

CNSNewsletter



Esme Tomlinson at Beehive Home & Lifestyle in Chipping Norton.



Jack Bayliss at Wheelers Garage in Chipping Norton.



Iona Silverthorne-Wright at Lucy Jade Sylvester Jewellery.

Year 10 Work Experience 2022

Having not been able to run Year 10 Work Experience for the last two years, we were delighted to be able to go ahead with it this year. It was great to see all our Year 10s on work experience this month. We had students out at over 144 companies in Oxfordshire and also as far afield as Torquay.

Feedback from companies has been amazing; see some of the comments below: "Issabel was an absolute star. I'll always take more students like her!"

"It was a pleasure to have Chelsea with us and I have received fabulous feedback about her from each department."

"Jacob was exceptionally quick to learn and was not phased by the wide variety of work he undertook."

"Finn was a delight to teach and work with over the week. He was engaged throughout the week and showed a high level of interest, asking lots of relevant questions."

"It was a real pleasure having Alfie with us – what a confident, mature young man. He impressed everyone with his attitude!"

"Maddi was an excellent student and we hope we have helped with her decisions for her future career."

"Jia Che was a pleasure to have; by far the best work experience placement we have ever had."

"Jess was great. My colleagues were certainly impressed with her confidence to converse with adults in the workplace and her 'have a go' attitude to tasks."

This has even led to some companies offering future jobs to our students already, highlighted in the following quote;

"We were so impressed with both students that came to us - they both had an exceptional attitude. We have offered them both positions at the business."

What this week has clearly reinforced and cemented for us, is the fundamental importance of work experience for our young people. So, together with having high academic expectations, we must also have high expectations related to the world of work. This means having experiences in the work place, nurturing a strong work ethic, improving those key skills and qualities of communication, punctuality and politeness,



whilst demonstrating passion and having very clear ideas about the journey that needs to be taken to get there.

Mr Parker: Careers Lead

Jack Bennett at Chadlington Brewery.

"Girls Mean Business" Programme



Year 9 is an important year as students are thinking about careers and their aspirations. The "Girls Mean Business" programme supported a group of girls in making educated choices as well as inspiring them through meeting women from a variety of sectors and professions.

The project ran over four sessions alongside the timetabled active tutorial lessons. We looked at a variety of issues facing girls and women in education and in the workplace:

- Who are our role models?
- How are girls and women represented in the media?

• Self-care and self-image: What are our aspirations? We then ran a human library event where the girls met women from a range of careers and backgrounds. To finish off the project we went to the Oxford Playhouse to see a musical: "Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World".

This new inspirational 'high energy, feel-good pop musical' tells the story of Jade, an inquisitive heroine, as she breaks away from her class to take a peek behind the scenes at the not yet open Gallery of Greatness in the local museum. Along her journey, she is surprised to meet the original and incredible wonder women: Frida Kahlo, Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart, Marie Curie and Emmeline Pankhurst to name just a few. From explorers to artists, scientists to secret agents, the musical tells the stories of some of history's strongest mothers, sisters



and daughters; all independent icons who really did change the world.

It was an empowering stage show and we learned that history could equally be called 'herstory' and that change happens through dreams and aspirations.

> Mrs Brocklebank: Head of MFL

Oxfordshire High Sheriff Award for Engineering Excellence 2022



It was another great night for Chipping Norton School at Abingdon & Witney College where the Oxfordshire High Sheriff Award for Engineering Excellence 2022 ceremony took place.

A number of students at CNS were nominated for the prestigious award this year, competing against other schools across Oxfordshire.

I am delighted to announce that Felix Keeling and Maddie Palmer in Year 9 came 2nd and 3rd in the Year 9 competition. A fantastic achievement! Huge congratulations to both.

Felix was nominated for his design and build project; a task light using a LED / USB light unit. His design process for this project was highly imaginative, showing a wide range of ideas which were well presented in his sketchbook. This was backed up with a high quality of build and finish on his chosen design using a range of different materials, tools and equipment to make his complex design. The end product was really interesting with the light source shining through the different holes of the dice.

