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# News, Events and Updates at Chatham Grammar

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## International Women's Day

### International Women's Day 2022

On Tuesday 8th March, Chatham Grammar's Year 8 and 9 Sports Leaders visited Medway Park to celebrate International Women's Day.

Students listened to a variety of guest speakers, including two very inspirational talks from Commonwealth Champions Ama Agbeze (England netball international) and Georgia-Mae Fenton (British artistic gymnast), together with the GB Women's Tag Rugby Team.

There were a variety of taster sessions for the students to take part in which included; trampolining, boxing, badminton and netball to name but a few! There was also the opportunity to discuss career paths within the world of sport.

### Inspirational Speakers

Sixth Form students were invited to attend virtual engagement sessions from CeCe Sammy Lightfoot and Ella d'Amato which were streamed in the common room on International Women's Day.

CeCe Sammy Lightfoot is a classically trained musician and one of the world's leading vocal and performance coaches. As a patron of The Arts and champion of young people, CeCe believes that creativity is the key to unlocking each person's unique potential and aims to impart this knowledge to as many people as possible, no matter their age, background, or the challenges they have faced.

Ella d'Amato has worked in several different sectors, from retail, to hospitality, to law, to chiropractics. By 23, she'd found a job in marketing and quickly progressed up the ranks at Omnicom in London. She went on to be MD of DRUM, a content and social agency at 29, and CEO at 33. Her own background makes her a passionate advocate for social mobility as well as an executive coach, lover of fashion and mother-of-two.

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## New Parent Trustee

After a successful nomination process and ballot, we are pleased to advise that Mr Oliver Martin was once again voted by parents and carers as the new Chatham Grammar Parent Trustee.

We would like to congratulate Oliver and welcome him back to the Trust Board.

If you would like to learn more about the UKAT Trust Board, please visit the UKAT website by clicking on the following link: <https://www.universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk/ukat-trust-board>

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## UKAT Partnership Development Programme University Super Saturday's



The UKAT Partnership Development Programme has been set up to establish links with a small number of identified primary schools, with the aim of building positive working relationships and developing a range of learning opportunities for students in Key Stage 2.

Our University Super Saturday's have been a great success, with over 20 students participating from our partnership schools each week. The students really enjoyed the puppet workshop, where they created their own puppets and developed their creative story telling skills, with drama students and staff from the University of Kent.

UKAT's Dog Mentor, Aslan has been fantastic in the wellbeing workshop with Jo Price, Director of Corporate Services and Wellbeing. The students learnt and engaged in mindfulness techniques, found out about their amazing minds, and practiced some meditation with some woofs and puppy paws to help their minds relax and experience more happiness.

Planning is underway for our next exciting University Super Saturday's project, which will be a STEM themed lego robot programming adventure and our Who's Who Mentoring Programme.



## Medway Test (11+) Tuition

During the February half term break Year 5 students were invited to participate in free Medway Test (11+) tuition webinars which covered the three topics of the test; Maths, Verbal Reasoning, and Creative Writing.

Here is some of the great feedback we received from parents/carers:

“I just wanted to say how brilliant I thought the tuition was today.”

“It was a great experience for my child.”

For further information about the Partnership Development Programme, please click on the link: <https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/ukatpartnershipdevelopmentprogramme-1>

## Mindfulness at Lordswood Primary School

As part of the Partnership Development offer, Year 4 students at Lordswood Primary School have been able to take part in the PAWs, Mindfulness in Schools Programme (MiSP) delivered by our qualified Mindfulness tutor, Angela Daly. The sessions are fun and interactive and offer plenty of skills students can build upon. The course will equip students with mindfulness tools that they can use at anytime, anywhere to impact on their learning and wellbeing!

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## English Schools Cross Country Championships



We are excited to announce that Abigail in Year 11 was selected for the Kent squad for the English Schools Cross Country Championships on Saturday 19th March 2022, at the Hop Farm, Paddock Wood.

This competition showcases the top talent from around the country, with each county selecting their top eight athletes, per age group to compete against the rest of England. Kent has been a particularly strong county in

this competition in recent years, so it is even more of an achievement to be selected.

Abigail put in a great performance, finishing 72nd out of 331 competitors and placing 3rd for Kent! An amazing achievement, congratulations Abigail!

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## Parent/Carer Ofsted Survey Results

Thank you to our parents and carers who kindly took the time to complete the recent online survey. We received a total of 205 responses and overall we are pleased with the results. However, there is always room for improvement and so we are looking at the following areas:

Firstly, we want to ensure that we are open and transparent with all our communications regarding your child's learning. We plan to provide more comprehensive information with you via the termly and annual year group letters around subjects, the curriculum offer linking to more detailed information on our website.

We challenge our young people at Chatham Grammar and we strive for academic excellence, but we don't think we fully celebrate and share our students achievements - current and also those that have left by sharing good news stories, celebrating the career pathways of those that have left CG to enjoy fulfilling and rewarding career opportunities. We plan to share more news and articles with you celebrating student successes.

Keeping you informed about the progress of your child is so important and how we relay information is key to you understanding how you can best support and encourage your child to maximise their time at Chatham Grammar. Feedback from parents/carers and staff suggests that we could look at how the reports are detailed and we are proposing that we use numerical language to update and inform you rather than rhetoric such as, emerging or exceeding etc.

At Chatham Grammar we are committed to the personal development and wellbeing of our young people and so we want to ensure that you know what we offer. We are going to ensure that regular updates are provided under the heading of 'Personal Development' to enable our parents and carers to know exactly what is on offer and to promote these opportunities to all our young people.

