



Clacton County High School Sigma Sixth Tendring Weekly News



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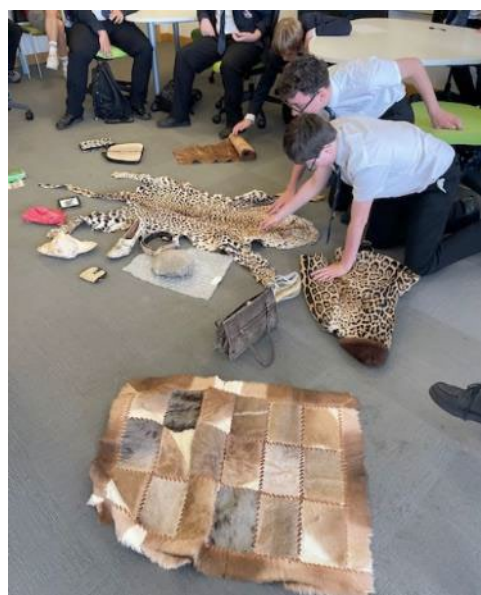
English Enrichment at the Priory



Last week, a select group of our Year 8 students had a truly enriching experience at St Osyth Priory, all aimed at boosting their creative writing skills in English! Their adventure began with a fun tour of the Priory grounds in a specially adapted tractor trailer where they spotted white deer and other local wildlife. They then arrived at a fascinating gothic-style chapel for an exciting 'potion' making class. After a relaxed lunch break amidst the Priory's beautiful grounds, the students got to explore the historic gardens and search for ancient ruins. Their visit concluded with a fascinating session learning about the healing properties of plants. The day was packed with inspiration, and our students channelled all their new experiences into a fantastic creative writing task. We can't wait to see the stories they've cooked up!

Highlighting the Challenges of Climate Change

Last week, some of our Year 9 students delved into the critical topic of climate change at a special Climate Change Summit held at the University of Essex. They joined students from across Tendring and Colchester for an engaging day focused on understanding the geography, science, and implications of climate change. The summit brought together local and national partners from education, research, and STEM sectors, providing a fantastic opportunity for our students (and their teachers!) to enhance their knowledge. The aim



was to highlight not only the challenges we face but also the possible solutions and new future technologies that can help. Students attended a variety of special lectures, learning how climate change is already impacting regions globally and closer to home. They participated in hands-on workshops, including one on our school's carbon emissions, where they explored ways to improve our sustainability and reduce our carbon footprint. Another impactful workshop, led by Colchester Zoo, brought the issue of endangered animals to life, even showcasing products confiscated by border patrol made from illegally smuggled animal parts. Throughout the day, our students had a chance to speak with experts about their sustainability plans including Anglia Water, The Wildlife Trust, Colchester Zoo and Climate Ambassadors. The summit concluded with students sharing ideas for an action plan to bring positive changes to CCHS and the community. One exciting idea proposed is for our school to join the 'Just One Tree' campaign, which involves a donation of £1 to plant a tree in tropical rainforest areas facing high deforestation. Our Humanities team is now hoping to form a working group of passionate students and staff to help put some of these inspiring ideas into action!

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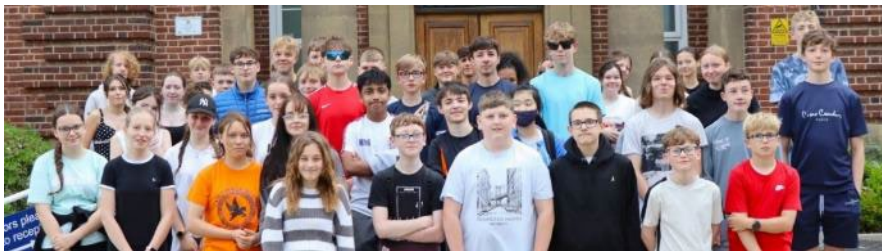


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Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award – Assessment Hike in Thetford Forest

A couple of weeks ago, sixty-one intrepid Year 9 students cut their weekend short for an early Sunday morning start, embarking on their two-day Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze Award assessment hike. Divided into groups, they were required to carry everything they needed for their adventure, including their own tents, sleeping bags, food and water, camping gas, and cookers – some of their back-packs were as large as they were! They were joined by our Year 12 Duke of Edinburgh students, who took the opportunity to join the expedition as a practice hike for their Silver Award which they will be assessed on in the Chilterns after the summer break.