Maddie was also nominated for her design and build





project. Her design process for this project was truly outstanding, showing a very high level of skill in presentation and detail in the design phase. This was backed up with a very high quality of build and finish on her chosen design. What made Maddie's work stand out were the dovetail joints on her box. This was the first time she had made these joints and they were highly accurate, giving a beautiful finish to her work.

Mr Parker: Careers Co-ordinator

'Crossing Borders' Poetry Competition

We had over fifty entries to the House Poetry Competition in June and it was a thoroughly rewarding process to read through all the entries. The title given was 'Crossing Borders', and students responded in a range of interesting ways. Many were influenced by recent events in the news and wrote moving pieces about people being forced from their homes and arriving in new places. We also had several interesting metaphorical takes on the title, with poems about trying new things or stepping out of one's comfort zone.

The winning entry, by Evie Southall in Year 7, was a poignant account of the memories of a soldier from World War One crossing into No Man's Land. It was thoughtfully written with a range of poetic devices used successfully and a wide vocabulary. Well done Evie!

Our runners up were Harriet Pike (2nd), Kyle Gupta (3=) and Bella Webb (3=). We also gave out a large number of Highly Commended awards because we felt that the standard of entries was so high - and we are already looking forward to next year!

Mrs Duffy: English Department

Extract from 'Crossing Borders' by Evie Southall (7TW)

I remember vividly when I crossed the border, I was so young, So naive, It was all for King and Country, We were oblivious to the consequences, So, so oblivious.

All the commanding officers with their war tired faces, Led us there that day, They knew many would not make it over the border, Yet they had their command, And that was that.

We had already heard them, Not even a mile from the trenches, Yet there it was the foreboding crunch of boots, The fear consumed us all, It wanted us to give in, To scream and flail our arms, But we stood our ground, Ready to kill, But not ready to die.

It was time to run now though The green devil had showed his face; And all before we could gather what was going on, An innocent soul was lost, Just a pulse in the internal throbbing of the heart, He was staggering, choking, admitting defeat, The green sea consumed him, It picked us off one by one, I felt his pain, I felt his agony, I fumbled for my mask, Three words in my head, Life or death.

Science Competition



This year, the CNS science department invited all students in Years 7 and 8 to create a model of a biological cell. This could be any cell made from anything!

The entries this year were knock-out, we had a superb range of different cells, from nerve cells to red blood cells to plant cells. The entries were judged based on curiosity (how deep did the students dive into finding out about their chosen cell), creativity (in what ways did the students use different materials and methods to create their model cell), and accuracy (how close their scientific labelling of the different structures and adaptations is to the real thing).

Considering this, the CNS science department would like to say a huge congratulations to our model cell champions!

In third place, was Cameron Ramsay (Y7). Cameron made a brilliant model of a dendritic cell along with a very interesting extract about its function as an immune cell. Cameron wonderfully demonstrated curiosity by delving into finding out about a rather uncommon cell type.

In second place was Anton Halterman (Y8). Anton made an incredibly detailed and accurate model of a typical animal cell. The level of detail in which Anton described the function of each of the cell components (organelles) was outstanding. Anton's genuine curiosity and passion for science really shone through in this entry.

And in first place, was Naomi Boddy (Y7). Wow! What an excellent entry by Naomi, it ticked all the criteria perfectly. Naomi creatively crocheted not just one, but three different types of cells (a nerve cell, a red blood cell, and a covid particle ... they even had little faces). Naomi also demonstrated great curiosity and accuracy by finding out about the different cell features and how they make the cell perfectly adapted for its function.

Other students who deserve an honourable mention for their wonderful cell models include Darcey Davis-Batchelor (Y7 - red blood cell), Noah Poole (Y7 - red blood cell), Harriet Pike (Y8 - plant cell), and Kasie Arnold (Y8 animal cell).

Great effort by all involved and we can't wait to see what you can come up with next year!

Miss Smith: Science Department

Photography Competition







Photography Competition

At the end of last term the Art Department launched a photography competition across the school to promote the school values of curiousity, courage, compassion and creativity. The response was fantastic and we were very impressed with the standard of the photos submitted.

