

NotleyNews

Issue 006

December 2023

Boulogne Trip

Christmas Cards

Jacob Sam-La Rose

The Great International Bake Off

...and much, much more

The Xmas Apprentice

Take an Elf-y at the Year 12 Enterprise Fair

Thank you to Olivers Plants, Earls Colne for donating our Christmas Tree this year!



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HeadteacherUpdate

During the Autumn Term, our intervention and revision programme for year 11 students took place where students were invited during period 6 to give up an hour of their free time to work on specific areas of need within the curriculum. Attendance each week was over 73%, which shows a great commitment by the students - especially as the nights got darker! The second round of intervention will commence at the end of January and letters will be sent out to students inviting them to attend after Christmas. Year 13 period 6 intervention will also begin after students' mock exams so that we can target their interventions precisely.

Our Learning Support department have been very busy this term, supporting students from across the school with areas of learning they may need help with. As well as coming out of specific lessons for support around Literacy, Maths, Confidence and social skills, Mental Health concerns, and activities to build memory skills, they have also been working with a huge range of students within tutor times. Mrs Isik has recently been working towards her Forest School leadership qualification, and will be extending the work within the Orchard in the new term with some year 7 students. We are very excited to see our students interacting and learning in and from nature.

It has been lovely to welcome the new year 12 students who have settled into Sixth Form life and are meeting the new challenges of post 16 study. They recently ran a very successful enterprise fair for the 7 students, which was a fantastic event. Year 13 students have been writing applications and attending mock interviews aiding in the preparation for their next steps beyond the Sixth Form, and a number of students have attended interviews for places at Cambridge and Oxford.

I have enjoyed working closely with the two Head Prefects at events such as the whole school Open Day and Sixth Form Open Evening; events like these are where the students in our Sixth Form really showcase how passionate they are about their Sixth Form. It was great to see the Sixth Form subject ambassadors running a breakfast morning for some year 11 students to come over and talk about the subjects they study to inspire our year 11's.

Exam week will begin in the week beginning 15 of January. Letters have already gone home, with a list of revision topics to help students prepare for this. There is a slight change to the set up this year as students will be following their usual timetable in terms of rooming, but they will need to follow their exam timetable to know when their exams are. We know the students will be respectful throughout this time, as they showed this so very well last year, and the practice and rehearsal for the public exams will also help students to find the revision techniques that work for them over time.

This term started with the wonderful news that the school has been awarded the prestigious Carnegie Award for Mental Health, which acknowledges all the work undertaken to promote the wellbeing of students and staff. The term has then seen Notley continue to work with schools from across Bridge Academy trust to monitor and evaluate various aspects of our day-to-day practice. These have included subject lead network meetings, internal reviews of safeguarding and SEND and coaching to further develop the quality of teaching and learning. This process will continue into the New Year in 2024, looking at other subjects and specific areas of the school to ensure we are providing the best education possible for your children. We have also embarked on the Year of Number, an Essex-wide initiative focusing on developing numeracy across the curriculum. The regular tutor time activities, which have included some rather interesting creations across the term! We look forward to continuing these across the Spring Term next year.

Finally, in the later stages of this school term our students in Years 8-10 have taken part in workshops run by either Diversity Role Models or Theatre Inspiring Change to explore a range of issues, such as homophobia, racism and misogyny, depending on the students' year group. Feedback from students has been incredibly positive and I am also additionally very proud of the praise and compliments our students received from the facilitators. Well done to all involved.

I wish all members of the school community a very Happy Christmas and all good wishes for 2024.

Miss M Ryan, Headteacher



At the start of this term, we were absolutely delighted to open the new classroom block that you will have seen in construction over the course of the year. This has provided a replacement for the two demountable classrooms that had been on site for many years, and is made up of three spacious teaching rooms and one IT suite, which are predominantly used at the moment for Humanities teaching as well as Business Studies and Computing. Students and staff have very much appreciated the new facilities and rooming for teaching.

Staff Leaving

Mrs Wallace is relocating to Suffolk

Mrs Cockayne is leaving for a new opportunity in a Primary School as a Learning Mentor

New staff starting in January

Mrs Hainsworth and Ms Loneragan are joining the Learning Support Team as Learning Mentors

Mrs King is joining the Student Services Team

Mrs White has been appointed as subject leader for Food and Design Technology

We have also introduced a Conduct Card this term, and have seen its positive impact on adherence to uniform expectations. We have also expanded our lunchtime offer for both food and introduced new seating in the Sports Hall for Key Stage 3 students to eat their packed lunches. After Christmas, we will be introducing a new basketball club at lunchtime for Key Stage 4 students.



This is to certify that

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form

has achieved the



in the

Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools

School Mental Health Award

Date: October 2023



Governors' Update



What a busy Autumn term Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form have had!

An open morning for next year's new cohort was held in September which was highly attended. As governors, it was great to see the energy and enthusiasm of current students and school staff who helped on the day, so thank you to all those involved in making it such a success. The current year 7 students have settled in well to their new school community and have been very busy and we have enjoyed getting to know them on our visits. Did you know the school hosts over 40 extra-curricular clubs for students to attend? a testament to the staff at NHS&BSF for their dedication and commitment.

Speaking of commitment, Notley High has been awarded gold status in the coveted Carnegie Mental health and wellbeing award. This award is a fantastic achievement, recognising the schools commitment toward and progress in supporting mental health and wellbeing across the school. The award praises new initiatives such as new wellbeing spaces, peer mentors, mental health champions, mental health first aiders and even AV Robots, which are used to support students who find it difficult to attend school. Well done Notley!

Students from years 10, 11 and 13 have been having career 'mock' interviews with 23 interviewers from local businesses and the community (including governors) giving up their time to support the students in what must have been a daunting process – feedback suggests that the students found this really valuable and those interviewing were really impressed with the confidence and performance

of the students. As governors we have also been delighted to see that Year 9 have been attending diversity workshops and Year 8 have been able to watch diversity performances supporting the schools progress in improving attitudes around inclusion and understanding of difference.

As a team of governors, we have been busy attending events, completing monitoring visits such as safeguarding, mental health and wellbeing, pupil premium, SEND and around behaviour and attitudes as well as attending local governance meetings and the schools progress is clear, which was also highlighted in the recent Ofsted report. It is an honour to be part of the school community as well as being extremely rewarding. If you have some free time why not volunteer? We currently have a vacancy on the local governors committee, please contact the governance professional, Aishia Jeffries if you are interested, who will arrange for us to have a chat.

jeffriesa@bridgeacademytrust.org

On behalf of all the governors thank you for all your support and may I wish you and your families a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Mrs Nichola Goodwin

Year7

Our Year 7's have continued to settle in well to Notley High and have made a positive start this term.

Over the course of this half term our students have the opportunity to participate in House competitions, such as the indoor Futsal competitions during lunchtimes, Year of Number tutor activities and our weekly Quizzes. 7.1 were the quiz winners for this term – well done to you and enjoy your chocolates.

The tutor group with the best attendance was 7.5

The tutor group with the most house points were: 7.1

Our students have also been regular attendees to lots of extra-curricular clubs and students have had the opportunity to take part in fixtures and events to represent the school.

October Half-term highlights and achievements:

Our Year 7 football team have had a couple of matches this half term, losing 3-1 in the District competition and 1-0 in the Essex Cup. Well done to all that were selected to be involved.

We have also had the district Cross-Country competition this half term, which was held at Tabor High school. The following Year 7's took part and represented the school well.

A special mention for this half term must go to Amelie T for winning the District Cross Country. In addition, Amalie ran in the Eastern England Cross Country Championships and finished in 8th place. Two fantastic achievements. Well done Amalie!

Our Year 7 Netball team have also had three fixtures this half term. Winning away to City Academy in Hackney in their first game in the Essex Cup (picture below) and losing the last couple against St Nicholas and Burntmills.

As well as Sporting achievements our Year 7's were able to take part in a really successful Enterprise fair which was put on by our Sixth Form students. The highlights were the cookies and the water pistols that were offer amongst many other stalls and gifts.

The term has finished with our Year 7 Rewards Disco on Monday 18th December. We hope that the students had a fantastic evening and there will be photos to follow. There will be another reward trip at the end of the Spring term for those students that meet the criteria.



Mr A Harrington, Year 7 Raising Standards Leader

Each tutor has been asked to nominate a student of the Term, congratulations and a huge well done to the following students:

- 7.1 – Olivia S 7.2 – Baris C
- 7.3 – Stanley S 7.4 – Megan G
- 7.5 – Paris M 7.6 – Abigail G
- 7.7 – Ryan H

Rewards Trip Criteria

Our rewards event this term will be running in December and will be a school disco! The criteria to be invited to the disco has been shared with students and is as follows:

- Attendance at all offered interventions
- Homework completed on time to a good standard
- No antisocial behaviour
- Being on time to lessons
- Fewer than 5 C3 or C4 detentions
- No suspensions

I would like to wish all students and their families an enjoyable Christmas break. We look forward to students returning on Thursday 4th January 2024.

