



Dear all,

Today I want to invite you to reflect on a couple of characteristics and behaviours that we often recognise and value as being important. These are punctuality and attendance. We all have busy lives and it seems that this has only ever increased, especially in the last few years. There are now so many competing pressures on our time and resources and we all feel the strain of being where we need to be at a particular time. However, most people would agree that being punctual and having good time management is important in all walks of life and is something we value in each other.

In the same way, high levels of attendance in our work, at school and in our social lives be that in a sports team, a club or society are often seen as markers of people who are engaged, committed and reliable. I hope we would all agree that growing these characteristics in our children and establishing high expectations regarding punctuality and attendance are critical as our children grow up and learn to become adults.

Punctuality and attendance plays a big role in how productive our children are in lessons, how tuned in they are to their day at school and how well they benefit from interaction with friends, classmates and teachers. People who have good time management skills are often more organised and as well as this, they often have a much more positive self perception in that they feel in control of their day and included within it. Good levels of punctuality and attendance can build a strong reputation for reliability and consistency. In terms of our health and wellbeing, we all tend to feel included and connected more when we are regularly with our peers and in our networks. It's worth remembering also that a huge amount of the support that we and our children offer each other comes from the fact that we are all in it together and all here together. We are part of a strong community and this is one of the characteristics that makes our school a great place to learn and grow but to make the most of this, we have to be here as much as we possibly can and we have to be on time.

Of course there are times when people encounter challenges in their lives through illness, personal circumstances or a range of other situations that have an impact on attendance and punctuality. Making sure that we are working together in these situations is important so that our children are able to access their learning environment in the fullest way possible so that they feel included, seen and heard

I'd like to respectfully make just two modest requests. Firstly, where ever possible, let's strongly encourage our children to be in school regularly, to have excellent attendance. Please work together with us to help children who struggle to be more included, to be here in school as much as they can so that they are learning and growing with their friends and classmates. Secondly, please talk to your children about punctuality. At the changeover between lessons, at the start of the day and at the end of break and lunch, I find myself very uncomfortable with the number of children who drift into lessons and school or just wander around. This has an impact on their learning but also on the learning of their classmates. When children arrive late to lessons they often find it hard to fully engage and feel that they are always trying to catch up which to a degree is a direct consequence of poor punctuality. Having staff out and about sweeping students into each lesson shouldn't really be the necessity it has become. The truth is that the vast majority of children are consistently highly punctual and have high attendance. This shows me that having high expectations for these two behaviours is something that we can all strive for and something that for almost all children is achievable. Thanks for your support



Warm regards

Nigel Bielby
Executive Headteacher



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World Autism Acceptance Week

28 March - 3 April 2022

We felt that using the jigsaw to represent coming together at HCCS was valuable and the response to our ASC competition was overwhelming. Looking through the hundreds of colourful, creative and inclusive entries it was difficult to choose our three final winners.

The final three went to



George P, 10MC



Alice M, 8AH



Georgie P, 7AH

During weeks like these when raising awareness of special educational needs it is always a pleasure to be reminded what a thoughtful and accepting school community we are already.

Many students and staff said how valuable they felt having the additional knowledge was and how they had enjoyed the week during tutor time. Also sharing their own personal stories around autism was a highlight as it opened up valuable conversations which we will continue to have.

Also raising £97 for the charity National Autistic Charity.

Many thanks for all who participated during the week making it the success it was.



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Remembering Nell Foundation



Remembering Nell Creative Writing Competition

Congratulations to the shortlisted entries. Winners to be announced soon.

Lois C 9AC, Cerys A 9AH, Lillie-Grace R 9CC, Claire B 9AC, Luca P 9TC, Isla D 9MH, Esme W 9AC, Grace M 9CC, Lottie C 9MC, Molly Snape-P 9MC



NEWSLETTER

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & 6th Form College

Preparing Learners for a Changing World



Upper School

We have seen a number of changes to our school site to improve the facilities for our Upper School students including designated and redesigned toilet facilities, an improved restaurant service and planned development of a new building on site. We are committed to making continuous improvements and we will continue to use your feedback to review and inform changes.



This term, we also welcome changes to the Upper School team and have recently recruited a Welfare Manager to join our team; Sam Daly. Sam brings a wealth of experience to the team and is working closely with our existing Welfare Managers; Caroline Morgan and Tina Upton.

We are now entering our final phase of Year 11 provision. It is great to see students focused on securing their goals and able to demonstrate a highly focused approach to their learning. The key priority is to make sure that every lesson counts and students are taking the steps necessary to secure their personal best.



