



Summer Term News Magazine July 2026





Principal's Message

Dear all,

As we reach the end of another academic year, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on everything that has made this year so special. Reading through the pages of this magazine reminds me just how fortunate we are to be part of such a vibrant, ambitious and caring school community. Every page celebrates the dedication of our staff, the support of our families and, above all, the remarkable achievements of our pupils.

From our youngest learners in Reception taking their first Sports Day, exploring Goodwood Farm and developing a love of reading and writing, to Year 1 discovering history at Amberley Museum and Year 2 immersing themselves in castles, pirates and medieval life, our Primary pupils have embraced every opportunity with curiosity, enthusiasm and smiles.

Our Key Stage 2 pupils have continued to grow in confidence and independence. Year 3 explored rainforests, wildlife and sustainability, while developing their creativity through Forest School and local history. Year 4 combined history, science and engineering with memorable visits to the Weald & Downland Museum and Winchester Science Museum. Year 5 demonstrated resilience during their Cobnor residential, excelled in watersports and played an integral role in our production of *Matilda Jr.* Year 6 completed their Primary journey with determination during SATs, embraced every challenge at Fairthorne Manor and delivered an outstanding performance in *Matilda Jr.* We wish them every success as they begin the next chapter of their education.

In Secondary, our pupils have continued to thrive both inside and outside the classroom. Year 7 have made an excellent start to secondary school, embracing every opportunity from leadership roles to tutor assemblies and supporting our newest pupils with maturity and kindness. Year 8 have grown in confidence and character, developing the habits that will serve them well in the years ahead. Year 9 have taken important steps towards Key Stage 4, showing increasing maturity as they prepared for their GCSE options. Year 10 have successfully completed work experience, college taster opportunities and their first mock examinations, laying strong foundations for Year 11. Finally, our Year 11 pupils have been exceptional role models throughout their GCSE examinations, demonstrating resilience, commitment and determination. We are incredibly proud of them and wish them every success as they await their results and embark on exciting new pathways.

Beyond the classroom, this magazine is filled with examples of what makes CFS such a special place. Whether it has been success in Mathematics, English, Science and STEM, Media Studies, Art, Design Technology and Computer Science; achievements in sport, Duke of Edinburgh, Combined Cadet Force and Bookfest; or the incredible range of educational visits, performances, competitions and enrichment opportunities, our pupils continue to demonstrate the SHINE values in everything they do. These experiences develop far more than academic knowledge—they build confidence, resilience, teamwork, leadership and lifelong memories.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated staff, governors, volunteers, parents and carers. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and support. Together, we continue to provide opportunities that inspire our children to flourish and become the very best version of themselves.

As another school year comes to an end, I would like everyone to take a moment to reflect. Celebrate your achievements, no matter how big or small. If this year has gone exactly as you hoped, take pride in your successes and think about how you can build upon them next year. If things have not quite gone to plan, remember that every new academic year offers a fresh start. Success is not defined by perfection, but by the willingness to learn, grow and keep moving forward. HWPO - Hard work pays off!



Principal's Message

Most importantly, I hope every one of our pupils has a truly wonderful summer holiday. Put the school bags away. Leave the homework behind. Spend time with your family and friends, get outdoors, laugh, play, explore, make memories and simply enjoy being children. These moments are precious and they matter.

I would also like to thank the wonderful volunteers who have really worked hard to ensure that our school community works as one to provide the best possible experience for all of our young people. Whether that is listening to readers, supporting on trips, driving mini-buses or helping to develop key areas of our site...thank you. The final group I would like to mention is our brilliant Friends of CFS. They have been working tirelessly to fundraise, bringing in vital additional money into the school which your children will benefit from. If you are able to help this amazing group of parents, please do let us know and we will pass on your details.

On a personal level, I cannot thank you enough for embracing me in my new role as Executive Principal. Your support and feedback has been instrumental in helping me to continue to build on the successes and tackle any challenges.

Please stay safe over the summer, look after one another, and return to us in September refreshed, happy and ready for another exciting year at CFS.

Have a fantastic summer.

Mr James Garner
Executive Principal

EYFS

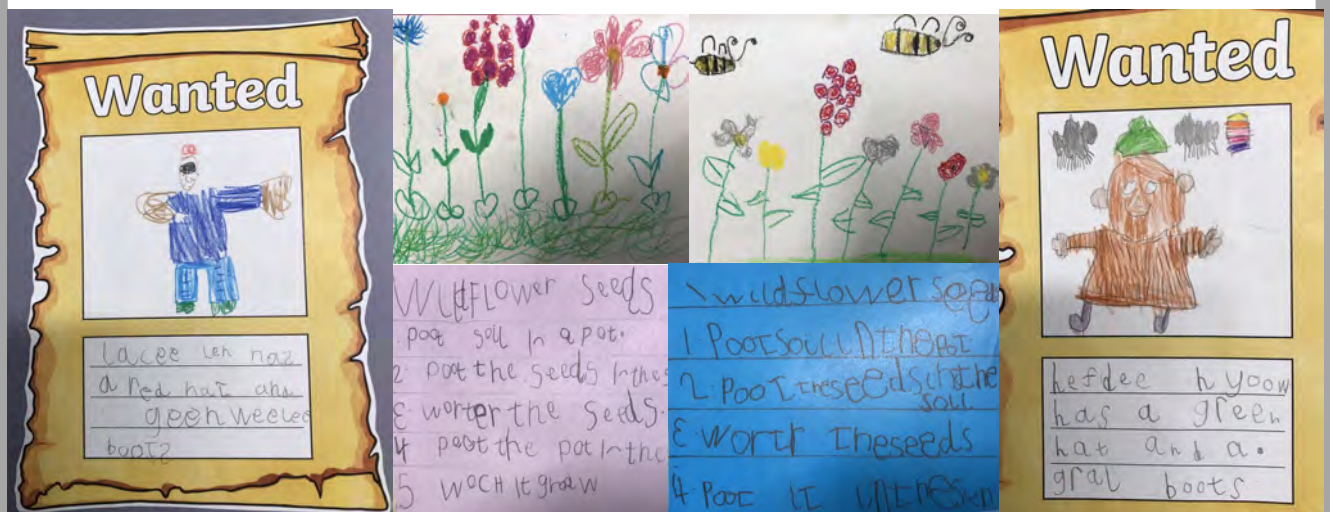
As we come to the end of another wonderful term, and our final newsletter of the year, we would like to take a moment to reflect on all the fantastic learning and experiences we have shared together in Reception. The most exciting part of the term was our trip to Goodwood Farm! We had such an amazing day and enjoyed so many memorable experiences. We watched the cows being milked using self-milking machines and learnt all about crops and how they grow. We even had the chance to plant and grow some of our own! The children loved making butter and exploring the beautiful meadows, running and playing in the fresh air. Meeting the baby animals was a very special part of the day too — we met lambs, piglets and calves, and were fascinated by the huge farm machinery we saw around the farm.