We were very lucky to have professional Photographer Andrew Ogilvy along with Georgia Mazower, Town Councillor, as well as Mr Doherty on the judging panel.

After long deliberation the winner and runners up were chosen. We would like to say a huge congratulations to Maddi Hall for first prize and runners up Layla Majid, Johnny Taylor, Lauren Sabin and Dylan Sparvell.

To celebrate the success of the competition and showcase the amazing photographs submitted they will now be displayed in a number of shop windows around Chipping Norton over the summer holidays.

We would like to say a huge thank you to those who took part in the competition, to the shops and businesses that have agreed to display the work and to the wonderful judges.

Mrs Dunn: Art Department

Photo credits:

Previous page top: Maddi Hall (10AFL) Previous page bottom left: Johnny Taylor (9CET) Previous page bottom right: Lauren Sabin (8JES) This page top right: Layla Majid (10CRK) This page bottom: Dylan Sparvell (7JXB)





Young Fashion Designer UK: Well Done Cerys and Eva!

Established in 2010, Young Fashion Designer UK is an exciting national competition which focuses on enhancing the talent of students to showcase and promote the exceptional work achieved at GCSE, A-Level and by students aged 11-14 studying textiles design, product design and fashion throughout the United Kingdom. The competition is run by centres in the South and Midlands who are each committed to providing a platform for young fashion designers.

Our Year 9 and 10 Textiles GCSE students entered this year's competition which asked our young designers to think responsibly about the impact that we all have on our environment. The students were asked to research one area of sustainability and produce four outfit designs which linked to their chosen area of sustainability and a fabric / pattern page. Every year the standard of work in the competition is exceptionally high and all the students should be very proud producing outstanding work.

Congratulations to Eva James and Cerys Moss who were finalists and awarded a highly commended certificate for their design work.

Mrs Drinkwater: Teacher of Technology







Cery's competition entry.

Eva James - Year 9 - Chipping Norton School



Eva's competition entry.

Year 8 STEM Day Challenge



On Friday the 8th of July, the whole of Year 8 participated in the Squashed Tomato Challenge, as part of the STEM Day (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). It was an educational and enjoyable event, and it encouraged every student to think strategically, collaborate as a team and solve problems in innovative ways.

The challenge assigned was to design and create a system to transport tomatoes down a "mountain" (table-top to floor) using only the resources available, without harming any tomatoes.

This involved getting into teams within your tutor group. Making up each group were five people with selected roles, who worked together to solve the issue;

- The Communications Manager, whose job was to design a system to send messages up and down the mountain (without phone signal!).
- The Finance Manager, whose job was to control which resources were bought, and to ensure that their group's design stayed within the budget of £1,500.
- The Design Manager, whose role was to design and draw up a detailed diagram of the project, and to help the team create it.
- The Project Manager, whose role was to help all members of the team and keep the group on track to meet the deadline.
- *The Company Manager, who was tasked with the designing of the logo, slogan and name of the company, as well as preparing a presentation involving all the members.

All students worked hard throughout the day, creating their designs (out of materials ranging from string, paper and tape, to electrical circuits and Knex). The communication systems varied, from lightbulbs set to flash at a certain point, to paper homing pigeons! Eventually, the finished products were tested with five real tomatoes, the communication systems were explained, and the presentations were judged by people who had worked professionally in varying fields of STEM. In each of the six tutor groups, one winning team was chosen to transport their design to the school hall and have it displayed. Once they were in place, the rest of



Year 8 came to view the winning designs and watch them in action.

Whether their team was victorious or not, the day was enjoyable and eventful for all of the students taking part!

Harriet Pike: 8MKD



CLOSING DATE 31st AUGUST 2022 FOLLOW LINK TO FIND OUT MORE & NOMINATE https://forms.gle/TTzkzCb5TY7ToaUEA

West Oxfordshire. Anyone can nominate a young people from be it a teacher, neighbour, youth worker, parent or friend.

Do you know a young artist, activist, sportsperson, hidden hero or young 'phoenix' (i.e. someone who has shown resilience in overcoming adversity)? Why not nominate them for an award?

