



CHEL TENHAM

MUSCAT

Connected

Thursday, 18th December 2025

ISSUE #14



A day of celebration assemblies provided a wonderful way to finish Term 1 at Cheltenham Muscat. It was a joy to see our students taking ownership and leading our assemblies and they proved to be creative, engaging and reflective, which is a credit to the effort and thought put in. Our students and teachers took the opportunity to look back on a term filled with sporting successes, musical masterpieces and character-building trips as well as real progress in learning. Most importantly it was lovely to see our students showing genuine warmth and congratulations to our performers and those receiving awards.

To those celebrating, a Merry Christmas, and wishing all of our Cheltenham families a wonderful winter break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 5th January 2026 for the start of another event packed, exciting term.

Richard Snape
Principal

EVENT CALENDAR

JANUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
		End of Term Holiday				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
End of Term Holiday	 Term 2	Trip: Grade 3 Play and Drift		International Award Training Trip- Wadi Sahtan G9,G10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
7:50am PE Parent Workshop -Pre-Prep	 7:40am Meet The Vice Principal 7:45am Grade 2 Spelling Bee	7:40am Meet The Head of Pre Prep	 7:40am Meet The Head of Prep School 3:15pm G9-G12 Parent Teacher Evening -6th Form Options Evening	7:40am 7:40am Meet The Head of Secondary School KG2-Bike and Scooter Party (Details will be available on SeeSaw)		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Grader 1 Trip 360 Farm (TBC)	Grader 1 Trip 360 Farm (TBC)			G12 Trip to Jebel Akhdar		 3:00pm Festival of the World

Parents Can Attend

Holidays

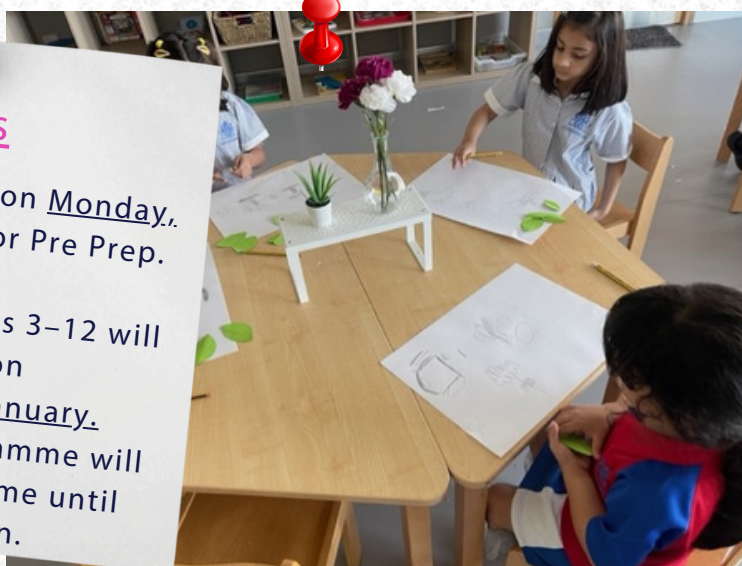
Non-uniform Days

Meet the SLT

*Dates and times are subject to change

ECAs

- ECA will start on Monday, 5th January for Pre Prep.
- ECAs for grades 3–12 will start on Tuesday, 6th January.
- The ECA programme will remain the same until Ramadan.





**CHELTEMHAM
MUSCAT**

Festival of the World

**2
OMR**

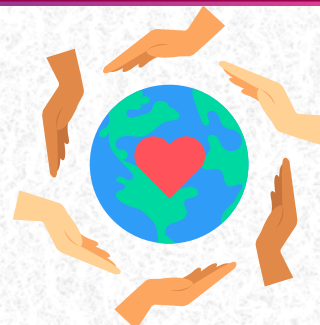
Join us for a celebration of cultures from around the world!
Enjoy traditional food, lively music, exciting games and fun
for all ages, and fascinating cultural exhibits 🌍

SATURDAY	24TH JAN 2026	AT 3 PM - 7PM
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SAVE THE DATE

📍 Cheltenham Muscat School
☎ +968 2407 3900
✉ reception@cheltenhammuscat.com

Cheltenham Muscat and the PTA are
thrilled to announce our very first
"Festival of the World"! 🌍🎉





Festival of the World

On 24th January 2026, we are planning for a chance to come together as a community and celebrate the rich diversity that makes Cheltenham Muscat so special. The Festival of the World will be a family-friendly festival evening, packed with food, fun, and activities from across the globe—perfect for children of all ages.