In Literacy, we have continued our phonics learning journey and have been using our growing knowledge to support both our reading and writing. We read *What the Ladybird Heard* and became detectives, creating our own wanted posters to help catch the two thieves, Lanky Len and Hefty Hugh. We also enjoyed reading *Omar and the Bees*, which inspired us to learn about helping our environment. We sent seed envelopes home alongside our own instructions so that we could create bee corridors and support pollinators. To complement our learning, we used oil pastels to create beautiful wildflower artwork.

In Maths, we have continued building our confidence with number work by learning our number bonds and exploring odd and even numbers. We have also been practising doubling facts and developing our understanding through fun activities and practical learning opportunities.

To finish our term, we also took part in our very first Sports Day! The children showed fantastic enthusiasm, determination and teamwork throughout all the activities and races. We were so proud to see everyone trying their very best, cheering on their friends and showing wonderful sportsmanship. It has been a busy and exciting term filled with wonderful learning, creativity and memorable experiences. We are so proud of all the children's hard work and progress. What a fantastic way to end the year!

Miss Smith, Mrs Golby and Mrs DeWitt



Key Stage 1

Year 1

What a fantastic Summer Term it has been in Year 1! We have enjoyed lots of exciting learning experiences, creative activities and memorable trips.

One of the highlights of the term was our trip to **Amberley Working Museum**. We travelled by **train**, which was a wonderful adventure in itself! At the museum, we stepped back in time to discover how people lived and worked in the past. We explored fascinating exhibits, rode on the vintage bus and narrow-gauge railway, and learned about different jobs and machines from long ago. It was a brilliant day full of hands-on learning.

We also visited **Lordington Lavender**, where we explored the beautiful purple fields and learned all about how lavender is grown and harvested. We discovered the many uses of lavender, from perfumes to soaps, and enjoyed using our senses to smell and observe the plants. It was a lovely opportunity to learn about nature and the countryside.

In **Science**, we became material investigators! We carried out experiments to find out which materials are **waterproof**. We made predictions, tested different materials and carefully recorded our results. We discovered which materials would be best for keeping things dry and enjoyed thinking like real scientists.

Our learning in **Religious Education** focused on the story of **The Good Samaritan**. We talked about what it means to be kind, caring and helpful to others. We thought about how we can look after each other in our classroom and around the school by showing kindness, including everyone and helping those who need us.

In **Design and Technology**, we became puppet designers and makers! We created our own puppets for a **Punch and Judy** show using felt and other materials. We carefully cut, joined and decorated our puppets before bringing them to life through imaginative performances. We were very proud of our finished creations.

It has been a busy and enjoyable term filled with curiosity, creativity and teamwork. We are so proud of everything Year 1 has achieved and wish everyone a wonderful summer holiday!

Mr Cook and Miss Martin



Key Stage 1

Year 2

What a busy and exciting term it has been for Year 2!

Our learning journey began in medieval times with a memorable trip to Arundel Castle. Exploring the castle helped us bring our history learning to life as we discovered how people lived and worked in a medieval castle. We followed this with a fantastic Medieval Day, where the school was filled with knights, princesses and even a dragon! We also learned about the physical features that helped castles defend against attack, including hills, cliffs and water sources. In Science, we became investigators, exploring which boat shape could carry the most treasure. We made predictions, tested different designs and carefully recorded our findings to discover the strongest and most effective boats.

As our topic moved from castles to the high seas, we enjoyed an action-packed Pirate Day. We learned about famous pirates from history and explored the pirate code of conduct. We also applied for a variety of pirate job roles aboard the Jolly Chestnut and the Jolly Cedar, showing off our creativity and teamwork skills. Our pirate adventures inspired lots of exciting writing. We created persuasive adverts for Captain Walker Plank's Pirate Playground, using adverbs to make our writing more engaging and convincing. In Maths, we have continued to develop our skills by learning about fractions and using directional language to describe position, movement and turns. We are incredibly proud of all the enthusiasm, curiosity and hard work shown by Year 2 this term.

Mrs Bhutta and Mrs Dowers



Key Stage 2

Year 3

Year 3 have enjoyed another busy and exciting term. Last half term, the children had a fantastic visit to Marwell Zoo, where they explored a variety of animals and learned about their habitats. The disappearance of Samba the capybara captured everyone's imagination, and the children enjoyed investigating the mystery while following updates from the zoo. They also impressed everyone with their wonderful Elm class assembly and enthusiastically immersed themselves in our 'Into the Rainforest' topic, discovering fascinating facts about tropical environments.

For World Earth Day, we learned about endangered animals and explored the impact of unsustainably sourced palm oil on wildlife habitats. The children wrote thoughtful and persuasive letters to companies, encouraging them to use responsibly sourced palm oil and help protect endangered species.

This half term has been just as engaging. The children have enjoyed creating circus-themed pastry treats and learning about the Sloe Fair and local history. They also designed their own funfairs, demonstrating creativity, imagination, and excellent design skills. Forest School sessions have continued to provide valuable opportunities for outdoor learning and teamwork.

In English, we shared plenty of laughs while writing instructions on how to clean a lion's teeth, inspired by *Fizzlebert Stump*. In maths, the children have focused on time, money, and shape through practical, hands-on learning. We have also celebrated the continued success of Willow Class in Rollama, with the children showing great enthusiasm and determination.

We are incredibly proud of everything Year 3 have achieved this year.

Miss Beadle and Mrs Ubsdell



Key Stage 2

Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic and busy term filled with exciting learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom.

One of the highlights was our visit to the Weald and Downland Museum, where the children explored a range of historic buildings and discovered how people lived from Anglo-Saxon times through to the Victorian era. The hands-on experience brought history to life and helped the children develop a deeper understanding of how homes and lifestyles changed over time. We also enjoyed a memorable trip to the Winchester Science Museum. During our visit, the children took part in an engaging workshop on sound, investigating how sounds are made and travel. They were also fascinated by the planetarium experience, which allowed them to explore the wonders of space. The children had the best time on both trips and represented the school brilliantly.

In English, we explored the wonderful story of *The Wild Robot*. The children produced a range of creative and engaging pieces of writing, including newspaper articles about a mysterious creature landing on the island, persuasive speeches written from Roz's point of view to convince the animals to let her stay, and partial narratives describing Roz's first experiences on the island. Their imagination and writing skills flourished throughout the unit.

In Design and Technology, the children thoroughly enjoyed making moving cars. They worked through the entire design process, carefully designing, constructing and testing their vehicles. It was wonderful to see their creativity, problem-solving skills and determination as they brought their ideas to life.

We are incredibly proud of all that Year 4 have achieved this term.

Miss Morriss and Mr White



Key Stage 2

Year 5

Year 5 has enjoyed a fantastic term filled with exciting experiences, creative learning and memorable opportunities.

A highlight of the term was our residential trip to Cobnor Activity Centre at the end of last half term. The children showed great enthusiasm and resilience as they took part in a range of activities. The high ropes course challenged them to step outside their comfort zones, while archery tested their focus and accuracy. Camping in tents was a wonderful experience, allowing the children to spend time with their friends and enjoy the outdoors.

Some of the Year 5 children have also been taking part in water ski sessions on Fridays. These have been extremely popular, with children developing new skills and growing in confidence on the water. Everyone who has attended has thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have come back to school with big smiles on their faces.

