovakian, Turkish, Welsh, Somalian, Bengali, Hindi, Dari and Pashto. [Doctors of the world](#) have also translated information on vaccines, how to register with a GP and Covid-19 topics which parents may find useful.

Miss Barrett is extremely grateful to the Yr 10 parent who gave her and a student an umbrella to shelter from the atrocious weather on Tuesday evening.

Please ask your child to collect the umbrella from F4 at their convenience.

#### Lost Property

All unnamed lost property that has been handed in since the start of term, has been photographed and recorded on SharePoint for students to view.

Please urge students to check to see if anything belongs to them, items can be collected from Reception. Unclaimed lost property will be disposed of at the end of the Autumn Term.

## Healthy Living Rotations

Yrs 7 & 8 students should have been notified by their Form Tutor which Healthy Living Rotation they will be on and noted the dates in their planner. Parents will be sent a reminder email the week before your child is due to have their rotation.

Rotations with Mrs Webb will be:

Yr 7 on Monday Periods 4 and 5 or Tuesday Periods 2 and 3 – Week B

Yr 8 on Monday Periods 4 and 5 or Tuesday Periods 2 and 3 – Week A

Students can access the initial recipes to check ingredients via: SharePoint. We hope they enjoy their Healthy Living sessions.

## Biology MiSAC Competition

The Biology department hope that you join them in celebrating the recent success of our students in the annual MiSAC competition. Students had to create a poster to illustrate a social-media website for students called 'what you didn't know about climate change'.

There were 141 entries nationally at KS3 and we are very pleased to announce that the entry created by our students won the first prize of £100 and £250 for the school.

We are also pleased to announce that another group were Commended for the design of their poster and would like to extend our congratulations to them for this.

The competition was particularly challenging as the subject was outside of our KS3 curriculum and the students did a lot of self-driven research to create their entries. The entries were also completed collaboratively during the school closure period so required a lot of organisation and teamwork from the students.

The Biology department is immensely proud of their achievement and look forward to this year's competition.

## Music Congratulations

Well done to a student in Yr 7 who passed the ABRSM Grade 5 Piano with a Merit.

Please do let Mrs Jefferies know of any Music news e.g. examination and competition results and concerts.

## Chemistry Mastermind Competition

A massive congratulations to our students who won the Chemistry Mastermind competition at KEGS on Tuesday.

Having made it through the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds, the final comprised the four highest scoring teams from across Essex. They were triumphant after quiz rounds, a practical exercise and team challenges. They will go on to represent Essex in the Top of The Bench competition next year. We are very proud of their achievement!

## Wellbeing Information

Any student who feels they need wellbeing support, should contact any of the following:

EWMHS: 0800 953 0222

Young Minds: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

Kooth: <https://www.kooth.com/>

Sexual abuse or harassment can also be reported to [neveracceptable@cchsg.com](mailto:neveracceptable@cchsg.com) or see the anonymous reporting link on the front of the Bulletin.

Childline: 0800 1111 NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

The School Nurse and School Counsellor are available for student appointments after Half Term.

## E-Safety Information – Keeping Children Safe Online Over the Festive Period

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) are reminding parents and carers that if their child receives new technology for Christmas, it is important to set up devices correctly to keep them safe when online. There will be new resources from Brook Essex looking at how to support young people to have healthy relationships in a digital world and Brook's popular podcast on consent will also be shared once again. The [resources created by the ESCB](#) and partners will help provide parents and carers the information they need to support their child to safely navigate the online world, whether they are primary or secondary age.

## Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Activities

### Debate Club – Tuesday 14 December, Lunchtime in T21

The debate will be on: "This House Would prevent MPs from holding any other paid employment".

**Magistrates Court Mock Trial Competition Team** – lawyers and witnesses should come to T21 on Monday to continue preparation.



## History Book Club

Students are welcome to come to T20 from Monday to Wednesday to watch the film *Hidden Figures*, the adaptation to the History Book Club choice of the term. Students do not need to have read the book to participate. It will start promptly at the start of lunch. There will be biscuits available.

## Historical Association Historical Fiction Competition 2021

Please see poster below for full details.

## Classic Novels: The Chapter-a-Day Challenge via Teams

*Gulliver's Travels* is finished! Congratulations, the handful of students who stayed with him to the end.

Next novel is *Little Women*: starting Saturday 8 January.

It is a nostalgia read for many of you, an important text in the history of feminist/American literature for Oxbridge aspirants and a great and outstandingly enjoyable classic for the rest. Commentary starts on Teams on Saturday 8 January, students should email Mrs Davidson to be added to the group.

