



WELLNESS
AMBITION
TOGETHERNESS
CONFIDENCE
HONESTY

CHOSEN HILL SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

Parent Bulletin
Friday 12th May 2023



Diary Dates for this month:

Wednesday 17th May 2023:
Student Leadership Training

Friday 19th May 2023:
Sixth Form Leavers Assembly

Monday 22nd May 2023:
Sixth Form Study Leave Begins -
After this date, Year 13 students will not be expected to attend Learning Mentor time and can choose to spend their Directed and Self-Directed Study at home. However, it is expected that students will attend all timetabled lessons until the exams in their subjects are complete.

Thank you for your support over what has been a (short but) busy week.

Over the last couple of weeks the student leadership team have handed over the baton to the Y12 leaders. Thank you for all the amazing work they have done in supporting the school across the last year. The new team have lots of good ideas and a passion to help the school continue to make progress.

In the run up to the end of term we start the process of celebrating our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they prepare for their exams and we start to look towards the exciting plans for Term 6 which sees Sports Day, Enrichment Week and Induction days.

Have a good weekend

Mr Pauling
Headteacher

Connect with us on Social Media:



www.chosenhillschool.co.uk

Learning Tip:

Plan Study Time

Successful students schedule specific times throughout the week when they are going to study and then they stick to this schedule. Students who are not as structured do not perform as well. Creating a weekly routine with your child where you set aside time each to complete home learning will ensure they develop habits which will help them succeed in life-long learning.

Working at Chosen Hill School - Vacancies

Vacancy

Lead Practitioner - English

Teacher of Art and Photography

HR Officer

Link to Advert

[Eteach](#)

[Eteach](#)

[Eteach](#)

Closing Date

14th May 2023

16th May 2023

16th May 2023

Communication with School

We welcome timely communication with the school. Please do feel supported in contacting the school if you have any specific concerns or wish to share some positive news about any of our students. We recognise that sometimes things don't go as we expect or hope they would and the sharing of information with staff is really helpful in addressing any issues or concerns to support all students and families.

Unfortunately, very rarely, communication with the school can become aggressive and/or abusive. Clearly this cannot be tolerated and in these situations staff may end the call. It is policy that we will report any abusive calls to the police.

Thank you for your support.

Heads-up Holiday FSM Voucher Scheme May Holiday

For the May/June half term, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) is providing vouchers to eligible families who have signed up to the Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by GCC as part of our commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through grant funding we have received and is separate to that of term time free school meals.

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. We are unable to consider college and sixth form students as well as children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children in reception to year 2); they are not eligible for this scheme.

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of £15 per child.

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register - you will already have been included. To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

If you have any updates to an existing application, please email childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk so that we can update your details, as this is not an automatic process.

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal vouchers for the May/June half term are now open until midday 16 May. Voucher emails will be sent out on 22 May. If you have not received your vouchers by the 23 May, please email childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

PE Dress Code 2023-2024

The PE dress code has been reviewed for September 2023. The school has made a number of changes in a move towards gender neutrality. This is still not completely possible, as the school is required to work within the guidance of certain sports governing bodies that continue to require specific equipment and dress codes. The school has changed to darker colours to help maintain the longevity of the PE kit and to keep the cost as low as possible.

For the academic year 2023-24 onwards, Year 7 are required to wear the new PE dress code outlined below. The uniform can be purchase through the school's uniform supplier, [Monkhouse Schoolwear Specialists](#) from 26th May 2023. Displays can be viewed at Reception.

Years 8-11 can continue to wear their current PE uniform. Parents/carers are asked to replace items of clothing following the new PE dress code guidelines when required e.g. to replace wear and tear, a new size is required, a student would prefer the new PE dress code.

PE dress code from September 2023

BOYS

- Green/red reversible rugby shirt;
- Black shorts;
- Green games socks with white tops;
- Green and White School Logo Polo Shirt;
- White socks (non-branded);
- Trainers - any colour;
- Rugby or football boots (essential for outdoor activites on the field);
- Optional: skins (top and bottom) - plain black, (NB. tracksuit bottoms are not suitable for rugby and football) - no large logos.