This term has also been full of music and performance as we prepared for the Year 5 and Year 6 production of *Matilda*. Year 5 played an important role in supporting the show, working hard to learn the lyrics and singing beautifully during rehearsals and performances. Their enthusiasm and commitment helped make the production a great success.

In the classroom, our learning has been inspired by *Matilda*. The children have written a range of creative pieces based on the story, exploring characters, settings and imaginative ideas. These pieces have been added to our own *Matilda* books, which we designed and made as part of a DT project. The finished books are something the children are very proud of and showcase both their creativity and writing skills.

We are incredibly proud of all that Year 5 has achieved this term.

Miss Bigg and Mr Wilson



Key Stage 2

Year 6

What a fantastic and memorable final term in Primary it has been for Year 6.

One of the highlights was undoubtedly their outstanding effort during their SATs tests. The pupils approached the assessments with confidence and positivity, working incredibly hard and making everyone proud with their attitude and commitment. We enjoyed a trip to the park to celebrate our hard efforts at the end of the week!

Another unforgettable experience was our residential trip to Fairthorne Manor. The children embraced every challenge and opportunity with enthusiasm, demonstrating excellent teamwork, courage and perseverance. They enjoyed a wide range of exciting activities, including paddle-boarding, axe-throwing, climbing and archery. It was wonderful to see them stepping outside their comfort zones, supporting one another and creating lasting memories together.

This term also provided an exciting opportunity to learn from visitors from the Royal Navy, who delivered a series of engaging STEM workshops. The children thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on activities and gained valuable insights into science, technology, engineering and mathematics, while developing their problem-solving and teamwork skills.

To round off the term, Year 6 amazed audiences with their brilliant production of Matilda Jr. From the acting and singing to the backstage support, every pupil played an important role in bringing the show to life. Their dedication, talent and hard work resulted in a truly fantastic performance that showcased the confidence and creativity they have developed during their time at school.

As they prepare to leave us and begin their next adventure, we would like to congratulate Year 6 on all they have achieved. They have been excellent role models and have contributed so much to our school community. We wish each and every one of them every success and happiness as they move on to Year 7. We look forward to hearing about all they accomplish in the future.

Good luck, Year 6!

Miss Stapleton and Mrs Wilson



Key Stage 3

Year 7

What a year!

It has been an absolute pleasure to be your Head of Year for your first year in Secondary school. You have all shown incredible progress—whether through personal growth, academic achievement, or by embracing opportunities beyond the classroom, from sports to creative arts to leadership roles.

Year 7:

All Rise workshop • Charity events • *Christmas Carol* Production • CCF taster session • external speakers • House events • Maths Challenge Competition • Pupil Leadership roles • School trips • Science Olympics • Shakespeare play through drama-based workshop • Sport fixtures • Tutor assemblies • BFG workshop • Dance House

During the Summer term Year 7 tutor groups had the opportunity to lead their own tutor assemblies, which were outstanding, from interviews, dance routines, interactive activities, and engaging topics.

Aquila - People We Admire

Chimera- Sports and Hobbies

Pegasus - What do you want to be when you grow up?

Phoenix - What we are passionate about?

Noctua - Nurture - Well being - Growth mindset - Resilience

A huge thank you from the Year 7 team: Mrs Cunningham, Miss Higgins, Mrs Brett, Mrs Shaw, Mr Griffiths, Miss Ariya and Mrs Bailey



A special thank you to the 18 Year 7 students who supported our CFS Transition Day for the new Year 7 cohort starting in September. They went above and beyond to make the day a success, supporting pupils in all activities, answering questions, and helping them feel welcomed and reassured.

They also shared their own experiences of starting secondary school, offering helpful advice and easing any worries the new students may have had. Their kindness, enthusiasm, and maturity were outstanding, and they were fantastic role models for our future Year 7 students.



Key Stage 3

Year 8

NEXT LEVEL UNLOCKED: You Made It Through Year 8!

Take a second, look around, and let it sink in: **Year 8 is officially in the history books.**

Remember that nervous feeling back in September? The slightly too-big blazer, the new timetable, and the sudden realization that the work was getting a bit more serious than Year 7? Well, you survived it. Not only did you survive it, but you also smashed it.

Whether you finally nailed that brutal algebra topic, scored the winning goal for the school team, stayed up late finishing an art project you were genuinely proud of, or simply became a better friend—**congratulations**. Every single small win counts. You've grown, you've learned, and you're officially two-fifths of the way through secondary school. That is a massive deal.

The Summer Reset (Without Code-Switching to Boring Mode)

Look, no one wants to think about school over the summer. The next few weeks are strictly for sleeping in, hanging out, and completely forgetting what day of the week it is. Enjoy every second of it—you've earned the break.

But here's a secret: the smartest way to start Year 9 isn't by studying all summer. It's just about keeping your brain on "standby" rather than turning it completely off.

- **Read something you actually like:** Graphic novels, sports biographies, thriller novels—it all keeps your brain sharp.
- **Keep your hobbies alive:** Coding, gaming, baking, or skating—doing things that require focus keeps those learning muscles active.

Year 9: The Mid-Game Shift

When you walk back through those gates in September, things are going to feel a bit different. You aren't the, "middle younger kids" anymore. You are entering Key Stage 4 territory, and the runway toward your GCSE options begins.

It sounds scary, but it's actually the best part of secondary school. You finally get more say in what you study. But to get the choices you want, you've got to keep those standards high from day one.

Here is your 3-step cheat code for keeping up expectations next year:

1. Show Up for Yourself

High expectations aren't about being perfect or getting 100% on every test. It's about attitude. Showing up with the right kit, on time, and ready to actually try is 80% of the battle. When you look like you care, teachers notice, and things get a lot easier.

2. Protect Your Reputation

In Year 7 and 8, it's easy to get caught up in the drama or slide into bad habits because, "everyone else is doing it." Year 9 is the year to step up. Be the person people can rely on.

3. Own Your Mistakes

You *will* have days where you forget your homework, mess up a test, or just have a bad attitude. It happens to everyone. The difference between Year 8 and Year 9 is how you handle it. Don't make excuses—just fix it and move on.

Have an incredible, safe, and wildly relaxing summer holiday. Celebrate what you achieved this year, and get ready to level up in September.

Year 9 is waiting. You've got this.

Mrs Turnbull and Miss Ireland

Key Stage 3

Year 9

As the academic year draws to a close, Year 9 students have reached an important stage in their school journey. This year has been one of continued growth, both personally and socially, as students prepare for the transition into Key Stage 4.

Throughout the year, students have demonstrated a developing sense of maturity and responsibility. Many have shown an increasing awareness of their role within the school community and have contributed positively to tutor group life. Relationships between peers have generally been positive, with students showing respect, kindness, and an ability to work and socialise effectively with others.

Behaviour across the year group has been largely positive, with the majority of students responding well to expectations and guidance. Where challenges have arisen, students have shown a growing capacity to reflect and learn from their experiences, demonstrating resilience and a willingness to improve.

Students have also continued to develop important organisational and independent learning skills. While many are becoming more consistent in their preparation and approach to school routines, this remains an area for ongoing development as they move into Year 10, where expectations will increase.

