



Colchester County High School for Girls

Parent Weekly Bulletin

12 February 2021



Term Dates 2020 – 2021

Spring Term

Monday 4 January
Friday 26 March

Half Term

Monday 15 February
Friday 19 February

Summer Term

Monday 12 April
Wednesday 21 July

Bank Holiday

Monday 3 May

Half Term

Monday 31 May
Friday 4 June

Non-Pupil Days

Wednesday 2 September 2020
Thursday 22 October 2020
Friday 23 October 2020
Friday 18 December 2020
Monday 19 July 2021

Academy Days

Tuesday 20 July 2021
Wednesday 21 July 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
Friday 22 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
Thursday 21 July
Friday 22 July

Follow us on Twitter: @CCHSG
English & Drama Dept: @CCHSG_Eng_Drama
PE Dept: @CCHSGD
Music Dept: CCHSG_Music



WE WISH ALL STUDENTS & STAFF A RESTFUL HALF TERM BREAK

Dates for Your Diary

Monday Week B	Feb	22	Assembly: Yrs 12 & 13 Yr 7 Progress Check 2 to Parents
Tuesday	Feb	23	Assembly: Yrs 10 & 11
Wednesday	Feb	24	Assembly: Yrs 8 & 9
Thursday	Feb	25	Assembly: Yr 7 Yr 7 Parent Consultation Evening 1 (COL) 16.15 – 19.15
Friday	Feb	26	
Saturday	Feb	27	Yr 12 EYP Regionals (online)
Sunday	Feb	28	Yr 12 EYP Regionals (online)

School resumes after Half Term on Monday 22 February (Week B)

We thank the whole school community for the continued hard work and efforts this week and indeed the whole half term!

Staying Safe over Half Term

A reminder to students and their families to follow lockdown guidelines during the Half Term break: stay at home, maintain social distancing, restrict social mixing outside of household bubble and continue hand hygiene, <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
If you have any coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature, a new continuous cough, a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste then **Get a test and stay at home.**

Track and Trace over the Half Term Break

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 during the Half Term break you must seek a test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. The quickest way to obtain a test is to book a test at your local testing centre via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Please notify the school of the result. If positive self-isolation and household isolation must then continue for 10 days following the day when symptoms occurred. Please contact Mrs Pye, Data and Administration Manager by email via office@cchsg.com, marking your email as 'COVID-19'. Please include the following information: name of student, Tutor Group, symptoms and date of symptoms starting (unless asymptomatic), date test taken, date test results received and name of person reporting the information and contact number. Notifications will be checked daily and we may need to contact trace for any students who have been in school this week. If negative you do not need to take any further action.

School Meals

For students in school are range of jacket potatoes and pasta salad pots along with panini, sandwiches, wraps and samosas are available for pre-order. Drink, fruit and snack items can be purchased at lunchtime on the day. Please order by following the link: [StudentLunch](#)

A separate order form should be completed for each day that students require lunch. Orders must be submitted by 09.00 on the day required.

Yr 7 Parent Consultation Evening for 7C, 7O & 7L – Thursday 25 February, 16.15 – 19.15

Parents have been sent a letter inviting you to this event, along with guidance for booking appointments via SchoolCloud.

The Parent Consultation Evening for 7H, 7E and 7S will be on Thursday 4 March from 16.15 – 19.15. Parents can make appointments for this evening from 20.00 on Thursday 25 February.



For daily news updates follow CCHSG on Facebook or Twitter @CCHSG_



Successful Teaching School Hub Bid

We are delighted to announce that our recent Teaching School Hub bid has been successful. In due course, we will be thanking everyone who has contributed to the success of this project. If you would like to read more about the New Teaching School Hub programme please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-teaching-school-hubs-to-be-rolled-out-across-the-country>

February E-Newsletter Published

The E-Newsletter for this half term is now available via the website at:

<https://www.cchsg.com/index.php/about/newsletter>

Items include the Yr 7 Biology Cell Exhibition, MFL Spelling Bee, Wellbeing Ambassadors, Woodland Trust Award - Yr 9 Artwork, History of CCHSG – the early years, fundraising for DofE Gold Expedition, Yr 8 Art - "In It Together", English Speaking Union MACE Competition, Holocaust Memorial Day, MADE Yr 7 & 10 Workshops and much more!

