

Message from The Principal

Mr A McNaughton, Principal



Where has the time gone? It only seems like yesterday I was welcoming you back in September, very glad to not be having to test students for Covid-19 or talk


about isolation periods, and now here we are, in the blink of an eye, at Christmas. We even had some seasonal weather over the weekend in parts of Telford to help us feel even more festive!

All I can say is wow, what a term! We are certainly back up and running and making up for lost time post-covid with everything that makes Charlton a special place to come to school. I genuinely do not know how the staff find the time over and above their day jobs to provide so many opportunities for our students. I love to look through our newsletters and be reminded of all the opportunities our students have had, as I tell them frequently, Charlton is far more than just the five one-hour daily lessons.

We have been visited by many external organisations this term, including a full school review from the Learning Community Trust and a visit from our Behaviour Hubs partner school. All our visitors were full of praise for what they saw and heard from our students about our school. The students should rightly be proud of everything they have achieved this term. We are delighted with the progress the school continues to make.

You will be aware that earlier in the term a serious medical incident occurred on our site involving one of our students. The swift actions of our staff prior to the prompt arrival of the emergency services helped to achieve our own Christmas miracle and we are delighted to have the student back in school again already. Her family have expressed their gratitude for all of the well wishes and were comforted knowing the whole school community were thinking of them, in the most challenging circumstances for them.

continued...



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“I would urge all our community to support others at this difficult time.”

This term a highly valued colleague retired, Cathy McGilvery, PA to me and the senior team. Cathy had worked at Charlton for 9 years and has had a significant impact on the lives of our staff, students, and families. She will be missed greatly, especially by myself but also by our whole school community. We wish her the happiest, healthy retirement. We have appointed Mrs Jackson-Payne as her replacement.

At the end of term, we will also be saying goodbye to Mr Redman (Head of Year 7 and History teacher), Mr Ellam (Head of Computer Science), Miss Knight (English teacher) and Mrs Goodwin (Receptionist); we wish them all well in their new positions. We also wish Mrs Groves (Head of History) and Mrs Lewis (Science teacher) the very best of luck and good health as they start their maternity leave at or shortly after the Christmas holidays. I will introduce our new staff when we return in January.

This term we held an election for the vacant Parent Governor position and following the closure of the parent ballot, I can confirm that Eva Langley received the highest number of votes and has been elected as a Parent Governor. She is delighted to have been elected and is looking forward to working with the governing body. Thank you to everyone who expressed an interest in this position.

This year, more than ever, we have heard of so many families and people in our community who are struggling financially. As a staff, we have been making donations of food to the LCT

Food Bank and to our families from school directly. We have also been providing presents to make up some gift bags for the families we work with, who will struggle to provide presents for their families this Christmas.

The donations we have made will go to support the Learning Community Trust, who will be holding their Community Café Christmas event in the Christmas holidays (<https://www.facebook.com/LCTFoodHubs/>), for the families in the Trust who regularly use our food support, or who would really benefit from having a free Christmas dinner and some presents for their children.

With any additional spare donations, we are also working in conjunction with the charity Christmas Smile (<https://www.christmassmile.org.uk/>), who are finding it more difficult than ever this year to fulfil the referrals they have had for presents for vulnerable families, particularly for teenagers.

This epitomises the value our staff place on the community we serve and how much we care for them. We are very grateful for the generosity of the staff, knowing it has made a significant difference to the families we work with. I would urge all our community to support others at this difficult time, if they can, and to try at least once this holiday to provide cheer to others.

Please can I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, and please take time, whether you celebrate Christmas or not, to do the things you love doing and to enjoy the company of your family and friends.

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Year 11 Student Leaders helped to organise our Macmillan Coffee Morning which was held on 3rd October. Students and staff brought in autumnal themed cakes and biscuits to help raise funds for the charity. It was also an opportunity for the parents of our new Year 7 students to get to know each other. Alongside tea and cakes, they enjoyed performances from our Expressive Arts students. We would like to say a massive thank you for your support which raised £227! Special thanks for lending a hand go to: Miss Wheat, Mrs Skelding, Mrs Thomas, Mr Redman, Mrs Gallier, Mrs Edwards for the hot beverages and Miss O'Hanlon for the entertainment.



Mufti Fundraising

The total raised from the Mufti Day on 21st October was £1117.70 which was shared between Breast Cancer Awareness and the Air Ambulance Service. Thank you all for contributing to two such worthy causes.



Foodbank Collection

Once again Team Blue has risen to the challenge of supporting our local community foodbanks as part of our harvest celebrations. As well as creating a wonderful display of donated goods, the centrepiece of which was a magnificent traditional harvest loaf courtesy of Morrisons, we thought about some of the issues facing our and other societies at this time when it comes to the cost of living crisis and surviving the coming winter and year ahead.

Thank you and well done to all who brought in food – it has all now gone to one of two local foodbanks.



Anti-Violence Bee Monument

Students were BUZZing in school recently after a visit from the West Mercia Police Anti-Violence Bee Monument. The sculpture has been buzzing around LCT sites to promote anti-violence and tackling aggressive BEEhaviour. The Bee is made from surrendered firearms from the Manchester area.