Year 9 has also been a year of important decisions, with students beginning to think about their future pathways. They have approached this with increasing thoughtfulness and are developing a clearer understanding of their strengths, interests, and goals.

As students advance to Year 10, they will be encouraged to build on the progress they have made this year. Developing greater independence, maintaining focus, and taking increased responsibility for their learning and conduct will be key to their continued success.

Overall, Year 9 students have made positive strides in their personal development and are well placed to meet the challenges and opportunities of the next stage of their education.

Mr Tilling and Miss Stanley

Key Stage 4

Year 10

The Year 10s had some really positive moments with their work experience, interviews and college week—it's tough to beat as KS4 experiences go. A huge thanks to the PSHE and tutor teams along with Mrs Moon for getting this organised. Mock exams are complete and students should now reflect on how well they revised, what works for them and what support they may need for the next round which will be in Year 11 and a key deciding factor in college applications and tiers of entry. The Year 10 students are known for supporting each other well and I would urge them to keep this up over the holidays. Be kind to yourself, be kind to others. There's a tough road ahead but we will get through it together. Our tutor team will be disbanded now and I'd like to say what a fantastic team they have been. So hard working, consistent and supportive. Thank you so much for all that you have done.

Ms Crebbin and Mrs Ashcroft

Year 11

GCSE Season: A Celebration of Character, Commitment and Community

This year's GCSE exam season has been nothing short of inspiring. Across every corridor, classroom and exam hall, our Year 11 pupils demonstrated the very best of themselves: calm determination, mature attitudes and a level of effort that made staff proud every single day. Their attendance was excellent, their application unwavering, and their resilience a reminder of just how remarkable young people can be when they set their minds to something.

It has been a genuine pleasure to support them through this journey. Watching pupils revise together, encourage one another and rise to the challenge with such positivity has been one of the highlights of the year. They will be missed more than they realise.

And then came Prom — an unforgettable evening that many staff have already declared the *best ever*. The atmosphere was warm, welcoming and full of joy from the moment pupils arrived. Laughter, dancing, red-carpet photos and a real sense of togetherness made it a night that captured everything special about this year group. (*See pictures.*)

As we look ahead, we are excited to celebrate with pupils once more on **Results Day, 20th August**. Whatever the envelopes hold, one message remains absolutely clear: **you are more than a number**. Your GCSE grades are a chapter, not the whole story. Your journey is still unfolding, and your future is full of possibility.

To every pupil: we wish you a fantastic future filled with opportunity, confidence and happiness. You have shown who you are through your attitude, your kindness and your hard work — and that will take you far.

Mr Elliman and Miss Stanley



Maths

Primary

Maths has continued to be a real success for our Primary pupils this term. A huge well done needs to go to Team Year 4, who absolutely smashed their Multiplication Check – over half of our pupils scored full marks which is INCREDIBLE!

Year 6 were visited by the Royal Navy who delivered a series of workshops focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. The children used maths to programme a robot (Sphero) and play a game of robot football, build a human circuit to conduct electricity and use a circuit to build and control a car. It was great to see how maths can be applied in real life in a range of tasks and jobs, including in the Navy!

13 of our highest-attaining pupils visited Paultons Park to see maths in action at the Theme Park. These children have worked exceptionally hard this year to achieve above and beyond their targets, including attending extra sessions after school, achieving high XP boosts on Sparx, and completing additional work at home. We are so proud of them and hope they had a brilliant day!



Maths

Secondary

End of the summer term definitely means only one thing.....rest and recuperation.

This has been a very good year for the maths students. National maths challenges/ STEM Days/ maths activity days and many more.

School this term has seen all students sit formal assessments in exam conditions to enable them the opportunity to see and feel what it will be like when they encounter there GCSEs in a few years time.

This term has seen many students being taught a variety of topics including geometry and statistics. Year 7 have been hitting the same heights again with recent assessments showing a real development in problem solving. They have also spent time working in teams to undertake various maths problems. STEM days and other activities have enabled the Year 7s the opportunity to develop their maths skills further.

Year 8 have been looking at Venn diagrams this half term. Year 9s have been spending time exploring a variety of topics including mastering the pie chart in terms of construction and analysis.

Year 10, in between work experience and other PSHE activities have been looking in depth at mixed GCSE skills starting to get ready for Year 11.

Year 11s have finished their journey and await their results. The students' conduct in examinations was excellent as was their attendance at morning maths revision. Students left the exams feeling confident and ready for their next challenge.

English

Primary

As another busy year draws to a close, we asked each year group to reflect on their favourite writing moments from the year. It was wonderful to hear what had inspired them most and to celebrate just how much they have grown as writers. Here are some of the highlights they chose to share.

Our Year 1 children loved their work based on *Superworm*, creating fantastic 'wanted' posters full of descriptive language and persuasive features. They thoroughly enjoyed bringing the story to life through their writing.

In Year 2, pupils chose their pirate instruction writing as a highlight of the year. They were proud of writing clear instructions and, most importantly, of how confidently they can now write full sentences independently.

Year 3 reflected on an exciting range of writing experiences. Their favourites included entertaining narratives inspired by *Fizzlebert Stump*, heartfelt letters written to their classroom chairs, and informative non-fiction writing about how to look after the rainforests.

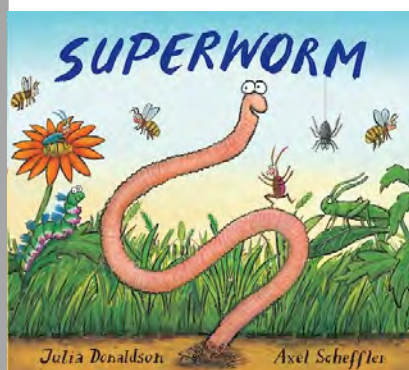
Year 4 highlighted their imaginative Anglo-Saxon accommodation reviews, as well as their atmospheric poems inspired by *The Dark* by Lemony Snicket. These pieces allowed them to experiment with descriptive language and creativity.

Year 5 enjoyed becoming journalists through their newspaper reports based on *How to Train Your Dragon*. They also chose their World Book Day writing about emotions as a memorable experience, producing thoughtful and reflective pieces they were proud to share.

Our Year 6 pupils reflected on a year of powerful and purposeful writing. Their highlights included World War-inspired writing, informative Charles Darwin booklets and, more recently, their *Matilda*-inspired writing linked to their end-of-year production, which gave them the opportunity to combine creativity with their performance experience.

It has been a privilege to watch every child develop as a writer this year. Their enthusiasm, resilience and willingness to challenge themselves have been evident in every classroom, and we are incredibly proud of all they have achieved.

Thank you to all of our families for your continued support in encouraging a love of reading and writing both at school and at home. Wishing everyone a happy and restful summer break!



English

Secondary



This year we used a book by Lidia Branković, *The Grand Hotel of Feelings*, as impetus for our World Book Day activities. The pupils cross-phase explored feelings and how we enjoy the good ones and, sometimes, have to cope with the bad ones. We focused on how we can express our feelings in words. The whole day was recorded through the eyes of our Media Department's Young Reporters and so, for this edition, we hand over to them.