My child feels safe at this school:

94% Strongly Agreed  
or Agreed

My child is happy at this school:

89% Strongly Agreed  
or Agreed

There is good range of subjects  
available to my child at this school:

91% Strongly Agreed  
or Agreed

My child does well at this school:

90% Strongly Agreed  
or Agreed

I would recommend this school to  
another parent/carer:

85% Strongly Agreed  
or Agreed

## Personal Development at Chatham Grammar

### Duke of Edinburgh's Award

After completing their expedition training, 90 Year 9 Bronze Award students accomplished their practice expedition on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022. All students worked hard and found the two days very tiring but a great experience.

Students experienced a range of different workshops, developing skills that they will need on their assessed expedition. Students took part in sessions in cooking outdoors, pitching tents, first aid and navigation. Students also completed a practise walk, in which they were remotely supervised to simulate the conditions that they will be in for their assessed expedition.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March the students embarked on their assessed expedition which involves a two day expedition with a night in a tent. Students navigated themselves around the Kent countryside, set up camp and cooked in order to pass their expedition section. This is the section that students find most challenging but also the most rewarding!



## LGBTQ+ History Month Competition Winners

We had an overwhelming array of creative rainbow cake entries to celebrate LGBTQ+ Month 2022.

All students who participated in the competition have received 20 Leadership Points.

Here are our winning entries:



LGBTQ+ MONTH 2022

**RAINBOW CAKE  
COMPETITION  
WINNERS!**

**1st Place Winner:**  
**Eden (Year 7)**  
**£20 Amazon  
voucher**



LGBTQ+ MONTH 2022

**RAINBOW CAKE  
COMPETITION  
WINNERS!**

**2nd Place Winner:**  
**Dolapo (Year 7)**  
**£10 Amazon voucher**



LGBTQ+ MONTH 2022

**RAINBOW CAKE  
COMPETITION  
WINNERS!**

**3rd Place Winner:**  
**Ella (Year 8)**  
**£10 Amazon voucher**



LGBTQ+ MONTH 2022

**RAINBOW CAKE  
COMPETITION  
WINNERS!**

**4th Place Winner:**  
**Evie (Year 7)**  
**£10 Amazon voucher**



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## New Library System

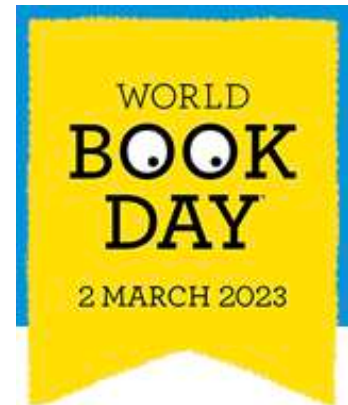
The library is pleased to announce that we will be getting a brand new library computer system next term. The new computerised system will modernise the library - the online system will allow students, parents, carers and staff to browse our stock from anywhere around the academy or at home. Students will be able to create their own personal reading lists, reserve books, and get notified when there is a new book of interest in stock!

In order to facilitate the database switch over, Ms Goosey has been appealing for all overdue and recently loaned books to be returned before the Easter break. If you do discover any library books at home during the Easter break, please bring them in when you return at the beginning of Term 5.

## World Book Day - The Triwizard Tournament

Not only is it 25 years since World Book Day was founded, but it is also 25 years since the first Harry Potter book was published! To celebrate this landmark year, the library hosted its very own Triwizard Tournament!

The Tournament consisted of three challenges released every week during the month of March: Trial One was an epically difficult World Book Day quiz and we had an astounding 320 entries! Trial Two was a CV writing competition to support National Careers Week – students had to write a CV for a book or film villain. Trial Three was the Fancy Dress competition, where students could dress up as their favourite book characters. As well as this, we also hosted a Harry Potter Live Quiz in the library after school.



The students accrued Leadership Points (and prizes!) for entering each challenge, each vying to be the top-earning student from each House, which wins them the title of Triwizard Champion! The Tournament has been a huge success, with over 400 different students entering competitions from across the academy. Thousands of Leadership Points have been awarded – and we await the final numbers to see who the four Triwizard Champions will be!

## LGBTQ+ History Month in the Library

The library celebrated LGBTQ+ History Month in February with a festival of colour! Students could browse through information about all the different flags, their colour meanings, their history, as well as their inventors. We learnt about different symbols that have been used throughout history by the LGBTQ+ community and different figures who have influenced change.

Students could also enter a Flag Quiz for prizes and Leadership Points and browse through the vast stock of LGBTQ+ stories that the library has to offer.



## UKAT Therapy Dog

Blu the academy's therapy dog, has been working hard assisting some students with their speaking and listening exams, which helps them gain confidence to speak out loud for their important exam.

Blu is at the academy every Monday and Friday and see's our students on a one-to-one basis with Ms Franqueira or as small groups of no more than three. Sessions are for a maximum of 15-20 minutes to ensure that Blu doesn't get over stimulated and exhausted.

Blu supports students in other areas such as bereavement therapy, stress and anxiety therapy, and talking and reading therapy (as mentioned above).

Blu is trained under the Pets as Therapy scheme and is super calm and unfazed by anyone. If students would like to see Blu, they need to speak with their year group Pastoral Manager or PT's.



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## 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



We regularly promote competitions for our students and parents/carers on our social media channels.

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## Free Talk Therapy for Adults

University of  
**Kent** | Academies Trust  
(UKAT)

### University of Kent Academies Trust **Counselling Service**

FREE Talk Therapy for Adults  
**Monday to Thursday,  
4pm - 8pm**

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](mailto:Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

## Facilities for Hire

We are pleased to announce that Chatham Grammar's facilities are now available to hire.

For a full list of facilities, further information or to book, please email [officecg@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:officecg@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk), alternatively click the following link: <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 NOW**

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