



## Headteacher's Comment

This week, our pupils have celebrated a number of successes, including the Race to the Line CO2-powered car challenge and a plethora of sporting achievements. A huge congratulations to all pupils who took part and had their efforts rewarded, as well as a big thank you to the staff who are always there to organise and support the events. We have also bid farewell to our Year 13 pupils, who have completed their seven-year journey and will now be moving on to further study or careers. The assembly and Hawaiian-themed barbecue wrapped up a lovely afternoon filled with smiles, laughter, and happy tears (mainly from Mrs Mulford).

**#ProudtobeChase**

## Year 11 Prom

Last week we celebrated the Class of 2025 at the Year 11 Prom which took place at Saxon Hall. Pupils were invited to have a selfie taken by the magic mirror, help themselves to the sweet bar and buffet, and dance the night away on the dance floor! Everyone had an amazing time; including both the pupils and staff!



We wish all our Year 11 pupils every success for the future.



# SPORT ROUND UP!

Our Year 7/8 girls and boys athletics teams travelled to Chelmsford to compete in the regional final of the National School Athletics Cup. Both teams performed very well. The girls finished ranked 29 out of the 350 schools in the region and the boys finished ranked 18. Both of these rankings are fantastic achievements and the culmination of considerable commitment by pupils in their training.

Last week saw over 100 pupils compete in the Borough Athletics Championships. We were again very impressed by the level that our pupils performed at, in what is widely considered as the best borough in the country for athletics. Our Year 8 girls finished an amazing third overall, the highest year group place we have ever had! The boys finished fifth overall with a record 20 borough standards. Our medal winners were:

Noah - Discus Gold  
Amin - Shot Gold  
Rachel - Long Jump Gold  
Sabella - Shot Gold  
Tiggy - Pole Vault Silver  
Fern - Pole Vault Silver  
Jack - 300m Silver  
Alex - Discus Silver  
Josie - Hammer Silver  
Lilli - 200m Silver  
Kaprice - 100m Silver  
Morgan - Long Jump Silver  
Malachi - Hurdles Bronze  
Abbie - Long Jump Bronze  
Zak - Pole Vault Bronze  
Dexter - 800m Bronze  
Fejiro - Discus Bronze

## School records that were set during the Borough Championships were:

Beth - 100m - 14secs  
Rachel - Long Jump - 4.63m  
Kaprice - 100m - 13secs  
Lilli - 200m - 28.1secs  
Rachel, Kaprice, Abbie, Lilli - Year 8 Relay - 55.6secs  
Wiktorina - 100m - 13.8secs  
Jack - 300m 38.7  
Dexter - 800m 2.20  
Malachi - 75m Hurdles 12.8  
Amin - Shot 11.98  
Jack, Alex, Dexter, Emannnuel relay 52.86  
Morgan - 200m 25.2  
Fejiro - Discus 31.16

**We are so proud of our pupils' achievements over the last few weeks.**

## Book of the Week! The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R Tolkien

**Age recommendation:** 12+

**Short synopsis:** One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them, One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them. In ancient times the Rings of Power were crafted by the Elven-smiths. Sauron, the Dark Lord, forged the One Ring, filling it with his own power so that he could rule all others. But the One Ring was taken from him, and though he sought it throughout Middle-earth, it remained lost to him. After many ages it fell into the hands of Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit. In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself faced with an immense task, as his elderly cousin Bilbo entrusts the Ring to his care. Frodo must leave his home and make a perilous journey across Middle-earth to the Cracks of Doom, there to destroy the Ring and foil the Dark Lord in his evil purpose.

### Pupil Review:

"I picked it up and couldn't stop reading it, it was so good." - Jack, Year 7



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## Year 13 Leaver's Event

Mrs Mulford and the Sixth Form team bid a heartfelt farewell to Year 13 today. The students' achievements were celebrated in a special assembly, followed by a fun-filled Hawaiian-themed barbecue enjoyed by both students and staff. A big thank you to Mrs Soyoye for creating a stunning leavers' cake that everyone loved!

We wish Year 13 the very best of luck as they embark on their chosen career paths and look forward to celebrating with them on Results Day.



## STEAM Race

Following their impressive performance in our in-school STEAM Race to the Line challenge, the winning teams were invited to represent Chase High at the regional finals hosted at New Hall School in Chelmsford. Competing against schools from across the area, our young rocketeers were judged on creative design, engineering innovation, and overall performance. We are thrilled to share that they secured 2nd, 5th, and 6th place—a brilliant achievement and testament to their teamwork, creativity, and determination. Congratulations to all involved!



## The Careers Department Needs your Help!

On Wednesday 23 June, we will be holding mock interviews for our Year 10 pupils. This event is really important for the pupils as it gives them an opportunity to have some interview practise before stepping out into the world of work. If anyone has a couple of hours free, and would like to volunteer some time to support the pupils, please email Lauri on [lauri.procter@chasehigh.org](mailto:lauri.procter@chasehigh.org)



## Dates for your Diary:

30.06.25- 04.07.25 Culture Week

03.07.25 Diversity Show

30.06.25 – 02.07.25 Year 8 Liverpool Trip

10.07.25 Parent/Carer Ofsted Follow Up Meeting 18.00



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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT



Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

### IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

### UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES



While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 3 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

### GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION



GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

### CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS



The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

### POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS



Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

### REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS



Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

### REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS



Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS



Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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