



Cockshut Hill School  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST



[MARCH 2023]

# PARENT & CARER ENGAGEMENT

Take the chance to reflect over the opportunities our learners have had here at Cockshut Hill School this term



## ARMED FORCES COVENANT SIGNING



The Quality in Careers Standard >>>>

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## WELCOME

Happy New Year! The Chinese year of the rabbit which we do hope that the luck of the rabbit as well as its elegance and beauty will make 2023 a most beautiful year for all at Cockshut Hill School.

#NothingButTheBest #ScalingNewHeights

Let's take a look at the past term and what we have been getting up to during term two at Cockshut Hill!

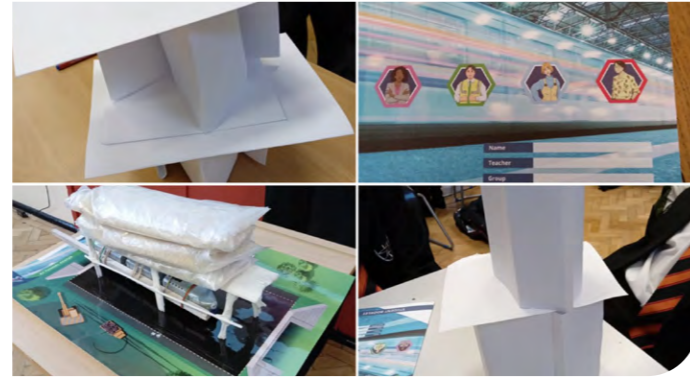
## ONLINE SAFETY

After a relaxing Christmas break, it was 'all hands-on deck' ahead of the Spring term and January alone was no expectation. We hosted our first Online Safety Webinar, ran by the NSPCC for families in our school we told us via parent/carer voice, that this was an area of interest. The statistics were shocking to hear but our families learnt a lot about how to monitor and give more support to assist young people protecting themselves online.



## STEM

Mrs Turton arranged for some of our Year 7 learners to participate in an HS2 STEM workshop. The students involved became young engineers and had to create tunnels from minimal resources. It gave them an insight in a prospective career in the future, right on their doorstep.



Then, Zubeida Khatun (former CHS student) who has worked for Department of International Trade - Canada, Mexico and Greenland came back to Cockshut Hill to share her journey from secondary student to a member of the Civil Service with our Year 10 learners. Zudeida explained the whole journey, the various routes in education she had taken as well as the experiences along the way, to the point she is in her career now. Students were in disbelief when they heard, at the end of her session, that this career driven, well-travelled young woman was from their own doorstep! We are so privileged and proud to have Zubeida back on the Hill. Two massive experiences for our learners and we had not even got close to Careers Week!



## MP JESS PHILLIPS

Mrs Turton arranged for some of our Year 7 learners Year 7 had a further cultural experience this week as Cockshut Hill welcomed Jess Phillips MP back to the Warwick stage. Jess gave a really informative and passionate speech about her route to becoming an MP and why she chose that career path, and connected to that, the UNICEF article 12 " Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them and to have their views taken seriously". Year 7 Learner, Niamh was thrilled that Jess had visited CHS, because she is passionate about politics and said that Jess is a real inspiration for her.

She also talked about the fundamental British values, namely: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

## GROWTH MINDSET

Mr Hargreaves had a busy month. Firstly, as one of our fantastic Achievement Leaders, he arranged for a group of Year 8 learners to participate in a Growth Mindset Workshop with local community interest company called Bouncing Statistics. The workshop was based on showcasing to our learners how they, as young people, can achieve greatness and build resilience no matter what adversities, stereotypes or barriers they may come to face as teenagers and into adult life. We are looking forward to working with this organisation in the future as the feedback from our learners was wonderful. Later in the week, Mr Hargreaves was in competitive and resilient mode again with his Year 10 boys heading to Small Heath for the next round of the Birmingham School's Federation Football. They came up against tough opposition and sadly, they did suffer a 5-2 loss. Although they were disappointed, they must remember that the staff at Cockshut Hill including their super coach, Mr Hargreaves, are extremely proud of them.