Miss Galbraith found the sculpture thought provoking and unBEElievable. Miss Littleford apologised for the BEE puns but she couldn't BEEhive herself. Thanks go to PCSO Steve for bringing the sculpture for a flying visit!



European Day of Languages

During the week of 26th September, the MFL department celebrated European Day of Languages. In lessons, students took part in competitions such as 'Name the Flag' and 'The Masked Speaker'. All the competition winners received a golden ticket which invited them to a celebration continental breakfast where various treats from different countries were on offer.



A huge thank you to our student cadet representatives and Mr Foskett for their contribution to this year's Remembrance Last Post parade. As always, it was a poignant moment for us all.



Merry Christmas from the History Department



This year, 2022, has been an exciting year of trips for our KS4 students—something we have welcomed since the disruption of Covid-19.

Our current Year 11s enjoyed a residential trip to London in February, and in July this year went to explore historical sites relevant to their GCSE History course. We visited the Imperial War Museum, where we focused upon the Western Front element of our Paper 1 Medicine topic. We also visited the Tower of London and Hampton Court for our Henry VIII and his Ministers Paper 2 course. We then enjoyed visiting tourist attractions around the capital and a 'Jack the Ripper' walking tour in the evening. The trip was a huge success and has enabled us, along with the restrictions being eased, to facilitate more historical trips in 2023.

We plan to send out letters in the new year to launch our KS3 trip to the Black Country Living Museum, as well as visiting Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale, as a local industrial site comparison. This links to our Industrial Revolution topic in the Summer term.

We also hope to have a historical workshop in school for our Year 9 students to introduce the new breadth topic of Medicine Through Time, with a focus on medicine during the First World War on the Western Front. We plan to run this workshop in the Spring term, with external historians leading the session.

Last—but certainly not least—we hope to run another KS4 trip for Year 10 students to attend an overnight residential to either London again, or overseas to Berlin for our Paper 2 Cold War topic and Paper 3 Weimar and Nazi Germany topic. Students have recently been sent an email to register their interest for one of these trips and the one with the most interest will take place in Summer/Autumn 2023.

There has been some great work completed in the History department this term. We wish to make a special mention to our Year 7 cohort for their beautiful Saxon shields for their project. Also a big 'well done' to Year 11 for their efforts in the mock exams. As a department, we are really pleased with the level of focus they showed—although we hope attendance at revision sessions will improve in the New Year.

I would like to finish off by thanking the staff in the department for their hard work and wishing Mr Redman well, who is leaving us at Christmas, for a promotion elsewhere. I, Mrs Groves, will be back for a short time in January before going on maternity leave until December to have my first baby.

Thank you to parents, carers, guardians, and pupils for all your hard work this year and for your continued focus and support in the New Year.

Merry Christmas!

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Cornerstone Enterprise Challenge Winners Day

Year 8 winners of the Wrekin Housing Trust attended a work experience day at their head office. During the day, the students participated in a budgeting exercise where they had to furnish a one-bedroom apartment within the budget given. Surprisingly, they had a clear focus on the essentials and not the Playstation! Following this, they participated in a prioritising activity, thinking about what neighbourhoods require to function. Most of the students believed that capturing stray dogs would be the top priority rather than collecting rubbish.

Further opportunities explored were 'theatre chef', where an amazing chef prepared pancakes and fruit salad; a tour of the building; and a 'guess my job' panel where different employees came and explained their jobs and the students had to guess the job titles.

Overall, the students had a great day, there was lots of excited chatter on the way home about the activities they experienced.

Uniform Swap Shop

As you may be aware we operate a uniform swap shop at Charlton. We are seeking donations of larger sized blazers (32 upwards) and black trousers for both boys and girls in any age group. You can drop washed items into the small meeting room in reception.

Curriculum Enhancement Day

What a busy day! Year 11 were given the opportunity to meet colleges, sixth forms, training providers, and apprenticeship providers. Students were informed about the different courses available to them including the new T Levels.

Year 10 had the opportunity to talk to Telford College and County training about post-16 opportunities.

Alongside this, most year groups participated in virtual presentations from Veolia and 4schools. Veolia explored green careers, apprenticeships, and the growth of Veolia. 4schools is a new initiative through Channel 4 informing students about careers in media. Both opportunities included a Q&A session. Luckily for us, our students asked lots of questions which made the sessions most informative and interesting.

Pathways Evening

Our annual Pathways event took place on Tuesday 15th November with a host of providers in attendance to discuss post-16 and post-18 options with our parents and students. The school was a buzz of activity as years 9, 10 and 11 turned up to have those all-important conversations.

Army Challenge Day

A group of year 9 students visited Parson's Barracks, Donnington to experience the day in the life of an Army soldier. The day was split into six one-hour long sessions to ensure that the students experienced as much as possible.

Participating in a range of activities from assault courses to rope work, the students got stuck in. They explored a military police van, pulled a canon, and carried out first aid at a staged accident.



Each student was given a goodie bag which included a t-shirt, water bottle and mug.

