



Headteacher's Comment

I thoroughly enjoyed watching our pupils sing at the Brentwood Centre this week. They demonstrated our ARK values throughout their performance, and I couldn't have been prouder of them.

This week, we have once again seen some fantastic sporting achievements from our pupils. Follow their progress on Instagram @chasehighpe to keep up with all the latest updates. Well done to everyone involved, and thank you for your dedication to sporting excellence!

Next week, we are excited to welcome some very special visitors into Chase, all the way from the North Pole! Each day, a number of elves will be hiding somewhere around the school, and pupils will be rewarded for finding them.

#ProudtobeChase



Staffordshire University London Trip

Our Sixth Form Games Development students got a taster of what the London Digital Institute has to offer during a visit to their university. The students took part in an engaging workshop and attended a lesson on creating a 3D game using Unreal Engine. The group thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gained valuable skills and insights throughout the day.



Careers Networking Event

The Careers Department needs your help!

On Monday 12 January, we will be hosting our annual Careers Networking Event and we are looking for adults to come in and talk to pupils about their careers. If you are able to take a day off work, and would like to help inspire and educate our pupils, please contact our Careers Lead on Lauri.procter@chasehigh.org



Essex Music Christmas Concert

This week, our school choir Bellacapella travelled to Brentwood to perform in the Essex Music Services Christmas concert. Our choir joined forces to make a choir of 300 pupils across Essex. Together with the Essex Youth Orchestra we sang a John Williams set Home Alone. This was an amazing opportunity to sing with a live orchestra. Our pupils were also able to watch the performances from the Youth Orchestra. This was an amazing opportunity for our pupils and one they will remember forever!



SPORTS ROUND UP!

Our Year 8/9 boys' athletics team travelled to Lee Valley on Wednesday to represent the school in the indoor finals, after battling through two tough qualifying rounds and competing against over 150 schools. Finishing in the top 12 to reach the final was a fantastic achievement in itself, and the team went on to perform brilliantly on the day, securing an impressive 4th place overall, just missing out on a medal.

A special mention goes to Jack, who broke his own school records in both the 300m, running under 40 seconds indoors for the first time, and the long jump, jumping over 5 metres for the first time. Malachi also broke his own school record in the 200m — a huge achievement! Well done to Max, Elliott, Emanuel, Dexter H and Dexter M, who all contributed to an outstanding team performance. The boys should be extremely proud of their efforts.

In other fixtures this week, we hosted our first-ever tennis fixture against Felsted School from Suffolk. A big well done to James, Troy, Callum and Zak for their strong performances in a closely contested match.

Our Year 10 girls' netball team played a competitive game against Belfairs High School, with Wiktoria named Player of the Match for her excellent performance.

The Year 10 boys' basketball team put in a fantastic effort in the Essex Cup against a strong Great Baddow side. After leading at half-time, the team narrowly missed out on the win. Connor was awarded Player of the Match for his standout performance.

There was also great success for our Year 9 football team, who beat Southchurch High School, with Artium awarded Player of the Match. Meanwhile, our Sixth Form Football Academy showed real determination in a hard-fought match against Shoebury High School.

Another fantastic week of sport — well done to all involved!



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Library Christmas Fayre

Our Library Christmas Fayre will be in full swing next week with games, cakes, sweets and prizes. If your child would like to participate, don't forget to send them into school with some money to enjoy the festivities. The Art Department will also have an arts and crafts stall at the fayre selling gifts, artwork and Christmas crafts. The Fayre will be taking place at break and lunch time in the Library.



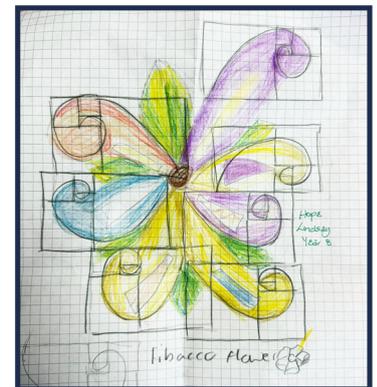
Panto Season!

Rehearsals are well underway for the Peter Pan Pantomime. Pupils have been working hard learning dances, songs and lines to make this year's Christmas production the best yet! The show is lots of fun for the whole family and pupils are excited to perform to an audience. Performances are taking place on Wednesday 10 December at 17.00 and Thursday 11 December at 19.00. Tickets are available for £3 on ParentPay.



Fibonacci Day

Last week, Year 8 Maths pupils and Year 7 Science pupils took part in a STEAM activity to celebrate Fibonacci Day. Fibonacci Day is observed on 23 November to mark the first four numbers of the Fibonacci Sequence (1, 1, 2, 3). The pupils really enjoyed discovering how science and maths connect, and then expressed this through creative Fibonacci spiral designs!



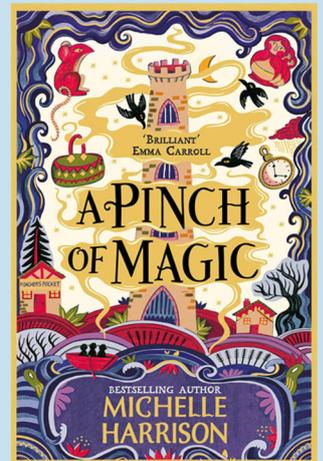
BOOK OF THE WEEK!

