



CNSNewsletter

HEAD'S LINES

It seems to me that CNS never sleeps!

Yet again, the vibrant life of the school has some great snapshot in this edition. Seeing the tired red eyes of my colleagues after the Rome trip was soon countered by their praise for the students and the fantastic experiences they enjoyed together in the Eternal City.

I note the article on the superb Night at the Musicals and my words on the night itself regarding the priceless experience of the families in the audience. But seeing your child in an international blockbuster dressed as a 1920s attire must be pretty special...

All of these articles show that CNS and life itself is enriched when a student chooses to seek out and take advantage of the wide opportunities here and elsewhere. The Extra Time Clubs are thriving and we hope that your children are engaging in the wider life and offers of the school just like the students are in this edition.

That PTA Christmas Faye advert on Page 5 is the first sign of Christmas I have so far encountered. It reminds me that it's not long to go before the Year 11 mocks are over and the Year 13 mocks begin.

A very busy time of year!

Best wishes,
Mr Doherty
Headteacher

Our Art students enjoy the wonders of Rome



On Friday October 11th we went to Rome, the capital city of Italy. We had to be at school for 2:45am so that we could get to the airport for 5:00am for a 7:00am flight. On arrival we travelled to our hotel, dropped off our bags and walked to The Pantheon. I liked the pillars outside and the hole in the roof. The artwork was incredible! Later that day, after returning to the hotel to freshen up, we enjoyed a lovely meal at the little restaurant across the road. It had been a very long and tiring day and we were happy to get an early-ish night.

On Saturday we walked the short distance from the hotel to world famous Colosseum. It was amazing and definitely the favourite part of the whole trip. We were able to explore the Colosseum for a good long time before meeting up near The Arch of Constantine. We walked to the Roman Forum and up to Palatine Hill; one of the Seven Hills of Rome and the most ancient part of the city. After all this walking we really enjoyed good Italian pizza for lunch!

In the afternoon we visited the Basilica de Santa Maria Maddalena which was huge and so beautiful. We sat there for ages taking in the fabulous architecture before walking down to The Trevi Fountain – this was gorgeous and one of the best things that I have ever seen.

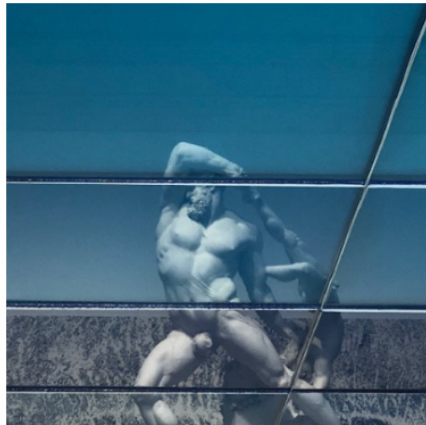
On Sunday, we visited the National Gallery of Modern Art. There were lots of interesting pieces of artwork to enjoy but I loved the bronze lions by Davide Rivalta that were placed on the steps leading to the gallery's entrance – they were beautiful! We enjoyed lunch next to the twin churches of Santa Maria dei Miracoli and Santa Maria de Montesanto and strolled along the banks of the River Tiber enjoying a breath-taking view of the Castel Sant'Angelo.

On the last day of the trip we visited The Vatican City. It was enormous – a lot bigger and busier than I expected. We explored The Sistine Chapel, home of many of Michelangelo's famous paintings. It was fantastic! This was the end of our brilliant and unforgettable trip to Rome.

Unfortunately our flight back to the UK was delayed and we didn't get back to school until 1:00am. We were all a bit exhausted at school on Tuesday. Thank you to Mrs Corley and the other members of staff for making this trip possible.

Chloe-Marie Warren: 11MXJ

Art trip continued...



The Night of the Musicals: a wonderful evening of musical talents



The Night of the Musicals was a very enjoyable evening. We listened to over 80 very enthusiastic Year 7 students performing 'Whistle a Happy Tune' from The King and I, Electricity from Billy Elliot and 'This is Me' from The Greatest Showman.

Between the Year 7 performances there were some fantastic solo recitals by Holly Ibrahim

('Someone Else's Story' from Chess), Maisie Taylor ('Still Hurting' from The Last Five Years) and Jess Bradford ('Peter, Peter' from Peter Pan).

We also heard fabulous solos from Molly Day ('With You' from Ghost), Lola Burnett ('I will Prevail' from Wonderland) and Charlie Hill ('Stars' from Les Misérables).

The Flute Ensemble go

from strength to strength with a brilliant rendition of 'Over the Rainbow' which everyone loved.

There was a great atmosphere with the school hall packed with proud parents and families. Overall

the evening was as wonderful as the music it showcased!