Year8

Year 8 have had a fantastic term and settled back into life at Notley really well. I am very proud of the number of Subject Honour certificates and House Point certificates given out in our celebration assembly at the end of term, reflecting the hard work and determination of the vast majority of our students.

During the Autumn term, Year 8 have had lots of opportunities to engage in activities outside of the curriculum. The summer term reward trip to Colchester Zoo was a huge success and both students and staff enjoyed the opportunity to spend a day learning more about the various animals on show there. Many Year 8 students helped at our open morning in September and we had lots of positive feedback about the students and their helpfulness so well done to those that participated.

The whole year group also had Essex Fire and Rescue in school to discuss safety in the home, as well as racism workshops, that were really well received by the students. We also invited those that met the reward trip criteria to Riverside Ice and Leisure to go ice skating, and had a fabulous time celebrating these students successes.

Our star students for this term are;

8.1 – Freddie K for being excellent all term, always on time, correct uniform and contributing to tutor activities.

8.2 – Thomas R for having the most house points in the tutor group this term

8.3 – Joseph D for having the most house points in the tutor group this term

8.4 – Kallie L for being so kind and thoughtful. She has only recently joined us but she has settled in beautifully and we really value her.

8.5 – Sophie C for huge improvement in all aspects of school this term and being really involved in PDT.

8.6 – Ruby B for always having a positive outlook and being quietly confident.

8.7 – Jessica B for being very attentive in class discussions and activities and being very respectful.

Well done to all of these students.

Have a fantastic Christmas and we look forward to greeting you all back in the new year.



Mrs A Spencer-Damps, Year 8 Raising Standards Leader

Year 9

Is it nearly Christmas yet? Yes, almost! With the longest term of the school year out of the way it is now...almost...time for a well-earned break for students and staff to recharge the batteries. I feel like I say it all the time, but it has been another very busy term with lots going on. From students experiencing new classes; meeting new teachers; adapting to new procedures; to simply adapting to life as a Year 9 student now about half-way through the school journey. Below are some of the highlights, but first let's kick off with our students of the term as nominated by their tutors:

9.1 Harrison.B – For achieving the most house points in the tutor group this term for positive behaviour.

9.2 Thomas.A – For his continuous commitment to extracurricular activities.

9.3 Amy.S-H – For consistent hard work across all subjects, great participation in class and extracurricular activities.

9.4 Bella.L – For consistently demonstrating positive learning and classroom behaviour.

9.5 Lizzie.V-S – For consistently working hard across all subjects and being kind, looking out for her peers.

9.6 Xander.H – For achieving the most house points in the tutor group this term and for always being polite and helpful to staff and his peers.

9.7 Archie.H – For being helpful, kind, hardworking and getting involved in the school community.

9.8 Hope.M – For being a role model for positive behaviour across all lessons.

9.9 Ellie.G – For courage, bravery and resilience demonstrated this term.

Bebras Computing Challenge

Between early to mid-November KS3 students took part in the Bebras Computing Challenge which is a competition created/hosted by Oxford University and I am really proud to say that 13 of our Year 9 students managed to achieve Gold certificates for their efforts. This is a fantastic achievement as only about 5% of all students across the country will achieve this certificate. A huge well done to these students for this achievement!



Mr H Morbin, Year 9 Raising Standards Leader

Eyes on the Prize

I was lucky enough to be able to support Miss Robb on the trip to Anglia Ruskin University just recently in which the students had the opportunity to learn more about what university is like and the different courses on offer. It gave students a real insight into further education without pushing it onto them. The whole day had a relaxed feel about it with stalls set up for students to approach them to ask questions and learn more about what they are interested in. It was a great experience in which the students represented the school really well and hopefully took a lot from it.

Rewards Trip

I was delighted to be able to take students on the recent rewards trip to Ninja Warrior. Having been there myself previously I knew just how much our students would love this trip and it was fantastic to see them having such a good time as a reward for their hard work and good attitude in school. It was really nice to see how supportive our students were of each other on this trip in overcoming the various different challenges and congratulating each other upon completion or attempt of these challenges. Mr Kalinski and Miss Hyatt may have failed at beating 'The Wall' but have vowed to return and conquer it one day!

Extracurricular Update

The Year 9 boys' first game of the year was in the Essex Cup was against last year's National Champions, Shenfield, who are ability wise, the best school team Mr Coyston has ever seen in his teaching career. Unfortunately, we were on the receiving end of an 8-1 defeat on the day. However, a few fixtures later, we ended the term on a high with a 4-0 away win against Forest Hall School. Mr Coyston is confident the team can kick on from this win. Player of the term for Year 9 is Theo D, who has come into the team this year and has cemented his place as an important player for the team. Well done, Theo! Another big shout out must go to Thomas.W who received our Tottenham Hotspur Player of the Month award in October. Well done, Thomas!

In netball this term the U14 team have played at Felsted in the regional tournament. They came 4th overall, only losing to Felsted, SWCH and HRS who went through to the playoffs. The girls are currently playing in the Essex Plate schools competition, and won their first game against Oaks Park School, Ilford, 33-6. They played fantastic netball and have a great team ethos. We are looking forward to playing in round 2 which is the last 16, as well as the NW Essex District tournament.

In music Danny.D achieved – Level 3 Certificate in Graded Examination in Rock and Pop (Merit) – Grade 6 in Guitar. Congratulations to Danny on this achievement and we look forward to seeing him play again at the next school performance.

Key Dates (Autumn Term 2)

There are no key dates impacting year 9 for the term leading up to Christmas but it is worth noting the following:

Monday 15th January – Start of Exam Week

Final Word

It has been a busy term with lots going on this term but next term is going to be even busier with exams week, year 9 parents and carers consultation evening and many students rehearsing for the Grease performances as well as more extracurricular opportunities. It is fast approaching the time of year (March) where students will be able to select their GCSE options for Year 10 and therefore must continue to knuckle down in lessons to give themselves the best experience and opportunity to be successful in all of their subjects so that they make the best decisions for them when choosing their options. Before all of this though, it is important that they get some much deserved rest and have lots of fun and time with the family over the Christmas holidays. With that in mind, I would like to wish each and every family a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Thursday 8th February – Year 9 Parents and Carers' Consultation Evening

Tuesday 13th February – Thursday 16th February – Grease Performance (each show 7.30pm-9.45pm)

Year10

Year 10 have had another very busy half term and again, their great attitudes have shone through! Last week we had the mock interviews. Students (and tutors!) had worked really hard to get letters of application and CV's completed during PDT so that these could be handed to our employers who had volunteered to come in and work with the students. Over the two days, I popped in and out of the theatre and every single student was engaged and really made the most of the process. Lots were chatting afterwards about how nervous they felt but that it was a helpful process. We have some lovely feedback from some of the volunteers who said were thankful for the opportunity to meet with our students and commented how it was a real pleasure to converse with them. They felt they were a great credit to Notley High and felt it gives great hope for our future employees.

We have lots more to look forward to still. As I write we are still busy planning our Winter Wonderland trip on Friday which I'm sure will be a very festive and fun event for all involved.

I am also really looking forward to the Grease production which is taking place in February. I quite often hear the rehearsals after school, and it already sounds fantastic!

As always, our tutors have nominated a student of the term. Huge congratulations to all of those students. I always love seeing the different reasons they have been nominated.

10.1 Dylan P: Always showing excellent effort and commitment to all academic studies

10.2 Amelia R: Increasing in confidence in all lessons

10.3 Holly-Louisa F: Being involved in a range of wider school initiatives

10.4 Ruby H-M: Working hard within peer mentoring to support year 7 students

10.5 Adam C: Achieving a huge number of house points over this half term in a variety of different subjects

10.6 Evie N: Being such a loyal and kind friend

10.7 Alex M: Consistently working well in all lessons



Miss K Murdoch, Year 10 Raising Standards Leader

10.8 Cecile B: Always putting on such a brave face and showing so much resilience

10.9 Daisy G: Being so kind, smiley and happy all the time – even when times are tough!

I'll leave you with some dates for you diaries for next half term. I wish you all a very Happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year and am looking forward to seeing what 2024 brings for us all. It's quite scary to think that this time next year, we'll be preparing for the students last Christmas at school! Time really does fly!

