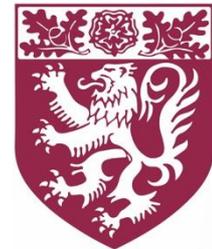




Year 7 Newsletter



'Tis the Season to be jolly...!



Term 2... "another one bites the dust!"

And in the blink of an eye, another term has whizzed past and Christmas is almost upon us! The last six weeks have been very busy and packed full of activity, as you'll see in this edition of the newsletter. As the first full term comes to an end, we hope the Year 7s now feel fully settled into secondary school life and are happy here at Cheney; if you do have any concerns please do get in touch with us. We wish you and your families a

very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year; stay safe, enjoy the well-deserved break and we'll see you in 2020!

Mrs Robson, Head of Student Progress & Mr Haines, Pastoral Leader

Year 7 Reading Success

Congratulations to the 104 students who have reached their Accelerated Reader targets for the September to December period. The targets are set at a level that encourages that 20 minutes per night reading habit and these students have all exceeded expectations and should be very proud of their hard work. There are also lots of new Word Millionaires in the pipeline and these will be announced after the holiday.

Everyone at Cheney is expected to read for 20 minutes per night and then to take an Accelerated Reader quiz on each book that they finish.

Parents/Carers can monitor their students' progress and quizzing activity on Accelerated Reader by following this [link](#) and then logging in using their students' AR login details. Please encourage your son/daughter to read at home, listening to them whenever you can – students benefit greatly from reading to an adult. Finally, please encourage your student to bring their reading book to school every day. I have really enjoyed meeting the new year 7 cohort and they have made a great start to their reading this autumn.



Mrs Fenton, Librarian

In the News...

Oxford's Christmas Light Festival of Arts

The weekend of the 16th November saw the return of Oxford's Christmas Light Festival of Arts, Culture and Fun. Some of our very own Year 7s created some of their own fantastic lanterns for the lantern parade...well done for all your hard work!



Jeff Kinney at Oxford Playhouse

On Friday 22nd November, Miss Hayden and Mrs Fenton had the pleasure of taking eight students to see a presentation by Wimpy Kid author, Jeff Kinney at the Oxford Playhouse. The session was promoting Jeff's new book Wimpy Kid number 16: Wrecking Ball but it also was an opportunity to celebrate all things Wimpy Kid with quizzes and lots of audience participation. Most of all it was great for our students to be able to see one of the most successful authors of recent times and for them to understand that he came from an ordinary background and that it was hard work and enthusiasm for reading comics and books that has catapulted him into fame and fortune.



Pop-Up Art – 'Are You Curious?'

Students and parents who attended the annual Year 7 pop-up exhibition on last Tuesday were greeted with a fabulous array of edible and non-edible treats! All the art rooms were packed full of the terms' work; beautifully sweet oil pastels, mouth-watering water colour sundaes, and collaged characters from Alice in Wonderland.

When tea and cake was served, the Year 7s surpassed themselves in the "Bake-off"

challenge, offering up a spread of delicious delights including layered Christmas tree cake, ginger bread, lemon drizzle and some very yummy biscuits, making it a tasty and sweet event all round.



Christmas Show

Wednesday 11th December saw the return of the highly anticipated Christmas music show. It was a fabulous evening, full of Christmas cheer and festivities. Lots of Year 7s were involved in various parts of the show, including in the orchestra; a special mention must go to Ruth Gitau who performed an absolutely beautiful solo rendition of 'O Holy Night.'



Celebrate Good Times...

On Monday we had our first Year 7 Celebration Assembly and lots of prizes were awarded, including 'Star Student' in each subject and each tutor chose a 'Tutee of the Term'. A huge **WELL DONE** to the following:

Star Students

English – Adam Diesel
 Maths – Natalie Letowska
 Science – Ibraheem Chaudry
 PE – Livvy Brooks & Palbo Carniser-Grasa
 French – Dora Kovasc
 Humanities – Elsa Rea
 Design Tech – Robbie Blundel
 Computing – Maddie Sims
 Music – Anna Deakin
 Art – Raazia Shoab

Tutees of the Term

Tu1 – Nelito Gutteres da Cruz
 Tu2 – Snezana Da Silva
 Tu3 – Jye Dequental
 Tu4 – Catriona Baxter
 Tu5 – Maisie Glenn
 Tu6 – Eleanor Newey
 Tu7 – Ashdon Phipps
 Tu8 – Max Butler
 Tu9 – Elsa Rea
 Tu10 – Max Hancock

Special Awards

Top Tutor Group (Attendance)

Tu1 – Ms Kremnizer &
 Dr Grigorious

Top Tutor Group (Conduct Points)

Tu5 – Mr Evans

100% Attendance Raffle

George James

Zero Negative Points Raffle

Georgina East

Top Conduct Points

Keira Massey



Reminders & Notices

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Attendance

As a Year group, we *still* have the best attendance in the school, currently standing at **95%** - please keep up the good work! (there's been a slight dip this half-term due to lots of illness). Remember, each day of absence from school results in 5 hours of learning lost.



Where possible all appointments should be made out of school hours however, we understand this is not always an option. If your child has an appointment during the school day please ensure you notify the Year 7 office well in advance, either by phone or email. Your child should then come to the Year 7 Office on the morning of the absence, so we can provide them with an 'Exit Note', allowing them to leave the school site. Students should sign out and back in at the Attendance Gate on Gipsy Lane.

To report an absence please contact Mr Haines in the Year 7 Office on **each and every day of the absence**

Phone: 01865 755279

Email: thn@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Uniform

The majority of Year 7 students are turning up to school looking smart and ready to learn but unfortunately there are a small number of students letting the side down! As a reminder, leggings, jeans, hoodies and coloured trainers are not allowed – the full uniform guidance can be found on the school website <https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/uniform>. Please use the Christmas break to check your child's uniform and ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name!

Dates for your diary...

Monday 6 th January	INSET Day (no students)
Tuesday 7 th January	Term 3 Begins
Friday 24 th January	gam Start
Wednesday 12 th and Thursday 13 th February	Whole School Show
Friday 14 th February	Term 3 Ends – 3.10pm
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	Half Term
Monday 24 th February	Term 4 Begins
Friday 28 th February	gam Start
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 12 th March	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Friday 13 th March	gam Start
Monday 30 th March	Year 7 Mock Exams Week

Keep in Touch

Your child's tutor should be your first port of call for all day to day queries but if you wish to contact the Year 7 Team, the contact details are as follows:

Mrs Robson – Head of Student Progress

RRO@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

01865 759283

Mr Haines – Pastoral Leader

THN@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

01865 755279

Please note the Year 7 office is open between 8am-4pm Monday to Thursday and 8am-3.30pm on Friday. We will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible but please allow up to 2 working days for non-urgent queries.