A Pinch of Magic by Michelle Harrison

Age recommendation: Perfect for KS3

Short synopsis: On the mysterious, marsh-bound isle of Crowstone, three sisters - Betty, Fliss and Charlie - live imprisoned by a curse that has trapped their family for generations. But each of the sisters holds a secret, three magical objects passed down to them, each with a different enchanted property: an old carpet bag, a nest of dolls and a gilt-framed mirror.

Why choose this book: This is a wonderful, heartwarming tale of sisters coming together to overcome hardship.



Dates for your Diary:

08.12.25 – 12.12.25 Library Christmas Fayre
10.12.25 Panto – Peter Pan 17.00
11.12.25 Panto Peter Pan 19.00

15.12.25- 19.12.25 Celebration Assemblies
17.12.25 Christmas Jumper Day/ Christmas Dinner
05.01.26 INSET DAY



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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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@wake.up.wednesday

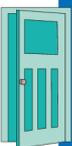
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CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

OPPORTUNITIES



Open Doors takes you behind the scenes to showcase the fantastic range of careers available in construction. On Monday 23rd - Saturday 28th March 2026 across all types of construction sites, as well as training and manufacturing facilities, depots and offices - online sessions will also be available. Bookings will open on Monday 12th January 2026.



Go Construct provides resources for anyone looking for a career in the construction and built environment sector. With so many roles available in construction it can be hard to know where to start, why not learn more about these career options... Find a role for you.



This virtual work experience gives you a behind-the-scenes look at how Arcadis engineers, designers, and project managers solve some of the world's biggest challenges. You'll explore the history and future of architecture and infrastructure, meet professionals shaping our built environment, and reflect on how your skills could make an impact.



Bowmer + Kirkland is one of the UK's most successful construction and development companies. Discover life in pre-construction, construction management and commercial, and hear from the experts at the forefront of it all. Find out more here.



Join AtkinsRéalis and you'll work on global projects across diverse sectors, tackling today's most pressing challenges. From growing populations and transportation needs to climate change - you'll help merge ingenuity, knowledge and technology to uplift communities and engineer a safer, better tomorrow. Explore roles here.



Discover how adventure can build the skills needed to lead, inspire, and make a difference. This session on Wednesday 14th January - 10:00 - 11:00, explores real stories from expedition leaders who've faced challenges in the world's most extreme environments. Learn how teamwork, resilience, and problem-solving in the wild translate into powerful lessons for leadership in any career path.

JOB OF THE WEEK



As a building surveyor, you'll complete detailed reports, known as building surveys. Within these, you'll identify defects and advise on repair, maintenance and restoration options. You may implement preventative measures to keep buildings in good condition and look for ways to make buildings sustainable. A large proportion of the working day spent on site.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

For Young People aged 16-24, employment levels are up by 17,000. The employment rate has increased by 0.2%, now at 52.2%. This means there were 3.89 million young people in employment in July to September 2025.

Source

If you have any questions or need support, please email careers@chasehigh.org



CAREERS NEWSLETTER

OPPORTUNITIES



Brighton University are hosting an Interview preparation talk and Q+A on Thursday 11th December 17:00 -18:00. Get advice from staff and current students about what to expect and how to get ready for your interview. Book your place [here](#).



Exeter University's 'Discover University' platform provides information, advice and guidance aimed at prospective students. They are hosting a Free Webinar focused on the UCAS Process on Monday 5th January 18:00 - 19:00. Browse more events and book [here](#).



Join the Tesco Early Careers team on Monday 8th December at 16:00 to learn about the apprenticeships available, what is involved, the benefits available, and more. Don't worry if you can't make it on the day, [sign up anyway](#) and they'll send you the recording so you don't miss out.



On Tuesday 20th January from 13:00 - 14:00, you can discover everything you need to know about the BA(Hons) Illustration course at Falmouth University. In the session, they will explore what you will learn on the course, and how online study works. Book your place [here](#).



Are you ready to gain new skills and future proof yourself for any career? Whether you're planning to enter the workforce after secondary school, sixth form, college or as a university graduate, the Digdata programme invites you to gain [virtual work experience](#) with [their partners](#)



BTEC Higher Nationals, like the Higher National Certificate (HNC) and Higher National Diploma (HND), are career-focused qualifications equal to the first two years of an undergraduate degree or foundation degree. Read [this guide](#) to learn more.



Do you dream of shaping the skylines of tomorrow? Is your passion the history and future of our evolving landscapes? Join 3DReid for two action packed days, 2nd - 3rd March 2026 to dive into the dynamic world of architecture. [Apply](#) by the 13th February.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"The built environment is always evolving, and McLaren are at the forefront of that change. As we expand into new sectors, we are looking for the next generations of True Builders, to contribute to our continued success and take on a rewarding career in construction. If you're looking to be part of a dynamic, forward-thinking company, there are a variety of early talent opportunities waiting for you." Find out more [here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Join an inspiring and collaborative community that champions individuality and student support. At the University of Roehampton, you'll enjoy future-proof courses designed with leading employers, industry experts teaching you from day one and professional-standard facilities to prepare you for the world of work." Read more [here](#).

If you have any questions or need support, please email careers@chasehigh.org



CHASE HIGH SCHOOL
Elite Performing Arts Academy
Pantomime



Wednesday 10th December 5pm
Thursday 11th December 7pm

PETER PAN

Main Hall

Tickets £3 via ParentPay