PE Weekly Challenges – The CCHSG Distance Challenge

The PE department's challenge for all students and staff to take part in continues; see how far we can travel as a school community between the 8 – 21 February. If students and their families go for a walk, run or cycle then make a note of how far you have travelled each time and submit the total distance in kilometres to their PE teacher via MS Teams on Monday 22 February. Please see the end of the Bulletin to remind yourself of the details for challenge. This is not compulsory but a great activity to do over the half term break. Good Luck!

PE Weekly Challenge Results (25 – 29 January)

Well done to everyone who completed last week's PE challenges! The Yrs 10 & 11 Challenge results:

Yr 10 Core Groups

1st – 10CC 397 points
2nd – 10EE 396 points
3rd – 10DD 383 points
4th – 10FF 367 points
5th – 10AA 276 points
6th – 10BB 260 points

Yr 11 Core Groups

1st – 11FF with 411 points
2nd – 11BB with 376 points
3rd – 11DD with 368 points
4th – 11CC with 295 points
5th – 11AA with 253 points
6th – 11EE with 162 points

Students can view the top scorers from the whole school via the Student Bulletin.

Yrs 11, 12 & 13 Improving Communication with Past Students

We are asking students to help us improve communications with our past students.

Along with the Head Student Team, we are thinking about how we can improve our communications to allow past students and staff to connect with the current school and promote professional networking opportunities. Our past students progress on to many different types of study and training, leading to wide ranging areas of employment. We would like to get better at keeping in touch with them, as well as helping them to keep in touch with each other. We would be grateful if students in Yrs 11, 12 and 13 could provide us with their thoughts and ideas by taking a few moments to complete the survey accessed via this link: [here](#) The survey will close on Wednesday 24 February, we thank students for their time in completing the survey.

Jack Petchey Foundation School Catch Up Survey for Students

The Foundation has recently hosted a series of digital meetings between young people, MPs and London Assembly members about young people's experiences of lockdown and their hopes for the future. One of the topics discussed was the **Government's Catch Up Premium**, a fund for school students to help them catch up on the education they have missed since schools first closed in March 2020.

The Government is keen to know how school students themselves think this fund should be spent to support young people's education in the near future. They have put together a brief [survey](#) for young people aged 11-19 asking them what they think should be done.

The survey is open until 09.00 on Monday 15 February and should take around 3-4 minutes to complete. All students who fill out the survey will be entered into a prize draw for a £20 voucher of their choice.

The survey can be accessed via this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8P8D9NK>

Healthy Living – Focus on Food

This week's recipe for **Warming Mug Cakes** are a super way of having a single portion of warm, freshly made cake really quick, in a microwavable mug. You can have great fun experimenting with variations of flavours and adding ingredients such as berries to the mix improves to the nutrient value, a particularly good combination is chocolate and raspberries.

Find the basic recipe on SharePoint, with all the other recipes so far, via [Focus on Food](#).

Do send pictures of your cakes and your favourite flavour combinations to nwebb@cchsg.com.



Wellbeing Information

Any student who feels they need wellbeing support at this time should contact their Year Leader who can advise and signposts suitable resources and support organisations.

A Message from the Wellbeing Ambassadors to Students

Five top tips for half term:

- Keep active
- Try a new skill like baking
- Keep in contact with friends
- Don't feel guilty for taking time to yourself
- Feel free to take a break from school work occasionally!

"Don't compare yourself with anyone in this world... if you do so, you are insulting yourself" - Bill Gates, Founder of Microsoft and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Activities

Economics Talk – Monday 22 February, 12.30 – 13.30

A former student will be talking to Economics students at lunchtime via MS Teams, about studying the subject at degree level and her work at KPMG as a tax consultant.

Students in lower years are welcome to attend, any students wishing to attend should email Mr Fletcher via ffletcher@cchsg.com if they wish to be added.

Dead Poetry Society

The Dead Poetry Society will continue having its meetings via MS Teams on Fridays 12.45 – 13.15 (Week B only) after the Half Term break, the next one being on Friday 26 February. Students should confirm interest in attendance by emailing Mr Doyle (mdoyle@cchsg.com) to receive a MS Teams invitation, but they can also join the group themselves using the Join or create team button. There is no obligation to read or contribute, unless they wish.

