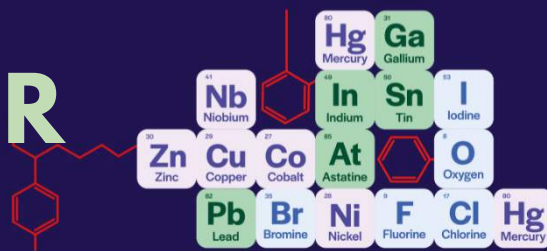


CUC NEWSLETTER

SUMMER, WEEK 5



Despite it being the first week of the official summer exam season, we have packed a lot in. Well done to students who have completed their first exams. Keep up the amazing focus. We have also had a visit from Anna McMurtrie, Access and Outreach Coordinator from Oxford University to hear about applying to elite universities and a visit to St Peters College.



Business of Science Conference – This week, students from year 10, 12, and 13 have attended the Business of Science conference at Cloth Court Hall, University of Leeds. This is an incredible conference, attended by a wide range of people working in the science, engineering and technology sectors. We have attended the event every year since it started traveling to Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh and Leeds in the process. This year we have three groups of students who have projects shortlisted for the conference Innovation Award which carries with it a prize of £1000. We have won this award for the last two years so we are hoping to make it a hattrick! The projects nominated this year are Harvey's (year 13) prototype bionic arm which works through detecting myoelectric signals, Selma's (year 12) DNA nanodentist robot which is a DNA nanostructure that she has designed using specialist CAD software and finally Connie, Ava and Laila who have designed hex-housing, a space efficient and energy efficient design for affordable housing. The students will have the opportunity to present their project posters for judging by industry experts at the event. There will also be a range of talks and workshops from people in a range of scientific careers and businesses.

Commendations for our CCF - Every year the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside recognises the outstanding contribution of Staff and Cadets across all the different Cadet Forces within the County: ACF, RAFAC, SCC and CCF. For any Cadet Unit in the region to have 1 Staff member or Cadet recognised for their outstanding contribution is a real achievement: this year 19 people are to receive awards from thousands involved in the Cadet Forces across Merseyside. Imagine, therefore, how proud we were to be informed that 2 of our own are to receive awards from the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside this year:

Captain Chris Bate is to receive a Lord Lieutenants's Commendation, for his outstanding service as both a regular serviceman and for his contribution to Cadet Forces in Merseyside, not least to our Contingent to which he is the driving force, and linchpin.

PI (formerly Cadet Company Sergeant Major) Liv Hughes is to receive the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate of Meritorious Service for Cadets for her unrivalled service to her ACF unit, and her outstanding contribution to our Contingent - Liv is a founding member of our Contingent and continues to be a shining example to all of us; Liv placed 3rd in her SCIC and completed the Master Cadet course at CTT Frimley, receiving an outstanding report - something each and every one of you should aspire to.

I hope you all join us in congratulating Chris and Liv for their incredibly well deserved awards: their dedication, their frankly peerless knowledge, and their enthusiasm is what makes this Contingent one of, if not, the best in the North West. **CCF meets on Tuesdays - why not sign up?**

Useful Dates -

- 26th May - End of half term
- 5th June - Return to school

Word of the Week - FLUCTUATE

Definition: to change or vary frequently between one level or thing and another:

Usage: "*Vegetable prices fluctuate according to the season.*"

Zero Tolerance of Abuse - The NST has a zero-tolerance approach towards abusive language, violence, aggression or harassment towards our employees, governors and volunteers.

Student Leaders - This has been a quieter week, but student leaders are still busy from planning. Year 11 and 13s are having their yearbook photos taken. Year books are £5. All payments need to be in to student services.