## Careers and University Information

### Summer Career Experiences from INVESTIN

INVESTIN's immersive summer career experiences in London can give students the opportunity to Shadow doctors in a hospital., explore a supercar with Formula 1 engineers and trade the stock market against investment bankers. Follow the links below for full information and to register:

[Summer Experiences for 15-18 year olds](#)

[Summer Experiences 12-14 year olds](#)

## Dining Room Arrangements

Breakfast – 'to go' served between 08.00 – 08.35, accessed via the Dining Hall Extension Doors outside the servery.

Breaktime – Yrs 7-11 need to go to the allocated outside area to eat. Break service 'to go' in Dining Hall.

Lunchtime – hot food in Dining Hall at allocated time for each Year Group, cold food and pre-ordered panini/sandwiches available from outside servery 12.35 – 13.00. Yrs 12&13 pre-ordered food in Sixth Form Refectory from 12.15.

There must be no eating in classrooms except if wet lunch is declared.

**Pre-orders must be made by 08.30 Please ensure your child's ParentPay meal account is in credit.**

[Student Lunch Order](#)

[Sixth Form Lunch Order](#)

## Menu for w/c 16 December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spaghetti Bolognese with Sweetcorn	Christmas Dinner with all the Trimmings	Beefburger, Chips & Beans	Cajun Chicken with Potato Wedges & Green Beans	<b>Non-Pupil Day</b>
Or				
Vegetable Chilli with Rice	Rice & Vegetable Bake	Macaroni Cheese with Peas	Vegetable Pasta Salad	
Main Meal £3				
Sticky Toffee Pudding with Custard	Christmas Pudding with Cream	Pavlova	Pancakes	
Pudding £1.20				
Panini £3				
Soup of the Day (changes daily) £0.60 with Homemade Bread £0.40				
Leek & Potato	Butternut Squash & Sweet Potato	Tomato & Basil	Vegetable	

### Correspondence Sent out this Week:

All Yrs: Letter to Parents from Essex County Council  
 Yr 7: Healthy Living Sessions (selected students)  
 Yr 7: Bushcraft Residential Programme  
 Yrs 9, 10 11: Chemistry Mastermind Competition (selected students)  
 Yr 12: AQA Extended Project Qualification (selected students)

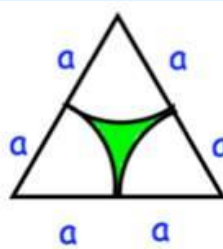
### Deadline for Replies and Payments

Year Group	Trip or Event	Deadline for Response
All Yrs	PTFA Christmas Grand Prize Draw	Wednesday 15 December
Yr 7	Bushcraft Residential Programme	Friday 28 January
Yrs 10 & 11	UCAT and BMAT Preparation	Friday 10 December
Yr 11	Flu Vaccination	Wednesday 15 December
Yr 12	UCAT and BMAT Preparation	Friday 10 December
Yr 12	A Level Biology Field Course	Tuesday 4 January

### Mr Williams' Weekly Mathematics Conundrum

Well done to everyone who entered last week, especially the eight who answered correctly, who have each earned a raffle ticket! Congratulations to Emily Wong 100 who answered with the correct answer of ' $a^2(\sqrt{3} - \frac{\pi}{2})$ ' in the quickest time.

#### Last week's method:



Each sector is  $\frac{1}{6}$  of a circle

Therefore white area = area of semi-circle radius  $a = \frac{\pi a^2}{2}$

Area of triangle =  $\frac{1}{2} \times 2a \times 2a \times \sin 60^\circ = a^2\sqrt{3}$

Therefore, shaded area =  $a^2(\sqrt{3} - \frac{\pi}{2})$

### This week's Conundrum

The volume of a hemi-spherical Christmas pudding is  $144\pi \text{ cm}^3$ . It is placed in a rectangular cuboid box which fits exactly, the sides of the pudding touching the sides of the box. Calculate the surface area of the box.

Submit your answers via [Mr Williams' Christmas Mathematics Conundrum](#) – best of luck and Merry Christmas!

### This Week's Brainteaser

Rearrange the letters of **COTINGAS** to give three 8-letter words. What are they?

### Last Week's Brainteaser Answer

Leroy. The last two letters of the name match the first two letters of the food item.

### Word of the Week for w/c 13 December

Next week the word is: **ANECDOTE** – a short account of a particular incident or event, especially of an interesting or amusing nature.



### 1. Dates for Your Diary

#### Autumn Term

- Winter Concert (Monday 13 December and Tuesday 14 December)

**Fundraising** – Raffle (online ticket purchase & Scratch Cards (cash only please))

#### Spring Term

- PTFA Meeting (Monday 31 January 19.30 – 21.00)
- Second Hand Uniform & Book Sale (Saturday 19 March 09.00 – 13.00)  
*Please note that second hand uniform sales cannot take place outside published dates.*

### 2. Virtual Grand Prize Draw 2021

In the absence of our usual well-supported Christmas Market, we are delighted to announce that we have organised a **Virtual Grand Prize Draw** this year. The draw will take place on **Wednesday 15 December** and winners will be notified by email or telephone. Prizes must be collected in person by **Friday 17 December**.

