
News, Events and Updates at Chatham Grammar

The Year 7 Debate

At Chatham Grammar, all students get to explore and grow their debating skills. Debating provides students with the opportunity to develop critical thinking, public speaking, improve confidence, explore relevant and contemporary topics, and of course win an argument!

This term, students took part in our annual Year 7 Debate, 'Space Exploration is a Waste of Time'. Throughout the day, students worked together in class teams putting together arguments and taking part in debating knock-out rounds, before deciding on who would represent their class in the grand finale on stage in front of their whole year group and a panel of judges.

Six finalists took to the stage to represent their classes; Chelsea, Zara, Amelia, Layla, Maisie and Danielle all spoke with great pride and confidence, delivering their points of view eloquently.

Huge congratulations to our winner Maisie, who was awarded this years 'Star Debater'.



Rotary Youth Speaks Competition

Recently, Chatham Grammar students have participated in the Rotary Youth Speaks Competition. The competition is designed to encourage young people to develop their

public speaking and presentation skills.

Thia and Naomi (Year 8) and Vanessa (Year 11) represented Chatham Grammar. All three judges were impressed with their thoughtful and articulate speeches. Congratulations to Naomi for gaining first place in her age category.

All students involved were a credit to the academy.



Badminton Secondary School Games

On Thursday 17th November, eight students represented Chatham Grammar at the Badminton Secondary School Games (SSG) at Medway Park.

The Key Stage 3 team consisted of Noelle (Year 8), Amelie, Lucy G and Lucy (Year 9) and the Key Stage 4 team were made up of Jia and Kasie (Year 10) and Abbie and Shaani (Year 11).

The Key Stage 3 team came away with bronze medals, having placed 3rd out of 13 teams, and the Key Stage 4 team came 6th out of 10 teams.

All students played superbly and showed great integrity throughout the competition.



We have had an outstanding number of students attend the Badminton extra curricular club on Thursdays, with over 60 students attending one week! The Sports Hall was filled with enthusiastic students, enjoying playing the game.

Thank you to all students who attended.

Secondary School Games Handball Competition

On Thursday 24th November, students from Year 7 to Year 9 attended the Secondary School Games Handball competition at Medway Park with Miss Lee. Students practiced their tactics and strategies every Tuesday at Handball Club in the lead up to the competition. All students who attended the competition were great representatives of Chatham Grammar and put every effort into each of their games, even when the competition became very tough!

Here are the results:

4th Place - Year 7 and Year 8 Team (Lacie, Cara, Akunnaya, Hilary, Naomi, Chloe, Sophie, Naomi O and Noelle)

7th Place - Year 9 Team (Stephanie, Victoria, Caitlin, Meadhran, Cloe, Lucy, Lucy L, Mollie and Amelie)

Players of the Teams - Year 7 and Year 8 Team: Akunnaya and Year 9 Team: Meadhran



Sports Leaders Assist with the Social Me Sports Hall Athletics Event

On Tuesday 6th December, some of our qualified Sports Leaders from Year 10 and Year 11 attended Medway Park to assist with the Social Me Sports Hall Athletics Event for primary school students. Kent Sports, the organisers of the event, kindly offered our students the opportunity. The feedback Miss Lee received from them afterwards was extremely positive. The primary school teachers who attended also commented on how all students who volunteered were exemplary representatives of Chatham Grammar.

Well done to all of the the following students who volunteered on the day:

Year 10 - Darielle, Divine, Aimee, Ola, and Caitlin

Year 11 - Isabella, Jazzlyne, Receccah, Nadia, and Mikayla



The Sports Leader Activity Volunteer Award will be taking place again in Term 5 and Term 6 and will be open to all students in Year 9 and Year 10. Students who wish to sign up to complete the Award should speak with Miss Lee.

Diwali Assembly

To celebrate Diwali 2022, Chatham Grammar's Equality Group planned and delivered an outstanding assembly. The students did a fantastic job at explaining what Diwali, also known as the festival of light, is all about.

Well done to all of the students involved.



Children in Need Staff Dodgeball Competition

On Thursday 17th November, staff members competed in a charity dodgeball match after school for Children in Need.

Students came to watch and support staff from a variety of departments hurl balls towards each other in a bid to get the opposition out and ultimately win the most games.

It was a fiercely competitive match with lots of laughter and good fun! Students and staff alike really enjoyed the event and a total of over £100 was raised for a very worthy cause. Thanks to all staff involved and to the Sports Leaders for their help in setting up the event.



