

Dear Parents/Carers

The end of this term marks the halfway point through the academic year and almost six months since we moved into our permanent home. Planning and preparation has now started for our fourth cohort of students and a new group of staff in September. All vacancies for roles are advertised on Kent Teach, our teaching roles are currently live and support staff roles will be advertised in April. If you are interested in joining the team, please do get in touch.



Guide Dogs UK Inspire Year 8 & 9 Student

This week, we were delighted to welcome representatives from Guide Dogs UK to speak with our Year 8 and 9 students about the incredible work they do to support people living with sight loss. The session made even more special by the visit of a fully trained working guide dog and an ambassador dog, who quickly became the stars of the show! Students learned about the remarkable training journey each guide dog undertakes—an intensive process that costs an astonishing £77,000 from puppyhood to full qualification. Pat and Jenny, our guest speakers, talked students through this journey, from early socialisation to advanced mobility training.



A highlight for many was the chance for several lucky students to take part in training demonstrations, showcasing the dogs' exceptional skills and obedience.



We are especially grateful to Pat, who has been fully blind for 18 years, for bravely speaking to more than 200 of our students. Pat shared her personal experiences with warmth, honesty, and humor—telling staff afterwards that our pupils were “the politest students she has ever spoken to,” and had asked brilliant, thoughtful questions throughout. We extend a huge thank you to Pat, Jenny and the Guide Dogs team for providing such an inspiring and eye-opening session.

Families who would like to support the charity's life-changing work can do so by sponsoring a guide dog puppy for just £2.00 per week. More information can be found here:

<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donating/sponsor-a-puppy/>

☀️ Outstanding Attendance Across Our Houses! ☀️

We are thrilled to celebrate the incredible attendance achievements of our students so far this year. Your commitment to showing up, engaging in learning, and supporting your House community is truly shining through!

Here are our year-to-date attendance figures—and they are impressive:

- 💙 Blue House: 93.6%
- 💚 Green House: 96.1%
- 💊 Orange House: 96.1%
- 💜 Purple House: 95.1%
- ❤️ Red House: 94.9%
- 🌟 Yellow House: 96.1%

We are also incredibly proud to share that our overall school attendance stands at 95.1%, which is well above the National Average of 91.8%. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to the commitment of our students, families, and staff.

Ofsted Parent View

As a new school, we are on a continued journey as we approach full capacity. As part of this, we very much welcome the views of parents/carers to ensure that our school provides the best possible education for our students. Please do take this opportunity to share your views with us using the following link: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

We are now halfway through the academic year, and we are keen to seek your views and feedback to make our school the best it can be.

Extra Curricular Update

Term 4 Extra-Curricular clubs will resume Tuesday 24th February 2026. Thank you for your continued support in our education with character programme. All sports clubs will finish at 16:15pm and students will be released via the sports reception exit. Bake Off Club will also be running until 16:15pm to maximise cooking time and students will also leave via the sports reception exit.

🏆 Year 9 Netball Champions – Ashford Schools League 2025–26 🏆



What an incredible achievement for our Year 9 Netball team, who have been crowned Ashford Schools League Champions for 2025–26. This victory is so much more than a title – it's the result of years of dedication, teamwork, and unwavering commitment. From their early days in Year 7 to now, this group has trained week after week, pushing themselves to improve, welcoming new talent into the squad, and growing stronger together. Their journey has been marked by resilience, determination, and a genuine love for the sport, and it has been a privilege to watch them develop into the exceptional team they are today. Their hard work paid off in spectacular fashion this season, with outstanding performances, brilliant teamwork, and a spirit that truly embodies our school values.

Medals have been awarded, celebrations are well deserved, and the pride felt across the Year Group is lovely to see. A huge well done to every player involved. Your Head of Year and the PE Team are incredibly proud of you all. This is a moment to remember, and a title you have earned through effort and passion.

🏉 Touch Rugby Development Session! 🏹

Our Chilmington Green Year 9 squad had a fantastic afternoon at Dover College taking part in a touch rugby development session. Students from both schools mixed together for skill-building drills before finishing with a friendly game. Our boys showed brilliant teamwork, determination, and a superb attitude throughout. A special shout-out to Noah and Cayden, who showed incredible pace and crossed the line for a couple of well-earned tries!

A great experience all round and plenty to build on moving forward.

Well done, everyone!





Interhouse Basketball Term 3

On Wednesday 11th February, our Interhouse Basketball competition was a fantastic showcase of talent, teamwork and school spirit across all year groups. It was brilliant to see so many pupils taking part and giving their all on the court. Throughout the competition, students truly demonstrated our core values of ambition, determination and respect — supporting their teammates, showing resilience in challenging moments, and competing with great sportsmanship.

