



**Chesterfield
High School**
for everyone the best

#chesterfield365news

Easter 2026

Dear **Parents** and **Carers**

It has been a fantastic term, filled with rich opportunities for our young people and so much to celebrate as a school community. One of the standout moments was undoubtedly our production of Little Shop of Horrors. Watching our passionate, determined and hugely talented students bring their hard work to life on stage was an absolute privilege. Their commitment, creativity and confidence shone through in every performance.

Another standout achievement this term has been our accreditation as an IQM Flagship School, a recognition awarded to only a small number of schools nationally. The Flagship Award represents the highest level of the Inclusion Quality Mark framework and is given to schools that not only embed exceptional inclusive practice in every aspect of their work but also contribute to shaping inclusive education more widely. This recognition reflects the dedication of our staff and the inclusive ethos that underpins everything we do.

We have also enjoyed another incredibly successful admissions cycle, reaffirming our position as the secondary school of choice within the local area. Once again, we are heavily oversubscribed, with a record number of families selecting us as their first preference. This level of trust from our community means

a great deal and we are committed to honouring it through the highest standards of care and education. We are already looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 cohort, who will join us for a series of transition events designed to help them feel confident, connected and ready for the exciting journey ahead in September.

Our Sixth Form continues to go from strength to strength, with application numbers indicating that we are on track to welcome our largest cohort yet in September. It is incredibly encouraging to see so many of our own students choosing to continue their journey with us, alongside a growing number of applicants from other schools. As our Sixth Form expands, we remain fully committed to offering a broad and ambitious range of subjects and qualifications, ensuring that every young person can pursue a pathway that aligns with their interests, strengths and future aspirations. We also work closely with external providers to promote a wide variety of post-16 options, so that all students are empowered to make informed choices about the next stage of their education.

As we move closer to the summer exam season, our Year 11 and Year 13 students continue to work incredibly hard, and we are proud of the focus and determination they are showing.

To support them through this crucial period, we are offering a range of intervention sessions on Saturday mornings and throughout the Easter break. I am deeply grateful to our staff for giving up their time so generously to ensure our students feel confident and well prepared. We wish every one of our exam groups the very best of luck; we know they will rise to the challenge and do both themselves and our school proud.

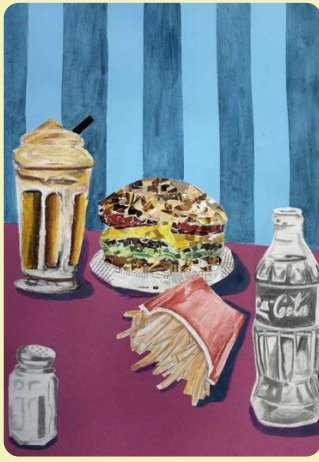
I would like to wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break and to thank you sincerely for your continued support as we work together in the best interests of our young people and our wider community. Although this term has brought its share of challenges, it has also highlighted the strength, resilience and kindness that define our school. We remain immensely proud of the incredible young people we serve each day, and we are grateful for the partnership we share with you in helping them grow, thrive and achieve their very best.



Mr Jon Lawes,
Headteacher

Inside:

Art Club news, workshops, visits to Aintree and the Liverpool Philharmonic, lots of dancing, fantastic achievements in sports - plus so much more...



Art News



Year 9 pupils have produced an impressive range of large-scale still life artworks this term. Students explored a variety of techniques, including oil pastel, watercolor, collage, and tonal pencil, while developing their understanding of colour, perspective, tone, and composition.

The standard of work has been outstanding, and we are incredibly proud of the creativity and effort shown across the year group.



Year 8 Art Club

We have been exploring Picasso's famous abstract portraits. Inspired by his work, students have created their own vibrant collage self portraits. They experimented with a range of techniques to add texture and detail to their features, including pencil, oil pastel, watercolour, and felt tip pens.

It is fantastic to see students engaging in art beyond the classroom and the outcomes turned out brilliantly.

Well done!

Nadine Clarke, Anabelle Brown, Matilda Grant, Emme Ordish, Zach Taylor, Hope Hill, Joseph Myerscough, Sebastian Griffiths.



Well done to the students who submitted work for the Royal Academy Summer Art Show. We cannot wait to find out if any of our lovely students are chosen for the exhibition.