Despite some early morning rain and a thunderstorm, the sun soon appeared, and the temperature quickly soared into the high twenties. Travelling in five mini-buses (two towing large trailers for all their gear!), the groups made their way to their drop-off points around Thetford Forest. Ahead of



them lay two days of hiking for six-hours each day, with an over-night camp under canvas. The Year 12 students were required to walk further and camp for a second night. Each group spent weeks meticulously planning their route from the pre-assigned start and finish points. The warm conditions added to the endurance required to walk 16km each day while carrying a heavy backpack. All groups eventually converged at a Scout Camp in the middle of the forest. Some took over eight hours to finish after numerous breaks and a few navigational errors, but they all made it! After a successful first day's hike, the teams still had to erect their tents and cook their dinner, a true test of their resilience and teamwork.



The camp's proximity to a railway line meant there was no need for an alarm clock on Monday morning, as the 6 am express train rumbled by just meters away! Tents were swiftly dismantled and packed away as the teams prepared for Day Two and another daunting 16km hike. This was a tough prospect for our students, who were already tired and sore from the previous day's endeavours, but they showed incredible resilience.



All the groups rose to the challenge, embarking on their final day with determination, knowing that each step brought them closer to completing and passing their DofE Bronze Hike. A huge well done to each and every student who completed their award! For many, it was their first night under canvas, and they learnt a lot about themselves - demonstrating incredible personal resilience and perseverance. They also developed some great life skills, working effectively as a team, encouraging each other, and sharing laughter along the way. They all deserve to be proud of this significant achievement. The staff supporting the trip are exceptionally proud of them all. Well done to all – you smashed it! We extend our sincere thanks to the external DofE assessor for accompanying the trip, and especially to the CCHS staff who generously gave up their time to ensure the groups were on track and safe. Without their dedication, this fantastic experience would not have been possible.

Get Ready for Oliver – Our Summer Production Opens Next Week!

The highly anticipated CCHS summer production is almost here! Our talented students are bringing the classic musical **Oliver!** to the school stage next week. "Oliver!" opens on **Thursday evening, July 10th**, with nightly shows at **7:00 PM** running until **Saturday, July 12th**. For those who prefer a daytime performance, there's an additional matinee on **Saturday, July 12th at 2:00 PM**. Don't delay—tickets are selling fast! Don't miss out on what promises to be a spectacular performance! Be sure to get your tickets and support our incredible cast and crew.

[Tickets are available on-line, priced £10 \(Saturday matinee £7\)](#)

To get a sneak peek of our students in action, be sure to check out the video teaser on our [Facebook](#) page!



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Celebrating Student Success

Attendance Weekly Golden Ticket Awards – Data from the final week of the Autumn Term

100% Attendance prize draw - one student from each form group wins a 'Golden Attendance Ticket', allowing them to skip to the front of the Clouds food servery queue on a day of their choice.

Congratulations to.....



Year 7

Harlie Abbott, Rosie Bayford, Jenson Dale, Thomas Edwards, Luke Frost, Nicholas Gallagher, Riley Jones, Betty, Mila Ryan, Ben, Oliver Wall and Riley Wilson



Year 8

Jessica Beck, Oliver, Lola Buxey, Osian Camp, Joshua Fowler, Alexis Gillmore, Edie Joshua, Dexter Maddox, Henry Miller, Noah Moseley, Shay Percival and Finley Ward



Year 9

Jamie Batram, Liam Brady, Caitlin Clarke, Kyron Garner, Mia Jarrett, Hollie Monks, Jay Myer, Daniel Russell, Zack Strange, Willow Thickbroom, Lily Warrior and Lily Winteridge

Weekly Proud Awards

The top students in each year group who attained the most PROUD+ points earned during the final week of last term and also had 100% attendance (listed alphabetically) – Each year group winner collects the top prize of an amazing £5 Amazon voucher.



Year 7

Erin Barnes, Savannah Barratt, Tianna Beevor, Tyler Brooker, Oliver Cole, Tyler, Faith Docherty, Millie Franklin, Poppy Pryor, Benjamin and Dulcie Westbrook

Winner – Savannah

Year 8

Winner – Harry Cox

Year 9

Tinashe Jayden Chandiwana, Ashley Joseph, Renee Maina, Tosheema Mihindukulasooriya, Emily Munden, Chloe Pickard, Lara-Danielle Predescu, Jack Skinner and Freya Wakeling-Glasgow

Winner – Jack