Autumn Term 2

News Magazine

December 2024





Principal's Message

Dear all,

What another busy half term here at CFS – there is so much to share with you on the following pages, and I do hope you enjoy having a read over a cup of tea (or maybe a mulled wine and mince pie!)

Amongst all the festivities in school over the last couple of weeks, our Year 11s have also been working exceptionally hard on their main GCSE mock examinations. I have been so impressed by their resolve and determination, and we look forward to sharing their results with them in the new year.

It has been another record year for CFS admissions – with our highest ever number of applications for next year's Year 7, despite numbers falling in the area as a whole. CFS is now the most oversubscribed Secondary in the Western area of West Sussex.

We say farewell today to Mr Joel Lodge, Secondary Science teacher. Joel is moving onto a new school in the local area, and we wish him every happiness in his new role. Joel has been such a strong contributor to the Science department over the last couple of years, and will be missed. However, I am pleased to announce that Mr Steve Baumann, an advanced skills teacher of Science, is returning to CFS in January, after a period of time away to help support his growing family. Welcome back, Mr Baumann!

Earlier this half term we said a temporary farewell to Mrs Hayes, Assistant Head in Primary, who has started her maternity leave. We are all eagerly waiting the exciting news that baby has arrived! And Mrs Potts (Secondary PE teacher) starts her maternity leave at the start of January too. Sending you both every happiness and contentment in the coming months.

In January we welcome Ella Willmoth, an experienced teacher, who will be covering for Mrs Potts' maternity leave in PE as well as taking over as Pegasus Tutor alongside Mrs Bodington-Howard. Over the last few weeks Robyn Macson, on a full-time basis, and Poppy Harper have joined the CFS team —as Learning Support Assistants in Primary. Poppy is the first former CFS pupil to now be employed by the school! Jane Cooper will also be joining the Primary LSA team in January, we look forward to welcoming her in the new year.

And, of course, Christmas has really taken hold here at CFS during December. We have had: our all through Christmas concert; Primary, Secondary and all through productions; our reverse advent calendar; Christmas dinner day; Christmas jumper day; festive conduct league celebrations in Secondary; festive assemblies and of course the Christmas Fair. I wanted to take this opportunity to personally thank the Parent Ambassadors who have been working tirelessly to drum up support for our newly launched fundraising team - the 'Friends of CFS.' And, of course, to all of you who have been supporting in our fundraising efforts in school. With a specific focus on Forest school and outdoor space, as well as supporting other projects such as improved ICT equipment for our music pupils, we have already made a great start to fundraising this year – thank you! I will keep you updated as the year progresses, both with the amount raised and the projects that are benefitting in school.



Principal's Message

I have a little desk calendar here at school, and I have particularly loved December's. It says:

'Little Christmas things that are NOT so little: The smell of mulled wine; Twinkly lights; Opening that tin of Quality Street; Kissing under the mistletoe; Building a snowman; Down time.' I really hope that at least one of those applies to you over the next couple of weeks.

To you all - the festive season is a time for recuperation, family and friends. I also know it can be a very reflective time of year, and Christmas itself can bring many challenges. But whatever you are doing, however you are feeling about the year that has been and is to come - I wish you the utmost happiness, health and contentment.

Wishing everyone at CFS the merriest of Christmases and a very happy new year! See you all in 2025!

Mrs Louise New
Executive Principal

EYFS

As another year draws to a close, Christmas is upon us and the end of another busy half term which has been jam packed full of amazing learning experiences for Apple and Cherry Class.

We have enjoyed learning about different celebrations this half term. We have made diva lamps as part of our learning about Diwali, the Festival of Light. We enjoyed our focus text 'Binni's Diwali' which enabled us to learn about rituals that are common within lots of cultures and festivities, such as fireworks. After learning about the origins of 5th November and Bonfire Night, we created some beautiful firework art and compared local firework events to those in Asia. We watched some amazing displays!

We then taught the children about the importance of Remembrance and Armistice Day. It was lovely to be involved with the whole school virtual remembrance service that was streamed to our classrooms, and take part in the two minute silence. The children enjoyed showing their support to the charity by purchasing poppies and wearing them with pride. They also created poppy collage artwork with red tissue paper.

We have worked so hard on our Christmas production and we hope you enjoyed it. The children were amazing and loved their first experience of being on stage and singing to an audience. Thank you for all the support with this - they have made us so proud! We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you back in the New Year.

Happy Christmas and here's to making more memories in 2025 at CFS!

Miss Emmett, Miss Smith, Mrs Golby, Mrs DeWitt and Mrs Stanbridge









Key Stage 1

Year 1
Year 1 have had a magical and action-packed term, filled with exciting activities and new learning experiences!

The arrival of *Beegu*, the lost little alien, sparked wonder and curiosity in the children, inspiring them to explore themes of kindness and friendship through storytelling and creative play. A highlight of the term was the Circus Skills Workshop, where the children tried their hand at juggling, plate-spinning and balancing, showcasing their determination and coordination.

In DT, the children channeled their creativity and teamwork into making toys to help Santa's elves in the Secondary DT workshops. This festive project combined hands-on crafting with problem-solving, as they worked hard to design and build toys worthy of the North Pole! Another exciting first for Year 1 was using Google Meet to connect with the other Year 1 class. The children loved sharing their learning and seeing their peers "on screen," developing their communication and digital skills in a fun and collaborative way.

It's been a term filled with joy, imagination, and discovery. We are so proud of all that Year 1 have achieved and can't wait to see their enthusiasm carry into the new year! **Mr Cook and Miss Lewis**







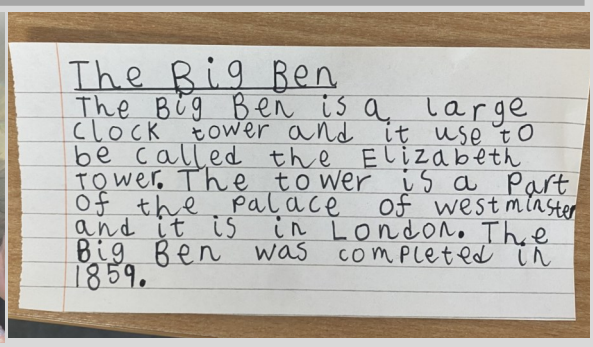
Year 2
This half term, Year 2 at CFS have been wonderfully busy with a mix of exciting learning and festive fun! They've braved the cold and wet weather during Forest School sessions, even burning their own model houses to bring their History learning to life. Their exploration of how London has changed over time, from the Great Fire of London to Bonfire Night, has sparked plenty of curiosity. The children have also dived into their first experience of column addition and subtraction, building confidence in their Maths skills. Meanwhile, they've embraced their creative side by designing vibrant cityscapes and retaining fantastic scientific knowledge about living things and their habitats. The festive season has truly taken over as they've practiced hard for the Nativity, filling the school with lots of singing and Christmas cheer!

