



Headteacher's Comment:

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who attended yesterday evening, and for those that were unable, I will look to send through the overview of the evening in due course. Let me reassure you following the recent Ofsted report. As I have previously communicated, we do not recognise the school portrayed in the report, but I want to emphasise that the safety and well-being of our pupils remain our top priority at Chase High School.

Please rest assured that safeguarding has always been at the heart of our school's ethos, and this will remain unchanged. We strive to ensure that every pupil feels safe and supported at Chase High. Our staff are all highly trained to support pupils with any concerns they might have.

It is reassuring to have received so many emails and comments from parents and carers of pupils at the school, telling me that the report is not aligned with their views or those of their children.

Your trust is incredibly important to us, and we are here to support both you and your children during this time.

Warm regards,

Mr Suttwood



Stratford Geography Trip:

This week, Year 11 Geography pupils visited the Olympic Arena in Stratford. The aim of the trip was to give pupils first-hand knowledge of the park and its surrounding areas. This is because, part of their GCSE needs them to be able to answer questions on a 'human geography' fieldtrip. Pupils answered the question – Was the regeneration of the Stratford Olympic area successful? The pupils were great, carrying out questionnaires with the public and judging the surrounding environments.



Beachcombing:

A group of Year 8 pupils were tasked with collecting washed up plastics and rubbish from the beach to be used in Art. They all made a fantastic effort, despite the wind and rain, and collected 7 bags worth of items! This will be used in Year 8 Art lessons to make recycled sculptures inspired by the Artist Florence Gutchen. We can't wait to see the results!



Student Voice Meeting:

This week, our Junior Leadership Team met with the Mr Suttwood and Miss Rock to discuss important topics raised by pupils. Key points included ideas for improving the school environment, suggestions for extracurricular activities, and ways to enhance pupil wellbeing and support. We were impressed by the thoughtful input and constructive feedback shared. These ideas are being carefully considered, and we look forward to implementing some exciting changes in the near future. Thank you to all pupils who contributed, your voices are making a difference.

Pop Up Art and Technology Exhibition:

Once a term, our Art and Technology departments select a range of fantastic work to be displayed at their pop up exhibition. The pieces exhibited ranged from 2D and 3D work across Technology and Art. Well done to all pupils whose work was selected. A special thank you to Zunni in Year 10 for putting time and effort into creating the fabulous display.



Book of the Week!

This week's book recommendation:

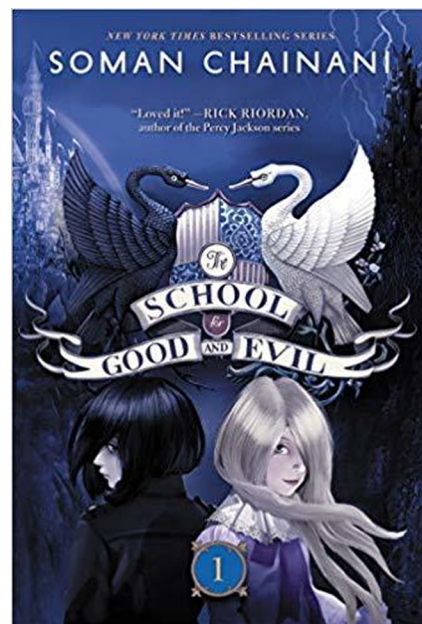
The School for Good and Evil

Age recommendation: 12+

Short synopsis: Best friends Sophie and Agatha are about to discover where all the lost children go: the fabled School for Good and Evil, where ordinary boys and girls are trained to be fairy tale heroes and villains.

Pupil Review:

"The School for Good and Evil is a captivating and imaginative tale that blends fairy tale tropes with modern twists." - Lucy, Year 9.



Celebration Assemblies:

This week, we celebrated the successes that pupils have had this half term. We awarded pupils for house points, badges, attendance and quizzes as a tutor group, and rewarded individual pupils who have been nominated 'Pupil of the Half Term' for each subject. Well done to everyone for your hard work this half term.

Dates for your Diary:

17.02.25 – 21.02.25 Half Term

25.02.25 – Pupils return to school on a week 1 timetable

24.02.25 INSET Day – School closed for pupils 03.03.25 - 07.03.25 World Book Week



DISCOVERY
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

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



www.chasehigh.org



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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the 'hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages and sexual comments.

SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a 'loan' to cover a train ticket).

UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A TikTok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

SKEWED PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

VERIFICATION STAMPS

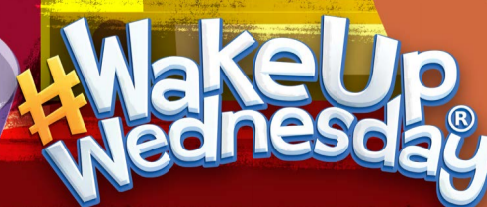
Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE (www.raiseducation.org.uk) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safety and healthy relationships.



The National College

7 Reasons Why Breakfast is Important

by @inner_drive | www.innerdrive.co.uk

**Enhances
memory**



**Improves
academic
performance**



**Improves
physical
health**



**Better eating
habits that day**



Gives you energy



**Better mental
well-being**



**Encourages
physical activity**

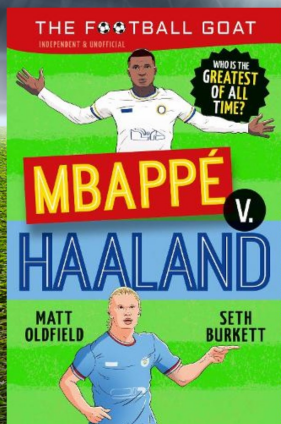


SETH BURKETT

**AUTHOR VISIT AND BOOK SIGNING:
APRIL 25, 2025**



SETH BURKETT GREW UP IN STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE. AGED 18 HE MOVED TO BRAZIL TO PLAY PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL. FOLLOWING THIS, SETH DEVELOPED A CAREER IN WRITING WHICH HAS SEEN HIM PUBLISH 11 BOOKS. HE HAS WRITTEN FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN, AND HAS ALSO GHOSTWRITTEN BOOKS FOR COACHES, FOOTBALLERS AND YOUTUBERS.





CELEBRATE

WORLD BOOK WEEK

**BAKE SALE IN THE CANTEEN
EVERY BREAKTIME AND
LUNCHTIME!**



3RD — 7TH MARCH

- CUPCAKES
- SWEET BAGS
- BROWNIES
- POPCORN





SHORT STORY COMPETITION



Years
7-11!

50 Words
or less!

Mon 3rd - Fri 7th
March

EVENT RULES

- Each entry must have a title and the student's name, year group and tutor group.
- Stories must be original.
- Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, and writing style.
- Stories must not exceed 50 words!

★ PRIZES ★

Overall winner:
£20 Gift Card

Year group winners:
£5 Gift Card



How to enter?

Collect an entry slip from the
Library and return it to us with
your finished entry!

More Information

For more information, see Mrs Bayliss, Miss Banks or Mrs Breen-Chapman in the Library.



Carers First
Young Carers

Pizza

Party

Young Carers join us for a special Pizza Party in celebration of Young Carers Action Day!

St Michaels & All Angels Church
62 Leigh Road, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 1LF
12th March 2025
4:15 PM to 6:15 PM

carersfirst.org.uk

0300 303 1555