Dates for your diary for the next half term:

Monday 15th January: Exams week

Tuesday 13th February: Grease performance 7.30pm

Wednesday 14th February: Grease performance 7.30pm

Thursday 15th February: Grease performance 7.30pm

Friday 16th February: Staff training day (Pupils not in)

Year11

Year 11 have had a busy final Autumn term at Notley High and I am sure they are all looking forward to break with friends and family.

Throughout this term, students have received lots of information about their future careers options. There have been trips to Chelmsford Race course for a careers fair and visitors in to assembly to discuss different pathways for next year. I know this term that lots of students have been looking at where they want to be next year with visits to open days at colleges and sixth forms and applications being put in for places at these. Please do make sure that you complete your applications for next year if you haven't already done so.

With the final GCSE exams fast approaching the Year 11 students completed their mocks exams in November. I was really pleased to receive positive feedback about the students conduct during their exams and I would like to congratulate the students on this. They took these exams very seriously and demonstrated a mature attitude towards them. They have now received their results in our Mock results morning on 15th December. Some of the students expressed that they were really pleased with their results, but I know some were slightly disappointed. This is an opportunity for the students to use as motivation ready for their final exams.

Interventions have been carried out during this term with English, Maths and Science during tutor time and period 6 for option subjects. There has been a good turn out to some of these sessions and student have found them very useful. These will continue after Christmas with different students being invited to the tailored sessions.

We have just been on our first reward trip of the term to Winter Wonderland. Students had a brilliant time, enjoying the rides, stalls, and food! We look forward to holding another rewards trip at the end of the Easter term.

Lots of Year 11 students have taken part in extracurricular activities this term. The football team have done well, representing the school on a number of occasions this term in both the National Schools Cup and County Schools Cup. The boys have done themselves and the school proud in their performances and were successful in reaching the third round of both cups. Similarly, the basketball team have been working hard this term, recently coming second in a tournament and will have more



Miss G Burton, Year 11 Raising Standards Leader

games in the New Year. Students have also been involved in this year's musical, Grease. They have been involved both acting on stage and helping backstage too. We look forward to watching this next year.

Every tutor has nominated a Student of the Term. Congratulations to the following students:

11.1 Callum G. for his efforts as head Charity prefect and continued positive engagement in tutor and his classes

11.2 Danika M. for positive attitude to learning and taking part various activities

11.3 Imogen S. for her resilience and hardwork this term; for punctuality to tutor time and exemplary character in and outside the classroom

11.4 Ethan C. for excellent attitude to lessons and engaging well in tutor time and PDT 11.5 Connie F for her ice hockey with GB

11.6 Cameron M. for his commitment and achievements to the school football team this term

11.7 Philippa H. for approaching her mocks in a responsible way using opportunities in tutor to revise and attending P6 as well as representing the school for netball this term

11.8 Nathan C. for excellent attitude throughout school

11.9 Poppy S. for excellent behaviour and attitude

I would like to wish all of our students and their families a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I look forward to welcoming all the students back on Thursday 4th January 2024.

Years 12 & 13

The first term always feels particularly full, and this has been no exception. For the new Year 12 students, it is full of new challenges, new ways of working, new subjects for many and lots of new opportunities which many have grabbed with enthusiasm. For Year 13, it has probably felt even fuller as they start to set their sights on the summer exams and what they need to achieve to take their next steps beyond sixth form. They seem to be taking this pressure in their strides so far which is great to see!

Most of our year 13 students have submitted UCAS applications this term and many have started to receive both conditional and unconditional offers from their chosen universities. They have all had the opportunity to visit universities across the country and I know, from conversations with the students and some of their parents, that this has meant some very busy weekends and real improvements in their knowledge of British (and in one case, Dutch) cities and motorways! We know that this is a hugely exciting time for them but can also be quite nerve wracking and stressful and we will continue to support them throughout the process.

As usual, we have welcomed students from many schools to Braintree Sixth Form but this year, we have prefects whose duty it is to help the students from schools other than Notley to feel settled and at home here. Ellena and Lucy arranged an additional Induction Day for external applicants in the summer and have followed this up with some lunchtime events specifically for these students which we hope has helped them all to feel comfortable and get to know one another.

Our annual recruitment events – the Braintree Career's Fair, the whole school Open Morning and Braintree Sixth Form's Open Evening – have all allowed our excellent students to display what great ambassadors they are for our school. It is really fantastic to be told how enthusiastic, engaging and articulate they are, and we are extremely grateful that they are always willing to give up their time to represent us.

This term, we have had a range of guest speakers in to talk to our students; we have had talks on testicular cancer, gambling awareness, projects and opportunities at Sizewell C, research opportunities with Cambridge University, as well as visits from universities. Subject staff in Health and Social Care,



Mrs A Brewis-Shepard, Head of Sixth Form

Science and Criminology have also put on a series of talks with industry experts to help develop students' subject knowledge and develop career awareness and this term, the English department welcomed back Jacob Sam La Rose – a published poet whose poetry is our set text. We are always looking to broaden the knowledge and experiences of your students so that they have a wider perspective on society and their place in it so if any parents can offer talks which might help with this, please get in touch with us.

One of our final events of the term is the Year 12 Enterprise Fair, an annual event we have been running since the sixth form opened. The Year 12 students set up small businesses and marketed their products (or services) to Year 7 in a lovely, festive event. This year, products ranged from glowing sticky balls to jewellery with a huge number of sweet treats available too. This is always a really enjoyable event, and we hope, a memorable one for both Year 7 and Year 12.

This has been my last term in this role as I am stepping down and handing over the reins to Ms Brewis-Shepard. It has been a huge honour to lead Braintree Sixth Form and work closely with our fantastic students and the staff here who are so dedicated to supporting the students in any way they can. My priority as Head of Sixth Form has always been to ensure students are happy and successful at Braintree Sixth Form and I wish them all happiness and success in all of their future endeavours.

Happy Christmas to you all from the BSF team.



Student Council and Prefects

Oscar Parry and Emily Ashworth, Head Prefects

The Student Council have met three times already this academic year, and our Council holds the greatest number of members that it ever has! We are so pleased to have a collection of students, from across all year groups, who are willing to meet once a month and discuss key topics that impact them and their school life. Students have voiced their opinions on the implementation on new Government initiatives such as A Year of Number and have offered key ideas to help support and build the development of 'number' across the whole school. We have also looked at how to improve student social times, and have developed new clubs such as the PlayStation League and movies at lunch.

Pedagogy Prefects.

This term, the Pedagogy prefects have been in charge of identifying examples of great teaching and learning, leading the school in helping their peers to thank the staff for the things they do that help them to learn. They played Christmas Postman to deliver the thank you cards to staff, and from the responses from the student body, they are helping to design tools and activities to share with the whole staff to support learning across the curriculum.

The Charity Prefects having been working hard this term, and have already organised and run both a Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children) and a Non-Uniform Day (Children in Need). The team have

The Student Council is a pivotal part of our Student Personal Development, and allows students the chance to develop their communication and leadership skills. We are also incredibly lucky to be led by our two Head Students (Emily A and Oscar P). By students leading the discussions, we are enhancing and developing the opportunities that we can provide for our students.

Next term, we are excited to announce that we will be filming aspects of our Student Council, so that students across the school and see the brilliant discussions, debates and ideas that are raised. The Council will feature as a prominent part of our Notley Newsround, which will be a monthly video news feature during Form time, which will celebrate all aspects of school life.

also chosen a local charity to support, and we look forward to raising money for them over the course of this academic year, through different charity events. The local charity that we are support is 'Friends of Felines' in Halstead. We chose this group, due to so many of our members passion about helping animals, and also one of our members already volunteers with the charity.

As a team, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Sixth Form Prefect Reports

As Head Prefects, we have spent this term busying ourselves through organising and participating in a multitude of enjoyable events for the Sixth Form and lower school alike. The two of us were privileged to promote the Sixth Form through the BSF open evening and Year 6 open morning by respectively telling potential new students about our day-to-day Sixth Form experience and recounting fond memories of our time at Notley. We also promoted the Sixth Form at the Chelmsford Racecourse Careers Fair where we were able to meet students from other schools and share with them what our inclusive Sixth Form has on offer for their futures. All the while, we Year 13s have been preparing for mock exams in the new year and sending off UCAS applications to our choice of universities: a process that has been greatly helped by the support of our tutors, teachers, and the wider Prefect Team as they have taken the following measures towards making this eventful period of our time at Sixth Form a rewarding one.

Emily Crouchman, George Brinkley
Head Prefects

The position of Deputy Head Prefects has been an incredibly busy one this term. We have had the wonderful opportunity to assist the Head Prefects in fostering a positive school environment for all of our students and were also able to help represent the Sixth Form at both of our recent open events. Furthermore, working closely with the Charity Prefects, we have helped to organise and collect money for both Remembrance Sunday and Movember. Both campaigns were very successful: raising a considerable amount of money to support those in need and bringing the school community closer together in the process.