Mrs Bhutta and Mrs Grace







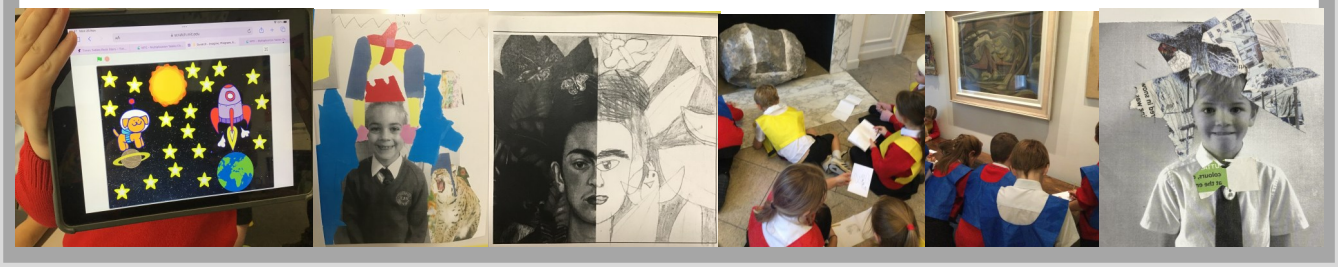


Key Stage 2

Year 3

Year 3 have had an action-packed and inspiring half term, filled with creativity, discovery, and success! A highlight was their visit to Pallant House Gallery, where they explored incredible artwork and found inspiration for their own projects. In English, they've worked hard to write engaging biographies of Frida Kahlo, delving into the life of this remarkable artist. Computing lessons have been all about learning Scratch coding, where the children have honed their programming skills and created impressive projects. They've also celebrated success in TTRS and Rollama, showing their dedication and progress in times tables mastery. In Art, the children have experimented with mixed media, combining photos, collage and still-life drawing to produce stunning pieces. Their imaginations have shone through in vivid dragon character descriptions and Science lessons have been full of wonder as they conducted experiments to explore light. It's been an amazing half term of learning and creativity for Year 3!

Miss Beadle and Miss Rowlands



Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic half term, full of creativity, discovery and exciting learning! They've been inspired by the work of P. Prarthana to create stunning Mandala art, showcasing their artistic flair and attention to detail. In Forest School, they embraced the outdoors by preparing and enjoying hearty stews, adding a hands-on, culinary twist to their learning. Their Science lessons have been all about sound—exploring how it travels, how we hear, and the fascinating ways it shapes our world. In English, they've channeled their imagination into writing thrilling action scenes based on the story of Diwali, bringing the epic tale to life. Meanwhile, in Maths, they've been mastering multiplication and division, strengthening their problem-solving skills and building confidence with numbers. What an amazing half term of growth and achievement!

Miss Priestley and Mr White



Key Stage 2

Year 5

Year 5 have had an exciting and adventurous half term! They've been inspired by the incredible story of Ernest Shackleton and his crew, exploring their daring Antarctic expedition and learning about resilience and teamwork in the face of challenges. Channeling their creativity, they have designed and baked festive biscuits for a Bake-Off challenge, showing off their artistic flair. In Science, our budding researchers have been investigating biomes. From tropical rainforests to icy tundra's, they've presented fascinating findings about the planet's ecosystems, helping them to understand the wonders of our world. In the pool, Year 5 have shown dedication and determination during their final series of swimming lessons, with great progress being made by all.

Miss Bigg and Mr Wilson



Year 6

It has been an enriching term for Year 6 as part of our *World at War* topic, filled with creativity, hands-on learning, and reflection.

The term began with a memorable trip to Fort Nelson, where the children explored life in World War II, stepping into roles such as ARP officers, Home Guard members and women in the ATS. This immersive experience brought history to life and deepened their understanding of wartime communities.

In their *Make Do and Mend* project, the children honed sewing skills, creating beautiful Christmas stockings using repurposed materials. These stockings, available for £2 each, support future school projects—thank you to the parents who helped!

Inspired by Michael Morpurgo's *War Horse*, the pupils crafted emotive narratives set in WWI, blending creativity with historical understanding. Meanwhile, Science lessons focused on light and refraction, with experiments and periscope-making connecting learning to wartime innovation.

In RE, the children compared the Christmas birth narratives from Matthew and Luke, culminating in vibrant stained-glass window designs celebrating the season.

Miss Stapleton and Mrs Wilson







Key Stage 3

Years 7 and 8

It has been a very busy half term for Year 7 and 8; Fixture opportunities, Year 7 Shakespeare workshops, Anti-bullying week, Year 8 Emergency First aid workshops and many more activities. Here are some quotes from the pupils:

- 'My favourite parts of this half term have been receiving an R5 from Mrs New and enjoying the recognition from that, and being in the football Inter-house finals'

- 'My favourite parts of this half term have been representing CFS in the Cross Country race at Bishop Luffa and all the practical lessons in Food Technology'

- 'I have enjoyed all the Netball fixtures against other schools'

- 'I have enjoyed doing PE outside'

- 'I am enjoying being part of the Christmas Carol Production'

Be kind to yourself. If you can be anything in the world be KIND. Have a wonderful Christmas break.

Miss Oxley & Miss Ireland



Year 9

Another excellent half term for Year 9 and one filled with opportunities. Congratulations to all those who have put themselves forward for music and drama events, sports competitions and who have shown their best in their learning. All of this and more is celebrated in assemblies and tutor time. A massive thanks to both our regular tutor team and to our visiting PGCE trainee teachers, of whom we have had three in the year group. A very welcome addition and good luck to them for their next placement.

One assembly in particular focused on 'Kindness at Christmas' including volunteering, celebrating and sharing. We also looked at being kind to yourself in the break by getting a balance between a lovely break from the rigours of school life whilst still maintaining some routines.

Enjoy the holidays everyone.

