

# The Pillars of Excellence

## NewsLetter

### Term 3



2025

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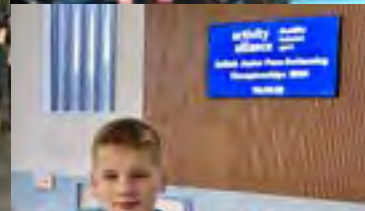
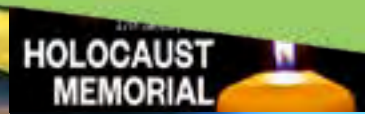
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# The Canterbury Academy Trust

Knight Avenue  
Canterbury, CT2 8QA



## Langton Link grows and grows

We are delighted that in Term 3 we have had a flurry of events and shared experiences across the two schools. We welcomed our new Year 7 grammar stream students to the programme and their new sets. Their first assembly allowed Mr Moffat and I to congratulate them, and we were duly impressed by their enthusiasm and aspirations to succeed. We look forward to watching them grow in their academic pursuits and confidence.



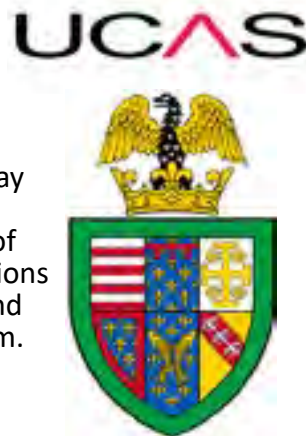
Our first event with the Langton this term was a fascinating and highly relevant workshop for Year 7s and Year 8s on the abuses and uses of social media. This was slickly delivered by Mr Peto, Assistant Headteacher at the Langton. The pupils were asked to calculate their notifications and daily hours spent on their phones. This opened fantastic discussions on our recent changes in the school phone policy, the need to be part of chats with others, anti-social messaging and how to stay safe. Mr Peto ended the workshop by explaining how companies benefitted financially from the constant use of phones and how they have developed techniques to make one feel a compulsion to be part of the screen world.

We are looking to roll out more of these highly informative sessions across all year groups.

This term we have also linked up with the Langton by taking Year 7s to the Langton for a maths games day, Langton Year 8s joining us for a Spanish cooking and dancing workshop and the English department offering the Year 8s a half day of poetry and composition skills.

## Knocking on the Cambridge door

As part of our aim to engage students with aspirational and exciting destinations, we have had the opportunity to take a selection of Year 10s and Year 12s on two trips for a Taster Day to Queen's College, Cambridge University. Students had to apply for the trip, and we received outstanding expressions of interest. The day involved a tour of the college, Q and A sessions from present students, advice on potential A level courses and university degrees and a fantastic trip to the Zoology museum.



## Creating Cultural Awareness at the Primary School

This term the Primary School has been very busy with a wide range of academic and cultural activities. This is such a key element of education as the earlier a child understands important subjects and has experiences related to them, they can begin to form their own passions.

Earlier in the term, a group of pupils from Years 3 and 4 at The Canterbury Primary School took part in an AIM High Poetry workshop to recognise their talents in creative writing. The children represented the school incredibly well and enjoyed creating poetry with the poet Debora Bertulis.



To arrange a professional discussion and/or visit please contact:

Tim Fox

Senior Vice Principal

[academic@canterbury.kent.sch.uk](mailto:academic@canterbury.kent.sch.uk)

or

Steve Hadlow

Head of The Sixth Form

[6thform@canterbury.kent.sch.uk](mailto:6thform@canterbury.kent.sch.uk)



## Library looms large

### Library Activities Report: Term Overview

- High levels of student engagement, with vast numbers of students from all year groups accessing the library regularly.
- Notable increase in Year 9 and 10 boys using the library at lunchtime, particularly due to the success of the Film Club.
- Record-breaking library usage, with over 82 students accessing the library in a single lunchtime.
- Expansion of extracurricular opportunities, with two new clubs successfully launched and integrated into the wider curriculum:
  - Creative Writing Club with Mr Alexander, inspiring students to develop their storytelling skills.
  - Horrible Histories Club with Miss Booth, making history engaging and accessible.
- Continued success of established clubs, with Film Club and Board Games Club remaining hugely popular and drawing in a diverse range of students.
- Impressive reading engagement, with 1,943 books borrowed so far this year, highlighting the library's vital role in promoting literacy.
- Canterbury Reads programme thriving, successfully supporting Year 7 and 8 mentoring and fostering a love of reading among younger students.
- Paper Pack Club flourishing, with Year 8 and 10 reading buddies meeting every Wednesday morning, and Year 12 and 9 pairings set to begin in the new term, further strengthening peer-led literacy support.
- Student-led improvements to the library, with new books purchased based on student recommendations, ensuring fresh and exciting stock tailored to their interests.

