



Clacton County High School Sigma Sixth Tendring Weekly News



www.countyhigh.org.uk

[Sigma Sixth](#)

admin@cchs.school

parentnews@cchs.school

Summer Term 2023 | Issue 39 | Friday 21st July

End of Academic Year - Extended Issue

Recognising Individuals – Jack Petchey ‘Outstanding Achievement’ Awards

Talented and dedicated individuals from across the Tendring District were celebrated at a special Jack Petchey Foundation awards evening recently. Those who were acknowledged included CCHS students and staff - Congratulations to Ruby, Daniel, Faith (not pictured), along with Miss Dominey and Miss Clay.



Daniel has overcome a huge personal challenge and developed his self-confidence this year. Daniel has shown incredible bravery and perseverance to push himself outside of his comfort zone so that he can grow more as a person and also show others in school what can be achieved if you are prepared to have a go.

Ruby is an excellent role model to younger students around the school. She has shown incredible resilience within everyday life and in particular through her drama lessons and her engagement with the extra-curricular

side of drama. She regularly attends after school workshops, always being a positive role model and ambassador to the other students and is very kind and generous to others.

Faith is the definition of a role model in school. She is part of the senior student leadership team and through this helps support whole school events, mentors Year 7 students across the school and also takes on a role within the SEND department, as a mentor and listening ear to younger SEND students. She has delivered "diversity" assemblies to students in all year groups trying to enable students to see the world from other people's viewpoints encouraging kindness and compassion.

Miss Clay has worked at CCHS for over 23 years in administrative roles. As the attendance manager for the school, she supports some of our most vulnerable students and families whilst trying to ensure the children are in school and safe. It



really cannot be underestimated how much the improvements in attendance for students are down to Liz and her kind, caring nature and her listening ear.

Miss Dominey has taught at Art at Clacton County High School for 7 years, but she is much more than just an Art teacher. 'Miss Dom' champions those who may see themselves as being from minority groups, whether ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ or other. Her passion for these students led to the creation of the "Diversity Group", set up to provide a support space for LGBTQ+ students and has since expanded to other students from minority groups as well as those students who just need a support group or those who just want to help.



CCHS Summer Reading Challenge

Calling all students - We want you to take part in the CCHS Summer Reading Challenge!

This summer, take a picture of yourself reading wherever you are! This could be on a day trip out, on the beach or just chilling in the garden with your dog – the more unusual place the better! The competition is open to all year groups. Use your school email address to send your digital reading pictures to English-reading-challenge@cchs.school

Don't forget to include an explanation – just in case your picture is so abstract!



There will be some prizes up for grabs! Here are some ideas to spark your imagination! **All entries must be submitted via email by 1st September.**



National Read Aloud Challenge – Summer 2023

In addition to our Reading Challenge, we are also participating in the National Read Aloud Challenge to help reduce reading regression over the summer – we challenge all of our students to take part – [find out more about the challenge here.....](#)

Follow us



@clacton_cchs



@clactoncountyhigh



@cchssigmasixth

Year 12 Sports Leaders – Charity Fundraising Event

As part of their Sports Leadership course, our Year 12 Sigma Sixth students are required to organise and run a sports-based event. They decided that all of their individual ideas could be combined into one fantastic event involving their younger peers whilst raising money for charity.



Students in the lower year groups paid to attend the special games afternoon which included the opportunity to use a number of inflatables along with a number of other activities, for which students were asked to make a donation. These included Face painting, Tin-can alley, Bean bag toss, Penalty shoot, Basketball Challenge, Water coin drop, a Lollipop Lucky-Dip, an obstacle course and soak-the-teacher.



A fun afternoon was had by all and the Year 12 students' organisation was impeccable – as a bonus they managed to raise £213 which has been donated to Alopecia UK. Well done to them all!