World Book Day is a chance for you to step into a story you love, and it really shows how much people enjoyed it. Everyone can be confident, creative, and fully involved in the day. It makes pupils engage in different fun activities and makes them understand what it feels like to read their favourite book. Charlotte Johnson Year 8.



I was confident. Blood pumping adrenaline. For the first time since I was young I felt brave. Until I stood up. Legs shaking and the mimmers of the people who were there to hear me pulled the silence my pride couldn't seem to cover. My evil thoughts flooded my head as my eyes flooded with tears of my confidence. It felt everyone was watching me with disgust. I felt chained to my own guilt. I ran off the stage breaking down in confusion and worry of why I couldn't do it, and the feeling of anxiety disappeared.

- gracie Moir 9

When I got home from school, I stepped on my cat accidentally. She squeaked and yowled, then ran away fearfully. Guilt washed over my body. I bought her new toys, set her fresh food hoping for her to accept my apology, and to prove I wasn't trying to hurt her.

She was upstairs on my bedroom window, dangerously close to falling. My heart dropped - I ran to get her but her eyes widened. Her claws sharpened. It was my fault. I startled her. Her body lay a few floors below me. Still, the guilt feeling of guilt doubled.

maria B.



Science & STEM

It has been another exciting and successful term in Science and STEM, with pupils across all year groups engaging in a wide range of fascinating topics and activities.

Our Year 7 pupils have been exploring the world of **Acids and Alkalis**, investigating chemical reactions and indicators, while also looking beyond our planet through their studies of **Space**. Their enthusiasm and curiosity have made for some excellent classroom discussions and practical work.

Year 8 pupils have been developing their understanding of **Motion and Pressure**, applying scientific principles to real-world situations, as well as learning about **The Earth**, including the processes that shape our planet and its environment.

In Year 9, pupils have been studying **B4 Bioenergetics**, gaining a deeper understanding of how living organisms transfer energy through processes such as photosynthesis and respiration.

Year 10 pupils have been tackling some of the more complex GCSE topics, including **B5 Homeostasis and Response**, where they explored how the body maintains stable internal conditions, and **P5 Forces**, investigating the effects of forces on motion and everyday life.



In addition, the Year 5 **STEM Challenge Afternoons** were a tremendous success. Pupils demonstrated excellent teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills as they tackled a variety of exciting challenges.

These events would not have been possible without the support and dedication of our fantastic **STEM Ambassadors**, who worked tirelessly to inspire and guide younger pupils throughout the activities.

A special thank you goes to all of our STEM Ambassadors and teachers for their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment in making these opportunities possible. Their support has helped create memorable experiences for our pupils and continues to encourage a love of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics across the school community. We look forward to even more exciting scientific discoveries and STEM opportunities in the new academic year.

The Science Team

Media Studies

Congratulations to our Young Reporters for their exceptional work this past year on the CFS Times!

Their dedication and commitment were truly commended with an invitation to the SHINE MEDIA AWARDS hosted at the prestigious venue of Stationers Hall in London. The day began with a circus of media based workshops and lead into the exquisite dining experience that became fuelled by industry professionals engaging with tomorrow's media talent. Once appetites were whetted, the awards ceremony was underway.

Not only did CFS win the raffle to attend the Letterpress workshop at Bell House Print Room & Bindery but were highly commended as newcomers and gained the RISING STAR award. The competition was extremely high with schools across the country ranging from Edinburgh, Birmingham, Norwich, Yorkshire, Skipton and Gloucestershire to name but a few—but that did not stop Henry from being awarded BEST HUMOUR for his Fact's Corner in the CFS Times!



We are now extremely excited to have been invited to join the SHINE Alumni and are making plans for next year's entry.

Well done to Iris and Henry for representing CFS Young Reporters.

Words from Iris, "It was an amazing opportunity for our futures and we made some amazing connections and we are grateful to have attended. The chicken was fabulous."

From Henry, "It was really fun but we had some disgusting tea."

Ms Edmans

Computer Science

Year 7s Coding Their Way to Fitness!

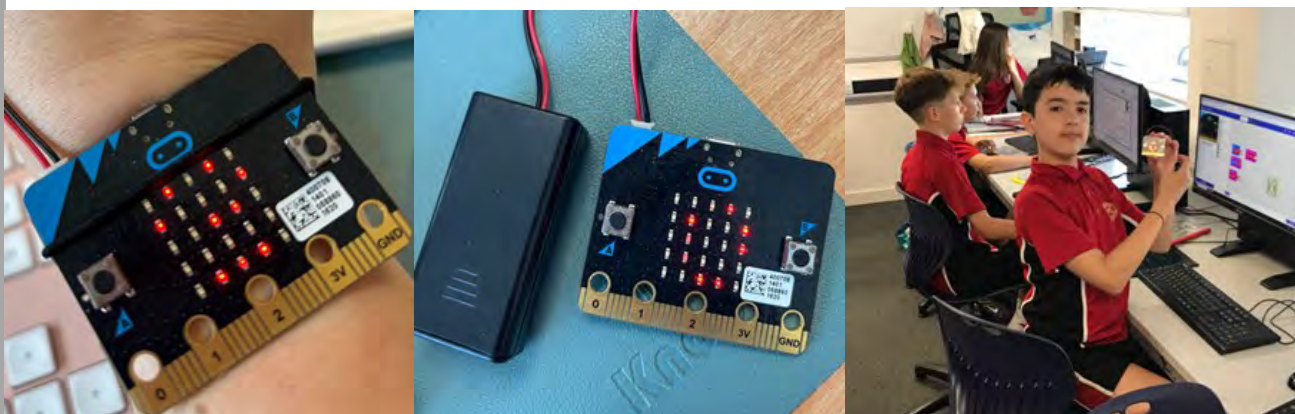
Step aside, Apple Watch and Fitbit—there is a new wave of wearable tech hitting the school hallways, entirely programmed by our Year 7 students.

This term, our youngest students in Secondary took their first steps into the world of physical computing. Using the BBC micro:bit—a pocket-sized, programmable computer—Year 7 has been busy designing, coding, and testing their very own digital fitness trackers.

The mission: To harness the accelerometer to count their steps!

They had to write code that instructed the micro:bit to:

- Detect when a sharp, walking motion occurred.
- Store that movement in a virtual "variable" (a digital scoreboard).
- Increase the count by 1 every time a step was taken.
- Display the total number of steps on the LED screen at the press of a button.



The Ultimate Test

Once the code was downloaded onto the student's micro:bit, it was time for the ultimate field test. Armed with battery packs, hair bands, and a lot of tape, Year 7 transformed the devices into wearable tech, strapping them to their wrists to test them out!

The classroom then briefly turned into a high-tech sports lab where students were seen doing laps, waving their arms in the air and doing star jumps to see how accurately their devices actually tracked their step count!

Coding the Future

Beyond just being a fun afternoon inside, the project highlighted how computer science applies to the real world. Every piece of technology we use daily—from the apps on our phones to the smartwatches on our wrists—relies on the exact same logic these students practiced.

By turning abstract code into tangible, working devices our Year 7 didn't just learn how to consume technology; they learned how to create it!



Art

Art

Year 7 art pupils were challenged to explore an artist of their own choosing for their homework. Using a shoebox as their canvas, they created imaginative 3D representations inspired by their selected artists' styles and themes.

