

Clacton County High School

Walton Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. CO15 6DZ Tel: 01255 424266 e-mail: admin@cchs.school

Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations, Transforming Lives

Our reference: CTALET34/LH

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Dear Parent/Carer

As usual, I like to write a final letter of the academic year to all of our families to wish everyone a safe and very happy summer holiday. Whilst of late the weather has not been the most settled, let's hope for some more warm and sunny days for the six week period.

The past academic year has been extremely busy and it has been an absolute pleasure to have enjoyed some great educational successes along with providing our students with so many extra-curricular and sporting opportunities. As Head of School, there have been so many proud moments and too many to list in detail, but it has been a fantastic year in many ways.

This year, we have been able to organise and host over 90 trips and visits and we have even more planned for the next 12 - 18 months which includes a geography trip to the Azores, cultural trips to Madrid and Paris, a ski trip (venue to be confirmed) and a trip to Orlando. We are delighted to be able to offer our students such amazing opportunities, but none of these would be possible without CCHS staff giving up their own personal and family time and for those who remain in school picking up extra lessons to cover for staff on the trips.

A massive thank you to all CCHS staff for their hard work and efforts in support of your children for this year and in advance of the forthcoming year.

Last week, the school opened up its doors to four performances of the CCHS summer musical. This year, we performed our interpretation of Billy Elliott. I was privileged to see it on the opening night and, as ever, I was completely blown away by the amazing talent that we have within our student community. All of the cast were fantastic, but so were the supporting members within the crew. The performance was mature, funny, moving and extremely professional. Well done to everyone and again, thanks to our wonderful staff who really have gone the extra mile with the students, they really deserve a well-earned rest now.

Moving on to our preparations for the forthcoming academic year of 2024-25. We are always very grateful to our parents for their support of the school, and I am sure that this support will continue. There are just three things that I would remind you of for the start of the year:

- 1. Ensure your child attends school on time every day.
- 2. Ensure your child's leaves for school in <u>full</u> and correct uniform, with no false nails/ lashes/ nose studs, etc. Students should have a bag with a pencil case and water bottle.
- 3. Support the school in our decision-making. Children are much more likely to be happy and successful in school with home and school working in partnership.

CCHS is a great school and this is the case because we have high standards and expectations of our school community. Your support is integral to maintaining these high standards, to the success of the school and your children; *Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations, Transforming Live,* this is our mission and this is why you made CCHS the secondary school of choice for your child/ren.

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Executive Headteacher: Neil Gallagher Head of School: Chris Taylor



This is my constant end of term request; keep your child safe. I urge parents and carers to consider the use of social media by your children throughout the long summer break ahead. Ask questions; what are they watching, who are they with online, what are they getting involved in? The dangers facing young people online cannot be underestimated. In addition, know where your children are when they are out and about, respect for others and others' property is vital, ensure your child stays away from any form of anti-social behaviour.

Finally, we are lucky enough to live close to the sea and when the weather is good, many of us head to the beach, especially young people, to meet and be with their friends. Please encourage your child to go to a beach where there is a full time lifeguard, to be wary of swimming out of their depth, of drifting out to sea with and inflatable, and very important, to ensure they heed the warning signs about jumping off rocks etc, they are there for a reason and the tides around the pier can be very changeable and dangerous.

I wish everyone a lovely summer break and we look forward to welcoming our new students on Tuesday, 3rd September and Year 8 to 11 on Wednesday, 4th September.

Yours sincerely

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Chris Taylor Head of School