Sports Days – July 2023

Students from across the school have once again enjoyed our traditional sports days, which are always highly competitive. The Year 7 and 8 sports day, last week, saw both year groups fully participating in various sporting competitions before taking to the athletics track and competing in the field events.



Well done to 7x1 (Mr Bartlett) and 8x1 (Miss Dom) who won the rounders tournament; 7x3 (Miss Cooper) and 7y4 (Miss Watts), 8y2 (Mrs England) and 8y4 (Mr Fenton) for finishing top in the football; 7y2 (Mis Reed) and 8x5 (Miss Mussett) for winning the Tug-of-War and 7y4 (Miss Watts) for coming top in the Mini-Olympics competition. In the afternoon, both year groups watched the conclusion of the athletics competition with the track finals with some fantastic competitive races to watch.



The Year 9 and 10 sports day this week, followed a similar format with 9x1 (Mr Reader) and 10y5 (Miss Lay) winning their respective Rounders tournaments and 9y2 (Mrs Matthews) and 10x3 (Mr Wilson) finishing top in the football. Well done to our Sports Day for winners 2023 – 7x3 (Miss Cooper); 8x1 (Miss Dom); 9y2 (Mrs Matthews) and 10y5 (Miss Lay).

Sigma Sixth Experience Day

Year 10 students spent a day at our sixth form college last week, as part of a Sigma Sixth experience day.



This provided an ideal opportunity for them to visit our sixth form campus, gaining an understanding of Key Stage 5 study, by attending a number of taster lessons in a variety of subjects, and becoming sixth form students for the day.



Very soon, these young adults will be considering their next steps following their GCSE exams next year. For more information on our Sigma Sixth Tending sixth form, please visit our [sixth form website](#).

Summer Holiday Dates

Uniform try-on day Thursday 3rd August

Results Days **A-Level** 17th August - 9am to 12 noon
Sigma Sixth College – Main Atrium

GCSE 24th August - 9am to 12 noon
CCHS Main Hall

Year 12 24th August – GCSE Results Day
Enrolment Interviews at CCHS
25th August – Enrolment Interviews at Sigma Sixth
(non-CCHS students)

Next Academic Year – Sept 2023

Term start dates – remember that your son or daughter will be moving up to the next year group in September!

Year 7 Monday 4th September – 8.45am in School Sports Hall

Year 8-11 Tuesday 5th September – 8.45am
Extended form time on the first day only, to receive timetables and other information

Year 12 Monday 4th September
9.00am – Assembly in the Sigma Sixth Atrium

Year 13 Tuesday 5th September
8.50am – Normal Lessons

Additional dates for the autumn term 2023:

Thu 21st September **School finishes after period 3 (1.15pm)**
(Main school only - due to our annual Open Evening)

Mon 23rd October – **Autumn Half Term Holiday**
Fri 27th October

Fri 24th & Mon 27th Nov **Non-Pupil Days**

Fri 22nd December **End of Term**
School finishes after period 2 (11.55)

The term dates are also available to download from the 'School Calendar' section of the school website – [LINK HERE](#)

Sigma Sixth - Problem Solving



Last week our sixth formers were given some testing problems and team-working activities to solve, as part of a fun challenge carousel. Designed to help stimulate their critical thinking and dexterity, the session posed numerous mental and physical challenges for the teams to overcome – learning from their mistakes!



Year 12 students tackled the challenges, followed by our prospective sixth formers, as part of their Year 11 into Year 12 Induction day at Sigma Sixth. Great fun was had by all and a great deal of learning occurred without the students realising!



Fishing Success



Congratulations to a number of our Year 10 students who are keen fishermen. They have each recently landed 100lb of carp at their local fishing lake! Well done to Kian, Charlie and Louis.

PROUD

CLACTON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Follow us



@clacton_cchs



@clactoncountyhigh



@cchssigmasixth

Thank You and Good Luck to the Staff Leaving CCHS

The governors, staff and students at CCHS would like to say a big thank you for the hard work of all the staff leaving CCHS this year, to wish them every success and good luck in the future.