## COMMUNITY HELPERS

Now there was a little secret that a group of Year 10 boys tried to keep quiet, until it was highlighted positively via social media. Five young men from year 10 provided 'helping hands' to the ground works at Queens Park, Yardley, when they got their hands dirty with moving soil to support the garden works in the local area. They did this over a number of evenings, after their day at school. In recognition for their community work, they were given the Outstanding Community Service Award by our school Governors. We are so proud.



## EXAMS

January also saw the Year 11's complete their Pre-Public Examinations in the Sports Hall. Year 11 rose to the challenge of all that was expected of them and more. We look forward to sharing their success with them as the year progresses and in August when they receive their official GCSE results. Exciting times ahead

#NothingButTheBest

# January...

# ...January



The month of love was one which brought sporting success as well as raising the profile of our students continuing their drive for success and positive change in all aspects of their own development.

## TRANSITION EVENT

Cockshut Hill was one of a number of schools which hosted a DLP Primary Transition event, where the leads on this project came to our school, together with a host of our colleagues from junior and secondary schools. It was a fantastic event, being able to gather information and support on how the transition journey, for our future learners, can be made as effortless and smooth as possible – exactly what they need at a time of change for them.

## CULTURAL CAPITAL - A CHRISTMAS CAROL

One of the highlights of the Cultural Capital calendar is a trip to the theatre. This year, we had to bring the theatre to us. Quantum Theatre company came in to deliver their version of 'A Christmas Carol' to Year 10 across the day. This is one of the GCSE texts which they will assessed on in their examinations, including in April for their first set of pre-public examinations. A great revision tool for Year 10.



## WE WERE FOOTBALL CRAZY IN FEBRUARY

Year 10 were busy as they played Moseley School in the Jeff Hall Cup. Despite a few hiccups as to whether the game would actually be played, at one point with the game about to be called off but, with a sudden change of heart from the powers that be, the boys showed their nerve, mental strength and resilience to come out 2-0 winners. Next step is to the quarter finals! They have a Jeff Hall Cup behind them in Year 9, so no pressure lads, at all!

The Year 9 boys were not as lucky in the quarter-finals of the Kevin Turner Cup as they narrowly lost 2-1. They played their heart and soul in their match and they were not happy to discuss their loss. The journey back to Cockshut was very silent, by all accounts, showing the passion and desire to succeed. No matter what the result was to be, the community of Cockshut Hill are immensely proud of our Year 9 and 10 football teams!



## READING EVENT

We hosted our first parent and carer event, including some families from our feeder schools, joining us for the Reading event. It was a fantastic evening with speakers, stalls, mini-workshops led by our students and school librarian. Thanks to all who attended and we are looking forward to the next event of its kind! 'Supporting your child, together'.

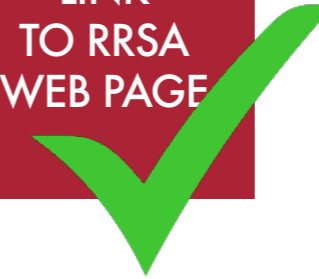


## UNICEF ASSESSMENT

This month also saw the school going through their assessment, under new leadership, for the Gold Rights Respecting School accreditation. The day consisted of the sharing of a report prior to the visit with students and staff from across all areas of the school being asked questions by Hilary, an assessor for UNICEF.



LINK TO RRSA WEB PAGE



## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

The months of January and February saw the annual Cultural Capital Experiences for Year 9 as they visited Gloucester, Cambridge, UCB, Birmingham and Oxford Universities as part of the school programme. Students were given an insight about the journey towards university as well as a tour of the universities. If your child wishes to go to university, it is never out of their reach! Thanks to all the staff who have made these experiences occur this year, especially to Mrs Turton who has been busy organising them all – many more are still yet to come!