Dead Poetry Society Podcasts

Also students can tune in for the Dead Poetry Podcasts. This week we have had: Irish poetry, American poetry, Iranian, Lebanese, Chinese, etc. They remain available to listen to on the MS Teams group.

HART Prize for Human Rights Opportunity

A competition suitable for Yrs 7 -13 interested in global issues. Enter an essay, song or artwork related to human rights that helps to raise awareness for the chance to win £300. Deadline for entries is Monday 1 March, for more information: [HART Prize for Human Rights - Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust \(hart-uk.org\)](https://www.hart-uk.org)

Goldsmiths, University of London: The Young Writer Competitions

For students aged 16-18 have the chance to become the next Young Writer (a short story writing competition for creative writers), Young Columnist (for journalists with a historical angle), or Young Anthropologist (for writing about identity and culture). All three competitions have a £1,000 first prize, and two runner-up prizes of £50, shortlisted entries will also receive a small prize. Students can register now [to be the first to know](#) when registration opens or [Find out more](#)

Yr 12: Goldsmiths, University of London - DE:CONSTRUCT Festival, Tuesday 23 – Thursday 25 March

The festival is for students to explore how voices can be amplified or suppressed and how to create a platform for voices to be heard; this year's theme is 'Raising Your Voice'. This free online event features talks and activities, a full list of sessions is available via the [DE:CONSTRUCT website](#).

Careers and University Information

CCHSG Careers Information

Mrs Kee is continuing to hold telephone appointments with students these are available on one day every week, either Monday or Wednesday. Interested students should email Mrs Mandal via smandal@cchsg.com and include in their email a preferred telephone number for the appointment. This information will be passed on to Mrs Kee who will contact the student to fix an appointment. Students should not approach Mrs Kee directly.



Yr 12 UNIQ Opportunity

UNIQ aims to encourage and support more students from backgrounds that are underrepresented at university. UNIQ is carefully designed to break down the barriers that can discourage some students from applying to Oxford – such as a lack of confidence or encouragement, absence of role models, outdated perceptions of Oxford and its students, or myths around their interview process. Every year about a third of UNIQ students who apply to Oxford get offered a place. Therefore, this is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore subjects that interest them and prepare for University. It makes students feel confident in their ability to access their academic courses, despite the disrupted school year and gives them the opportunity to find out if Oxford is right for them.

Places on UNIQ are prioritised for students who live in areas where relatively few people progress to higher education and Oxford in particular and who come from lower socio-economic backgrounds. They also consider whether students have been in care or received free school meals.

UNIQ is free and applications open on Wednesday 10 February and close on Monday 15 March. UNIQ starts in April and offers sustained support over several months.

Students should use Mrs Pigott as a teacher reference and let Mrs Pigott know they are applying. For further information visit www.uniq.ox.ac.uk

Queen's University Belfast Conferences from the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics

We have been asked to share details of their upcoming conferences on Government and Politics, and Anthropology and Philosophy, designed to enrich A Level learning and introduce students to higher education.

Government and Politics in Turbulent Times: 3 March, registration: [here](#) Full details of the conference with lecture synopsis are: [here](#)

Believe it or not: Religion in the modern world: 24 March, Registration: [here](#) Full details of the conference with lecture synopsis are: [here](#)

Yrs 11 – 13: University of Suffolk: I Wonder Wednesdays

A series of online taster sessions designed to help students explore the subjects that interest them and discover what it would be like to study at university. In addition, they are a good way to demonstrate interest in chosen subjects when writing a personal statement, there is the opportunity to meet lecturers and ask any questions about the subject and about the University of Suffolk. For more information and to book <https://uos.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f75f57cde7f52126d1696bf40&id=2dc1760b9b&e=3cf995fa02>

Virtual Careers Opportunities for Students During Half Term

Springpod are offering virtual work experience opportunities for students to use to continue to build their experience and CV from 15 February – 26 February:

[Marketing Virtual Work Experience](#) with **The Chartered Institute of marketing** - this programme includes around 10 hours of activities and lays a solid foundation in knowledge, covering everything from marketing principles to social media and content.