Clearly, our Year 11 students need to be mindful of taking a realistic approach to revision and ensuring that their workload is sustainable and their mindsets help them to secure their best performance. Ofqual (the examination awarding body) have shared guidance to support students to **manage their emotions** during this final stage of preparation. I felt that this might be useful in order to promote further discussion at home.

As part of our offer of additional support for Year 11 we are currently holding post 16 interviews. This is an opportunity for students to share any concerns and help them to clarify their next steps with revision or post 16 planning. We feel this is a worthwhile investment to give students more support and confidence at this critical phase of the GCSE course.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch; upperschool@hccs.info

Please be aware of the key dates for this half term:

Year 11 Masterclasses begin on Wednesday 10th May
Year 11 GCSE written examinations begin on Monday 15th May

Best wishes,

Laura Warren
(Director of Upper School)



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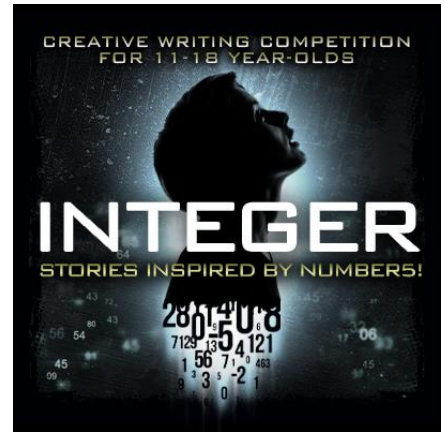
Learning Resource Centre News

Young Writers

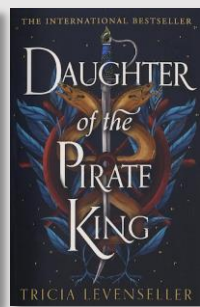
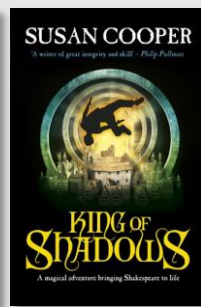
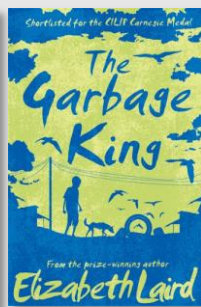
Numbers are everywhere, from our phones and watches to calendars, prices, temperatures...

Young Writers challenged students in their latest competition to write a short story inspired by numbers. We were thrilled to learn that five of our pupils have been selected to have their work published.

Huge congratulations to Peter I (9MH), Esme W (9AC), Megan J (9TC), Hudson B-D (7CH) and Jessica Y (8CC).



Recommended Reads for May



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Platinum Plaque Project

Debbie Goldsmith is a professional artist based at Goostrey Art Studio. Debbie asked me to forward a selection of photos showing the recent installation of the finished Platinum Jubilee plaque. She's planning an official 'unveiling' in the near future.

Last summer, Debbie worked with pupils and teachers at Goostrey Community Primary School to create the clay coins. Older members of the village helped by spending a morning in school recalling their memories of Queen Elizabeth's coronation and previous jubilees. The plaque was created at Manchester Clay Studio by Tracey Cartlege.

Debbie was helped by four HCCS sixth form students who are studying Art A level. They prepared the clay and assisted the children as they decorated the coins. Debbie is keen to continue this working relationship with our local secondary school.





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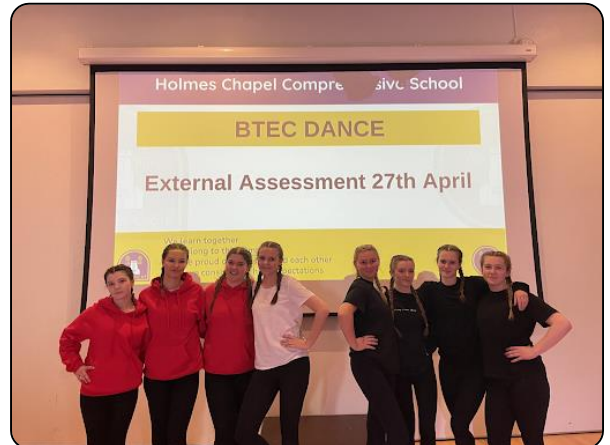


BTEC Dance

The Year 11 BTEC Dance students have had a busy week of assessments. On Thursday they showcased their work to family and friends in the Theatre. Their determination and progress over the last few months has been so rewarding to see.

Well done to you all, we are very proud teachers. Thank you to everyone who came to watch and support them.

Mrs Thomas & Mrs Mee



International Day of Dance

Our HCCS dance company took part in a dance day in celebration of 'International Dance Day' which takes place on Saturday 29th April 2023.

They performed their piece based on the theme 'dance like no-one is watching' to students from local schools at a dance platform at Fallibroome High School.