Ruby Filmer, Thomas Cockayne
Deputy Head Prefects

Over this term, we have held several charity events to support mental health including the 'wear purple day' to support men's mental health and testicular cancer, as well as a 'wear yellow day' for Young Minds. In addition, year 12 students received the Anna Freud mental health training to equip them with skills to better support young students.

Sophie Bartlett, Sophia Ozar, Alfie Potter
Mental Health Prefects



As a sixth form, we have majorly improved recently through continued training and sessions as a team. We recently won against a strong Colchester Sixth Form side; after going 2-0 up with goals from Joe Mcglone and Josh Nicol, we dug in through the second half eventually coming out as 2-1 winners. We beat Chelmsford College on penalties 3-0 to get through to the next round of the cup - Chelmsford missing two of their penalties and Taye Staines saving their third to put us into the next round. Just before that, we came out as winners against Sweyne Park, after being 2-0 down in the first half, the boys came out and turned the game around winning 3-2; two big goals from Joe Mcglone ensured we took all three points.

Caitlin Whittaker, Josh Nicol
Sports Prefects

The Social Prefect Role has been slow but steady on the countdown to Christmas. Currently, we are in the process of trying to arrange Winter Wonderland for the 2nd year in a row (fingers crossed it can go ahead!), but in the meantime we have helped represent the school at our November open evening where we encouraged current GCSE students to consider joining our lovely Sixth Form. The event was a huge success, and everything ran smoothly. Looking forwards, we Social Prefects are starting to plan for our end of Year 13 Prom, with 'Red Carpet Ready' having been decided as our chosen theme! We chose this because it gives everyone who attends a chance to interpret the theme as they see fit, and we look forward to seeing the wonderful outfits everyone arrives in!

Ruby-Mae Proctor, Caitlan Goodwin, Lucy Williamson
Social Prefects

In supporting new students who are unfamiliar with our sixth form environment, we have been able to host a social events where everyone could interact and eat pizza.

Lucy Williamson, Ellena Fisk
External Ambassadors

The Great International BakeOff

Photos: Staff At Event

On 26 September, the Modern Foreign Languages department celebrated European Day of Languages by hosting the Great International Bake off.

We were overwhelmed by the standard of the entries. We had some amazing cakes including the Eiffel Tower, several entries for Italy, a cake in the shape of a volcano, an Irish cake, and a French cake with snails. In addition, we had several countries represented such as Malasia, Hungary, Mexico, Belgium, and the United Kingdom.

During the day, students and staff came to the library to vote for their favourite cakes. At the end of the day, we counted the votes, and the winning cakes were:

First place: The Eiffel Tower by R.Andrews

Joint second Place: Europe by P.D'Amico and Italy by L.Alabede

Third place: Italy by A.Lingard

All the students that entered will receive a small prize and 5 house points each. We are so proud of all the students that entered and are astounded by their baking talents and their creativity. We would like to thank every student for entering and helping us to celebrate such an important day for the languages department. We can't wait to see what you come up with next year!!



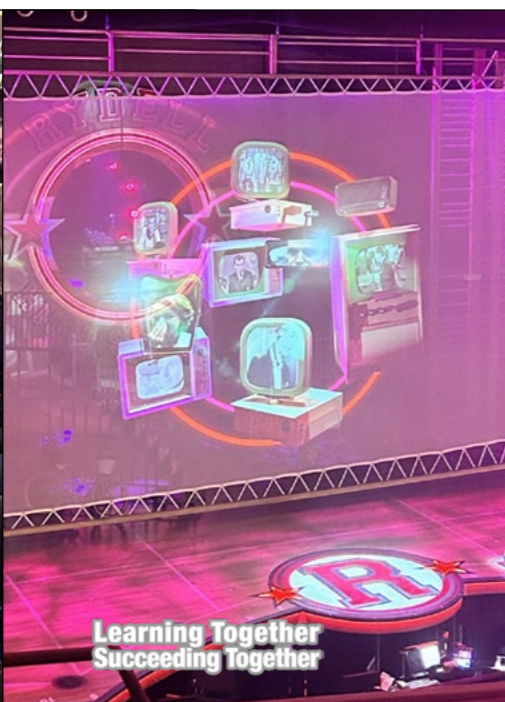


On Thursday 12 October 2023, the cast of the school Grease production went to see Grease the Musical at the Dominion Theatre in London's West End. On the way there the coach was buzzing with excitement. As we got closer to the theatre, everybody on the coach was singing their favourite musical theatre songs, especially the songs from Grease!

When we arrived at the theatre we got taken to our seats, we all had a really good view! The set was amazing, it was made to look like a school gym. The theming was really clever as they were playing 1950s adverts, to transport us to the time period.

I especially loved the 1950s car. During the musical everyone was blown away at the talent of the cast, and we have taken inspiration to develop our characters. At the end of the musical there was a mega mix, where everybody could sing and dance to their favourite songs. My favourite songs are 'Greased Lightnin' and 'There are Worse Things I Could Do'. Overall, the show was astonishing I would give it a 10/10. I believe this will give us motivation for our own production of Grease in February 2024.

F. Lamb, Year 11 Drama Student



On Wednesday 4th October, the music department held their annual Autumn Concert. The concert, as always, held so many exceptional performances which ranged from the band, the school choir, and a variety of different solo acts, which ranged from singers to saxophonists. In addition, we had a sneak preview from the cast of Grease, which is our next school musical. Information on how to buy tickets for Grease The Musical will be out soon.

The evening saw students come together from across both Notley High School and Braintree Sixthform. We also had a new member of our school community, our year 7 student, Regnald E, who played River Flows in You on the piano. He really is a rising star in our school community. So many students performed their first solos at this concert, including Danny D who performed Led Zeppelin on guitar! We also had duets, including the super talented Ella R and Lily C who performed a Vocal duet.

The night also allowed our GCSEs students to show case their talents (Abigail J, Lewis A, Rhiannon F and Nick W), their performances reflected their great

talents and gifts within this field, and I am sure that anyone who came to the performance was blown away by their skills. We are in no doubt of how well these students will do in the Summer months, when they complete their GCSE practical piece. We also had beautiful performances from Year 12, which included a Cradle Song, a piano solo by Sam P. Sophie Ball and I performed a piano duet Arrival of the Queen of Sheba.

Other solo performances were heard from Spencer H, Anya P, Amelie L and Hope M. The Band performed Shallow, Lean on Me, and Sweet Caroline. The choir performed How Far I'll Go and From Now On from The Greatest Showman. Every student who stepped who performed at the Autumn concert made our school community proud. They truly are a splendid group of talented musicians.

My thanks go to all students and staff involved in the event, and of course to the parents who are the background heroes of any talented child.

*Mrs Hanna
Head of Faculty PE & Performing Arts*





Jacob Sam-LaRose

At the start of December, we welcomed the poet Jacob Sam-La Rose to work with our A Level English Language and Literature students. Jacob's collection 'Breaking Silence' is a set text for the A Level examination and it was a great privilege to hear him both reading a number of his poems and sharing his thoughts on his processes, themes and choices in writing. Students were also able to ask Jacob questions, which ranged from 'Which of your own poems is your favourite?' to more specific analysis of the impact of particular methods and devices in his work. While was understandably reluctant to name a favourite poem, comparing it to having a favourite child, the insights he shared were invaluable in supporting students prepare for the exam, and we thank him for sharing his time so generously with us.