Miss Crebbin and Mrs Ashcroft

Key Stage 4

Year 10

The pupils started their GCSEs with real drive and determination. As the new year approaches pupils now understand what is expected and push on to further develop their understanding of how to answer GCSE questions.

The year group has welcomed Mrs Stanley as the new Assistant Head of Year who joins with a real wealth of pastoral knowledge and is always on hand to help any of the year group should they need it.

This term has seen a few exciting things happen on the sporting field:

The Year 10 rugby team competed in several matches this season. They are the first team in the school's history to fulfil fixtures from Year 7 to Year 10. It has been an extremely exciting journey for the team as other bigger schools cannot even field a team but at CFS we have 15 players every game. Biggest shout out goes to Joe C (Captain) for always getting a team together and always leading from the front.

The Year 10 football team were competing again in the Sussex Schools County Cup for football and making history again in the 10 years of school by playing and winning in the first round. The second round was a huge match against a football college based in Eastbourne who have 7seven academy players on their books. Playing against a team with vast resources, an ex-championship player as their coach, CFS were up against it. However, for 60 minutes they stood firm but went down to a 3-0 defeat, the team stood up and played some good football.

The same plea goes out again. The one thing as a year group we are missing is representation in sport from the Year 10 girls. So, this is the same plea for any girls to reach out to me, Mr Dean or Miss Oxley so we can represent the school in rugby, football, netball, stall ball, cricket, badminton, table tennis, basketball or any other sport you can think of and take on other local schools.

This term has been amazing and we look forward to giving the pupils more exciting opportunities to help develop them further in January. I am sure that they will all embrace every opportunity with the enthusiasm that they have already shown this term.

Mr Tilling and Mrs Stanley

Year 11

As I write this entry, Year 11 pupils are about to start their first written mock exams. They have been revising hard and attending after school revision sessions and we have discussed exam protocol in many assemblies. These first set of mocks are a chance for the pupils to show their teachers what they have learnt and are therefore just a practice for the real thing in May. There's another "practice" set of mocks next term, so safe to say the pupils should be well and truly prepared when the GCSE's start!

I'd just like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful holiday and Merry Christmas. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Turnbull

Maths

Primary

It's beginning to look a lot like... *Maths-mas*! This term, our classrooms have been buzzing with our mathematicians tackling their lessons with *tree-mendous* enthusiasm. Here's a *fraction* of what's been happening in the Primary phase.

In Reception, children have been working hard on their number formation and exploring shapes. In Key Stage 1, children have been *sleigh-ing* their learning by using column method to add and subtract – this has proven to be quite tricky, but the children have persevered with a great *elf-ittude*!

In Lower Key Stage 2, children have been *wrapping* their heads around securing their times tables knowledge and applying this to solve multiplication and division facts.

In Upper Key Stage 2, children have been racing ahead with their fraction work faster than *Rudolph* on Christmas Eve! Year 6 are making excellent progress with their arithmetic – *yule* be amazed at their progress.

Have your-*elf* a merry little Christmas!

Christmas Maths Jokes

How do you know Santa's good at Maths?
Because he can *sleigh* every problem!

What's a Maths teacher's favourite thing about Christmas?
The *add-vent* calendar!

How did the Christmas tree solve the equation?
It found the *root*!

What's a Maths teacher's favourite Christmas decoration?
A *tree-angle*

Mrs Wilson

Maths

Secondary

Christmas has come round far too quickly, clearly a sign that as we get old things move faster.

Year 7 have come in and are up and running on their Maths expedition. It has been a real pleasure to witness them learning new topics with their new teachers this year including linear equations. The level of focus is high and the pupils are working really hard to make the transition from Primary to Secondary.

Year 8 have been doing some solid work looking at linear sequences the Nth term proving a particular favourite and as a result they have produced some excellent pieces of work. Next up is Fibonacci.

Year 9 are getting ready to undertake the intermediate maths challenge which Mr Green has registered them for. Given Professor Green's in depth understanding of this challenge CFS should do well!

Year 10 are starting to settle into the GCSE way of life realising how important Maths is in future career/college opportunities and are developing the necessary problem-solving skills to help them succeed and achieve their target grades.

The Year 11's have just taken their mock exams well and when they get back after Christmas will be specifically focussing on smaller skills that will help them reach their targets to enable them to take their next steps into further education/work. The Maths team have given each pupil specific areas of subject knowledge to ensure every pupil goes into the exams prepared to succeed.

Christmas Maths problems

1. **Santa, Rudolph and the Snowman share 42 sweets in the ratio 3 : 2 : 1 Work out the number of sweets that each of them receives.**
2. **Santa's Elves are making Christmas cookies. They mix flour, butter and sugar in the ratio 6 : 4 : 1. The Elves use 160 grams of butter. Work out how much flour and sugar the Elves use.**
3. **Santa's toy machine fills 1000 sacks with toys in 5 hours. Work out how many hours it would take to fill 1200 sacks.**



Mr Tilling, 2ic Maths

English

Primary

The classrooms have been buzzing with creativity as the children explore inspiring books and projects across the school. Year 1 has been captivated by *The Jolly Christmas Postman*, which has encouraged them to use adjectives to make their sentences sparkle. They've channelled this inspiration into writing delightful Christmas lists for Santa Claus, filled with festive cheer and descriptive detail.

In Year 2, the children have been reading *The Hackney Martian*, a story that has launched them into space-themed creativity. They've been learning to use conjunctions to link ideas and have produced fascinating non-chronological reports about extra-terrestrial life, showcasing their growing writing skills.

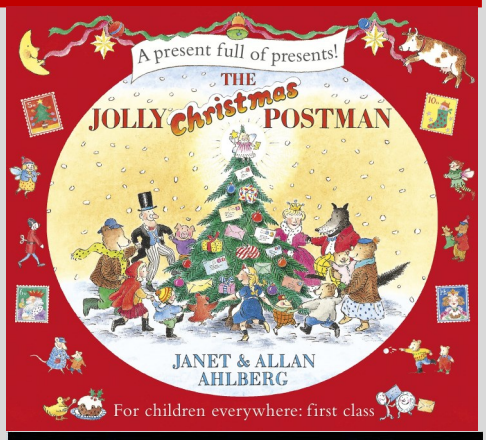
Year 3 has been inspired by two very interesting books. Reading a biography about Frida Kahlo has motivated them to write their own biography pages, celebrating the unique achievements of this remarkable artist. At the same time, *Henry the Chalk Dragon* has fired up their imaginations, leading to beautifully crafted figurative descriptions of their own dragons, with metaphors and similes bringing these mythical creatures to life.

