



CHADSGROVE EDUCATIONAL TRUST SPECIALIST COLLEGE

END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER 2024 - 2025

As another academic year ends, we take great pride in reflecting on the achievements, progress, and unforgettable moments shared across Chadsgrove College.

This term has been filled with celebration, creativity, and community spirit – from inclusive performances and joyful outdoor activities to powerful artistic expression and inspiring student leadership. We have welcomed new faces, said heartfelt goodbyes, and embraced every opportunity to learn, grow, and connect.



Highlights this half-term include:

- A joyful **Summer Fete** raising over £570
- Our inclusive **End-of-Year Celebration** and farewell to leavers
- **Student-led music, dance, and Signalong performances**
- A fantastic **employer encounter** with Worcester Warriors Foundation
- And plenty of sunshine, laughter, and learning during our **Summer Week**

As always, we are so proud of our students and their dedication, resilience, and creativity. A huge thank you to our staff, families, and wider community for your unwavering support.

We wish everyone a **joyful, restful summer** – and look forward to more adventures in the new academic year!

Chadsgrove Educational Trust, Registered Charity Number: 1171301



CHADSGROVE EDUCATIONAL TRUST SPECIALIST COLLEGE



END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

A Recognition of Student Achievement and a Fond Farewell

On **Monday 14th July**, Chadsgrove College community came together to mark the end of another successful academic year. The celebration recognised the incredible achievements of our students, the dedication of our staff, the support of families and advocates, and the vital role of our Directors and community champions.



✦ **Every student was celebrated** for their hard work, progress, and resilience. Special recognition was given to **Holly, our Student of the Year**, whose commitment and enthusiasm has been truly 'WONDERFUL!'



🎓 We also said a heartfelt **farewell to our leavers**, honouring their time at College with personalised gifts and a touching video journey of their achievements and memories.



Highlights of the Evening

- **The Explorers' Communication Project** stole the show with an original rap exploring the power of communication.

Voices and vocalisations were **sampled and mixed by the students**, with the support of our tech wizard **Matt**. Students created the beat, added the melody, and took to the mixing decks like pros! The accompanying video brought their message to life and was met with huge applause.

- The **Seekers' Signalong performance** was another showstopper, with joyful renditions of *Summer Holiday* and *Holiday*, followed by a moving version of *We'll Meet Again* – first performed at the **Cozy Café VE Day event**, which even made it onto **Central News!**

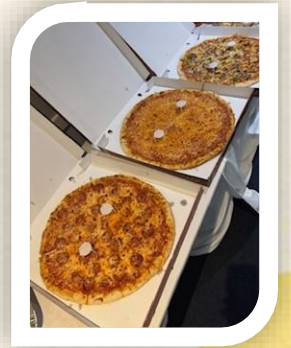


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🌸 Thank You & Farewell

A very special **thank you and fond farewell** was given to **Franki**, our Chair of Directors, whose years of expertise and kindness have helped shape the College into the **inclusive, nurturing and inspiring place** it is today.

🍕 To top it all off, we were treated to **delicious pizzas from Elly's Kitchen, Catshill** – a huge thank you to their team for the generous donation.



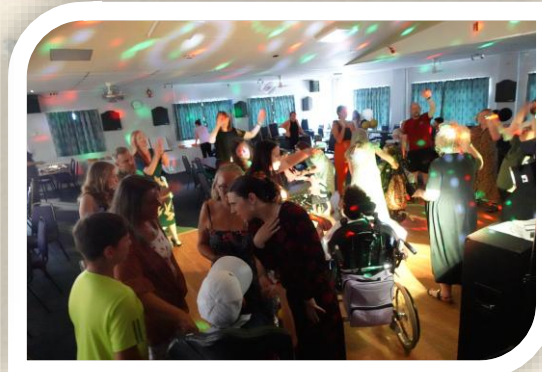
🏠 Thank you to Catshill Social Club for the use of their superb premises – without their support we would not be able to host such a fantastic event!