Lunch consisted of Army issue ration packs!

World of Work Day

A 'World of Work' day for Year 9 students was held recently where they met a range of local employers as part of their career curriculum. Discussions with employers explored different pathways and what each job entailed. Further information was given to explain T levels, post-16 routes and university.



Work Experience

27th – 31st March 2023

Year 10 will be participating in work experience next year. The deadlines are: 9th December for out of county and 27th January for in-county placements.

The MyTelford website has been set up with students' accounts to support in researching placements.

The expectation is that all students participate in work experience, if support is required, please see Mrs Soulby.

T Levels

This year has seen the introduction of Technical Levels. The aim of these is to provide students with 20% work experience as part of their course. Equivalent to A Levels, these courses provide the skills needed for employment in the designated sectors. Our local colleges have been into school to explain them to our students. If you would like more information, please contact Mrs Soulby or visit: <http://charlton.uk.com/parent-student-information/careers-and-enterprise>

If you are able to offer us support with mock interviews, assemblies and/or workshops, please email careers@charlton.uk.com

Check out our Instagram page: [charltonschoolcareers](https://www.instagram.com/charltonschoolcareers)

Multicultural Group

Here at Charlton, we are always looking for new ways to be inclusive and to continue to practice non-bias values within the school.

We intend to create diversity displays around the school embodying the black and minority students. Miss Gibb has a range of different activities planned for the students including:

- the creation of a mini heritage documentary
- a 'Who Am I' creative project
- organising cultural holiday celebrations
- watching cultural movies and documentaries
- inviting older black students to become part of a wider school Black Mentoring Programme for younger students

Miss Gibb would also like to include parents, guardians and carers by holding international 'potluck' events with cultural food and music—made by parents, guardians and carers—as well as cultural fashion and dance events, helped by parents, guardians and carers.

If you would like to have a voice within our school on how we could diversify our curriculum and be more inclusive of our black and minority students then please email your ideas to Sacha.gibb1@charlton.uk.com





Creative Writing Club

Mr Blasczyk has started a Creative Writing Club which takes place in EN2, every Wednesday, between 15:20 and 16:20pm. The club is open to all and had a significant turnout in the first session. The first session focused on Gothic Writing, and we looked at extracts from the following texts: *The Bloody Chamber*, *Rebecca*, *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *Frankenstein* and *Dracula* before watching film clips from both *Frankenstein* and *Dracula*. After we modelled an opening to a Gothic Short Story, the students were then given the opportunity to create their own. These pieces were shared within the next session which focussed on the theme of Fantasy. We also looked at extracts and film clips from: *Harry Potter*, *Lord of the Rings*, *The Hobbit* and *His Dark Materials*. Mr Blasczyk is looking forward to hearing some pieces of creative writing and is looking forward to meeting with the students again. All students are welcome, and we are really pleased with the enthusiasm and the support that our KS4 students have offered our KS3 students.

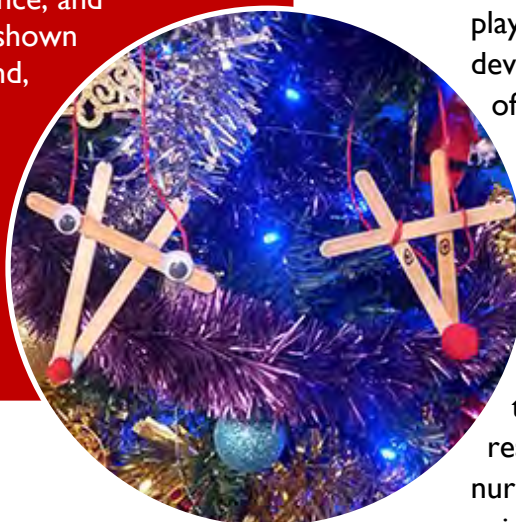


Social Club

Well done to our Social Club for getting us all into the holiday spirit by making reindeer for our Nurture Christmas tree. They also created mini fir cone Christmas trees.

Creativity, resilience, and teamwork were shown in our sessions and, as always, great biscuit eating!!!

Merry Christmas to all of you from the SEN Team!

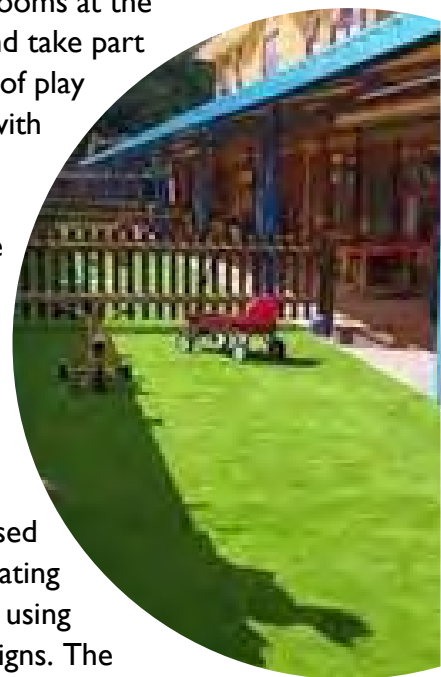


Apley Village Day Nursery Trip

Year 10 Child Development students visited Apley Village Day Nursery for a tour as part of their upcoming coursework project.

