



# CNSNewsletter

## Year 7s collect for local foodbank



The Year 7s decided earlier this term that they would like to organise a Christmas collection of essential food items for the North Oxfordshire Community Foodbank.

The students brought in their donations in the last week of term and Mrs Budd, Family Liaison Officer, filling every inch of her car with bags and boxes, kindly agreed to deliver the food to the foodbank at the Baptist Church in Chipping Norton.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this appeal.

## What's on at CNS

### JANUARY

Wk 16	
Mon 4	RLT Staff INSET day
Tues 5	Staff INSET day
Wed 6	Term begins for Y7-11
	Y12/13 Reading Day
Thu 7	Y12/13 back at school
	Sixth Form applications close
Wk 17	
Thur 14	Y11 PTC 4.45pm-8.00pm
Wk 18	
Thur 21	Y13 PTC 4.45pm-8.00pm

### FEBRUARY

Wk 21	
Fri 12	END OF TERM
	Non-uniform day

## The Spirit of Christmas at Chipping Norton School



This year the students of Chipping Norton School have demonstrated their generosity and kindness to the wider community in many ways.

We have continued to support Aspire, the Oxfordshire charity which provides training and support to homeless people in the county. Immediately before lockdown, the Year 9s had started an enterprise challenge to raise funds for the charity. Although many students were unable to complete their projects, three teams were very quick off the mark and managed to raise £576.37 for the Aspire charity with activities such as cookie kits, a raffle and

organising Fancy Dress days at local primary schools.

Over the past few weeks, tutor groups have been filling up Christmas shoeboxes

with gifts for homeless adults as part of Aspire's 'No one left behind this Christmas' campaign. Mrs De Bruyn was delighted to fill up a school minibus with 226 shoeboxes and deliver them to the charity's headquarters in Oxford.

On the last day of term, we are planning a non-uniform day with students encouraged to wear a colourful Christmas jumper. Students will be asked to pay £1 and we expect to be able to donate an additional £1000 to Aspire.

The PE Department challenged our students to take part in a series of *Santa Fun Runs* in aid of Katharine House Hospice.

Students were asked to run between 3km and 5km around the school fields in one of their outdoor PE lessons. Every student was provided with their own Santa hat for £1 and families were asked to donate extra funds.

A lot of fun was had by all and we were delighted to be able to donate £2287.23 to Katharine House.