Jessica Bradford: 10JXB



Sixth Form News: Looking forward to new Sixth Form block



to the left of the main entrance will be completely devoted to the Sixth Form and provide them with a library, silent study spaces, a large common room, their own 'powder room' and a kitchenette.

With independent study becoming more and more important in terms of securing success in A-levels, we can be

confident all students will always have a bright, modern, comfortable and uncrowded place to study – but also socialise at the right times. We are

very grateful to have been successful in being able to undertake a major phase of site development in an era of austerity.

The Sixth Form is delighted to announce the appointment of this year's team of senior students from Year 13: Ronan Kennedy, Shannon Gorham, Neve Lloyd and Tom Alarcon-Clark. The team is led by Head Students Megan Hayes and Megan Kyte and will soon include some representatives from Year 12 as well.

Mrs De Bruyn:
Head of Sixth Form

During the first week of the summer holidays we discovered that we had been successful in our application for additional funding to develop our school site. We had sought

additional funding to create a new Sixth Form centre and install new facilities that would significantly enhance the lives of our oldest students.

The single-storey area

My experience in 'Downton Abbey', the movie!



Having aspired to be an actor since the age of 11, you can imagine that gaining the chance to be an extra in 'Downton Abbey', the Movie was a pretty exciting opportunity for me. I first chose to sign to an extras agency as I knew it would be a great opportunity to gain experience on a set, be directed and filmed by a huge crew and meet new people within the field. I have a particular interest in period dramas, which is why I was very lucky to have been picked for such a huge and exciting film in this genre.

I travelled up the night before and stayed near the

village of Lacock where we would be filming. I received my call time that evening for 5:00am, a very early start. When I arrived I was dressed in the outfit chosen for me in the fitting: an original 1920s pale blue coat paired with a pale pink bucket hat and tiny pointed heels. The detail that they put into the costumes was extraordinary, with every single item being authentic and accurate to the period. They even adjusted my coat to make sure it fitted me perfectly. I was then sent to hair and makeup where they styled my hair into a 1920's finger wave updo, which took a surprising amount of time and hair pins. We then

had regular rigorous checks throughout the day where they would continue to top up our hair and makeup to make sure it stayed perfect throughout the day. I would never have guessed that they would put so much effort and detail into every single extra on set.

The two filming days were very exciting but also very tiring. Both days took over 13 hours of filming with one small lunch break at midday. I found it particularly challenging to be standing

for so long in heels one size too small, with the weather constantly making you either too hot or too cold. However, I was easily distracted as I was surrounded by the most interesting people. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of being able to watch the actors perform each scene up close and be directed by the rather extravagant director, Michael Engler. I was lucky enough to be frequently placed right by the actors, which meant I was able to hear everything that went on, including the actors' conversations in between takes. Jim Carter and Phyllis Logan were

particularly funny and constantly making jokes and entertaining the extras. I even got the chance to have a small chat with Joanne Froggatt (Anna Bates) who pushes past me in the parade scene in the film. However, the most surreal and exciting moment for me was seeing Maggie Smith ushered onto set, as I have admired her work for a long time.

Waiting a year to finally see the film at the cinema was tough, but I was very happy to discover that my face could be clearly seen in the centre of the screen several times in close ups of the crowd. I loved watching the scenes I witnessed as it was very interesting seeing how it all appeared on camera and fitted in with the storyline. Overall it was a brilliant experience and a great opportunity for me to learn about the process of filming.

After leaving Chipping Norton School, my aspirations are to attend one of the leading Drama Schools to study a degree in acting. I intend to gain acting (and life) experience before going, through attending the Oxford Playhouse Youth Theatre, joining rep companies, applying and auditioning for short films, commercials and touring companies whilst also working part-time. I am also continuing to run a drama club at my local primary school as teaching drama is another of my passions.

**Georgina Housby:
Ex Sixth Form Student**

Medic Mentor and the National Healthcare weekend



It was last year when I first attended the National Healthcare Weekend – a conference event aimed at aspiring medical applicants from Years 10-12. I admit the experience was quite daunting, especially considering the high levels of interaction promoted at these events. Back then, venues were few and far between – London and Birmingham for the South and Stirling for the North, and so to make the journey to Solihull four times over a weekend was pretty exhausting – especially for my dad driving.

The conference itself was great - an introduction to medicine, with all the accompanying application guidance on the first day, and a UCAS crash course on the second. We saw a multitude of talks by doctors, medical students, and even a Year 13 prospective applicant, scribbling notes the whole way through.