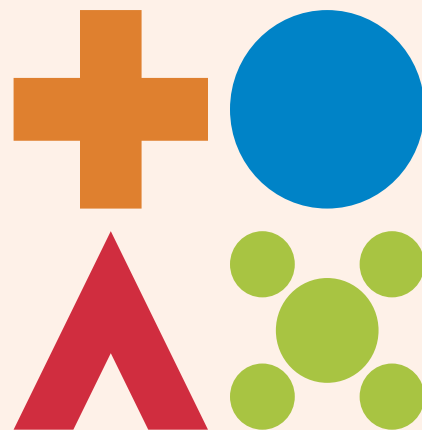
Personal Development

Year 9 Engage Brilliantly with AIMS Education Workshops

Our Year 9 students recently took part in a series of Healthy Relationships workshops delivered by AIMS Education, and the response from pupils has been overwhelmingly positive. The sessions explored important themes such as what healthy relationships look like, why they matter, the importance of boundaries, recognising red flags, understanding online behaviour, and the impact of misogyny and misandry. Throughout the workshops, students showed an impressive level of maturity, enthusiasm, and curiosity. They contributed thoughtfully to discussions about respect, equality, trust, communication, and consent

which were the core elements highlighted in the sessions. They were also actively involved in interactive activities that helped them identify healthy versus unhealthy behaviours and understand how different types of relationships (friendships, family, online, and romantic) can affect wellbeing. AIMS Education commended the year group for their engagement, and it was clear that the messages shared resonated strongly with our students. The workshops not only equipped them with valuable knowledge but also encouraged them to reflect on the relationships in their own lives and how to navigate them confidently and safely.

We are incredibly proud of how Year 9 represented the school and grateful to AIMS Education for delivering such meaningful and impactful sessions.



City of Sporting Excellence Event

Year 8 Shine at the City of Sporting Excellence Event

A fantastic group of our Year 8 students had the privilege of attending the City of Sporting Excellence event at Aintree Racecourse, an inspiring day hosted in collaboration with Aintree Racecourse, the Liverpool FC Foundation, and Everton in the Community. The event, held in the lead up to the 2026 Randox Grand National, brought together some of the region's biggest sporting organisations to motivate and educate young people across the city.

Our students were thrilled to meet several high profile sporting figures, including Grand National winner Bob Champion, former Liverpool FC captain from the 1980s Phil Thompson,



and former Everton and Liverpool women's football star Natasha Dowie. Each guest generously shared stories, advice, and encouragement, giving students a rare opportunity to hear first hand about life at the top level of sport. One of the highlights of the day was seeing the famous Chair jump up close and learning about how this iconic Grand National fence is built and maintained. Students also took part in a range of exciting activities, including darts challenges and football based

skills sessions, all designed to build confidence, teamwork, and aspiration. The event offered a unique blend of sport, education, and inspiration, and our Year 8 cohort represented Chesterfield High brilliantly. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and impeccable behaviour made us extremely proud. A huge thank you to Aintree Racecourse, Everton in the Community, and the Liverpool FC Foundation for providing such an unforgettable experience.

Maths Challenge

We had 21 students take part in the UKMT maths challenge a few weeks ago.

We are delighted that we had:

1 gold medal winner

4 silver medal winners

6 bronze medal winners

These are awarded nationally for students who get above certain boundaries.



Modern Foreign Languages



A group of talented linguists in Year 9 attended the University of Manchester for a Language Tasters Day.

Students created and acted out scenes in Spanish with the support of student ambassadors. Afterwards, they excelled in a beginner's lesson of Mandarin!

Thank to you the University for having us.



History

Holocaust Remembrance Week

In January, our school marked Holocaust Remembrance Week with a series of thoughtful and moving activities centred on this year's theme, Bridging Generations. The week provided students across the school with valuable opportunities to learn about the Holocaust, reflect on its legacy, and understand the importance of passing stories from one generation to the next.

Throughout the week, students in Key Stage 3 explored the experiences of Holocaust survivors during their lessons, encouraging meaningful discussions about prejudice, resilience and the responsibility we all share to challenge hatred and discrimination. Some of our A level Historians worked closely with Year 7 classes to support their learning. The older students helped guide discussions and activities, modelling empathy and maturity while strengthening the sense of community within our school. Some Sixth Formers also shared their own experiences of visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau.



