

## ChipLit Fest and Book Week

The Year 8s loved meeting award-winning author, Tanya Landman when she came to talk to them about her brilliant historical novels, including 'Buffalo Soldier' which won the Carnegie Award in 2015. The students asked her lots of interesting questions about how she became a professional author, her method of writing and her future plans. We would like to thank Chip Lit Fest for organising this event (in particular Milly Weaver, the Schools and Young People Programme Director), Jaffe and Neale for their help with the book-signing, and of course, Tanya for her inspiring talk.

It was great to have a week of book-related activities to celebrate World Book Day this year. Students were challenged to try 'something' new by choosing a mystery book from a lucky dip. Books were exchanged at 'Book Swap', puzzling book quizzes were attempted in English lessons, and a treasure hunt competition took place in the library. Staff stuck posters on their classroom doors telling everyone what books they were enjoying reading.

Highlight of the week was 'Stop & Read' on World Book Day when students and staff enjoyed relaxing with a book or magazine of their choice for 15 minutes before morning break.

Ms Bovington: Librarian

## Year 7s learn art of felt making



We are very grateful to Claire Jarvis from Fibreworks in Chipping Norton who recently ran a felting workshop at Chipping Norton School.

She showed students how to 'wet felt' and 'needle felt' and we then had a go ourselves. We learnt how to layer up

different coloured fibres on a large sheet of bubble wrap before grating a small amount of soap on top. After adding a generous amount of warm water, we rubbed another sheet of bubble wrap vigorously on top. Then we wrapped the whole thing in a sushi mat before squeezing and rinsing all the soapy water out. We chucked it at the table, which was the most fun.

For needle felting, we used more fibre and laid it where we wanted it. Then we stabbed it in place with a special needle.

We all had so much fun and definitely want to try felting again.

Jessica Bradford: 7EG



## What's on at CNS

TERM 5  
Wk 29 B  
Mon 24 Staff Training (no students in school)  
DoE Bronze training day  
Tues 25 Y9 & Y10 Maths and Science Assessments begin (until 5 May)  
Wed 26 Parents' Association AGM 7-8pm  
Thurs 27 Y7/8 Junior Maths Challenge  
10 Citizenship Day  
Y7 Parent Teacher Consultation  
Sat 29 Silver Practice Expedition (until 1st May)

MAY  
Wk 30 A  
Mon 1 Bank Holiday  
Tues 2 AS/A level French Orals  
Wed 3 Y4 MFL Languages Festival 3.0-4.45pm

Wk 31 B  
Mon 8 House Assemblies  
AS/A level German Orals

Thurs 11 KS4 Awards Evening  
Sat/Sun 13/14 DoE Bronze Training Practice Expedition

Wk 32 A  
Mon 15 GCSE exams begin (until 29 June)  
AS exams begin (until 23 June)

Wed 17 CNPS Athletics Championship 3-5pm Y7 Leaders  
Fri 19 Y8 HPV2

Wk 33 B  
Tues 23 Y7-9 Maths visit to Bletchley Park

Wed 24 CNPS Rugby Festival Y10 Leaders 2.15-4.30  
Fri 26 END TERM

### Extra Time Clubs: Summer 2017

If you would like to take part or continue with an Extra Time Club during Summer Term, please bring your form with payment to the Finance Office as soon as possible.

**Remember: If you pay by Parent Pay, you still have to bring your form to The Finance Office. Places are guaranteed on receipt of the consent form.**



### HEAD'S LINES

Welcome to the fourth newsletter of the academic year with plenty to celebrate and plenty of news.

### Attendance and Lessons

*"Attend Today – Achieve Tomorrow. There is no time like the present, and no substitute for being present."*

We know only too well that good attendance at school is one of the key determinants of academic success. After Easter we are launching an initiative to enable each student to monitor their attendance; to celebrate when it is excellent or improving; and to identify when they might need to be concerned. The Attendance Diamond scheme is outlined over the page. Parents, of course, play a key role in securing outstanding attendance and we always welcome the strong support of parents.

