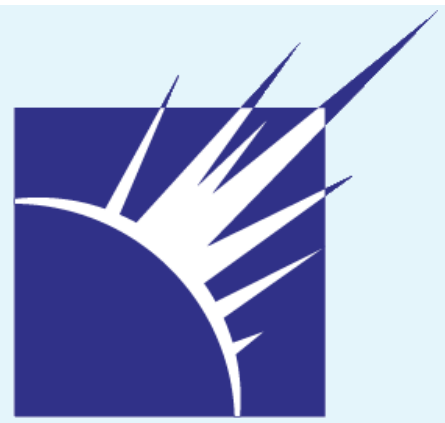


Term 1 2023

# The Place To Be...



## Hot Chocolate Fridays with the Head Teacher

During Term 1, we introduced a new way to celebrate the amazing excellence of our students. Staff can nominate up to 3 students a week for 'Hot Chocolate Friday'.

This can be for students who have done something exceptional, gone above and beyond, made great progress, always do the right things or anything else amazing!

Each week 5 students that have been nominated are randomly selected to go and have Hot Chocolate with Mr Shah and other members of the Senior Leadership Team.

This is a lovely opportunity to discuss how well the students are doing and get to know them even better. During Term 1 over 450 nominations were received.

We are so proud of all the students that have received nominations, it is really lovely to read the abundance of positive comments each week.



## Student Leaders

Hugh Christie has a strong tradition of offering our students the opportunity to show Leadership qualities.

This begins in Year 8 with the chance to be a Student Receptionist and to be a Student Ambassador for our Taster Days and Open Events.

In Year 9 Students follow the Leadership Programme and they can achieve a Bronze, Silver or Gold Standard in this. Our current Year 9 will be receiving information on this in November.

Year 10 students can then apply to be Student Leaders and it was an absolute pleasure to interview and appoint 43 students to the role of Student Leader.

In Year 11 we have over 40 Student Leaders and this term we were delighted to appoint 3 students to be the Lead Student Leaders who will work alongside Mrs Swinnerton and the Year 13 Head Students on projects to improve the student experience.

These students are: Jazmin Champion-Beament, Georgina Nye and Harrison Wheeler who will be the school technician.

# Remembrance Day

As is now traditional at Hugh Christie, students have been honouring and commemorating all those who have been involved, or are still involved in conflicts throughout the world and throughout history.

To mark Remembrance, students at Hugh Christie have been encouraged to Read to Remember. Two of our Year 8 student librarians, Connor and Quinn, created this display of books which are about, or are set during war.

Year 9 were particularly respectful when listening to an assembly on people who have been awarded the Victoria Cross and all students took part in a minute's silence on Friday 10th November.

Our Student leaders had also been active in promoting Remembrance Events by selling poppies. We are incredibly proud of all students who showed respect and compassion on behalf of Hugh Christie.



# Photography Trip to London



Year 10 went on a photographic walking tour of London to shoot some of its wonderful architecture, ranging from the traditional splendour of St Pauls to the contemporary towers of the Lloyds building. We were very lucky to have the only dry and sunny day for a while so students could make the most of their day building a huge number of images to support the progression of their GCSE project on the Built Environment.

# Library & Reading News

## Reading Challenges

Exciting news! We have now launched our reading challenges for Years 7, 8 and 10. Year 7 will be taking part in the Bookworm Reading Challenge, reading books to earn their Bookworm badges.

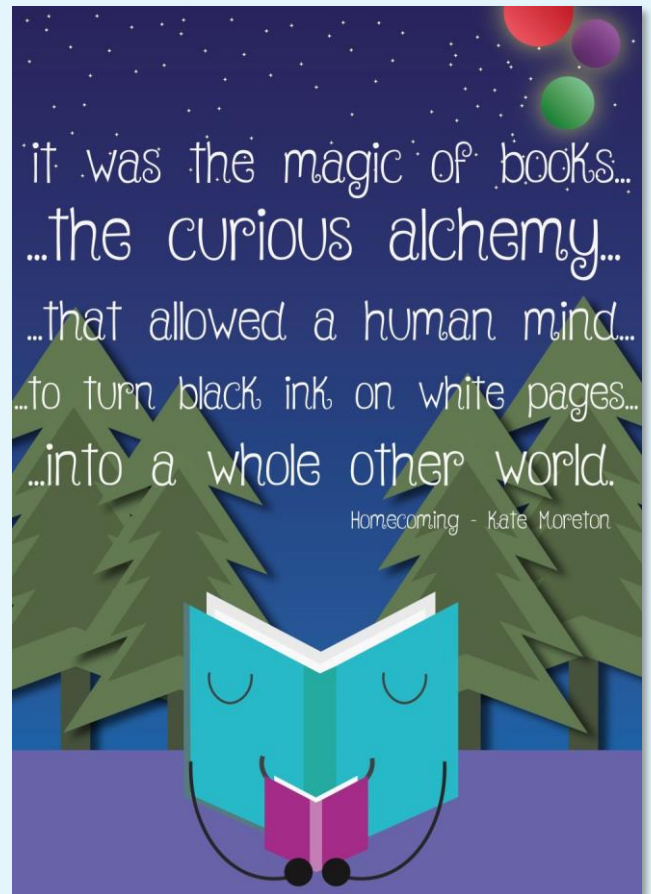
Year 8 are Reading Around the Library- reading books from different genres to earn their bronze, silver and gold book badges.

Year 10 are taking part in our Twist in the Tale challenge- reading books with twists, turns and revelations.

These challenges run up until the end of Semester one and we will be celebrating the students' success with award assemblies at the start of next semester.

Many additional prizes are up for grabs so please encourage your child to get involved.

Reading for pleasure is proven to improve mental health, imagination and sleep as well as having the obvious benefits to academic success



## BookBuzz



All students in Year 7 and 8 have chosen a free book to read, enjoy and keep.

The BookBuzz scheme is fully funded by the school and aims to encourage a love of reading for pleasure. Please encourage your child to read their book.

We will be discussing them in library lessons this term. If any students have not received their book due to absence, please ask them to see Mrs Towner in the library.

## Ali Sparkes Author Visit

On 28th September, Year 7 received an exciting, interactive visit from award winning author Ali Sparkes.

Ali inspired us with her enthusiasm for writing as she told us about her journey to becoming a published author. Some Year 9 and 10 students took part in writing workshops.

They had a go at creating short stories with characters they were given, often with hilarious outcomes! Members of Book Club had the amazing opportunity of having lunch and a Q&A session with Ali.

They asked some brilliant questions and we are very grateful to Ali for being so generous with her time. Laughter and learning certainly went hand in hand that day.

We have all Ali's books in our library, including her new release, My Sister is a Dog.



## Pétanque Perfection

Tegan Finley from Year 10 is the Captain of the Kent Petanque Junior Squad and she has captained her team to become England Junior Champions 2023 which is the first time Kent have won since 2009.

Tegan's coach has complimented her on her supportive attitude to her team, the opposition and her attitude to the game is exemplary. She played every minute of every match which totals over 19 hours over 2 days.

Congratulations to Tegan for such a fantastic achievement!

