



Parent Bulletin

February
2026

Key Dates

Monday 2nd February – Year 13 Parents Evening (online)

Monday 9th February – Year 9 Parents Evening (online)

10th – 12th February – School Production

16th – 20th February – Half Term

Thursday 26th February – Year 9 Options Evening



Headteacher's Message

January Reflections

We started the term by recognising the achievements of last year's students at our Celebration of Success Awards Evening on 7th January, honouring the hard work and dedication of Year 11 and Year 13. It was a proud occasion for families and staff to celebrate these outstanding accomplishments.

On 15th January, we welcomed prospective students and families to our Sixth Form Open Evening—an important event for those considering the next stage of their education. The evening was well attended and showcased the breadth of opportunities available in our Sixth Form.

Year 11 Parents' Evening took place on 19th January where parents met with teachers to discuss progress and exam preparation. These conversations are vital in supporting students during their last few months of school. Our Holocaust Memorial Day Assemblies provided all year groups with a powerful opportunity to reflect on history and its lessons for today, reinforcing the importance of tolerance and respect.

Finally, rehearsals for our school production, Disney's "Dare to Dream Jr", gathered momentum throughout January. The energy and commitment from our cast and crew have been inspiring, and we look forward to sharing the finished performance with families in February.

February Forecast

February at Chosen Hill promises to be a month filled with packed activities and important events for our students.

During the week beginning 2nd February, our Year 8 students will visit SkillZONE as part of their Learning Mentor programme. This valuable experience will help students develop essential life skills, including personal safety, decision making and awareness of real world risks.

Also on 2nd February, we will hold our Year 13 Parents' Evening—the final opportunity for parents/ carers and students to meet with teachers before the exam season begins.

In the same week, all students will take part in a whole school "Taskmaster" House competition, bringing creativity, teamwork and plenty of fun to the learning mentor programme

Year 9 students will also be completing their three minute FameLab presentations. These talks challenge students to communicate scientific ideas with clarity and confidence. The top ten presentations will go forward to the schools' competition, with winners progressing to the grand final—we wish all participants the very best of luck.

On 9th February, we will welcome students and parents/ carers for the Year 9 Parents' Evening, an important step as students prepare to make their GCSE option choices. This will lead into our Year 9 Options Evening on 26th February, where GCSE and BTEC subjects will be showcased for students and parents/ carers.

Assemblies during the week beginning 2nd February will focus on promoting this year's school production, Disney's "Dare to Dream Jr", a vibrant musical celebration that brings together much loved Disney characters and songs which will be performed on 10th–12th February. This is the final chance for everyone to purchase tickets and support our talented cast and crew.

As part of National Apprenticeship Week, students will also explore apprenticeship pathways during their Learning Mentor sessions that week, helping raise awareness of the wide range of careers and qualifications available.

We end the month with DofE Bronze Training on 28th February, supporting students as they continue their journey toward completing this award.

Mr J Bardgett
Acting Headteacher

Book Developed by Disney Theatrical Group
Music Adapted and Arranged by Patrick Sulken
Orchestrations by Patrick Sulken

Chosen Hill School
Presents

DARE TO DREAM



A Disney MUSICAL REVUE

February 10-12th

7:30pm

**GET YOUR
TICKETS HERE**

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/chosenhillschool/1884716>



Cheltenham Young Artist 2026

We are so proud of all our students who took part in the Cheltenham Young Artist 2026 Competition which was exhibited in the Garden Gallery, Montpellier Gardens in Cheltenham last weekend. The public were invited to come along and vote for their favourite artwork and it was very busy! The judges announced the winners in each category on Sunday afternoon, and students went up to receive their award from the Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire. It's not only given all exhibitors the chance to see their work hanging in full public view, but it will have built up confidence in their individual abilities. We are also so very appreciative to have also been voted as Best School Entry in the Secondary category. Five of our amazing seven exhibitors received commendation awards from the public and judges. Lizzy Walker Year 12, Tayte Roberts Year 8, Jamie Jones-McCullough Year 10, Harmoni Ashmeade Year 10 and Alfie Lawson who also won 3rd Prize for his lovely portrait of his dog. Well done to Daisy McAvoy and Harriet Hadley who were also exhibited and we hope all students are pleased to have taken home their framed artwork!



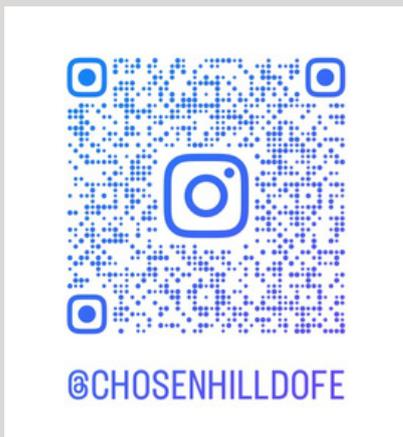
Duke of Edinburgh

On 17th January 31 Silver DofE students and 5 Gold took part in their first aid training ahead of expedition season. Led by our Medical Officer Mike Hemming they learnt how to perform CPR, immobilize broken limbs and treat a myriad of injuries. They took place in various role playing scenarios and worked in groups to determine best practise.

Thanks need to go to the teachers and volunteers who helped support this vital training and we hope that the students never need to use these skills.

We are proud of the DofE program we have at Chosen Hill.