Students were given the opportunity to explore the different rooms at the nursery and take part in a range of play activities with each year group. As part of the trip Charlton students read story books to the babies and practised communicating with them using Makaton signs. The tweenies and toddlers enjoyed showing the students the layout of their different classrooms, as well as playing together with a range of different toys aimed at promoting intellectual, emotional and social development. In the pre-school area students were invited to join the children in their outside play area for a physical development session using a range of outdoor play equipment.

We would like to thank the Apley Nursery children and staff, especially group director Laura Davies for allowing us to visit. Our students really enjoyed the opportunity to see their NEA coursework task in a real-world context and the nursery children seemed to really enjoy having some new friends for the afternoon!



Expressive Arts Events

Mary Poppins, The Musical

This month we took students from the cast of our next school production, Mary Poppins The Musical, to London to watch the professional production in the West End. This was a great opportunity for the students to see the production in person before taking to the stage themselves in February. It was a joyful and wonderful day that was enjoyed by both students and staff. It was great to see the students inspired by what they had seen, and to want to use the experience to enhance their own performance in the school's version of the show. Seeing the magic of the professional production has got the students even more excited to bring our production to the stage at Charlton on 15th, 16th and 17th February 2023.



resilience. We were lucky to have Flexus in school to deliver workshops this half term as well as working alongside the dance teachers to create a piece that will be performed in the Dance Showcase. Students found these workshops extremely helpful, and they gained a better understanding of how the piece was created and the strength and extensive training that was needed to execute it.

Disneyland, Paris

Team blue will take over Disneyland, Paris in March 2023. The Expressive Arts department are running a trip to Disneyland Paris where students will take part in a workshop with a professional Disney performer as well as performing on the Disney stage!



All About The Fight

During this term students from year 9 have been learning the professional dance work 'All About The Fight' by Flexus Dance Company. This work looks at dance and boxing, and how the two disciplines combine to show a performance of empowerment, strength, and



This is an amazing once-in-a-lifetime opportunity which is being offered to our committed and hardworking Expressive Arts students. We have been rehearsing a lot in this term to get our dances ready for our performance. Students have worked really hard and we are ready to show the world what we are made of in March!

Year 11 CAT Days

This half term, the Expressive Arts year 11 students have been working hard on their controlled assessment days. They have been working on the performances and pieces that will be assessed as part of the final grade of their BTEC work. We just wanted to say a huge 'well done' as they have been working hard to make sure the pieces are the best they can be. Keep doing what you are doing as you are SMASHING it!

Dance Showcase

On Thursday 8th December we put on our very first 'Dance Showcase'. This was a platform for students of all years to showcase their dance talents and to display what we have been doing during dance lessons this term.

The showcase involved students from years 7 through to 11, as well as extracurricular dance clubs that we offer at school. In addition, there were Key Stage 4 performances from both music and drama students; dance students from our other trust schools; plus a performance from a local dance company.

With a sell-out audience of over 250, it was an evening full of talent, enjoyment and fun that allowed students to express themselves and enjoy performing dance.

We look forward to putting on another dance showcase soon!

Charlton's Got Talent

What a fantastically diverse range of talents we saw in 'Charlton's Got Talent'! We are so proud of all of the students who performed. The acts ranged from songs from musicals including 'Les Misérables' and 'Hamilton', to rock bands, dance and drama pieces and our school choir and dance company. The competition was very strong! Finally, the judges named Lewis, Paige and Hamish the winners for their music performance of 'Kids in America'. Coming second and third were year 7 dance group Macy, Lily and Hope, and year 11 student Grace with her rendition of 'Skyfall' by Adele. A massive congratulations to you all! Thank you to all those who attended and supported the acts, we hope you had a wonderful evening.

Band Night

Congratulations to our talented Year 11 students Lewis S, Josh M,

Tom N and Connor M for their outstanding performance at 'The Place' for the annual Band Night.

They made #teambblue extremely proud and have set the bar high for our future students. A huge 'well done' boys!



charltonschoolexpressivearts



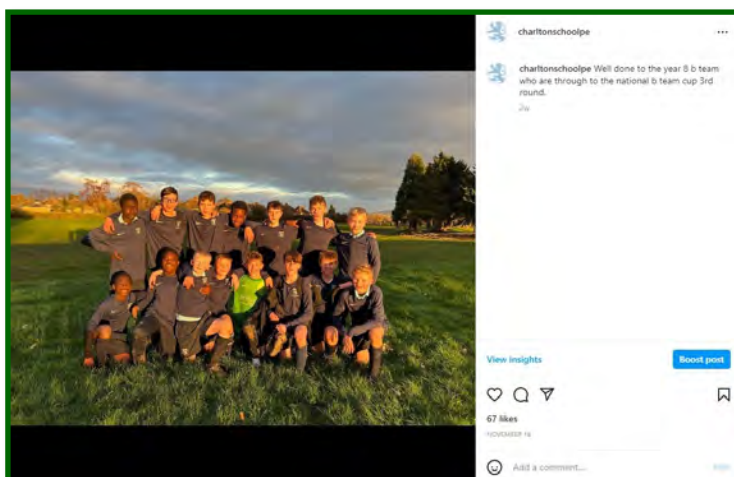
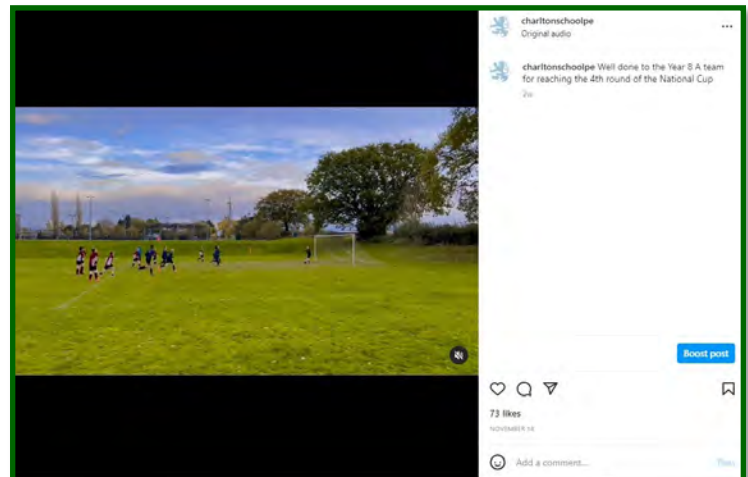
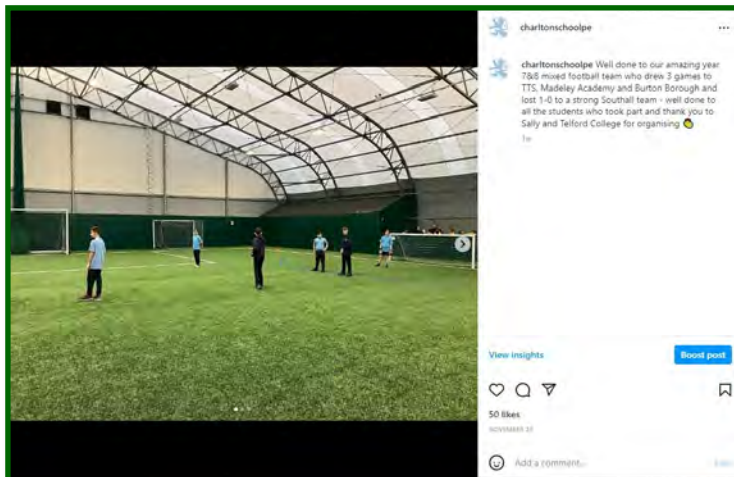
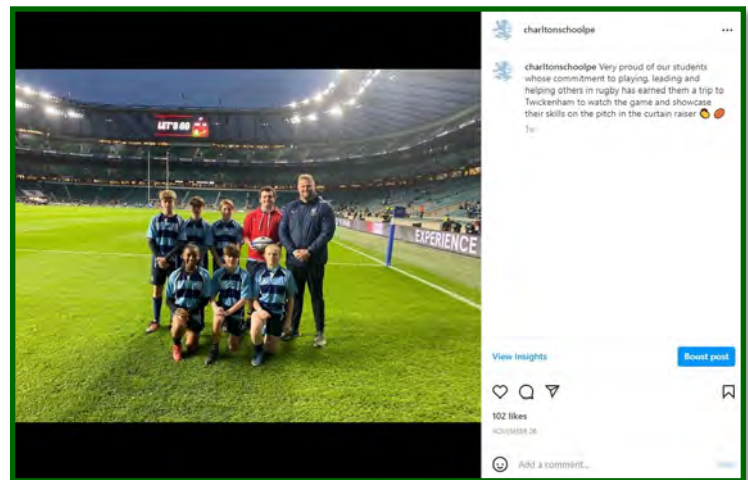
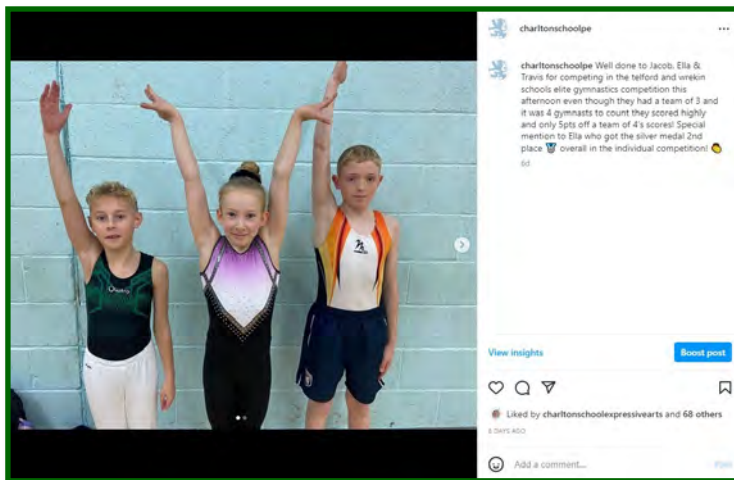
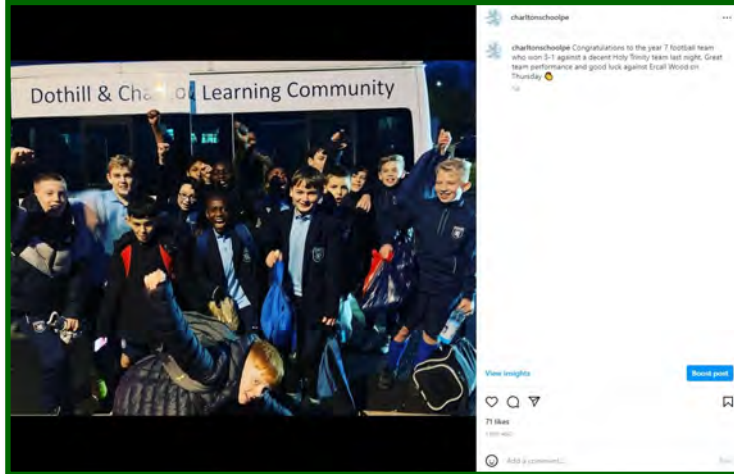
27 likes