Year 9 students had the privilege of welcoming a guest speaker, Leah Burman from the Northern Holocaust Education Trust. Leah spoke about her father, Ziggy, a Polish Holocaust survivor who endured unimaginable hardship. Ziggy was imprisoned in three concentration camps and was forced to take part in a death march as the war ended. Through Leah's heartfelt and vivid storytelling, Ziggy's experiences were brought to life for our students.

Her visit was both moving and inspiring. Students listened in respectful silence as they learned about the resilience and courage shown in the face of cruelty and inhumanity. Leah emphasised the importance of remembering the Holocaust and, crucially, of ensuring that survivors' stories continue to be shared as fewer witnesses remain. Her message strongly reflected this year's theme of Bridging Generations — reminding us that it is now our responsibility to carry these stories forward.

Chesterfield High Careers Fair

– A Huge Success

Chesterfield High School recently hosted a whole-school Careers Fair, and it proved to be an outstanding success. Students from across all year groups were fully engaged throughout the event, eagerly exploring the wide range of future pathways available to them. Their enthusiasm was clear as they asked thoughtful questions, gathered information, and showed genuine curiosity about the possibilities ahead.



We were delighted to welcome an extensive range of businesses, colleges, universities, training organisations, and community partners who generously gave their time and expertise. Exhibitors included: Little League Sports, SWRAC, Alder Hey Children's Trust Academy, Edge Hill University, Hugh Baird College, Waterside Training, Realise Training, Sheffield University, Hope University, Myerscough College, Liverpool Maths School, Liverpool Media Academy, Southport College/King George V College, Kings Trust, ESPFA, City of Liverpool College, Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Cavendish Nuclear, The Learning Foundry, and the University of Chester.



Their presence made a powerful impact on our students, helping them to see that it is never too early to build aspiration, ambition, and hope for the future. At Chesterfield High, we deeply value the partnerships we hold with the wider community, and events like this demonstrate the difference such collaboration can make. We extend our sincere thanks to all who attended and contributed to an inspiring and forward-looking experience for our young people.



Foreign Language Spelling Bee

Three Year 7 students (Amelia Lloyd, Charlotte Westlake and Freya Adams) represented Chesterfield High School brilliantly at the North-West Regional Spelling Bee Final, held at Liverpool University. Out of more than 1,900 students who initially entered the competition, they secured places in the final 29 – an outstanding achievement.

In the final, held in a lecture theatre, students were challenged to translate and correctly spell as many words as possible from a 200-word list within just one minute. All three girls rose to the occasion, showing excellent linguistic skills and confidence under pressure.



We are proud of all three students, two of whom have also qualified for the National Final at Cambridge University this June. There, they will compete against other regional champions and will need to learn and spell 300 words using the Spanish alphabet.

Congratulations to all three students on their fantastic success, and best of luck to our finalists in the next round!



Geography



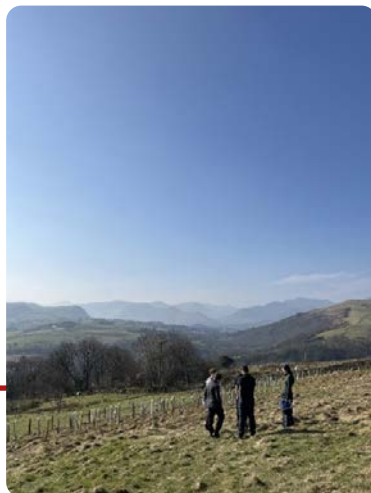
Year 9

Year 9 Geographers recently carried out fieldwork around the school site to investigate how infiltration rates vary on different surfaces and how this impacts flood risk in our local area. Students tested woodland, grass and concrete, carefully measuring how quickly water soaked into the ground. They demonstrated excellent data collection skills, recorded and compared their results, and analysed which areas are most at risk of surface runoff. Students then explored the use of GIS to present their findings and applied their evaluation skills to reflect on the reliability of their data and suggest improvements to their enquiry.



Year 12

Year 12 Geographers recently took part in a residential fieldtrip to Blencathra in the Lake District to develop the fieldwork enquiry skills needed for their individual Non-Examined Assessment (NEA). Over the course of the trip, students practised independent data collection, including physical and human fieldwork techniques, while refining their sampling, risk assessment and data presentation skills. They worked collaboratively in a range of environments, building confidence in forming research questions and applying geographical theory, ensuring they are well prepared to complete their own independent coursework investigations.



Music



Key Stage Four Music students were invited by Nikita and the learning team at the Liverpool Philharmonic to see a performance of a Schumann's overture, a Beethoven piano concerto, and Berlioz's Symphony Fantastique.

90% of the GCSE music students had never seen a live orchestra before. This was their first chance to experience a completely different kind of live music, as well as gain an insight into how an orchestra works.

The students were really well-behaved and we can't wait to take them to the Philharmonic again for another fantastic musical experience.



LIVERPOOL
PHILHARMONIC



Dance yourself dizzy!

Dance Show



140 students from years 7 to 13 came together to put on two brilliant shows full of energy and excitement. Students had been practicing since September, coming every week to perfect their dances and display their passion for friends and family.



Equality and diversity concert

Thursday 26th March saw 15 students from year 10 performing in this year's concert. The theme was the power of belonging and we chose a powerful street dance style to show unity between dancers and how everyone belongs.

All of our dancers contributed to the choreography.



Official World Record

On Friday 27th Feb, 48 students took part in a rehearsal for their upcoming performance on 20th March at Odsal Stadium in Bradford. This performance will join 1800 other students across the country in an attempt to break the official world record of the most amount of dancers to a popstar (Sigala). We are super excited to be a part of this event.



Little Shop of Horrors

As we prepare for the final performance of this year's school production, Little Shop of Horrors, we couldn't be prouder of the incredible company of young actors who have taken a major West End and Broadway hit and truly made it their own.

Our cast of forty-eight students from Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 13 began their journey back in September, steadily building momentum through months of rehearsals that have brought us to this exciting production week.

But it isn't only the performers who deserve recognition. The Art and Hard Tech teams have worked tirelessly to create the four impressive plants featured in the show. Our Year 13 Performing Arts students have been outstanding, mastering the operation of these complex props in a remarkably short time. And of course, our expressive arts and music team have been exceptional coordinating the fantastic costumes and stage managing the entire production with precision and care.



Individual Sporting Achievements

Congratulations Oliver

Huge congratulations to Oliver (Y12) on an outstanding performance at the WKKC English Championships! He won triple gold in 16–17 Points Fighting, Light Continuous, and Open Weight.

He has now qualified to represent England in Cadiz this October. *Incredible achievement!*

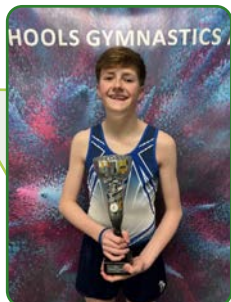


Congratulations to the Williams'

Toby Williams year 7 won gold at individual and team sparring, at TAGB English championships at Worcester 15th March 2026.



Taylor Williams year 10 won gold at team sparring, lost to the silver winner in individuals.



Celebrating Success: Noah Atkinson Takes National Title

We are delighted to share some fantastic news with our community — huge congratulations to Noah Atkinson, who achieved an incredible 1st place finish at the National Schools Trampoline Finals on Saturday, March 14.

This remarkable achievement is a testament not only to Noah's hard work and dedication, but also to the support of his coaches, family, and everyone who has encouraged him along the way. Reaching this level of success requires countless hours of training, resilience, and a true passion for the sport—all of which Noah has shown in abundance.

We are incredibly proud of his accomplishment and look forward to seeing what he achieves next. *Well done, Noah!*



A Fantastic Achievement for Mollie Mullin

Congratulations also go to Mollie Mullin, who secured an impressive 4th place in an exceptionally tough category at the 2026 National Schools Trampoline Finals.

Mollie delivered an outstanding performance, achieving her highest score to date—a true reflection of her dedication, perseverance, and growing confidence in the sport. Competing against top students from schools across the UK, finishing 4th is a remarkable accomplishment and one to be extremely proud of.

This achievement has only strengthened Mollie's determination, and she is already focused on coming back even stronger next time. Her positive attitude and commitment to continuous improvement are truly inspiring.

Well done, Mollie — we look forward to seeing what you achieve next!

Chesterfield High School

Chesterfield Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 9YB. Tel: 0151 924 6454 Fax: 0151 931 5089

Email: head@chesterfieldhigh.co.uk www.chesterfieldhigh.org.uk