

## **LEADERSHIP UPDATE - 7 April 2022**

**Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and Year 12 and 13 Students,**

**End of term arrangements:** School will finish at 1.30 on Friday 8 April for the two week Easter break. Please note that there is no INSET day at the start of term. All students are back in school on Monday 25 April at **9am** when they will start their day with a 1 hour tutor-time session. Gates will open at 8.45am.

Some Muslim students have asked if they can leave school at 1pm on Friday in order to get to the mosque for Friday prayers. This is entirely reasonable, and we will let them go early if parents give permission. If this applies to your child, please either email your year team, or send a written note on Friday morning.

**End of term reports:** reports will be available via the Bromcom parent app on Friday. Students will also be given a paper copy of their report; if you are still having trouble getting into the Bromcom app, please ask your child for the report; it will probably be at the bottom of their school bag, next to a PE sock and half a sandwich. For future reports, we do not intend to print, both for environmental reasons and because of the sock/sandwich habit.

**Study Leave Dates:** we expect students in both Year 11 and Year 13 to be in all lessons when they do not have an exam until the start of summer half term on Friday May 27. After this, lessons will continue on a drop-in basis until the last exam has been sat in that subject. Some students will be told they need to attend lessons, or be invited to specific revision sessions; departments will communicate directly with families concerned.

Students will of course be very welcome to use the library or other study spaces for individual revision at any point; when large numbers of Year 11 students choose to study in school, we will need them to revise in the classes on their timetable, as there is not enough space in the library for everyone.

There are leavers' assemblies planned for both Year 11 and Year 13 on Friday 27 May. Year teams will be in touch with details separately.

**Eid al Fitr 2022:** We understand that Ramadan has started on different days, depending on the line that different mosques have taken on the sighting of the new moon,

meaning that Eid will fall either on Monday 2 May, which is a bank holiday, or Tuesday 3 May, again depending on the sighting of the new moon. If it is the latter, then of course Muslim students will have the day off school for religious observance.

### **Bromcom update:**

**Students:** all should have received a magic link for the Student app. Students have been going through the process in their tutor times to sign in.

[Link to student guidance on logging in](#)

**Parents:** You should have received a log-in for MCAS (My Child At School App). Please check your junk/spam folders as many of the invitations seem to have ended up there.

The app is going to make communication easier, as we will be using it to push notifications about your child, instead of SMS messages and emails. It is also important to check that the contact information we hold for you is accurate, which can be done via the app. [Link to guidance for logging into MCAS](#)

There have been some parents that still cannot find the invitation, even after checking spam and junk. If this is you, please [let us know on this form](#) and the Data Team will get back to you as soon as they possibly can - we ask you to please be patient as we work through the transition.

**Year 9 Parents Evening:** Year 9 parents' evening will be both in person (3.30-5pm) and online (5.30-7.30). The key question for this parents' evening will be suitability of GCSE choices, which you will be able to discuss with teachers. Further information about booking appointments will be sent when we return.

**Travel to school:** Low Traffic Neighbourhoods are coming to the area around Cheney, along with 'quickways', which are adjustments to roads to make cycling quicker and safer. Together, this will have a major impact on parents' ability to drop off and pick up their children. It will become effectively impossible to do so, and we strongly encourage parents to look at other ways for their children to get to school.

We recommend walking, cycling or public transport, and we will do a coordinated campaign on this in the summer term. There are environmental, and health benefits, as well as removing the danger to staff, students and other parents that parking on double yellow lines represents.

### **Post-COVID :**

- PE Changing rooms will be coming back into use from the start of the summer term. This is so we are able to offer a fuller PE curriculum, not be hampered by the weather, and be more hygienic.

- We will revert to having just one main entrance and exit gate for years 7-11, which will be the main gate by the attendance office. For Year 11s, this will shorten their commute to their year area by a full minute.
- In-person assemblies will return, at least until the exam season starts. They will revert to being online when the assembly hall is in use for exams.

**Appeal for Blazers:** We would be very grateful to receive any old blazers that your children have grown out of. As well as selling them during Cheney Friends fundraisers, we also try and have a stock in school available for children who need them. We are currently short of all sizes. Please bring donations to the main school office or children can bring them in and drop them off with Mrs Dawson or Mrs Heer.

