



CHARTERS  
ALUMNI

# July 2025

## ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

**Welcome**

Connect with us by clicking the icons:



Welcome to the Summer 2025 edition of our Alumni Newsletter.

As the school year draws to a close and the summer holidays begin, we're excited to share some of the latest news from Charters School with our valued community of former students and staff.

In this edition, we've included a variety of stories and updates, and we'd love to feature even more of your achievements and memories in future newsletters.

If you'd like to reconnect with old classmates or colleagues, share something you've been involved in, or offer inspiration to our current students, please do get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!

Connect via our socials or email [marketing@chartersschool.org.uk](mailto:marketing@chartersschool.org.uk) to appear in our Christmas edition.

### ***Charters Essential Parcels***

UNITY, RESPECT, EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

As the end of term approached, the Charters School community once again came together in a spirit of generosity and care. Thanks to a £1,000 donation from Tesco through their Stronger Starts initiative, our Essential Parcels project was brought back to life—providing vital support for families who may be facing financial challenges.

With the energy and enthusiasm of our Year 12 students, store cupboard essentials were carefully packed into parcels, ready to be distributed to those in need. This hands-on experience not only helped others but also fostered empathy and community spirit among the students involved.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Tesco Martins Heron and Tesco Bracknell North for their continued support, and to our school's Marketing Team, who coordinated the purchase and packing of supplies.



It's partnerships like these that make a real difference—and demonstrate how kindness, teamwork, and a little help can go a long way.



### PRACTICAL INSIGHTS

Year 12 Economics students engaged in a dynamic trading simulation during the annual Stock Market Challenge at the IMCA Centre at the University of Reading.



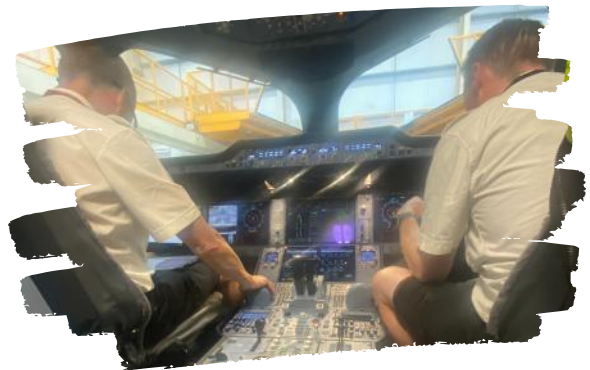
### EXTENDED LEARNING

A-Level biologists investigated succession on the shingle ridge at Slapton during their field trip, bringing the curriculum to life.



### REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCE

Work Experience Week gave Year 12 students a hands-on taste of the working world, having opportunities at a variety of work placements from Heathrow to Mars Wrigley.



### LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Year 12 Medical applicants enjoyed a rigorous and educational day enhancing the skills required to succeed in their upcoming UCAT exams, thanks to the opportunity provided by St Mary's Ascot.



### GLIMPSE INTO UNI LIFE

BTEC & A Level PE students enjoyed an inspiring Sport & Exercise Science Taster Day at Portsmouth Uni exploring careers from Biomechanics to Sport Psychology!





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## ***Sixth Form News***

WHAT HAVE OUR CURRENT STUDENTS BEEN GETTING UP TO THIS TERM?

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### **ENRICHMENT FUN**

Along with fantastic exam results, inspiring destinations Post-18 & pastoral support, 6<sup>th</sup> Formers also have fun with their peers & enjoy the weekly enrichment lessons, such as board and card games!

### **ASPIRING HIGH**

All Year 12s have the opportunity to work on their UCAS application: 47 students have applied for Oxbridge places or Veterinary Medicine or Dentistry degrees through our thriving Potential High Achievers programme.



### **LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

The Welfare Committee spoke to their peers about the importance of community and the positive impact it can have on our mental wellbeing.

### **PART OF SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

Year 12s came together with all other year groups to be part of the inspirational Summer Music Concert that showcased the incredible talents of our students.



### **GOODBYE CLASS OF 2025**

Donned in old uniform, our Year 13s attended a heartfelt and memorable final assembly celebrating their incredible journey through Charters,

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## ***A Night of Talent at the Summer Concert***

THIS WONDERFUL COMMUNITY EVENT SHOWCASES OUR DYNAMIC MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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Charters School came alive recently with the sounds of music, celebration, and community spirit during our annual Summer Concert – an evening that truly showcased the extraordinary talent thriving within the school.

From the soaring vocals of the Junior and Senior Vocal Groups to the dynamic performances of the Jazz, Rock, and Function Bands, students from Years 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12, (and a few Year 11 students who returned to play with their ensembles,) took to the stage with confidence and flair. After weeks of dedicated rehearsals, they presented a diverse and ambitious programme, featuring everything from classical pieces like Verdi's Anvil Chorus to modern chart-toppers by artists such as Billie Eilish and Florence and the Machine.

The Charters Orchestra kicked off the evening with energy and drama, opening with Crazy Train by Ozzy Osbourne and selections from Aladdin, arranged by Vinson. Vocal ensembles brought heart and harmony to the stage, with favourites like Over the Rainbow, Pure Imagination, and ABBA's timeless Thank You for the Music. Whether performing in choirs, bands, or as soloists, each student brought something special to the evening.

Such concerts are more than just entertainment – they offer students a chance to grow in confidence, connect with one another, and experience the joy of shared achievement. The benefits of learning an instrument or singing in a group are profound: music-making engages both hemispheres of the brain, helping to develop memory, attention, and problem-solving skills – all while building resilience and creativity.