He had a brilliant way of turning the workshop into a conversation and educating us in a different light, making his work come to life. An incredibly interesting, humble man. (Amber)

Jacob Sam-La Rose's explanation of his use of structure and the power of poetry as a tool of communication has inspired me greatly. I look forward to reading his works further. (Max)

It was interesting to see the thought process that went through making the poems and the emotional ties he had to his work. (Bryan)

Talking to Jacob Sam-La Rose was an insightful opportunity to understand the person behind the poems and helped us to formulate ideas and reasoning behind his choices in the poems. (Fin)

He provided a lot of answers to our questions and an alternative perspective to his poetry and how it relates to his life experiences. This new insight has allowed me to perceive the book from a new outlook, reaching new conclusions. (Shaka)

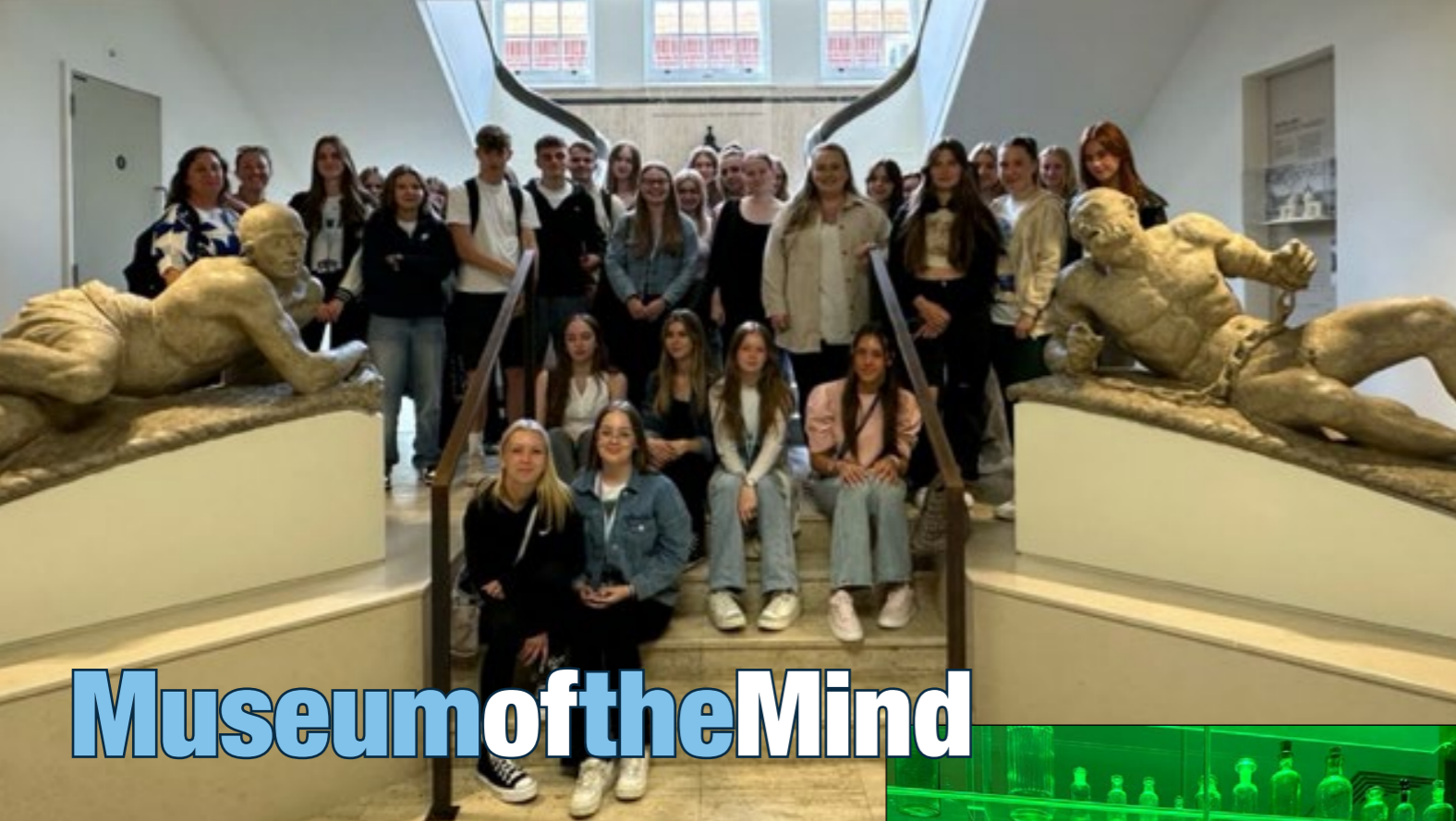
It was really insightful to meet and speak with Jacob, especially understanding the intentions behind specific poems. (Sophia)

The visit was very informative (as you'd expect it to be) and I would say my biggest take away from it was from the question I posed on 'Ymir', a poem from the collection which is not a set text. His explanation of its links to two seemingly unconnected poems before and after it in that chapter have led me to reconsider the format of the text as an anthology of poems: carefully and purposefully curated in the order that they appear for the intent of adding greatly to their meaning. (George)

He was so very enthusiastic about his work, answering our questions concisely while providing insights which will be incredibly helpful for our exams. (Luke)

Mrs M Townsend, Deputy Headteacher



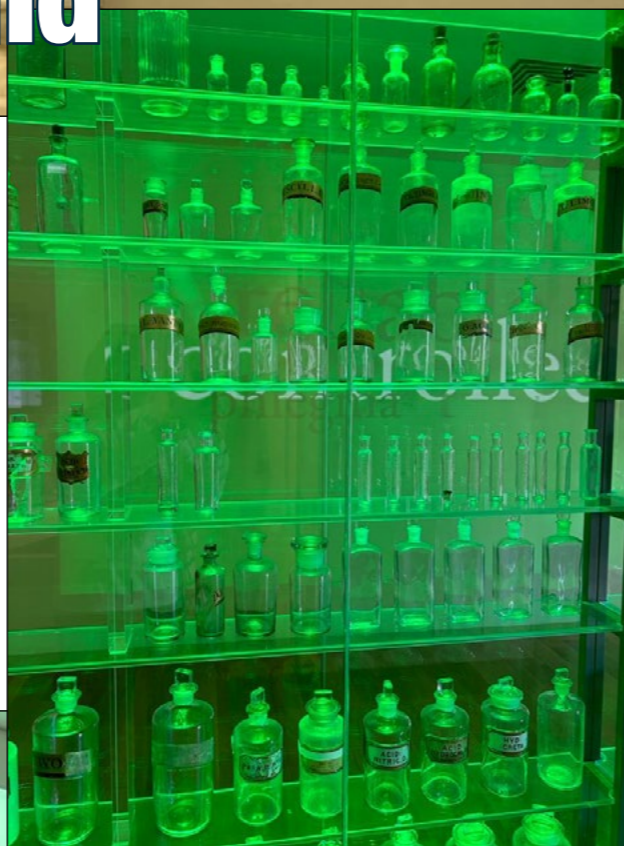


Museum of the Mind

On Monday 17 July, Year 12 Psychology and Health & Social Care students visited the Museum of the Mind at Bethlem Royal Hospital. Students had talks from the archivist on the history of mental health treatment in England, stretching all the way back to the 1300's. We then enjoyed a session looking at artwork produced by William Kurelek, a patient suffering from clinical depression and analysed what each part of the painting could represent relating to his battle with mental illness.

Students then had a walk around the museum where they saw historical restraints, straight jackets and electroconvulsive therapy equipment which had all been used on real patients in the past.

Miss J Seymour, Psychology Teacher



Photos: Staff on Trip





Year 10 workshop on misogyny, sexism, and the reality of being a young person in Britain today.

Year 10 students have recently participated in a workshop delivered by Theatre Inspiring Change. The focus was misogyny, sexism, and the reality of being a young person in Britain today. Theatre Inspiring Change is an multi award- winning theatre company who offered the students a blend of applied theatre and workshop to investigate the nature of behaviour in a safe and engaging way. Below is a response from one of our students.

I think this experience was very beneficial in helping to improve and understand issues that happen in

Year 8 workshop on racism.

Year 8 students have recently participated in a workshop delivered by Theatre Inspiring Change. The focus was racism. Through a blend of applied theatre and workshop, students explored the causes and the consequences of racism, deconstructed theories, and stereotypes. Theatre Inspiring Change is an multi award- winning theatre company. Below are some of the responses from our students.

I learnt that racism still happens every single day and it really can affect some people badly. I was empathetic after I heard other people's experiences with racism. I think it was amazing and they could really teach and educate everyone about racism.

From this workshop I have learnt about some of the stereotypes held about Black people and how offensive they can be and how I need to be more mindful.

the UK at the moment. It's helped me feel more empowered and determined to change things instead of letting it become normality. The workshop also has helped people to voice their opinions in a safe space and feel like what they think is supported by others, as well as understanding different perspectives and experiences of any gender with important facts. The use of performances to really show and get across the message which in the long run can hopefully improve these issues.

I understood the impact of racism by interacting with the actors when they were acting out the different scenes and listening to their personal experiences. I learnt a lot, overall, it was impactful, memorable, and great!

In this workshop I learnt about the struggles that people of colour go through in their day-to-day life. I think that this play is helpful because it helps us empathise with those who experience discrimination.

I think the start was good because they rigged the quiz so it was already decided who would win. This made us feel what it is like to experience discrimination and that the things people are picked on for is totally out of their control. Another good thing was how they were happy to share their stories with us. I enjoyed how interactive it was, that we got to join in with discussions and that it was relevant with what we are doing in class.

Year 9 workshop on LGBTQ+ issues

Year 9s attended a workshop where facilitators attempted to equip them with the skills to recognise, challenge and prevent gender and sexuality-based discrimination, as well as to create a positive and inclusive school environment. The sessions encouraged young people to understand that everyone is unique and equal, that stereotypes can be damaging and harmful, and the importance of respecting others. Below are some comments from some of our year 9 students.