Through this I learned about the School Ambassador Programme, to which I subsequently applied and gained a place. Our existing CNS Medical Society, run by Molly Duff

on a Wednesday morning, was now technically a branch of Medic Mentor. We fielded about four medical hopefuls, including myself, and shared resources and email contacts in an effort to boost the quality of our applications. Now an ambassador, I was eligible to attend the Student Ambassador meetings, the first being in London, focused on public speaking, and the second in Birmingham, where I worked on developing my personal statement. I was further along the road to applying, but had a long way to go.

At this stage, I had been informed of, and applied to, the Medic Mentor Summer School – a week-long course in Nottingham with the aim of demolishing the personal statement procrastination period in a flurry of high intensity mentor-assisted working hours, followed by admissions test focus and multiple mock interviews. I feel unable to relate the sheer relief I had upon taking the train home at the end



of this week, knowing I had significantly improved my chances of entry and had made great friends along the way (despite the unforgiving work rate!). By now I had finalised all work experience and volunteering placements, with only UCAT (the main medical school admissions test) to go. I had written an article on Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Syndrome (also known as Bubble Baby disease), ready to be published in the Medic Mentor magazine sometime this October, and had attended Open Days across the country in an effort to narrow down university choices. Everything, I felt, would build to a competitive application come October.

When the UCAT came up, I felt prepared – much more so than I had before the Summer School,

or during the previous months spent revising. The build-up was particularly stressful, but in the end it turned out well and I achieved a result I was proud of. Come Year 13, our small society has been bolstered by three vets and four more Year 12s, who will take up running the meetings when we move on. I continued my relations with Medic Mentor, recently giving a speech to the National Healthcare Weekend at Oxford on a topic not too dissimilar to the subject of this article. As I write this, I am in the process of sending off my UCAS application, hopefully to receive invitations to interview in the following months. Fingers crossed!

I would like to thank my school, my peers, Medic Mentor and my parents for supporting me through the process so far.

Ronan Kennedy: I3SGD

Year 5 & 6 Music ensemble



Mr Brown (Head of Music) and Miss Johnston were delighted to welcome 20 Year 5 & 6 pupils to Chipping Norton School on Friday 27th September to take part in a Music Ensemble and Concert.

Our primary musicians learnt a new piece of music and rehearsed with the Chipping Norton School Concert Band during the afternoon. Our band members here at Chipping Norton School worked with and supported the younger children, and it was a wonderful

opportunity for all involved. The older students particularly enjoyed working with younger children, they showed their leadership skills and were very encouraging.

We were delighted to welcome families, carers and teachers to listen to the concert at 4pm which we know everyone enjoyed.

Well done to everyone who took part in this event; you were so enthusiastic and worked very hard. Keep on playing and enjoying your music.

U11 Football tournament



The teams from the Partnership had been looking forward to the first CNPS festival of the year. The pupils had worked very hard to prepare for the tournament (supported by their teachers and TAs) and were rewarded with wonderful weather. Everyone played well and put a lot into it, supporting and encouraging each other and showing lots of skills.

This festival is run by Year 12 Sports Leaders, who referee, score and oversee the whole event. This is part of their Sports

Leaders Award. At the end of the festival the winners were:

Big Schools Girls:
Hook Norton
Big Schools Boys:
St Mary's
Small School Boys:
Middle Barton
Small School Girls:
Chadlington

Congratulations to all our primary footballers who took part in the festival and to Chipping Norton School Year 12s who worked hard to make sure it was so successful.

AIM (Able, Interested and Motivated) Design & Technology workshop



We were so delighted to have 29 Year 4 & 5 pupils at our D&T workshop, which was run by Mr Newton, Mr McPhillips

and Mr McCormick.

We asked the children to use their sewing skills to make a felt bracelet which lit up with a colour

changing LED. They were introduced to the task by Mr Newton who showed them how it all worked. They were supported by Year 11 students who sat with the younger children, supporting and helping them. This was quite a challenging task, and really did encourage the children to concentrate very hard. Some children may not have tried to sew before, but everyone really did try their best. The end result was worth all the effort.

It was a busy and productive environment and our Year 11s really showed maturity in their teaching and supporting of our primary pupils.

Congratulations to everyone at the workshop, and thank you to Mr Newton, Mr McPhillips and Mr McCormick.

Year 3 Dance Festival



We took 22 Year 12 leaders to St Mary's School, and they did an amazing job leading their first CSLA festival of the year which was based on the book 'Giraffes Can't Dance', a lovely book about learning to be yourself.

Our students always love the opportunity to work with the younger pupils and our Leaders had planned dance activities to teach the Year 3s African style dance

movement using animal characterisation.

Everyone had lots of fun creating animal dances based on characters in the book, and there were lots of smiles. This was a wonderful opportunity for all the young people involved. Congratulations to you all, and thank you to Mrs Du Cr s, Head of Dance and Drama at Chipping Norton School, and staff at St Mary's for being so welcoming.



