



Chislehurst School for Girls

Thursday, 17th December 2020

Christmas Edition



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from us all

I wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our virtual music concert was an absolute joy at the end of a term, when all of the usual rites of passage in school have been taken away.

Watching the girls play the steel pans and listening to their singing was just wonderful. Music is such an integral part of school life and it was so positive to find a way to share this at the end of term. Congratulations to **Miss Lowing**, **Miss Mackintosh** and **Mr Brett** for making all of this happen.

Today we say goodbye to **Miss Gentry** as she leaves us for pastures new and we wish her every success and thank her for her work and encouragement of the girls in the PE Department. We also say goodbye to our two trainee teachers who will go to their next placement school in January. Both have brought their talent and inspiration to our school and I know that they have a really promising career ahead of them. To **Mr Brett** and **Ms Wynne**, we wish you every success.

I am very grateful to two local organisations who have kindly responded to my request for some new trophies for our students. The **Chislehurst School for Girls Community Service Award** - an engraved trophy by kind arrangement with The Chislehurst Rotary Club and **The Chislehurst Society Trophy** which will be presented following a new project that we will launch, relating to the local area in the new year. We are pleased to be supported by these organisations and thankful

for their donation of these trophies to support and inspire our students.

We are also grateful to **Bart's and St Thomas's** who have kindly agreed to let us place a school sign on their sports field on Perry Street. This will help to raise our profile locally.

In the new year our **School Hall Project** begins as we undertake some maintenance and modernisation. The governors of the school have kindly agreed to the installation of professional tiered retractable seating for the comfort of the students and our families. We look forward to a professional feel, when we are able to resume concerts and shows, as the school enters its 125th year in 2021.

Although we have never met, I have appreciated your messages of support and cards and do so look forward to inviting you into school when this terrible pandemic leaves us. Schools are tight and complex communities and we have been separated in many ways, but also remained really strong, purposeful, and united. To our students, you have been wonderful-supporting each other and staying calm and resilient. Our staff have been superb and really persevered to keep the education and safety of our students front and centre.

I send you my sincere best wishes for a safe and healthy 2021.

Mrs M. French

Headteacher's Bulletin

Congratulations

Mrs French met with some Year 11 students on Wednesday, 16th December 2020, to congratulate them upon passing an ECDL module:

Ellie Adams

Hayley Cope

Emily Owens

Annamaria Clapon

Mia Firth

Katie Porter

Macy Clark

Lisa Khalili

Yasmin Spriggs

Danii Cooper

Lily Lee

Sophia Ziakka

Kellie Cooper

Bianca Mensah

We are grateful to **Mrs Wagstaff** for taking the girls through this important qualification - Skills for Life.

We also congratulate the following Year 11 students with the most Achievement Points for this half-term:

Desiree Alli

Sophia Ison-White

Haylie Cope

Jorja-May Bater-Wade

Lisa Khalili

Congratulations to the following Year 10 students who enjoyed breakfast with Mrs French this week, following positive feedback from their Year Coordinator, Mrs Cornwell.

Samina Merezay

Nikita Sharma

Sia-Rihanna Nicol

Ohemaa Effina-Williams

Merry Music!



Brooke, Ava and Rosie-May

A huge congratulations and thank you to all the students and staff who participated in the Virtual Christmas Concert this week.

Following tradition, we are proud to announce five new **Music Legends** to our existing cohort. These students have now participated in at least four

concerts at the school. From Year 9 we welcome **Sarah** and **Esther**, from Year 10 as well as Rihanna and **Sophie** and **Maria**, Year 11.

The music team are already planning our Virtual Easter Concert, so please watch this space!

Festive Cheer



Festive cheer was in abundance this week as the newly refurbished Social Space had a special Christmas makeover.

Firstly, Ms Staples crocheted a stocking Advent calendar for every member and one by one they have been eagerly opened day by day.

Secondly, the room has Christmas trees adorned with decorations expertly made by the students themselves including **Adibah** and **Clara** (pictured).

Ms Staples' Social Space throughout this unusual and challenging term has served as a linchpin of CHSFG pastoral support.