We warmly invite parents to volunteer to run a stall, with the support of students and teachers, to showcase your culture or nationality. Stalls could feature games, crafts, activities, or traditional foods. If you'd like to be involved but aren't sure what to offer, our PTA are more than happy to offer suggestions (please contact them at ptacheltenhammuscat@gmail.com). We will be happy to put you in touch with other families and teachers so that you can work together as a team.

If you're excited to participate, please complete this form: [Parent International Day Stall](#).

We are also on the lookout for local vendors and performers who would like to be part of this vibrant celebration. If you would like your business or talent to be featured, please complete this form: [Vendor Application](#)

Let's make the Carnival of the World an unforgettable celebration of our community!



Congratulations Ms Hands!



I would like to congratulate our Deputy Headteacher, Ms Alex Hands, on being appointed as the founding Head of Secondary School at Shrewsbury Phnom Penh school in Cambodia from summer 2026. Alex has done a fantastic job leading our safeguarding team, amongst many other responsibilities, and thoroughly deserves this promoted opportunity. Congratulations Ms Hands!

Richard Snape
Principal

End-of-Half-Year Examinations – Arabic Department

We are pleased to share the End-of-Half-Year Examination Timetable for the Arabic Department.

Teachers will remind students of their exam dates through Microsoft Teams and Seesaw, where sample practice papers will also be available.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's subject teacher.



Scan the QR code to view the Arabic Final Exam Timetable.



Term 1 School Reports

We are pleased to inform you that the school reports for Term 1 will be available on iSAMS on 18th December 2025.

The Grade 5 residential was a memorable and enriching experience



The Grade 5 residential was a memorable and enriching experience, during which our students spent two nights away from home developing independence, resilience and teamwork. Over three days, they explored Birkat Al Mawz, Tanuf, Al Hoota Caves, Misfat, Bait Al Safa, Jabreen Castle and the Oman Across Ages Museum, engaging thoughtfully with expert guides and asking insightful questions about Omani heritage and history.

The children struck a wonderful balance between being kids — enjoying camp life, games and shared experiences — and listening carefully to instructions, following routines and fully engaging with the learning whilst on the guided tours. From setting up tents with surprising efficiency to cultural exploration, they demonstrated maturity, curiosity and respect throughout.

The staff are extremely proud of how the students represented themselves and the school, returning with lasting memories and a real sense of personal growth for each one of them.





Victorian Showcase

On Tuesday 16th, Grade 5 stepped back in time and entered our Victorian Living Museum, where learning came to life through the voices and confidence of our students. For our Parental Showcase Day, the atrium was transformed into an interactive exhibition, with children taking centre stage as curators, historians and educators.

Each child became a living exhibit, proudly showcasing their knowledge of Victorian schools, workhouses and education, alongside explorations of William Morris' art and design, Victorian inventions, and traditional toys. Parents were invited to move freely around the space, engaging with exhibits led entirely by the students themselves.

Throughout the day, students also immersed themselves in Victorian-themed activities and delighted in dressing up as Victorians, which added authenticity, excitement and a strong sense of historical immersion to the experience.

More than a display of historical understanding, the afternoon celebrated the development of vital soft skills. Students confidently presented information, asked thoughtful questions, and quizzed parents to check their understanding—demonstrating articulation, collaboration and independence in action.

This student-led experience highlighted not only the depth of learning taking place in the classroom, but also the confidence, curiosity and ownership our learners brought to their education. It was a joyful celebration of knowledge, creativity and communication—truly history brought to life.





Victorian Showcase





Oman Open 2026 Coming 18th April 2026!

The Largest International Rubik's Cube Event Oman Has Ever Hosted
We are thrilled to announce Oman Open 2026, an exclusive and historic Rubik's Cube competition welcoming cubers from around the world. This prestigious event will take place on [18 April 2026](#), and all cubers are invited to apply.

Registration will open on the WCA website in January, and we strongly encourage our students to register as soon as slots become available ([10th January 2026](#)).



Who can attend?

This event is exclusive to registered competitors on the WCA website, their families, and approved volunteers. All abilities are welcome. If you are interested in volunteering, please express your interest as soon as possible as volunteer positions are limited. Volunteers will also have the unique opportunity to meet professional speed-cubers therefore, cube enthusiasts are especially encouraged to apply. All Academy ambassadors supporting with organising the event will be included as volunteers.



Stalls, Performances and Cultural Experiences?

Alongside the competition, we will host a variety of stalls and music performances, brought to life with the support of our talented students and teachers.

We warmly invite parents to host stalls, especially those that showcase Omani culture and traditions, as many international competitors will be visiting Oman for the first time.





Sponsorship Opportunities?

Parents or community members interested in forming a sponsorship partnership to highlight their companies during this esteemed event are encouraged to express interest as well.