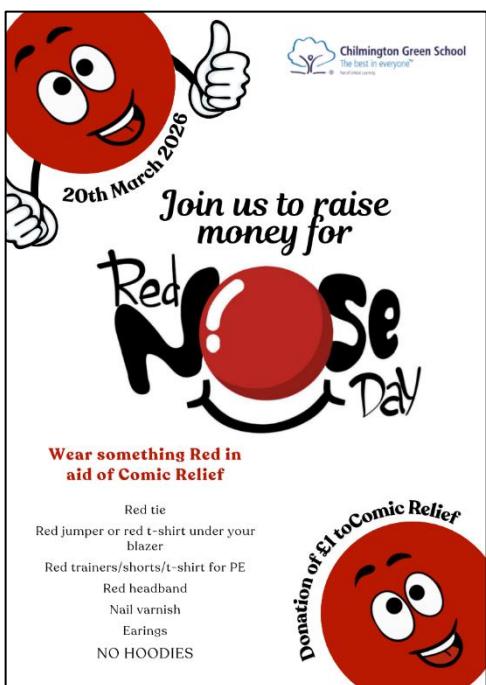
A huge congratulations to our winning teams:

Year 9 Blue, Year 7 Yellow and Year 8 Green excellent achievement and thoroughly deserved! Well done to everyone who took part and to make the event such a success. Our Year 9 Sports Captains refereed, scored and organised the fixtures with confidence and great leadership skills.



Parents' Evenings Booking – Year 7

Just a reminder that bookings are now open for Year 7 Parents' Evening, which will take place on 4th March 2026. Please log in to [SchoolCloud](#) booking system to secure your appointment.



Comic Relief – Friday 20th March 2026

We are excited to announce that our whole school will be taking part in Comic Relief on Friday 20th March 2026! To help raise money for this fantastic charity, we are inviting all pupils and staff to wear a red accessory for the day. This could be a hat, socks, headband, badge, tie, or anything else with a splash of red!

We are asking for a £1 donation, with every penny going directly to Comic Relief to support the incredible work they do in helping vulnerable people across the UK and around the world.

Let's come together as a school community, have fun, and make a difference. Thank you for your support!

🌟Celebrating Our Education with Character Award Winners!🌟

We are delighted to recognise our students who have been awarded this term's Education with Character Awards. These awards honour students who consistently demonstrate our school's core values of Respect, Determination, and Ambition—both in and beyond the classroom. Please join us in congratulating the following students for their exceptional character and contributions to our school community:

Cayden – Ambition Award (Year 9)

Cayden has shown remarkable ambition throughout the year, continuing to thrive as Sports Captain, where he leads by example and motivates others with positivity and passion. His dedication is further reflected in his achievement of earning the most School Value Points in 9 Green. Cayden's commitment to excellence and personal growth makes him a fantastic role model for his peers.

Cameron – Determination Award (Year 9)

Cameron is being recognised for his unwavering determination and mature approach to school life. He consistently ensures his equipment is ready, stays on top of important notices, and approaches tutor time interventions with a positive and proactive attitude. His reliability and effort demonstrate what determination truly looks like in action.

Pietra – Respect Award (Year 9)

Pietra embodies the value of respect every single day. She is always ready to support her teachers, helps willingly with tasks, and plays an invaluable role during events involving external visitors, representing the school with warmth and professionalism. Her thoughtful and considerate nature has a positive impact on everyone around her.

Evie - Respect Award (Year 8)

Evie has been recognised for consistently showing respect in everything she does. She listens attentively to others, follows instructions with maturity, and treats everyone around her with genuine kindness. Her positive attitude helps create a warm and supportive environment for the whole year group.

Malachi - Ambition Award (Year 8)

Malaki has displayed exceptional ambition in his learning this term. His impressive attitude, especially during assessments, stood out to his teachers. A particular highlight was writing a full-page essay—something he had never achieved before. His willingness to push himself and try new challenges is truly inspiring. Fantastic work, Malaki—keep aiming high!

Skyla - Determination Award (Year 8)

Skyla has shown remarkable determination in preparing for and completing her mid-year assessments. She stayed focused, gave her very best, and demonstrated resilience throughout the process and beyond. Her commitment to improving and overcoming obstacles is something to be celebrated.

Dylan C – Ambition Award (Year 7)

Since the beginning of Year 7, Dylan has demonstrated remarkable growth in his confidence and approach to learning. He consistently goes above and beyond in every lesson, making significant improvements in his work. Dylan's ambition shines through in everything he does—and it will no doubt take him far!

Isabelle R – Respect Award (Year 7)

Isabelle is a wonderful role model within our school community. She is always looking out for others, offering support to her peers when they need it most, and showing kindness and respect to both staff and fellow students. Her thoughtful attitude makes a positive difference every single day.

Evan M – Determination Award (Year 7)

Evan has shown inspiring perseverance across all his lessons. He has faced challenges with resilience, worked hard to overcome them, and emerged with a newfound confidence that he shares proudly with his class. His progress has been truly outstanding—well done, Evan!

Key Dates

Date	Event
Friday 13 th February 2026	End of Term 3
Wednesday 25 th February 2026	Year 9 Netball Ashford & Folkestone League Final (Home)
Monday 2 nd March 2026	Ski Trip 2026 Parent/Carer Meeting – Arrive 3.45pm for a 4pm start -5.00pm All families must attend with passport, GHIC and any medication in original packaging for this residential clearly labelled with child's name.
Wednesday 4 th March 2026	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Thursday 5 th March 2026	NHS – HPV Vaccination Year 8 students' (further details to follow)
Wednesday 11 th March 2026	Booking Opens for Year 8 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	Year 8 Parents' Evening (Details to follow)
Wednesday 15 th April 2026	Booking Opens for Year 9 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 22 nd April 2026	Year 9 GCSE Options Evening (Details to follow)
Wednesday 29 th April 2026	Year 9 Parents' Evening (Details to follow)

I hope you have a restful weekend and half term break and we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 23rd February 2026.

Kind regards

Jon Rutland