



Headteacher's Comment

#ProudToBeChase

Welcome to a new academic year at Chase High School, and a particularly warm welcome to our amazing new Year 7 and Year 12 pupils.

Our first full week has been busy but enjoyable, with pupils and staff back in school, back in lessons, learning and supporting one another. I have been particularly proud of how welcoming and supportive our pupils have been towards those joining us this year. It has been wonderful to see our value of Kindness, which I hold so dear, demonstrated so clearly across the school.

I wish our entire school community a pleasant weekend and, as always, thank you for working so positively with Chase High School and for continuing to uphold our core values of Ambition, Resilience and Kindness.



Year 7 Freshers Fair

Last week, Year 7 pupils took part in a freshers event where they could sign up for a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Organised by dedicated staff, the event was a tremendous success, with enthusiastic participation from both pupils and teachers alike. From sports teams to academic clubs, to arts, music and specialist interest groups, the options were endless, ensuring that there was something to spark the interest of every pupil. Pupils in years 8 through to 13 can go along to our clubs to sign up over the coming weeks. Please encourage your child to find something to attend. Please see the clubs offer attached to this week's News and Views or available on our website.



Breakfast Boosts Brainpower!

Studies show that pupils who eat breakfast regularly perform better academically. Eating a healthy breakfast can contribute to improved readiness to learn, increased concentration, and help improve wellbeing and behaviour.

Every morning we offer **free bagels** to pupils in the main canteen. These are available to all pupils across all year groups from 7.45 am - 8.10 am.

Free Bagels Every morning



7.45am - 8.10am

Main Building Canteen





Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening

We were very pleased to see so many of our Year 11 pupils attend the raising achievement evening this week. The evening started with a talk in the hall where the year ahead, key dates and support available were shared with pupils and families.

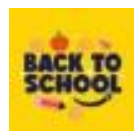
In the Post 16 building, all of our Year 11 classroom teachers were available to have personalised conversations about progress and to provide guidance on exam preparation, as well as pick up the exam preparation booklet for the coming PPES.

We thank all pupils and parents/carers who gave up their time to attend and are really looking forward to seeing the progress that our pupils make throughout the year.



P16 Trip

This week, our Year 13 students had the fantastic opportunity to visit University Centre South Essex (UCSE) to explore the wide range of degree-level subjects on offer and take part in a variety of engaging workshops. It was fantastic to see such a high quality of education right on our doorstep, with committed, knowledgeable and excellent teaching staff. The workshops were both engaging and educational, giving our students a valuable insight into university-level study and the experience of university life.



Year 7 Welcome Evening

On **Thursday 24 September** we would like to invite all Year 7 pupils and their parents to our Year 7 Welcome Evening taking place from 16.00 -18.30. During the event there will be an opportunity to meet your child's form tutor and a selection of subject teachers, find out about the extra-curricular clubs we have on offer and learn more about our curriculum and strategies to support your child.



The Big Future Survey

The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, is inviting young people to share their views through *The Big Future* survey. Rachel wants children to have their say on the changes they would like to see in their communities, the issues that matter most to them, and their hopes for the future.

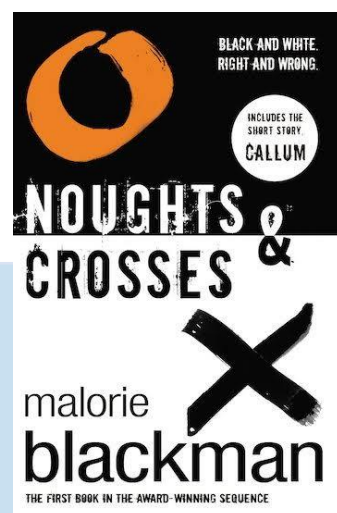
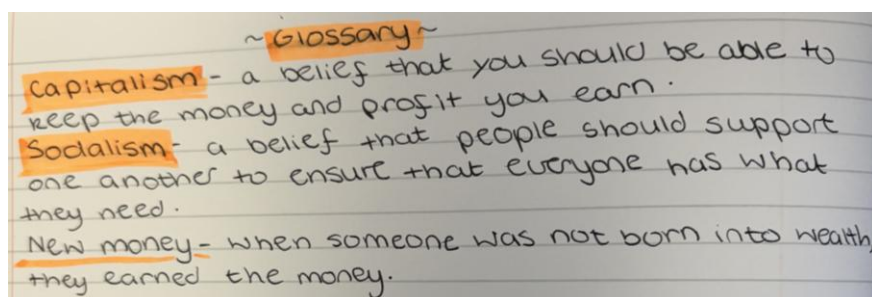
Please encourage your child to complete the survey on the following link: [The Big Future | Children's Commissioner for England](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-future/)





Word of the Day

In every lesson, pupils will receive a **Word of the Day** that is relevant to the content of their lesson. This will be across all subjects and for every year group. Pupils will create a glossary at the back of their exercise books, which will include the word and definition and will highlight these words in orange when they use them in their work. The words of the day have been carefully selected by teachers as they will support in pupils' understanding of topics. As a result, pupils will be expected to use these words in assessments, when giving verbal responses and on their mini whiteboards throughout the lesson. Parents and Carers can support with this literacy strategy by quizzing at home. Can your child tell you the word of the day that they learnt? Can they spell them correctly? Can they tell you the definition? This will encourage pupils to remember the words of the day and allow you to be involved in their progress.