The results were truly impressive—each piece reflecting research, creativity, and individuality. We are incredibly proud of how enthusiastically pupils applied themselves to this task.



For their *Creepy Fairytales* project this year, Year 8 art pupils produced a fantastic collection of imaginative and atmospheric artwork. Drawing inspiration from artists such as Tim Burton, Edward Gorey, and Shaun Tan, pupils explored dark fantasy themes, creating intriguing characters and eerie settings. Through drawing, painting, and mixed-media techniques, they demonstrated creativity, technical skill, and attention to detail.

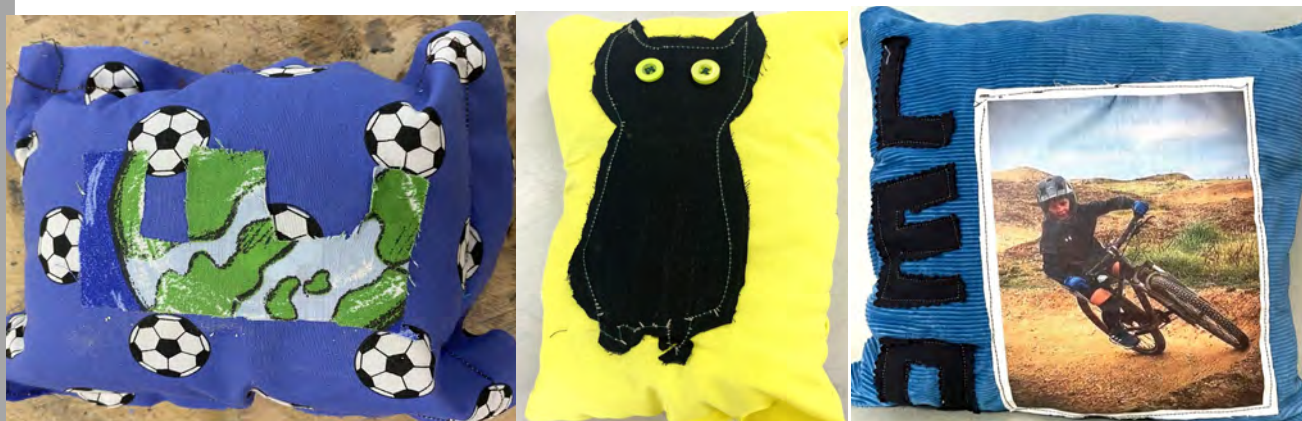
The project encouraged pupils to think beyond traditional fairy tales, resulting in a striking display of original and thought-provoking artwork.



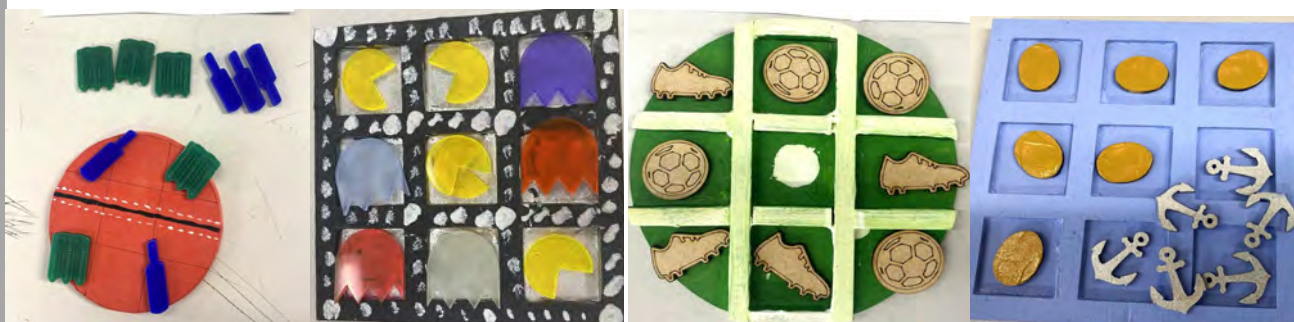
DT

DT

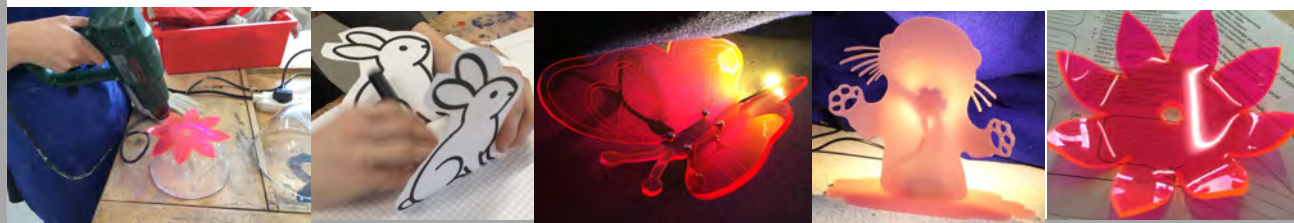
Year 8 pupils have completed their textiles project designing and making sensory cushions. Pupils researched the elements that might make a cushion appeal as a sensory item and then practiced hand and machine sewing skills to complete their work. Pupils embellished their cushions using buttons, zips, embroidery, applique and heat pressed images.



Our Year 9 DT pupils have been designing and making their own take on the traditional noughts and crosses game. Pupils considered the client, potential materials, aesthetics, sustainability and innovation while designing their games. Numerous skills were developed while making the games, including accurate marking up of materials, wood working, computer aided design, shaping acrylic and packaging ideas.



Our Year 10 Design and Technology students have been completing their lamp project this term. The project involved researching the properties of polymers and developing a range of three-dimensional prototypes using card and paper. Students then used the laser cutter to produce their final designs from acrylic sheet. To create the finished form, they employed a variety of manufacturing techniques, including the strip heater, heat gun and heat press, before incorporating basic electronics to add a lighting effect. The completed lamps showcase both their creativity and their developing technical skills.



Bookfest

June was a busy and exciting month full of opportunities for our Secondary pupils to celebrate all things reading. As part of the National Year of Reading, local charity, Children's Bookfest, worked with YA author Nicola Garrard to launch 'Bookfest YA'.

On Friday 12th June some of our pupil 'librarians' went on a trip to the University of Chichester for the first ever Chichester pupil librarian conference. We were joined by pupils from other schools and had a day of all things libraries! We had speeches from university librarians and WSCC librarians as well as a tour and sessions on the importance of inclusivity, censorship and what books we are currently enjoying.

On Sunday 14th June some CFS pupils attended an author masterclass with Nicola Garrard. Nicola shared the realities of being a published writer, the process, as well as all the jobs available and necessary in the wider world of publishing. Pupils then had an opportunity to write and share their work.

Our final event took place on Wednesday 17th June where we hosted the author Lucas Maxwell. Lucas has just published his first book and we were so lucky to have him visit us. He is also an award-winning school librarian and he delivered three creative writing workshops and an author talk to pupils across the day. Full of funny anecdotes and helpful writing tips, it was both a brilliant and insightful day. He even had lunch with our pupil librarians and enjoyed it so much he is sending them all a signed copy of his book.