## Duke of Edinburgh goes Silver

We have recently enrolled a very enthusiastic group of thirty-nine Year 9 children onto the Bronze Award, who are very much looking forward to starting their DofE adventure.

Duke of Edinburgh extra-curricular sessions are now running on Mondays at lunch time and after school. Participants have been choosing their physical, volunteering and skills sections activities and are starting to collect evidence of the wonderful things they are doing.

**In the last two years we have introduced 135 students to the Bronze Award and excitingly we now have 34 students enrolled on the Silver Award. All told, that means that 170 students have or are participating in the D of E experience. I am particularly delighted that two of our successful Year 10 students have now been enrolled to act as D of E Young Leaders. As explained by Mrs Phillips below, they support the programme and the new and younger pupils - a really great example of giving back to the community.**

Once again, we must thank the amazing staff who offer these opportunities. A big thank you to Mrs Phillips and Ms Envis for all their time and leadership of this fantastic scheme.



## University applications soar

Last time I communicated with you we were acknowledging and celebrating the 136 students who have started their new education at universities across the country (and abroad!). This is always a great benchmark for us of what we can offer the students and of course their ambition and resilience to achieve it.

Amongst numerous destinations, a couple do stand out that represent our diversity and impressive achievements (the grade entry requirements for some of these institutions are very high). Building on strong relationships with our two local universities we have grown the numbers here.

- Canterbury Christ Church University- 30 applicants
- Kent University- 18 applicants
- Sussex University- 4 applicants.

Please see below the identification of some of the most applied for subjects. Some of these are joint courses, so for example Law and International Relations.

Business	12	Canterbury Christ Church	30
Law	11	Kent	18
Marketing	6	Essex	10
Psychology	5	Birmingham City	8
English	5	Brighton	5
Engineering	5	Sussex	4
Film	5	Royal Holloway	4
Nursing	5	Brighton Arts	3
Geography	3	BIMM	3
Economics	3	Kingston	3

I would like to note the phenomenal efforts and support that Mrs Kendrick White has given to all our students. Below are some of the different examples of support that will be offered to this year's cohort.

- Higher Education Fair trip- where all universities promote their courses
- Oxford University Outreach – current Oxford students explain the Oxbridge application process
- Personal statement workshops from Canterbury Christ Church University
- Access and induction to Unifrog (excellent research site for all universities' courses, accommodation, employment record etc)
- Bespoke support from Mrs Kendrick White
- Cambridge University Taster Day
- Access to residential scholarships- Sutton Trust, Kent University, UNIQ programme Oxford University



## Ski Trip Tops Busy Start to 2025 for Primary School

The Canterbury Primary School took thirty children back to Artesina in Italy for the school's second ever ski trip. The school has now taken 81 children over the last two years to the resort for ski lessons. The children had a fantastic time and learnt so much about skiing.

Selected children from The Canterbury Primary School also attended The Canterbury Academy Sport Partnership event to participate in an Inclusive Sport Festival that included a range of games and activities. All children had a fantastic afternoon and were well supported by sport leaders from the secondary school throughout.

Pupils from the primary school continue to have regular tennis lessons at The Appeti Tennis Centre and in recent weeks, we have also been able to send classes from the Canterbury Academy up to Appeti to receive coaching.



## East Kent Football Academy Progress

In September, we launched our latest sporting partnership with The Langton, by establishing a Sixth Form football academy for committed footballers from both schools. This exciting initiative has included separate girls and boys academy style programmes that feature regular training, competitive fixtures and strength and conditioning support. The programme is led by Tom Hadler who has support from an experienced coaching team in the form of Spencer Creedon, plus Mr McCue and Miss Nugent from our Physical Education department. The success of the programme can be judged by the regular commitment of the students involved, the increasing numbers of students attending junior school training and progress in inter-school competitions. The Canterbury Academy's football has continued to develop and our under 16 boys' team lost narrowly in a county cup semi-final whilst several of our girls' teams reached the latter rounds of county cups. Our boys under 18 team are placed well in their KSFA league heading into the final part of the season and numbers for next year's Sixth Form academy already look encouraging.



