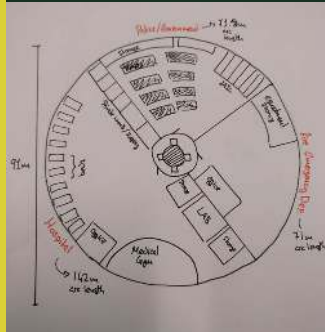


## UK Space Design Competition



Ten pupils from Years 11-13 took part in the London regional heat of the UK Space Design Competition at Imperial College on Saturday 19th November. Having won the Central England Heat last year and made it to the final, the team this year was mainly made up of students taking part for the first time.

Students were given nine hours to submit a proposal for a mining base to be set up on Mercury. They were required to meet the challenges of the conditions for the mining base and also to provide a comfortable living environment.

The students joined up with another school to make a team of twenty. It was a very challenging experience to work together in a group of that size and to still meet tight deadlines.

The group were very ably led by Emily Heppell (Year 13). Their work was presented in a twenty minute talk to a lecture theatre filled with their fellow competitors and persons working in related fields, before they were grilled by the judges on the viability of their plans.

Although the team did not win this year, the

## Professor Richard Dawkins

On Monday 5th December Professor Richard Dawkins, the world renowned English ethologist, evolutionary biologist, atheist and author, came to visit Chipping Norton School.

He came to talk to a large group of enthusiastic and interested Year 11, 12 and 13 Science and Philosophy students about "the role of religion in society".

To a packed lecture theatre he presented his talk in six key sections: Education, Explanation, Consolation, Exhortation, Inspiration and Interpretation. He outlined many interesting ideas and opinions. For example, he reminded us that no one is born a child of their religion; i.e. a Muslim child or Christian child, but instead they are children of Muslim parents or Christian parents, and this matters when one talks about how quickly a particular religion is growing. He spoke with passion to enlighten, provoke, enrich, and prod,

understanding of how the competition works and the expectations will stand them in good stead for a renewed challenge next year.

Full team line up:  
Bea Jacobs (Yr 11)  
Joe Frater (Yr 11)  
Luie Glover (Yr 11)  
Ceyhan Sam (Yr 11)



in such a way to make his audience think and question. And question they did, for a good hour after his talk had finished. The questions were philosophical and challenging.

Students and staff present were intrigued by the ideas and relished the chance to push Professor Dawkins on some of his views. One student said that the experience had encouraged her to "think in a different way." Another was full of praise for the school for enabling such an enlightening and interesting experience.

We are very grateful to have had this chance and hope to invite Professor Richard Dawkins back at some point in the future.

Luke Briggs: IIES

Hamish Mitchinson (Yr 12)  
Kyle Harwood (Yr 12)  
Marcus Pendery (Yr 12)  
Kanchen Shakya (Yr 12)  
Natalie Slyeptsova (Yr 13)  
Emily Heppell (Yr 13)

Dr Hagan: Leading Edge  
Co-ordinator, Science

## What's on at CNS

### TERM 3 2017 JANUARY

Wk 16 A  
Mon 2 Holiday  
Tues 3 Staff Training (no students in school)

Wed 4 Silver DoE Training  
Fri 6 Term begins  
Deadline for Sixth Form Applications

Wk 17 B  
Mon 9 Y12+13 rehearsal exams begin  
Extra Time Clubs start  
Y11 Art visit this week  
Y10-13 Dance Workshop  
CNPSY4/5 Science Extra Time 4.30-5.30pm (5 weeks)

Wk 18 A  
Wed 18 CNPS Swimming Gala with CSLA 1.00-3.30pm  
Thurs 19 Y10 Citizenship Day  
Fri 20 Y12+13 Rehearsal exams end

Wk 19 B  
Thurs 26 Y11 Parent Teacher Consultation  
Fri 27 Teaching & Learning (lunch time)

Wk 20 A  
Mon 30 CNPSA, G&T Art 3.30-5.00pm

### FEBRUARY

Wed 1 CNPS Netball Tournament  
CSLA 3.00-4.45  
Thurs 2 Tudor Hall French Play  
9/10/11 Intermediate Maths Challenge  
Family Focus Astronomy 6.00-7.30pm  
Fri 3 Y9 Enterprise Day (am)

Wk 21 B  
Mon 6 Y11 English Assessments this week  
House Assemblies  
Y11 Internal Sixth Form Interviews  
Tues 7 Family Focus 'No Fear' Shakespeare 6.00-7.00pm  
CNPSY3/4 Ball Skills Festival (Y11 Leaders) 3.00-4.45pm  
WOSSP Swimming 1-3pm  
6th form external applicants' interviews

Thurs 9 Y10 Scripted Drama Exam 9.00am-4.00pm  
Family Focus First Aid 6.00-8.00pm  
Fri 10 END TERM



### HEAD'S LINES

The leaves have now fallen from the trees and the weather has been somewhat colder. At a time of year that can sometimes seem bleak, there is a good deal to warm our hearts as we review the last two terms and look forward to 2017.