Well done to all pupils involved in these events, you were so well behaved and a real credit to the school!



Sport

Physical Education – Term Highlights

Roundnet Festival a Huge Success!

What a fantastic morning of sport, teamwork and leadership at our annual Roundnet Festival!

The event began with our fantastic Year 7, 8 and 9 Sports Leaders working together to set up the playing area and prepare all of the equipment. Their organisation, enthusiasm and professionalism ensured everything was ready before welcoming Year 5 pupils from both CFS and Seal Primary School.

The morning started with a progressive warm-up led entirely by our Sports Leaders before pupils rotated around eight Roundnet coaching stations. Each station featured two Year 5 pairs alongside two Sports Leaders, who demonstrated skills, explained the rules and provided encouragement throughout. It was fantastic to see our leaders developing the confidence and ability of the younger pupils.

Once everyone had mastered the basics, pupils competed in a series of mini tournaments before progressing to the knockout stages. Excitement built through the quarter-finals and semi-finals before the whole group came together to watch a thrilling grand final, creating a brilliant atmosphere of support and community.

Throughout the event, pupils from both schools demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, resilience and teamwork. Congratulations to all of our Year 5 participants, and a huge thank you to our Sports Leaders whose hard work ensured the event was such a success. We may well have discovered some future Roundnet champions!



Primary Sports Leaders ready for Next Year

Congratulations to our newly appointed Primary Sports Leaders, who have completed their training ready to lead KS1 sporting opportunities next year.

It has been a pleasure working with such an enthusiastic and committed group of pupils. They embraced every challenge during their training and have already shown excellent leadership qualities. We are excited to see them inspire younger pupils and help promote active, enjoyable sporting experiences across the primary phase.

Thank You to Our Senior Sports Leaders

A special thank you must go to our Senior Sports Leaders, who have been instrumental in supporting PE and school sport throughout the term.

From delivering assemblies and assisting with primary transition events to helping run Sports Days, festivals and leadership training, they have consistently represented the school with maturity, enthusiasm and professionalism. Their willingness to volunteer their time and support younger pupils has made a significant impact on the success of our sporting programme this term.

Duke of Edinburgh

This year's Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions were a fantastic success, with 32 participants taking part across 6 teams and completing 4 expeditions. Participants demonstrated resilience, independence and determination as they explored some of the most beautiful areas of West Sussex.

The routes took participants through a variety of historic and scenic locations, including Fishbourne Roman Palace, Arundel Castle, and the stunning countryside around West Dean. Throughout their journeys, participants relied on their map-reading and navigation skills to successfully find their way, often tackling challenging terrain and changing weather conditions with confidence.

Teamwork was at the heart of every expedition. Participants supported one another, shared responsibilities, and worked together to overcome obstacles along the route. They also impressed staff with their practical campcraft skills, particularly their ability to prepare and cook meals independently after a long day of walking.

Most importantly, every participant had an amazing time, building friendships, developing confidence, and creating lasting memories. We are incredibly proud of all 32 participants for their enthusiasm, perseverance and positive attitude. Congratulations to everyone involved in making DofE 2026 such a memorable and rewarding experience.

A special thank you goes to our dedicated staff team who helped make the expeditions such a success. Thank you to Mr Angell, Expedition Assessor, Mr Moore, Expedition Assessor, Mr Griffiths, Bronze Trainer and Silver DofE Assessor, and Miss Wilson for her support during the training expedition. Their time, expertise, encouragement, and commitment ensured that participants were able to develop their skills, challenge themselves and enjoy a safe and rewarding experience.

Mr Cook
DofE Manager



CCF

The Summer term has been another exciting and successful period for the Chichester Free School Combined Cadet Force (CCF), with plenty of achievements and milestones to celebrate.

We were delighted to welcome a new intake of recruits who have made an excellent start to their cadet journey. Their enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to learn have already made a positive impression, and we look forward to seeing them develop over the coming year.

A significant highlight this term has been the successful launch of our Navy Section, which is now fully up and running. This marks an important step in the continued growth of the CCF and provides cadets with even more opportunities to develop leadership, teamwork and maritime skills.

As preparations for annual camp continue, all cadets attending have successfully completed either their Air Rifle Training or Weapon Handling Test. This achievement reflects the high standards of training and professionalism demonstrated throughout the contingent and ensures that cadets are fully prepared for the activities ahead.

We would also like to extend our congratulations to **Captain Hicks**, our School Staff Instructor, on his recent promotion. This recognition is thoroughly deserved and has been a long time coming. His dedication, commitment, and support for the cadets have been invaluable, and we are delighted to see his hard work acknowledged.

Finally, congratulations to **C. Sgt Harris** on becoming the first Chichester Free School cadet to be appointed as a **Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet** for 2026–27. This is a prestigious honour that recognises outstanding commitment, leadership and service, and is a remarkable achievement for both them and the school.

We are incredibly proud of everything our cadets have accomplished this term and look forward to seeing what they achieve in the next academic year.

Lieutenant Cook (CCF RN)
CCF Contingent Commander



Futures and Enrichment

What another amazing year we have had in Futures and Enrichment. A massive thank you to our teaching staff for their imaginative ideas and for bringing the curriculum to life outside the classroom. Another thank you goes to our pupils, whose exemplary behaviour and dedication to learning make these opportunities so worthwhile.

However, none of these experiences would have been possible without the financial contributions we receive. Funding and grants only take us so far, so an especially heartfelt thank you to you—our parents and carers—for your generosity, particularly in today's financial climate. We simply could not have delivered the 75 trips and experiences that took place this academic year without your support.

Our trips ranged from residentials (ski trip to Italy, PE trip to Wales, Year 5 to Cobnor, and Year 6 to Hampshire), to visits to London (art galleries, Science Museum, O2, snow centre), to theatre trips (Matilda, Blood Brothers, Lord of the Flies, BFG). We explored historical sites (Arundel Castle, Portsmouth Dockyard, Fishbourne Roman Palace, Weald & Downland Museum, Fort Nelson, Amberley Museum), enjoyed in-school workshops (Shakespeare, Diwali Dance, Novium Toy, Stone Age, Space Dance, Egyptian, BFG, Jam Café, Little Cities), and visited zoos and parks (Marwell Zoo, Paultons Park, Goodwood, Mathsworld).

Careers and Futures opportunities included Get Inspired, College Tasters, Rolls Royce, Science Live!, Chichester Conservancy, Bilsham Solar Farm, TeenTech, and Creative Industries Day. Pupils also took part in sporting events (Year 5 water skiing) and field trips (West Wittering beach, Dance House, Apple Store, Lille Christmas Market). The year has truly been incredible.

When completing our Year 11 Gold Passports, a recurring theme was how often trips and experiences were mentioned as standout moments in pupils' reflections on their time at CFS. This only reinforces how important these opportunities are for our pupils' developing minds.

We also ran our Year 10 *Experience of Work Week* at the end of this term. Throughout the week, pupils took part in a wide range of activities and opportunities. Some were out on work placements, while others attended college taster days or participated in the Rolls-Royce Mock Apprenticeship Assessment opportunity. On Monday, pupils took part in work-related workshops focusing on interview techniques, CV writing and employability skills, followed by mock interviews with local employers on the Friday.