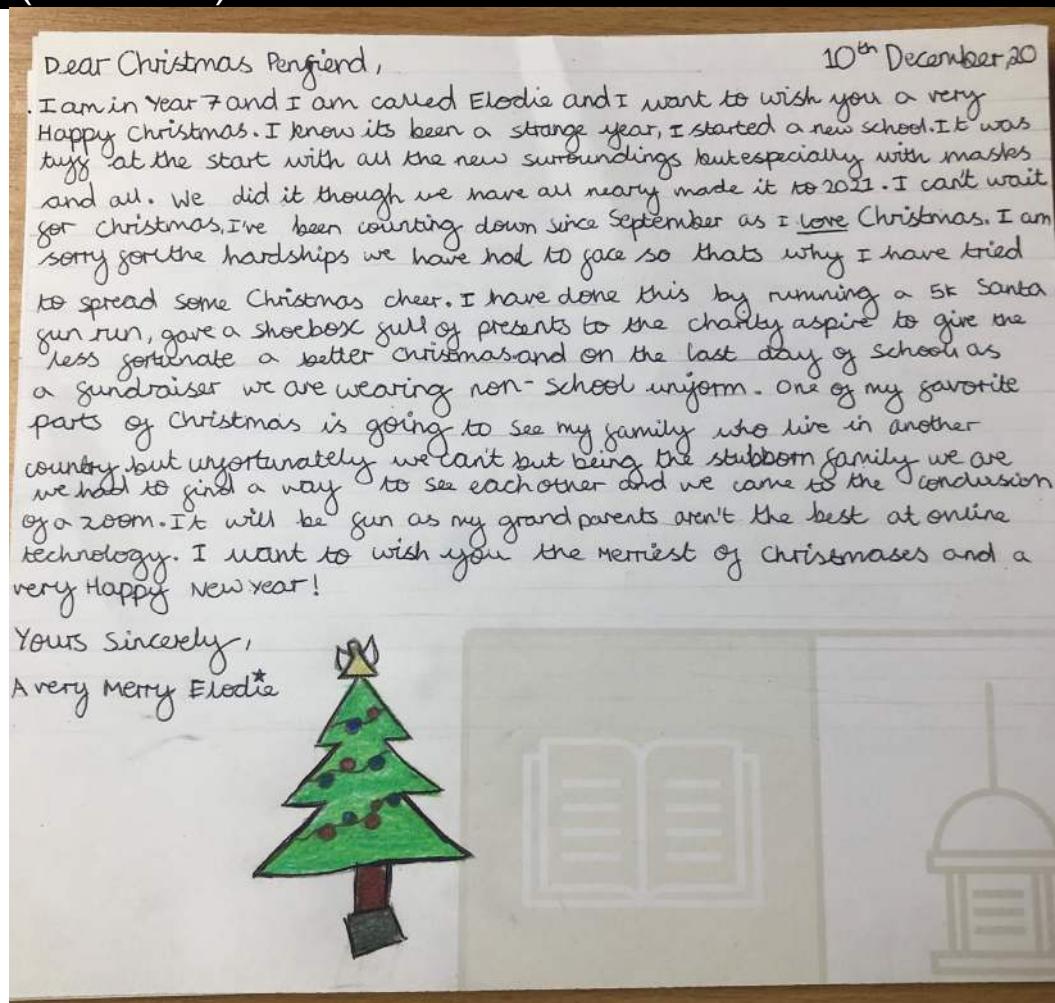


## Spirit of Christmas (continued): Classrooms to Care Homes

This lovely initiative has been launched by the Times Educational Supplement and is happening in many schools across the country. It is a way for our students to connect with care home workers and residents this Christmas, to spread a bit of festive joy and cheer. We asked our students to write to care homes in the local area to let the workers and residents know we are thinking about them.

Our students have been busy composing letters about their preparations for Christmas, including what they are most looking forward to, descriptions of their Christmas dinner, the odd Christmas joke, and more poignantly, reflecting on what has been a challenging year with hope for the future.

**Mrs Armistead:**  
Assistant Headteacher



## Sponsor a tree @ CNS



On Tuesday 24th November, a group of 13 Year 7 students, Mrs De Bruyn and Mr Parker went onto the main school field to plant some trees as part of The Woodland Trust campaign. We planted many different native British trees such as silver birch, dogwood and red cherry.

The new trees have

been planted in a patch of ground near Glyme Hall. It was a lot of fun and we all had a good time planting trees that will help to improve the environment in many ways. The trees will thrive in their new habitat and we have covered our beloved trees with a plastic tubes so rabbits and other animals will not be able to damage the young trees by nibbling at the roots.

Overall, the whole event was a great experience. The school council will be back to plant more trees in the future.

Furthermore, if you would still like to make a donation for the Woodland Trust, you still can. Just follow the link at the end of this report and it will

take you to The Woodland Trust website where you can make a donation..

We are very grateful to all the families who have so far sponsored a tree. It is wonderful to be able to do something positive to help our special planet!

We also owe a big 'Thank You' to local Chipping Norton businesses who have supported us with this project. These include Evenlode Investments, and Wise Investments who have agreed to sponsor a coppice on our site and Lockhart Garratt – Forestry & Woodland Management who have given us valuable advice on how and where to plant the trees.

Altogether we have

raised over £6000 - half will be donated to The Woodland Trust and the rest used for other environmental causes in our community.

**Grace Harrison (7JSJ)**

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/protecting-trees-and-woods/campaign-with-us/big-climate-fightback/>

  
**EVENLODE**  
INVESTMENTS FOR LIFE

  
**LOCKHART GARRATT**

  
**Wise Investment**



## Our COVID-19 Young Heroes



Whether by helping self-isolating family members or neighbours with shopping, supporting working parents by looking after younger siblings or by cheering up passers by with colour artwork in windows and painted pebbles left for all to admire, or by helping friends cope with feelings of anxiety and isolation, there is no doubt that many of our students demonstrated great community spirit, resilience and kindness during lockdown earlier this year.