Emily Duffy

"I arrived here as a young 23-year-old in 2012, ready to begin my dream job as a PE Teacher. It has honestly been the best decade of my life, teaching some incredible students.

I have been supported and moulded into the best possible teacher I can be - all thanks to the role models I have had here. I will miss CCHS very much and I only leave with happy memories.

To my current classes - Please follow your dreams, know your worth and work hard, you have been the best.

Team PE past and present, there will never be enough thank you's, you will be my friends for life.

It is now time for a new adventure for our family where I will be teaching PE at The English College in Dubai.

Remember life is never a rehearsal."



Will Manning

Since joining CCHS in September 2020 as a science teacher, Will has taught mainly Physics at Key Stages 4 and 5, as well as fulfilling his roles as a form tutor. He has also been heavily involved with our STEM F24 Racing Club. He leaves us to continue teaching Science, again with a focus on Physics at New Rickstones Academy in Witham.

"I'd just like to thank all the staff at CCHS for their help and support over the last three years, through my training year and subsequent ECT years. A big shout-out for the Science team, who've been a constant source of joy and laughter, and for putting up with my constant need for quizzes. Thanks to Dave Hodgson for being the best mentor, and to Laura Reynolds for helping me with my ECT training. Lastly, thanks to James Poynter and Bart Binczyk for the F24 club experience, and the 3.30 am starts. Good luck with the future CCHS!"



Katherine Streatfeild

After starting her teaching career as a Teach First Trainee in 2016, Katherine joined CCHS as a Maths teacher in September 2019. During her time with us she has been Key Stage 3 Maths Lead for the past two years. Katherine leaves us to become a Lead Practitioner in Mathematics at Stowupland High School in Suffolk.



Sean Duffy

Sean was a former CCHS student who left in our sixth form in 2007. He returned in 2012 as a trainee English teacher and remained at CCHS after qualifying. teacher training in 2012 and remained at CCHS was officially employed in 2013!

Alongside teaching English, over the past ten years Sean has fulfilled the roles of Literacy Coordinator, Pastoral Leader, Director of Learning, Head of VI6 and deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. In August he starts as Head of English and Advanced Practitioner at Bloom World Academy, in Dubai.

"With mixed emotions, I bid farewell to the place that has been my home for years. Working at CCHS has been an incredible journey, filled with gratitude for the opportunities I've been given and the remarkable students who have touched my life. I am immensely grateful for the unwavering support and the chance to shape young minds in this nurturing environment. CCHS has never been a workplace for me, it's been my life, a vocation like no other. As I embark on new adventures, I carry the spirit of CCHS with me, forever grateful for the connections formed and the love shared. I wish all of the young people at this school the very best for the future. These kids don't need luck, they have hard work and dedication instead."



Geoff Godwin

Geoff leaves CCHS after four years teaching PE, having also completed his teacher training with us. Geoff has developed into a fantastic teacher and has become a great role model and mentor to a number of students. Geoff leaves us to take up a new role at Sudbury Football Academy College, as a Further Education FE lecturer within their Sports Centred Learning Education group (SCL). Geoff will be also coaching at the club, alongside teaching Level 3 sport and physical activity certificate and the extended sport and physical activity diploma.

"My best wishes to all the amazing students and staff at CCHS. Have a wonderful summer break"



We also say goodbye to Geography teacher, **Hannah Lay** who embarks on world travel; Music teacher, **Frank Bowyer**; Geography teacher, **Lynne Shaw**; Art & Design teacher, **Tony Bryson**; Sport & Design teacher, **Laura Stapleton**; Teach First History Trainee, **Danielle Sier**; Cover Supervisors, **Carly Levy** and **Karen Hunt**; and Graduate Teaching Assistants - **Saskia Bonnington**, **Elizabeth McGregor** and **Amber Mortimer**.