How to Express Interest

To summarise, there are opportunities to express interest for the following:

- Volunteers
- Stall hosts
- Event sponsors
- Performers for included events

If you would like to take part in any of these roles, please complete the interest form: <https://forms.office.com/r/NXshWtXz6n?origin=IprLink>

You will be contacted with further details.

We cannot wait to welcome you to Oman Open 2026 and share this incredible event with our community. Let's make history together!



Transport Service

Some Seats are now available on selected routes for Term 2.

Our transport service offers safe and reliable daily travel for students. For more information or to check availability, please contact:

transport@cheltenhammuscat.com



Music Trip to Malaysia

The Music department at Cheltenham Muscat is organising an educational music trip to Malaysia in June 2026. This trip will provide an opportunity for our musicians to perform various concerts in Kuala Lumpur. The trip is open to students from Grade 6 and above. Please register your interest by clicking on the QR code. For further information please contact Mr Peter phawksworth@cheltenhammuscat.com



CLICK HERE

Lost and Found -End of Term 1

All Lost and Found items can be found outside the Prep Reception the week starting from 7th December 2025. Please ensure you check these boxes and take anything belonging to your child(ren). Any items remaining after 18th December 2025 will be thrown away or donated and will not be returned to the Lost and Found Cupboards. Please also remember to clearly label all items so that they are easy to identify when misplaced and can be returned to your child.

Please note, if your child has lost something on the 18th of December 2025 (the last day of the term), kindly email the reception on the same day, so we can set it aside if it's found.





As we reach the end of the term, we would like to wish you and your children a peaceful winter break.

This holiday is a precious opportunity to slow down, breathe, and spend meaningful time together without pressure, schedules, or expectations. For many children, feeling calm, connected, and emotionally safe is what they need most. Simple moments such as sharing a meal, having a conversation, laughing together, or simply being present can be deeply reassuring.

The break can also be a time to gently check in with your child's feelings, listen without rushing to fix things, and remind them that they are supported and cared for. These small acts of care help children feel grounded and secure. We look forward to welcoming our students back after the holiday, hopefully feeling more rested, settled, and ready to continue their journey.

Wishing you and your family a warm, restful, and meaningful winter break.

Maryam Al Kharoossi
School Counsellor



The Yearbook 2024–2025 Is Now Available!

We are delighted to share that the Cheltenham Muscat Yearbook 2024–2025 is now available!

You can easily view the soft copy through our Cheltenham Muscat Application, allowing you to relive the year's special moments.

If you would like a hard copy, you can purchase one for 12 OMR. To place your order, simply contact us at

marketing@cheltenhammuscat.com

We hope you enjoy looking back on the wonderful memories captured in this year's edition!

Announcement – End of First Half-Year Examinations for Grade 12 (International Programme – A Level / Arabic Department Subjects Only)

We would like to inform you that the End of First Half-Year Examinations for Grade 12 students in the International Programme (A Level), for Arabic Department subjects only — will be held as follows:

- Islamic Education Exam:

Sunday, 1 February 2026 (P3 & P4)

- Social Studies Exam:

Monday, 2 February 2026 (P5 & P6)



Please note that full exam details for these two subjects will be shared with students by the subject teachers via Microsoft Teams. We wish all our students the very best of success.

Updated Mobile Phone Policy

Following some recent feedback we have decided to review our mobile phone policy to ensure that it is in line with best practice and Omani legislation. Our expectations remain the same, but we have made changes to the in-school consequences. We ask that parents support this policy and prevent their child(ren) from bringing their mobile phones to school.



Expectations

Students must not bring mobile phones to school.

If a phone is genuinely needed for travel or safety reasons, it must be handed in to reception or the Phase Leader at the start of the day and collected at home time.

Any phone seen or heard during the school day (between 7:30am and 3:00pm) will be treated as a breach of the zero-tolerance policy.

After 15:00 phones can be collected and used briefly in the atrium to contact parents/drivers, beyond this staff will instruct student to put their phones away.

Rationale

Being phone free helps everyone focus on learning. It keeps everyone safe online and in school and makes school a friendly, distraction-free place for all students.

Exceptions

Should there be a particular reason that a student requires a phone in school (e.g. monitoring blood sugar levels for diabetes) the parents should inform the phase leader by email who will ensure that all staff are aware of the specific conditions of this exception.



