

July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you well. This letter includes important information relevant to your child as well as celebrating Excellence in All at CNS and sharing forthcoming calendar events with you.

CNS has been buzzing this week with our new Y7 students spending 3 days preparing for September. They have enjoyed a varied programme of lessons and team building and we welcome our new students and their families to the CNS community.

Last week we welcomed Ofsted to CNS. The new Inspection Framework is very different to previous inspections, and I will be able to share the findings next term. Our students excelled themselves and were frequently complimented by inspectors for being polite, proud of their school and ambitious for their learning. I was so proud of the entire CNS community during the inspection and thank you to everyone who completed the survey which was overwhelmingly positive.

We went straight from inspection to Prom which was the best way to remind ourselves of why we are all so committed to CNS and our amazing students. There were a lot of teary-eyed parents bursting with pride and love for their very grown up children.

Following a wonderful KS3 Year 9 Awards on Wednesday, we are excited for reward celebrations next week. This was a wonderful event and congratulations to everyone who was recognised for their Excellence in All.

We break up at 3.05pm on the 17th July, thank you for your support in ensuring your child is attending until this time. I will write to you again next week with a start of term letter.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ms Philpott

Return to school

When we return in September, September 3rd will be transition day for Y7, 10 and 12 with the whole school attending on September 4th. As this is Thursday and Friday it may be tempting to keep children away from school for an extra day, however I cannot emphasise strongly enough how important these first days of school are and the important sense of belonging they create by children being informed and connected. Please ensure your child is in school from the very first days of term. It is an important part of CNS's values that all students feel a sense of belonging to CNS and being here is critical to this.

Uniform update

Our uniform remains unchanged for September. In line with the new government guidance our 3 compulsory branded items of uniform will be:

- Navy polo shirt with embroidered house name and school logo
- Navy blue V-neck jumper or hoodie with school logo
- CNS navy PE top with school logo

All other CNS branded items will still be available to purchase and can be worn if desired. The full updated policy will be uploaded to the website soon.

Rewards and Celebration Events Celebrating Our School Community

As we approach the end of another successful school year, we are looking forward to celebrating the achievements, commitment, and positive contributions of our students with a range of reward events throughout the week. We are incredibly proud of everything our students have achieved at CNS and look forward to celebrating these successes together.

Year 9 End of Key Stage Celebration - Wednesday 15th July

We are delighted to celebrate the end of Key Stage 3 with our Year 9 students recognising all their hard work and achievements over the past three years. Students will enjoy a special celebration afternoon, including a BBQ, ice cream, and a celebration assembly.

At the end of the celebrations, Year 9 students will be permitted to leave school at 2:40pm. If you would prefer your child to remain on site until the normal end of the school day, they are very welcome to do so. Staff will supervise students in the paddock, where there will be a range of games and activities for them to enjoy.

We look forward to celebrating this important milestone with our Year 9 students and wish them every success as they prepare for the exciting challenges of Key Stage 4.

Year 8 Summer Games Celebration Thursday 16th July

Year 8 students will take part in our Summer Games Celebration, recognising a fantastic year of achievement, effort, and commitment.

Organised by our Student Community Council, the event will take place during periods 3 and 4 and will give students the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of activities including sports, cooking, chess and many more, ensuring there is something for everyone to enjoy.

A huge thank you to our Student Community Council for their hard work in planning and organising the event, and to the many members of staff who have volunteered their time to run activities and make the day such a success.

Year 7 Rewards Event Friday 17th July

Year 7 students will enjoy a special rewards event as they watch the much-anticipated CNS Battle of the Bands. We can't wait to see our talented performers take to the stage and showcase their musical abilities. We are sure it will be an incredible event, and we look forward to finding out who will be crowned this year's champions and take home the coveted trophy.

Gold and Platinum Positive students Friday 17th July

Students achieving this impressive milestone will enjoy an exclusive early lunch as a reward for their outstanding commitment throughout the year. In addition, students who have received three or fewer negative behaviour points and those who have achieved 100% attendance will be treated to a celebratory ice cream.