*"If it does not challenge you, it does not change you."*

At the same time we are planning changes to the length of lessons because we believe this will benefit both students and teachers. Ms Hancock has been

continued over

TERM 4: April 2017

# CNSNewsletter

## U15 Boys win Sibford 7s Cup for first time



On Thursday 23rd March our Year 10 team returned to take their place in the Sibford 7 a-side Rugby competition. After winning the Vase competition for the last 2 years they came into the tournament confident of going one better and winning the overall cup competition.

Being drawn in a group with the hosts, Prince Henry's and Chenderit, they won 2 and lost 1 match and qualified for the knock out rounds as best runner up. Facing Royal Latin in the semi-final the scores were level at 14 points each at the end of normal time. This meant a

period of extra time, with the first team to score, winning. Fortunately Michael Evans for CNS scored which meant the team went through to meet Chenderit (who we lost to in the group stages) in the final.

Another very tense and tight game was looking like heading for a draw before CNS mustered one last effort to go over for the score that would win them the game (21-14) to the elation of the coach Mr Newton, the players and the parents on the side.

Becoming the first CNS team ever to win the cup competition is a truly outstanding achievement.

Mr Thomas: Head of PE

## West Oxon Indoor Athletics Competition

On Thursday 23rd February our Year 7 and 8 teams travelled to Marlborough School for the annual West Oxon Indoor Athletics competition. This consists of students having a go at a range of events including running, jumping and throwing. After a fantastic effort by all students both our Year 7 boys team and Year 7 girls team ended up

as winners meaning they now go on to represent West Oxon at the

County event in April - a fantastic achievement!



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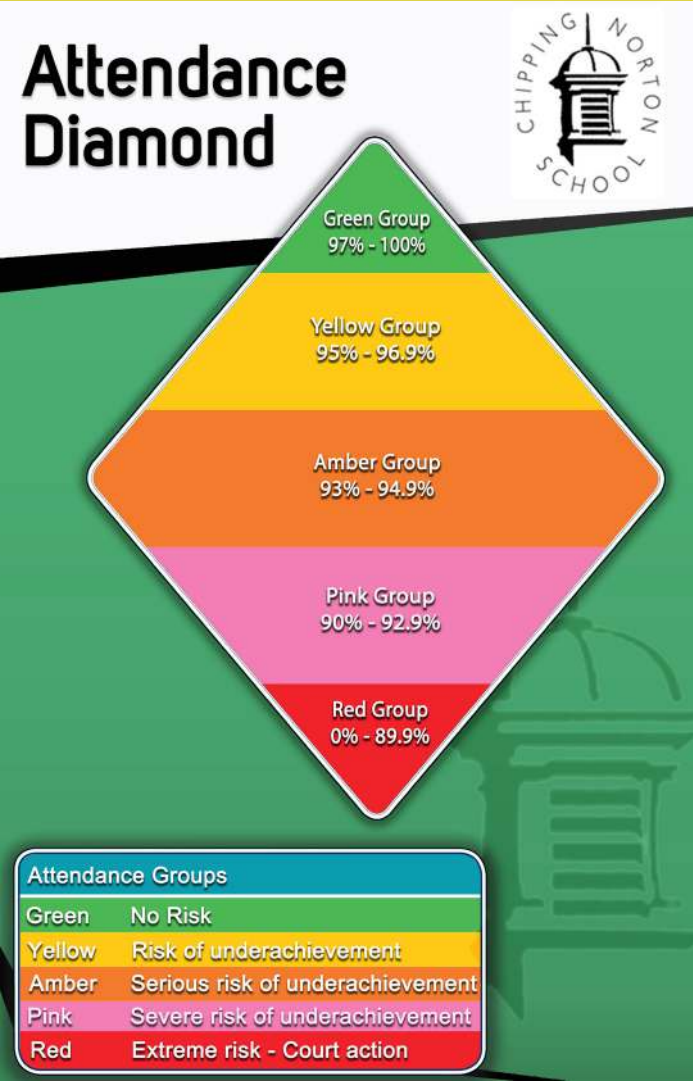
working on this change and has outlined why we are doing it and what it will look like in practice.