The closing date for nominations is 31st August 2022. Follow the link to find out more and nominate.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSe8mD-0 BJyctnjzvJPox7n1L3HQGmawhPmRShsmuiep_XOJ0Q/ viewform



Family Focus Workshops



During June we held three Family Focus workshops for Years 4, 5 and 6 from our Partnership. The children attended the workshops with their parent or carer to work together on exciting challenges. This time around we held a Music workshop led by Mr Brown. Two groups of children and adults used the percussion instruments to create a musical story based on a colour and then the other group listened to the performance.

Mel Lee ran two sessions of tennis, the weather was kind and the families enjoyed hitting the ball and learning tactics for the game in time for Wimbledon.



The last of the Family Focus workshops this time was Maths, led by Miss Kearns and supported by others from the Maths department. We learnt about patterns in nature, including the Fibonacci sequence and Pascal's triangle.



U11 Cricket Festival





The last sports festival of the academic year for our Chipping Norton Partnership of Schools was the U11 Cricket. We held two competitions, one for the big schools and one for the small schools of the partnership. Congratulations to Holy Trinity and Chadlington who were the winners in their categories.

The primary schools also took part in a Virtual Athletics competition. They completed the events in their own schools and then we collated the results to find the winners across the schools. The winners this year were Charlbury and Great Tew. Well done also to Hook Norton who broke the Virtual marathon record with their 26 fastest mile times from across the school totalling a time of 3 hours 13 minutes and 48 seconds.

Creative Writing Club

Mr Long and Miss Skill held a Creative Writing Club over 3 weeks for Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils from our primary schools in the Chipping Norton Partnership. The children explored some really exciting vocabulary to use in their poetry and prose writing. They wrote a descriptive passage about a picture without being able to use the basic colour names but instead finding more elaborate vocabulary. They also wrote some poetry using just one of the five vowels - very tricky as another always wanted to get in on the action somewhere! Well done to those who have taken part, and thank you so much to our two fabulous, inspiring teachers from our English department.



Kids in the Kitchen



Mr James, assisted by some Year 7 students, enabled some Year 5 children from our primaries to come along to our Food Technology kitchen to create a delicious vegetable stir-fry. Some of these children had not had much experience in a kitchen before, but all of them managed to cut and peel vegetables, combine the ingredients, cook their meal, which they were then able to sit and enjoy together in a group. It was so rewarding watching these children accomplish something that they did not think would be possible. Thank you Mr James!



Children nominated by their schools attended and participated in activities in Maths, designed to stretch and challenge them. The children were put into groups to undertake mathematical problem-solving tasks, resulting in one team being the overall winner. All the children enjoyed taking part and putting their ideas forward to reach the answers. The whole of our Maths department staff worked to put on this workshop, led by Mr Thrower. Thank you so much for giving up your time.

The Brilliant Club



This term six of our Year 9 students have been working with Mrs Jackson and Ms Bovington as part of the Brilliant Club Scholars Programme. This is a university charity which seeks to increase the number of students who can access highly selective universities. The Scholars Programme "provides students with the opportunity to engage in university style learning, develop skills in oracy, critical thinking and written communication, as well as building self-confidence and readiness to secure places at top universities" (The Brilliant Club).

Our students have been working alongside a PhD tutor and have produced an assignment looking at how screen time can impact wellbeing. The pinnacle of the programme involved all students attending a graduation ceremony at Hertford College, Oxford University on Friday 15th July. Students attended a presentation on what it's like to go to university, asked questions to university students about their experiences and had a tour of the college. Students graduated from the programme in the College's chapel before having lunch and returning to school. Students spoke highly of the experience. Some of their responses included:

"Taking part in the Scholar's Programme was a great experience as it has furthered my interest to go to university. Today was brilliant, exploring Oxford and learning about the universities, as well as the variety of courses there are to choose from was super interesting." (Lexi Mae Squire-Jessett).

"I enjoyed the graduation. I especially enjoyed the tour of the university. I found it exciting talking to current students and learning about what it's like to study there." (Oliver Henderson).