🕺 And finally, thank you to our very own resident DJ **Matty G** who treated us to some fun, laughter and amazing tunes as we danced the night away!

💖 **Thank you to everyone** who helped make this celebration so special.

🎉 Class of 2025 you have been amazing! 🎉

Wishing you all a **joyful, restful summer** – and **here is to the new adventures ahead!**





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COMMUNICATION


Sing and Sign Success!

Seeker students have been working incredibly hard this term learning signs to accompany songs for their **end-of-term performance**.

They performed a fun and uplifting set, including:

- **"Holiday"** – Madonna
- **"Summer Holiday"** – Cliff Richard
- **"We'll Meet Again"** – a classic VE Day tribute

Staff also joined in the fun by showing off their dance moves during *Holiday*, adding energy and laughter to the show!

 **A huge well done to all our students** for their commitment and enthusiasm in Signalong sessions throughout the year – and for putting on such a fantastic performance to end the term!

We'd like to say a special thank you to Michelle, Kim and the staff team for the hard work that went into choreographing and teaching students and staff the signs and words to each song. Well done all involved – it was a truly fabulous performance!





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COMMUNITY

A Day on the Water with Willow Trust

On **Monday 14th July**, students enjoyed a fantastic **boat trip with the Willow Trust**.

The **Willow Trust** provides opportunities for people of all ages with disabilities to enjoy a **therapeutic and relaxing day** on the water, sailing along the beautiful **Gloucester Canal**.

Everyone had a turn at **driving the boat**, and there were smiles all round as students soaked up the sunshine and scenery. It was a truly memorable day, filled with laughter, confidence-building, and calm.

 **Thank you to the Willow Trust** for such a brilliant experience!





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NATSPEC CONFERENCE 2025

Representing Chadsgrove with Pride


We were **delighted to be invited by NATSPEC** to take part in their **2025 national conference**, held this year at the **Crowne Plaza in Stratford-upon-Avon**.

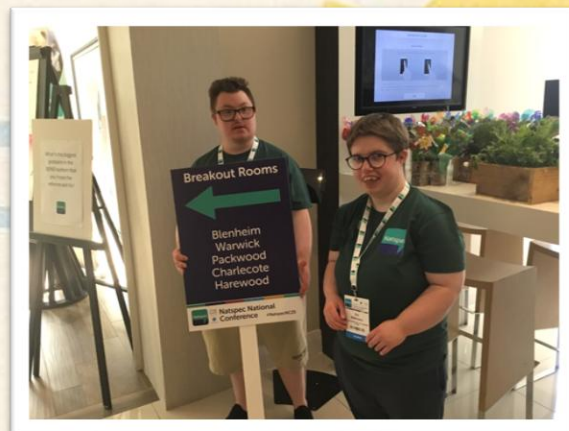
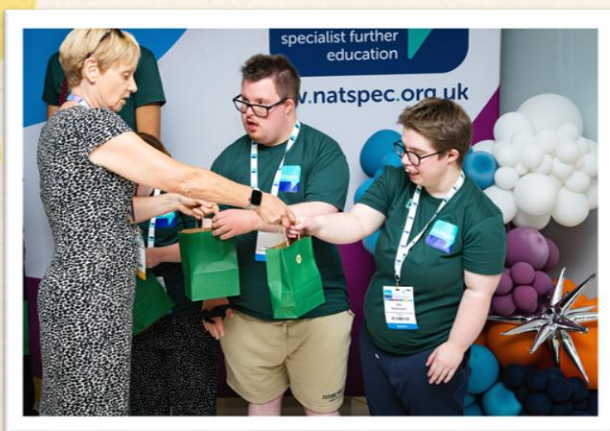
Two of our students, **Ellie and Thyo**, were chosen to attend and did a fantastic job representing Chadsgrove College. We were lucky to have access to one of our **wheelchair-accessible vehicles**, making the journey smooth and comfortable.