'Evita – The Musical' – The CCHS Summer Production 2023



After weeks of rehearsals, set building and costume production, the 2023 CCHS Musical took to the school stage last week for four outstanding performances. The combined efforts of our music, dance and drama departments once again produced another fantastic production.



The whole cast produced an outstanding show with stand-out performances from a number of students, including talented Year 13 Faith Garner and Year 12 Maddie Robinson who took on the demanding role of Eva Peron – the girls shared the performances as they were on stage for 95% of the show. A special mention must go to fantastic performances by Year 10, Joss-Paul Miller, who played Peron, President of Argentina and the narrators of the musical – Seth Garner (Year 9), Eloise Carter (Year 10) and Richie Choat (Year 13).





Ms Bridges, one of our Drama team (and BBC Essex radio presenter) was kind enough put pen-to-paper with her thoughts on the show.....

"When I heard about this year's incredibly ambitious production, it did cross my mind that the school's performing arts department had bitten off more than they could chew. Boy, was I wrong. Underprivileged, deprived and forgotten are words often used in the media when discussing our part of Essex, the prejudice our young people face can often be overwhelming.

I took my seat in a packed, excited house, not just filled with friends and family, but members of the public, keen to see another CCHS production built on its past success and incredible reputation.

EVITA is a complex musical, the story weaves around the life and death of Argentina's first lady, Eva Peron. It's not an easy sell, but my goodness did they sell it. The staging was modern, yet timeless, the graffiti style set, the cast in custom hoodies and trainers, the dance routines and lighting, gave the production a young, fresh feel. It looked and sounded top notch.

The students rose to the challenge and surpassed expectations. Mark my words, many of these talented youngsters will find future success as actors and musicians. This was not just a talent showcase, this was an exercise in inclusivity and acceptance. Students with complex needs and personal difficulties, joined seamlessly with more confident individuals.

The staff with unbending patience, empowered the cast and challenged expectations. The performing arts team with the help of the wider school and volunteers from the local community, pulled off an absolute blinder.

The team wish to thank Clacton Rotary and the Clacton Jubilee Rotary Club, who kindly provided funds to buy the Hoodies, that the children can keep as a memento. This production was forged from ability, hard work and pure unbending, belief in the students. Well done CCHS."



[The 'Evita – The Musical' production photos are available on our photo webpage](#)

Chris Taylor, Head of School, added his congratulations, "Yet again they have pulled off an incredible production and done themselves and their community proud. Huge congratulations and I look forward to next year's rendition of the annual CCHS musical extravaganza, whatever that may be, watch this space!"

Respect the Water

As we finish for the summer holiday, please remember that being able to swim in a warm swimming pool, when the pool bottom or the poolside is relatively close to hand, is completely different to swimming in the sea or open water; the temperature of the water, even after the warm weather we have been experiencing; the water visibility; along with waves, currents and the tide, make swimming in the sea a completely different experience.

If you are not a competent swimmer please do not venture out of your depth and remember that due to the movement of the sea bed, the depth can change significantly and very quickly.

Never jump off or swim around any of the breakwaters or structures that are built out to sea, the water currents around these objects are very strong and unpredictable; they can easily pull the most competent swimmers underwater.

When venturing to the beach and out-and-about around open water, be it in the UK or abroad please – ‘Respect the Water’ - the important message delivered through the RNLI’s national drowning prevention campaign. Each year more than 180 people die around the coasts in the UK. Over half of those who died at the coast last year did not set out to go in the water – slips and falls while walking and running contribute to the most coastal deaths. The seas around our coast are cold enough all year round to trigger cold water shock, which can steal the air from your lungs and leave even the strongest of swimmers helpless.

If you get into trouble in the water follow their

‘5 Steps to Float’ - www.respectthewater.com

1. If you fall into water, fight your instinct to swim until the cold-water shock passes.
2. Lean back, extend your arms and legs.
3. If you need to, gently move them around to help you float.
4. Float until you can control your breathing.
5. Only then, call for help or swim to safety.