I think the workshop was a good way to include everyone, as it was well planned and respectful. When Simon spoke about his personal life, it made me feel honoured to be respected and trusted with his story.

I feel today's session was a great way to learn about the LGBTQ+ community. Through their stories, Ash

and Simon showed us that it is okay to be gay and in a committed relationship. I appreciate that it is important to treat everybody equally, and to respect everyone.

I think that the LGBTQ+ lesson this morning was inspiring because we learned different views about the challenges people face. Listening to Diversity makes you think about how they coped with the discrimination.

The workshop today with Ash and Simon was very good. I found it very encouraging and quite a safe space to communicate your worries and feelings towards the LGBTQ+ community, especially from people who have experienced the ups and downs, knowing how it feels to be genuinely proud and confident about who you are.



Photos: Staff At Event

This term we have a new team of volunteers. When asked if our year 10 students would help support our younger students I was overwhelmed at how many stepped forward saying they wanted to help. Our Peer Mentors were trained so that they understood what is involved in the Peer Mentoring process including the key responsibilities of a Peer Mentor, developing the personal qualities and skills of each and every mentor. It gave them a greater awareness of safeguarding procedures and increased confidence to communicate and listen effectively. Their aim is to promote wellbeing and positive mental health and signpost students to further help and support.

They are currently working within a tutor group in year 7 or 8 to get to know a group of students with

the aim of building a relationship that means the younger students will get to see the Peer Mentors as somebody they can go to with a problem. Their first task was to sign up each and every student to an anti-bullying pledge where out tutor groups came up with their own version to stamp out bullying.

Our mentors are available three lunch times a week for pupils who want to drop in. This may be just literally for a chat or possibly to gain advice. Our hope is that this gives another avenue for to students to report problems and gain advice.

A huge thank you to our Peer Mentors as they continue with this position.

Mr P Haddon, SENCO



The students wrote their Christmas cards as part of their 'Theme for the Week' curriculum, which students complete one form time a week. The Christmas cards fall into the theme of kindness, at Christmas, we hope that everyone has a wonderful time with their friends and family, but in reality we know that this is not always the case. Therefore, students spent time reflecting on their own Christmas and what they will be doing, and then sharing this with a local nursing home resident. One student said, "It is just nice to say hi to someone. I imagined that it was my own nan sat in a care home, and I realised that not everyone has the luxury of a family that can come and see them every day. Giving them a card, well, it might just offer them some comfort, some knowledge that someone does really care about their Christmas".

The cards, around 1300 in total, will be shared across eight local care homes, and will be delivered by staff from the school. Christmas is a time for community, and kindness, and this is a value that we aim to instil in our students here at Notley High School.



ChristmasCards

For the second year running, all of our Notley High School students have written Christmas cards for the residents of local nursing and care homes. Christmas is a time for community, and as a school we endeavour to reach out to our local community and show our students that we belong to a wider community.



Did you know that Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form is the home of an Ofsted-outstanding teacher training provider?

Founded in 1994, Mid Essex Initial Teacher Training is based upstairs in Braintree Sixth Form and is a hive of activity throughout the academic year, sometimes training up to 60 teachers in a year!

To be eligible to train with us, all candidates must have a GCSE in Maths and English and a Degree, too. But you do not have to teach the same subject as your degree. You just have to be passionate about your teaching subject and believe that you could be an inspiring role model for the next generation.

Our trainee teachers are placed in schools all over Essex for their training 'on the job' with a teaching mentor, but come to Notley one day a week for their 'Core' training with us. Most of them will train with us full time for a year, but we do offer a part-time course too, with trainees doing just two days a week in their school and one day Core training at Notley. This course takes up to two years to complete.

We are now receiving applications for our next cohort starting in September 2024. If you, or some one you know could be an amazing teacher, visit our website for further information or give our friendly office a call on 01376 556 398.

<https://www.midessexteachertraining.com/>



www.midessexteachertraining.com



Train to Teach in a Secondary School in Essex!

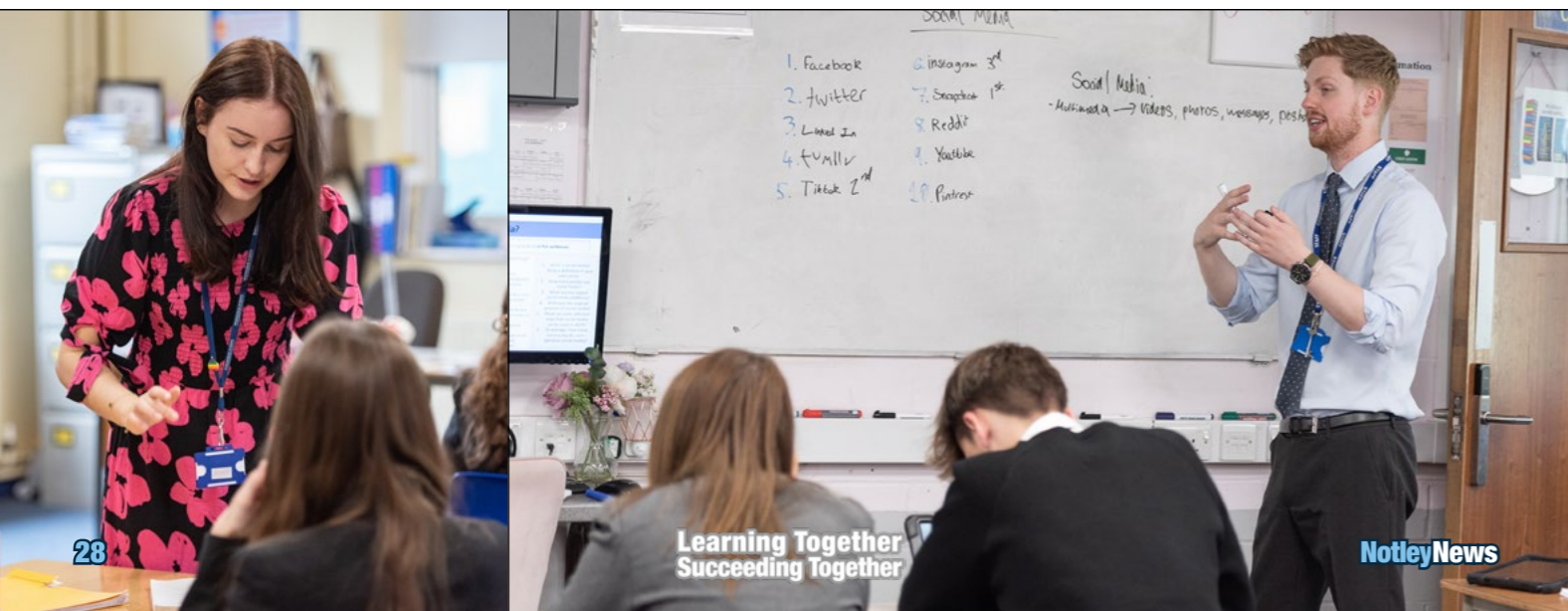
You could train as a teacher if:

- You have a degree at 2:2 or above
- You have a passion for working with and inspiring young people
 - You are passionate about your chosen subject

About the course:

- We work with more than 20 schools across Essex
 - A part-time route is an option
- Scholarships and bursaries are available in some subjects

Think you've got what it takes? Visit our website for more information, to arrange an informal chat, or to sign up to our mailing list!





Photos: Staff At Event

Helping our Community

This term, all year groups have been involved in helping one another, or being helped, to help raise our skills. Our year 9 and 10s have been trained as Reading Buddies, acting as role models for students in year 7 and 8 and reading with them during tutor time once a week. The older students model the reading by reading their 'buddy's' book to them page by page, with the younger student then reading it back. In previous years, this has been really successful in building students' confidence, but also in raising their reading age. Last year, the average gain across the 10 weeks we ran the programme was over 12 months gain in reading age.

Our year 13 students have re-ignited their working relationship with their year 11 Academic Buddies from the end of last year. As Subject Ambassadors, the year 13 students are really keen to share their experiences of the subjects they are passionate about by explaining the ways they prepared for their own GCSEs, working through past papers and reviewing mock exams. Last year, students saw on average over a grade improvement in the subjects they were working on, and we are therefore hoping for a similar set of improvements for this group. Later in the year, our year 12s and 10s will take this on as they prepare for their end of year exams.



Photos: Staff At Event

Mock Interviews

As part of our careers programme, all students in years 10 and 13 took part in a face to face mock interview. 40 members of the local business community volunteered to give students this fantastic opportunity. They particularly commented on the professionalism and maturity demonstrated by the students, and although many students were understandably quite nervous,

they all left feeling proud of their ability to present themselves well under pressure.