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** – 250 cash

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** – Luxury Festive Hamper

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** – Case of Prosecco

Tickets at **£5 per entry** can be purchased via <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BIQH>

### 3. Christmas Themed Fundraising Scratch Cards

Would you like to raise funds for the PTFA using our scratch cards? Scratch cards for selling squares worth £40 per card are available by request from CCHSG PTFA. Participants must be 18 or over. The stake per square is £1 and a maximum of £20 is awarded to the winner from each card (amount is subject to the card being completed). All scratch cards must be returned **with answer block unscratched** to the PTFA via the school and monies collected to be banked into the PTFA's bank account.

The following 5 categories of scratch cards are available to choose from:

1. Christmas Carols
2. Christmas Movies
3. Christmas Traditions
4. Christmas Food and Drinks
5. Nativity Scene

Requests for scratch cards can be made to [cchsgptfa@gmail.com](mailto:cchsgptfa@gmail.com)

### 4. PTFA Virtual Christmas Market

CCHSG PTFA is running a **Virtual Christmas Market** on Facebook. We are delighted to offer this opportunity for our existing stallholders and other local business and individuals to promote their products and services, for a nominal fee, in our Virtual Market Place. Facebook Business Pages and Individual Members can apply to be Registered Advertisers with this Group. Membership is subject to Admin approval.

To register as an advertiser, complete this Google form: <https://forms.gle/3E63TnD5oCXxdh9i8>

The Group's Rules can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cchsgptfa/about>

Every penny raised through membership fees goes directly to support the school. Why not invite your friends and acquaintances to join the group?

### 5. Raise FREE donations this Christmas for CCHSG PTFA via Easyfundraising & AmazonSmile (over £5,000 raised since April 2016)

Please remember to use Easyfundraising and AmazonSmile when you do your Christmas shopping. Please sign up and help us by choosing Colchester County High School for Girls PTFA on the AmazonSmile website and Easyfundraising at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colchestercountygirlspta/>

or scan the QR-code



#### PTFA CONTACTS:

Chair: Agness O'Brien

[agnessobrien@hotmail.com](mailto:agnessobrien@hotmail.com)

Tel. 01376 573694 or 07951 511653

For all enquires related to the PTFA, email [cchsgptfa@gmail.com](mailto:cchsgptfa@gmail.com)

# Christmas shopping means more than just gifts





## Raise FREE donations for

Colchester County High School for Girls PTA

with  easyfundraising  
feel good shopping

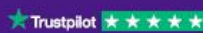
**THIS MEANS MORE.**

You **Shop**. 6,100 sites will **Donate** to us. For **Free**

Find us on [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) or get the App

 GET IT ON Google Play  Download on the App Store

Over £35 million raised  Over 2 million users



## CCPTFA

Registered Charity No. 1110464

# Grand Prize Draw 2021

1st Prize £250 cash  
2nd Prize Luxury Festive Hamper  
3rd Prize Case of Prosecco

**£5 per entry**

**DRAW DATE: 15 December 2021**



# Historical Association **Write your own Historical Fiction Competition 2021**

*The Historical Association Historical Fiction Prize and the Joan Blyth Memorial Prize*

Across Years 7, 8 and 9 there will be three prizes for the best individual story.

Across Years 10,11, 12 and 13 there will be three prizes for best individual story.

There is also a prize for the best fictional historical character in a convincing historical setting. Three prizes will be on offer here across all year groups.

Students can set their stories in **ANY** period or place in the past, so the story can fit in with and extend any historical topic you may be studying. Winning students will each receive a cash prize of £25 and an engraved Bath Aqua Blue glass paperweight. Schools will receive a year's **FREE** subscription to the HA.

### What are the judges looking for?

- **Historical accuracy** – even down to the choice of names characters are given and any props additional to the historical setting
- A **riveting read** with a good plot!
- A **convincing story** - i.e. is it plausible that these events and/or this character could have existed at the time?
- Use of **historical knowledge** to feed the plot, context and character
- Effective use of **historical vocabulary** and **literary conventions**, including where dialogue is included in the story
- **Creative and interesting perspectives** of story-telling. In the past they received an entry telling the story of a siege from the perspective of the castle!
- Minimum word count of 400 words and a maximum word count of 3500 words.
- Your story may be illustrated.

**Entries must be emailed to Mr Paz by Monday 2 May 2022. [ipaz@cchsg.com](mailto:ipaz@cchsg.com)**

**The History department will then choose up to 5 entries to be forwarded to the Historical Association.**

