



# Parent Bulletin

December  
2024

## Key Dates for December

**Tuesday 10th December-** International Dimensions Fundraiser

**Monday 16th December-** Year 11 Parent's Evening

**Tuesday 17th December-** Y7 Christmas Disco

**Thursday 19th December-** Sixth Form Christmas Dinner

**Friday 20th December-** Come as You Like Day/ Last Day of Term

## November Reflections

Welcome to a somewhat chillier monthly bulletin. Last month we took time to reflect on the sacrifice of others through our Remembrance Day activities, which were observed by the students impeccably. Our Year 11 were busy with their Mock examinations and our Eco group managed to make BBC News when attending the Climate Conference 2024 held in Cheltenham Town Hall. We have continued to work hard on driving good attendance building on the excellent start to the year – thank you for your support.

## Ofsted Visit

As you will be aware earlier this week we were visited by Ofsted as part of their cycle of inspection. Thank you for your support in returning so many Parent surveys and sharing your views and experience of the school. The graded inspection included visits to lessons, student voice, curriculum conversations and a number of other wider school meetings. It was an intense but fair inspection which highlighted the many strengths and improving areas of the school as well as some areas for further development. Although we are pleased with the outcome I am not able to comment further until the report is published in the new year – at which point I will be able to share more of the findings and the judgements.

## December Forecast

As we head into December we are looking forward to an exciting and industrious last three weeks of term. Alongside the learning in lessons and full programme of fixtures, clubs and trips we have the joy of the You Are Awesome fair run by Year 7 students and the madness of the end of term Come As You Like day. Both of these activities are important fundraisers for our support of local charities and international partnerships. I am really pleased that we will be supporting the Thantwe School in Malawi this year with a target of raising enough money to equip a new classroom for their students. Money raised will also go to support our partnership with SAI International School – I am also delighted that we will be sending a delegation of three staff and ten Year 13 students to India later this week as part of our curriculum and cultural collaboration. It is fantastic that we are giving students an opportunity to experience India having regularly hosted their students at Chosen Hill. This is a time of year linked to the joy of giving and we hope that as a community we are able to raise enough awareness and money through our charity events to make a difference together. Please keep a look out for our social media posts to keep you informed our progress and upcoming activities.

Many thanks

Mr Pauling  
Headteacher

# Sporting Acheivements

**Year 7 Rugby:** Numbers remain high despite recent cold weather. Competitive games against Balcarras and Crypt to finish the season. Good foundations for many more years of school rugby. Well done all involved

**Year 8 Rugby:** Recent wins against Bournside and close game against Crypt and Pates. Great to see two teams representing the school in this year group.

**Year 9 Rugby:** Into the quarter finals of the county plate competition and now only one game away from Kingsholm. Rednock next up. Good luck in next round.

**Year 10:** Great effort by Year 10 this season and huge improvements made in performances. Still looking for first win but we are impressed by commitment this year.

**Senior Rugby:** Much improved season compared to previous years with good games against Sir Thomas Richs and Holmleigh Park. Final game of season against Marling School on Wednesday 13th December

Boys basketball season has started so make sure you go to training during Monday lunchtimes. Post Christmas we move into the football term so look out for updates on PE department Instagram page as listen to announcements in lessons.

Reminder girls gym is open for Yr9-13 to use weights area during Monday and Friday lunchtimes. You must be in kit and have had an induction from Mr Pettifer then need to leave the space tidy.



November has been great, juggling different activities. The main vibe around PE is all the groups of girls rehearsing for the dance show. Every break and lunch time there are snippets of music from all genres coming from the rehearsal rooms. We are very much looking forward to the performance and let you know in the next bulletin how it went. The Year 7 A & B and 8 A & Bs had a great football match against Churchdown, it was very even with the 8As winning, one loss and 2 draws. The U16 girls are through to the county football finals after coming 2nd in the District tournament at Tewkesbury. In netball we have had friendly matches v Denmark Road, Leckhampton High and Churchdown. Well done to all those who come training and play in the matches.

# Chosen Hill Theatre



Rehearsals for Beauty and the Beast Junior are going wonderfully, and the progress our cast has made is fantastic. With 70 talented students involved, the energy and enthusiasm in every rehearsal is truly infectious. Our cast members have been working hard to bring their characters to life, and it's clear that each one is dedicated to making this production a success. From the colourful choreography to the beautiful music and heartfelt performances, the show is coming together brilliantly. The commitment and teamwork from all involved have been inspiring, and we're confident that this will be a performance to remember. We can't wait to share the magic of Beauty and the Beast Junior with our audience and showcase the incredible talent of our students on stage!

# Gloucestershire Business School Challenge 2024



On Friday 28th November 2024 we were delighted to welcome Dr. Robert Whitehouse, Gloucestershire University Business School, into our A-Level Business class to help them prepare their new innovative business idea presentations for the upcoming Grand Final of the Gloucestershire Business School Challenge, which will take place on Wednesday 11th December 2024 at the university's 'state-of-the-art Business School at their Oxstalls Campus. The teams ran through their presentations and Dr. Whitehouse provided constructive feedback on both content and technique, which the teams have taken on board to improve their work ahead of next Wednesday's final.

It was lovely to work in partnership with the university and we are currently looking at ways to increase the number of learning activities that our two organisations can collaborate on. Thanks to Dr. Whitehouse for giving his time and excellent contribution to the learning of our A-Level Business students, and to our students for going the extra mile to develop their business ideas and for their engagement during the session.