Throughout the day, Ellie and Thyo helped with:

- **Meeting and greeting guests**
- **Handing out lanyards**
- **Directing visitors to breakout rooms**
- **Exploring the exhibition stands**

They had a wonderful time engaging with staff from other colleges, making new friends, and taking in everything the event had to offer.

 **Well done Ellie and Thyo** for being such brilliant ambassadors for our college!





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HERE COMES SUMMER!!

We kicked off our **Summer Themed Week** in style with a week full of sunshine, food, fun, and sensory exploration!

Monday – Picnic in the Garden

On **Monday 7th July**, students enjoyed a **summer picnic in the College garden**.

They took ownership of the event by **choosing ingredients, shopping for supplies, and preparing the food** themselves.

It was a wonderful way to start the week — relaxing in the sunshine with delicious homemade treats.



Tuesday – BBQ & New Friends

On Tuesday, we fired up the BBQ!

Students and staff tucked into **burgers, salads, and desserts** out in the garden.

We were also delighted to welcome some of our **new students from school**, giving everyone a chance to get to know each other in a relaxed and friendly setting.



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🌳 Throughout our Summer Themed Week...

- Summer sensory stories brought the season to life
- We packed **suitcases** for **hot and cold** holidays
- And took part in lots of fun **garden games and activities**

🌻 It was a **fun-filled week of summer-themed learning**
– full of laughter, engagement, and sunshine vibes!





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CHADSGROVE COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE YEAR



Congratulations, Holly!

We are absolutely thrilled to name **Holly** as our **Student of the Year** for 2025!

Holly has had a **wonderful year at college**, showing **perseverance, enthusiasm, and excellence** across every aspect of the curriculum. She has **achieved all her targets**, demonstrating hard work, determination, and a brilliant attitude throughout.



Holly – you should be **incredibly proud** of everything you have accomplished this year.

You are, without a doubt...

“WONDERFUL!”





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DANCEFEST WORKSHOP

Expressing Emotions Through Movement

On **11th June**, we were delighted to welcome the **wonderful Liz and Clare from Dancefest** – Worcester's very own dance agency – for an inclusive whole-college **dance workshop**.

The session was based around the theme of **emotions and feelings**, designed to beautifully complement our ongoing **Visual Arts project** in The Arts.

Students and staff explored ways to **express emotions through movement**, using their bodies to communicate joy, calm, excitement, and more. Small groups then worked together to select their favourite movements and **create a short choreography to music**. 🐘 It was a **joyful and creative morning**, full of energy, expression, and collaboration. A huge thank you to Dancefest for leading such an inspiring and inclusive session!





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Employer Encounter & Work-Related Learning

Worcester Warriors Foundation Visit


This term, we were delighted to welcome **Ben and Mikey** from the **Worcester Warriors Foundation** for an exciting **employer encounter**.

In preparation for their visit, students worked hard to **prepare questions** to ask Ben and Mikey — learning about their job roles, interests, and how they support the community through their work. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to practise communication skills and gain insight into the world of work.



 The session then moved into the **College garden**, where Ben and Mikey had set up a **sensory and physical scavenger hunt** for our **Explorers and Seekers** groups.

The activity was inclusive, engaging, and – most importantly – lots of fun!

 A great time was had by all, and we are already looking forward to working with **Ben, Mikey, and the Worcester Warriors Foundation** again in the new academic year.





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SUMMER FETE – JULY 2025

Sunshine, Smiles and a Fantastic Fundraiser!

A huge **thank you** to all the families, friends, supporters, our College Community Champion Jo Slade and Kevin the Town Crier who came along to our **Summer Fete** – it was a brilliant day filled with sunshine, fun, and laughter!

🎪 From classic stalls like *Hook-a-Duck*, *Giant Jenga*, and *Garden Target Games* to the launch of our brand new '**Poppies Boutique**' second-hand clothing stall, there was something for everyone to enjoy. We were also thrilled to welcome pupils from **Chadsgrove School**, who joined us throughout the day to take part in the festivities.



💰 We are incredibly proud to announce that we raised a **whopping £570** during the event! Students will be discussing how the funds should be used at the next **Student Ambassador meeting** – we cannot wait to hear their ideas.