Sponsorship

Chipping Norton School is a school at the heart of our community and the great support we receive helps to make the school what it is. Owen Mumford, the largest employer in our area, has once again pledged to support the school by sponsoring a sixth form student through an Engineering degree. Two years ago this sponsorship scheme was launched and Joseph Jaffe was the beneficiary. The company agreed to meet fifty percent of the University fees, provide a laptop and book allowance, and guarantee holiday work during the breaks from University. In return the student receiving the award commits to two years' work at Owen Mumford. The scheme has been so successful that the company want to extend it every year to provide the same sponsorship for a Chipping Norton School student applying to read engineering. Applications are coming in from our current Year 13 students and we will let you know who is successful in due course.

We also work closely with the Co-op, who have supported our summer school provision and our annual Bake Off; Fibreworks, who have helped students develop a love of textiles and textile design; Wise Investment, who support Young Enterprise and other events; and, of course, Cornbury Music Festival, who have supported our Battle of the Bands and musical talent for the past eight years. If you have ideas about other aspects of sponsorship that might

Spotlight on attendance: Diamond initiative



After Easter, we will be launching a new attendance initiative. We have revised our procedures and we will be working with parents and carers to improve attendance and punctuality. Research has shown that regular attendance and good punctuality are crucial factors in student achievement.

Every week, students will be informed of their attendance figure during the registration period. They will be able to see whether that figure is an improvement on the previous week or whether there has been a decline. They will record that figure in their planner together with the corresponding colour, i.e. an attendance figure of 94.8% will be amber (see diamond below). If attendance has improved, students will receive house points. Students will have more ownership of their attendance and can see what they need to do and where they need to be in order to secure the best possible outcomes.

Ms Hancock  
Deputy Head

assist our school we would be delighted to hear from you.

Work Experience

Each summer term our Year 10 students have a week of work experience in term six. This is always a significant week of learning for our students and every year we have students returning to school enriched and enlivened by the experience. The placements students undertake are both wide and varied, but the key to success is planning early and being bold with placements. Parents can always help by looking to support placements themselves; by encouraging

children to challenge themselves with their placement; and by getting the paperwork in on time! Year 10 will be hearing a good deal more about work experience in due course.

Simon Duffy:  
Head Teacher



Year 8 Enterprise Day



On the 17th March all Year 8's joined in an enterprise event called 'The Duck Game'. The purpose of the event was to show the students how to create and run a business in a fun setting. Each team had to work together to earn enough money to pay wages and rent while overcoming problems like redundancy, mass imports from the chinese markets and working overtime to increase their production.

Gaby Heath (8VN) commented that "The day was really fun. I learnt new skills and more about how a business works. I was a salesman and sold the ducks for a good price while my team made the ducks and our accountant worked out our profits."

We are very grateful to Susan Ledgard-Hoile

(Oxfordshire LEP) and Alex Rae (Wise Investments) who had the unenviable task of judging the competition. The winners were:

**Best teamwork:** Felix Robertson, Louis Akers, Findlay Eaketts-Rogers, Isaac Harrington, Todd Whitton, Maya Rees and Antonia Muresan  
**Best Managing Director:** Matthew Lonsdale  
**Best Salesperson:** Elinor Tomalin  
**Best Accountant:** Polly Woodward  
**Team who raised the most money:** Maisie Barnes, Ben Guttridge, Chloe-Marie Warren, Abby Chapman, Daniel Chambers, Rory Hlustik and Sophia Robinson.

Mrs Dix:  
Careers Advisor

Student Council presents cheque to local charity

At the end of last term students and their families kindly supported Hooky Refugee Action by donating toiletries to help make up vital hygiene packs for Syrian Refugees.

A Valentine's Day disco was arranged for Year 7

and 8 students and all profits were donated to the charity. A cheque for £185 was presented by the Student Council to Vanessa Porter from Hooky Refugee Action in Year 8 assembly.

Vanessa gave special

Oxford Trade School



A group of Year 8 students were invited to learn new skills during an afternoon session with Richard from Wain and Francis, a Witney based building firm and electricians from Clarkson Evans, Oxford, who are an award winning electrical apprenticeship provider.

The students really enjoyed the practical experience of building a wall and wiring electrical circuits. They also learned how to calculate the materials they would need as a follow up to the practical session.