GIRLS

- Green and White hooded sweatshirt with school logo;
- Black skort;
- Green games socks with white tops;
- Green and White School Logo Polo Shirt
- White socks (non branded);
- Trainers – any colour;
- Optional: black shorts/ leggings/ skins/tracksuit bottoms – plain black, no large logos or mesh sides (CHS leggings available from Monkhouse Schoolwear Specialists).





Mental Health Awareness Week, Student self-referral and BounceTogether

As you will be aware, next week is Mental Health Awareness Week (15th – 21st May 2023) and we will be using this theme across the whole school assemblies as well as drawing attention to support that is available and how we can all be more proactive in improving our wellbeing and mental health throughout the year.

Many students have already benefited from the opportunity to self-refer into our school Mental Health support. There is further information about this and other support options on

our school website here:

<https://chosenhillsschool.co.uk/home/parents-and-students/mental-wellbeing/where-to-access-support/>

Students accessing this School referral form need to log in with Microsoft 365 using their usual school login. It can be accessed here: [SMHRF: School Mental Health Referral Form](#)

You may also be aware that we have adopted a student survey platform called [BounceTogether](#) in order to create a regular 'Wellbeing check-up' for all students from Year 7 to Year 13 as we are increasingly aware of the need to place mental health and wellbeing at the core of everything we do and the importance of supporting this for everyone within our community.

The wellbeing survey is now in its fourth cycle, during Mental Health Awareness Week, and allows us to gain a thorough insight and understanding around the levels of wellbeing and attitudes to learning over time, highlighting the necessary action points within the results. One of the significant benefits of this survey, is if the students are able to begin to recognise times they may need additional support, and also as this is de-stigmatised, being more of a 'quick check-up' we will be able to offer the right support at the right time.

At the same time, next week, we are also asking all students to complete a second survey about extra-curricular involvement. We know, it is often the involvement in physical and creative activities, house events, clubs and visits that helps to build self-esteem and the sense of belonging and purpose that is so beneficial for wellbeing. We would like to celebrate the involvement that there already is in these kinds of activities, and also encourage all students to participate. The survey will help us to understand what is working and how we can improve further to remove any remaining barriers to participation that may exist.

We will be asking all students (via classcharts) to complete both surveys during next week, with the opportunity to do this at school in Learning Mentor time, or at home. The link to the bounceTogether login page is here: [BounceTogether](#) and (as with the self referral form) the students should log in using Microsoft 365 from this page. Both surveys will appear on students' BounceTogether homepage and should take only a few minutes to complete.

Finally, there are a number of excellent websites which have support for children, parents and schools, and with the theme of the week this year being anxiety, there are also events, podcasts and webinars running throughout the week. An excellent site for information on a range of topics, is the Charlie Waller Trust -

<https://charliewaller.org/> with searchable topic pages such as:

<https://charliewaller.org/mental-health-resources/anxiety/>

Any queries or specific support you or your child would like to talk about with us, please do contact the school and we will be very happy to discuss individually.

Duke of Edinburgh Award - Silver Expedition

On Saturday 29th April 2023, three silver DofE groups assembled at the picnic site at the top of Fish Hill to begin their Silver Expedition. We had two groups completing their expedition on foot (pink and green), the third (orange) by bicycle.



The Pink team; Florence Wasley, Chloe Lockett, Chloe Mason, Harrison Curl-Wride, and Harvey Croston

The Green team; Lorenzo Ercoles, Szymon Plago, Charlie Davidson, and Ethan Morris



The Orange team; Oliver Curneen, Jacob Wiggins, Joseph Jones, Theo Brain, Ilythia Watson and Amelia Nowick.

The weather was fair as all three teams began their journey through the North Cotswolds. Pink and green teams heading towards Broadway tower before going their separate ways; Greens proceeding west towards Buckland then continuing through Stanton, Stanway, and Wood Stanway before arriving at Hayles Fruit farm. The Pink team continued south stopping at Snowhill before cutting west and crossing paths with the Greens at Stanway, quickly sweeping through Didbrook on their way to camp. After showing some excellent navigation skills across the day, both teams arrived in good time and began to put up their tents and cook their evening meal. Both teams then checked their routes for day 2 before spending some social time together enjoying a glorious sunset to close out their first day.