Preparing for elite universities talk

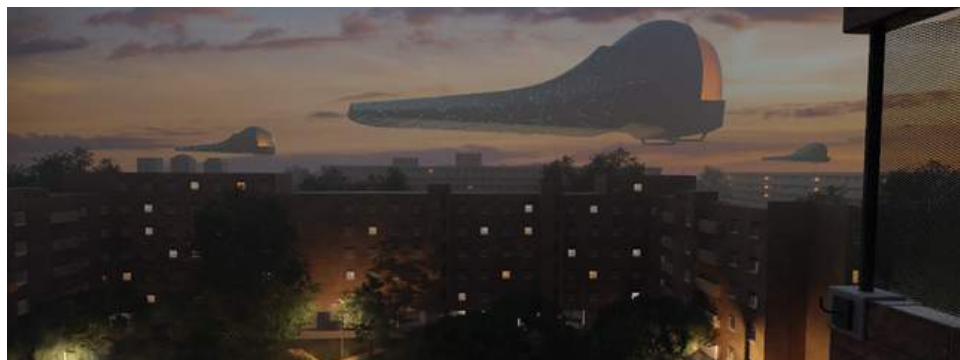
- Anna McMurtrie, an Access and Outreach Coordinator from Oxford University, visited our Year 10 students to talk about applying to elite universities, Oxford is 3rd most renowned University in the world. This was an inspiring session with lots of good advice on realising our aspirations.



Visit to St Peter's College, Oxford - We had a busy and productive trip to Oxford. St Peters Collage welcomed us to dinner on Thursday, and we were privileged to listen to the St Peters College Choir. We then had a whistle stop tour of Oxford taking in the Shelly Memorial in University Collage, the Sheldonian, and Christ Church Meadows. On Friday, we had a tour of St Peters, met student ambassadors, had a session on how to apply and then lunched in Hall. In the afternoon we were treated to a very interesting taster tutorial in Linguistics, where one of our student was told by Dr Afra Pujol i Campeny, that she had decoded a sentence in an unknown language faster than anyone the professor had given the exercise to! Once we said our goodbyes, we had a visit to The Oxford University Museum and the Pitt Rivers Museum, before rounding off with an ice cream at the famous "George and Davis" Ice Cream Parlour. Many thanks to St Peters College and University Collage for making us so welcome!



Big Bang Competition - Our Big Bang Competitions finalists have this week completed their interviews. The interviews were led by the competition panel and a representative of the sponsor organisation for the relevant award. This was a challenging process and students showed strong skills in communication, knowledge and innovation.



Architecture EPQ with Bjarke Ingels Group - This is work by Teo, one of our students, who has been selected by the prestigious Bjarke Ingels Group to work on a challenging EPQ project for the next two years! This is a remarkable opportunity for Teo to hone his skills and showcase his talent as he embarks on creating a short game-like experience that explores a tower of hostile architecture. Teo's experience in coding has enabled him to develop his own first-person controller for the game, and he will also be creating a stylistic shader for the game. Bjarke Ingels Group is a prominent name in the design world and was featured in the popular Netflix series, 'Abstract - The Art of Design.'

Creatives - Our Year 12 Creatives have this week been developing their personal investigation projects.

Sociology - Sociology - Year 11 have been working extremely hard to prepare for their Paper 1 exam for Sociology. To incorporate mental health awareness week, they have all taken part in a series of group revision activities, enabling the students to help each other and build each other's confidence for the exams.

Psychology - Year 10 are coming to the end of their psychological problems topic for paper 2 and have been learning this week about addiction. They have explored explanations for addiction and the biological explanation in detail. Next week we will look at the psychological explanation for addiction before moving onto treatments. Year 11 have been working so hard and completed their paper 1 exam on Friday. One week to paper 2. Year 12 started their psychopathology topic this week developing an understanding of the four definitions of abnormality. Students also explored the behaviourist approach to explaining and treating phobias. Year 13 completed their paper 1 exam on Friday. Their attention now turns to paper 2.

History - Ignite are working on the Battle of the Somme. Year 10 have completed their assessment on Elizabeth. Year 12 have started to explore the reasons for antisemitism in Soviet Russia.

Physics - Year 12 visited the University of Liverpool for a tour of the research workshops and the central teaching laboratories where they will be completing one of their required A Level practical using Simple Harmonic Motion to determine gravity. The purpose of the practical is to get students ready for university level laboratories and submission styles. The fact that we can send our students to our sponsor university laboratory adds real value helping us to understand what studying physics at university is like.