For more information or to get involved please contact Mr Bird ib@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk and don't forget to follow us on instagram.



Parent Guide to School Complaints

We would like to make you aware of a new national guide, developed collaboratively by the Department for Education (DfE), Ofsted, ParentKind, and other parent and school focused organisations. The guide provides a simple, step by step explanation of how to raise any concern you may have with the school, helping ensure issues can be resolved quickly, clearly and positively. Please see the link to this guide below. This guide is also available to view on the policies page of our website.

The guide explains the difference between feedback, a concern, and a formal complaint and outlines who you should speak to at each stage to achieve the best and quickest resolution. It also offers practical tips on how to raise issues constructively and explains what you can expect from the school at each step.

At Chosen Hill, we always aim to work closely with parents to resolve concerns as soon as they arise. In most cases, matters can be addressed informally through open communication with the staff who know your child best.

We hope you find this resource helpful in supporting positive, constructive communication between home and school.

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/assets/parents-resources/Parent-Guide-to-School-Complaints.pdf>

Notices

✨ Gloucestershire Beyond-16 SEND Event – 7 February 2026

Join us for a FREE event designed especially for Year 10 and 11 students with SEND and their parents/carers—with a warm welcome to anyone from Year 7 upwards who wants to begin exploring future pathways.

Families will have the chance to meet local providers, colleges, training organisations and support services to help plan the next steps beyond Year 11.

To help make the event as comfortable as possible, smaller breakout spaces will be available for those who may prefer a quieter environment.

 7th February 2026

 10am–1pm

 Taylored Mentoring Services, 76 Kingsholm Road, GL1 3BD

 Free parking & refreshments available

A great opportunity to start thinking ahead and discover the pathways that could be right for your young person.

 [Register your interest today!](#)

The Severn Valley Microlight club is holding 'An Introduction to Aviation' event on Saturday 18th April 2026.

We are aware that the next generation of pilots, engineers and other aviation personnel may lie within your ranks. We hope to make them aware of the opportunities aviation related careers may offer while having some fun!

The day will start at 11am and will be held at Over Farm just outside Gloucester where about twenty five aircraft are based.

If your child is interested in this event, a flyer and registration form has been uploaded onto classcharts.

Notices

Gloucestershire County Council is offering Bikeability courses during all 2026 school holidays. These courses are designed for children aged 9–14 and help build cycling confidence and safety skills in small groups with qualified instructors.

2026 Course Locations & Dates:

February Half-Term: Ashley Manor Prep School, Cheltenham

Easter Holidays: Bournside School, Cheltenham

May Half-Term: Kingshill School

Summer Holidays: Skillzone (2 sessions available)

October Half-Term: Pineholt Village Hall

Course Details:

Cost: £10 per course (2 x 2-hour sessions)

Bikes: Available subject to availability

Booking: <https://www.thinktravel.info/cycling/bikeability-training/holiday-courses/>

Year 11 Prefect Dinner – Thursday 19th March 2026

The deadline to purchase your child's ticket to the Prefect Dinner at Bowden Hall Hotel is Sunday 22nd February, payable via the School Gateway.

Year 11 Prom – Thursday 2nd July 2026

The deadline to pay the deposit for your child's ticket to the Prom at Cheltenham Chase Hotel is Sunday 15th March, payable via the School Gateway.

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/>

School Term Dates for 2026/27

The term dates for 2026/27 are now available on the website:

<https://www.chosenhillschool.co.uk/assets/Term-Dates/Calender-26.27-PARENT.pdf>

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@

Cleaning Supervisor Vacancy at Chosen Hill

School Cleaning Supervisor role available

Managing a cleaning team with some cleaning duties required

Monday to Friday 15:30 – 20:30 working 43 weeks per year

£14.45 per hour

<https://careers.atlasfm.com/vacancies/40298/school-cleaning-supervisor.html>

Atlas FM are looking to recruit new team members!

We are looking for someone who wants to make a difference in their working environment and feel proud about the work they do, if this sounds like you, we'd love to hear from you!

If you are enthusiastic, take pride in your work and have great attention to detail you'll fit in perfectly with our award-winning team.

What makes this job amazing?

- Full learning and support from Atlas. (We believe in our people and want you to do well). Learning and Support will be a mixture of on-the-job training, tool box talks and discussions with your Supervisor/Manager about opportunities within the business.
- Stream – our financial wellbeing and benefits platform which provides you with real-time access to earned wages, information to improve your financial health, and discounts/savings at leading retailers and supermarkets.
- The ability to progress your career within Atlas.
- Learning and development lead by you: support in areas you like or want to learn more about.
- Free uniform, which is comfy, sustainable and easy to take care of.
- The opportunity to work amongst people who value and support each other, achieving great results.

All you need is:

- An attitude to thrive, and cleaning experience.
- Ability to carry out the physical aspects of the role.
- We require all of our employees have a basic level of spoken English. This is for communication on safety, and your confidence communicating with members of the public and the management team at our client's site.
- Good social skills to deliver service with a smile.
- A right to work in the UK (please bring your evidence to the interview).
- The successful candidate will need to have an enhanced DBS check due to the nature of work.



Online **FREE** talk by Jane Keyworth

Anxiety Based School Avoidance

March 26th 7-8pm



Book online

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

go to PARENTS - Live Talks page

All 16 parent talks **FREE** with our School Membership