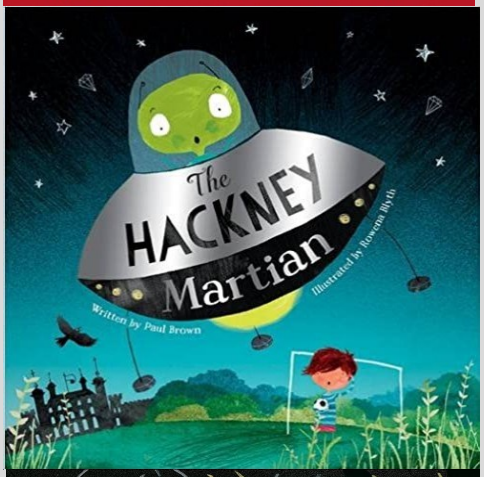
Year 4 has been delving into the festival of Diwali and reading *Prince of Fire*. This action-packed tale has inspired the children to write intense battle scenes, filled with vivid descriptions and thrilling moments that capture the drama of the story.

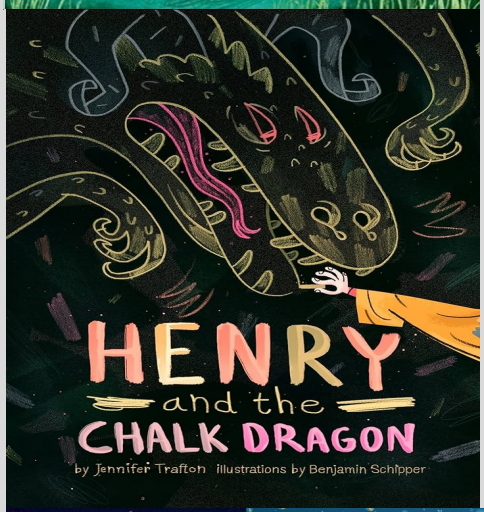
In Year 5, the icy adventures of Ernest Shackleton have taken centre stage. The children have written detailed job descriptions for crew members, imagining the qualities needed for such a daring expedition, and stepped into the shoes of Shackleton's team with emotional diary entries that reflect the challenges and triumphs of life on the Endurance.

Finally, Year 6 has been engrossed in Michael Morpurgo's *War Horse*. This moving story has inspired them to create compelling wartime recruitment posters and poignant wartime stories, written from diverse perspectives, demonstrating their empathy and historical understanding.

Mr Wilson
Primary English Lead



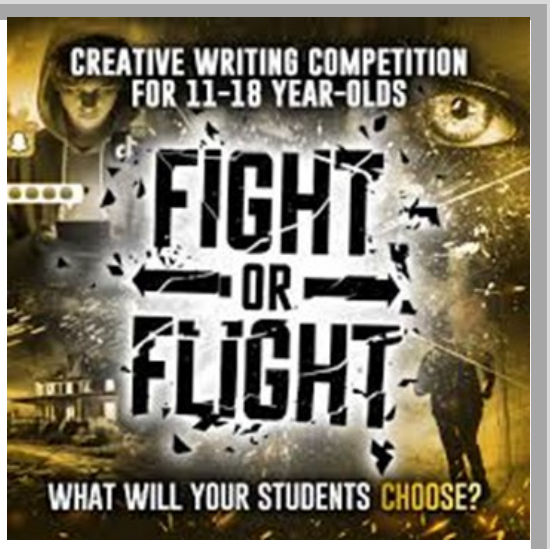






English

SecondaryThis half term has been a very creative one in the English department. Many of our pupils across Years 7, 8 and 9 have been writing stories for a nationwide competition organised by Young Writers. Their narratives can only be up to 100 words long, but they have risen to the challenge and produced some excellent mini sagas!



The stories are all linked to the idea of 'fight or flight', exploring key decisions and the consequences of choice. Will their characters flee and live to see another day, or face the situation head-on? Some pupils have written about life-or-death scenarios, everyday decisions, or imaginary worlds - it was completely up to them how they interpreted the theme. Here are some fantastic examples below. We wish them luck in the competition! **Mrs Hill**

Hit or Stick?

The cards were being dealt. This was it - do or die time. Could I do this? Would I do this? No one knows. Only the cards can tell. Nervously, I took my cards, turned them over and… seventeen. A king and a seven of spades. I was second. My first opponent revealed his hand; he had nine altogether. "Hit," he announced proudly, very happy with himself when, in reality, he had no choice. He had to hit. Amateur. After what seemed like eternity, he busted. Me. What a decision! Hit or stick? This was a high stakes game. It was risky…

By Jasmine D, Year 8

Fire

Fire. Lots of it. A monumental column of inferno sprung up from the carpet of embers that I was standing on. I tried to flee, but a ring of heat flared around me. Flames licked at my heels. Sulphurous puffs of smoke slithered from the fissures in the rocky ground like fiery snakes. All signs of life went up in flames. I stumbled and fell, my cry for help replaced by a cough. I spluttered, desperately trying to regain my footing on the sharp basalt. The fire closed on me as I tried to emit my final scream…

By Solly I, Year 7

The Alleyway

I had just finished work and now it was dark and cold. I wanted to get home as soon as possible. Then I heard footsteps behind me, but I didn't know whether I should stay here, run or even just look behind me. So I decided to look forward and pretend I didn't hear a single thing. But then I wished I did run, because then they started to run, getting closer to me every second. But I still didn't look behind me, and then I got a shooting pain in my stomach. I fell to the ground, wounded…

By Natalie F, Year 7

Fight or Flight?

They were all pushing me to do it, but I knew it wasn't time. I felt weird inside, like butterflies but worse. I felt sick. I ran into the cubicle and sat on the closed toilet lid. My stomach settled and I felt normal. People came in looking for me, but I stayed quiet. I came out after a while, and stood by the sink. I muttered motivational words and ran out to the playing field. People had their swords at the ready and so did I. The whistle blew and we ran at each other, screaming, and it began.

By Nina A, Year 7

Science

Science in Action: A Term of Discovery!

Science at CFS has been full of exciting activities this term, with pupils exploring, experimenting, and engaging with the subject in creative ways. Here's a quick round-up of the highlights:

- **Year 7:** Pupils had an unforgettable trip to the *Wonder Lab* at the Science Museum in London. With hands-on experiments and interactive exhibits, they discovered Science in action, from forces to electricity and light.