To find out more information about Children in Need and the causes that they support, please click on the following link: <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

Partnership Development Programme

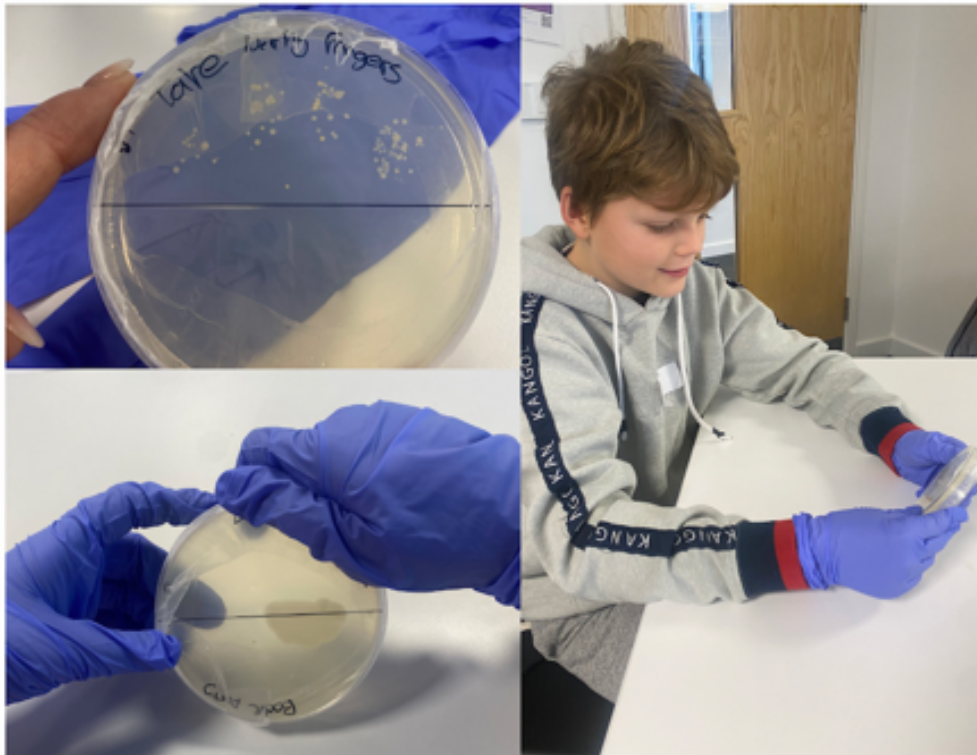
The first of our FREE online Medway Test (11+) Tuition webinars took place in the October break for Year 5 students in Medway schools to participate in, and over 130 students registered. The next webinar will take place in the February 2023 break.

The Super Saturdays with the University of Kent successfully took place on the 12th and 19th November 2022. During the first week, students in Years 4 and 5 from our partnership schools learnt about bacteria and discovered how to collect samples for Dr Hargreaves, from the University of Kent, to return to the Bioscience Department to incubate in their laboratory. The agar plates showed some interesting results but overall Chatham Grammar turned out to be a very clean academy! Students also actively demonstrated just how far a human sneeze can travel and spread germs and bacteria!

Marketing is underway for our next event, which is a careers focused workshop running in January 2023. Students from our partnership schools in Years 5 and 6 will be able to attend. The workshops are being delivered by Career Guidance Charts who have been working in careers education and learning environments for over 15 years providing high quality guidance and resources.

Super Saturdays

Analysing and discussing bacterial growth.



These workshops are a unique opportunity for students to explore the world of careers and the many kinds of career paths available to them. Students will be able to discover more about their own career ideas and aspirations. The workshops will encourage and inspire students to think about how they can begin to forge their own unique career direction and achieve it.

For further information about the Partnership Development Programme, please follow our social media platforms or click on the link below:

<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/ukatpartnershipdevelopmentprogramme-1>

House News

We have welcomed Miss Mundy to the Head of House Team as the new Head of Angelou. We wish Miss Sibanda luck with her new role but we are really excited to have Miss Mundy join the team! Miss Mundy (Science teacher), is looking forward to her new role and has been visiting the Angelou Personal Tutor groups to give out the leadership role badges.



ANGELOU

Term 2 Leadership Points

This term, students have been motivated to earn lots of Leadership Points in their subject lessons.