[Law Virtual Work Experience](#) - this involves learning about how legal research, analysis and drafting - as well as contractual interpretation and client communication all play a role in different areas of the legal industry.

In addition, Springpod's April Easter holidays virtual work experience will run between 6 April – 16 April. They will be running virtual work experience programmes in [engineering](#), [hospitality](#), [dentistry](#), [veterinary](#) and [more](#). View all the opportunities [here](#).

Royal Drawing School Foundation Year - New Foundation Course at Trinity Buoy Wharf

The Prince's Foundation is launching a new course for school leavers preparing for entry to Higher Education in September 2021, with a wider curriculum focussed on the Applied Arts. The course will include architecture, crafts and textiles, the Royal Drawing School will partner to deliver the Fine Art component. To express an interest contact education@princes-foundation.org

Royal Drawing School Courses for School Leavers

The School is developing a new part-time School leaver's programme, *The Drawing Gap*, which will run at the School's main campus in Shoreditch. Aimed at gap year students, they offer both three and six month programmes of study, launching in Spring 2022. Contact gapyear@royaldrawingschool.org to register interest.

HSBC Investing in Futures

HSBC Foundation and Degree opportunities are available to view and apply to via their [UK Apprenticeships](#) page. In addition, HSBC 2021 Work Experience opportunities are live now and students can apply via their [Work Experience](#) page.

WorldSkills UK: Spotlight Talks - Inspiring Careers Excellence 24 & 25 March, 09.00 – 12.00

The charity is hosting live careers talks in March exploring both skills and careers, giving insights into a range of sectors to inspire students to explore new career routes and apprenticeships. The talks will also be available to watch on demand after the event. [Find out more & register](#)



Community Information

Hedingham & Chambers Buses Travel Rocks Campaign

Please see poster below for a fun opportunity to show appreciation towards bus drivers and key workers.

Correspondence Sent Out This Week

All Yrs: E-Safety Information - Safer Internet Day

All Yrs: PTFA London Marathon Ballot

All Ys: New Teaching School Hub

Yr 7: Parent Consultation Evening

This Week's Brainteaser

A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog, who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?

Last week's answer: Tartare, tomato and chasseur

Word of the Week for w/c 22 February

Next week the word is: **SPORADIC** – appearing or happening at irregular intervals.



Colchester County High School for Girls

12 February 2021



Registered Charity No. 1110464



1. Virgin Money London Marathon Public Ballot Result (Race Day: Sunday 3 October 2021)

If you have been successful in obtaining a place via the ballot for the Virgin Money London Marathon 2021, drawn this week, we would like to ask you to consider raising funds for Colchester County High School for Girls PTFA (Charity No, 1110464). There is no limit to the number of runners who could represent our charity. If you would like to run for CCHSG PTFA, or know someone else who would, kindly register your interest via email to Agness O'Brien at cchsgptfa@gmail.com by 28 February.

2. Second Hand Uniform and Revision Books Sale Postponed

Due to the uncertainty over school re-opening and following the latest Government and NHS advice, the planned one-day uniform and revision books sale on Saturday 27 February will be postponed for the foreseeable future. The safety of parents, students and volunteers running and attending such an event is paramount. Rest assured that we will definitely organise a sale as soon as it is safe to do so.

If you are having a sort out, please keep items of outgrown uniform and revision books, as we will gratefully accept your donations when school reopens.

3. Classlist Sign-up – All Year Groups

Would you like to connect with other parents from your child's Form and Year Group? If you have not done so already why not join the CCHSG Classlist? Year 7 parents may find Classlist particularly useful in connecting with other parents, as the usual social opportunities have been very limited this year. Classlist offers a fully GDPR-compliant way for you to communicate directly with school families. It is the perfect way to connect easily and safely, because users have full control over what data they would like to share. Simply go to www.classlist.com, search for our school and sign up. You can also download the Classlist app on iOS and Android.

