



CCHS Weekly Mailing

Friday, 11th March 2022

With only three weeks remaining until the start of the Easter holidays, there is still a lot to get through and a lot to look forward to. For those students in the lower school not involved with final summer examination preparations, there are some exciting trips ahead next week: a Year 8 STEM Science trip to Colchester Zoo and, in support of National Science Week, for Year 10 students, a visit to RSPB Minsmere. The week beginning 28th March marks the start of Careers Week @ CCHS for Years 7-12 with exciting things planned. There are external visitors booked from the world of business, armed forces and from across the public sector. Assemblies have been arranged where our guests will present and speak with students, in addition, lessons will be themed around careers and aspirations. For Friday, 25th March a Year 7 disco is organised and of course, the finale to the spring term; the Rewards Trip, for those students with the most PROUD points.

Alongside the special events planned, we continue with a full academic programme including mock exams for our Year 11 and sixth form students, and for Year 9 the very important next step, their 'Pathways' options. Students will soon make their final choices for the subjects they would like to study at GCSE and perhaps beyond for Post-16 at the CCHS sixth form college - [Sigma Sixth](#). To assist with the final selection Year 9 Parents' Evening is on Thursday, 17th March.

Following on so close to the pandemic we know that global events, including the war in the Ukraine, can be very upsetting for some students and they may be feeling overwhelmed with all that is going on around them. If this is the case, please do not hesitate to contact your child's pastoral team and we will be happy to offer any advice or support or even to provide just a listening ear.

As we approach the Easter holidays and the lifting of the final Coronavirus restrictions on 1st April, it is important that we still do our best to keep each other safe and well. 'Every lesson counts' and excellent attendance is vital so that students maximise every opportunity available to ensure they can fulfil their potential. Although there is no legal requirement to test or self-isolate, it is advisable to remain vigilant to help mitigate the spread of the virus. If you need any advice please take a look at the [Government website](#).

Whole School Notices

Weekly News – Exciting events have been taking place at CCHS this past week – please read the Weekly News to see details and pictures of what our staff and students have been up to - [Click Here](#)

School Gates – There are two entrances to the school; the main gate on Walton Road and the back gate accessed via the Leisure Centre field. The back gate is open from between 7.30am – 8.45am, and again from 3.00pm – 3.30pm. Outside of these times students will only be able to use the main gates on Walton Road. If students are late to school (registration begins at 8.45am) they will need to enter through the Walton Road entrance, and then proceed into school through the main reception so that they can sign in at the Attendance Office.

Car Park – Please be reminded that we ask parents not to come on to the school site to drop off or pick up students unless permission has been granted, for example for a medical condition. Parents who do come onto the school site are requested to observe the speed limit (5mph), the one-way system, avoid parking in designated or disabled bays and be aware of adults and children moving around the car park area.

Breakfast Club – Each morning, students are welcome to visit Clouds to have a light breakfast of toast. This is available from 8.15am – 8.40am. This is complementary and available for any student who has missed breakfast, and is supervised by Mrs Johnson, our A Block technician.

Final Reminder – Vaccinations - On Thursday, 17th March the School Immunisation team will be administering the following vaccinations;

- **Year 9 students** - HPV 1 & 2– if you have not already done so, please can you read the [letter](#) and complete the [consent form](#).
- Students in **Year 10 and Year 11** who have missed the DTP/MenACWY vaccination have been sent a paper consent form to complete and return to the school.
- The team will also be offering the COVID Vaccine to any students (**aged 12-15**) – if you would like your child to receive this please complete this [consent form](#).

If you have any queries about any of the vaccinations, please contact the School Immunisation team directly by calling 0300 790 0597. The deadline for all consents is 9am on Monday, 14th March.

Year 7

Disco – We are excited to announce that we will be holding a disco for year 7 students on Friday, 25th March in the school hall. The ‘Let’s Dance’ event is being organised to raise money for Comic Relief and we would encourage all attendees to wear something red if they can. Food, drinks and sweets will be available to purchase; all profits will be donated to Comic Relief. The disco will run from 4.30pm – 6.30pm. Tickets cost £3 and can be purchased on [ParentPay](#).

Year 9

Pathways and Parents’ Evening – Parents/carers will be receiving a letter and an email early next week detailing the Pathway options – the choices for KS4 study – for students in Year 9. Parents’ Evening will take place on Thursday, 17th March (a copy of the letter sent out can be [viewed here](#)) and will give you an opportunity to speak to your child’s teachers to gain a better understanding of the progress your child has been making in subjects they have been studying since September. Students will have the Pathways process explained in assembly next week, and will receive an email with a link to a google form to complete their final choices. This must be completed by Monday, 28th March. Please take a look at the [subject pages](#) on our website to give you an idea of the subject options available, and what the course involves for KS4 study.

Year 11

Exam Timetables - Mock exams for Year 11 students continue next week - a copy of the timetable can be [viewed here](#). You can also view the timetable for the [Summer exams here](#).

Sigma Sixth

Year 13 Mocks – Mock exams will be taking place for Year 13 students from Monday, 21st March – Friday, 25th March. Please click here to view a copy of the letter sent to parents earlier in the week. If you have any queries please contact the [Sixth Form](#) team.

Careers

During the week commencing 28th March, we will be in the fortunate position of being able to once again invite guest employers back into school to engage with our students. While information has been widely available online over the last couple of years, this is no replacement for in-person conversations and information. We have designated this week as our own 'Careers Week' and have made plans to integrate the concept of future goals and career paths into all aspects of the curriculum.

Central to this will be a series of 'mini' careers fairs held in the restaurant area, Clouds, during lunchtimes. Representatives from areas such as the armed forces, facilities management, veterinary nursing, finance, public sector and digital media will be on hand each day to help inspire students and provide information on career opportunities and pathways within their own sector. Some of these visitors will also be delivering special assemblies about their area of expertise.

During lessons, students will have the opportunity to explore and discuss careers within that subject area and hopefully take away ideas to research for the future - important for all year groups, but especially of interest to year groups who will be making important study choices. Teachers have been asked to display a summary of their own pathway, so students may see some surprising past career moves!

As always, our [Careers Hub](#) remains the centre for all information, whether to explore choices, search for apprenticeship opportunities, or to see what's on in the local area or online. Any opportunity that we hear about that we feel will be beneficial to our students is displayed on here, however if you know of, or hear about anything that we may have missed, please let us know by emailing admin@cchs.school.

Community Family Information

Free Adult Courses from Colchester Institute – Learning Shops from Colchester Institute have been set up to help adults develop skills and increase career prospects over a wide range of courses. Functional Skills English and Maths are available to adults free of charge, with the Level 2 course being roughly equivalent to GCSEs. The courses are delivered online and can be accessed remotely from home. You can contact the Clacton Branch of the Learning Shop by calling 01206 712825 or by visiting their [website](#).