The cyclists however had a much more challenging time. Their 35km route took them swiftly down to Snowhill before heading east across various bridal paths, over Bourton Downs to Hinchwick where they turned back at Crabs Corner and headed west to Stanway. From there it was a short leg to camp. Some difficult navigation meant that their day lasted far longer than they had planned, arriving at 8:45pm, thoroughly exhausted but happy at their achievement. After a brief hello

with the walking groups they quickly got on with the tasks at hand and divided the jobs between them, four of the group pitching their tents as the remaining pair prepared dinner for the team. Knowing that there were two more full days to follow everybody turned in for a relatively early night and a good nights sleep.

Any chance of a lazy Sunday lie in were shattered by the resident geese who serenaded the party to a delightfully loud morning chorus at 5am. Which led to many of the participants wandering around preparing breakfast in a state of shock at being awake so early! After a slow start to a slightly damp day all the teams were up and running and out of camp by 10.





The routes on day two were all circular as we were returning to Hayles Fruit Farm for a second night

Green team headed out East through Hailes wood and up towards Stumps cross before visiting the church at Cutsdean. They then went south to Temple Guiting church, before swinging round through Pinnock wood, and North Farmcote before returning to camp. The Pinks completed a very similar route but in an anticlockwise direction. This gave both teams an opportunity to say a brief hello to

each other as they passed in the middle of a field between Cutsdean and Temple Guiting.

The Orange team also headed out through Hailes wood and down through Farmcote before heading east to their first stop at Temple Guiting church. They then headed south through Kineton and Barton before turning back on themselves and calling at Guiting Power before continuing south to their final church of the day at Hawling. All that remained then was a straight run north back to camp. They had a much better second day, and their navigation and timing was much improved, meaning that they arrived back when they were expected.

After dinner and route planning for the final day everyone got to indulge in some hard earned social time and a chance to reflect on what they had achieved so far. Spirits were high amongst all the participants and once more everyone had an early night hoping that the geese would allow them to sleep a little later the following morning.



Alas, it was not to be and once more we were awakened by our feathery alarm clocks 5am. The geese quickly quieted down, which allowed many to grab an extra couple of hours in bed before rising for the final day of their adventure. It was at this point when the weather was at its most unkind. After a dry night, meaning the tents would only require a little airing, the heavens opened. Five minutes of heavy rain at 7 am meant that the participants had to deal with thoroughly soaked tents, making the final day just that little bit tougher.



Undeterred, all three teams packed up camp, and organised themselves for the final day of their Silver expedition. First port of call for all three groups was the church in Winchcombe. Green and Orange heading directly there, whilst Pinks took a more scenic route in. Once there, all the teams then headed out in different directions. Greens headed up to Belas Knap picking up the Winchcombe way which lead them over Cleeve hill to the golf course and the final check point. Where they confidently strutted into the car park bang on 4pm to successfully complete their

expedition. Pinks followed the River Isbourne up the valley to Postlip Hall before following the Cotswold way to Cleeve Hill Golf Club arriving 5 minutes behind Green to finish. Orange headed out past Newmeadow farm to farm out to Charlton Abbots before doubling back on themselves and heading to Belas Knap. Once they arrived at Belas Knap they also followed the Winchcombe way over Cleeve swooping down the final hill to the Golf Club completing their final day and expedition.



Congratulations to all our participants for passing the main part of their expedition, there remains just one thing left for them to do, and that is to present the findings of their project /investigation at school on 24th May.

A massive thank you to Jo Clarke (parent volunteer, supervisor and assessor) without whom this weekend would not have happened.

Thank you also to Hayles fruit farm for allowing us to camp over the Bank Holiday Weekend and to Cleeve Hill Golf Club for letting us invade their car park on the final day.



We received this lovely feedback from the church warden about our cycling group:

"I am a Church 'Watcher' at St Peter's Winchcombe and off duty this morning (May Day) but was gardening at the time of a visit from a group of pupils from the school.

I understand they were on a D of E project and had cycled over Cleeve Hill and going through Winchcombe.

Their mission of the moment was to detail the oldest gravestone in the Churchyard and what a pleasure it was helping them trace this through the Church records and discovering the outcome with them.

They were a most courteous and intelligent group of students, a credit to your school, and I wish them well in their D of E work."