Mrs Skarin

Attendance

With only a week left of the academic year, we are excited for all of the Rewards Events and House Rewards Assemblies recognising attendance as part of the awards. Over 700 students alone being recognised for having 94%+ attendance for the year, it is excellent to see students wanting to be here to take part in everything the CNS community has to offer. We appreciate all of the support from parents and carers this year in continuing to promote high levels of attendance with students.

Ms Cook

Mobile Phones

The introduction of the new phone policy has gone incredibly smoothly, partly due to the positivity from our students who have embraced the new system without any fuss. There have been no queues at the end of the day, and students have realised that they can quite happily get through the day without access to their device. Regular spot checks are taking place, and we have a few tweaks to make in September. Thank you to everyone for making this process so easy.

Mr Innes

Additional Learning Faculty Transition

Last week, the Additional Learning Faculty was delighted to welcome Year 6 students to our Transition Afternoons on Tuesday and Wednesday. These sessions were designed to help students feel more confident and prepared for their move to secondary school in September.

Students had the opportunity to meet key members of staff, become familiar with some of the areas of the school they will use regularly, and ask any questions they had about starting CNS. It was wonderful to see students engaging so positively and beginning to build relationships with staff in a supportive environment. We look forward to welcoming them and their families to our school community in September.

Mr Johnston

Y11 Prom

The CNS Prom was a tremendous success and provided a fantastic celebration for our students! There was an excellent turnout, with students arriving in great spirits and fully embracing the occasion. Throughout the evening, pupils conducted themselves impeccably, demonstrating maturity, respect, and a real sense of community. The atmosphere was positive and enjoyable from start to finish, with the dancefloor remaining busy all night as students celebrated together and created lasting memories. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying themselves and marking the end of this important stage of their lives.

Mr Brown

Shine Media Award Winners

On Monday 29th June, Polly Jordison-Millar and Aditi Mahawar, the leaders of our school magazine EXiA, headed to London for Shine, an event which celebrates student achievements in journalism and publishing. The magazine was nominated in 3 categories - Best Design/Layout, Best Cartoon and Writer of the Year: Fiction. We achieved Highly Commended in Best Design/Layout (thanks to the tireless work of Aditi) with special note of our use of negative space and our front cover, Highly Commended for Ted Camplin's satirical cartoon and finally, won Writer of the Year: Fiction for Alice Saxton's incredible poem 'Jekyll and Hyde' which was dubbed 'a work William Blake could have called his own'. Alice's poem is attached separately for you to read.

Such an incredible day to celebrate our students!

Miss Macklin-Betteridge

Sports Day 2026

Sports Day was a tremendous success, with all students from Years 7-10 taking part and competing proudly for their Houses. The school fields were awash with house colours, creating a fantastic atmosphere as students enthusiastically engaged in a wide range of events and activities.

Our students were outstanding throughout the event, demonstrating excellent behaviour, resilience, and sportsmanship, especially in the challenging heat. Their enthusiasm and commitment reflected the school brilliantly. Thank you to everyone whose support, encouragement and hard work helped make Sports Day such a success bringing the school community together. And finally, congratulations to Holkham House on their well-deserved victory and Kelling House for winning the Spirit Cup!

Mr O'Brien

Cultural Celebration Day

Our Cultural Celebration last Friday was a great success, bringing our school community together to celebrate the diversity of cultures represented within our school. It was wonderful to see so many students proudly wearing their traditional cultural dress, looking amazing while representing their heritage and sharing their cultures with others.

Throughout lunchtime, students enjoyed a range of activities, including mandala art, henna, origami, a photo flag wall, board games from around the world, and the opportunity to sample new flavours at our international bake sale.

