



Rupert Moreton, Head of School

20 July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the academic year comes to an end, I would like to thank you for all your support over the past year. My first year at Cheney has been full of incredible events. There have been too many highlights to mention them all but here are a few...

We had a fantastic result from our Ofsted inspection - the whole school community worked together and we have maintained our GOOD status. In particular, the Ofsted inspectors commented on the exemplary behaviour of our students and it is clear that our focus on "Respect for Learning" is building much stronger relationships across the school.

Our Community Iftaar was a huge success with over 100 of our school community coming together to celebrate with the Muslim members of our community - watch out for next year's date and a Diwali event.

We held an engaging careers convention for our year 11-13 students. It wouldn't have been possible without the support of over 55 of our parent community giving their time to talk to our young people about their individual worlds of work. It was great to see such enthusiasm from students and parents alike.

Mrs Broom and Mrs Fenton have worked incredibly hard to increase the profile of literacy in the school. Initiatives have included literacy challenges and 'Drop Everything and Read' events where every person in the school stopped what they were doing for 20 minutes to just read a book - a rarity in the busy worlds we all operate.

We had some students do very well in the Maths Challenge this year - special mention to Darcey Snape who got a Gold in the Intermediate Maths Challenge and has been invited to a National Maths Summer School.

The Science Department welcomed some guests from the RAF to race rocket cars with Year 7 - a great experience and example of Science in action for our Year 7 students.

Our Languages colleagues organised two very successful residential trips - Tarragona and the French Exchange - planning has already begun for next year's adventures!

We've had another fantastic year for sport at the school with highlights including:

- Kyle Daley is the fastest Year 7-8 male in the 100 metres in the country - this is the starter programme for GB athletics
- U12 football team have finished the year as County Champions
- U13 Mixed basketball team won at the Oxfordshire School Games and now are the County Champions
- We now have four Basketball Team county champions

The Creative Arts Department have put on some outstanding shows and exhibitions this year, including the Mad Hatter's Tea Party pop up Art show, A Night at the Musicals, A Journey into Christmas and Narnia - the whole school production. The team do a great job at showcasing the huge range of talent we have in the school. I am looking forward to next year's shows already.

A big thank you to everyone who bought refreshments at the recent summer events. Cheney Friends raised £500 which has been donated to the PE and Creative Arts Faculties. The next Cheney Friends meeting will be Wednesday 26 September, 7.15 pm in the library if you would like to get involved and find out more.

In February we hosted a magical Festival of Imagined Worlds. Students celebrated the spellbinding works of fantasy authors. Bookworms could walk through the different fictional worlds as they explored the site, each one containing decorations, workshops, stalls, and activities themed on the novels and their author. The festival was organised by Dr Lorna Robinson, Director of The Iris Project, an Oxford educational charity which aims to introduce the languages and culture of the ancient world to UK state schools.

Cheney School

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Head
Rupert Moreton, BA, MA, M.Ed

Think for yourself, act for others

We were lucky enough to welcome Caroline Lucas (co-leader of the Green Party) to our Green Event in January. It was a fantastic event enjoyed by many of our pupils, with representation from local 'Green' organisations and some fascinating workshops.

And last but not least, a big story from the year which gained Cheney global recognition (!) was when some of our Year 7's found a tortoise on site. Thanks to the help of local radio and social media the tortoise, named Tallulah, was reunited with her owner. She lived 322 metres away from the school and had been missing for six months. Tallulah has since become a worldwide star with the story reaching as far as New Zealand.

New website

We are launching a new school website in the summer holiday. There will be no change for you accessing the website, but when you get there it will look different - the website address will remain the same: cheney.oxon.sch.uk. If you can't find something on there or have any feedback, please let our Communications department know - communications@cheney.oxon.sch.uk.

Term dates and key events

Term dates are available for the next academic year on our new website: www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/term-dates. You can also use the calendar on our website for key events through the year. Finally, to make things slightly easier for you, we have also listed key dates by year group in the new Year 7-11 section of the website.

School day

We wrote to let you know about the new school day a few months ago. This will begin in September. [Please click here for further information on the new school day](#)

School meals

Despite our best efforts we have had to increase general food items in the canteen by 10-20p per item. Hot main meals will remain the same at £1.80. This price increase is as a result of rising prices from our suppliers - we have held off increasing prices for as long as possible.

Staying in touch

We have a school page on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) should you wish to follow us and keep up to date with what's going on with the school.

Finally, I would like to personally thank Mrs Smith, Deputy Head Teacher, for her hard work and commitment to the school during her time with us, and wish her every happiness and rest in her retirement.

I look forward to welcoming your child(ren) back in September. Year 7 and 12 students will be starting on Monday 3 September at 8.30am and we welcome the rest of our students on Tuesday 4 September at 8.30am.

I wish you and your family a safe and restful summer break

Kindest Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'R Moreton'.

Rupert Moreton
Head Teacher