We would like to say thank you to everyone who gave their time to support this event over the two days.

Mrs Robb



Photo by Valentin Antonini on Unsplash



Christmas Break

We wish all students and families a relaxing Christmas break.

We will return to school on

4 Jan 2024

Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash



Year 12 Enterprise Fair

This half term, our Year 12 students have been working on an Enterprise project, where they have to set up a business and market a product or service to Year 7 students. This teaches them a variety of skills that will be valued by employers and universities when they leave us such as creativity, team work, communication, numeracy and problem solving.

On 5th December, the businesses were launched at our annual Enterprise Fair. The Year 7 students came over in tutor time and were able to buy a huge variety of cakes, sweets and low cost toys as well as participating in games and activities. There was a lovely, festive atmosphere well fuelled by a lot of sugar! The Year 12 students did an amazing job of welcoming the younger students to Braintree Sixth form and between them, raised an impressive £604!

Mrs C Dunton, Head of Sixth Form





Boulogne Trip

On Friday 29 September, five staff from the MFL, History and Learning support departments took 50 students to Paris. The purpose of our trip was to visit the main attractions, practice speaking, listening to, and reading the French language.

Our trip started at the school, bright and early where we met our lovely coach drivers. We took the train to Calais and then made our way into Boulogne where we made our way to a pretty Boulangerie in Escoeuilles. We were met by the baker who then took the students into the room where the bread is made and demonstrated how to make French baguettes. The explanations were completely in French and our students did well to understand the explanations and explain back what they had been told. They then had the opportunity to roll the dough to make baguettes of their own.

Back in the bakery, the students were given pain au chocolat and practiced their French again by ordering some baguettes, drinks and cakes.

We then got back on the coach and continued on our journey to Boulogne centre. The coach dropped us off at the Remparts where we took the opportunity to take some photos to add to the Facebook page. The rain had stopped so we took a walk through the town centre and then arrived at Nausica, the sea life centre that is situated on the beach. Students had a lovely time wandering around the centre with their teachers, looking at the sharks and other fish. Mrs Coxon was desperate to see the Sea lions so we headed outside only to find that as an extra treat they were about to feed the sea lions. We all sat down and the staff fed the sea lions whilst explaining to us in French and demonstrating how clever the sea lions are. This was all explained in French and our students listened very carefully to see which words they could pick out and understand. After a quick visit to the penguins and the gift shop we all went down to the beach to run off some energy before venturing back to the port. The students were extremely well behaved and were a credit to the school.



Photos: Staff on Trip

My favourite part was going to the aquarium and feeding the stingray (Sophie)

I liked watching the sealions (Caitlin)

My favourite bit was making and eating baguettes (Anon)

My favourite part was the bakery (Kallie)

I liked the aquarium and the beach (Emily, Ellie-Rose, Amelia, Jemima)

It was a cool experience with all of my friends (Chloe)

We learnt how to make bread (Max)



Star Student

Notley Rewarding Excellence

Over the past year, we have been working hard to improve and increase the number of positive rewards that the students could potentially receive.

Every lesson, students have the opportunity to be awarded house points, which now have an automatic notification emailed home so parents and carers are aware of their achievement. At the end of each term, those that have accumulated enough points are awarded a certificate for their achievement. Hero postcards are also sent home or given to students who have worked exceptionally hard in a lesson. Each week, a Star Student is identified from each tutor group and celebrated during assembly. A student can be nominated for Star Student for many reasons, such as contribution to the school and wider community, an act of kindness, or sheer dedication to their studies.

At the end of each term, during the Celebration assembly, Subject Honour certificates are awarded in each year group for each subject to the student that departments feel are the most deserving. In the summer term, instead of Subject Honours, we award Subject Ambassadors for excellent effort or progress throughout the year in a particular subject. Attendance certificates are also awarded during these assemblies. The Headteachers Commendation is awarded three times a year in each year group for

the student that staff feels deserves this prestigious award; it is awarded to stand out students who dedicate themselves to being outstanding young people.

At the end of the year, a Sporting Colours presentation is held to celebrate all those students that have regularly contributed to sport, both in and out of school. A Celebration Evening is also arranged to present subject honours, special awards and the tutor award for each year group. A Pledge Passport is completed by students during the school year, encouraging them to complete various challenges, such as taking part in a school assembly, or preparing effectively for post 16 study, and Pledge badges are awarded at the end of the academic year. These contribute to the Notley Award, which also incorporates behaviour incidents and attendance.

Students also have the opportunity to become prefects, which recognises their continued positive behaviours and effort in all they do.

It is very important for us to recognise all the amazing things our students are doing in all areas of the school and beyond and we hope they continue to strive to achieve one of these rewards over the next two terms.



The Power of Thank You...

According to the saying: 'Never underestimate the power of Thank you', I would like to take the opportunity and express my gratitude. I reckon that especially now, expecting the end of term in a Christmas atmosphere it will sound profound and loud.

I have started working at Notley High since September 2023 and I feel like I belong because I was welcomed and made feel comfortable not only by Head teacher, SLT, HR, receptionists but also and foremost by fantastic Maths team and students.

It is not a secret that our profession is challenging sometimes even demanding, however at the same time very rewarding and satisfactory.

On daily basis in our practice, we play a variety of roles: we are not only teachers, but we are also providers, carers, facilitators, guides, directors, listeners etc. It would not be possible to fulfil them without the support, kindness, constructive feedback, encouragement, banter, and care provided by our colleagues.

Therefore, I would like to thank you All my colleagues wholeheartedly for being a great team with which I am encouraged and supported. It is a pleasure to be a part of our NHS team, to share and gain. To grow, to be aspired and spread my wings. I am grateful for all 'Thank you' directed towards me.

I also would like to thank our students for their appreciation and every, even the smallest, gesture of kindness, smile, good word, encouragement, care, and challenge because it empowers me and motivates me to grow not only as a teacher but also as a person.

*Dr M Jagiello
Raising Achievement and Progress Leader - Maths*

Thank you is a verbal delivery of gratitude, which is how we think and feel about something in our hearts.

Thank you acknowledges appreciation, thoughtfulness, and kindness.



Sports Roundup

Cross Country

Notley participated in the North West Essex Cross Country Championships which was hosted at Tabor. We had a strong team who had practiced for their places in PE lessons. Notley performed brilliantly, with some outstanding individual performances.

Amalie in Year 7 came in 1st place, while our Inter girls came 3rd and 5th. We are yet to hear the overall scoring, however Notley worked incredibly hard.

A great performance by all who participated.

Netball

Year 7 Essex Plate

The year 7 netball team have played 3 games in the Essex Plate schools competition so far this season. They are improving with every game they play. We went to The City Academy in Hackney, which was

very exciting. The girls held their nerve and won 7-4. They are currently 2nd in the table with a game to play. We are looking forward to playing in the NW Essex District Competition.

U14 (year 8/9) Essex Plate

The U14 netball team have played at Felsted in the regional tournament. They came 4th overall, only losing to Felsted, SWCH and HRS who went through to the playoffs. The girls are currently playing in the Essex Plate schools competition, and won their

first game against Oaks Park School, Ilford, 33-6. They played fantastic netball and have a great team ethos. We are looking forward to playing in round 2 which is the last 16, as well as the NW Essex District tournament.



Photos: Staff at matches

U16 (year 10/11) Essex Plate

The U16's went to Felsted in the regional tournament which had some fierce competition. The girls hadn't had much game play but put in a fantastic effort.

They then went on to play in the Essex Cup schools competition 1st round against Eastbrook School, Barking, losing 12-8. They were really unlucky to lose. We are looking forward to the District Competition in the new year.

Football

Year 7 Boys

The Year 7 started off their Notley football career with a friendly against the Year 8. They unfortunately lost, however there were some strong performances from Henry A and Riley J. Their first competitive game was against Maltings academy. They narrowly lost 3-1, conceding two goals in stoppage time,

however this was not a true reflection of the game. Henry B was awarded player of the match due to his excellent defending and leadership. Another stand out player was Jacob C who worked extremely hard throughout the game and showed fantastic resilience as he never gave up until the final whistle.

Year 8 Boys

Despite losing both of their games so far, our Year 8 boys have shown some promising performances. Back in October, the boys played two games, first, a friendly vs our Year 7 team with the game being played to experiment with different players and formations for both teams being the focus, rather than the result.

It was a good lesson for the boys, to show it is not always the team that dominates a football game that wins. Our last game of the term came in the District competition, playing away at Tabor. Our boys were asleep for the majority of the first half and found ourselves 6-2 down at half time.

Our boys were then in action in the Essex Cup, playing Tendring Community College at home. Our boys were on the receiving end of a 2-1 defeat, with Tendring scoring from both of their chances and Notley doing just about everything but score when the chances arose.