We welcomed Norwich Capoeira Communities and Jaya Dance, who led engaging workshops for our students. The sessions were greatly enjoyed, with students learning new skills, embracing different cultural traditions, and taking part with great interest. A huge thank you to all the pupils who contributed to making the day such a memorable celebration of culture, inclusion, and community.

Mrs Haines

Colourful Collective Raise Money for Pride Month

On the 26th of June, the Colourful Collective LGBTQ group raised an amazing £69.50 for the Norfolk LGBTQ+ project! The charity provides much-needed care for LGBTQ young people through support groups, social clubs, one-on-one talks and more. The Colourful Collective came together to make a range of cakes and crafts to sell, and everyone did amazingly! Thank you to anyone who came by to contribute to this wonderful cause!

Tyler - Sixth Form LGBTQ+ Lead

Scholars' Afternoon Tea

The Music Scholars' Afternoon Tea was a thoroughly enjoyable event where students had the opportunity to showcase their musical talent to their friends and family, who watched while tucking into the delicious food that was provided by the CNS Catering Team. The atmosphere was fun, friendly, and supportive meaning students felt encouraged to perform with confidence and pride. The musical diversity was brilliant, and I am looking forward to our young musicians continuing to flourish and demonstrate such passion.

Thank you to all those who came to the small event and supported the music department.

Mr Cushion

DofE Gold Expedition

Last week saw our annual Duke of Edinburgh Gold expedition to the Lake District. With 37 students from both year 12 and 13, we had a total of 7 groups completing a challenging yet rewarding 4-day hike around the valley of Patterdale. The routes took in highlights such as the lakeshore of Ullswater, the heights of Helvellyn and the ancient roman road along the top of High Street.

We were treated to the complete spectrum of weather, from hot sun to cold rain, from blue skies to dense fog. The students were simply marvellous, external staff members were blown away by their resilience, positivity and team spirit when faced with adversity.

For our year 13 students, it was a great opportunity to give them one last memory of their time at CNS. Well done and a huge thank you to all students for your commitment to the high standards you have shown on DofE.

Mr Sutton

Y12 Business students market stall

CNS Year 12 Business students have been working on food and drink based entrepreneurial projects, and those voted as the top 5 by industry experts have been given the amazing opportunity to run their own market stall, selling products to members of the public. The market stall will run for one day only and will be called 'The Lemon Corner,' selling Lemonade in 3 flavours: original, passion fruit and raspberry. This will take place on Thursday 16th July 11-4 at Norwich market, stall 64.

We would love it if you could come and see this, it has taken a lot of work from all involved but so worth it! Their logo is below for a bit of a preview!

Mr Humphreys



WildFest 2026 🌱

Our Eco Ambassadors had the fantastic opportunity to attend the very first WildFest at OVA this week. We listened to inspiring speakers discussing biodiversity, sustainability, and the impact of global climate change, quite fitting given we were in the middle of a heatwave!

Throughout the day, students took part in a wide range of hands-on workshops, including bird watching, owl handling, apple juice pressing, growing your own food, moth collecting, and many more exciting activities. The team returned full of enthusiasm and ideas, and we're excited to put these into action as we continue to make CNS an even greener and more sustainable school next year.

Miss Cook

Dates for your diary

July 13-17 th	End of term rewards events
July 16 th	Y12 Business Students Market Stall (Norwich Market) 11.00-4.00pm
July 17 th	School closes for the summer break at 3.05pm
August 13 th	A' level exam results in school (Elkins Centre) 9.00-12.00pm
August 14 th	6 th form open for post A 'level result conversations (Elkins Centre) 9.00-12.00pm
August 20 th	GCSE exam results in school (Elkins Centre) 9.30-12.00pm
August 21 st	6 th form open for 6 th form conversations (Elkins Centre) 9.00-12.00pm
September 3 rd	Y7, Y10 and Y12 in school for their transition day, 8.35am start.
September 4 th	All students in school Y7-13 for lessons and preparation for the year ahead, 8.35am start.