"Today, I learned a lot about what goes on at universities and how Oxford University works and the positives and negatives of it. It was an enjoyable day out as the people were really nice and the experience was really interesting. But also, it was quite an eye-opening experience, while talking to the students already at the university was really interesting and they gave good advice about what life as a university student is like but said it was really down to how you want it to be." (Gabriel Beale).

We are very proud of the students and well done to all the students involved in the programme (TJ Heart, Oliver Henderson, Lexi Mai Squire Jessett, Benjamin Sumner, Gabriel Beale, and Jake England). You have been "brilliant". A big thank you to Mrs Jackson and Ms Bovington for their support with this initiative.

Mrs Bisssett: Community Learning Administrator

SPORTS NEWS

Rising Stars: Archie Street



Year 11 student Archie Street is one of our most dedicated and talented athletes. In September 2021 Archie came 21st at the English Schools Nationals in Bedford in the U17 Octathlon (8 events over 2 days). At this point he set himself the challenge of winning this year's event.

Over the winter he has worked hard on target events to ensure small improvements in those events coming into this season. At athletic meets earlier this year he made steady improvements and achieved a number of PBs, including jumping 1.80m in the high jump.

Archie has been hampered by a recurring back injury this year, but despite this he competed at the English Schools Midlands Regional championships, where he led the competition from start to finish, setting 4 PBs and equalling 1. His final score of over 700 points was also a personal best.

Off the back of his performance, he has been contacted by one of the National Youth High Jump coaches who has invited him to work with her over the summer. He has also been contacted by a throwing coach who will work on discus and shot put over the summer - two disciplines he hasn't had much time for.

He recently ran the London 10K for charity, setting a new PB of 38.00 minutes in 22 degrees of heat!

Over the summer Archie will be completing rehab on his back, mountain biking in the alps and working on further improvements to the 8 disciplines ahead of the English Schools Nationals in Bedford in September - he doesn't like to take it easy!

Mrs Fisher: PE Department

Girls Compete!



On Monday 4th of July a couple of Year 9 girls ran a sport leader "CNS Girls Compete" event where we were encouraging a big group of Year 7s to play sports. Our aim was to motivate them to go to After School clubs and do further sports. We were helping younger students be comfortable doing sports and sports activities.

During the afternoon we umpired 4 sports; hockey, netball, rounders and football. We helped the younger girls by telling them things they could do to be a better player. All in all it was a great experience and at the end we gave out certificates and medals to all of the Year 7s, as they all deserved it. Well done to the Year 7s and the Year 9 umpires for doing a great job.

Oishin Islam: 9HLR

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity I was given to take part in the "CNS Girls Compete" event. It was very well organised, and we were split into four teams, to compete against each other in all the events. These were hockey, netball, football and rounders. I enjoyed football the most, not only because the team I was in won, but also because it was a sport that, although we had done in lessons many times before, I had no previous interest in. I got to learn from the girls in my group who were more experienced, and it was nice to have like-minded people in my team.

At the end, we all sat down in our teams and were presented not only with prizes for the winners but also prizes for most improved, most encouraging and the best at a specific sport.

I would definitely take part in an event like this again if another one was held in the future, as it has encouraged me to try harder at sport as you never know what you might end up achieving. Thank you to Mrs Fisher and the Year 9s for arranging this fun event for us!

SPORTS NEWS

Cricket

We have had plenty of games at Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9/10 combined this year! Year 7 have had their first taste of paired cricket with a win and a loss in the County League. The team made it through to the finals on July 14th where they finished runners up, after a loss against a very strong Burford side. Congratulations to George, Matthew, Issac, Dylan, Daniel, Ollie, Kieran, Lewis, Archie and Joe for a great game and a brilliant season.

Year 8, having won 2 and lost a good game against Burford School, played Lord Williams School away in the league semi final on Wednesday 13th July. They won this match, with Matthew Sykes scoring 42, and now face Faringdon Community College in the final next term.

Year 9/10 team had an excellent win against Bartholomew School recently with Jacob Kedward making 54 not out and Elliott Wiseman taking 5 wickets for 3 runs!

