



December
2025

Key Dates

Tuesday 9th December – Year 7 You Are Awesome Christmas Fair

Monday 15th December – Year 7 Disco

Friday 19th December – Come as You Like Day /

Last day of term – 12.50pm finish

Monday 5th January 2026 – First day of term

Friday 23rd January – Inset day



Headteacher's Message

November Reflections

November has been a month of reflection, learning and opportunity at Chosen Hill. Our Remembrance Assemblies for Years 7–13 provided a moving moment for the whole school community to pause and consider the importance of Remembrance. Students engaged thoughtfully with the key messages, showing maturity and respect throughout. On Tuesday 11th November, we proudly took part in the Remembrance Parade, laying a wreath at school alongside cadets, scouts, guides and other student uniformed services. It was an honour to welcome representatives from the local military and the British Legion as we came together in an act of respect and remembrance.

Earlier in the month, we were delighted to host students from a Japanese school for a cultural exchange with our Year 7 students. This visit was a wonderful opportunity to share language, traditions and activities, fostering global understanding and friendships that will last well beyond the day.

Our Year 9 students rose to the challenge of the GCHQ competition on 17th November, demonstrating problem-solving skills and teamwork in a real-world context. It was inspiring to see their enthusiasm and determination.

On 19th November, Year 12 and 13 students visited the Natural History and Science Museums in London. This trip enriched their studies and sparked curiosity through hands-on learning experiences, bringing classroom concepts to life.

Finally, on 28th November, our Year 11 students took part in “Meet the Professionals,” engaging with local employers in mock interviews. This event was a key step in preparing for life beyond school, helping students build confidence and clarity about their future pathways.

December Forecast

December at Chosen Hill promises to be a month of celebration, creativity and community spirit as we approach the end of Term 2.

Our House Christmas Tree Decoration Competition will bring festive cheer to the school, with each House showcasing their creativity and teamwork. Alongside this, we are proud to support our local charity *Hungry No More*, which provides vital foodbank services to families in Churchdown, Innsworth, Longlevens and Longford. Students will be contributing through our House Food Bank donation initiative, and if parents would also like to help outside of school, charity baskets can be found at: Tesco Churchdown, GL3 Hub Community Centre, Churchdown Community Centre, Churchdown Club and Brickhampton Golf Clubhouse.

On 4th December, we look forward to *An Evening of Dance*, a showcase of talent and dedication from our students. Then, on 9th December, Year 7 will host their “*You Are Awesome*” Christmas charity fundraiser—an event that reflects the kindness and generosity at the heart of our school community.

The final week of term will be packed with festive traditions: Christmas dinners, our formal Carol Service, and “*Come As You Like Day*”, where students can wear fancy dress in exchange for a charity donation. These events are a wonderful way to end the year, celebrating achievements and enjoying time together as a school family.

As the term draws to a close, we look forward to celebrating achievements across the school and recognising the hard work and commitment shown by students and staff.

Finally, as we approach the end of term, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families for a restful and peaceful holiday period. Whether you are celebrating at this time of year or simply enjoying time together, I hope you all can relax and recharge. We look forward to welcoming students back in the new year, ready for another successful term ahead.

Mr J Bardgett

Important Information

Last Day of Term

All students will finish at 12.50pm, with buses departing from school at 1.00pm.

We will have the customary 'Come as You Like Day' when students can donate £1 to charity and choose to come to school in non-uniform or fancy dress. Any funds raised will be donated to a charity chosen by our School Council (please pay via the School Gateway).

There will be a morning break when hot food will be available. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, please could you remind them to visit the canteen during this time.

School will reopen on Monday 5th January 2026.

Forgotten Belongings

A polite reminder to all parents and carers. If your child forgets an item that they require for the school day, for example – PE kit, rugby top, pencil case, exercise book, rugby / football boots etc – and it is brought to school reception, it will be held at reception for them to collect. Due to the increased amount of items that are being brought into school, that students have forgotten, we do not have the capacity to deliver these items to students in their classrooms.

Important Information

School drop off and pick ups.

If you drop your child at school, please do not drop them in the entrance areas with the gates. These are no dropping or turning areas to ensure the safety of pupils and staff. There have been a number of near misses this term with people pulling in to drop their children off and other people turning to come into the school.

If you are reminded by a member of staff that the areas are not for dropping off or turning, please can you be respectful in your communication with them. Staff are doing their best to keep these areas clear so that it is safer for your children to arrive and leave school.

Please can we remind you that school is open for students from 8am and that students should not be arriving before that time as there is no staff supervision until then.

School Term Dates for 2025/26

Please note the term dates and the INSET days when students will not be in school. It is really important that students are in school every day – absence due to holiday taken during term time is not authorised and may lead to penalty fines being issued.

Please click the link to see the term dates for 2025/2026.

<https://www.chosenhillschool.co.uk/home/parents-and-students/term-dates/>

Year 9 Update

As we reach the end of the Christmas term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what an impressive start Year 9 have made to this important year. Coming into Key Stage 4 is a big step, and I could not be prouder of how they have built on the strong roots they established throughout Year 8. Those foundations of resilience, relationships, reputation and readiness for learning are now really beginning to show in their growing maturity, ambition, and engagement across the curriculum.