charltonschoolexpressivearts What an amazing day with our fantastic students today rehearsing for the Christmas Carol Service! 🎅🌲👦

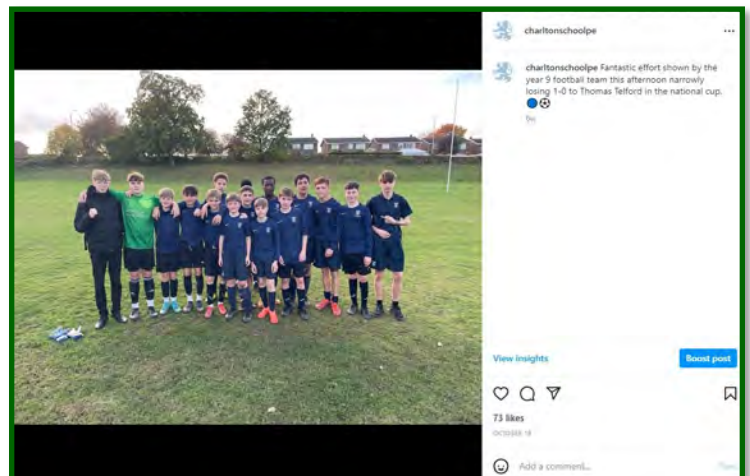
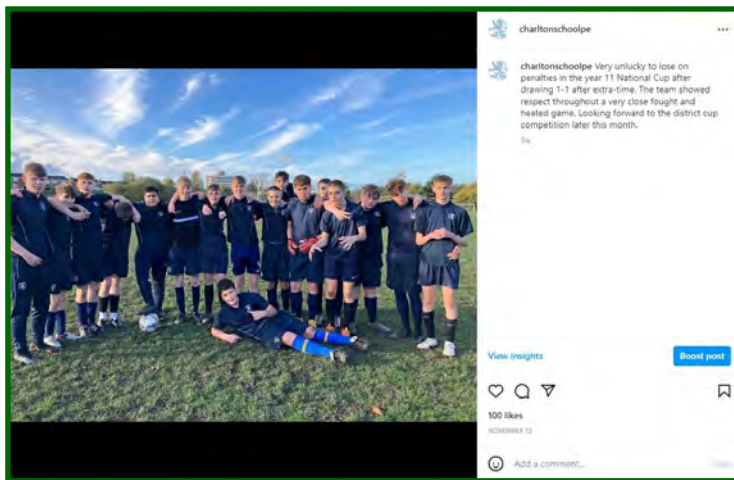
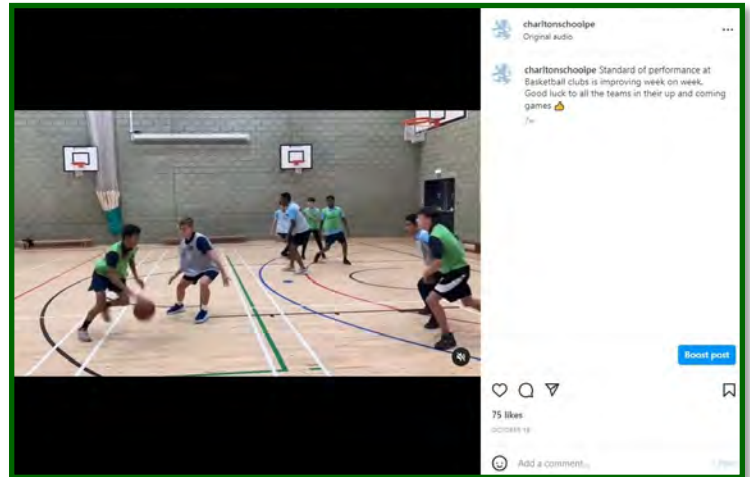
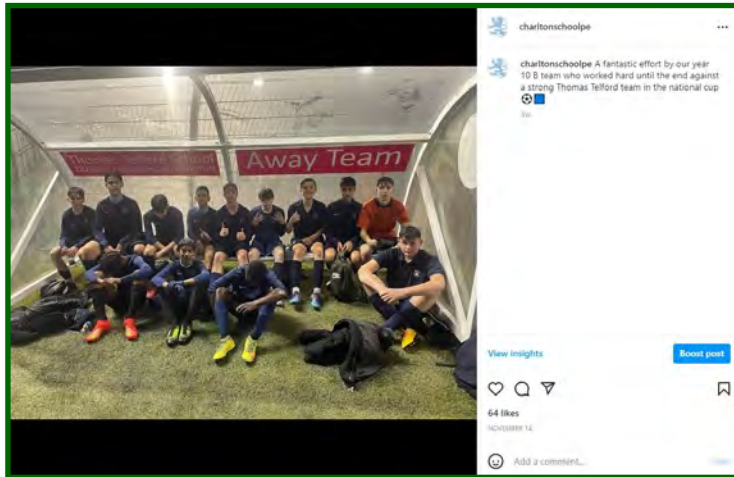
Our Christmas Carol Service is packed full of dance numbers, singers, bands and drama performances. Find us at All Saints Church, Wellington from 7pm-9pm tomorrow evening (Tuesday 13th December), tickets are not needed we only ask for donations.