Rounders

Our students have really enjoyed it this summer and as a school we have tried to play as many rounders matches as possible.

We entered all of our teams into the West Oxfordshire School Sports Partnership (WOSSP) rounders tournaments and we were very proud that our Year 8 and Year 9 team made it through to the County School Games finals as a result of finishing runners up.

The finals took place at Radley College on July 5th. Both teams played brilliantly with both teams winning the Bronze medal in their competitions. Well Done to all the players!

WOSSP Athletics

67 students represented CNS in the annual West Oxon Championships at Horspath on Thursday 23rd June and we were the only school across the partnership with full representation.

There were plenty of brilliant performances and some of the records (which have been running for 16 years) were broken!

Overall the students were a credit to the school and did themselves proud. Amazingly (and unfortunately) CNS finished runners up overall, narrowly missing out on winning by only 7 points!

The new records from CNS included: Dylan Sparvell Year 7 High Jump 1.55m Alex Gill Year 8 High Jump 1.50m Eliska Kralova 300m 49.61secs Ellie Knobel 200m 26.26secs Ellie Knobel Long Jump 4.89m









Mr Thomas: Head of PE

Alumni News: Alice Nottingham



My name is Alice Nottingham; I am a former student of Chipping Norton School and will be graduating this month with an MSci (Hons) Degree in Biochemistry and Biological Chemistry from the University of Nottingham. I studied Chemistry, Biology and Physics at A Level and also took AS Maths.

I started at Chipping Norton School in 2011 and stayed right the way through from Years 7-13, doing my GCSES, AS Levels and A Levels. I enjoyed my time at secondary school and have many fond memories of my 7 years at Chipping Norton.

I had participated in summer schools and sports tournaments at Chipping Norton School before I joined, so was already familiar with the teachers and was excited to move from my village primary school and start learning.

I always had a love for science from an early age and was lucky that the teachers at Chipping Norton picked up on this. This was especially the case during Sixth Form, where my teachers were exceptionally supportive and really pushed me to work hard and achieve the grades I needed for a career in Biochemistry. I was fortunate enough to be nominated by my Science teachers for Oxfordshire's Young Chemist of the Year during Year 13, which motivated me to continue working hard and emphasised how much it felt like my teachers believed in me. In addition, I spent many hours after school working with Dr Hagan and Mrs Eakins going through exam questions ahead of my A Levels and still am so appreciative for their support when it all paid off and I was accepted into my first choice university!

I started studying at the University of Nottingham in 2018. During the last 4 years, I have had many opportunities to carry out research projects and learn more about biological systems. I recently completed my Masters project studying a lesser-known coronavirus endemic to parts of the Middle East. My curiosity and interest in Biochemistry, specifically in cancer and viral research, were established at Chipping Norton School and nurtured by my teachers. I was also taught the importance of commitment as well as resilience, two soft skills which have been vital to my learning and research at University.

I completed a summer studentship in summer 2021 in one of the labs at the university working on human DNA repair, which was funded by a grant from Cancer Research UK. This project resulted in authorship on a research paper, currently under peer-review, and I have been invited back to the same lab following my graduation to work as a Human DNA Repair Researcher. Despite my Masters project being in an unrelated field, I plan on doing a PhD in the future in cancer research and DNA repair.

I was actively involved with the Music department from Years 7-11, being part of the choir and the concert band (formerly the jazz band!). I really enjoyed the opportunities that this brought, as I performed with the school at Cornbury Music Festival on more than one occasion. It inspired me to join the University of Nottingham Concert Band, which has led me to play in many concerts at both the university and abroad, most recently on our music tour to Belgium.

I enjoyed my time at Chipping Norton School and believe it helped shape both me as a person and the direction my life has taken since leaving in 2018. I am thankful to my teachers who helped me get into the university, and thus career, I wanted. I always wanted to go to university and Chipping Norton provided the support and learning that I needed to achieve that.

Alice Nottingham

Important dates

Term 1: 2 September-21 October 2022	
Inset day	
Inset day	
Year 7 students only	
School open to all students	
Inset day	
Inset day	
Inset day	
ctober October half term brea	



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