A special thank you to **Ben and Mikey from the Worcester Warriors Foundation**, who came along to run **inclusive garden games** – their energy and support made the afternoon even more special.

🎁 Congratulations to our lucky prize winners!

- **Helen** – Winner of the hamper raffle
- **Jo** – Correctly guessed the weight of the cake
- **2LS** – Took home our cuddly friend '**Whiskers**' the dog



🙌 Thank you again to everyone who helped make the Summer Fete such a joyful and successful event – we are already looking forward to next year!



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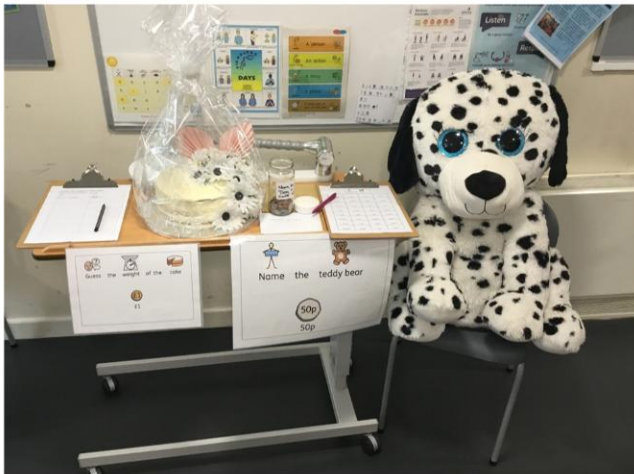


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Thank You to Our Chair of Directors

We mark the end of an era at Chadsgrove College for Franki Williams. Franki has served as our Chair of Directors for over six remarkable years. Her unwavering commitment, strategic insight, and compassionate leadership have left a lasting mark on our College community.

Throughout her time with us, Franki has exemplified what it means to lead with heart and purpose. Her kindness and integrity have inspired those around her, and her dedication to placing students at the very heart of every decision has shaped a culture of growth, excellence, and ambition.

Under her guidance, Franki has helped us to secure an Outstanding Ofsted rating - an achievement which we are incredibly proud of.

Not only has Franki helped propel us forward, but she has ensured that our vision and values are deeply rooted in empowering all our learners to thrive. As she steps down from her role due to personal commitments, we wish Franki all the very best for the future.

We are delighted to announce that Lauren Hill will be joining our Board of Directors from September and will fulfil the role of Chair of Directors. Lauren brings with her a wealth of leadership experience and SEN knowledge from her role as Head of Education at Beaumont College. Lauren is looking forward to joining our College community and is eager to work with students, staff and families to further support our Ofsted Outstanding college.



A Message from Franki...

I am delighted to welcome Lauren Hill as the new Chair of Directors from September 2025. Lauren has a wealth of experience as a senior leader in post 16 special education which will greatly support the work of the College.

I am sad to be leaving my position as Chair, it has been a privilege to work with the College and get to know such an amazing staffing team and fantastic learners over the last six years. I have every confidence the College will continue its outstanding work to enable young people to gain the confidence and independence for the next stage of their lives.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes, Franki



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Important Dates

Monday 8th September

College Opens for Students (10.00am)

Tuesday 23rd September

Parent Carer/Advocate 'Meet the Team' Event (2.00pm - 4.00pm)

Thursday 23rd October

College Closes for Students (4.00pm)

Monday 27th October

Half Term Week Starts

Friday 31st October

Half Term Week Ends

Monday 3rd November

College Opens for Students (10.00am)

Tuesday 16th December

Parent Carer/Advocate & Community Christmas Celebration(2.00pm - 3.30pm)

Friday 19th December

College Closes for students (4.00pm)

Useful Information

Please be sure to inform us of any changes that occur over the Summer holidays which we need to be aware of ready for students to return to College in the Autumn term (e.g. changes to medical need(s), personal care requirements, medication, personal equipment etc.)

Thank you.

Have a wonderful summer break!