### Praise following Ofsted Visit

We hosted three Ofsted inspectors at the end of November for their second monitoring visit. The feedback was very positive and the visiting team clearly believe that we are well on the way to addressing the judgement that was made about our school. In particular they highlighted that:

\* Students achieved better GCSE results in 2016 and made more progress across a range of subjects, including English and Mathematics

\* Able students made especially strong progress and boys are beginning to catch up the girls

\* Expectations of students have been raised and teachers are challenging students

continued over

TERM 2: December 2016

# CNSNewsletter



Students and parents have been treated to a fantastic version of Bob Carlton's award-winning musical extravaganza, Return to the Forbidden Planet. The show is quite unique. Where else could you see a spoof sci-fi musical version of 'The Tempest', littered with the most popular pop songs of the late 20th century?

The crew of 'Return to the Forbidden Planet' have been working with a talented and willing cast on the show since September and it has been great fun. Compared to most musicals, it appears to be relatively simple to stage. The only difficult element is the text, paraphrased or quoted verbatim from 13 different Shakespearean plays!

Projects like this take a lot of time and dedication. We would like to thank the cast, crew, musicians and all the members of the production team who contributed on and off stage. Thanks is also due to the audiences who demonstrated their appreciation so enthusiastically over the four nights of performances.

Mr Fewins: Head of Drama





more, using Bronze, Silver and Gold success criteria in lessons

\* English teachers have high expectations, requiring students to work in more depth and with more challenging texts

\* The Sixth Form remains very good, with strong teaching and highly ambitious students

**Planning the future**  
Year 11 students, having completed mock examinations in November, received their results on Friday of last week. Teachers have detailed the work needed to secure strong grades in the summer and students are focusing their efforts. It is worth reiterating the role that parents have in supporting in the development of good study habits as part of this process.

Year 13 students have been completing their UCAS applications with many applying to Russell group universities and Oxbridge. Competition for the best universities is fierce and the current crop of year 13 students is very well placed to stand out from the crowd.

At the end of this term we say goodbye to Ms McSwiney as she takes up a new post and we wish her all the very best.

Finally, can I thank all parents and students for their support this year and can I wish you all a Happy Christmas and the best wishes for a successful 2017!

**Simon Duffy:**  
**Head Teacher**

## Return to the Forbidden Planet (continued)

We hope you enjoy the selection of photographs taken from our exciting school production. An album of photographs is available to view on the school's Facebook page.



“Wow! Have just been to see the show - it was absolutely FANTASTIC- well worth seeing. Such a lot of talented young people both on stage and behind the scenes. Well done Chipping Norton School.”



“Everything about the production was impressive.

The music was so professional I thought it was pre-recorded, the lighting, set design, sound quality were all great and most importantly everyone on stage looked like they were enjoying themselves.



“ Really enjoyed the show last night. Well done to all those involved. Well worth seeing if you haven't yet!”



**Photographs (top to bottom):**  
**Georgie Housby (Ariel); JJ Simpson (Cookie) and Toby Robottom (Doctor Prospero); Georgia Juckes (Miranda) and Jack Sharkey (Captain Tempest), Emilie Pickering (Science Officer Gloria); Grace Pashley (Bosun), J J Simpson, Jack Sharkey, Sumalee Curtis (Navigation Officer) and Toby Robottom; Georgia Juckes and various member of the “Albatross's” crew.**

## EU Mock Council



On Thursday 17th November, we took part in the annual EU Mock Council event at The Church House in Westminster. The event is run by the European Commission representation in the UK and allows schools from across the UK to meet and debate current affairs concerning the EU that may affect young people in the future. Unsurprisingly, the main focus this year was the topic of Brexit, particularly the UK's involvement in the Erasmus+ Programme (a programme that allows students and teachers to study abroad at a reduced fee) and the European Arrest Warrant.

This year, Chipping Norton School was tasked with representing Luxembourg, a pro EU country in Western Europe with a population of around 500,000. The debate required a large amount of detailed research, about the country's standpoint on the two issues, which had to be done prior to the event. This included, finding out basic background details as well as specific statistics and points of

view surrounding the given motions.

In addition to this, it was necessary to liaise with representatives from Belgium and The Netherlands; two countries with similar views to Luxembourg, in order to strengthen and gain support for our argument.

The event was comprised of two main sessions. During these, representatives from each delegation had to put forward their views and debate the motions on behalf of their country. Between the sessions was a break for lunch, during which negotiations continued in a less formal environment. By the end of the day, the majority of the 28 member nations had come to an agreement on each topic and a final motion was passed.