For more information on this and any of our advanced training programmes at Sixth Form level, please contact us on [sport@canterbury.kent.sch.uk](mailto:sport@canterbury.kent.sch.uk)



## Netball and Rugby Fixtures

It's been a relatively quiet term for school sport due to the fading light and weather, but we've still been able to provide regular netball for our senior side and some exciting junior tournaments for players in the middle school. Our under 18 team lost narrowly against Sir William Perkin School in The Sisters of Sport Shield but their development as a team continues to be a real success story for the school.

Junior rugby has grown under the watchful eye of Mr Lunnun, and we have so many students playing at local clubs. We have already played some games this term against Dover College and the Howard School and term 4 will see us involved in weekly competitions.

## Record Number of Students Recognised at Sports Awards

Our annual Sports Awards featured guest appearances from Kent Cricket captain, Daniel Bell-Drummond and also two of our ex-students, Kalil Irving and Tamara Fournillier-Onadeko. All of our guests helped us present over thirty prizes to the incredible students amongst our schools and the main prizes went to wheelchair tennis star, Ruben Harris, and Henry Broster, who continues to excel in football. Kent Crusaders Head Coach, Adam Davies was also recognised for his incredible contribution to coaching at the school.



One of our other winners, Ashton Platts has been selected to represent England in an international swimming event in Serbia. He has been picked as a member of the English Schools Swimming Association to compete at the World Game in April. His current schedule means he is training from 6.00 am to 7.30 am three mornings a week before school, and three evenings plus a Sunday morning. Since becoming a registered para swimmer, he has qualified for many high level competitions including para British championships, summer and winter nationals.

# News and Events Excellence in Performing Arts

What a busy term we have had! We have performed two amazing shows for sold out audiences at both The Gulbenkian Theatre and our own Black Hole Theatre!

## 'Peter Pan' at The Gulbenkian Theatre, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Our interpretation of the darker side of Peter Pan allowed the Acting Academy to showcase their ever-developing characterisation and performance skills. This new outlook on the classic show, shared across two evenings was performed with maturity and sophistication. We are incredibly proud of you all!



## 'Pippin' at The Black Hole Theatre, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Congratulations to The Musical Theatre Academy on their amazing performances of 'Pippin' this week. The show was a huge success - playing to sold out, enthusiastic audiences. Thank you also to all the Production Arts students and teachers for all their hard work backstage. Bringing the technical elements to life and creating the many wonderful props and toys! The students on stage gave wonderful performances, with full-out energy and a real commitment to the piece. Thank you to everyone who came along to support this fabulous production!



## Upcoming Productions!

Remember to join us for our next Whole-Academy Musical Theatre production of 'School of Rock'. Shows are 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> March and tickets are available via the Gulbenkian Theatre's website! Students from Year 3 all the way to Year 13 will see you there to ROCK OUT!



## Experiences and Workshops

The cast of Peter Pan were treated to an intense stage combat workshop, delivered by 'Sword & Scoundrel' The actors had an amazing time and learned some really relevant industry training!



## Auditions and Castings

Good luck to Neil from the Acting Academy and Cerys in Year 11, who have auditioned for castings this month. You've got this!

To arrange a professional discussion and/or visit please contact: Sarah Watson  
Director of Performing Arts  
[performingarts@canterbury.kent.sch.uk](mailto:performingarts@canterbury.kent.sch.uk)



## Chefs Academy Visits Goods Shed

The Chefs Academy students visited the local Goods Shed for an afternoon, where they saw some demonstrations from the butchers and fishmongers on how to fillet fish and chop large joints of meat. The students had a chat with the Canterbury cheesemongers about British cheesemaking over the years. They asked some brilliant questions, and the trip was topped off with some lovely cakes from Little Sugar in Kent.



## Skate GB Visit



In the summer we were visited by the Skate GB team and Dan Wall. A number of students were interviewed to talk about their love of skateboarding and the importance to our school community that skateboarding represents. The video is available on all of our social media platforms. Keep an eye out for future events and opportunities.

## Art Exhibition – Art Pillar students

As part of a collaboration project our Art Pillar students have been working on a Thanet Coast Exhibition. The exhibition is now open and there will be links to the virtual exhibition on our social media platforms. The students' work showed creativity and real commitment and passion for the project - well done to all involved.



## Canterbury Primary School – First Aid Fun

As part of their PSHE curriculum, Year 4 took part in an afternoon session, learning how to provide some basic first aid including bandaging wounds and how to safely put someone in the recovery position. The children had a fun time and learnt some valuable life skills that may come in very handy one day!



## Construction STEM Event

A group of Year 10 construction students attended the STEM and Trade Careers Event at EKC Canterbury College. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for students to speak with college staff about courses, interact with employers, discuss apprenticeships and career opportunities, and research higher education options with the universities that also attended.