Here are the results for Term 2:

Seacole - 11,572

Sharman - 10,688

Angelou - 10,625

Kahlo - 10,565

Term 2 Top Student for Each House

Thia Year 8 Seacole 220 points
Oluchi Year 10 Angelou 198 points
Susan Year 9 Kahlo 156 points
Siyana Year 8 Sharman 151 points

Inter-house Speed Stacking Competition



During weeks 3 and 4, students and staff took part in the Inter-house Speed Stacking competition in the Sports Hall. Prior to the competition, students were working hard with their Personal Tutors practicing their techniques and improving their times. During the competition, the atmosphere was brilliant with each student cheering each other on, along with our wonderful Personal Tutors also having a competition of their own!

Each year group competed in a 3x3 stack house challenge and here are the results:

Whole academy student leaderboard:

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1st place - Joelle, Year 11 | 2nd place - Emily, Year 10 |
| 3rd place - Oluwanifemi, Year 9 | 4th place - Stephanie, Year 9 |
| 5th place - Anouck, Year 10 | 6th place - Accalia, Year 10 |
| 7th place - Hannah, Year 9 | 8th place - Zainab, Year 11 |
| 9th place - Katie, Year 9 | 10th place - Bernice, Year 10 |

Teacher leaderboard:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st place - Miss Callaghan - Kahlo House | 2nd place - Miss Lockett - Seacole House |
| 3rd place - Miss Lee - Kahlo House | 4th place - Mrs Wakeman - Sharman House |
| 5th place - Mr Lionnett - Sharman House | 6th place - Miss Ward - Kahlo House |
| 7th place - Mrs Lynch - Head of Houses | 8th place - Miss Mundy - Angelou House |

9th place - Mrs Sanger - Kahlo House

Joint 10th place - Mr Coare - Seacole House,
Ms Keers - Angelou House and Mrs Kitching -
Sharman House

There were some amazing speed stackers who were able to complete the challenge in five seconds, but were a long way off the world record of 1.335 seconds!

Charity Fundraising - Thank You!

A massive thank you to everyone who took part in the staff dodgeball or donated as part of the Spotacular non-uniform day for Children in Need. We raised over £550, which is absolutely amazing!

We are also very grateful for all the donations that have come in for Gillingham Street Angels and care packages for Medway Hospital.



Demelza - Thank You!

We have received an email from Demelza Hospice Care for Children sending a special 'Thank You' to Chatham Grammar students, parents, carers and staff for their donations and support.

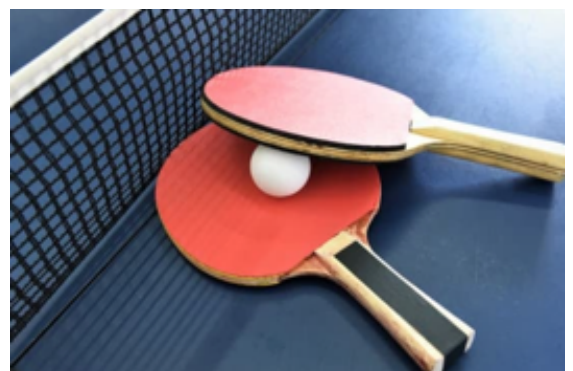
"Thank you for your donations and support. Your donations are making a huge difference to Demelza children and their families."

To find out more information about Demelza, please click on the following link: <https://www.demelza.org.uk/>

Mystery Markings

On Thursday 8th December, at the end of the day, Ms Walters sent out an email to Year 7, Year 8, and Year 9 students. They were asked to solve a mystery; three random rectangles had been marked out with bamboo poles and tape in the student area behind the old building. Students were asked to work out what the shapes were for with only three clues; the shape, the location, and something for them.

First thing in the morning, a group of students could be seen outside in the freezing weather trying to work together to come up with answers and solve the mystery. After about 30 minutes of well thought out and not so well thought out answers such as; flower beds, a gazebo, a panda house, a gardening



area, a home for Blu or fire pits. Layomi in Year 9 asked if it was something to do with tables that led to Chelsea solving the mystery - three outdoor table tennis tables for students to use in all weathers!

Well done to all students who tried to crack the mystery; Layomi and Chelsea received leadership points and a selection pack each.

Chatham Grammar was very fortunate to have been left a small sum of money from the estate of a former student, Barbara Fleming. We will be placing a small plaque by the tables in Barbara's memory.

UKAT Governing Board Reshuffle

In recent months, the UKAT Governing Body has been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that exceptional governance and great leadership remains a priority at the Trust. To enable Trustees to continue asking those challenging questions to the academy Senior Leaders, Local Governing Boards have been established at each academy and now meet every term. This move has been welcomed by all involved and allowed Governors to continue to apply the [seven principles of public life](#); Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership. This will also allow the Trustees and Governors to focus on the core governance functions.

To view more information on the UKAT Governing Body, you can visit the University of Kent Academies Trust Website <https://www.universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk/governance>.