- **Year 9:** A STEM careers workshop introduced pupils to exciting career paths and real-world problem-solving, inspiring them to think big about their futures.

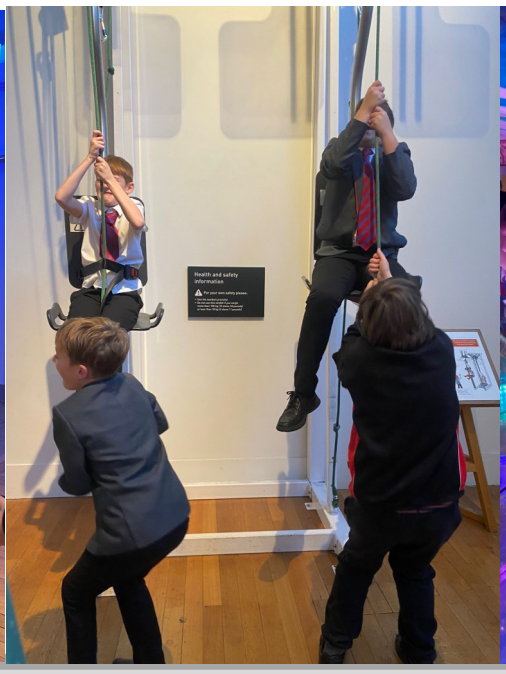
- **Year 10:** Renewable energy took centre stage as pupils dismantled solar-powered toys to explore how they work. This hands-on approach to sustainability helped them connect classroom learning to real-world applications.

STEM Club: Club members delved into the fascinating science of crystal formation, creating stunning results using supersaturated solutions. They also engineered balloon-powered racers for a *Cardboard Tube Race*, where creativity and friendly competition were on full display.

From hands-on workshops to inspiring trips, it's been a term full of curiosity, creativity, and discovery. Well done to all our budding scientists!

The Science Team







MFL

Spanish residential trip

On the week of the 4th November 26 pupils and three teachers embarked on a week of activities in Spain. We arrived in Malaga where we were given a guided tour of the city, we were extremely lucky with the weather as we had pure sunshine and a very pleasant temperature.

After Malaga we travelled to our base in Jaen, all pupils were very tired from the early morning, the walks and travel so went to bed to have a good rest.

Tuesday we were welcomed at our hosting high school, where pupils got to meet their pen-pals and took part in a number of activities. In the afternoon all pupils and pen-pals did a scavenger hunt throughout town.

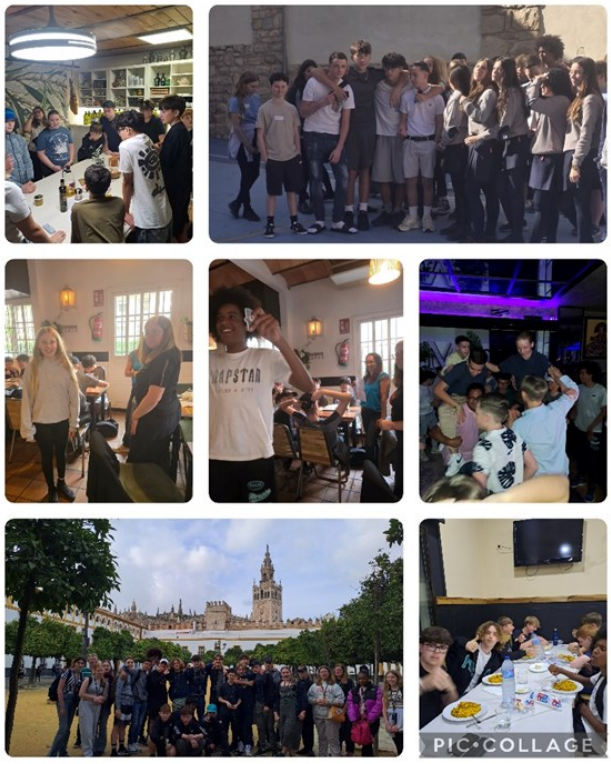
Wednesday was a day of staying in Jaen, shopping at the local market to buy ingredients for their MasterChef task, visiting the local castle with amazing views and in the evening, pupils hit the bowling alley, again with their pen-pals.

Thursday took us to Granada and the lovely Alhambra, we had a guided visit and some free time to explore and buy souvenirs. Back in Jaen pupils had their farewell party which I can only say was a massive hit, pupils had the time of their lives, dancing, laughing, enjoying the last time they were going to see their pen-pals.

Friday, last day in Spain, we left our hotel early to travel to Seville, where we had a lovely lunch and guided tour of the city and free time to do some last minute shopping. I can honestly say that by this stage pupils were very tired but in great spirits looking forward to go back home and sleep.

¡Gracias y hasta pronto!





Creative Arts

The Art Department were thrilled with the submissions for the Year 7 Artist in the Box homework project. We had so many arriving in school - our best year yet! The quality of the boxes was exceptional and demonstrated a lot of talent! Thank you and well done to all those who spent time creating their boxes.

Miss Hicks



Creative Arts

The Young Chefs Competition 2024: A Celebration of Culinary Excellence

The Young Chefs Competition for 2024 took place on 21 November, sponsored by the Chichester Priory Rotary Club.

This year's event maintained its usual exceptional standard, making the judges' task of selecting the winners as challenging as ever. We were fortunate to have three dedicated judges who generously gave their time: Mrs Lucy Hopkins, Mr Charles Smyth (chef at the Pallant Centre), and Ms Tanya Pye. Adding to the panel was last year's school winner, James, who reached the top three in the 2023 National Finals. Reflecting on his new role, James remarked on how much he enjoyed the experience of judging and seeing the competition from a different perspective.

The prizes were presented by the judges, with each participant receiving a culinary-themed book, kindly donated by Wileys, a loyal supporter of the competition over the years. The winner of this year's competition will advance to the district round, with the opportunity to progress to the national event. Last year, over 6000 young chefs entered the competition nationwide, making it a tremendous achievement when James reached the final three at national level—a proud moment for the school.

Mr John Bumfrey, Chichester Rotary Club, who has overseen the competition for many years, expressed his delight at this year's success, particularly as it marked his final time organising the event. *"It's been a privilege to run this competition and witness the incredible talent and enthusiasm of our pupils year after year,"* he said.

The Young Chefs Competition continues to be a source of inspiration and pride, celebrating the creativity and hard work of young aspiring chefs while paving the way for their future success.

Congratulations to this year's winners, who will go on to compete again on the 23rd January to gain a place in the regional finals.

by Mrs Russell

<u>Senior winners</u>
1. Ava Miller
2. Blake Gowin-Haines
3. Ferguson Miller

<u>Junior winners</u>
1. Lucas Bulger
2. Jake Radford
3. Elspeth Pascall-Wills



Music & Drama

What a wonderful end to the term we have had with our Recorders, Choir and Ukulele band Christmas Concert last week and then our Production, A Christmas Carol, this week.

The cast and crew of both events worked so hard and gave fantastic performances all round. Well done to all involved!







Sport

What a whirlwind of a half term it's been in PE! From exciting competitions to leadership triumphs, our pupils have truly embraced every opportunity to shine. Here are the highlights:

Learning Through Sport Education
This term, Key Stage 3 pupils tackled a brand-new approach in PE with **Sport Education**. This innovative teaching method not only helped develop their skills on the pitch but also built leadership, teamwork and social confidence.
Pupils took on roles within their teams, from captains to statisticians and worked together to earn points across a competitive season. It was incredible to see everyone rise to the challenge, with many showing maturity, responsibility, and a real team spirit.
The term ended with an **awards ceremony** to celebrate all the hard work. Special recognition goes to **Teddy in Year 9**, who won the Key Stage 3 Leadership Award. Teddy's ability to inspire and organise his team made a huge impact, leading them to victory—brilliant work, Teddy!

Fixture Frenzy
Our CFS athletes have made us incredibly proud this half term, putting in stellar performances across various fixtures and competitions.
- Running Club – Mr Green's CFS Machines
The West Sussex Championships saw some amazing results:
Intermediate Boys: Harry C (4th), Cooper B (6th), and Thomas K (9th), all Year 10 pupils competing in the Year 10/11 race—impressive!
Junior Races: Lucas B (10th) and Hugo J (18th) stood out in their Year 8/9 category.
Year 7 Superstars: Maxi M (47th) and Abby C (20th) held their own in a tough Year 8/9 field, with Evie D and Arthur I also putting in solid performances.

A huge thank you to parents who came out to cheer on the day!

Basketball Brilliance
The U16 basketball team kicked off their season with style under the leadership of Mr Fowler. Competing in a new age category, mostly as Year 10s, the team showcased resilience and skill, winning against Bishop Luffa and Bourne. Well done to our captain Adrian, who led the team with flair and helped them set the tone for an exciting season ahead.

Netball Stars
Our Year 7 netball team started their season in spectacular fashion, storming through their fixtures with three wins out of three! Meanwhile, our Year 8 team continue to dominate. Captains Leiala (Year 7) and Lily (Year 8) have been phenomenal leaders, driving their teams to success. Congratulations to both teams on these stellar achievements!

Year 10 Residential
The Year 10s are currently embarking on a week of adventurous activities in North Wales. The pupils, Mr Dean, Mr Angell and Mrs Hermans were raring to go at 4.50am on Monday for an action-packed trip that promised plenty of challenges and memories. Full details will be in the next issue!

Sport

Celebrating Our New Sports Leaders
We're thrilled to announce this year's **Sports Leaders**, with **49 pupils** stepping up to take on this prestigious role. After a rigorous selection process, these leaders are ready to begin their training in January. From House competitions to Sports Day, they'll play a vital role in making our PE events even more spectacular. Congratulations to everyone selected—we can't wait to see what you achieve!

It's been a fantastic half term packed with energy, effort, and achievements. Thank you to all pupils, parents and staff for your dedication and enthusiasm. Here's to even more success in the next half term!

Mr Dean, Head of PE

CFS has had an action-packed term, taking part in a variety of sporting events that showcased the pupils' enthusiasm and talent across a range of disciplines. Highlights this term included participation in cricket, dodgeball, sports hall athletics, climbing and hockey, with pupils demonstrating great teamwork and determination.

In a particularly exciting development for the school's hockey program, the Sports Premium funding has enabled a new partnership with Chichester Hockey Club. Professional coaches from the club have been delivering structured training sessions every Thursday, providing pupils with top-tier coaching and helping to forge strong links between the school and the wider hockey community.

This collaboration reached a milestone recently when CFS hosted its very first home hockey fixture, welcoming Fishbourne Primary for an engaging and competitive match. The event marked a proud moment for the school as we continue to grow our hockey program.

Looking ahead, next term promises even more opportunities for pupils to get involved in sports. Cross-country trials will be held on school grounds, offering pupils a chance to qualify for upcoming competitions.

For those interested in joining the thriving hockey program, spaces are still available. Mr Angell, who coordinates the team, is keen to expand and welcome new players. Whether your child is a beginner or has prior experience, this is an excellent opportunity to get involved in a sport that is rapidly growing in popularity at the school.



CFS's commitment to providing diverse and high-quality sporting opportunities ensures every pupil has the chance to develop their skills and enjoy the benefits of physical activity.

Stay tuned for updates as CFS continues to build on this term's successes!

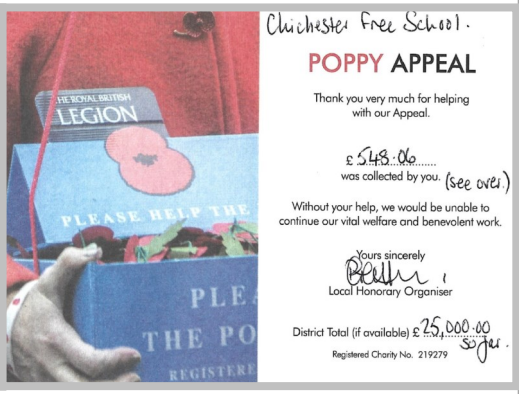
Miss Stapleton, Primary PE

Charity & Fundraising

Thank you so much to you all for supporting the fundraising and charity initiatives we have had taking place this half term:







We have raised:

Poppy Appeal: £548.06

Children in Need: £971.33

Wear Yellow for World Mental Health Day: £310

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day: approx. £500

Bag2School: £349.20

Christmas Fair: £4,358







CCF & DofE

What another busy half term for our CCF! First we took part in the Remembrance Parade in Chichester on 10th November 2024. The cadets were exemplary and it was a real honour to represent our school and CCF at such an important event for our city. Our internal ceremony was also a humbling time where all of CFS stopped to think about all those that have fallen. We have also had two visits to a local care home. Lakeview Grange Nursing Home invited us along to chat to residents about our CCF, regiment and most importantly celebrate the King's Birthday. We all enjoyed our visit so much that we returned this week to sing Christmas carols with the residents with Cadet Johnson on the piano. A lovely way to end this festive week!

We have also had a few exciting developments for our CCF that have occurred over the last few weeks and will continue into the new year. Firstly, both myself and Lt. Halton have received our King's Coronation Medals. These have been awarded to many people within many services that were serving at the time of the coronation. We are both very honoured to have received these. Also, Mrs Lloyd has earned her promotion to Lieutenant. Her efforts and dedication over the past two years as an Officer in our CCF (although she was with us as a probationary instructor for a long time before this) have been exemplary and it was lovely to award her this promotion in front of our cadet body. Finally, one of our newer members of staff, Mr Morrison, has been promoted to WO2. Alongside this, he has also officially taken on the role of Army Section Commander.

Over the past few months, we have been working with Great Ballard School to develop links between our CCF and their Navy Club. I am glad to be able to announce that from early 2025, this partnership has been formalised and some pupils from Great Ballard School and their staff will parade at CFS as part of our Combined Cadet Force. Great Ballard sought us out to build links with the possibility of a formal partnership. It is a testament to our CCF and more importantly our cadets how our reputation in the local community is thriving. We look forward to welcoming Great Ballard in the new year. A lot coming up for our CCF, skill at arms, signals training, summer camp and much, much more!

With DofE, Mr Angell and I had the pleasure of supporting five girls from Year 11 on their Bronze expedition. They worked very hard and completed this element of their DofE. We have also had five more members of Year 11 complete their whole Bronze Award. Well done to these participants and I look forward to handing them their certificates and pin badges on the first Year 11 assembly in 2025! I have also had the pleasure of welcoming our 2024-25 cohort into our initial training sessions. These sessions have focused on map reading, grid references and route cards. More training to follow in the Spring term when we look as camp craft, rucksacks and the Countryside Code.

On behalf of all the staff and cadets at CFS CCF we hope you all have a lovely Christmas.

Captain Cook
Contingent Commander, CFS Combined Cadet Force







School Houses

House Points Total from pupil reward points:

House points have been awarded depending on each events criteria. Below are the current House points awarded and congratulations to all the pupils who have taken part! From all of us, The House Champions, Presidents, Ambassadors and Heroes, have a wonderful break, rest, relax and come back after the holidays ready to go!

Aquila 30635 **Noctua 29205** **Pegasus 29941** **Phoenix 31822**

This term saw our first House Assembly of the Academic year. Within it we celebrated those pupils who had gained House Ambassador positions, heard from Mrs Bodington-Howard (our new House Champion), shared amounts raised in recent charitable events, alongside raising support for new events next term, such as our House Mario Kart, House Banner and House Cross-Country competitions to name a few. It is always a delight to see Year 3 through to Year 9 alongside each other, celebrating the commonality within their house.

We run three House Assemblies across the year. It is going to be an exciting year ahead for the House system, with much change around events and community! If you would like us to celebrate an achievement of your child within them, please do let us know via: rangell@chichesterfreeschool.org.uk



School Houses

Interhouse Football: A Half Term of Thrills!

The yearly **Interhouse Football Tournament** has returned, and what an electrifying half term it's been! With teams combining Year s7 and 8 as well as Year 9, 10 and 11, the competition was fierce, the matches intense, and the atmosphere electric. Here's how it all unfolded:

Year 7/8 Tournament: A Battle to the Finish

The first game day set the tone, with tightly contested matches resulting in draws all around: **Noctua vs. Aquila** and **Pegasus vs. Phoenix**. The balance of power was clear, but as the tournament progressed, the frontrunners began to emerge.

By the second and third game days, **Phoenix** and **Pegasus** had pulled ahead in the league table, with Phoenix ultimately clinching the title. A special mention to **Austen (Year 7, Phoenix)**, whose standout performance earned him the **Golden Boot** after scoring two unforgettable goals against Noctua in a nail-biting third game week. The crowd erupted as Austen's precision and flair stole the show!

But no great House competition ends on league standings alone. Finals Day saw **Phoenix** and **Pegasus** face off in an all-or-nothing showdown.

Final table after the league:

House	Points	Goal Diff.
PH	7	3
PE	7	2
AQ	1	-1
NO	1	-3

With both teams battling hard, the match remained locked at **0-0** until the final five minutes. Then came the pivotal moment—a controversial free-kick awarded after a bold (and some would say "over-enthusiastic") challenge. Pegasus seized their chance, converting the free-kick and adding a second goal shortly after, capitalising on Phoenix's shaken morale.







School Houses

Year 9/10/11 Tournament: Drama and Determination

The older pupils brought their own share of drama to the pitch. The opening week saw **Aquila edge out Noctua** with a thrilling **2-1 victory**, while **Pegasus narrowly defeated Phoenix 1-0** in a match filled with tension and end-to-end action.

Week two added another twist as **Noctua claimed a surprise 1-0 win over Pegasus**, demonstrating grit and determination to bounce back from their opening loss. However, an unusual turn of events in the final week saw both **Aquila and Phoenix unable to field teams**, resulting in deductions for both and shaking up the standings just before Year 11 mocks.

As it stands going into the Christmas break, **Pegasus holds a slim lead** in the Years 9 to 11 tournament. The competition resumes in January, and we can't wait to see how this thrilling saga continues!

House	Points	Goal Diff.
PE	3	0
NO	3	-1
AQ	2	1
PH	-1	-1

Looking Ahead: New Interhouse Opportunities

After feedback from our House Ambassadors, we're excited to announce some changes to the interhouse competition format:

- Separate events for **Year 7/8 Boys**, **Year 7/8 Girls**, **Year 9/10 Boys** and **Year 9/10 Girls** will run on different lunchtimes.
- One lunchtime per rotation will feature **completely mixed teams**, offering everyone a chance to play together.

The next rotation will include **touch rugby** and **netball**, with 5-a-side teams battling it out for House glory. Sign-ups will open after the Christmas break, with House Ambassadors ready to help organize teams. Matches will take place during lunch breaks, so be ready to change into your PE kit quickly and represent your House with pride!