## OPTIONS EVENING

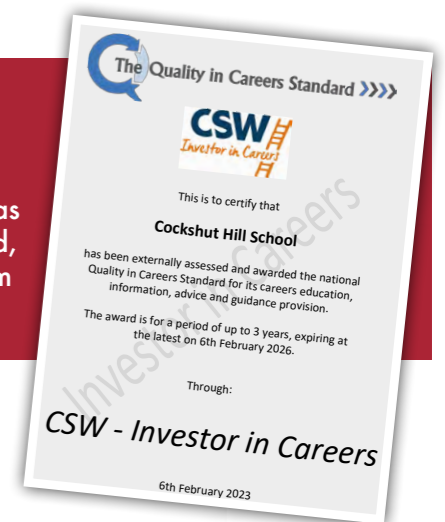
Although we had been so thrilled to host our Year 11 Parents' Evening in school, the return to Year 9 Options evening, face-to-face, was fantastic. Last year we had to make this virtual once again so it was brilliant to welcome our families back to the corridors of Cockshut Hill for both Year 9 and Year 11 events. On both evenings, the school also provided the chance to speak to a variety of post-16 providers whether the route was A Levels, BTECs or Apprenticeships. We were also able to welcome guests to speak to Year 10 about apprenticeships too.



Congratulations to former pupils Estella and Omer who has offers to study Theology and Engineering, respectively, at Cambridge University

## CSW AWARD

Well done to Mrs Turton, whose leadership in CEIAG meant that the school has achieved the Quality In Careers Standard. This is a real credit, and truly deserved, for all the array of opportunities which Mrs Turton ensures our learners get from Year 7, right through, to Year 11.



# February...

# February



Last year, at this time, we had the hottest day of the year but this year, we saw the school dosing for a day due to the sudden amount of snow! March certainly did 'come in like a lion' so hopefully it leaves us 'like a lamb.'

The month start off with a welcome to all our Year 6 students who were successful in gaining a placement at Cockshut Hill for 2022-23. We cannot wait to meet everyone! Welcome emails were sent out and guided tours to those who requested it. 'Every Day an Open Day' – yes, it certainly is so do get in touch and come and walk the corridors of Cockshut Hill! #CHSFamily #community.

During the month, we had the chance to work collaboratively with Lea Forest Primary school as their principal came to visit us. Mr Clarke-Castello went on a tour and the had a catch-up with some former Lea Forest pupils. Later in the month, as part of the schools Careers and Science weeks, a number of students from Years 4-6 came along for an afternoon of Science with their staff from Lea Forest. The students learnt CPR on the Resus Annie models, discussing the value of this skill in real life as well as experimenting with acids and alkalines to make rainbow liquids and much more. Let's not forget getting them into Just Dance at lunch time or the friendly arguments over who won Harry Potter Dobble. We loved having Lea Forest with us and we cannot wait for the next primary event here at Cockshut Hill.



# March...

## ROYAL NAVY VISIT

As it was National Careers week, we had the Royal Navy back in for a STEM event with an initial focus on women in STEM. A group of thirty Year 7 females and a second mixed group of year 7's got to engage in a session with three members of the Royal Navy about their experiences and journeys in their profession. Each session of the workshop also included making rockets and launching them outside.



The competition was fierce as to whose rocket would go the furthest. I think the girls may have won it!

## COMMONWEALTH SERVICE IN LONDON

When the email came through that Cockshut Hill had tickets to attend this event, once again. In the year of the King's coronation, you could see the excitement. It was with great anticipation that 8 Key Stage 3 students and 2 staff members made the coach journey, with Ninestiles and Lyndon representatives, to London to participate in the annual Commonwealth Service, celebrating all nations and cultures within His Majesty's Commonwealth. Last year King Charles, then the Prince of Wales, held the service as a representative for the late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It was a beautiful service attended by His Majesty King Charles III; Queen Consort Camilla; the new Prince William of Wales; Princess Catherine of Wales as well as the recently announced Duke of Edinburgh, Edward and Duchess of Edinburgh, alongside the Princess Royal. The Coronation is sure to be a spectacular event to look forward to in May. A number of our students had never been to London and one student was in complete awe. He said, 'Not only did I get to see London for the first time, but I got to go into Westminster Abbey and had the King walk past me.' These are the opportunities that make us proud to be able to give to our learners.

## YEARS 7-9 INDOOR CRICKET

Always one that we love to hear more about! The first match this team played was a victory at home against Hodge Hill. The boys had to wait a few weeks to secure their next fixture away to Washwood Heath. A win would mean a good chance of participating in finals day and local cricket stadium, Edgbaston later in the summer term. The game sadly not got to bowl as Washwood withdraw and Cockshut was handed immediate entry to the next stage! We look forward to hearing more about the next match, very soon!