First Aid training at CNS



On Wednesday 16 October we were delighted to offer 26 families the opportunity to learn First Aid skills fit for family life. Clare from St John Ambulance taught the group about cuts, sprains and broken bones, as well as CPR. It was incredibly well received and I know at the end of the session everyone went home knowing that they could cope with a medical emergency in their home or community.

We are so proud that during Term 1 & 2 fifty Year 10 students will also have completed their Extra Time First Aid course as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award (run by Miss Richmond and Mr Hopkins). They have to complete 12 hours of First

Aid to pass, and cannot go on expedition without it.

Once again we are indebted to Clare, an experienced trainer who has been coming to Chipping Norton School for several years. Being able to offer this in school is fantastic as it can be difficult to find a course to attend locally.

Well done to all of those students taking part. To have so many of you keen to take part in the programme is fantastic; and also to know that we now have another 50 first aiders in our community...what an achievement!

Mrs Fisher: Community Learning Lead



GCSE Art trip to the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford



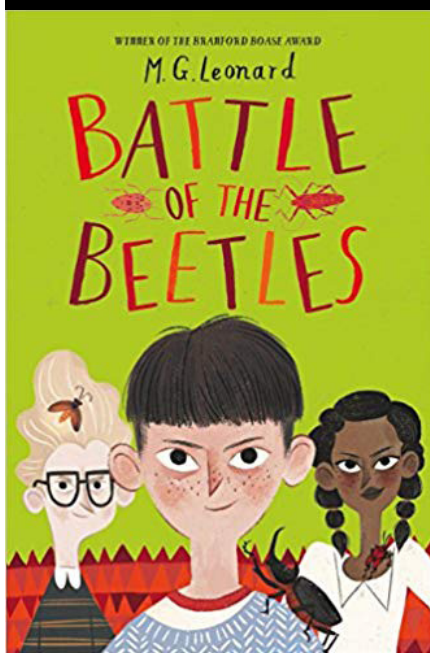
The Art department took our Year 10 GCSE Art students on a trip to the Pitt Rivers and Ashmolean Museums in Oxford.

The day was a great success and the students listened to a talk about the Pitt Rivers Museum and its wonderful collection of artefacts.

Afterward, they had the opportunity to explore both museums and to draw and take photos of the pieces to inform their art topic 'Non-European Cultures'. It was an invaluable trip for our students.

Mrs Corley: Head of Art

Author M. G. Leonard visits CNS



She introduced her books and explained how she became a writer. She told us about her special 'story recipe' and got us to write a story plan using a selection of weird and wonderful beetle fact cards. The hero of our story had to be one of the beetles. She explained the different types of body parts beetles have so that we could accurately

describe our beetle characters. She gave us small and simple tasks which were important as they were the main ingredients and building blocks to our story. This included choosing the name of our bug, creating a

nemesis and deciding the setting to our story.

At the end Ms Bovington set a competition for the best short story based on our story plans. The winning story will be sent to M. G. Leonard to read.

We all loved this writing workshop!

Lizzie Maclean and Emma Churchill (Year 8)

On the 25th of September the author, M. G. Leonard, came to CNS to talk to the Year 7s about her fantastic *Battle of the Beetles* trilogy. Afterwards she ran a creative writing workshop based on beetles for a selection of students from Years 8 and 9.

What's on at CNS

TERM 2
NOVEMBER

Wk 9
Mon 4 Term begins
Thu 7 Sixth Form Open Evening (6:00pm-8:00pm)

Wk 10
Mon 11 MFL French play (Y9-11)
Tue 12 CNPS Y5/6 Street Dance
Wed 13 CNPS Y5/6 Street Dance
Oxfordshire Book Awards trip
Thu 14 CNPS Y5/6 Street Dance
Y13 PTC (4:45pm)

Wk 11
Thu 21 Y10 PTC (4:45pm)
Wk 12
Mon 25 CNPS AIM English
Wed 27 CNPS Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics
Fri 29 PTA Christmas School Fayre (5:30pm - 8:00pm)

Wk 13
Wed 4 CNPS Y3/4 Ball Skills
Thu 5 CNPS Y5/6 Literary Quiz
Y12 PTC (4:45pm)
Christmas Market trip departs

Wk 14
Mon 9 Rugby/Hockey house matches
Wed 11 CNPS Y3 Dance workshop
Christmas Concert (7:00pm)
Fri 13 Y7 Celebration assembly

Wk 15
Mon 16 Y8 Celebration assembly
Tue 17 Y9 Celebration assembly
Carol Service at St Mary's (7:00pm)
Wed 18 Y10 Celebration assembly
Thu 19 Non-uniform day supporting Katharine House charity
END OF TERM
(Early closure at 12:35pm. Buses depart at 12:40pm)



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