**[Rumble Museum Newsletter #31](#):** In our last newsletter of this term, you can find out what happened when the Greek underworld came to Cheney and explore our Black Classicists Visiting Exhibition. You can also read about the Year Nine trip to Brookes to brainstorm what schools in the future might look like, and find out about Dr Robinson's panel debate for Sixth Formers on the Role of Religion in Public Life tomorrow, with the Bishop of Oxford, Imam Monawar Hussain, and Director of Humanists UK as invited panellists. Finally, there is a reminder of the Rumble Museum's Dystopia Talks for Year Eights and Nines.

**Rumble Museum Dystopia Breakfast Talks for Year Eight and Nine:** The Rumble Museum is running a fresh season of talks next term, open to anyone in Year Eight and Nine, themed on dystopias. The talks will take place on Thursdays at 8.30 to 9am in L14 (the classics centre) during April and May next term. Please [contact Dr Robinson](#) with any questions!

The full schedule of talks if available on [our website](#) and [students can sign up here](#):

**Black Classicists Exhibition in the Iris Classics Centre at Cheney School, 1st - 8th April:** An exhibition celebrating the important role of African Americans in the field of Classics will be on display at the Iris Classics Centre at Cheney from 1st to 8th April. You can find out more about the exhibition here:  
<https://chs.harvard.edu/permanent-collection/black-classicists/>

We will be arranging for students to come and visit during the school day. It will be available for anyone from the wider community to book to view on 2nd and 3rd April between 1 and 3pm, and from 4th to 8th April from 3pm to 5.30pm.

Please email [lorna@irisproject.org.uk](mailto:lorna@irisproject.org.uk) on to book a time and day to visit if you would like to come and take a look.

**Greening Cheney:** Now the sap is rising, a reminder about the Greening Cheney project to transform Cheney's outdoor spaces. The first phase includes the purchase of several

recycled plastic picnic table/benches (attractive and very durable) to replace the rotting tables in the courtyard, plus planters for bee-friendly wildflowers/herbs. The budget for this is £10,000.

The next phase will include covered areas for students to sit outside in the rain/late-March snow(!) plus some more formal planted sections. We have set up a competition for Brookes architecture students to come up with designs- a great collaboration between Cheney and Brookes, hopefully the first of many.

Any donations towards Phase 1 would be most appreciated, and we will fill you in on the details of Phase 2 once the winning design has been chosen. [Payment link](#)

## [House News and Competitions](#)

### [Cheney Sports News](#)

#### **U14 Girls & Boys 5 a side Football Tournament on Tuesday 5th April 2022:**

U14 Girls Team: Isla, Sophie, Livvy, Marianna, Tallulah, Kirsty & Jennaya

U14 Boys Team: Pablo, Hishaam, Gabriel, Nick, Mac, Dino & Luca

Both teams represented Cheney School against The Oxford Academy, St Greg's and Cherwell. The players of the match were given to Isla and Pablo for their excellent effort and performance throughout the competition, well done! (Miss Millard - Teacher of PE).



**Basketball Victory!** Massive congratulations to the following students who have represented Cheney U16 this year at some stage this season culminating in winning the final last night 101-62 vs King Alfreds a very impressive victory!

Oli H (Year 11), Diago L (Year 11), Sara P (Year 11), Meabh W-D (Year 11), Kevin L (Year 11), Stephen S (Year 11), Moayed N (Year 11), Samrat G (Year 11), Farhan H (Year 11), Rufus B (Year 11), Andy I (Year 10), Max S (Year 10), William O (Year 10), Jacob D C (Year 10), Manny A (Year 10), Anas B (Year 11).



**Easter Netball Youth Camp:** The camp is taking place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 10am-3pm at Cheney School, Headington, OX3 7QH. This camp will be for 9-11 year old's.

Bookings are now open, please follow the steps below to book a place:

- You must log onto your child's ENgage account [ENgage \(englandnetball.co.uk\)](http://engage(englandnetball.co.uk))
- (If they don't have one, please create one for them)
- Once logged in, scroll to the bottom of the page and select Find a session
- Pop in your postcode and how far away you think Headington is (50 miles is probably more than sufficient)
- Find Netball Youth Camp – Cheney School on the list and click on it
- Book is on the top right-hand side of the page
- You can then checkout accordingly

We now have an online [Community Noticeboard](#) with regular updates from members and groups in the local community.

You will find all our letters and notices on the [website](#) and/or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and now on [Instagram](#)!

You can also now follow the Mrs Fenton's new [Cheney library twitter account](#)

And follow the [Cheney Library on TikTok](#) for book recommendations, news and more!

Kind regards

Cheney Communications