## Holocaust Memorial Day – 27<sup>th</sup> January

At the Academy, we marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz with assemblies led by the history department. These moving and informative assemblies explored the life of Rudolf Vber, one of two Jewish prisoners who escaped Auschwitz and warned the world of what was happening there. Students understood the difference one person can make to others and were encouraged to stand against division and hatred wherever they appear to stop things like this happening again.



## Children's Mental Health Week, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February

Through mentoring, students explored healthy use of technology. They considered where they get their validation from and how much of what they see on social media is real and how much is curated for the audience. They were also reminded that we are a Place2Be school so they can self-refer into this service to talk to someone from the service about anything they are going through.



## Internet Safety Day, 11<sup>th</sup> February

For Internet Safety Day, we identified red flags of concerning behaviour from others online. Students also developed critical analysis skills around the content they come across online and considered the techniques influencers use to make themselves appear more credible than they are.



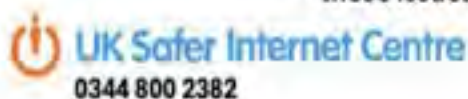
**0800 1111**  
Childline.org.uk



**0808 808 4994**  
TheMix.org.uk



Speak to your Support Manager or a member of staff if these issues are affecting you.



# News and Events City View Pre-School and Nurseries

This term the colder weather has bought a winter wonderland to explore at City View!

In our Caterpillar room, the babies have been creating pictures with coloured ice cubes and investigating animals which had been frozen in ice. Some of our babies said it was 'cold' and joined in with making animal sounds! To celebrate Chinese New Year, snakes were hidden in a tub of noodles for the babies to discover - they had great fun! As we approach the end of term, our babies have been having great excitement jumping and stomping in brown paint whilst wearing wellington boots to create muddy puddles just like Peppa pig.



The toddlers in the Grasshopper room have also been using their creative skills this term. The winter mornings have inspired the Grasshoppers to design frosty pictures using blue and white paint, making them extra sparkly with glitter. Like the Caterpillar room, we have been celebrating the Chinese New Year and the year of the snake. Our children have had fun decorating a giant snake and were able to taste various Chinese foods which they thoroughly enjoyed. Finally, the children always look forward to their regular walks to feed the ducks and are beginning to recognise familiar landmarks on route.

The Ladybirds had fun experiencing their own bear hunt this term. They got to swish, splash, squelch and swirl through the snowstorm to find the cave where a bear was hiding! Along the way they were fascinated by a spider and a centipede which they had found mixed in the leaves and twigs. We were also very lucky to have some frosty walks down to our local fields. We have expanded the children's interests by using water in various ways such as filling and emptying, freezing and melting using all their senses to explore these processes.



