

# Chatham Grammar

## News, Event, and Updates

Term 1 | October 2023

## Message from the Principal

It has been a very busy Term 1, with our open events and tours, as well as the visit from an Ofsted Inspection Team this week. As we are currently a 'good' school, this was an ungraded inspection which means they were here to check if we are still 'good'. The outcome is currently provisional as the evidence has to go through a quality assurance process, so we will only be able to share more detail when the report is published. What I can say is that our staff and students were exceptional. We shared and demonstrated why we are such a supportive and inclusive community, showcasing the positive and vibrant educational opportunities students have at Chatham Grammar, as well as areas we believe we still need to improve on.



Thank you for all your support completing the parent/carer survey. We hope you all have a lovely October break.

Best wishes,

Wendy Walters  
Principal

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## UKAT Sixth Form Options Event 2023

**SAVE THE DATE!**

UKAT SIXTH FORM  
WARMLY INVITES YOU  
TO OUR PRESTIGIOUS  
2023 OPTIONS EVENT

The Pilkington Building at the Medway  
Campus – University of Kent

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
6.00pm – 8.00pm

If you would like any further information  
or have any questions, please contact  
Michelle Marshall on 01634 851262.

Further details and booking information  
coming soon!

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



We are thrilled to announce that the prestigious UKAT Sixth Form Options Event will be taking place on Wednesday 13th December 2023. The event will be held at The Pilkington Building, Medway Campus, University of Kent.

If you would like any further information or have any questions, please contact Michelle Marshall on 01634 851262.

Further details and booking information will be available soon via the Chatham Grammar website and our social media platforms.

# Step Count Challenge

This October, the PE Department set a whole academy step count House challenge. The aim of the challenge was to motivate staff and students to get moving. Each member of the PE Department monitored their own step count and then used that as a target for everyone else to match or beat.

Each of the students that participated in the challenge were awarded leadership points for their efforts. 2 points were awarded for participation, 5 points were awarded to match Miss Lee or Mrs Burbridge's score, and 10 points were awarded to beat Mrs Wakeman's score! The engagement in the challenge was very positive.



Here are some of our top scores:

**Amelia, Year 10 = 143,356 steps**    **Chloe, Year 7 = 133,998 steps**  
**Anaya, Year 7 = 101,000 steps**    **Zainab, Year 7 = 72,038 steps**  
**Katelin, Year 8 = 55,180 steps**    **Eunice, Year 8 = 50,178 steps**  
**Izabel, Year 8 = 41,437 steps**    **Ozerli, Year 7 = 40,909 steps**  
**Sienna, Year 7 = 30,574 steps**

Congratulations to all students and staff that took part!

## Student Reviews

# AYF Uganda Assemblies

## Theodora, Year 9

This week, our academy has given a warm and grateful welcome to the talented Ugandan choir AYF. With their ethereal and beautiful vocals and catchy songs, they have inspired students to sing along and enjoy this rare and special moment. Coming from a country riddled with war between different cultures and tribes, they ignored their traditional differences and unified to spread their charisma and talent across our academy, breaking the possible expectations of hating each other because of their different cultures, tribes and languages.

A moving and emotional speech was later delivered by Peter describing his experience in Uganda as a young boy during the war, and waiting for his father to come home upon trying to find his brother. He described how prayer is a cry from our hearts, and illustrated the relationship between God and a person like being a mother and a baby, that the baby cannot



## Arafat, Year 9

This week, the academy received the amazingly talented Ugandan choir named AYF. The AYF members, namely Andrew, Grace, Sarah, Mary, Elijah, Estella, Patience and Peter delivered astounding performances throughout the week.

speaking but the mother knows what each cry means. His anecdote was finished by the happy ending of his father being alive, teaching us how to be grateful and appreciate every moment with the special people in your life because they can be gone at any moment.



The group performance was riveting with the vocals led by Andrew and the guitar played by Peter; Andrew also led the students to participate in chants.

A speech was later delivered by Peter who talked about the different cultures of Uganda and languages within the group. He further talked about growing up in war-riddled Uganda and how his experiences drew him closer to prayer and led to a stronger connection with God, which touched many students in the audience. The audience were fortunate to experience this amazing event. We thank the academy for organising this event and appreciate this amazing opportunity!

Thank you AYF for your visit and your songs and stories are engraved in our hearts..

## Medway Foodbank



During Term 1, students and staff were invited to donate nonperishable food to Medway Foodbank.

Medway Foodbank is a project founded by local churches and community groups, working together towards stopping hunger in our local area and providing emergency food to people in crisis.

Medway Foodbank is seeded by The Trussell Trust, the largest network of food banks in the UK.

If you would like to make a donation to the eight food banks in Medway, please visit Medway Foodbank's website: <https://medway.foodbank.org.uk/>

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## Partnership Development Programme

It's been a busy start to the new academic year, planning our Partnership Development Programme offer for 2023/24.

The FREE Medway Test (11+) Tuition webinars begin again to support Year 5 students from Medway schools in their preparation for their test in September 2024. Over 240 students are registered to participate in the webinars taking place on 24th October 2023.