Andrew Worthington FCA



House News

House Honorary Members

Students in each house have been voting for their honorary members. They were looking to nominate people in the public eye who show good leadership qualities and values that they themselves wish to hold.

The winners were...

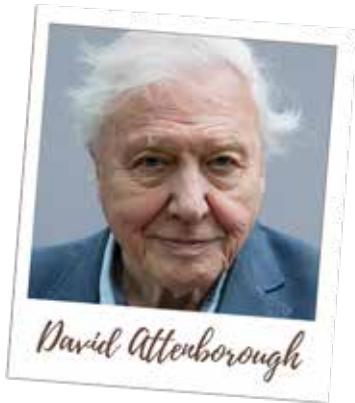
Carne: Jill Scott

Jill Scott is a professional footballer from England who has played for her national team and various clubs, including Manchester City. She is known for her versatility and tenacity on the pitch, and has won numerous accolades throughout her career.



Scott: David Attenborough

David Attenborough is a naturalist, broadcaster and writer known for his captivating documentaries on nature and wildlife. He has dedicated his life to raising awareness about the planet's biodiversity and the urgent need for conservation.



Masefield: Marcus Rashford

Marcus Rashford is a professional footballer from England who plays for Manchester United and the national team. He is also a passionate advocate for children's welfare and has successfully campaigned for free school meals and other initiatives to support vulnerable families.



Whittle: Michelle Obama

Michelle Obama is a lawyer, author and advocate for social justice. As First Lady, she launched initiatives to promote healthy living and education for girls. She continues to inspire and empower people worldwide through her work and speeches.





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Chosen Hill School **FIRST AID**

First Aid Courses

- First Aid at Work
- First Aid at Work Requalification
- Emergency First Aid
- Annual Refresher
- Student First Aid
- Activity First Aid

Fire Safety Courses

- Fire Safety
- Fire Safety Awareness

Mental Health First Aid Courses

- Mental Health First Aid
- Mental Health First Aid Awareness
- Mental Health First Aid Supervisor

*To enquire about dates and prices please email:
training@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk
 or call 01452 713488 and speak to
 Debbie Wardlaw or Mike Hemming*



Sporting Achievements



Year 10 GCSE participated in Interval Training this week by completing a continuous relay. Ollie, Oscar, Charlie, Caleb and Alfie completed in 4 minutes 58 seconds.

Well done boys!



Another rounders match for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 this week.

3 wins and a draw.

Well done all!



Well done to Ben Lucas, Sam Jones and Harry Eagles who play for Brockworth Albion Football Team, who won the U13 County Cup last weekend.

They are only the second Gloucester team to have ever won the County Cup.





Sporting Achievements

Well done to our Year 9 Sports Leaders on completing their MoveMore Leadership course at Hartpury College this week.








They will now be assisting in various sports events at school and also leading a primary school festival later in the year organised by MoveMore.








Sports Clubs

April to July

Boys Sports Clubs

	Morning	Lunch	After School
Monday			
Tuesday		 Year 8 Cricket: Sports Hall	Year 7 Cricket 
Wednesday			 All Years Athletics: School Field 
Thursday		All Years Tennis: Tennis Courts	Years 9 & 10 Cricket: Sports Hall Year 9 Softball 
Friday		All Years Tennis: Tennis Courts	Years 7, 8 & 9 Tennis: Tennis Courts Year 7 Rugby League 

Girls Sports Clubs

	Morning	Lunch	After School
Monday			
Tuesday	Girls Fitness: Girls Gym		<i>All Years</i> Girls Rounders: School Field
Wednesday		Girls Cricket: Sports Hall	<i>All Years</i> Athletics: School Field 
Thursday	Girls Fitness: Girls Gym	<i>All Years</i> Tennis: Tennis Courts	<i>Years 7, 8, 9 & 10</i> Rounders Matches
Friday		<i>All Years</i> Tennis: Tennis Courts	



Photography at Chosen Hill School

We will be taking photographs of sporting fixtures. These could be used for display purposes within the school, on our website and social media platforms (these include Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok and LinkedIn).

If you DO NOT wish your child's photo to be used as indicated please contact publicity@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk to opt out.