Assisted by her enthusiastic TA team it has been an oasis and comfort for many of our students providing a calm and welcoming atmosphere to allow friendly interaction during breaks and lunch.

Social Space members would love to share with you their endeavours and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Some amazing and creative projects



We are an inclusive school, and every person counts, so it's really important that everyone feels integral to the wider community and part of something big.

This term we have formed a staff and student working party to promote equality and diversity across the school. We will also be seeking views from our parent stakeholders.

There are some amazing and creative projects already happening in the school including the study of Henry VIII's African divers, the representation of

Woman in Art and the geography of Eastern Europe.

Sixth Form have also had the pleasure and privilege to meet humanitarian, **Patrick Hutchinson**, who spoke to them about his important message of fighting racism in society.

We are committed to representing equality for all and celebrating our diversity in all curriculum areas and through our collective worship and enhancement programme. We are very much looking forward to showcasing more exciting initiatives in 2021.

Year 12 Psychologists — The Egg Baby Project



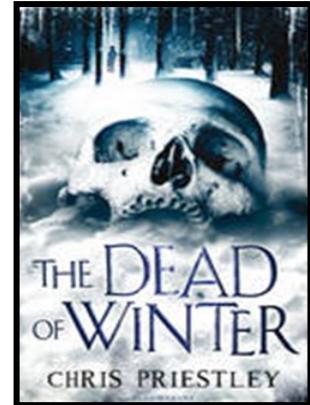
The Year 12 students took very good care (mostly!) of their Egg Babies this term. They were all tasked with boiling an egg and caring for it for 2 weeks with the goal of seeing how well they would attach to their eggs over the course of this period and whether they would feel happy to smash their eggs at the end!

Many of the eggs were cared for beautifully, supporting Bowlby's theory that adult humans have the innate ability to

attach to infants ... especially when they have big eyes and cute faces. However, some of the eggs were quite swiftly abandoned ... including **Mrs Buteux's** Tamagotchi which sadly was left in her office over a weekend and did not survive until Monday morning.

Year 12 Psychologists have had a really positive start to their A Level studies and should be very proud of themselves for all their hard work this term.

Book of the week: **The Dead of Winter**



Deep in the English countryside, there is a house which holds a terrible secret. Evil happened here and now madness lies behind every door. This house is Hewton Mere and it does not take kindly to strangers. This house is Michael Vyner's new home ...

In **The Dead of Winter**, Michael recalls a terrible story, one that happened to him. Michael's parents are dead, and he imagines that he will stay with the kindly lawyer, executor of his parents' Will, until he is invited to spend Christmas with his guardian in a bleak and desolate country house.

His arrival on the first night suggests something is not quite right when he sees a mysterious woman out in the frozen mists, standing alone in the marshes. But little can prepare him for the solitude of the house itself.

He is kept from his guardian and finds himself spending the Christmas holiday wandering the silent corridors of the house seeking distraction.

But lonely does not mean alone, as Michael soon realises that the house and its grounds harbour many secrets, dead and alive, and Michael is set the task of unravelling some of the darkest secrets of all.

A chilling story of hauntings and terror by the master of the genre, Chris Priestley.

Suitable for children of 12 and over, copies of this book are available from our school library.

Anti-Bullying Poster Winners!

The Head Student Team have been looking at all the fantastic posters from across the school that were entered into the Anti-Bullying Poster Competition. We had a variety of posters to choose from and it was a difficult decision to make.

The focus this year was ‘The Power of Words’ and students have used this to inspire their designs. There were posters with fantastic slogans, colours, design ideas and practical advice and a real sense of community and support when dealing with bullying. This demonstrates the caring nature of our



The winning posters were designed by Kiera, Year 8 and Isabella, Year 7. The girls will achieve a prize and lots of Achievement Points.

Well Done! We will display with pride these posters around our school.

Dance Delight!

Congratulations to all those students who entered the year 7 dance competition this term. Students were asked to choreograph and perform a short piece based on one of the

4 core school values Respect, Resilience, Restoration and Responsibility.

We had a number of fantastic entries and winners will be decided and awarded next term.

And finally ...



**Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year
from us all.**