FLOATING FACTS

What you're wearing could help keep you alive

Clothing can help you float - In most cases, clothing and footwear improves buoyancy during the first moments in the water - because it traps air between the layers when you fall in. Moving less helps the air stay trapped, helping you to float. When put to the test, most people found floating easier than they anticipated.

Role Model Excels at Choi Kwang-Do

Congratulations to Year 9 student, Lucy for becoming a S.T.O.R.M team member (Special Team Of Role Models) in her martial arts class at Edge Choi Kwang-Do. Since joining the club in 2020, she is working through her gradings for her different coloured belts and is currently a Red Belt Senior, with two more belts to gain until she achieves her Black Belt. Lucy trains regularly at the club in Holland on Sea and is also helping teach some of the younger students; she is currently also working towards being an assistant instructor with Edge Choi Kwang-Do. Well done Lucy!

School's Out for Summer.....

On behalf of all the staff at Clacton County High School, we wish you a very enjoyable and, hopefully, a hot and sunny summer break.

Please stay safe - Don't forget in the sun (and we hope we are going to get some more!)

‘SLIP, SLOP, SLAP’ - SLIP on a T-Shirt, SLOP on sun cream and SLAP on a hat.



The big message is to be aware that open water - the sea, rivers, lakes, reservoirs and flooded quarry pits - are much colder than any swimming pool; visibility underwater is reduced and currents, tides and river weed, affect your ability to swim and stay safe. Cold water shock can seriously affect anyone's capability to survive after falling into open water.





Clacton County High School

Sigma Sixth Tending

Notices and Letters



The Weekly Notices is a 'one-stop shop' for home/school written communications and information.

Please take the time to check through the mailing particularly for your child's individual year group: there could be some very important information for you to be aware of.

Summer holiday greetings to all CCHS families and friends

To all of our families and friends we wish you all a very happy, sunny and safe summer holiday break.

It is important to note that the school reception, admin email and phone lines will not be manned from the close of school today until we return for the non-pupil day on Friday, 1st September.

Best wishes from all @ CCHS.

What's being celebrated around the world?

Hindus around the world will celebrate Raksha Bandhan on Wednesday, 30th August. This is a special Hindu festival which is celebrated in India and countries like Nepal to symbolise the love between a brother and a sister.

Whole School Notices

- [End of Term letter from Headteacher - Mr C Taylor](#)
- [Letter from Deputy Headteacher - Mrs K Loosley re whole school reminders and changes](#)
- [Letter re an important national issue regarding vaping amongst young people](#)

Introducing Arbor – New Parent/Carer Portal

From Friday, 21st July we are introducing, to all our CCHS families, our new Parent/Carer Portal; Arbor.

The Parent Portal and Arbor App will allow you to update your contact information, register your child for trips, provide consents, and manage payments from your phone or computer. With multiple uses for parents & carers Arbor is set to become a 'one-stop shop' for accessibility to a range of different functions and information. Your child's primary parental contact will receive a personalised login and an instruction email.

Arbor Pay will replace ParentPay, this function will be activated on Monday, 21st August and all current dinner money funds will be transferred by Friday, 25th August. All school trips that are currently running will continue to be active on ParentPay, until the trip date has passed. Any new trips organised from September will be showing in Arbor Pay only. From the end of the day Friday, 21st July you will not have access to pay for dinners, revision guides, or school events etc. only trips will accept payments in ParentPay.