With some changes to the team made at half time and the hairdryer treatment given, the boys rallied in the second half and worked their socks off to come away with a 6-5 loss, an incredible effort from all. We have plenty of time to turn results back in our favour and move forward as a team. Players to have stood out this half term are Harley G and Harry G.



Year 9 Boys

On the back of a decent Essex Cup run and runners up in the district competition last season, the Year 9 Boys were hoping that form would see them start the year off strong. Unfortunately for us, our first game of the season in the Essex Cup was against last year's National Champions, Shenfield, who are ability wise, the best school team I have ever seen in my years of teaching. We were on the receiving end of an 8-1 defeat, with Shenfield scoring 3 late goals to flatter the scoreline. Our boys played extremely well and made it hard for Shenfield throughout. We then played Philip Morant, in a National Cup match, losing 4-1. We started brightly in the game, but our opposition grew as the game went on and their quality shone through. I believe that these two

Year 10 Boys

The Year 10 boys have played more games this term, than they have in their previous three years at the school. For me, this is more positive than any result. Our first game of the year was in the Essex Cup, where we were drawn at home to Harwich & Dovercourt. We started brightly and looked like a team that had played for years, running out as comfortable 4-1 winners with assistant manager, Ciaran, deservedly selecting Nico as man of the match. Our second game of the year was a trip away to Rickstones, in the district competition, where missed opportunities in front of goal, and

Year 11 Boys

Our year 11 boys football team have represented the school on a number of occasions this term in both the National Schools Cup and County Schools Cup. The boys have done themselves and the school proud in their performances and were successful in reaching the third round of the National Schools

games knocked the stuffing out of some of our players, with us low on confidence, we then lost 3-0 to Maltings Academy, with all three goals coming from individual errors. However, we ended the term on a high as we travelled to Forest Hall School. On the back of this rough patch, we tried out a new formation and some players in different positions, which paid off as we came away with a 4-0 win. Lots to work for these guys to reach the potential they all undoubtedly have, and I still believe a kinder opening match sets our season off differently. Player of the term for Year 9 is Theo D, who has come into the team this year and has cemented his place as an important player for the team.

individual errors our biggest downfall as we were on the receiving end of a 3-2 defeat. On the back of this game and a lot of injuries, wholesale changes were made to the squad for our next game at home to Maltings. We defended hard and soaked up a lot of pressure before hitting Maltings quickly on the counterattack to find ourselves 2-0 with 5 minutes left. Maltings pulled a goal back for a nail-biting finish, but our boys held on for a great victory. Standout players for this term, not only for their performances, but their commitment are Louie M, Jack A, Manny C and Chris W.

Cup after winning 6-5 on penalties (1-1 in normal time) against Passmores Academy in round one and a computer generated decision saw us go through against William De Ferrers in round two after the match had to be abandoned. Unfortunately, our cup run came to an end in round three with a narrow 2-1



defeat to The FitzWimarc School. The boys have performed just as well in the County Schools Cup, also reaching the third round after a 2-0 victory against Harwich and Dovercourt High School in the preliminary round, a 5-4 steal on penalties (1-1 after normal time) against Tendring Technology College in round one and a 1-0 dominant win against Helena Romanes School in round two. Ironically, the boys

Girl's Football

The u13's Girls will be representing the school in this years Essex Cup. They got a bye in the preliminary round and are waiting to play Plume or Moulsham in round one. In the meantime, they played Hedingham School in a friendly where they lost 3-2 in a close game with Scarlett H filling in admirably in goal in the absence of our regular goalkeeper. The u14's & u15's have played one game a piece thus far, against Tendring Technology College and Hedingham

are due to play William De Ferrers in round three of the County Schools Cup in which we hope we can finally determine a true winner (and hopefully no injuries!). The boys can be very proud of their performances so far but most importantly of how well they have represented Notley High School in their 'professionalism' and sportsmanship. Hopefully the boys can continue to impress in their next match.

respectively where both teams were again on the losing side in close games. Our u16 girls were knocked out of the Essex Cup against a strong Sandon side, with some girls stepping in to play their first ever games for the school. Jessica F, Freya R, Phoebe S and Phoebe R have all made very positive starts with their football this year. We expect to play more fixtures within the district after Christmas.





Following a short break for the summer holidays the Blue Devils have been busy as ever with training & matches for the 2023/24 season alongside fundraising and social events.

BBD were honoured to be awarded the Find Your Active Award from Braintree District Council.

We have been fortunate to secure funding contributing to new kits for some of our teams and continue to seek further funding & sponsors.

Our U16 team recently visited the Copper Box arena to watch the London Lions Vs Bristol Flyers.

Members of the club came together for our latest fundraising event led by Chairman Mr Musson. The sponsored Basketball-athon secured the club more than £2,000 to support ongoing fees and coach's expenses.

We are continuing to recruit for U14/U16 girls and Coaches. If you are interested, please reach out to Mr Musson, or contact us by email on info@braintreebasketball.co.uk



Photos: Staff at events

Braintree Sixth Form's Tottenham Hotspur Football Development Programme has been extremely busy and successful this term. We have seen over 30 players represent the sixth-form football teams! Our male and female students have benefited from weekly training sessions (both timetabled and extra-curricular), with our boys also competing in the NCC Global Football Development League, Essex Colleges League, and a League Cup.

Our sixth formers recently played a thrilling cup fixture against Chelmsford College, which saw our Braintree Sixth Form team victors after penalties. The players look forward to continuing this cup run!

This term saw Y12 students Archie & Emily accepted onto the Coaching Development Programme with Tottenham Hotspur! These students will be developed and upskilled by club and academy coach developers and staff to give them the learning environment and opportunities to become football coaches. Y13 student Josh achieved the position of ball assistant for the Tottenham Hotspur Men's First

Team 2023/24 campaign. A huge well done to these students, as we wish them the very best with these unique opportunities!

Our Y12 & Y13 BTEC Sport students had a guest speaker from Tottenham Hotspur visit them to discuss the world of sports therapy and rehab, providing an exclusive insight into the world of a sports therapist who is in training and still in education.

Tottenham Hotspur coaches have thoroughly enjoyed working with the sixth formers this term, developing their strength, conditioning, tactical understanding, and technical abilities. We have created a competitive but inclusive environment & culture where students can thrive.

We look forward to working with the students in 2024 as they continue their positive football development!

*Alfie Babb,
Programme Coordinator, Tottenham Hotspur.*



SocialMedia

Below are the official social media sites for Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form. Please be aware that any other social media sites are not related to the school.

Notley High School

Facebook:

- Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form
- Ski Notley
- Prom Notley

Twitter:

- Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form

Instagram:

- NotleyHighSchool

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form is not responsible for the content of any social media accounts used by people following our official accounts.

Braintree Sixth Form

Facebook:

- Braintree Sixth Form

Twitter:

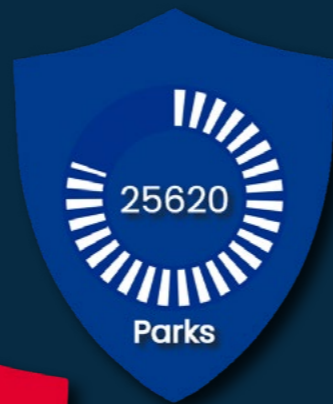
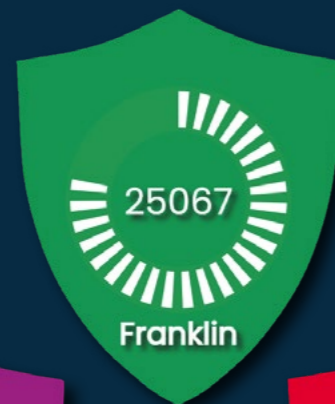
- Braintree Sixth Form

Instagram:

- Braintree Sixth Form

HousePoints

Notley's house competition runs across the entire academic year, with students earning points from a wide range of activities and achievements. These are the running totals for the year.



Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form Academic Year 2023-2024

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							30	31																			
January 2024							February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
May 2024							June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				26	27	28	29	30	31		

☐ = Schooldays

☐ = School holidays

☐ = Bank holidays

☐ = Weekends

☐ = Non-Student Days

Autumn Term:	Monday 4 September 2023 – Wednesday 20 December 2023 <i>Half Term 23 October – 27 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term:	Thursday 4 January 2024 – Thursday 28 March 2024 <i>Half Term 19 February - 23 February</i>	56 days
Summer Term:	Monday 15 April 2024 – Tuesday 23 July 2024 <i>Half Term 27 May – 31 May, and May Bank Holiday - 6 May</i>	66 days
		<u>195 days</u>



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