Alternatively, you can contact Julia Culham, the UKAT Governance Officer, at UKATTrustees@universityofkentacademistrust.org.uk

The Chatham Grammar Governing Board would also like to welcome the new Safeguarding Link Governor, Mr David Graham.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have been overwhelmed with the amount of Year 9 students that have signed up to do the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. We have a record 125 students for Bronze and 41 Year 10 students registered to do their Silver Award - amazing!

This term saw the start of the after school eDofE training for Year 9 and Year 10 students with Mrs Lynch. They have all been keen to get started on their Skills, Volunteering, and Physical sections. Next term, students will start their expedition training.

Massive congratulations to Angelika, Year 11 student, on completing her Silver Award which allowed her to gain so much progress with her swimming.



Strictly Come Reading 2022

Our Strictly Come Reading competition took place on the 6th December. Our 10 contestants had been chosen from a pool of auditionees, and they took their place on the stage to vie for the three trophies marking 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Their only obstacle was the judges – our three mystery teachers! Winners will be announced in next term's newsletter.



BookBuzz

BookBuzz is a scheme run by the Books Trust, where all Year 7 students are able to order a free book of their choice, courtesy of Chatham Grammar. Year 7 students made their choices from the selection in September and were given them as presents during December!

These books are theirs to keep and enjoy forever!



Digital Art Club

For the last two terms, the students who have been attending Digital Art Club have been practising different techniques on their chosen arty iPad apps! If students would like to join the club, all they need to do is come along to the Library from 2pm - 3pm on Fridays!

Creative Writing Club

Creative Writing Club returned with a bang this September, attracting a whole new group of talented, enthusiastic students who have been busy playing writing games, entering national competitions, and improving their skills. If any students would like to join this club, they can come along to the Library from 3pm - 4pm on Wednesdays!

AccessIt Update!

The thousands of books in the library are now available on AccessIt! Students can use the app on their iPads or access the site by clicking on the following link: uk.accessit.online/cht01 to explore the collection, reserve books, and leave reviews on their favourites.



Soon there will be a variety of links, PDFs, and videos available as resources to encourage safe web surfing, efficient researching, and curriculum-centred subject matter. Instructions on how to use different parts of the site have been emailed to students.

The non-fiction shelves, in turn, have been tidied and organised, with books arranged by curriculum subject rather than the Dewey Decimal System, which students found confusing and inaccessible. It is now much easier to browse for that next non-fiction read!

A Very Successful First Christmas Activity Event

On Saturday 26th November, Chatham Grammar opened the doors for our first Christmas Activity Event.

Sixty five parents, carers, students and staff joined us to kick start the festive season! During the day, all participants took part in three workshops; Christmas card making, Christmas treat making, and Christmas crafts.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and left with an array of cards, reindeers made from withy, and tasty treats!



Current News and Information - Social Media

For the most current news and information at Chatham Grammar, we invite you to follow our social media pages:

Facebook: @ChathamGrammar

Twitter: @ChathamGrammar

Instagram: @ChathamGrammar



Facilities for Hire

We are pleased to advise that Chatham Grammar's facilities will be available to hire soon. For a full list of facilities, further information or to book, please email officecg@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk, alternatively click the following link: <https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/facilities-for-hire>



The poster features a green background with the Chatham Grammar logo (CG CHATHAM GRAMMAR) in the top left. The word 'Lettings' is written in large white letters in the top right. A central photograph shows the exterior of a modern blue building with large glass windows and doors, also featuring the CG logo. Below the photo, a list of facilities is provided: Sports Hall, Dance Studio, Main Hall, Classrooms, and Meeting spaces. A dark blue box on the right contains the text 'FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO HIRE SOON'. At the bottom, it says 'For more information please visit: https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/facilities-for-hire'.

CG CHATHAM GRAMMAR

Lettings

- Sports Hall
- Dance Studio
- Main Hall
- Classrooms
- Meeting spaces

FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO HIRE SOON

For more information please visit:
<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/facilities-for-hire>

Free Talk Therapy for Adults

University of
Kent | Academies Trust
(UKAT)

University of Kent Academies Trust

Counselling Service

FREE Talk Therapy for Adults
Tuesdays and Thursdays,
5pm - 9pm

During these uncertain times, you may find yourself feeling anxious or stressed. The dedicated team of volunteer Counsellors in training, are able to offer you confidential and non-judgemental support.

Counselling offers opportunities to look at other ways to manage difficult situations.

For further information or to book, please email:

Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk

For further information or to book an appointment, please email
Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk
