

The Eagle



Culcheth High School

Issue 137 – July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Another one bites the dust! Another academic year has hurtled by in the blink of an eye. As ever, the summer term is one of the busiest of the year, with so much going on in and outside of school. A wide range of successes, achievements, events, and activities involving our students and staff, which have complemented a successful academic year for the whole school.

I hope that you enjoy reading this last newsletter of the year, as it is full of exciting articles that reflects what's been going on in the school community and beyond. The fact that so much goes on in our school is a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved. Our Year 11 Prom, annual Celebration Evening, and Sports Day, were just three of the key school events that allowed us to commemorate and celebrate our students being 'the best that they can be'.

It was great to meet our newest members of our school community as we held our Induction Evening for parents/carers and the Induction Days for our Year 6 students, the Year 7 2026 cohort. We wish them good luck as they prepare to join Culcheth High School in September.

GCSE Results Day is Thursday 20th August, and we wish our Year 11 students all the very best for their results. Staff and students have been working tirelessly to ensure that the demands of this year's GCSEs have been tackled effectively to ensure the success of all our students in reaching their potential.

As we look back over the year and celebrate achievements and accomplishments, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff and governors for their hard work and commitment to making it all happen. I would also like to thank all parents, carers and members of the local community for their continued support in everything that we do as a school.

The 2026-2027 academic year starts on Thursday 3rd September for all students. I would like to take this opportunity to wish staff, students and their families a happy, restful, and safe summer break, and look forward to seeing you all in September, fully refreshed, for the new academic year, full of opportunities and excitement. #WeAreCHS

Mr C P Hunt, Headteacher

Key School Dates

16th July 2026

CHS Fest

17th July 2026

End of Summer Term

20th August 2026

GCSE Results Day

1st September 2026

INSET Day

2nd September 2026

INSET Day

3rd September 2026

Start of Autumn Term

All Aboard Youth Rowing – Schools' Regatta 2026

On Wednesday 24th June, our Year 8 rowing students competed in the All Aboard Youth Rowing Schools' Regatta. The end of year finale was set to showcase the students' rowing skills, developed over the course of the year on the rowing programme.

The Regatta itself took place on the River Mersey at Warrington Rowing Club, in the glorious sunshine. Despite the record high temperatures, competitors, coaches, volunteers, and spectators had an incredible day celebrating the power of sport and community.

Forty secondary schools from Warrington, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Northwich and Runcorn attended on the day. All crews raced in their respective time trials on the 300m course. Our crew came 5th place in the regional results, with a time of 1:54:2 and 9th overall. Their achievements are based on their commitment and tremendous effort during every training session. A massive congratulations to Layla, Elanza, Kelsey, Frankie and Eva.



Certas Energy Career Carnival – Exploring Future Pathways

Students recently took part in an exciting and interactive Career Carnival hosted in partnership with Certas Energy. The event was designed to give students a hands-on insight into the wide range of careers available within the energy sector, whilst also helping them develop teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills.

The day began with an introduction to Certas Energy, one of the UK's largest distributors of fuels and lubricants. Students learned about the company's role in supplying energy to homes and businesses, as well as its growing focus on renewable energy and sustainability. This provided valuable context for understanding how the industry is evolving and the types of careers that will be important in the future.

Following the introduction, students were split into teams and took part in a carousel of eight different activities. Each activity represented a different job role within the company, allowing students to experience both customer-facing and behind-the-scenes careers. These included areas such as Customer Service, Marketing, Engineering, Finance, Renewable Energy, Routing, Human Resources, and even the opportunity to meet a professional driver.

Every 15 minutes, teams rotated to a new station, giving them the chance to engage with a variety of tasks and challenges. These activities were designed to simulate real workplace scenarios, encouraging students to think critically, ask questions, and collaborate effectively with their peers. Throughout the day, students interacted with professionals from Certas Energy, who shared their own career journeys and offered advice. This gave students a clearer understanding of the skills and qualifications needed for different roles, as well as the importance of adaptability in a changing energy landscape.

The event concluded with a reflection session and a Q&A, where students had the opportunity to ask further questions and discuss what they had learned. Many students found the experience both inspiring and informative, gaining a better idea of the diverse opportunities available to them in the future. Overall, the Career Carnival was a valuable and engaging experience, helping students connect their learning to real-world careers and encouraging them to start thinking about their own future pathways.



Staff Leavers

It is always difficult to say goodbye to staff but especially when they have been at Culcheth High School for many years, and contributed so much to the school community and the lives of many young people. I would like to thank Mrs Pilling (PE), Mrs Waheed (Food/DT), Mrs Bardolia (Geog) and Mrs Hardy-Kinsella (Drama) for their support in covering fixed term contracts, this year.

I would like to wish Mrs Lucy (MFL) good luck in her new adventures closer to home. Finally, we wish Mrs O'Toole (Art), all the very best as she retires from teaching at Culcheth High School. Thank you so much to you all and good luck for the future.

Parking Around School

A note for parents who drive students to school and use the school car park, Withington Avenue and Culcheth Hall Drive. If you drop your child off or collect them from school, please use the drop-off bay in the school car park or, if using Withington Avenue or Culcheth Hall Drive:

- Please drive slowly – children are crossing to and from the ginnel
- Please park considerately so that driveways are not blocked and grass verges are not damaged
- Please do not use residents' driveways to turn

Please also be reminded not to use the primary school car park

School Uniform 2026-27

School uniform for 2026-27 has not changed, however there are a number of points that parents/carers need to be aware of:

1. The 'School Shoe Guidance' that remains applicable for 2026-27 is available on the school website, along with the 2026-27 uniform statement and the **3G Pitch Footwear and Guidance**.
2. Hairstyles must be suitable for school. (Extreme hairstyles including patterns, lines or indentations shaved or sculptured onto the hair are not acceptable. Other examples include 'Mohicans', 'Skinheads' and inappropriate use of natural coloured dye to create clashing and/or extreme hair colour patterns. Non-natural colours are not acceptable.)
3. Excessive make-up is unnecessary and inappropriate and must not be worn; this includes false eyelashes and fake tan

School Gates

A reminder to all parents/carers that the school gates open at 8.15am. Students arriving on site before 8.15am will be unable to enter the school site until this time.

Parent Code of Conduct

Unfortunately, Culcheth High School has had to adopt a 'Parent Code of Conduct' following an increase in incidents of inappropriate behaviour, from parents, towards members of staff in school. It is a simple code that outlines the school's expectations of parental conduct when communicating with school, examples of behaviour that will not be tolerated and the steps the school will take if inappropriate behaviour, from parents, takes place. The 'Parent Code of Conduct' can be found on the home page of the school website and also in the school policies section.

Student Possessions and Belongings

Students' possessions and belongings that they bring into school are their own responsibility and, as such, students must take care of them. We provide every student with a locker where they can store their belongings and possessions throughout the school day.

Given the expense of some of the items that students now bring into school, they do so at their own risk. The school can accept no responsibility or liability for loss, damage or theft of personal items. Often students bring expensive items into school that are not required for school; we discourage this, but we also encourage students to look after their personal possessions such as coats, phones, watches etc. ensuring that they don't misplace them or leave them unattended. It is not the responsibility of school staff to search for missing items, due to the impact this would have on missed learning time.

Please be reminded that CHS is a 'phone-free school' and mobile technology should be placed in the students' Yondr pouches all day.

From CHS to Centre Stage – Lucca's Star Continues to Rise

We are absolutely thrilled to share the incredible success of former Culcheth High School student, Lucca Chadwick-Patel, who is currently starring in the hit new stage production, *Bank of Dave: The Musical*. Playing the prominent role of Hugh, a posh London lawyer navigating the charms of the North, Lucca has been earning rave reviews for his standout, high-energy performance.

It has been over ten years since Lucca walked our corridors, and his journey since leaving CHS is a testament to where passion and dedication can lead. After honing his skills here, Lucca went on to train at the prestigious Guildford School of Acting. *Bank of Dave* is just the latest in a long string of impressive professional credits he has secured, including roles in West End smash-hits like *Mamma Mia!* and *Mean Girls*, as well as performing with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Lucca will next be performing in the Northwest at The Royal Exchange Theatre in 'Fun Home' from 3rd July to 1st August. The entire Culcheth High School community is immensely proud of Lucca. He is a wonderful inspiration to our current students, proving that with hard work, your hobbies and passions really can become your dream career. We congratulate Lucca on his continued success and can't wait to see what role he takes on next!



Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 Prom took place on Wednesday 1st July at the Halliwell Jones Stadium in Warrington. All students arrived in fantastic fashion, with sports cars, party buses, army vehicles, tractors and even a convoy of motorbikes amongst some of the entrances.

Once inside, students danced the night away, briefly pausing to refuel with some food and take photographs with the interactive photo booth. This was a phenomenal way to end the school journey that they've taken, and we wish them every success in whatever they go on to do after high school.



FOCUS ON PUPIL PREMIUM

As another busy and successful year comes to an end, the Pupil Premium Team would like to wish our Year 11 students every success for the future. We are so proud of everything they have achieved and the resilience and determination they have shown throughout their time at Culcheth High School.

It has been a privilege to watch them grow, and we know they will go on to do amazing things. Good luck, Year 11—you will always be part of the Culcheth High School family.

Summer Enrichment Rewards

This term, we were delighted to reward our highest-achieving Pupil Premium students for their excellent behaviour and attendance with a range of summer enrichment trips.

Our Year 7 students enjoyed a fantastic day of bowling and laser tag at Tenpin Warrington, with plenty of strikes, spares, and smiles. Year 8 took on the high ropes course at Delamere Forest, stepping out of their comfort zones and finishing with some impressive zip-line runs. Meanwhile, our Year 9 students embraced the challenge of kayaking and paddleboarding. Despite a few wobbly starts, they quickly grew in confidence and were paddling like experts by the end of the day!

These trips are always a highlight of the school year and a wonderful way to celebrate our students' hard work and achievements.

The Pupil Premium Team would like to wish all our families a restful, fun-filled summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back next year and continuing to support every child on their journey to becoming the very best they can be.



Pupil Premium Uniform Orders

The deadline for Pupil Premium uniform orders for the 2025–26 academic year has now passed.

If you need to purchase uniform during the summer holidays, please order directly through the SWI website. Please note that the Pupil Premium Team is unable to reimburse any uniform items purchased directly from SWI.

Our in-house Culcheth High School Pupil Premium uniform ordering system will reopen on the 3rd September for the 2026–27 academic year. From this date, we will be happy to process eligible uniform requests using your child's allocated Pupil Premium 'voucher'.

Support Over the Summer Holidays (HAF Programme)

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is funded by the Department for Education. It gives children who are eligible for free school meals the opportunity to take part in fun, enriching activities while enjoying a healthy meal. The programme runs during the Easter, summer, and Christmas school holidays.

Places on the holiday schemes are available free of charge to children aged 5–16 who receive benefit-related free school meals. There is a wealth of holiday camps to choose from, as well as family events and activities for older children, including climbing, Quasar, and gym passes. To make a booking, please visit: <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/haf>.

CHS Radio – Celebrating Our One-Year Anniversary

This July marks a major milestone as CHS Radio celebrates its first full year on the air! For the past 12 months, our dedicated radio crew has worked hard behind the scenes to produce a brand new show every single week, brightening up our Friday mornings across the school.



From engaging weekly features to a fantastic playlist of tunes spanning all generations, they have kept us all thoroughly entertained.

A massive thank you and congratulations to our brilliant Year 10 team who made it all happen: Alex Buffey, Phoebe Smith, Meredith Shepherd, and Chloe Cottrill. You have done an incredible job setting the bar so high!

The show wouldn't be the same without our amazing school community. We would like to extend a huge thank

you to all the staff members who have volunteered their time to come on the show as guests over the past year.

As our founding crew prepares for their final year, we are officially on the lookout for a brand-new team to take over the reins during the next year. If you are passionate about music, media, or broadcasting, keep an eye out for details on CHS Radio.



Year 8 in the Community – My BMX Journey

BMX racing is a sport that I love, and I work hard to improve every time I ride. Over the last five years, I have been lucky enough to compete against some of the best riders in the UK, Europe and the world.

To compete at this level, BMX racing requires a combination of technical skill, physical fitness and mental strength. I spend many hours practising gate starts, manuals and wheelies, as well as building strength, cardiovascular fitness and explosive power. BMX racing also requires quick decision-making and the ability to adapt to different track conditions and race situations. Developing these skills has helped me to grow both as a rider and as a person.

In 2025, I raced at the World Championships in Copenhagen and finished 6th in the world, which earned me a ranking of World Number 6. I also competed in the European Championships, where I finished 7th in Europe and achieved a ranking of European Number 7. One of my proudest achievements has been becoming National Champion in each of the last three years.

This season has been another exciting challenge, and I am delighted to have recently secured my fourth consecutive National Champion title. Achieving this is something I am incredibly proud of, and it motivates me even more as I continue to work towards my future goals.

Although I am proud of my results, I know they would not be possible without the support of my family, coaches and everyone who encourages me. BMX has taught me the importance of hard work, determination and never giving up, even when things don't go to plan.

In 2027, I will be taking part in both the European Championships in Belgium and the World Championships in France, where I hope to improve on my current results. I am proud of what I have achieved so far and excited to keep learning, improving and enjoying the sport that I love.

James, 8M



Year 8 in the Community – Thai Boxing Success

I started training in Thai boxing when I was six-years old, and it has become a huge part of my life. So far, I have had eight fights and taken part in around 50 interclubs, which have helped me gain experience and improve my skills. I am the Siam Open Champion for my age and weight division, and have won a championship belt.

This year, I was selected to represent Great Britain at the WMF Championships in Thailand, where I achieved second place in the world for my age and weight category, I brought home the Silver Medal. I train five days a week, and sometimes six, at Diamond Kickboxing Academy in Woolston. Thai boxing has taught me discipline, dedication, confidence and resilience. My goal is to, one day, compete in ONE Championship in Thailand when I am old enough, and I am committed to working hard to achieve that dream.

Evie, 8T



Year 8 in the Community – Girls' Rugby

As a player for Warrington Girls' Community Rugby League Football Club, I had the opportunity to go to Wembley Stadium to participate in the opening ceremony for the the Women's Rugby League Challenge Cup Final (St Helens v Wigan), followed by the men's final (Wigan v Hull KR). The experience was so exciting; being on the pitch in a massive stadium with all the ceremony, the flags, the military band and fireworks. It was amazing and such a privilege.

Being part of girls' rugby is simply my world. I have been playing Rugby League for four years and I now play Rugby Union too, as participating in this allows me to play competitively in both winter and summer seasons. It also retains my fitness and skills. I love my friendships, the camaraderie, the fitness training, the toughness and discipline which comes with the sports. The adrenaline rush and excitement when playing matches can't be compared to anything else.

My Rugby Union team is Trafford Metrovics RUFC in Sale, and I play in the U14s girls side. We have succeeded to reach the league final this year, but our last match was sadly abandoned due to injury to a player. We did however win a Lancashire Rugby Union 7s tournament, and I was nominated Player of the Tournament - I worked hard, scored many tries but was supported by my team. It was great fun but hard work too!

Girls' rugby is becoming more popular. There are more teams being created. This is great news as it is such an amazing sport. I would recommend either discipline of Rugby to any girl - give it a go. You won't be disappointed.

Estelle, 8Y



Year 8 in the Community – Girls' Football

We are members of the Ella Toone Academy (ET7) and recently had the opportunity to visit St Georges Park, the home of football. We spent the day travelling with the rest of our teammates on a coach. On arrival, we headed to the changing rooms and down onto the pitches where we trained with the England coaches.

During the session we had multiple intense drills delivered to us. The drills were based upon possession, shooting and staying composed. After the session we had our squad photos taken, and had a team talk. Then we ate our food and were kindly gifted snacks at the door.

Finally, we got our seats in the stadium and watched the Lionesses full training session! After they finished, we were able to meet them all including the manager, Sarina Wiegman. They were so nice and chatty; we even got their signatures. We can't wait to put all that we learned into practice and have another successful season.

Pearl and Isla, Year 8



CHS in the Community – High Notes at High Peak

Our talented music students recently took their skills on the road for a wonderful visit to High Peak Nursing Home in Croft. Year 10 students Chloe Cottrill and Meredith Shepherd treated the residents to a beautiful and varied musical showcase, performing everything from moving duets to impressive vocal and instrumental solos. Ensuring everything ran seamlessly behind the scenes was the fantastic duo of Ellen Coleman and Jessica Drummond, who expertly managed all the event's technology.

It was an incredibly heartwarming day that brought immense joy to both our students and the residents. A huge thank you to the staff and residents at High Peak for their wonderful hospitality. We are already looking forward to our next visit!



Getting Crafty for DoE Skills

Faye Pryce in Year 9 has been busy crocheting as a skill for her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh. She has made some small granny squares, a teddy, and some babies' hats for a Neonatal Unit. Faye has turned a personal hobby into an act of thoughtful community service. Faye has spent many hours working on these gifts and we are incredibly proud of her.



Art Club – Celebration Evening Bunting

The school Art Club has transformed pieces of felt into a celebration of learning through a unique, collaborative bunting project lead by Miss Healey. Students explored the beading technique and designed various objects to represent school subjects. The bunting will be used at Celebration Evening.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Celebrating Community – Culcheth High Shines for School Diversity Week

From 22nd to 26th June, Culcheth High School proudly celebrated School Diversity Week 2026. Organised in partnership with Just Like Us, the LGBTQ+ young people's charity, the week was a vibrant celebration of the wonderful diversity within our school community. A massive commendation goes to our incredible Pride Club students. Using resources from Just Like Us, these dedicated students took the lead in planning, designing, and delivering a powerful set of assembly slides to their peers, while working tirelessly to support a fantastic line-up of events throughout the week.

Amplifying Student Voice

The assemblies carried a deeply moving and vital message written directly by our Pride group. By sharing personal stories and addressing the realities of being LGBTQ+ at Culcheth High, they opened up important conversations about tackling homophobic language and bullying, reminding us all of the profound impact our words can have.

"Our school is a community – communities support one another and celebrate each other. Your student voice is powerful; using it and being vocal when you see something wrong can change minds and attitudes."

To help the school build an environment of active allyship, the Pride Club introduced the **LEAD** framework:

- **Listen:** Listen to your LGBTQ+ classmates and friends.
- **Educate:** Learn about the issues that affect the LGBTQ+ community.
- **Advocate:** Stand up for LGBTQ+ rights.
- **Do:** Create change through action, not just words.

Student Voice

"Our Pride group is an inclusive space for the LGBTQ+ community and allies. We discuss history, trailblazers, and the effects of homophobia. Recently, we delivered assemblies to each year group, hosted a pride picnic, sold rainbow pens, and organised a rainbow sock/glove day. Our group gives everyone a safe space to be themselves without fear, and a place to discuss how to deal with bullying. It means community, safety, and freedom to me." #WeAreCHS

A Week Packed with Colour and Action

Culcheth High School was bustling with energy all week, combining educational outreach with fun, community-building activities:

- **Warrington Youth Service Visit:** We welcomed the Warrington Youth Service and their minibus for three consecutive Thursday lunchtimes. They engaged students in interactive sessions centred around resilience, diversity, and staying safe.
- **The Pride Picnic:** On Thursday 25th June, the Pride group hosted a giant picnic in the Year 10 quad, welcoming members and allies to relax and connect.
- **Rainbow Day:** On Friday 26th June, students wore bright rainbow socks and gloves to show visible support.
- **The Café Express Pride Sale & Bake Off:** On Friday, a bustling stall sold cakes and rainbow pens, alongside "All Things Pride" show-stopping treats judged for house points.

Together, these sales raised **£53.40** for vital LGBTQ+ charities. Well done to our Pride Club students!

Thank You!

An enormous thank you goes out to Warrington Youth Service, Mrs Bradbury, and our phenomenal Pride Club students for orchestrating such an inspiring, educational, and joyful week. Let's keep that spirit of allyship going all year round!



Year 7 Rugby Success

In May, a number of our Year 7 boys took part in the Butlin's Skegness Rhino Challenge playing for Culcheth Eagles. Over the two days, the boys demonstrated teamwork and determination as they took on teams across the tournament. Their hard work paid off and they were declared the Pool Winners for their age category and brought the trophy home! Well done Culcheth Eagles!



Year 10 Football Success

Congratulations to Zack, Jotham and Jacob from Year 10 who played for Rylands FC in the JPL National final at the Steele City Stadium. They came away 4-1 winners and were crowned National Champions. A particular well done to Zack who was also voted Player of the Match by the opposition managers and officials. The boys have said the following about the event:

"We have all been playing for Warrington Rylands for four years. We are all good friends and as part of a team we are all highly skilled. We play in the highest tier of the Junior Premier League Northwest division alongside teams from Rochdale, Bury and Preston. On the 9th May we worked our way to the JPL National final at Steel City Stadium in Sheffield against a team from Sussex. We played exceptionally well in the final resulting in a 4-1 win. To get to the final we had to defeat teams from places all over the country such as Birmingham and Yorkshire. It was a long tough journey with difficult opposition on the way, but we battled through and came out as champions."





FOCUS ON SPORT



Football

We reported in our last edition that Year 10s had won through to the semi-finals of the Warrington Cup, but alas, this is where their journey ended. Despite dominating most of the play against Bridgewater, our old Achilles heel of failing to put the ball in the back of the net resurfaced, only this time we didn't keep the clean sheet that was necessary to make up for the missed chances.

Trailing 2-3 at half time, the boys put in a monumental second half effort to try to get back on terms, but it was all to no avail, as Bridgewater converted one of the few chances they created to seal a clinical 4-2 victory.

As reported in May, the Year 9 team have already won through to their cup final but, at the point of going to press, this game is still to be played. They too face Bridgewater, so hopefully they'll be able to go one better, avenge the defeat suffered by the Year 10s and finish off the season on a high.

The final is due to be played at Culcheth High School on Tuesday 14th July, so if you're free (and not already sick of this wonderful summer of football!) then please come along to support.



Rugby League

One of the fastest growing sports in the UK today is Women's Rugby League, and with Wigan Warriors and Manchester Swinton Lionesses topping both the Super-league and National Championship tables, the Northwest is a real hotbed of the game's development.

Our U14 girls' team are joining the party, and by finishing second in the Warrington schools qualifiers, they have secured their place in the Championship Final against Beamont Collegiate Academy. Finals Day is being held at Victoria Park's Asics Stadium on Wednesday 15th July, with six matches running from 11.00am till 2.00pm. We are scheduled for a 1.30pm kick off, so please come along to lend your support if possible.

Athletics

Neither of our main school athletics events have taken place yet, with our School Sports Day scheduled for Tuesday 7th July and the Warrington Schools Championships following this on Thursday 9th July, so we're currently a little limited for things to talk about on the athletics front, and will be able to report further in the September edition.

One very notable achievement, however, is the crowning of our very own Oliver Davenport as the Cheshire Schools 3000m Champion. He blew away the rest of the field to win by over 50 seconds, in a time of 9minutes 43seconds, to add the title of Cheshire Champion to his ever-growing list of achievements. For context, many of us would struggle to even cycle 3km in less than 10 minutes, and you really do have to see the speed that Oliver runs at to believe it!

So this concludes another year of sport at Culcheth High School. If your child has been involved in what we have on offer, then please pass on a big thank-you on our behalf; and if they haven't yet involved themselves, then please encourage them to do so next year!

Waterpark Residential Visit

At the start of June we took our prospective GCSE PE students from Year 9 on a weekend residential visit to the Waterpark Outdoor Adventure Centre, on Coniston Water in the Lake District. Thirty-five students joined the PE Staff, Mr Dugdale and Miss Gillmore for a weekend of canoeing, kayaking, ghyll scrambling, windsurfing and sailing.

A great time was had by all, particularly during the ghyll scrambling, which involves climbing, crawling, swimming and jumping up and down rivers and waterfalls. The canoeing, kayaking and windsurfing was also a big hit, although the practically gale force winds that hit Coniston Water on the Sunday, meant that none of us could keep the boats upright for long enough to actually get anywhere. We're certainly not quite ready for the Americas Cup yet! Great food and fabulous accommodation topped of a brilliant weekend.

The next trip, for current Year 8 students, is already booked for late June 2027, so if you want a taste of what the trip is like, make sure you check out the Waterpark website; www.waterparkadventure.co.uk





INTER-HOUSE EVENTS



Year 10 Inter-House Chess Tournament

The Year 10 Inter-House Chess Tournament delivered a fierce afternoon of competition, brilliant strategies, and some absolute shock results. From the very first opening gambits, it was clear that no one was safe. In a stunning twist that shook the tournament hierarchy, one of the pre-tournament favourites was knocked out in the early rounds by a determined underdog, proving that on the chessboard, reputation means nothing without execution.

The drama peaked in the final rounds. The third and fourth place play-off saw Dalton Edwards secure a hard-fought victory to claim the bronze medal. Meanwhile, the grand final was an absolute nail-biter. Bradley Brierly and Emily Baguley went head-to-head in a tense, tactical war of attrition. Both players demonstrated incredible focus under pressure, but it was Bradley who ultimately found the decisive checkmate, capturing the individual title after an unforgettable match.

Every single competitor represented their house with pride, integrity, and excellent sportsmanship. However, it was Shakespeare House that reigned supreme, calculating their way to the top of the leaderboard to win the overall competition.



Year 7 Inter-House Chess Tournament

Hot on the heels of the older students' success, the Year 7 Inter-House Chess Tournament took centre stage this week, showcasing an incredible level of strategy, focus, and maturity that left spectators and teachers thoroughly impressed.

Adding to the fantastic community spirit, the event was expertly organised and led by the Year 10 competition finalists. Their leadership and mentoring ensured the tournament ran like clockwork, giving our youngest players the perfect platform to display their talents.

Unlike the unpredictable upsets of the Year 10 tournament, the Year 7 draw went strictly according to script. The two clear pre-tournament favourites steadily marched through the brackets, setting up a highly anticipated, blockbuster final.

The championship match did not disappoint. Representing Curie House, Mason Roberts went head-to-head with Finley Johnson in a masterclass of tactical chess. Both players demonstrated analytical skills well beyond their years, but after a gruelling, strategic battle, it was Mason who found the winning combination to be crowned the Year 7 Champion!



Year 10

Year 10 have been very busy recently with PPEs and work experience. The end of term will also see the end of the weekly inter-house quiz. We have come almost to the end of our alphabet-themed rounds with only X, Y, and Z left to be combined in our final quiz.

Our penultimate quiz combined U, V, and W in a range of fiendishly difficult questions. The eventual winners were Curie House made up of 10A and 10M. 10M managed a full house of correct answers and were spot on with the tiebreaker, correctly answering that the planet Uranus was discovered in 1781. Well done Curie House and well done 10M!





INTER-HOUSE EVENTS



Year 8 Tug of War

Year 8 continued to battle hard against each other during various inter-house events this term, including in the inter-house tug of war contest. Students from each house showed off their strength, determination, and teamwork, and came together to try to outdo the other house.

Before students dug in with the tug of war, they warmed up with an inter-house dodgeball match, which allowed each form to showcase their grit, ferocity, and camaraderie. But it was the tug of war, where forms competed against each other, that proved a real test of the students' mettle! Each form displayed fantastic teamwork, and it was wonderful to see how students came together, cheering each other on, and supporting each other along the way. We are already planning more inter-house activities for next term – watch this space!



Year 8 Inter-House MasterChef Competition

The CHS Food Technology Department proudly hosted the exciting Year 8 Inter-house MasterChef Competition, where one student from each form represented their house in a fantastic showcase of culinary talent, creativity, and organization.

Preparation began well before competition day. Students carefully researched recipes that demonstrated a wide range of practical cooking skills, considering nutrition, health, safety, and strict hygiene practices. They also took charge of creating shopping lists and purchasing their own ingredients, developing excellent organisational skills to ensure they could complete their dishes within the tight time limit.

During the high-pressure event, students worked completely independently. They impressed the judges by demonstrating outstanding food preparation techniques, flawless time management, and professional presentation skills with their original dishes. After a very difficult judging process, the final results were announced:

- 🥇 **1st Place:** Wilfred (Kings House)
- 🥈 **2nd Place:** Ted (Curie House)
- 🥉 **3rd Place:** Felix (Brunel House)

Congratulations to our podium finishers and to every single student who stepped up to represent their house. The high standard of cooking and professionalism on display was truly remarkable. You should all be incredibly proud of your hard work, dedication, and resilience throughout the competition!





INTER-HOUSE EVENTS



Year 7 Rocket into 'Race to the Line' Challenge

On Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th June 2026, all Year 7 students took part in the thrilling "Race to the Line" challenge. This annual STEM event—now in its sixth year at Culcheth High School—was proudly sponsored by RXHK through the Learning Partnership.

Working in their inter-house teams, students collaborated across the Science, Design & Technology, and Computer Science Departments. Starting with sustainable foam blocks, teams used saws, glass paper, scissors, and card to craft aerodynamic and eye-catching model rocket cars. The vehicles were powered by pressurised carbon dioxide canisters and launched from a custom-built track using a student-programmed timing gate. Thanks to support from RXHK's Richard and Amina, the atmosphere was electric.

Competition was fierce, but every single team achieved a successful run. A massive congratulations to Brunel House (A-side Team 4), who smashed school records with a winning car that clocked an astonishing 16.7m/s—over 35 miles per hour! Kudos also goes to King House for achieving the fastest average speed across all cars, and to Curie House for securing the highest overall design and engineering points.



Free School Meals

Important Update

From September 2026

National eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) is expanding.

New rules

All households receiving Universal Credit will now qualify.

Current £7,400 income threshold removed.

How This Helps You

Families could **save up to £495 per child**, per year on school meal costs*.

What You Need To Do

If you receive Universal Credit, you should **apply for Free School Meals before 30 September 2026**.

Complete your application form

www.warrington.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

*According to the Department for Education



NEON NIGHT WALK

Making Every Step Count

Sign up before 17th July for 20% off entry fees
Saturday 5th September 2026

Halliwell Jones Stadium
5k route

For more information contact us on:
E: fundraising@stroccos.org.uk T: 01925 575780



Volunteer marshals needed

Start and finish in the concourse
Event starts at **6:30pm** and the walk will start at **8pm**

Event kindly sponsored by



Scan here to sign up

www.stroccos.org.uk

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