Ben Guttridge (8GN) commented "I really enjoyed working in a small team and mixing with a new group of friends. The people who ran the sessions were fun and I liked learning new practical skills."

Mrs Dix:  
Careers Advisor



thanks to Mrs Ward (Head of RE) and said "This money has been donated to a small charity called 'Phone Credit for Refugees'. This charity provides top ups for unaccompanied children and vulnerable people

to refugee children who are living on the streets of Paris. This credit helps to keep them safe from dangers such as trafficking, and also helps to keep them in touch with family."





## Year 2&3 Schoolympics



Over 240 pupils from St Mary's, Charlbury, Kingham and Middle Barton Primary Schools came to the Sports Hall at Chipping Norton School to take part in Schoolympics. This event is run by Year 12 Sports Leaders who spend lesson time working with Mr Robinson, Mrs Fisher and Mrs Phillips to prepare for one of the biggest Partnership festivals we host.

Schoolympics is based upon the Olympic Festival, with the children split into eight countries. Each group is led by a Sports Leader and the teams try out a variety of fun sporting activities - a highlight is the relay with tunnels, high-steppers, hurdles and backboards.

The Year 12 Leaders put so much work and preparation into this event, and it is often the first time they have really put their leadership skills into use. It can be a daunting experience but as the festival unfolds, you see their confidence and professionalism grow. At the end of the event everyone gathers together in the Sports Hall where the winners are announced.

The winning country was Portugal which had children from Kingham, Charlbury and St Marys Schools and the children all went home with a medal and a cup to display proudly at their own schools.

**Mrs Phillips:**  
**Community Learning**

## Year 1 Dance festival



Earlier this term Mrs Du Cros took her Year 12 Dance Leaders to St Marys School. The leaders led a Dance Festival called 'Commotion in the Ocean'.

The Year 1 pupils were led in groups and devised dance sequences based on the book using the pictures and storytelling to fire their imagination. They all produced a small piece of dance and performed.

The Year 12s really enjoy the opportunity to work with our CNPS Year 1

pupils, and it is a mutually beneficial experience for all the children involved. The Year 12s have the opportunity to improve and show off their leadership skills and the Year 1s take part, have fun and do love working with older children.

Thank you to St Mary's school for hosting, we had a warm welcome and of course well done to everyone who took part. You were all amazing.

## Spring time Family Focus



Chipping Norton Community Learning Team at Chipping Norton School hosted three Family Focus workshops during February. Families from Year 4, 5 & 6 Chipping Norton Partnership of Schools came along and took part in Astronomy, 'No Fear Shakespeare' and St John First Aid workshops.

All of these events are run by teachers from our school, apart from the First Aid which is run by St John First Aid Trainers. We are also very lucky that Chipping Norton Amateur Astronomy Group (CNAAG) come along with their telescopes and expertise to support the Astronomy event.

The workshops are set up to encourage parents and children to come along and work together doing something new and exciting.

We know that everyone had a really good time and left feeling they had learnt something new. We take great pleasure in welcoming all of our partnership families to our school. Thank you so much to our hard working staff here at Chipping Norton School who gave up their time to run the workshops. It is an event that benefits parents, children and teachers alike, and we are proud to host it. We look forward to inviting you all to our Summer Family Focus.



## Lesson timing changes for September 2017

From September 2017 we are changing the structure of the school day. The school start and finish times are not changing, but we are moving from six lessons of fifty minutes to **five lessons of sixty minutes**. This exciting change follows consultation with staff and Governors and there are a number of very good reasons for this decision:



- Teachers will know their students better as they will have fewer classes on their timetable, but for longer periods of time.
- Student focus and concentration will improve as there is evidence to suggest that higher quality learning takes in morning sessions.
- Student work and learning will be consolidated more effectively in a one hour lesson.
- Subjects will have more time to secure learning, reinforce ideas and complete practical learning in lessons.
- Student well-being will benefit from fewer daily lessons; fewer books to manage, and fewer lesson changes in any one day.