Class Reps Needed to Host Virtual Meet-up of Parents

Since the start of the pandemic, the PTFA has endeavoured to support our local communities and keep our members connected through events like our virtual quiz nights. We would now like to encourage parents to engage with other parents from their child's Form. We are seeking volunteers who have paid Zoom accounts to host virtual coffee mornings, cocktail hours, quiz nights or other virtual gatherings. If you can help with this, or would like more information, please get in touch with Agness O'Brien via Classlist or email cchsgptfa@gmail.com.

4. Help Raise Funds for CCHSG PTFA

If you have ideas that could help generate funds and/or create virtual social opportunities for the PTFA community, please email us at cchsgptfa@gmail.com. Here are some simple ways that you can already support the school during this difficult time:

- **Easyfundraising** – Every time you do your online shopping via Easyfundraising, retailers donate money to CCHSG PTA, completely free. Please sign up here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colchestercountygirlspta/>
- **AmazonSmile** – You now need to search for amazon on www.easyfundraising.org.uk or the App. You will then be directed to AmazonSmile. Sign up to support Colchester County High School for Girls PTFA.
- **STIKINS® by Label Planet** – Multipurpose name labels for all a school items. CCHSG PTFA earns up to 30% commission on all sales. Name labels are essential for busy parents and schools who don't have time to deal with lost property. Stikins are an easy self-adhesive solution with no sewing needed. CCHSG PTFA have been allocated a unique code 35809 for parents to use. Visit <https://www.stikins.co.uk> to order online.
- **Ink Cartridges Recycling In Support of CCHSG PTFA.** With home schooling and many parents working from home at the moment, you can help raise funds simply by recycling your ink cartridges via the Recycle4Charity programme. For each inkjet cartridge recycled via the programme we will receive a £1 donation. Cartridge brands accepted include HP, Dell, Canon, Kodak, Frama, Pitney Bowes and Neopost, full list here <https://www.recycle4charity.co.uk/InkjetCartridges>
For your convenience, FREEPOST envelopes can also be sent to your home address so you can send cartridges directly via freepost. To do this, please register at: <http://www.recycle4charity.co.uk/Register/C95556>

PTFA CONTACTS:

Chair: Agness O'Brien

agnessobrien@hotmail.com

Tel. 01376 573694 or 07951 511653

For all enquires related to the PTFA, email cchsgptfa@gmail.com



CCHSG DISTANCE CHALLENGE

How far can we travel?



Monday 8 February - Sunday 21 February



How can you complete the distance?

- Walk
- Run
- Cycle

Alternatively, any other format of travel...Except for in a car!



CCHSG TO..... LONDON (104 KM)

CCHSG TO..... PARIS (513 KM)

CCHSG TO..... BERLIN (951KM)

CCHSG TO..... MADRID (1,777 KM)

CCHSG TO..... ROME (1,890KM)

CCHSG TO..... MOSCOW (2,733KM)

CCHSG TO..... NEW YORK (5,625KM)

CCHSG TO..... BEIJING (8,062 KM)

CCHSG TO..... TOKYO (9,488 KM)

CCHSG TO..... SYDNEY (16,916 KM)

CCHSG TO..... WELLINGTON (18,753 KM)

Please remember to read the **PE safety leaflet** if you are going out for a walk/run/cycle



Keep a log of the distance that you have travelled. You could also get your family involved in the challenge too! You will need to submit your total distance travelled to your class TEAMS Assignment on **Monday 22 February**.



HART PRIZE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



Humanitarian
Aid Relief Trust

Are you interested in human rights and global affairs?

Take part in our Essay or Creative Competition (or both!)

You could win:
a cash prize
vouchers
publication of your work on our website
tea in the House of Lords with Baroness Cox
a signed book
work experience with HART!

See our website for more details and to download our information pack:

www.hart-uk.org/humanrightsprize



DEADLINE: 1st March 2021

#BusTravelRocks



Looking for something fun to do with the kiddies?



1. Paint a rock with a picture or message
2. Send us a photo of your painted rock via social media, tagging us and hashtagging

#BusTravelRocks

3. Leave your rock at your local bus shelter in a safe and secure position

A simple rock is a small gesture that can show an enormous amount of kindness!



www.hedingham.co.uk/bustravelrocks

hedingham



HAPPY CHINESE
NEW YEAR

Sincere greetings from

ICPTFA

Registered Charity No. 1110464