We are very proud that two of our Sixth Form students, Thomas Adams and Katie Blundell, were nominated for the *COVID-19 Young Hero Award* at this year's Oxfordshire Youth Awards.

Thomas Adams volunteered with Mary's Meals (St Mary's Church) and helped to deliver 25,000 meals to those most affected by Lockdown #1. Every Friday he

helped coordinate the 40+ drivers, matching them to the right food deliveries and making sure it all ran smoothly. He was an amazing asset to the team, using his own initiative, taking real pride in what he was doing and problem-solving rather than panicking when things went wrong! He thoroughly deserved to be nominated for this award by Emma Kennedy from St Mary's Church.

Katie was nominated by Mrs De Bruyn, Assistant Headteacher for the COVID Young Hero Award for supporting a Year 10 student throughout lockdown with her GCSE PE course.

Katie planned revision sessions and took the time to go through the work set and consolidate any misunderstandings.

The student was exceptionally grateful and attributes her progress to the support Katie offered.

## Emma Church: Thinking of others



Young 9 student, Emma Church could also certainly be described as a 'young hero'.

Emma, who is deaf, uses hearing aids and lip reading to help her understand what others are saying. The use of face masks to reduce the risk of transmitting the COVID-19 virus creates an obstacle to communicating with deaf people.

Emma wanted others to recognise this problem and sent a homemade transparent face mask and an impassioned letter to the Prime Minister, Mr Boris Johnson, to alert the Government to this important issue. She asked Mr Johnson to highlight this issue by wearing a clear mask in public and encouraging the wider use of clear masks.

Emma received a reply from Mr Chris Jennings on behalf of Mr Johnson, praising her for her efforts to bring attention to this important issue. He also thanked her for her very

well made mask and reassured her that many companies are beginning to manufacture clear masks for public use.

Mr Jennings commented "Hearing loss, as you point out, is not a joke and is, in fact extremely common in our society. Though I am sure it can be difficult to manage at times, you are absolutely right not to let it get you down. Your attitude is brilliant and your hearing loss neither defines you nor will prevent you from achieving whatever you want in life".

We wholeheartedly agreed with this description of Emma and were delighted to recognise her achievements by giving her a 'Fantastic Friday' award a few weeks ago.

Emma has also received the Head Teacher's special recognition award at the Year 9 end of year Celebration Assembly.

# Art News: *Faces in Windows*

Our A Level Art students worked with professional photographer Andrew Ogilvy to produce a series of portraits to brighten up empty shop windows in Chipping Norton as part of the new *Illuminate Chippy* event.

The students were inspired by award winning photographer Agnès Varda's film *'Face Places'*, in which the photographer and muralist, JR, travel through rural France capturing images of local people they meet and leaving behind amazing murals for the communities to enjoy. The students were asked to work to a brief entitled 'Our Town'.

Our students worked with local author John Dougherty on writing the words to accompany their photographs. As well as planning and creating their photographic artwork the students had to think carefully about how and where the finished photographs were going to be displayed.

This project has been a wonderful opportunity for the students to experience the 'highs and lows' of putting together a professional exhibition. We are very grateful to Ian Nolan Events, Andrew Ogilvy and John Dougherty for enabling the students to take part in this fantastic new event.

The photographic exhibition will remain in place for all to enjoy until the end of January.