The new school day will look like this:

Registration	8.40 – 9.00
Period 1	9.00 – 10.00
Period 2	10.00 – 11.00
Break	11.00 – 11.25
Period 3	11.25 – 12.25
Period 4	12.25 – 1.25
Lunchtime	1.25 – 2.05
Period 5	2.05 – 3.05
School ends	3.05

**Ms Hancock: Deputy Head**



## Preparing Year 13 students for independent living!



As part of our Year 13 Tutorial programme, students were offered the chance to learn some basic DIY and Car Maintenance Skills from the person at school that we all turn to for advice on these matters - John McCormick!

John very kindly spent two lessons teaching the basics to those students who realise that independent living is getting ever closer. Skills covered included; wiring a plug, changing a washer, checking oil, water and tyre pressures on your car and even how to attempt to change a wheel!

Students were sent off with instructions to open the bonnets of their cars

and try and locate all the important bits and pieces! Lorenzo Ronconi, who attended both sessions said: "Attending these two sessions provided an invaluable insight into tips and tricks useful for student life. Simple things I would never have thought to check, such as the filter on a dishwasher or changing a tap, were explained in an informative way. I would recommend John's guidance to any student considering university or solo living after sixth form."

**Mrs Davison:**  
**Sixth Form Administrator**





# Re Fashion

On Saturday 11th March, a group of sixth form students attended the award-winning ReFashion event at Oxford Town Hall. This annual event has gone from strength to strength since it first started in 2012 with many local businesses, charities, students and community groups coming together to demonstrate the wide variety of uses that unloved clothes can be put to. The public are able to bring unwanted clothing along to the event in order to swap it, donate it to charity, learn how to repair it or transform it into new garments.

As part of their AS Textiles course our students were tasked with creating a new and contemporary fashion item using only recycled products. ReFashion provided the perfect opportunity for them to model their fantastic creations in front of an appreciative audience. All the students have become interested in reducing their carbon footprints and not only enjoyed the challenge of designing using recycled products but also enjoyed having the opportunity to show their work as part of a countywide exhibition focusing on recycling textiles and giving them a new life.

The students were:

**Frazer Chapman.** Frazer is new to Textiles and has a strong interest in traditional fashion and tailoring right back to Medieval times. His product, a top hat made from a diverse range of recycled fabrics and materials, incorporated traditional handmade skills with cutting edge computer technology, including laser cutting.

**Zuzia Matyjewicz.** Zuzia has studied Textiles at GCSE and continues to produce creative work. She has designed and made a fashion jacket from recycled military materials, including water proof tents. Her jacket incorporates the components used to fasten the tents.

**Mackenzie Blacklock.** Mackenzie has come from an Art background and has used her interest in sculptural forms to produce a skirt made from glossy pages from fashion magazines.

**Ellen Williams-Sharkey.** Ellen is continuing her Textiles study following GCSE and has produced a multi-layered skirt incorporating newsprint with non-woven fabric to create a dynamic effect in her product.

All the students did really well overcoming nerves to model on the catwalk and talk to the compere, Rich Smith from Jack2, in front of the assembled crowd.

Mr Redman: Textiles



# BATTLE OF THE BANDS



Battle of the Bands this year was just that little bit more special: the final chance to win the opportunity to play at the last ever Cornbury Festival. And the competition was more fiercely fought for that reason.

The bands represented nearly all year groups, with music ranging from Meghan Trainor to Nirvana, Panic at the Disco to Two Door Cinema Club, with everything in between. The audience were treated to an epic DJ set, supported by Mr Prentice and Mr Ockleston's dance moves. Mr Nolan gave regular style advice to the contestants, while Ms Ashton and Mrs Faulkner gave constructive criticism or positive praise to each of the bands.

The final results were Sweet and Sour (Harry Casson and Seth Mazower, pictured middle right) in 3rd place, Hieronymous Yellow (Kirsty Pearson and Phoebe Wilkinson, picture bottom right) in 2nd place, and Gray Keys (Grainne Ní Cheallacháin, Louise Williams and Kerrie-Jo O'Flynn, pictured bottom left) in 1st place. The girls will be performing on Saturday morning on the Riverside Stage at Cornbury Festival.

Thank you to Mr Nolan's amazing team of BTEC Performing Arts students for running the evening so successfully.

Mrs Willett: Head of Music