They are now strong contenders and we wish them the very best for the upcoming final.

# DofE Highlights

Bronze DofE Students have now started their expedition skills training in earnest with Mr. Bird and the support of Jacob Wiggins, Roman Wardle and Hollie Cummins – 3 Gold DofE participants who are kindly sharing their skills and expertise to assist Mr. Bird whilst he covers the role, pending the appointment of New Bronze Award Leader. Most of the participants are now actively pursuing their sectional activities outside of school, with just one or two still working with Mr. Bird to set up any remaining programme plans.

Silver DofE has got off to a great start this term at Chosen hill. In their weekly sessions students have been learning to identify map symbols, taking 6 figure grid references and how to use a compass. We have spent time out on the field using compasses to see how precise we can be when walking a course and will soon be taking part in a blindfold challenge to help improve teamwork as well as use of a compass when visibility is low. In the classroom students have begun planning their routes for the first day of their silver expedition focusing on the 6D's of route planning. Students are also beginning to think about suitable projects based on the environment in which they will be in. Future sessions in the run up to Christmas will include food, always important, as well as more route planning.

The Gold DofE participants have decided to do a cycle expedition this year and Ms Jo. Clarke, as a qualified Mountain Bike Trial Leader, has kindly agreed to help the teams train and to assist Mr. Bird in supervising their expeditions during the Spring and Summer terms. We are looking forward to seeing how this works and the participants are working hard to refresh and enhance their expedition skills, ready for wild country next year.

Thank you, to all the parents/carers for their continued encouragement and support of our amazing participants as they continue their DofE journey. May we also ask you to check the most recent DofE Kit list (found [here](#)) and to ensure all items of personal expedition kit, and clothing are obtained – it is a great time to add needed kit to Christmas present lists and get the extended family and friends to help with the costs.

We are currently advertising for a new volunteer Bronze Award Leader, if you are available for once a week (Wednesdays, 3:05 – 4:15pm) and just 2 weekends each academic year, we would be delighted to receive your application for the role. To find out more, please contact Mr. Bird using: [IB@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:IB@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk). No formal qualifications are needed, as training will be provided but you will need a DBS check and bags of enthusiasm!

On behalf of all the DofE volunteer staff at CHS, may I also take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

I. Bird

DofE Manager

## Hungry No More Foodbank Collection

Please see the list below for our collection for Hungry No More Foodbank  
Please bring them into your LM group to be collected by next Friday.

Bags of rice  
Pasta  
cereal  
Tinned meat  
Tinned meals  
Tinned vegetables  
Tinned fruit  
Other desserts.

## GCHQ Challenge:

The Year 9 MFL students showed exceptional enthusiasm and dedication during the GCHQ National Language Competition, held from 18th to 22nd November. Taking part in a series of challenging brain teasers and code-breaking puzzles in multiple languages, the students demonstrated impressive problem-solving skills and teamwork. They worked hard both in and outside of their language lessons, often completing challenges at home to refine their strategies and crack codes. Their commitment paid off as they climbed the competition leaderboard, showcasing not only their linguistic abilities but also their critical thinking and perseverance. It was a fantastic experience for all involved! Our winners were:

1st - Team 'Innocent Fantastic Kingbird' (Sophia Pinless, Julia Durska, Amelia Mazur, Melissa Klein)

2nd - Team 'Innocent Pretty Puffin' (Evan Rossi, Luke Jones, Jake Davidson)

3rd - Team 'Kind Elegant Newt' (Marlena Muszynska-Heidenreich, Cassidy Rowswell, Isabel Walker, Yuvashree Sridharan)

# Notices

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



Back by popular demand, Chosen Hill 100% Attendance bingo has returned.

Our student population really enjoyed the 100% Attendance Bingo last academic year so much, that they asked that the school organises this again.

- From Monday 2 to Friday 20 December, we are repeating the Chosen Hill 100% Attendance Bingo.
- All students will start with 100% attendance.
- On the last day of term all students still on 100% will come together to play prize bingo.
- All students with winning cards will win some amazing prizes.

This is a fun event, but the message is also important – good attendance really does matter. Your efforts, working with us, will ensure that your child will have the best chance to achieve their academic potential, not just for these last three weeks but throughout the rest of the year. We genuinely believe it will also enable your child to:

- access the lessons needed to achieve their expected grades;
- maintain friendships and develop new ones;
- have access to social and sporting events offered by the school;
- explore potential life skills;
- develop work habits such as good punctuality which are essential to thrive in the world of employment.

We will be launching this to the student population and hope that they are in the bingo hall at the end of this term.

## **Lost Property**

There is an extensive amount of items held in Lost Property. If your child has lost or mislaid clothing or equipment over the last term they can come to reprographics to see if it is theirs. Reprographics is open 8.00am – 8.25am and 11.00am – 11.20am. Any unnamed lost property left at the end of term will be donated to charity.

**P.A.T.C.H.**  
*Christmas Raffle*

**Tickets £1 each via gateway  
available now!**

*DRAW W/C 16.12.24*

**£100, £75, £50 and £25 value  
vouchers up for grabs!**

**A variety of  
multi- store  
shopping  
vouchers on  
offer!!**



# November Photo Gallery