BOOK OF THE WEEK!

Noughts & Crosses by Malorie Blackman

A powerful dystopian novel set in a divided society where **Crosses**, who are dark-skinned, hold power and privilege over the oppressed Noughts, who are white. The story follows Sephy, a Cross, and Callum, a Nought, who have been best friends since childhood but find their relationship increasingly challenged by the racism, prejudice and violence surrounding them. As their families become caught up in political conflict and resistance, Sephy and Callum struggle to stay together in a society determined to keep them apart.

Perfect for KS4



Dates for your Diary

17.09.26 – Year 11 Road Safety Performance

24.09.26 – Year 7 Welcome Evening

08.10.26 – P16 Open Evening

19.10.26 – 30.10.26 – Half Term



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

Chase High School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



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KS3 EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE AUTUMN 1

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKTIME 11.00-11.20	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN
LUNCHTIME 13.25-13.50	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Keyboard Club A Clifford-Tait MU30 Computer Club N McGauley ML21 Board Games L Baylis ML12	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Board Games L Baylis ML12 Choir A Clifford-Tait MU30 Computer Club S Butcher ML22	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 RAP CLUB B Gbadedbo MU30 Board Games Club L Baylis ML12 Computer Club Wk 1 only S Butcher ML22 Minecraft Club N McGauley ML21 Dance Club J Kempton-Cassar MU34	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Chess & Board Games L Baylis ML12 Christian Lunch Bites J Whitfield LS6 Code Club M Hall PS4 LGBTQ+ G Bates LS5 Computer Club Week 2 only S Butcher ML22 Music Time J Kempton-Cassar MU30	LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Film Club J Whitfield LS6 Board Games Club L Baylis ML12 Advanced RPG Society invite only G Bates LS5 Computer Club Week 2 S Butcher ML22 French Listening Club D Emms LF2
AFTER SCHOOL 15.15-16.15	Dance Club C Sexton MU34 Homework Club L Baylis ML12	Homework Club L Baylis ML12 RPG & D&D G Bates LS5 UKMT Week 2 only A Blake/P McCarthy MU20 International Film Club E Saidou LF5 Book Club M Dewsbury ML38 ML39 Food Preparation & Nutrition Week 1 only N Heighway MM29/MM30 Film & Photography T Lloyd PS8 German Club Week 2 only S Jackson LF6 French Club D Emms LF2	Homework Club L Baylis ML12 Minecraft Club M Hall ML24 Spanish Club T Ohakwe LF3	Homework Club L Baylis ML12 STEAM in Science V Holehouse/E Cheung ML4 Historical Miniatures A Gaboury LF1 ESPORTS N McGauley PS5 Food Preparation & Nutrition Week 1 only C Spencer MM29/MM30 School Band B Gbadedbo MU30 Code Club S Butcher ML22 Drama Club S Larking MU34	Homework Club L Baylis ML12

KS4 EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE AUTUMN 1

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKTIME 11.00-11.20	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN	SEN DEN D RINGROSE SEN
LUNCHTIME 13.25-13.50	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Keyboard Club A Clifford-Tait MU30 Board Games L Baylis ML12	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Board Games L Baylis ML12 Choir A Clifford-Tait MU30 Computer Club S Butcher ML22	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 RAP CLUB B Gbadedbo MU30 Board Games Club L Baylis ML12 Dance Club J Kempton-Cassar MU34	SEN DEN V Verdana MM14 LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Chess & Board Games L Baylis ML12 Christian Lunch Bites J Whitfield LS6 LGBTQ+ G Bates LS5 Computer Club Week 2 only S Butcher ML22 Music Time J Kempton-Cassar MU30	LRB V Knight MM19 Chat and Chill N Ringrose LG3 Film Club J Whitfield LS6 Board Games Club L Baylis ML12 Advanced RPG Society invite only G Bates LS5 French Listening Club D Emms LF2
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CHASE HIGH SCHOOL
AMBITION - RESILIENCE - KINDNESS

