

# chaseterracetechnologycollege

(Part of the Stephen Sutton Multi Academy Trust)

Dear Parents/Carers

Humanitarianism and being Charitable

I have recently been talking to students in assemblies about the ever increasing need to be charitable towards each another in our immediate community at school, our local and national communities and our wider global community. In a world dominated by media that rarely seems to show our young people good, strong role models but prefers the sensational, and social media that presents young people with a distorted, air brushed sense of what is normal which young people place so much store in, I have been reminding students not to forget about those less fortunate than ourselves and getting back to basics.

I expressed my disappointment that, as a school we did nothing to mark Comic Relief and that no students had come forward to ask to put on a fundraising activity - what's happened to the cake sales and sponsored walks and silences! I challenged the students to respond and to my delight (but not my surprise) my office door has been knocked on several occasions by students who would like to do more for others. One such student was Lucy Ashford in Year 7 who wanted to donate her hair to 'The Little Princess Trust' – an organisation that makes wigs from real human hair that are given to young people who have lost their hair through illness or treatment for cancer. Lucy had her long locks cut in front of a hall full of fantastically supportive students who were all cheering and clapping her on – what a wonderful, selfless gesture Lucy has made – the first of many more to come at school I am sure. To mark the 3rd anniversary of Stephen Sutton's passing our non-uniform day held a couple of weeks ago made £1043 which we will send to the Teenage Cancer Trust. This event linked in well with the Stephen Sutton Ride Out – well done and thank you to everyone who donated. Chase Terrace Technology College has a wonderful reputation for generous giving to charity and through events like this it is easy to see why – long may it continue!

The bigger challenge for us all is to be prepared to go that little bit further for others - to respond to the humanitarian call to help others by giving to charity - yes, but also to get our hands dirty and put ourselves out for others who need our support. Humanitarianism and being charitable is learnt in the family home - relationships between siblings and between parents and their children shape this understanding, this grows outwards through being neighbourly into local communities and communities further afield. In this digital age, maintaining strong human to human contact and interaction is vital - without it we are numb and life isn't as good!



## Summer Term Reports

Mrs Baird is sending out a detailed letter about reports with this newsletter. As you will be aware the Government has been making very significant changes to grading systems for GCSEs and CTTC has changed its reporting criteria accordingly. It is true to say that we are still getting used to these new systems ourselves and it is taking us some time to become confident that we have got things right here at school. We have needed to recalibrate ourselves on more than one occasion. With the first set of new GCSE results due this summer in Maths and English we will soon get a better idea of our grade accuracy. The great majority of other GCSEs follow suit next summer. We hope that you will understand therefore our own need to adjust our thinking as more information arrives in school. Please read Mrs Baird's letter and if you have any questions regarding reporting to parents please get in touch with us.

## Litter

Could I please ask parents to support me in reminding students of the importance of keeping both our school and local environment as clean and tidy as possible. Apart from the risks that litter poses to wildlife and the potential for health concerns generated by vermin that are attracted to waste, I am sure none of us want to live in an area where litter is a blight on our landscape?

We all have a responsibility here. I have been in receipt of a number of calls from the public complaining about litter left by students in CTTC uniforms - please make sure that you use litter bins provided and take your responsibility in this regard seriously - thank you.

## Stephen Sutton Bursary

I am delighted to inform parents/carers about this year's Stephen Sutton Bursary application window which is now open. Two £1000 bursaries are available to young persons in two categories 11-14 and 15-19 who live within the Burntwood Town Council boundaries. The bursaries are available to talented young people wanting to go onto greater achievements in Arts, Sports or Academic fields. Full details are available on our school website - News and Events - Stephen Sutton. Good luck to all applicants!

### Car Parking

Our new car parking arrangements have now been in force for a few weeks. Thank you to parents who have helped us to manage this change. For the safety of students I am keen that cars do not pull up in the No Waiting area just inside the school gates but that cars are parked in a marked space even if this means students have to make their way across the car park to find their parents/carers.

Please only use the Disabled parking spaces if you are displaying a Disabled blue badge. Thank you for your help in this area.

### Enrichment Week and Sports Days

As you will be aware we are rapidly approaching our annual Enrichment Week in the last week of term during which time we run a different timetable for students which features sports days, trips and activities that approach learning in a different way. The enrichment week timetable will be published shortly and students will know what activities we have planned for them this year. Due to Y8 French and German trips the Y8 Sports afternoon will take place during the penultimate week of term on Wednesday 12th July. Full details of sports days are attached with this letter.

Enrichment Week is a non-uniform week - some activities are better suited to non-school uniform. Although the last day of school is normal timetable we will allow students to wear non uniform for that day too to save parents washing clothes that have only been worn for a day.

### End of Term Arrangements

School will finish early on the last day of term at 12:30pm - lunch will be provided for those students that need it. This early finish will allow staff to say their farewells to staff that are moving onto pastures new - whether that be a new job or retirement.

As this is likely to be the last newsletter that I will write to you this term can I take the opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last few months and wish you all a happy summer holiday - as I write to you the mercury is recording 28 degrees – let's hope this lasts into the summer holidays!

Best Wishes

*Tim Chamberlin*  
(Headteacher)