All parents/carers will receive a letter via email with detailed information on the changes and personal logins. **Please make sure you have your Arbor account activated and please ensure you have accessed Arbor pay and topped up the account prior to Monday, 4th September** (as with ParentPay, Free School Meal allowances will not show on Arbor Pay but will be credited to accounts via the catering till system). **Staff will be available on Friday, 1st September in the main reception to assist you with any Arbor queries between 2.00 pm - 3.30pm.**

Autumn Term date reminders

- Thursday, 3rd August - Uniform try on day for Year 7 starters in September
- Thursday 17th August - A level results day (Sigma Sixth college 9am – 12pm)
- Thursday 24th August – GCSE results day (CCHS 9am – 12pm)
- Monday 4th September – First day of school for Year 7 (08.45am)
- Monday 4th September – First day of college for Year 12 (08.50am)
- Tuesday 5th September – First day of school for Years 8- 11 (8.45 am)
- Tuesday 5th September – First day of college for Year 13 (08.50am)



Planning ahead for September 2023 - Uniform & Equipment

[Everything you need to know about school uniform](#)
[Expectations and Equipment checklist](#)



School Ties

Please see the table below to view student ties for the next academic year. Students will continue through their school journey with the same coloured tie. New Year 7s in September 2023 will have a purple stripe.

<u>CCHS Student Ties</u>	<u>Next Academic Year - 2023/4</u>
Year 7	Purple stripe
Year 8 (current Year 7)	Light blue stripe
Year 9 (current Year 8)	Red stripe
Year 10 (current Year 9)	Plain Tie (no stripe)
Year 11 (current Year 10)	Yellow stripe

Year 7

No individual notices for Year 7 this week!

Year 8

No individual notices for Year 8 this week!

Year 9

School Reports

School reports are ready to view on Go4schools, please find [easy to follow guide](#) and [Attitude to Learning Descriptors](#)

Year 10

School Reports

School reports are ready to view on Go4schools, please find [easy to follow guide](#) and [Attitude to Learning Descriptors](#)

Year 11



Year 11 2022-23 Virtual Year Book – scan the QR code

Please scan the code to take a journey through the Year 11 2022-23 Year Book . There are some very happy memories, and messages from staff, that we wish to share with you and our students and we are extremely proud of the cohort and excited for them as they move onto the next stage in their academic journey.

Thursday, 24th August - Year 12 enrolment interviews at CCHS following GCSE results

Sixth Form Notices

[End of Term letter from Mrs S McKarry - Head of College](#)

Thursday, 24th August - Year 12 enrolment interviews at CCHS following GCSE results

Safeguarding, SEND and Wellbeing

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Service

The following workshops are available for parent/carers in the local area

[Click here to view](#)

Summer Holiday Vaccination catch up clinics 2023

[Click here for more information](#)

Careers Updates

The CCHS Careers hub micro website is continually being updated with information on all different types of careers and much, much more. [Please take a look at our Careers Hub Here.](#)

Community Notices

Clacton Rugby Club - Summer Rugby Tasters for **free**

[Click here for more information](#)

Essex Youth Service - Summer Programme Summer 2023

Join the Essex Youth Service team for an action packed three days of fun, challenge, and games. Free to attend, including lunch. [Click here for further information](#)

After the three days, you can complete an optional two day/one- night expedition experience in the Essex countryside taking place on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd August 2023.

Clacton Pier - National Lottery Big Days Out - [Click here for further information](#)

Circus CORTEX | CLACTON - Clacton Airfield, West Road, Clacton-on-Sea, CO15 1AG

Thu 17th to Mon 28th August - Shows Twice Daily

Use Code **SCHOOL7** at checkout and get £7 Off per ticket on VIP & Grandstand seating.

(Code cannot be used with any other offer)

Circus Cortex is a majority Ukrainian cirque, run and owned by Irina Archer and her husband Paul.

Irina & Paul have spent their lives, firstly performing in and then managing and producing circuses in the UK as well as abroad. Having spent 10 years producing The Moscow State Circus, Irina wanted to venture out on her own and with her husband's dedicated support, 3 years ago, she did just that.

Irina blends modern cirque production elements with extremely talented circus artistes and brings audiences 105 minutes of dedicated entertainment. Theming, Costumes, Lights & Music, every single element of the show is tweaked to perfection to bring audiences a truly magical hand clapping, foot stomping fantastical time.

