

Monday 23rd May 2022

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A University of Kent Academies Trust School

Dear Parent/Carer,

Here we are with Term 5 almost over, it may have been short, but it has been flat out with learning, experiences and fun. The highlight for me was the honour of hosting Helen Sharman, the first British astronaut in space at CG. As well as a Sharman House assembly she also managed to visit several science lessons, popping in to wish Year 11 good luck with their forthcoming exams. These exams started two weeks ago, the first summer exam season for three years. Year 11 and 13 have made a great start, they have all been through so much and worked incredibly hard, we wish them every success for the summer.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

We are running Jubilee events throughout Personal Tutor (PT) time this week, with the week culminating in a picnic and barbeque in the afternoon on Friday. Personal Tutor groups have been asked to organise a picnic and entertainment for themselves and their year group. Some student groups and the Sixth Form Student Leadership Team are also planning some extra activities. We are hope to run these activities outside, weather permitting, so sun hats and cream may be needed. If the weather is wet, we will use PT rooms.

It will also be a red, white and blue non uniform day, so please ensure students bring in £1 to support our chosen charities.

Student Hub

As mentioned last term we have accumulated many items of lost property; watches, headphones, uniform, glasses and bottles to name but a few. Please ask students to go to the Student Hub to check if anything they have lost this term or last is there. If it is not claimed by the end of the week, it will either be donated to charity or added to our preloved uniform shop. On that note if you have any items of uniform that you no longer require and would be willing to donate, then please drop them into reception.

As the weather is now getting warmer, please ensure students bring in their own water bottles, we have seven water stations around the site which they can use to fill up: outside the Main Hall, by the Dance Studio, near the iBar, Maths block, PE reception, the Student Hub and the Lime Lounge.

We have noticed an increased number of students contacting home during lessons to be collected. Please be advised that students are not permitted to use their mobile phones during the academy day. Whilst we understand that children may become poorly during the day, there is a correct procedure to follow if this does happen. Please remind your child that if they become unwell, to go to the Student Hub and visit the Medical Room where a trained member of staff will assess if your child is too ill to remain in the academy. The member of

staff will then telephone the child's emergency contacts in order of priority. We ask that you make sure the correct contact information has been provided to the school

Site works

We are incredibly pleased that the academy has been successful in securing another £500k bid for roofing works, this is for the Main Hall, English, Maths and Technology blocks. Timings of the work are yet to be finalised, but I will keep you informed as we know more.

Last week we were also granted planning permission for the first stage of works to the main entrance, this stage will involve installing an electric entry system to the inside set of gates. Stages two and three will involve resurfacing the road and changes to the gates immediately off the main road.

With all works we aim to minimise the disruption to everyday academy life by planning in the holidays and before or after working hours where possible.

Arts Mark Status

With the Creative Arts Team leading the way we have been successful in submitting a statement of intent to gain Artsmark status. We now have until March 2024 to implement all the targets.

Artsmark is a creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England. The framework is designed to help schools embed arts, culture and creativity across the whole curriculum, celebrating a commitment to cultural education.

Uniform

Following feedback from both students and families we will be offering two new skirt designs from September. The first replaces the current skirt and has an infill of material in the pleat for increased comfort and flexibility, and the second is a version that can be ordered as a much longer length, please note this one has an eight week lead in time as it is made to order.

Uniformbase have informed us that their appointment booking system for Back-to-School is now open. Please use the following link <https://uniformbase.co.uk/appointments/> You can of course just go to the shop without an appointment, but staff are allocated to families with an appointment.

Term 6

A few dates/events to inform you about for next term. In July we are being joined in assemblies by representatives of Southeastern Railway to discuss rail safety and conduct at railway stations. These assemblies will give a strong message on the hazards and risks associated with travelling on any form of public transport and the importance of behaving appropriately.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOUR PRIVACY

From time to time we may use your personal information to communicate newsletters or marketing information about events, products and services offered by the school which we feel are relevant to you. We will communicate marketing information to you on the basis of "legitimate interest" due to your current relationship with the school. You will find further information about how we use your personal information in our Data Privacy Notice by visiting <http://www.chathamgirlsgrammar.medway.sch.uk/privacy-parents/>. Should you wish to opt out of receiving these communications at any time you can do so by contacting the school office via email: officeCG@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk

All year groups not involved in formal examinations will have end of year assessments. A letter from Ms Shillitoe will give more details on this.

A reminder we also have the two INSET days in July, one planned on Thursday 7th July for our Year 6 induction and the one-off day for the Jubilee on Monday 4th July.

I hope you enjoy the May break.

Yours sincerely,



Wendy Walters

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