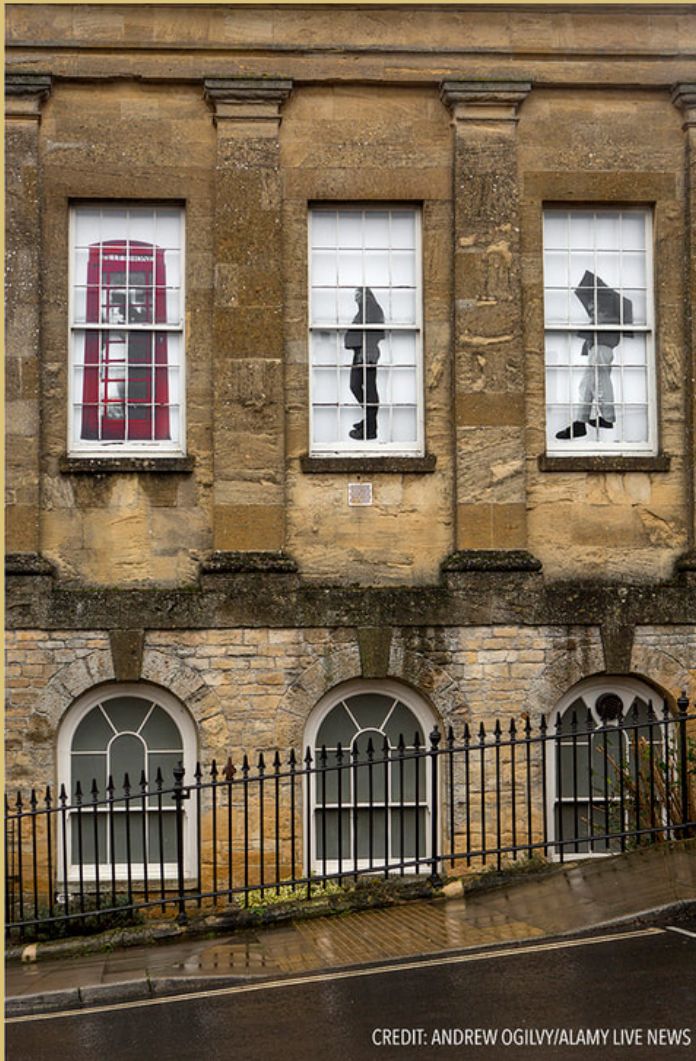
**Amy Jones, Phoebe Latham-Mollart, Emilia Opalinska, Lulu Persaud, Carys Silverthorne-Wright and Orla Truelove**

**Watching Our Reflection:** Pinks and blues and purples, reflections, during quarantine we've been finding ourselves and our faces, both public and private, our eyes the window to the soul...

**Blurred Lines:** During quarantine, the lines between physical contact and screens have become synonymous. These two people face each other, talking, telling, but we don't know who they are. We don't know what their truth is...

**Plastic Barriers:** Plastic is representative of restrictive barriers, similar to the masks we are using during this pandemic. The suffocating display echoes these barriers, highlighting the loneliness of isolation. An involuntary act, shielding one person from another.





CREDIT: ANDREW OGILVY/ALAMY LIVE NEWS

## Rose Heppell, Martha Harding and Matty Heron

Connecting through telecommunications has become more important due to social distancing and isolation from Covid. Here we're split from family, yet connected through the telephone.

We have decided to incorporate isolation due to Covid-19 with everyday activity and trying to stay close to loved ones through telecommunications. Today's society has had to adapt to "the new normal" through online interactions. We have gone for a more abstract view on life and how happiness can be found through speaking to the ones that we love. This is shown through the phone box being the only colour present in all of our photos (making it stand out and be bold).

## Gabby Heath, Beth Simpson, Millie Hiatt and Lacie Kitching

The main theme of our display is the seasonal change from Autumn to Winter, celebrating the shifting display of colours linked with the changing seasons. All of which will be displayed at the festival through lights and exhibitions.

Considering the upheaval communities have experienced this year, this collection connects with families and businesses in the Chipping Norton community, through a celebration of the changing season.

The focus of the first photo is on a metaphor of light and how this can and should outshine the darkness of this year. Secondly, the photos reflect seasonal change and even though this transition can be cold and bitter, it is also a time of great joy and beauty for everyone in the community.

Finally, the last image represents the hardships and challenges the community has had to endure this year, and how it will end and as a community we will overcome this.



CREDIT: ANDREW OGILVY/ALAMY LIVE NEWS



We are so proud that even during this difficult year we have continued to work with and support our Partnership Primary Schools. We have organised several activities and workshops over the term and were delighted that our primary students enjoyed the opportunities offered to them

