



Chipping Campden School

Inspired to learn, empowered to excel

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Wednesday 5th October, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

With our annual Open Evening last Thursday, followed immediately by our staff training day and then the official opening of the Performing Arts Centre, I hope you will forgive me for not sending out my weekly letter until now.

School Open Evening

I wanted to express my thanks and appreciation to all the students who returned to school last Thursday evening to help us showcase the school and its curriculum. Student volunteers numbered in their hundreds and took on a wide range of roles from car park attendants and tour guides through to subject specialist working in departments. We also had some very courageous students in Year 7 who spoke to large groups of visitors about their experience of joining the school. The students were an absolute credit to the school, and we have received dozens of emails praising them for their passion and commitment. My thanks and appreciation also go to all of you who gave up some of your evening to taxi children to and from the school to enable them to participate in this way.

The new Performing Arts Centre and Cidermill Theatre

After 10 years of planning, fundraising and construction we were finally able to celebrate the official opening of the new 300-seater Performing Arts Centre, which houses Cidermill Theatre, on the evening of Friday 30th September. Despite the weather trying to do its worst we welcomed actor, comedian, director, and children's author Ben Miller, to cut the red ribbon and declare the building officially open. After a tour of the building and speeches those gathered were treated to a 30-minute music set from the American Singer, Jennifer Page, who came to us courtesy of Jaguar Land Rover. she is probably best known for her worldwide hit single 'Crush'.

Once again, I'm indebted to staff and student volunteers who came together to enable the evening to run so well. However, with the official handover from the construction team only taking place some 24 hours before the opening, I wish to pay tribute to Ms Torley, Head of Dance, Ms James, Head of the Performing Arts Faculty and Drama and her team, Mr Cottage, and Mrs Johnson, for their continued forbearance with the endless disruption of contractors needing rooms to paint, hang curtain and in some way or another clean and complete the building.

In terms of the venue operating as a Theatre and Cinema in the evenings and at weekends, attention will now turn to getting the main website, box office and ticketing systems in place and tested before we can start confirming the schedule of events. I'll update you on this further when I know more.

New starters iPad scheme

A reminder that the deadline for all iPad orders will Sunday 9th October 2022. We will not be able to process any further orders after this date. For more information about how the scheme works and how the devices are used in school please visit our website [HERE](#). The webpage contains an introductory video, ordering links and contact details for our charitable partners BeLF (Birmingham eLearning Foundation). We would encourage anyone who may find being a part of this scheme financially challenging to contact BeLF via morag@belf.org.uk or call 0121 314 3407. If you are a UK taxpayer, please ensure you tick the **gift aid** box on the order form. By collecting the gift aid for each donation BeLF can then support families to ensure that everyone can have access to a device.

Inclusive, Committed, Considerate & Safe

Our Inclusive CCS initiative has had a very positive start and has been welcomed by students and staff. We recognise that CCS is a microcosm of British society, and we are determined to tackle prejudice, in particular derogatory language, in our effort to celebrate CCS as an inclusive community. We welcome your support and ask that you take a minute to complete an anonymous parental survey. We are collecting a snapshot of experience from staff, students, and parent/carers so that we can identify patterns and develop training and intervention to stamp out prejudice and derogatory language. Click [HERE](#) for the survey which closes on 14th October.

Farm Food Day

At the start of this week, the Food and Nutrition Department hosted a Food Farm Day in the school's gymnasium. This was a fabulous opportunity for students to learn first-hand from local farms and food suppliers about the opportunities and challenges facing the industry. Along with Jenny Shaylor from Gorsehill Abbey Farm, who helped organise the event, I'd like to say a big 'thank you' to all the producers who made the event such a success. These are Richard Baldwin, Lower Clopton Farm Shop, Martyn Wilson, Merry May Honey, Simon Righton, Old Farm Dorn, David Pearson & Sarah James, MOR Bakery, Adriana Alvarez & Jamie Sorenson, Wildfarmed, and Emma Harrison, Greystone Farm.

Geography field trip to Cardigan Bay

On Tuesday, Year 10 Geographers had a fabulous day exploring the wonders of Carding Mill Valley. They completed rivers fieldwork studying changes as a river flows down its long profile. Students measured width, depth and velocity of the River Onwy. A very dry summer resulted in very low river levels. Meaning the only concern were a few students with soggy socks. Mrs Carpenter, Head of Geography, commented that the students behaved impeccably, and all staff were really impressed with their hard work.

Senior Maths Challenge

Tuesday also saw the launch of this year's senior maths challenge in the main school hall. While there were no soggy socks after this evening, there seemed to be plenty of furrowed brows as students competed against a national cohort of participants. Result should be through in a shortly.

History in the making

On Monday the History department ran an Excel Masterclass for a group of talented year 9 History students Together they explored a range of evidence such as the Domesday entry, Census material from 1841 to 2011, photos from 1909, an old Trade Directory and a walk around town to evaluate how the town has changed through History.

Today, Year 10 History students travelled to the American Museum in Bath to study Sioux life and the first settlers in America. They had the opportunity to do some hands-on History, donning the white gloves of an archivist and handling contemporary artefacts as well as exploring the exhibits and attending a lecture by an American West specialist. This experience will help bring the GCSE Paper 1 topic to life! The History department would like to thank our six 6th Form volunteers, all keen Historians, for their additional support. On arriving back at school, the staff then received this email from the Museum, 'our staff were delighted to meet your school today - *every single child/teenager was polite, kind and respectful*'.

Business Awards

Chipping Campden School sponsor the Community Award for the Business Forum Awards. This is an award for any business, profit or non-profit, who have been a great member of our community. Last year's winners were The Co-op in Chipping Campden for outstanding service throughout the Covid period. We are hoping for a record number of nominations this year. Please nominate by following this link [HERE](#).

And finally...

Despite it being over 30 years since I lived in a German speaking country (Austria), the Language Department have kindly invited me to participate in the German Homestay which sets off before dawn tomorrow. Thus, tonight's letter will be the only letter this week as we will not be returning until Monday 10th October.

Before signing off though, I wanted to draw your attention to the new National Online Safety App for parents. It has everything you need to become better equipped at keeping your child/ren safe online.

Auf Wiedersehen

Yours sincerely,



John Sanderson,
Principal

BRAND NEW National Online Safety Mobile App

It's time to get **#OnlineSafetySavvy**.

Children are spending more time than ever online. As adults, we need to do everything we can to keep them safe in the digital world. But with new apps, games and platforms emerging every day, how can you stay in the know?

Say hello to the new National Online Safety mobile application. Created by experts, developed by us. With all online safety knowledge available at your fingertips, the NOS app empowers parents and teachers to understand and address online safeguarding risks - any time, anywhere.

The world's most comprehensive online safety app, it's packed with insightful courses, explainer videos, webinars and guides on topics that will help you protect the kids you care about when they're online.



Nobody Understands? Do you need to talk?

TIC+ : chat 0300 303 8080 – free, anonymous phone line
text 07520 634063

Samaritans: ring 116 123 email: jo@samaritans.org

Childline: ring 0800 1111

Youngminds: text YM to 85258

Mindful: <https://www.mindful.org/>

CrimeStoppers: 0800 555 111 (100% anonymous, always)

Glos NHS: <https://www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk/>