

2023/2024 – Newsletter 18

Dear Parents/Carers

We are fast approaching the end of another busy term. This week we welcomed in PC Scott Packman from Kent Police to talk to students about careers in the Police and have the opportunity to learn more about day-to-day life as a police officer. We have also had our careers advisor in school to meet with groups of students with aspirations to follow career pathways in the sectors of medicine, construction, STEM and services.

Primary Transition Visits – Year 6 Parents/Carers

As part of our preparation for September, we will visit each of our primary feeder schools to meet with every student in our new Year 7 cohort to answer any questions they may have about their transition to Chilmington Green School in September. I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting a number of schools over the past week and these visits will continue after half term. Our Year 6 Transition Day will take place on Thursday 4th July. We will share further information regarding this after the half term break.

Building Update

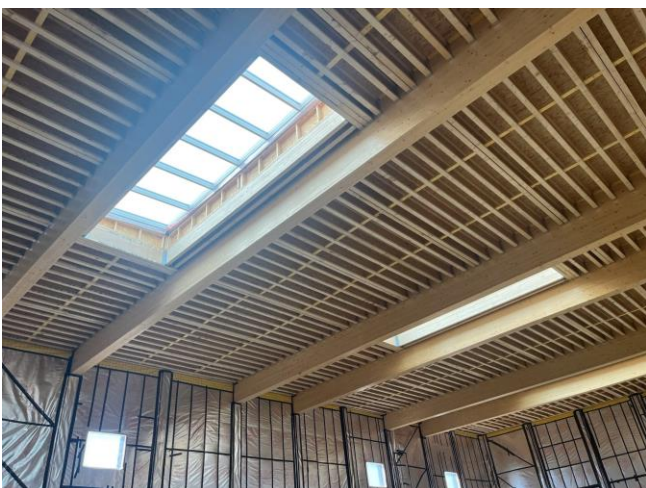
We most recently visited the site on Monday 20th May and saw the continued and rapid progress that the school is making. The structure of the Sports Hall is now in place and the main teaching block has made significant progress since our last visit.



Dining Hall looking towards Sports Hall



View from second floor over Dining Hall



Interior of Sports Hall



Exterior Appearance of Building

Preparation for September

As part of our preparation for September, we will be increasing the number of classroom spaces available to accommodate our second cohort. I am pleased to inform you that a full refurbishment of the upstairs of the main building will be carried out and will commence during the half term break. This refurbishment will provide students with five additional classrooms and an Art and Design room. Alongside these works, one of the existing classrooms will be converted into a science laboratory.

Attendance

Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting your child with maintaining excellent school attendance. Please see leaflet in the 'Newsletters' section of our website for reference.

Rewards

At the end of each term we celebrate our student successes with awards and certificates for their outstanding subject contributions, pastoral awards, attendance and homework raffles as well as holding a rewards afternoon for students with excellent attendance and School Values Points. This term we have awarded over 70 individual students for their efforts – well done to all. Congratulations to Max and Isla for achieving their Gold Award Badges this term.



Enrichment Week and Sports Day

On Monday 8th July to Wednesday 10th July, we will be running our first Enrichment Week. Many of our students will be attending the Bushcraft residential. For students who are remaining in school, this will be a week during which a number of extra-curricular activities will be offered during the school day. Further details will be released at the start of Term 6.

Alongside this, our first Sports Day will take place on Monday 1st July between Periods 3-6. Students should attend school in full PE kit on this day, with additional water and suncream. Students will return to school for lunch as normal and will be released from Chilmington Green School at the normal time.

Extra-Curricular Programme

Over Term 5 our students have been committed to their extra-curricular activities on and off site. We have been impressed with the levels of engagement, effort and resilience shown by all. Our gardening club have been working exceptionally hard to plant summer seeds and a school vegetable patch. Our dance club have been tirelessly rehearsing for their upcoming show in June, working on a choreographed musical theatre piece from Matilda the Musical.



Therapy Dog Fundraising Events Update

Over the past six months we have been hosting many events to help our students raise sufficient funds to train our therapy dog, Gus. We have been overwhelmed by our local community support, families generosity and time and students' dedication. We are pleased to share with you we have successfully fundraised a total of £2800. On Wednesday 22nd May we drew our raffle and we have now contacted all fourteen raffle winners directly by phone. We are pleased to share with you that our raffle raised an amazing £900. Thank you to all our local businesses who donated prizes and to all our families for their support.



House Debating Final – Blue vs Yellow House

On Wednesday our two qualifying Houses battled it out in the final debating 'social media makes us less social'. We saw our students deliver passionate speeches confidently and with clarity and evidence to support their arguments. Congratulations to the winning House and to all who participated in this event.

Mid-Year Assessments

You will find below a reminder of the key dates for End of Year Assessments. You will find in the '[How to Support my Child's Progress](#)' section of the website the revision resources to support with preparation for these assessments.

Time	05-Jun	06-Jun	07-Jun	10-Jun	11-Jun	12-Jun	13-Jun	14-Jun
AM (11:15)	English Reading (45 mins)	History (1 hour)	Maths Paper (1 hour)	Time to complete any missed assessments	Chemistry (40 mins)	Geography (1 hour)	English Writing (45 mins)	Time to complete any missed assessments
PM (1:45)	NGRT Reading Test (1 hour)	Biology (40 mins)	French & Spanish (1 hour)		Religious Studies (1 hour)	Physics (40 mins)	Maths Paper (1 hour)	

Key Dates

Date	Event
Friday 24 th May	End of Term
Monday 3 rd June	Start of Term
Wednesday 5 th June	End of Year Assessments Begin
Monday 1 st July	Sports Day
Monday 8 th July -Wednesday 10 th July	Enrichment Week & Bushcraft Residential Trip
Thursday 4 th July	All Year 7 released at 3.20 due to Year 6 Transition Day <i>*With the exception of Ashford School activities</i>
Tuesday 9 th July	All Year 7 released at 3.20 due to Enrichment Week <i>*With the exception of Ashford School activities</i>

I hope that you have an enjoyable and restful half term and we look forward to welcoming students back after the break.

Kind regards

Jon Rutland
Principal



Gus Therapy Training

We are delighted to have finally raised enough money to train our school dog, Gus. He will be soon attending 'Paws for Therapy' to train him on how to be a psychotherapy animal in our school setting. This will enable him to eventually come to school more often (two days a week is the aim). The duration of training is unknown; this will be however long it takes him to reach his targets, but Gus needs to be a minimum of one year old to do his final assessment, after which children will be able to regularly connect with him and even walk him!

If you or your child have any concerns regarding Gus being in school, you can visit Chilmington Green website where there are the answers to several frequently asked questions.

A very big thank you to all families who have supported us in our fundraising.



Interhouse Debate Competition

We recently hosted a brilliant live interhouse debate competition which saw all houses go head-to-head in a verbal contest, each side arguing for or against a given motion (Blue vs Green – 'zoos should be banned' and Red vs Yellow – 'homework should be banned' ...the teachers were almost convinced!). With a full school audience, the speakers on all sides put in a captivating and engaging performance. Although everyone did well, the Blue and Yellow group particularly shone for their master display of oracy and brilliant counterarguments, securing them a place in Wednesday's highly anticipated final.

The final results are:

3rd: Red and Green

2nd: Blue

1st: Yellow