Updated Mobile Phone Policy

Consequences

Incident	First Occurrence	Second Occurrence in the Same Academic Year	Third Occurrence in the Same Academic Year
A student is seen with a phone during the school day (07:30 – 15:00).	Phone is collected but the member of staff until the end of the school day when it will be returned to the student either by the member of staff or reception.	Phone collected but the member of staff and reception contact home to tell parents that they will need to collect the phone in person (or send a nominated adult) before 4:00pm.	Phone collected but the member of staff and reception contact home to tell parents that they will need to collect the phone in person (or send a nominated adult) before 4:00pm. Parent meeting with phase leader.
Persistent disregard for the policy or serious misuse (e.g., recording, sharing content, refusal to follow confiscation instruction, using phone to order talabat)	Internal suspension. Phone collected but the member of staff until a parent can collect it and meet with SLT. Student placed on a behaviour contract stating that any future incident will lead to escalation.		



TERM 2

Entry Point -TRIP

6th and 7th January 2026



Dear Parents,

In Term Two, we will begin a concept-based inquiry, “Secrets of the Rainforest,” exploring how the rainforest functions as a community. Students will consider questions such as:

- What makes a community?
- Why is being part of a community important?
-

To support this learning, we are planning an informative session at **Play and Drift**, where students can learn about rainforest animals and interact with them. After the session, they will have the opportunity to play together on site, and we will also have lunch there.

Kind regards,

Grade Three Team



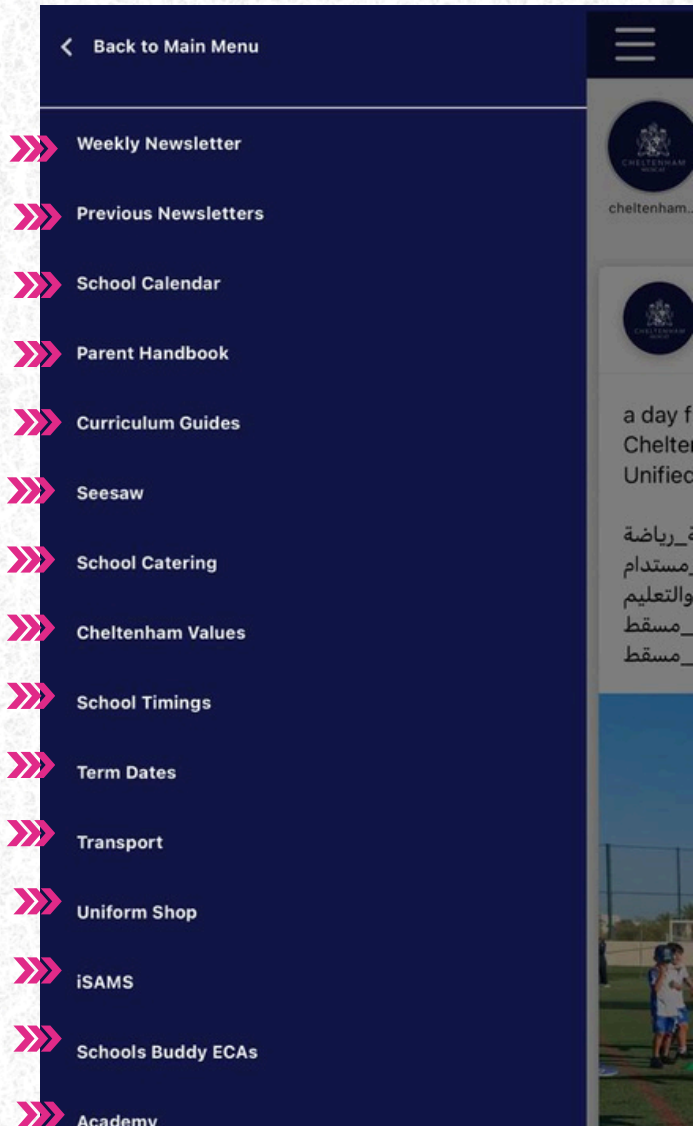




Download the Cheltenham Muscat App!

We would like to highlight the Cheltenham Muscat Application – your gateway to all the essential resources and updates for our school community! Through the app, you can access:

- School Calendar
- Curriculum Guides
- Parent Handbook
- Login to iSams and Seesaw
- Weekly Catering Menu
- Newsletter and more



If you haven't downloaded the app yet, simply scan the QR Codes to get started. Don't miss out on everything happening at Cheltenham Muscat!

Download now and explore all the features!

ACADEMIC YEAR CALENDAR 2025/26

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	14	15	16	17	18	19
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30			

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	9	10	11	12	13	14
	16	17	18	19	20	21
	23	24	25	26	27	28
30						

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9
	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	15	16	17	18	19	20
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30	31			

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	24	25	26	27	28	29
31						

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	14	15	16	17	18	19
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30			

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28	29	30	31

Key

- Start of Term
- Last Day of Term
- School Holidays

Notes

- External Examination
- Result Days
- Staff Training Days
- (No Pupils in school)

- Total teaching days: 183
- Term 1 = 74 days
- Term 2 = 49 days
- Term 3 = 60 days