



Chislehurst School for Girls

Headteacher's weekly bulletin 16th October 2020

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CHISLEHURST SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

1896-2020



This week the School marks its 124th Birthday, an important milestone to mark, but amidst the national and global situation, one with muted celebrations.

We shared a virtual assembly and as was the case from 1928 onwards the candles were burnt down without being blown out. When the first candles were lit in 1928, it was seen as a waste to blow them out and the girls would sit and watch them glow until the spectacle was over! This week, they burnt down slowly to prevent the transmission of infection.

We honour the School's foundation by the Chadbourne sisters in 1896 and have, through the virtual assembly, been able to honour those that have gone before us and the work and history of the school.





Black History Month.



What a legacy of educating children and young people and providing the best education possible. Today is no different and there is real strength when we are under pressure, and whilst the media have used the terminology of the winter of our profession- it seems the opposite to me, in that never before, in at least my time in education, have colleagues worked so hard to continue to prioritise learning and the wellbeing of the children and young people that we serve. It was a day therefore to celebrate this and the work of the entire school community to educate our young people, come what may.

Mrs French, Headteacher.

Sixth Form.

Our year 13 students are busy writing their personal statements and updating their UCAS applications.

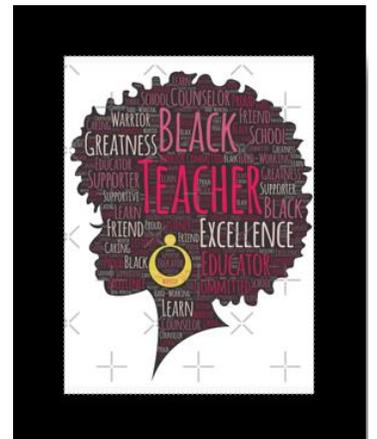
UCAS

We are all pleased to report that the first UCAS application for Medicine was sent earlier this week. This is a very important time for year 13 as they plan the next stage of their education. The Sixth Form team are busy supporting the students with their personal statements, references, and applications, while subject teachers have all written glowing reports to support their references. A big shout out for year 13 students who are working so hard on their studies and applications.

This week students held an interview with Miss Mensah to get a glimpse of her background and what it is like to be a Black woman in a senior position within education. Miss Mensah was brought up connected to her culture in some ways, eating cuisine such as Yam and Plantain. Miss Mensah has a beautiful collection of colourful Ghanaian clothes that she wears to church, weddings and parties.

As a teacher, Miss Mensah was not planning on getting a higher position, but she worked hard and when people saw this, they wanted to give her opportunities to improve and work her way up. She is now an acting Assistant Headteacher and Head of the Social Communications Faculty.

Miss Mensah's Mother was an inspiration to her. She worked nights so that she could be with her children during the day.



Year 7 Reward Breakfast.

This week Mrs French invited eight year 7 students to a reward breakfast to acknowledge the outstanding approach these girls have demonstrated at the beginning of their journey here at Chislehurst School for Girls.



Well done to Zahara, Lily-Rose, Edy, Isla, Cleo, Anusha, Viksha and Elpida.

Female Entrepreneurs.

Thank you to the parent of a Year 7 student for bringing an article to my attention this week. An inspirational and important article from the BBC Business Daily, entitled 'Sexism in African investment.'

Meet the Music Teacher.

Name: Mr C Wilkes



Instruments taught at CHSFG:

Flute, Clarinet and Saxophone

Other instruments played:

A little Oboe and Bassoon, but I also enjoy Conducting.

A bit about yourself:

I studied for a Bachelor of Arts in Music before completing my Masters in Performance at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. I now work for Bromley Youth Music Trust and enjoy a freelance performance career.

My favourite composers include John Williams, Stravinsky and Shostakovich but I also enjoy musical theatre shows.

Best Performing Experience:

Playing multiple instruments means I am fortunate to play in a variety of different performances and because of this, I have several performance highlights. Playing Clarinet/Saxophone in the Danish production of Chess the Musical in Copenhagen tops the list. This is followed closely with the two full scale opera productions I conducted during my studies.

Why students should learn to play your instrument?

The Woodwind family are very versatile and can give you the opportunity to play a vast array of music in a variety of settings. These include symphony orchestras, wind bands, jazz and function bands, musical theatre pit bands, opera orchestras and smaller chamber groups.

You will be able to play classical, jazz, film/television and contemporary music whilst you learn how to play any of the Woodwind instruments.

I teach at CHSFG on Tuesdays and if you are ever near the music department you will probably have heard me and your fellow peers playing the Flute, Clarinet or Saxophone.

Please continue to email me at office@chsfg.co.uk with success stories and achievements. They are delightful to receive and a pleasure to share with our school community.

Co-ordinated by Virginia Howard, Office Manager.