A huge congratulations to all pupils who participated this term. Whether you scored the winning goal, made a key defensive play, or simply supported from the sidelines, you've contributed to the spirit of competition that makes **CFS House Competitions** so special.

We can't wait to see what the new year brings—keep the energy, passion, and teamwork alive!

Go Houses!

Principal's Award

This term, the following pupils have received the Principal's Award. They have received five House Points and enjoyed a celebratory tea party. Well done to everyone!

Lydia Ryder	Year 1	for an amazing written book about her half term holiday
Lottie Fox	Year 2	for an incredible woodland habitat created at home
Finley Walters	Year 2	for a super amount of extra Maths work completed
Gracie Crichton	Year 3	for independently attempting Maths challenges
Ella Markey	Year 3	for fantastic poems about Planet Earth and littering
Heather Meetens-Clark	Year 3	for always showing her SHINE behaviours and being ready to learn
Pia Pancheri	Year 3	for working very hard on her Frida Kahlo biography
Rafe Ebling	Year 4	for being an all round kind, caring and resilient pupil
Jesse Goddard	Year 5	for outstanding effort across all subject areas
Matei Cojoc	Year 6	for creating an excellent 'Dig for Victory' poster and painting the class sack for the Christmas Fair
Inayah Shaikh	Year 6	for working tirelessly every day to do her best
Raphael Wade	Year 6	for displaying great selflessness when encouraging and supporting another student in PE
Sophia Walters	Year 6	for selflessly giving up her own time to help others
Persia Aslani	Year 7	for an outstanding first episode of Task Master on Channel 4
Anna Barlow	Year 7	for some great work in Maths and excellent effort in Science
Joshua Hasledine	Year 7	for being consistently hardworking and having a helpful and kind attitude to staff at all times

Principal's Award

This term, the following pupils have received the Principal's Award. They have received five House Points and enjoyed a celebratory tea party. Well done to everyone!

Austen Johnson	Year 7	for competing in the Harlequins Land Rover rugby tournament
Frankie Massey	Year 7	for being awarded Most Improved Player of the Season for her cricket team
Will Metcalfe	Year 7	for kindness to others
Lucy Prosser	Year 7	for an incredible piece of writing about the Grenfell Tower disaster and for excellent revision in Science
Hannah Crabb	Year 8	for an excellent poem on Remembrance and reading it out to the class and for being awarded Star of the Week in French
Florence Rimmer	Year 8	for fantastic work and focus in English and for completing numerous extension tasks
Theo Bailey	Year 9	for producing a fantastic box with complete independence
Zach Kirby	Year 9	for always being such a kind, hard working pupil
Sophie Cath	Year 10	for an excellent review of a Science test
Finn-Lee Mayers	Year 10	for being a great role model in English
Ava Moore	Year 10	for kindness supporting another pupil and excellent calculations in Science
Toby Lewis	Year 11	for being an amazing support with the Reception Open Morning
Willow Sword	Year 11	for excellent Geography revision homework and excellent effort in Physics

January

Dates that are in red are either new events published since the first calendar was circulated, or dates that have had to move.

Date and Time	Event	Year Groups
Monday 6 – Friday 10 January	House event: Charity choice	All
Tuesday 7 January 1400 – 1430	Phonics workshop in school	1 & parents
Tuesday 7 January 1800 – 1900	Futures (and Open) evening	10 & parents
Wednesday 8 January 1700	SATS Parent Information evening	6 & parents
Thursday 9 January 0930	Prospective Reception admission tour	
Friday 10 January	Roman dress up day	3
Friday 10 January	Novium Museum Sleepover	4 Rowan class
Friday 10 January	United Voices (invite only)	Primary
Monday 13 – Friday 17 January	House event: Charity choice	All
Tuesday 14 January 1800 – 1900	Futures (and Open) evening	8 & parents
Wednesday 15 January	United Voices at Chichester Festival Theatre (invite only)	Primary
Monday 27 January	Dare2Dream session 1 and Rolls Royce mentoring	9
Thursday 16 January	TTL careers speaker	Secondary
Thursday 16 January	Get Inspired Event, Portsmouth	8
Friday 17 January	Novium Museum Sleepover	4 Sycamore class
Friday 17 January	Viking dress up day	5
Monday 20 – Friday 24 January	House event: Charity celebrations	All
Tuesday 21 January	Little City event in school	EYFS
Tuesday 21 January 1700 – 1830	Guided Choices evening	9 & parents
Wednesday 22 January	Forensics morning	9
Wednesday 22 January	Dance trip to watch a performance	Secondary
Thursday 23 January	Under the sea workshop in school	2
Thursday 23 January	History trip to New Park Cinema	9
Friday 24 January 1500 – 1630	Primary Discos	Primary
Monday 27 – Friday 31 January	House event: Community fortnight	All
Monday 27 – Friday 31 January	Bikeability	6
Monday 27 – Friday 31 January	Culture of Kindness fortnight	All
Tuesday 28 January	STEAM trip	8
Wednesday 29 January	Fishbourne Roman Palace trip	3
Wednesday 29 January	UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge in lessons	9 - 11
Thursday 30 January 1700 – 2000	Pupil Progress Consultation event (virtual)	9 & parents

February

Dates that are in red are either new events published since the first calendar was circulated, or dates that have had to move.

Monday 3 – Friday 7 February	House event: Community fortnight	All
Monday 3 – Friday 7 February	GCSE taster lessons	9
Monday 3 – Friary 7 February	Culture of Kindness fortnight	All
Wednesday 5 February	Primary and Year 11 reports home to parents	Primary & 11
Thursday 6 February 1300	TTL careers speaker	Secondary
Friday 7 February	NSPCC Number Day	Primary
Monday 10 – Friday 14 February	House event: Community fortnight celebrations	All
Monday 10 – Friday 14 February	GCSE taster lessons	9
Monday 10 – Friday 14 February	Food practical examinations	11
Monday 10 February	Science Live event, Brighton	10
Tuesday 11 February	Safer Internet Day	All
Wednesday 12 February 1700 – 2000	Pupil Progress Consultation event (virtual)	11
Thursday 13 February	Lunchtime concerts	All
Friday 14 February	Teen booster vaccinations	Secondary
Friday 14 February	Environmental talk from Solitaire Townsend	4
HALF TERM Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February		
Monday 24 February — INSET DAY		