Join us and get in the Christmas spirit! 🎅🌲☀️

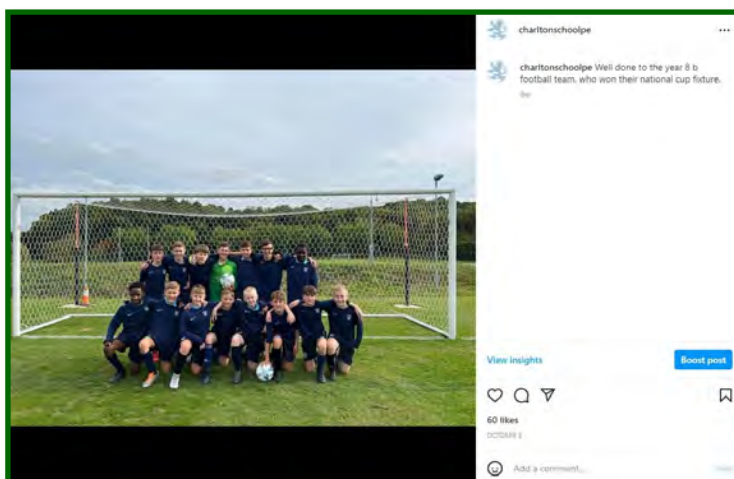
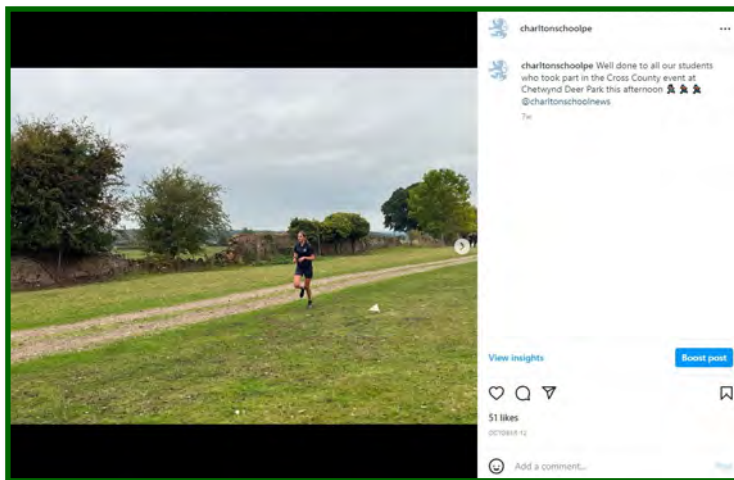
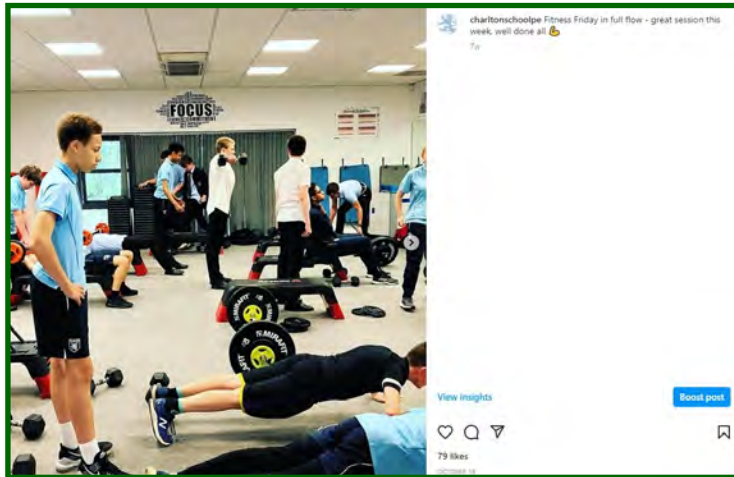
PE Highlights



PE Highlights



PE Highlights



Fit a smoke alarm

The best way for you to protect yourself, your family and your home from fire is to buy a smoke alarm. They cost from as little as £5 and you can get them from supermarkets and in DIY stores.