It continues to be a joy and a privilege to be their Head of Year. Every day, I am reminded of what a fantastic, warm, funny, determined and supportive group of young people they are. Seeing so many of them celebrated in our end-of-term assembly—recognising their achievements, efforts, and contributions—has been a real highlight of the term.

Looking ahead, we have a very exciting few months to come. In February, students will begin thinking seriously about their GCSE option choices, and I am really looking forward to guiding them through this important stage. Our Options Evening on Thursday 26th February will be a brilliant opportunity to meet families face-to-face and support students in shaping the next steps of their educational journey.

And of course, one of the events I am personally most excited for is Year 9 Camp during Enrichment Week in July. We have a huge number of students signed up already, and I know it is going to be an unforgettable experience for all involved.

Finally, I would like to wish all Year 9 students and their families a very warm, peaceful and happy Christmas, and a wonderful New Year. Thank you for your ongoing support—I'm very much looking forward to all we will achieve together in 2026.

Warmest wishes,
Mrs Pippa Wright
Head of Year 9

Year 7 You Are Awesome Christmas Fair

The Year 7 You Are Awesome Christmas Fair is on Tuesday 9th December P5.

It will involve all Year 7 and 8 students. Year 7 will be using the new growth mindset and entrepreneurial skills that they have learnt in Wellness lessons to raise some money for this years house charity. It is also a house event, so a great chance for houses to earn some house points. A gentle reminder that it is a cash only event.

House Foodbank Donations

We are collecting for our food bank charity- **Hungry No More**

This is our local foodbank, serving Churchdown, Longlevens and Hucclecote.

We will accept any donations- but this list are the most needed items!

Please bring to your LM reps who will collect these in.

We have until December 12th.

House points for the most donated individually and House!



The centre is really short of:

- Tinned fruit
- Tinned vegetables
- Bags of rice
- Tinned meat
- Tinned meals
- Desserts (not fresh or frozen obviously)

Gloucestershire Business School Challenge

We are delighted to announce that a selection of our enthusiastic Year 13 A-Level Business Students attended the launch of the University of Gloucestershire's Business School Challenge 2025.

This inter-school enterprise competition is, once again, being led the University's Business School from their Oxstalls Campus, and is supported by Amazon and a range of local Business, including Gloucester Rugby Club, Hazzlewoods, Gloucester Brewery and the University's own Business Growth Hub. Representatives from each business will form the judging panel when the teams return to present their exciting business plans on the 10th December 2025.

Working in teams of up to 5, over the next 5 weeks, students will prepare a pitch for what they considered to be a new, sustainable and successful business idea for the school, local community or Gloucestershire. It must be well-researched, based on real-life data and delivered in a creative and engaging manner. To assist them, senior lecturers will conduct frequent a university-style seminars to help them formulate viable ideas, test them and review their provisional plans ahead of the grand final in December.

Please join with us in giving our students the very best wishes for a successful competition, one that they will effectively use to embed their learning of Business and, very importantly, enjoy.



Disney's Dare to Dream Junior 2026

Tickets for our February 2026 show are now on sale! Chosen Hill School are proud to present their 2026 production: Disney's Dare to Dream Junior! This spectacular production features students from across the school, coming together to perform beloved Disney songs and thrilling dance routines. From heart-warming classics to high-energy numbers, this show celebrates courage, friendship and imagination. Bring the whole family and experience the magic of Disney like never before. Don't miss your chance to support our young stars and enjoy a truly enchanting performance!

You can buy the tickets at:

<https://buytickets.at/chosenhillschool/1884716>



Duke of Edinburgh Dates

Please make a note of the following dates if your child is taking part in DofE at Chosen Hill this year

Bronze

Session 1- Saturday 27th September 10-12

Session 2- Saturday 29th November 10-12

Session 3- Saturday 31st January 10-12 (First Aid)

Session 4- Saturday 28th February 10-12

Session 5- Saturday 21st March 10-12

Bronze Training Weekend Friday 8th May 6pm-Saturday 9th May

Session 6- Saturday 13th June 10-12

Bronze Assessed Expedition Friday 26th June 8am- Saturday 27th June

Any questions please contact Mr Bird ib@

Silver

Saturday 17th January 9-3.30pm (First Aid training)

Wednesday 11th March 1-5pm Navigation Afternoon

Silver Practise expedition Thursday 16th April 10am- Saturday 18th April

Silver Assessed Expedition Thursday 14th May 8am- Saturday 16th May

Any questions please contact Miss Wheeler ewh@

Gold

Saturday 17th January 9-3.30pm (First Aid training)

Sunday 1st March Initial Training Walk 8am-6pm

Wednesday 11th March 1-5pm Navigation Afternoon (provisional)

Introduction to wild Country Friday 28th March 8am- Saturday 29th March

Gold Practise Expedition Wednesday 22nd April 8am- Saturday 25th April

Gold Assessed Expedition 6th- 10th July (enrichment week)

Any questions please contact Mr Bird ib@

Are you ready for Winter HAF?



**Winter HAF returns this winter holidays
with bookings open on 1 December**

Make sure you're ready to book!
Scan the QR code and keep your details up to date.
Visit <https://familyhubs.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf>



SCAN ME



Department
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COUNTY COUNCIL