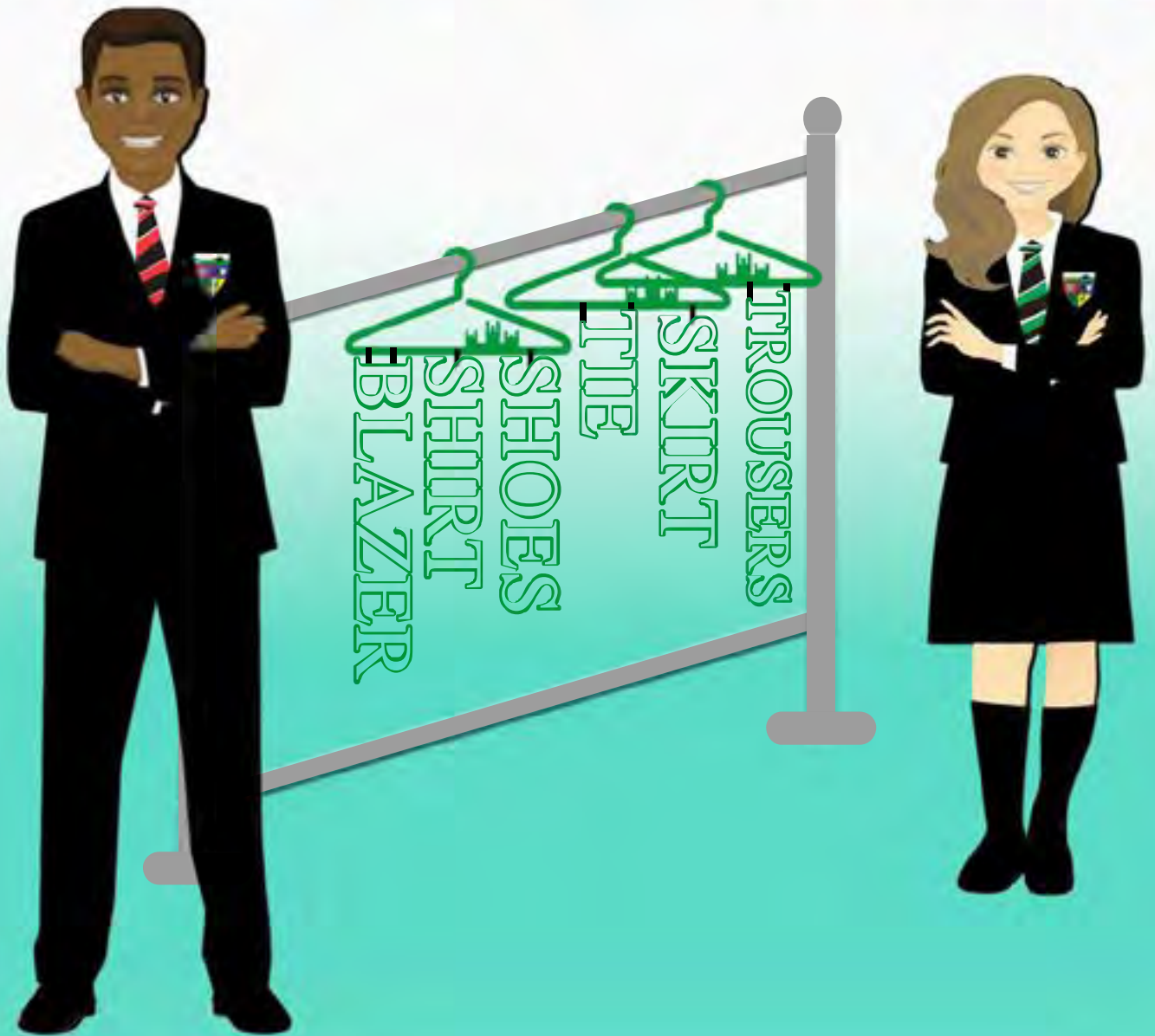
This term the preschool children have been learning about 'People who help us.' We have been making wonderful disguises to go undercover as police officers, sharing how we care for our pets and looking at the role of a vet. The children have made binoculars and bird feeders to take part in the Big Garden Bird Watch. We have found lots of birds in our preschool garden and some cheeky squirrels too! With the cold and frosty weather, we have been having, the children explored how ice is created by setting up lots of water in the garden area. We then had a lovely time trying to remove the ice from buckets, cups and other such vessels!



The children at Wincheap have also had a fun-filled term. We have been learning about people who help us, such as the police force, fire department, doctors, nurses and many more. We even became detectives for the day and had fun exploring the pre-school with walkie-talkies! We joined in with the big garden bird watch, creating our very own binoculars to search for different bird species at the park, spotting magpies and robins! In celebration of Chinese New Year, the children tasted a variety of different foods, explored Chinese music and joined in with fun activities. and robins! In celebration of Chinese New Year, the children tasted a variety of different foods, explored Chinese music and joined in with fun activities.



# PRELOVED SCHOOL CLOTHES



**Please donate** your preloved and gently used school uniforms, shoes and PE kit items that are in good condition. Where possible, please ensure that items are washed, free of stains, and in good repair. Donations can be dropped off at main reception, student reception or given to a member of staff. This uniform will benefit other pupils.

**We thank you in advance for your donations.**

# Concorde International Language School



Do you have a spare room that you are not using? Perhaps you would like to turn the room into a bedroom for an overseas student or two? We can offer you the opportunity to make some extra cash just by accommodating students for a period of 1 week to 6 months.



Payments range from £118 - £185 per student per week.  
If you would like more information,  
please contact us by phone or email.



[homestay@concorde-int.com](mailto:homestay@concorde-int.com)  
01227 451035



## Our Buddy Programme

- Our term 6 buddy programme was a great success, with 15 student visitors from Taiwan and their teachers here for 2 weeks.
- All of the academy buddies were exceptional hosts and everyone had a wonderful time.
- The Taiwanese students said they felt very welcome, they loved all their lessons and the food was great!
- The Taiwanese teachers praised the opportunities we give our students and said everyone was so friendly and kind to them.
- Concorde International wanted to pass on their thanks to all the staff who welcomed the visitors and the academy for continuing to accommodate this programme, which has been running successfully for over 12 years!