



## CCSA Newsletter – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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### From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

We are now over half-way through this short half term. There are only two weeks left before we break up for the Easter Holidays on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. We will finish at the normal time of 3pm on that Friday. We continue to track our attendance recognising how important it is for every one of our students to be in school every day. Our attendance is currently just over 90% which is within 1% of National. Our aspiration is for every student to attend the final 10 days of this half term.

It has been another busy week with a full range of enrichment activities and experiences for our students in addition to our taught and tested curriculum. Last Saturday was the installation of the new Bishop of Birmingham. One of our year 7 students took part in the service that is steeped in history. It was a privilege and honour for the school to be invited and to take part in the service.



This week we have carried out learning walks in all subject areas. These inform how we can further develop and embed our practice. We are working hard to ensure there is consistency and excellence in our teaching and learning throughout the school. Please do take time to look through your child's books with them and talk through the green whole class feedback sheets that we have introduced this half term.

On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day. Staff decorated their tutor room doors to celebrate their favourite book. Please read on in the newsletter to see which form group won and some of the creative and innovative designs. Thank you to Miss Gittins for inspiring staff to take part and thank you parents if you supported your child with making some of the accessories for the doors.

To celebrate International Women's Day today, we have had a ladies football tournament in school. This morning our girls refereed and supported the primary school tournament. Then this afternoon our girls had the chance to take part. We had a surprise visit from the Captain of Birmingham City Women's team who presented the girls with their medals. Thank you to Mr Wells for organising the events today. More details of the day are included in the newsletter.

Last Friday, was this year's secondary school place offer day. Congratulations and welcome to all our new year 7 students and their families who might be reading this week's newsletter. We are looking forward to meeting you all soon and to start your induction and ensure a smooth transition from primary school.

This weekend is the start of Ramadan. We wish all our Muslim students and their families Ramadan Mubarak. I have sent out a letter this afternoon with details of the arrangements for students who wish to take part in the midday prayers during the school day.

This weekend is also Mother's Day so if you are celebrating, I hope it is a special day for you.

Yours faithfully

Joy Langley

Headteacher

### *Dates for your diary*

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Forum – A letter with all the details was emailed out on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Tours for new year 7 students who have not yet had the opportunity to visit CCSA

### *CCSA Friends*

Save the Date – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Family quiz evening at 6pm

### Attendance and commendations

This week, these were the numbers of students who only receive commendations:

- Year 7 – 84
- Year 8 – 114
- Year 9 – 68

This week, these were the numbers of students who had 100% attendance in each year group:

- Year 7 – 155
- Year 8 – 140
- Year 9 – 99

Thank you to parents and carers for working with us to support their child into school every day.

### World Book Day

On Thursday at CCSA, we celebrated World Book Day with a range of exciting activities! Well done to all forms who got involved with the 'Dress Your Door' competition. Congratulations to 7COX, 7GIL, 8KAM, 9POT and 9TOM for winning the competition for your year groups. It was an amazing effort from both staff and students to celebrate their love of reading!

We also had teaching staff sharing their favourite books in each lesson, alongside a 'World Book Day Book Quest' for students to be in with the chance to win a book! In the library, there was a lovely atmosphere at lunch time - well done to Isabella and Evie for winning the library book quiz.

We loved celebrating World Book Day at CCSA and to see the joy of reading throughout the building. A massive thank you to the students and staff for all of the work they put in to make World Book Day such a special occasion at CCSA.



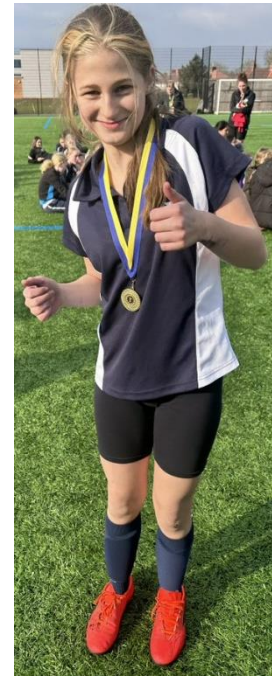
### International Women's Day football tournament

To mark International Women's Day 2024, we hosted a football tournament with local primary and secondary schools. We had some fantastic sports leaders supporting the event as referees; well done to Frankie, Amelia, Madison and Madison for being excellent ambassadors.

The afternoon KS3 tournament was a hotly contested series of games which saw all schools bringing their best play, which was especially important given the two special guests present: Katie Dungate and Christie Harrison-Murray from Birmingham City Football Club.

Year 8/9 came overall in second place, winning their games 3-0, 1-0, 1-0 and narrowly missing first place in the final. Year 7 performed brilliantly, drawing 1-1 in their first game then steamrolling the competition to win

each match 2-0, 2-0 and 5-0, securing themselves first place overall! Well done to both teams for representing CCSA as excellent sports people and role models.



### Lantern Festival celebration

Last week we were delighted to welcome one of our parents, Ms Liu, to share some artefacts with students in the library to celebrate the Lantern Festival. Also known as Shangyuan Festival, it is celebrated on the fifteenth day of the first month in the solar Chinese calendar and marks the final day of the traditional Chinese New Year celebrations. Students in the library were delighted to explore different artefacts and enrich their learning in school; thank you to Ms Liu for sharing this celebration with us.

### Pi Day

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March is Pi Day, an annual opportunity for maths enthusiasts to challenge themselves to recite the infinite digits of pi, celebrate maths and continue our CCSA tradition of winning a pie! There will be a lunchtime competition running on that day to recite the first ten digits of pi correctly, with prizes for the top

20 students. There is also a poster competition to design a poster showing why pi is important in maths, with the best poster winning a grand prize the next day for them and their friends or family.

For more on Pi Day, and to start rehearsing the all-important digits, visit the Pi Day website: [Pi Day | Celebrate Mathematics on March 14th.](#)

### Safeguarding – message from our SLOs

Our School Link Officer PC Harris and PC Jackson has shared this information from the West Midlands Police Partnerships Department. It is a reminder of the warning signs around child exploitation.

West Midlands Police have partnered with The Children's Society and British Transport Police to help raise awareness of exploitation. We are working hard with our specialist teams and community partners to disrupt and prosecute criminal gangs exploiting young people.

Do you know the signs of child exploitation? Would you know where to report exploitation if you spotted the signs?

Exploitation can happen anywhere. It happens online and offline. Children are being targeted outside fast food outlets, at shopping centres, through online games, and social media. There are many types of child exploitation including money laundering, stealing from shops, transporting drugs via trains and bus routes.

Signs of exploitation:

Ask yourself, is a young person:

- Travelling alone, particularly in school hours, late at night or frequently?
- Looking lost or in unfamiliar surroundings?
- Anxious, frightened, angry or displaying other behaviours that make you worried about them?
- In possession of more than one phone?
- Carrying lots of cash?
- Potentially under the influence of drugs or alcohol?
- Being instructed or controlled by another individual?
- Accompanied by individuals who are older than them?
- Seen begging in a public space?

You can find out more information from the #LookCloser campaign website here:

[#LookCloser To Spot Exploitation | The Children's Society\(childrenssociety.org.uk\)](#)

If something doesn't feel right, don't wait, report it:

- Call the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency
- Text the British Transport Police on 61016
- Call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111
- Call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000

If you would like to talk to your schools' officer about exploitation or your concerns, please get in touch with the school or your local police team today [Your Local Police | West Midlands Police \(west-midlands.police.uk\)](#)



**Christ Church**  
Church of England Secondary Academy