Overall, the event was a great experience that allowed us to develop skills in research and public speaking as well as finding out a bit more about the EU, Brexit and the bigger picture surrounding June's controversial referendum result.

**Holly and Louisa Oliver-Hall: 12E**

## Year 11 Careers Fair



This year's Careers Fair was very well attended by both Year 11 students and their parents. They found it really useful to be able to talk to the many education and training providers, as well as local employers, who could discuss specific career routes, such as medicine, finance, public services and law.

All of the talks were well attended; the first one of the evening was on 'Apprenticeships' and

was delivered by three of our ex-students. This was followed by a talk by Mikey Taylor on 'Studying Aboard'. Finally, there was a very informative talk on 'Preparing for University' given by Lucinda Rumsey, a Senior Tutor at Mansfield College, Oxford.

We are very grateful to all the organizations that came along this year.

**Mrs Dix: Work Experience and Careers Co-ordinator**

## The Aspiring Doctors Conference

Earlier this month I took part in The National Aspiring Doctors Conference along with around 24 other students from Southern England. The two days consisted of numerous lectures and hands on activities including: pathways into Medicine, personal statement and interviews, what makes a good doctor, medical ethics, the peripheral nervous system, respiratory exam, suturing and surgical skills, X-ray interpretation, clinical medical exam and taking blood. All of which were very interesting and engaging.

My two favourite sessions were medical ethics and the respiratory exam. In the medical ethics session

we discussed whether it would be right or wrong to charge £10 every time you went to visit your GP and whether it would be right to check your passport when you needed medical attention to check if you were British. Both ideas I disagree with. In the respiratory exam workshop we learned how to do an examination of the respiratory system. This included receiving my own stethoscope and then listening to other people's breathing and heartbeat.

I thoroughly enjoyed my weekend and would recommend it to anyone considering medicine as a career pathway.

**Luke Briggs 11ES**



## Street Dance Workshop



During November Dennis Victory taught Street Dance to Year 6 pupils at the ten primary partnership schools.

Dennis always enjoys this annual event. His performance and expertise really motivates the pupils and they love the experience. He listens to what the teachers would like him to teach to their groups, and makes sure that the sequences are aimed at their age and ability, so everyone can take part and shine.

Great Rollright Year 6 teacher said "Dennis was great! Some of the children chose to continue practising the sequence he taught

them through their lunch break and then did a short performance in assembly in the afternoon".

Dennis also came and taught the Year 12 Dance Leaders here at CNS. His level of skill is inspiring and he leads a workshop which is both challenging, but achievable. The students loved the opportunity and at the end of the session they felt tired but exhilarated having learnt some new routines. It is a really lovely workshop and the atmosphere is one of learning and keen participation.

## Family Focus Fun



We take great pleasure in offering Family Focus Workshops to Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils from the Partnership primary Schools three times a year. The workshops are run by teachers from CNS who value the experience of meeting parents and potential students in a relaxed classroom environment.

This year the workshops were Build a Trebuchet, Art Challenge and Computer Animation. All were well attended and parents really enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with their children trying something

which they may not normally do.

The Art Challenge culminated with two pictures being created; 'The Weeping Woman' by Picasso and 'The Kiss' by Klimt. These pictures are masterpieces and it was great to see them come together.

Build a Trebuchet is always a very popular workshop, with families coming along to our D&T classrooms to build their trebuchet. At the end of the evening the families competed to see who could fire the furthest missile and the winners won a well-deserved bar of

## U11 Hockey Tournament



Ten boys and ten girls U11 hockey teams took part in this annual tournament which was contested with fierce competition and enthusiasm.

The tournament is run by our Year 12 Sports Leaders, who referee, mentor and take on all of the roles required to make sure the tournament is well run and a great event for all who take part.

Mrs Phillips led the festival and is always so pleased with the participation by all of the students and the hard work put in by parents and teachers from

the Partnership Schools. The results were:  
Big Schools Girls Winner - Holy Trinity  
Big Schools Boys Winner - Kingham

Small Schools Girls Winner - Enstone  
Small Schools Boys Winner - Enstone

Kingham School will now represent CNPS at the West Oxon Final in March.

Congratulations to everyone who took part. You were all amazing and achieved a great deal, and thank you to all teachers and parents who supported the teams.



chocolate!

Mr Beales taught Computer Animation to a very enthusiastic group of children and parents.

Thanks are due to Mr Crudge and his team in D&T, Mrs Ashton and Mrs Thomas from Art and Mr Beales, ICT who ran

the workshops. We really appreciate all of their hard work. We look forward to welcoming parents in the spring for our next selection of workshops.

**Mrs Phillips:**  
Community Learning  
Lead

## U13 Girls crowned West Oxon Football Champions



A huge congratulations to the U13 girls football team who have been crowned West Oxfordshire Champions!