CHASE HIGH PE DEPARTMENT EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

1st HALF AUTUMN TERM 2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before School 7.30am-8.10am	Basketball All years girls IMA & STH Cross country All years boys & girls PCO	Rugby All years boys & girls AST & EPK Badminton All years SBI Basketball Year 11 boys PCO	Basketball Year 9 & 10 boys AST	Cross country All years boys & girls JGY & EPK Basketball Year 7 & 8 boys SBI & JGY	SDA (Invite only) IMA
Lunchtime 1.25pm-1.50pm	Basketball All years PCO	Basketball All years PCO Football All year 11 Chelsea Coaches	Basketball All years PCO	Basketball All years PCO	Badminton All years SBI
After School 3.15pm – 4.15pm	Basketball Year 9 boys and girls Invite only Southend Scorpions MDA Chelsea Football Year 10 and 11 Boys and girls	Rugby Year 9 & 10 boys PCO & AST Basketball All years girls EPK & IMA/STH	Rugby Year 7 & 8 boys JGY & SBI Basketball Year 10 & 11 boys PCO & AST Rugby All years girls STH/ IMA	Netball All years girls IMA/STH & EPK Basketball Year 7 & 8 boys JGY & SBI Football Year 9, 10 & 11 boys PCO & MDA	Football All years girls IMA Football Year 7 & 8 boys JGY, SBI, MDA & OAA Basketball Year 9, 10 & 11 boys PCO & AST



CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Thursday 8 October
16:00 – 19:30



AMBITION - RESILIENCE - KINDNESS

At Chase High Sixth Form, we provide the freedom, support, facilities, and care to help you take your next step into university, apprenticeships, or even employment.

For more information or to book a tour please email **sixthform@chasehigh.org**

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CHARACTER.AI

Character.AI is an entertainment platform where users create and chat with AI-powered characters. These chatbots can act like existing favourite characters from movies or books, or like friends, mentors, or even romantic partners, responding in an emotional, personally engaging way. Although this can encourage creativity, it can also make a generated conversation feel like a genuine relationship, which is concerning if it takes the place of human relationships.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

AI replies are generated in real time rather than chosen from a fully checked script. Even with safety filters on, conversations can still move into sexual, violent, discriminatory, or self-harm material. These AI characters are often made by users, so a familiar name or child-friendly description does not guarantee that every response from the character will be suitable for a young person.

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

Characters on Character.AI can use the language of friendship, love, and empathy without ever feeling anything. Vulnerable young people may struggle to separate this simulation from genuine understanding. Romantic role-play or a character that demands attention, loyalty, or secrecy could also risk distorting young people's expectations around consent, disagreement, and the give-and-take involved in healthy human relationships.

UNRELIABLE ADVICE

Characters, like other chatbot platforms, are at risk of inventing facts or giving inappropriate advice while sounding completely confident. Characters may also echo a young person's assumptions instead of questioning them. This can become particularly risky when users rely on a character for guidance about health, mental wellbeing, relationships, money, or personal safety instead of checking with a credible source or trusted adult.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Character.AI chatbots can appear endlessly attentive, supportive, and affectionate, which is one of the hallmarks of the generative AI models that such companions are built on. A young person may start turning to a character chatbot whenever they feel lonely or upset and believe that it understands them better than the humans in their life. This can become more concerning when chatting starts to replace sleep, schoolwork, hobbies and friendships.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Character.AI chats may feel private, especially when a bot sounds personal and caring, but they take place on a company's online systems. Users could intentionally or unintentionally reveal their name, school, location, routines, images, or intimate concerns. Character.AI says some data may be retained to improve its services and AI models, so young people should never treat a chatbot like a confidential diary.

UNHEALTHY ENGAGEMENT

Be aware of warning signs such as secret accounts, bypassing age restrictions, hiding phone use from adults, chatting late at night, distress when access to the platform or character stops, withdrawal from other people, falling interest in school, or believing the character is conscious. Increased use may also signal that the young person is already lonely, anxious, or seeking help.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Ask what the young person enjoys about Character.AI and invite them to show you how the platform and their favourite characters work. Useful questions include, "Has it ever said something that felt wrong?" and "How can you tell it doesn't have feelings?" Avoid shaming them for using platforms like Character.AI or making them feel there is something wrong with them for doing so.

CHECK AGE, SETTINGS & LIMITS

Character.AI's minimum age is 16 in the UK, but open-ended companion chat is restricted to adults aged 18 or over. Users aged 16 to 17 receive a different experience built around guided 'Stories' and other creative or social features. Check their current settings, never help or encourage a young person to give a false age, and apply the same safety rules to other chatbot apps.

PAUSE, CHECK AND ASK

Teach young people to pause before accepting an answer from characters on Character.AI. Encourage them to check important claims against a trustworthy source and ask a safe adult when the issue matters. Never use a character as the sole source of medical, mental health, legal, financial, or safeguarding advice. Remind them not to share passwords, contact details, school information, live locations, or private images.

NOTICE AND RESPOND

Take action if chats involve sexual content, threats, coercion, abuse, self-harm or danger. Save relevant evidence, report the character and follow the setting's safeguarding process; educators should involve the designated safeguarding lead. If anyone is in immediate danger, contact emergency services. Childline is available on 0800 1111 and the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000.

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is an educator with almost 30 years' experience across teaching, school leadership and governance. He works internationally supporting schools and colleges with AI leadership and governance and [insert NC courses I have written].



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