It was a brilliant week. For some pupils, the experience helped confirm what they would like to study or pursue as a future career, while others discovered career paths that were not for them – both outcomes being equally valuable. The attitude and engagement shown throughout the week was superb, and we have thoroughly enjoyed hearing so many stories about experiences beyond school and the insights pupils have gained into the world of work. If you have helped support this week in any way, thank you; if you would like to possibly help in the future, please do get in contact with Mr Angell.

Mr Angell and Mrs Moon



Fundraising

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported our fundraising and charity initiatives throughout the year!

Together, we've raised an incredible **£18,000+** – an absolutely fantastic achievement that wouldn't have been possible without your generosity, enthusiasm and support.

To raise funds for the school, we've enjoyed hosting our Christmas and Summer Fairs, Bags2School collections, Primary discos and movie nights, non-uniform days, and selling our wonderful Primary tea towels. We also receive a commission from the school photos you've purchased, and our refreshments at school events have helped boost our fundraising too. Every contribution, big or small, has made a real difference.

A very special thank you also goes to Mrs Bashford, our Secondary Therapeutic Officer, who works tirelessly throughout the year to organise and run our second-hand uniform sales. Her hard work and dedication are hugely appreciated.

Thank you once again for helping make this such a successful year—we couldn't have done it without you!



School Houses

House Points Total from Pupil Reward Points:

House Points have been awarded depending on each event's criteria. Below are the current House Points awarded and congratulations to all the pupils who have taken part! From all of us, The House Champions, Presidents, Ambassadors and Heroes, have a wonderful break; rest, relax and come back after the holidays ready to go!



Aquila 104357



Noctua 94876



Pegasus 95328



Phoenix 10138

House Competition Update — An Unforgettable Sports Day!

Our biggest House Competition event of the year took place over two fantastic days at Chichester University, where students competed in a full programme of traditional athletics and team events along with some alternative problem solving and teamworking challenges.

Year 7 and 8 kicked off the competition before Year 9 and 10 took centre stage the following day. Despite the extremely warm conditions, students showed incredible resilience, determination and enthusiasm, with brilliant performances across every event.

The programme included:

- 100m sprint (boys and girls)
- Mixed relay
- High jump
- Long jump
- Triple jump
- Javelin
- Shot Put
- Tug of War
- Team Pursuit
- Problem Solving Challenges
- Rounders

The atmosphere across both days was outstanding, with students encouraging one another, celebrating successes and representing their Houses with pride. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces, excellent sportsmanship and some incredibly close competitions throughout.

School Houses



The overall House Competition could not have been tighter, with just 35 points separating first and fourth place after two days of competition.

Final Secondary Sports Day Standings

Position	House	Points
🏆 1st	Noctua	30
🥈 2nd	Pegasus	301
🥉 3rd	Phoenix	294
4th	Aquila	274



Congratulations to **Noctua**, who were crowned Sports Day Champions, in secondary and in the overall when adding to the primary results, after an outstanding team performance. A huge well done also goes to Pegasus, Phoenix and Aquila, who pushed the competition right to the very end. Every point mattered, making this one of our closest and most exciting Sports Days to date.

Prize Giving 2026



Principal's Award

This term, the following pupils have received the Principal's Award. They have earned an R5 and enjoyed a celebratory tea party. Well done to everyone!

Aymellia Main	Year 1	for always giving her work 100%, trying her best at school, and for putting lots of effort into her home learning
Freya Chandler	Year 2	for amazing descriptive sentences in English
Maxwell Walters	Year 2	for some excellent work in Geography
Amelie-Rose Woods	Year 2	for practising search engine skills at home
Luna Arnell-Smith	Year 3	for consistently being a caring and thoughtful friend to others
Imogen Carpenter Davis	Year 3	for always showing our SHINE values
Zoë Hendry	Year 3	for working hard in Geography
Sophia Maynard	Year 3	for working hard in the classroom and being a kind friend to all
Freddie Seal	Year 3	for being a bright and smiley presence in the classroom
Freya Dunn	Year 4	for focus and hard work in Music
Lilith Graham	Year 4	for showing all the SHINE qualities during PE
Elsie-Mai Morey	Year 4	for being hardworking in everything
Harlow Parker	Year 4	for being an active learner
Hattie Fox	Year 5	for being a fantastic help with Breakfast Club
Ava Greenwell	Year 5	for her sporting successes
Eden Hill	Year 5	for demonstrating kind behaviour on the Residential
Jessica Watts	Year 5	for showing positive attitude and resilience
Clara Ling	Year 6	for a brilliant music performance to the class

Principal's Award

This term, the following pupils have received the Principal's Award. They have earned an R5 and enjoyed a celebratory tea party. Well done to everyone!

Oliver Bate	Year 7	for showing great kindness
Wilson Bright	Year 7	for fantastic leadership in an assembly and acts of kindness
Zara Claxton	Year 7	for a fantastic performance in cricket and excellent work in RE
Maisie Dunning	Year 7	for amazing French homework
Jack Gillett	Year 7	for amazing work in Geography; for always going above and beyond in Science; excellent work in RE; and working very hard for the Inspire Maths Challenge
Freddie Hastings	Year 7	for a fantastic achievement in the Maths exam
Kitti Kadar	Year 7	for outstanding Pupil Leadership and an excellent Music assessment
Meryl Wharf	Year 7	for amazing French homework
Alfie Williams	Year 7	for brilliant work in the Shakespeare workshop
Leo Beresford	Year 8	for some fantastic extended writing tasks in Geography and acts of kindness
Ethan Edwards	Year 8	for working really hard in Science
Tommy Gatehouse	Year 8	for really good effort in the class debate and a wonderful website design
Chloe Kent	Year 8	for a fantastic performance in cricket
Will Metcalfe	Year 8	for supporting our Year 5 pupils at water skiing
Eli Murray	Year 8	for acts of kindness
Elspeth Pascall Wills	Year 8	for amazing revision work and flash cards in Science
Joshua Wilson	Year 8	for consistently outstanding behaviour and achieving the top score in the end of year MFL exam

Principal's Award

This term, the following pupils have received the Principal's Award. They have earned an R5 and enjoyed a celebratory tea party. Well done to everyone!

Eziara Endean	Year 9	for working hard in History
Lily Kelly	Year 9	for being ranked No. 1 in Maths and passing Paper Two
Grant Smith	Year 9	for consistently excellent work in Maths
Aoife Stanley	Year 9	for excellent sports leadership
Joel Taylor	Year 9	for amazing commitment and hard work for Back To The 80s
Kiri Addison	Year 10	for avoiding any behaviour points this year
Fraser Austin	Year 10	for a very high Science test score and excellent work ethic
Sam Barnetson	Year 10	for a great speech to the class
Harry Baxter	Year 10	for completing all Sparx homework since the start of the year and acts of kindness
Darcy Caspall	Year 10	for her involvement with the Back to the 80s show, avoiding any behaviour points this year and achieving all 4s in her Learning Profiles
Jonah Gilmore	Year 10	for working really hard in History
Caitlin Knowlson	Year 10	for making Mrs Clark's day