## AIM Design & Technology Workshop



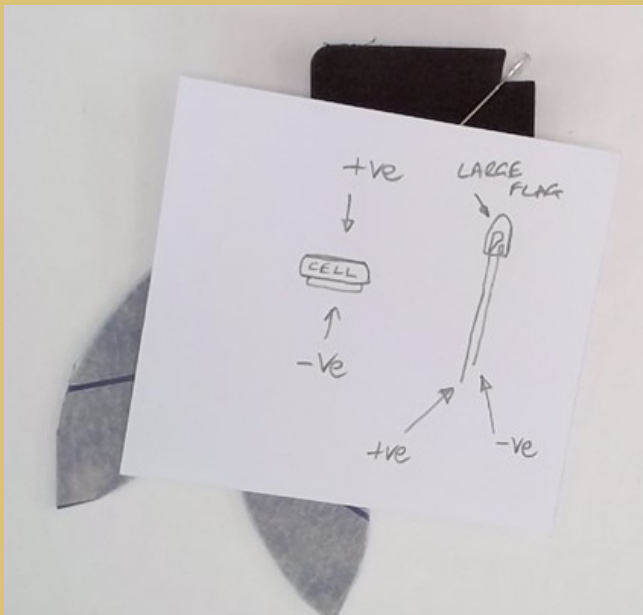
As we could not invite our primary pupils into CNS, we did the next best thing and sent a D&T pack to their schools (in good time to allow for quarantining).

The aim of the project was to make a small working torch. Mr James from our Design & Technology Department very kindly wrote a comprehensive instruction booklet and we sent out a pack for the workshop

with all the relevant equipment.

The pupils showed incredible dexterity to build the electrical circuit and developed their understanding of electronics and batteries along the way.

Thank you so much to Mr James and to our primary staff for your support and we are so glad your pupils enjoyed this opportunity.



## Year 4 & 5 AIM English Workshop: The Tempest



asked to form a continuum line to show whether they think being stranded on a desert island would be like PARADISE or like a PRISON, and to brainstorm this as a group. We then asked the pupils to do a writing task either recommending the island or warning about it. We encouraged pupils to use

Mrs Duffy from our English Department created a virtual workshop which was led in the primary schools with the incredible support of our primary colleagues.

The workshop was based upon William Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' and was split into three parts:

**Part 1 - The Storm:** We asked our primary pupils to think about how to create the sound of a storm, and what sort of expressions might be used by people who are on a ship about to be wrecked.  
**Part 2 - The Island:** All the passengers from the ship end up (separated from each other) on a deserted island. The pupils were

powerful adjectives and verbs.

**Part 3 - The Monster:** Mrs Duffy then explained that on the island, the passengers from the ship came across a monster called Caliban. The final task was that pupils should write their own character description about Caliban with a short story.

Well done to everyone at the primary schools for taking part in this workshop; we really hope you enjoyed it, and once again thank you to Mrs Duffy and our primary colleagues who led it.



## Year 5 & 6 Lit Quiz: Celebrating young readers



together so this quiz could happen. It was fantastic.

**Winner:** Great Rollright Primary School  
**2nd Place:** Hook Norton  
**3rd Place:** Kingham

The winner and runners up all received a box of books to be used in their schools. Great Rollright will proudly display the cup in their trophy cabinet this year.

Well done and congratulations to you all.

**Mrs Hannis:**  
**Community Learning Administrator**

We were delighted that we were able to host our Lit Quiz on Thursday 3 December. We hosted a virtual quiz with nine of our primary partners taking part. The quiz was led by CNS Librarian, Ms Bovington, who set four rounds of questions based on current and popular reading books. It really tested the reading

knowledge of our primary schools but everyone proved they were incredibly knowledgeable and well read.

Before the quiz we sent out a pack to each school which included badges, stationery, bookmarks and all the necessary items to take part. It was a hard-fought battle, with a screen full of happy

smiley faces led by primary staff.

We were delighted that we were able to manage this as technology can be a bit unpredictable at times, but we did.

Thank you so much to our primary schools for getting everyone



## Extra Time Clubs at CNS: Spring 2021

Extra Time Clubs will commence from Monday 18th January 2021. Look out for our new clubs for Spring Term: Origami for Year 7, Pilates and Art

Clubs for Year 9.

Details of the club programme will be on the school website from Wednesday 6th January 2021.



## Virtual Sports Leaders Training

It was with great pleasure that some of our experienced Y12 sports leaders were able to prepare a virtual workshop video for delivery in primary schools. The workshop was focussed on building the confidence of Year 5 and 6's to plan, lead and deliver physical activity for their peers during lessons or break times.