After remaining unbeaten and winning the group stage they faced an extremely difficult semi-final where their hard work really did pay off with a 1-0 win. In the final they faced a very strong Henry

Box team, but the effort and determination shown by the girls saw them through to the end with another 1-0 win. They will now go on to the School Games finals in April...we wish them luck!

**Miss Pinfold:**  
PE Department and  
Head of Evenlode

## U19 Boys claim West Oxfordshire District Championships



On the bitterly cold evening of the 29th November the West Oxfordshire district rugby final took place between the Chipping Norton senior team and the Burford School senior team. This is a historic fixture with the final often being played out between the two schools. The final is always a close scoring affair with this game being no different.

The first try came for CNS from Felix Jaffé but Ralph Watts didn't manage

to convert meaning the score stayed at 5-0. A penalty conversion missed by CNS left the score at 5-0 until Burford then skilfully picked up a ball out of a scrum and the scrumhalf went over the line to equalise. The halftime score was 5-5 setting up for a very exciting second half.

For a majority of the second half the possession swapped with no team making great use of it; however, a brilliant kick over the top from Ralph Watts, which he caught himself, set up the second CNS try scored by Ralph. This took the score up to 10-5 and with a missed conversion the score stayed. This made a very tense final 10 minutes for CNS but a lot of patience and control meant the final score stayed at 10-5. This was a poignant moment for the Year 13s as it was their final game of their time at the school and for the Year 12s and 11s it was their first ever final making a win even more momentous.

**Ian House: 13G**

## Year 7 Puzzle Day



The annual Year 7 Puzzle Day took place on Tuesday, 29th November and it was the best one yet! All year 7

students were placed into groups and given a series of puzzles and challenges to solve by representative

Ross, from The Happy Puzzle Company.

Throughout the day students were able to develop their team skills and logical thinking. The puzzles ranged from balancing penguins on a spinning iceberg to completing a continuous road map. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

**Mrs Faulkner: Head**  
of Year 7



# Frohliche Weihnachten: a trip to Germany's Christmas Markets



On 1st December, 39 students from Years 9 to 11 set off for Cologne, Germany to experience the authentic Weihnachtsmärkte (Christmas Markets). Here is what the students said:

We travelled to Cologne for 3 days and we had a great time learning about German culture through visiting the various Christmas Markets. In addition, we visited the Cathedral, which was very interesting – although the climb up the 533 steps to the top of the tower was hard! We also visited the Lindt Chocolate Museum, where we were shown how chocolate is made and we even got to taste the final product. Our favourite part of the trip was the Cathedral Christmas Market, which we visited first, because we were introduced to the way in which German people traditionally celebrate Christmas.

**Louise Williams and Harriet Peacock, Year 11**

I learned lots about German culture at Christmas and the markets at night were magical and it smelt amazing. Ice skating was amazing but very cold!

**Hayley-Jane Gorham, Year 9**



On the first day we went to the Cathedral Christmas Market, which looked amazing with all the Christmas lights on. We visited the chocolate museum, which was one of the highlights of the trip for me. I really enjoyed the trip and I'm looking forward to going again next year.

**Max Shaw, Year 11**

I found the German Christmas Market trip extremely useful to practise my German in the real world and I can now ask for most things in German. I really enjoyed all the markets.

**Tom Joyner, Year 9**

I really enjoyed going to Germany and I learnt all about chocolate and where it comes from and how it is made. I enjoyed all the Christmas markets, including the bright lights and the amazing smells. My favourite part of the trip was ice skating because I have never done it before and it was a great experience.

**Esther Rathbone, Year 9**



I really enjoyed trying all the different food and visiting the markets but my favourite thing was ice skating. I learnt how Christmas is different in Germany and about all the different traditions.

**Maisie Frater, Year 9**

We learned a lot about the chocolate trade and how it is made and also how to order things in German. We enjoyed all of the markets because they were all different and we started to understand new German words. Our highlight of the trip was ice skating – it was a great experience.

**Katie Blacker and Chloe Pierce, Year 9**

## Weihnachtsplätzchenbackwettbewerb 2016

Budding bakers in Year 7 got into the Festive spirit German style by making traditional Christmas biscuits for the Oxford German Network's annual Christmas biscuit baking competition at The Oxford High School.

The students waited until lunchtime for the biscuits to be judged. 10 of them went through to the Oxfordshire round to compete against other schools. The students were:

Jessica Bradford, Eden Nash, Sophie Jackson, Olivia Hogan, Ella White,

Meadbh Ní Chealláchain, Tom Horner, Charlie Young, George Allsworth and Oliver Yates. After setting up their cookies and leaving them to be judged for a second time, the students competed in a quiz and made Christmas decorations.

Tom Horner and Charlie Young were joint first in the best-tasting category. The standard was very high and well done to everyone who entered.

**Ms Richmond:**  
Assistant Head of MFL