Well done to Maise F, Izzy F, Lily-Grace R, Lily S, Annabelle S and Eva G.

Year 7 Football Match Report

On Tuesday evening our Year 7 boys football team competed in the South Cheshire Cup Final against Brine Leas.

Our Y7s dominated in large parts of the game with standout performances from Noah H and Myles F.

Despite being 2-0 down quickly into the second half, the team showed excellent resilience creating some really good chances which payed off with a last minute goal from Ollie M.

Unfortunately it wasn't our evening in the final on Tuesday with the final score HCCS 1 - 3 Brine Leas.

The boys were a credit to the school and their parents. Well done on reaching the final lads.



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NEWSLETTER

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Would You Like to be a Volunteer

Between July and September we are getting ready for the children's reading challenge that takes place every year during the school holidays and we are now recruiting for any interested volunteers above the age of 13, willing to talk to the children and help them progress in their challenge.

You can apply online from the Library website or get a form from the Library.

VOLUNTEER

THIS SUMMER AT CONGLETON LIBRARY

Are you 13 or over and enthusiastic about books and reading?

we need outgoing volunteers to help run the Summer Reading Challenge!

- Ask a member of library staff for more information or contact us:
- 01260 375550
- congleton.library@cheshireeast.gov.uk
- Congleton Library on Messenger

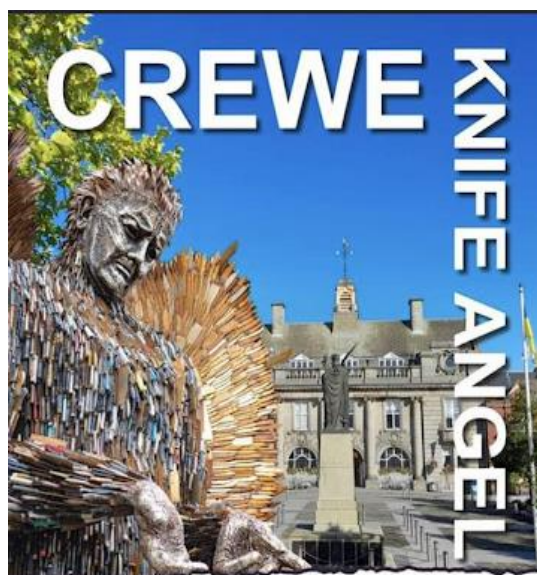
CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS
11TH JUNE 2023



Knife Angel Coming to Crewe

Crewe Town Council is working in partnership with the Safer Cheshire East Partnership and Crewe Local Policing Unit to bring the renowned Knife Angel sculpture to Crewe this spring.

The Knife Angel will be located on Memorial Square between Wednesday 3rd and Tuesday 30th May 2023. [Click here](#) to read more



The National Monument Against Violence and Aggression

3rd – 30th May 2023

Everyone is welcome to visit the Knife Angel on Memorial Square, Crewe – free of charge

Closing ceremony - Tuesday 30th May at 6:30pm



Find out more on the Crewe Knife Angel webpage:
www.crewetowncouncil.gov.uk/whats-on-events/knife-angel



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Please click the two images for the next upcoming workshops provided by Visyon

FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES TEAM

PARENT WORKSHOPS

Parent Workshop: Peer relationships and bullying.

Visyon's Family and Community Wellbeing Team are pleased to offer a 90-minute Parent Workshop. This workshop will help you to understand the challenges children may face with peer relationships, friendships, peer pressure and bullying. We will look at how these challenges may impact children's wellbeing and mental health. We will explore how you may support your child with these challenges and school's responsibilities.

This workshop is available to families in Cheshire East and will be held at Visyon in Congleton for face-to-face delivery.

If you would like to book a place on the Workshop, please contact:
familyandcommunityteam@visyon.org.uk who will contact you with further details.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come basis.

Parent Workshop Dates:

• Monday 22nd May from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm.



FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES TEAM

PARENT WORKSHOPS

Parent Workshop: Supporting children with Loss and Bereavement.

Visyon's Family and Community Wellbeing Team are pleased to offer a 90-minute Parent Workshop. This workshop will help you to understand what death, grief and bereavement mean to a child and why they may struggle during grieving. We explore techniques to help support a child to cope with grief.

This workshop is available to families in Cheshire East and will be held at Visyon in Congleton for face-to-face delivery.

If you would like to book a place on the Workshop, please contact:
familyandcommunityteam@visyon.org.uk who will contact you with further details.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come basis.

Parent Workshop Dates:

• Tuesday 3rd May at 10:30 am – 12:00 pm.



Thank you, from all of us at HCCS & HC6F