## WORLD BOOK DAY & MORE

World Book Day had the giving of books as the students were able to gain their book tokens and have a book for life. Every year group was also able to read a short story, across the day, from the talented collection of Roald Dahl. It certainly led to some interesting conversations! Thank you also to Susan Hill, a writer from Norfolk, who also gifted some of our readers some books.

On 21st March, the National Literacy Trust collaborated with Miss Knight to deliver a session on 'Empower Poetry' as part of World Poetry Day. Three key individuals came to share their life experiences through the medium of poetry to the Year 8 cohort. What a powerful way to showcase how literacy has its place in the expression of life and emotions for our young people.

We also hosted our SOAR tea party with Mr Bridges. Lovely conversations around the room with a number of our learners who were selected randomly based on their SOAR points collation. These students representation what the school values are all about. The conversations ranged from everyday activities and interests to the academic experiences of the staff involved as well as the hopes for the future which our learners hold. We cannot wait to host the next afternoon party!

# March...

## COMMUNITY WORK

Cockshut Hill continues to work closely with Green Lane Masjid. Recently, Imam Mustafa and Kamran Hussain visited Cockshut Hill and met with the leadership team on supporting Muslim students within our school, as well as supporting our families. Members of the leadership team also look forward to visiting Green Lane Masjid again, participating in events which will lead up to, and including, Iftar during this holy month.



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES

Wellbeing is incredibly important and in January, Musab and Hannah, Year 11, two of our Wellbeing mentors, led House assemblies, highlighting the training and work they have been doing over the last year. They are a part of a dedicated group who look to support others in the area, showing mental health really matters.

The charity committee continued their drive to support local communities who sadly are suffering the effects of job losses, raising prices and limited resources. Every day they move around forms, collecting items from students and staff for food banks at St Thomas' and Green Lane Masjid, as well as food times, clothing and other essentials in support of those who are impacted abroad for the Syrian and Turkey Earthquake crises. The charity committee would like to thank all parents/carers, students and staff for their continued generosity. The recipients of the items have been truly grateful! Mrs Kosir, working with Morrisons, created support parcels for families who are struggling, as part of the holy month of Ramadan, where reflection and almsgiving play a key role.



# OUR VALUES

As Protective Characteristics, Fundamental British Values and Equality remain top of our school agenda to ensure everyone is welcome and treated equally and fairly, our Equality committee brought together what equality means to them and how things can be improved through the form of discussions, posters and videos. This led to Aya and Zarin hosting House Assemblies for a week, sharing the great work they have been doing and will be continuing to do, under the guidance of Miss Dixon during International Women's Day.



# THE RRSA ASSESSMENT

It felt like a year since the assessment our of journey to being re-accredited for the Gold standard and it was with great joy that Hilary, from UNICEF was able to email us on 23rd March to inform us of the outcome. Great news, we have been successfully re-accredited Gold and thus remain, a UNICEF UK Gold: Rights Respecting School. We look forward to where the journey continues to take us as we ensure we promote the 42 rights of a child within our holistic curriculum ensuring the rights are met.

**Enjoy the holidays, stay safe and see you on Monday 17th April at 8:30a.m**



# March



## Dates for your Diary

subject to change - updates will always be on the school website

Friday 31st March	CHS's Community Iftar
Friday 31st March	Term ends for learners at 3pm / 4pm for Year 11
Mon 3rd April – Fri 7th April	Easter School for Year 11s (various dates and subjects)
Monday 17th April	Start of the Summer Term
Tuesday 25th April	Year 8 Progress Evening
Saturday 29th April	Year 11 Cultural Experience to London
Monday 1st May Monday 8th May	School closed for May Bank Holiday School closed for our Kings Coronation Bank Holiday
Tuesday 9th May	Year 10 Progress Evening 16:30 – 18:30 Year 11 GCSE Examinations commence
Friday 26th May	End of Half Term
Mon 29th May – Fri 2nd June	Half Term School for Year 11s (various dates and subjects)
Monday 5th June	School re-opens to all learners.
Tuesday 6th June	Year 7 Progress Evening 16:30 – 18:30
Wednesday 5th July	Year 6 Transition Day & Evening



# 'Thank you for reading'

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#NothingButTheBest