This year's concert also made space for the youngest musicians to shine, especially in the absence of Year 11 and 13 students, who had completed their exams. Ensembles like the Year 7 Chamber Choir delivered moving renditions, proving that the future of Charters School's music department is bright.

Behind every brilliant performance is expert guidance. Special thanks go to Mr Hoare and the entire Music Department – Mr Stephenson and Mr Wium included – whose dedication, vision, and encouragement helped students turn potential into performance. Gratitude also goes to the many peripatetic teachers who support students' musical development throughout the year.

The evening was made even more special by the warm atmosphere created by staff, sixth formers, and parents, who helped with front-of-house and refreshments – a testament to the strong community that makes Charters School such a nurturing place for young talent.

With upcoming events like the Year 10 Concert on July 15 and the exciting launch of the Ascot Music Hub in September, the school continues to provide enriching opportunities for students to engage with music at every level.

As the summer break approaches, the echoes of the concert will linger in the minds of all who attended – a joyful reminder of what young people can achieve when passion, practice, and support come together in harmony.



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## ***From Charters to AFC Bournemouth***

WE CELEBRATE SOPHIE QUIRK'S CONTINUING RISE IN THE WORLD OF WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

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We're thrilled to share some fantastic news from the world of football – and it involves one of our very own! Former Charters student Sophie Quirk has been unveiled as the first summer signing for AFC Bournemouth Women, making an exciting move along the south coast from Portsmouth, where she recently scooped the WSL Championship Rising Star award for the 2024–25 season.

Sophie's journey from the playing fields of Charters School to the professional stage has been nothing short of inspiring. Her dedication, talent, and love for the game have seen her rise quickly through the ranks, and now she's joining a team that has gone two full league seasons unbeaten – a true force in women's football.

The news has been met with huge excitement here at Charters, especially by Assistant Headteacher Mrs Hartwell, a lifelong AFC Bournemouth supporter and proud season-ticket holder.

"I've followed the Cherries for years, and to see one of our former students join the club is just incredible," said Mrs Hartwell. "Sophie was always a standout – not just as a footballer, but as a person. I'll be cheering her on loudly when she lines up for Bournemouth!"

That moment will come soon – Sophie and her new teammates are set to take on Ascot United in a cup fixture at The Racecourse Ground on 28th September, and there's sure to be a crowd of Charters staff and students past and present turning up to support her.

Everyone in the Charters community is incredibly proud of Sophie and can't wait to watch her career continue to flourish. She's a shining example of what passion, hard work, and perseverance can achieve – and we're backing her all the way.

Well done, Sophie – we'll be watching!



*image courtesy of afcb.co.uk*

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## ***You Mean the World to Us!***

HELP US TO BUILD OUR ALUMNI DATABASE

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***1990 - 5T***

Our alumni are an incredibly valuable part of the Charters community. By staying connected, you can inspire current students with real-world insights and experiences that only come from those who've walked the same halls.

We're excited to share that our LinkedIn page is now officially a school account and we've already reconnected with 163 alumni. This platform is key for students exploring life beyond Charters, from Year 12 work experience to university placements and career advice.

We'd love your help to grow this network further. Please share our LinkedIn page with fellow alumni and encourage them to follow us. The more connections we make, the greater the opportunities we can offer our students.

We also want to hear your stories! Let us know where life has taken you since leaving Charters—your journey could be the inspiration a student needs.

Connect with us by clicking the icons:





Welcome to the final edition of Charters Chronicle for the 2024/25 school year.

Created by students from year groups across the school, click on the image below for a fantastic read that is jam packed with stories from our wider school community!

Summer Term Edition | July 2025

# Charters Chronicle



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## ***Duke of Edinburgh Award***

### **AN OUTSTANDING YEAR FOR CHARTERS SCHOOL**

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2025 has been a truly outstanding year for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Charters School. With five weekends of adventure and six challenging expeditions, an incredible 218 students stepped up to the challenge—showing resilience, teamwork, and determination every step of the way.

From the rolling hills of the Chilterns to the rugged beauty of the Peak District, the dramatic landscapes of the Brecon Beacons, and the woodlands of the New Forest, our students walked a staggering 17,000 kilometres combined. Whether under blazing sunshine or, in the case of our recent Gold expedition to Wales, driving rain, they persevered with enthusiasm and strength.



Their collective efforts resulted in:

- 236 Bronze camping nights
- 216 Silver nights
- 276 Gold nights

This marks our largest DofE cohort to date, and is a fantastic achievement that speaks volumes about the dedication and spirit of our students.

We're incredibly proud of each and every participant for embracing the challenges of the DofE programme and pushing themselves to new heights. A huge congratulations to all involved!

As always, we encourage our students to continue with their volunteering, skill, and physical sections throughout the year and will be celebrating their achievements during the DofE Presentation Evening, which will take place in early November.

We're looking forward to watching our Year 8 to begin their own DofE journey in Year 9, as the Duke of Edinburgh programme goes from strength-to-strength at Charters School.





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## *Some things never change*

### MAKING MEMORIES ON SCHOOL TRIPS

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This year's school trips have reminded us that Charters School & Sixth Form is about far more than exam results. Whether hiking, exploring new cultures, or pushing personal boundaries, our students have embraced experiences that build confidence, friendships, and lifelong memories.

We're proud to offer these enriching opportunities that develop character as much as knowledge. Enjoy a look back through some of the highlights—and thank you to all the staff who made these moments possible!



Japan Club Theatre Trip



Music Outreach



Yr7 Residential



Tyr Abad Science Trip



Salamanca Homestay



Yr7 Residential



Arsenal FC Training Ground



Montpellier Homestay 2025



Nottingham Forest FC



A Level English Theatre Trip



Ascot Art Competition



Matilda



Battlefields