Our FREE online resources can also be used to support students with their Medway Test (11+) preparation. Working in partnership with Spark Learning Centre, we have created our own bespoke activity worksheets for students in Year 4 and Year 5. Each year group has their own series of worksheets available to download via the Chatham Grammar website.

Planning is underway for the University of Kent Super Saturdays series being delivered in partnership with the University of Kent during Term 3. Students in Year 4 and Year 5, from our partnership schools, will be given the opportunity to participate in our Science based sessions. Students will be delving into the world of Forensic Science and young crime solvers will be in their element! More details to follow soon!

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

<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/partnership-development-programme-1>

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## Duke of Edinburgh's Award

During Term 1, Year 9 students were invited to register for the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award (DofE). 85 students registered to take part in the prestigious Award.

On Thursday 12th October 2023, the DofE Team invited the Year 9 students and their parents/carers to attend a welcome meeting.

The meeting covered the following topics:

- eDofE - the online system that helps students manage their DofE programme
- Volunteering, Skills, Physical sections
- Training sessions - what to expect
- Expedition dates - practise and assessed
- Groups - picking their teams

## National Online Safety School





We are proud to advise that Chatham Grammar has been certified as a National Online Safety (NOS) school for another year.

This allows parents and carers to keep up to date with any platforms your child might be using. The site consists of webinars, courses, and guides to help you keep up to date and confident in your ability to support your child.

To sign up to the NOS platform, please visit the following link:

<https://nationalcollege.com/categories/online-safety>

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## Black History Month

To celebrate Black History Month 2023, Year 7 and Year 8 students were invited to attend a Cooking Workshop.

The workshop took place at the end of the academy day on Tuesday 17th October 2023, with Mrs Backshell and external tutor Claire Wood.

The students had lots of fun making jerk chicken from scratch.



# Cultural Day

At the end of Term 6, Chatham Grammar's Equalities Leaders planned another successful cultural day.

The celebrations included sampling tasty African and Indian traditional snacks and a cultural fashion show. Over 80 students volunteered to model their beautiful cultural attire from 15 different countries, including Nigeria, Ghana, India, Bulgaria and Slovakia to name just a few.



It was a truly wonderful experience to watch our whole academy community come together to learn about different traditional cultural attires and experience a range of music from Afro-beats to folk music, all in celebration of our rich diversity. We are very proud of all our students and the strong sense of community, joy, respect, and appreciation that they show towards each other.

Congratulations to the Equalities Leaders for organising such a well planned and enjoyable event.

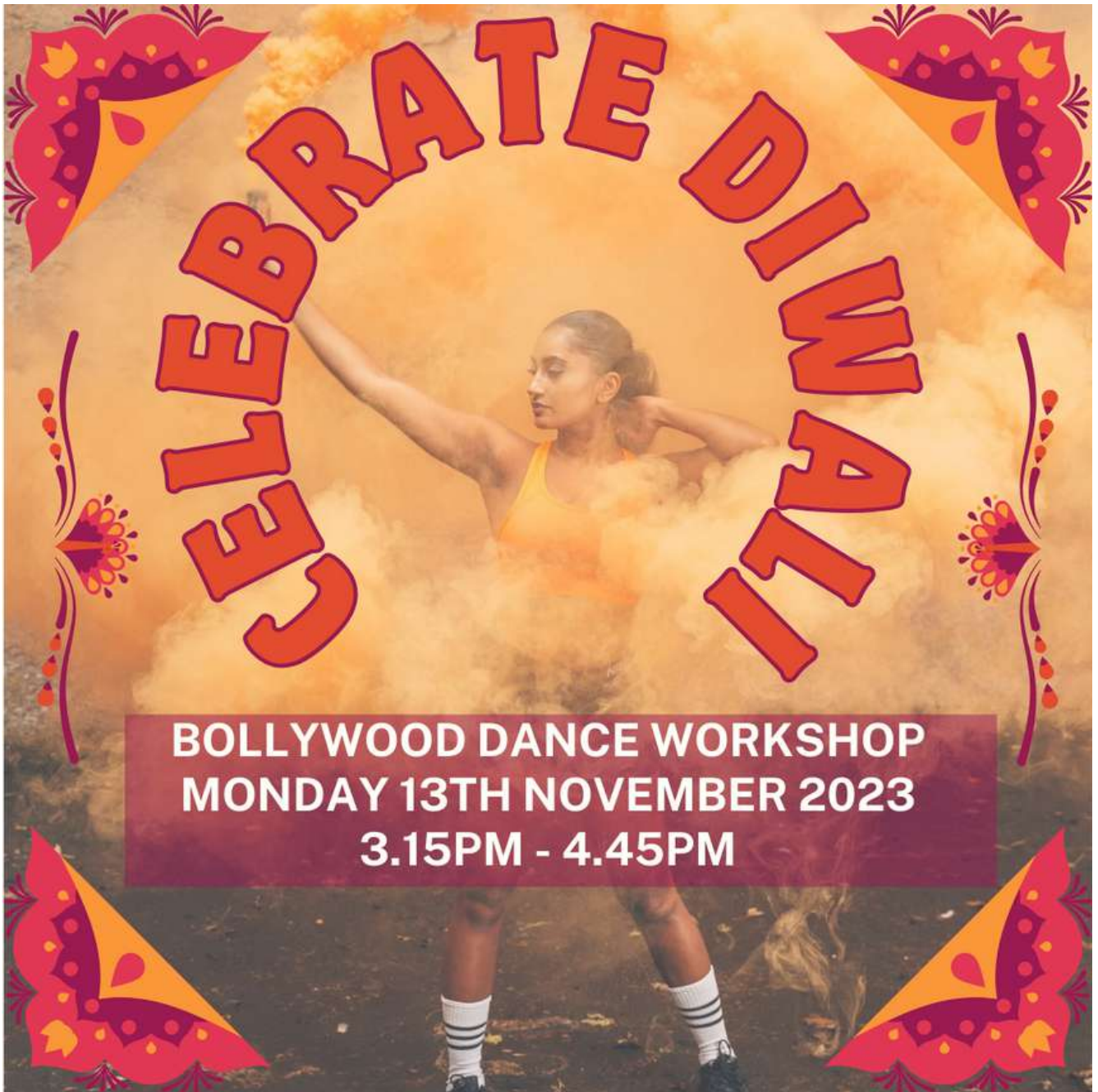
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## Diwali Celebration Dance Workshop