Make sure you test the battery every week. If you need help or advice on which is the most suitable alarm for you or where you should install it, contact Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service on 01743 260 260. We will be happy to give you advice.



SMOKE ALARMS
SAVE LIVES

**DO YOU HAVE A WORKING
SMOKE ALARM AT HOME?**

**IF NOT YOU ARE FOUR
TIMES AS LIKELY TO
DIE IN A FIRE**



Plan a safe escape

If your smoke alarm went off in the night, would you know what to do?

- Plan an escape route and make sure everyone knows how to escape.
- Make sure all exits are kept clear.
- The best route is the normal way in and out of your home.
- Think of a second route in case the first one is blocked.
- Take a few minutes to practice your escape plan.
- Review your plan if the layout of your home changes.





Be Kind to your Mind.

Looking after your MIND is as important as looking after your BODY

If you are worried about your mental health, or just have a few questions on how you can keep your mind healthy, drop into Beam, your new mental & emotional health service.

You will be met with a friendly face and someone to talk to about anything on your mind. You don't need an appointment or permission to come. Just drop in.

We are open:

Mondays 1:30pm-6pm at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre, 7 Downemead, Hollinswood, Telford TF3 2EW

Thursdays 1pm-6pm at Palmers Coffee Shop, Belmont Church Claremont St, Shrewsbury SY1 1QG. Pop in and find out more about what we do.

If you want to ask us a question or want to find out more about what we do, email us on **AskBeam@childrenssociety.org.uk**.

A Guide for
Parents and Carers

CATE

Children Abused Through
Exploitation

A service for young people
aged 13 -19 at risk of
exploitation

What to do if you are worried about a child and sexual exploitation...

Contact:

FamilyConnect

01952 385385

familyconnect@telford.gov.uk

(Out of hours: 01952 676500)

We will require you as parents/carers to
consent to any work we undertake if the
young person is under the age of 16.

Who are 'CATE' and what do we do?

- A small team within the local Council
- Committed to identifying and working with young people who are at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation
- We build positive and trusting relationships to increase awareness and reduce the risk of CSE
- Working in partnership with all relevant agencies; Police, Safeguarding, Education, Health Services, Social Services and Voluntary Sector
- Offer one to one support delivering the CATE intervention pack covering 6 themes: 'What is CSE?', 'Healthy Relationships', 'Understanding Grooming', 'Internet Safety', 'Sex and the law', 'Peer pressure'
- Supporting young people to access other services/agencies as appropriate

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

"Child sexual exploitation is a form of sexual abuse in which a child or young person is exploited, coerced and/or manipulated into engaging in some form of sexual activity in return for something they need or desire and/or for the gain of a third person.

The 'something' received by the child can include both tangible items such as food, somewhere to stay, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or money and more intangible 'rewards' such as perceived affection, protection or a sense of belonging. Fear of what might happen if they do not comply can also be a significant influencing factor.

Common to all these scenarios is an imbalance of power in favour of the abuser and some degree of coercion, intimidation, exploitation, violence and/or enticement of the child or young person." (DSCF 2009)

The abuse can be perpetrated by groups or individuals, and by adults or peers.

**If you are worried about a child and sexual exploitation
phone FamilyConnect on 01952 385385**

Term Dates

SPRING TERM 2023

Term Starts Wednesday 4th January

Half Term Monday 20th -
Friday 24th February

Term Ends Thursday 30th March

SUMMER TERM 2023

Term Starts Monday 17th April

May Bank

Holiday Monday 1st May

Half Term Monday 29th May -
Friday 2nd June

Term Ends Friday 21st July

Emergency Contact Details



Can we please ask that if you change your address, telephone number or email address that you inform the school as soon as possible. It is vital that we have the latest contact details for every student. Thank you for your support.



CHARLTON SCHOOL

Apley Avenue
Wellington
Telford
TF1 3FA

Tel: 01952 386800

Fax: 01952 386805

Email: school@charlton.uk.com

www.charlton.uk.com

Visit our website

Our website, www.charlton.uk.com has extensive information about the school.



You can also get regular updates from our Twitter page, follow us:

[@charlton_school](https://twitter.com/charlton_school)

[@charltonpe](https://twitter.com/charltonpe) for fixtures, events and scores

[@charlton_lit](https://twitter.com/charlton_lit) for events and news from our Literacy team

[@revisehistory](https://twitter.com/revisehistory) for history facts

[@RErevision](https://twitter.com/RErevision) for hints and tips on RE revision

[@charlton_comms](https://twitter.com/charlton_comms) for updates from our pupil-led communication team

[@charltonscience](https://twitter.com/charltonscience) for science updates and facts

Find us on



Visit us on facebook to keep up-to-date with our latest activities.

