



Clacton County High School Weekly News

www.countyhigh.org.uk

admin@cchs.school

parentnews@cchs.school

[The CCHS Blog](#)

Autumn Term 2021 | Issue 7 | Friday 22nd October

CCHS Celebrates at the Tendring Youth Awards

The fifth Tendring Youth Awards took place this week with Clacton County High School featuring in six of the eleven categories, with seven short-listed nominations in total. The annual awards celebrate some of the fantastic young people who live, study and work in Tendring, as well as the adults who support them.

Congratulations to **Zak** in Year 10, who won the **'Learning Achievement Award'** for his amazing perseverance with his learning, both in and outside of lessons. **Ruby** in Year 9 and former



CCHS Year 11 student, **Sion** were both runners-up in the same category - Ruby for her outstanding commitment to her learning; Sion for working tirelessly to achieve her academic goals and passion about her beliefs.

- Sigma Sixth Year 12 student **Mia**, was a runner-up in the **'Young Volunteer Award'** for her commitment to Clacton Swimming Club as Club Captain, helping coach and inspire younger swimmers, as well as teaching others to swim.
- **Matylda** in Year 8 was nominated as a **'Young Covid Champion'** for creating friendship bracelets during lockdown, that people could send to loved ones while they are in isolation; collecting over £200 for the NHS in the process.
- In the **'Environmental Initiative'** category, the runner-up was **Oliver** in Year 9 for his strong enthusiasm and leadership within our Horticultural Science Group.
- In addition, numerous CCHS students formed the bulk of the cast for the Princes Youth Theatre's production of 'DNA', who were runners up in the **Arts Category**.

The staff and students, who attended the awards evening, were ecstatic that CCHS picked up over a quarter of the awards on the night. Congratulations to all our nominees and award winners; we are exceedingly proud to have been so well represented at the awards evening, which helps demonstrate the outstanding commitment and talent of our students.

Showcasing the Creative Talent @ CCHS

Our collective design departments are delighted to be championing the outstanding creative talent they witness each and every day through the work produced by students during their lessons. To help showcase all of this creative talent their teachers have produced a special online exhibition in the form of a CCHS micro-website, which they will be regularly updating to celebrate and share our students' work. Please take the time to explore the artwork and creative flair of CCHS students – [Visit the CCHS Creative Microsite](#)

A permanent link is also available through the school website, under the 'Parents' Tab.



**** Year 11 – Help Your Child Revise – Thursday 18th November ****

Parents, carers and Year 11 students are invited to attend a special Family Focus 'Help Your Child Revise' session, on Thursday, 18th November, to assist with their exam preparation. The information evening, from 4.30pm to 6.00pm (including an interactive session between 5.00 and 6.00pm), will offer tips and strategies on how to revise successfully. It also provides an opportunity for both parents and students to use the suggested strategies, with support from teachers, to help maximise students' potential ahead of their mock exams in December and their final GCSE's next summer. [Please follow this link to reserve a place for this session.](#)



Follow us on Twitter - @clacton_cchs and Facebook @clactoncountyhigh



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award – Assessment Hike in Thetford Forest

Early last Sunday, just as it was getting light, forty-five intrepid and perhaps a little apprehensive, Year 10 students assembled at school at the start of their 2-day Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze Award hike. Divided into nine groups, they were required to carrying everything they needed for their adventure, including their own tents, sleeping bags, food and water, camping gas and cookers – some of their back-packs were as large as they were!



Travelling in three mini-buses, with a support van carrying all their back-packs, the groups travelled to their relevant drop-off points. Ahead of them were two six-hour days of hiking around and through Thetford Forest with an over-night camp under canvas. Each group had spent the past number of weeks planning their route from the pre-assigned start and finish points – four groups walked the route in reverse, from finish to start, so that the groups were spread out. This also helped ensure that they actually did navigate using their maps rather than just following the group in front!



After a successful first day all the groups converged (eventually) at a Scout Camp in the middle of the forest. Tents were erected, dinner cooked, and wood collected for two camp fires, lit in the designated fire pits, giving them all a real camping experience under the clear starry sky; the marsh-mallow roasting was certainly a big hit!

The camp was adjacent to a railway line, so there was no need for an alarm clock on Monday morning when you have the 5:45am express passing by! Waking-up freezing cold and damp did not appeal to most, and many groups had eaten breakfast before the sun rose to try and warm up. Tents were dismantled and 'packed' away as the teams prepared for day 2 and another six-hour hike – a daunting prospect when you're tired, cold and sore from the previous day's endeavours.



All the groups rose to the challenge and embarked on their final day, knowing that each step was a step closer to finishing and to passing their DofE Bronze Hike. As the forecast was rain by mid-afternoon, there was certainly an incentive to keep moving and complete their hike before getting wet and, all but two groups, managed to get undercover before the heavens opened.

Well done to each and everyone of those students who completed their Bronze Hike, many of them spent their first night under canvas on a rather cold October night, and learnt a lot about themselves – their resilience and their perseverance, as well as some great life skills - working as a team, encouraging each other and laughing together – there were a few 'classic moments' but our favourite was Jess who sat down on a gate and toppled backwards due to the weight of her back-pack!. They all deserve to be as proud of their achievement as all the supporting trip staff are. Well done DofE'ers – you smashed it!

Many thanks to the external DofE assessor for accompanying the trip and to the CCHS staff who gave up part of their weekend to ensure that the groups were on track and safe.



Follow us on Twitter - @clacton_cchs and Facebook @clactoncountyhigh