Pupils learned about the skills and qualities that are evident in a good leader, the considerations which

should be made when planning and delivering physical activity and finally, they were encouraged to reflect on what they can do to increase levels of physical activity in their schools. Regular physical activity is so important within children and these young leaders are now equipped to promote this in their schools.

Well done all and good luck.

**Mrs Fisher: Community Learning Lead**



## PTA News

A massive 'Thank You' to everyone who bought raffle tickets in the recent PTA Christmas Raffle. We made a fantastic profit of £2358! In a year when all of our other fundraising plans have had to be cancelled, this is a significant boost to our funds which will ultimately benefit all of your children.

All of our prize winners have been notified and prizes have been delivered or are on their way, so if you haven't been contacted, unfortunately you haven't won this time, but there's always next year! A special mention to the winner of the first prize, Mrs Rita Perry, who very kindly donated some of her winnings back to the PTA - thank you Rita!

We would also like to thank the following for very generous prize donations: Aldi in Chipping Norton, M&S Food Hall in Chipping Norton, Nicola Hogan at Mr Simms Sweet Shoppe in Chipping Norton, James Collington Personal Training, Reflexology with Grace and our Committee members for sourcing donations from other businesses such as Bensons, Boots and Tropics.

We hope everyone has a very Happy Christmas and New Year!

**Chipping Norton School  
PTA**

## UK Space Design Competition



On Saturday December 11, Mr Turvey oversaw some of our Year 10s participating in the UK Space Design Competition. This is a national competition that runs in several heats for schools. Schools enter a team of up to 12 persons who can be in Years 10-13 and then the schools are joined together to make a working team of around 30-35. Our school was the only one to enter students from outside of Sixth Form and yet they have come away as winners!

It was great not only that they have won but for me to overhear some of our Year 10s explaining electrolysis (which they have not yet covered at GCSE) correctly to Sixth Formers in the team who had not understood it, was nothing short of remarkable.

As winners they now proceed to the national final which would normally take place at Imperial College in March (we shall see how they run it this year). Should they win the national final then they can go on all expenses paid trip to a space base in the United States for the international final in the summer.

Students who took part were:  
Thomas Adnams  
Finn Bradbury  
Cadence James (who asked Mr Turvey to run it)  
Benji Lawson  
Jack Loweth  
Abigail Nunneley

Charlotte Nunneley  
Joanna Pike  
Evan Wollerton  
Morgan Wollerton

Here is what Cadence felt about the experience.

**Ms Hancock:  
Deputy Head**

"The ten of us from CNS, along with many other people from schools across the UK, started the day with an introduction to the competition. We were told that the aim of the competition was to design a space settlement for a nuclear resources refinery on Mercury that could support 400 residents and 45 transient occupants.

The schools were divided into four companies, and a President and two Vice Presidents chosen for each company.

Our company was named Da Vinci Meccanica. Each person chose to go into one of four separate groups: operations, structural, automation, or human resources. Lottie and I formed the HR group.

The HR group had several targets, that we needed to hit. Lottie and I focused on one together, which covered the whole of safety, security, and job distribution.

HR had the most interaction with the other groups. We needed to know how many workers each of the other departments needed, what safety measures the structural group were putting in, the refinery system of operations, the robots of automation, etc.

To start with we were asking the other departments questions, they just didn't know the answers to. Of course, this wasn't a result of any fault of their own, rather a small lack of communication early on, and the very advanced works necessary for the settlement and refinery, but it did put Lottie and I very snugly 'between a rock and a hard place'.

We assigned workers to each department, if they had an issue they came to us, and we tried to come up with solutions to any safety issues (e.g. space suits).

At the end of the day, each company had to present their plans to the judges in a succinct, precise way. The HR group had only two slides to explain all the decisions we had made. We managed to fit all our job distributions into one slide and all our safety and security precautions on another, including things like using seismometers to track Mercury-quakes, and having space suits around the facilities.

We sat through 3 hours of presentations before waiting for the results. There had been so many bumps along the road, that we were sure we were going to lose. So sure, that when the winners were called out, and our names were called out first, we thought that that meant we had come last! But, no, after over 12 hours of hard work we had won!"



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