Students are invited to participate in a free Diwali Celebration Dance workshop, delivered by Sherisse Bislam, is due to take place on Monday 13th November 2023, 3.15pm - 4.45pm.

Sherisse is a professional dancer who has performed at corporate events, on stage, and in music videos. Her most recent and biggest credit to date is her role as a dancer in the latest Marvel film Eternals and the late Queen's Jubilee Celebrations on ITV.

Students are able to sign up to attend the workshop by asking their parents/carers to visit the following link and complete the online form: <https://forms.office.com/e/csSwgVmFr0>



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## Facilities for Hire

We are pleased to advise that Chatham Grammar's facilities are available to hire. For a full list of facilities available and to book, please visit <https://schoolhire.co.uk/>

**CG CHATHAM GRAMMAR** Lettings

**FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO HIRE NOW**

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

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

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# Academy Clubs 2023/2024

## Term 2

Day	Club	Year	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday	Media Society	12-13	12-1pm	Library	Students
	CCF	All	3.15-4.30pm	Dance Studio	PKN
Tuesday	Maths Support Group	All	8.00-8.30am	Maths	HOD
	Harry Potter Reading	All	3-3.30pm	Library	BGO
	Young Enterprise	10	3.15-4.15pm	R01	ESA
	Netball	8	3.15-4.15pm	Courts	JLE
	Badminton	7-9 (GCSE invite only)	3.15-4.15pm	Sports Hall	EBU
	GCSE PE Exam and Coursework Support	11	3.15-4.15pm	Sports Lobby	JWA
	Psychology	11	3.15-4.15pm	R02	LSH
	Choir	All	3.15-4.15pm	S04	SRO
	Further Maths	All	3.15-4.15pm	Maths	HOD
	GCSE Maths Support	11	3.15-4.15pm	Maths	HOD
Wednesday	German	11	8.00-8.30am	H09	DCH
	Spanish	11	8.00-8.30am	H08	NBO
	French	11	8.00-8.30am	H12	ISA/HEV
	Creative Writing	All	3.15-4.15pm	Library	BGO
	STEM	All	3.15-4.15pm	L09	EMU
	Thursday	Netball	9	3.15-4.15pm	Courts
Netball U16			3.15-4.15pm	Sports Hall	JWA
Health and Social Care Coursework Support		10-13	3.15-4.15pm	R04	SPA
Table Tennis		7-11	3.15-4.15pm	Main Hall	Coach
Knitting and Crochet		All	3.15-4.15pm	S06	MWO
Orchestra/Band		All	3.15-4.15pm	S04	SRO
Psychology		13	3.15-4.15pm	R02	LSH
History		All	3.15-4.15pm	H07	SLO
Bronze DOfE		All	3.15-4.15pm	Dance Studio	GMA
Netball		12-13	3.15-4.15pm	Sports Hall (Brompton)	Coach
Friday		Med Society	12-13	12-1pm	Library (Brompton)
	Digital Art	All	2.10-3.10pm	Library	BGO
	Netball	7	2.15-3.15pm	Courts	JLE
	Green Team	All	2.10-3.10pm	H02/03	ACY



# Current News and Information

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

Facebook: @ChathamGrammar  
X: @ChathamGrammar  
Instagram: @ChathamGrammar



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## Free Talk Therapy for Adults

For further information or to book an appointment, please email [Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

A vertical poster with a teal header and a dark grey background. The background features a faint image of a person's face. The text is white and centered.

University of Kent | Academies Trust (UKAT)

University of Kent Academies Trust  
**Counselling Service**

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

**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.**

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