



Dear Parents,

What an eventful term it has been! From the point of view of the students, there have been all sorts of exciting things going on that you can read about in this edition.

From the staff's point of view, our two days of Ofsted inspection, whilst not exactly an enjoyable 'highlight', certainly dominated our thoughts for a short but intensive period. I would like to thank all of my colleagues, the students and you parents for the support you showed during the inspection. We do not yet know exactly when the report will be published, but it will of course be shared with you when it appears.

It hasn't all been plain sailing this term, I'm sorry to say. We have seen the unwelcome return of mindless damage in some of the toilets and we continue to be presented with issues involving social media by children from younger and younger year groups. The former problem is usually caused by one or two students who selfishly ruin the situation for everyone else; it is usually isolated and doesn't last long.

The latter, unfortunately, seems to be no respecter of age, background or academic ability. We can have assemblies in school, outside speakers, PSHE lessons and all sorts of other activities, but the fact is that much of what goes on with social media happens when our students are not under our supervision.

I would ask you, as ever, to be vigilant and not naive about your child's phone usage: they are much smarter about these things than most of us and well able to evade scrutiny if determined to do so. Despite arguments that might be put forward to the contrary (mainly by those with a vested interest), I grow more and more convinced that, one way or another, social media is either the cause of, or a contributing factor in, many of the wellbeing problems experienced by our students. It is an influence more pervasive and more powerful than school, and in some cases than family. In our parent-school partnership, we can only try our best to be the most positive, most powerful influence in the lives of your children, our students, but we need to recognise that this is getting harder to achieve. I say this not to depress or frighten you, but to encourage you to stay alert.

On a lighter note, the weather is warming up and we have two weeks to recharge before the final term of the year. I wish you a very holy and restful Easter.

Dr Richard Wilkin MA, EdD, Headteacher

Alex Burghart MP Visit

Last week, the local MP for Brentwood and Ongar, Alex Burghart, visited our school to speak to Government and Politics students for an insight into the political process and workings of Parliament. Having become an MP in 2017, he explained how in his political career he has seen remarkable change regarding the UK facing, what will soon be viewed as historical, constitutional challenge. He spoke of his Party's pursuit to have the UK leave the EU effectively, which was not an easy task given the constitutional implications. Students were interested to discover what an MP's schedule looked like and Alex, having been Parliamentary Private Secretary, offered analysis of his work in both the Commons on a national basis and within his constituency, partaking in local work on Fridays. His assessment of the role MPs play in representation was of worth to us as within our studies we look at whether the Burkean model of Representation is still upheld by the politicians that serve us. Wider conversations about the media's role in politics were also covered which was extremely interesting when put in the context of how the media can shape our perception of government. Both Year 12 and 13 students found this visit engaging as we could get a specific insight into Parliament and have our burning questions answered.



Pre-loved School Uniform Donations

We would welcome any donations of school uniform which are in good, used condition.

Donations should be sent to School Reception or Mrs Grace in the Finance office.



Food Collection

This Lent, students and staff have been donating tins for the St Vincent de Paul Society foodbank in Southend. As at Friday 24th March, over 660 tins of various staples have been donated. We have been collecting in house teams, with some becoming very competitive! A couple of weeks ago our Chaplain, Miss Gillespie, took some of the donations to the foodbank and helped fill up their shelves. They were very grateful as so many people are struggling to feed themselves and their families at the moment. The foodbank also offers clothes and sleeping bags for the homeless, help with government agencies and support, as well as a cafe and warm space five days a week. The work they do is vital to the area and the donations our community have made are wonderful. During the final week of term, we are hoping to reach 1,000 tins. An update will be given after the Easter break.

Final week of Tin Donations!



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

CURRENT TOTAL: 664 TINS (THURSDAY 23RD MARCH)

120+

210+

50+

70+

150+

40+



"FOR I WAS HUNGRY, AND YOU FED ME" MATT 25:35

THESE SHELVES NEED FILLING BY YOU!

Lived Religion

Recently, Year 11 had the pleasure of hearing from Sue as part of our 'Lived Religion' RE course. It's important for us to understand the lived religious experience of others, and Sue shared her experience as a Traditional Jewish woman in modern day Britain. She spoke about the importance of keeping kosher, describing her diet and why it's important to her. She also described how she didn't keep all the mitzvot, and that this didn't make her a less religious Jew. As a Reform Jew myself, it was interesting to hear which mitzvot meant the most to her, and for my non-Jewish classmates, I think her talk made Jewish law seem less strict and more applicable to today.

Sue also spoke about her parents' experience during the Holocaust, how it affected her and how it impacts Jews today. Hearing first and second hand accounts make these historical tragedies clearer to us. Making sure the next generation doesn't forget these events is vital. I found it bitter-sweet to hear similar stories from my family, as although there was so much pain, we weren't alone. Sue's talk was both informative and emotional. I think we all walked away better informed than before.

Tia, 11B

Flame 2023

My experience at Flame was fantastic! Firstly, the long journey to get to Wembley was exciting and very fun filled, knowing that we have a great day ahead of us. When we got to Flame, we were warmly welcomed and led to our seats and then had time to go round and explore the arena.

The event started with someone singing and calling out all the schools and the areas that they had come from around the country. Of course we screamed for the Ursuline and Brentwood Diocese! Once everyone had settled, we got involved with the praise and worship, and it was lovely. During the first hours we listened to speeches from Cardinal Tagle and a lawyer who had taken on a chemical company and changed American law.

We then had our first break where we explored the walkways of the arena and got to interact with people that we met there. We met people representing the St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD.

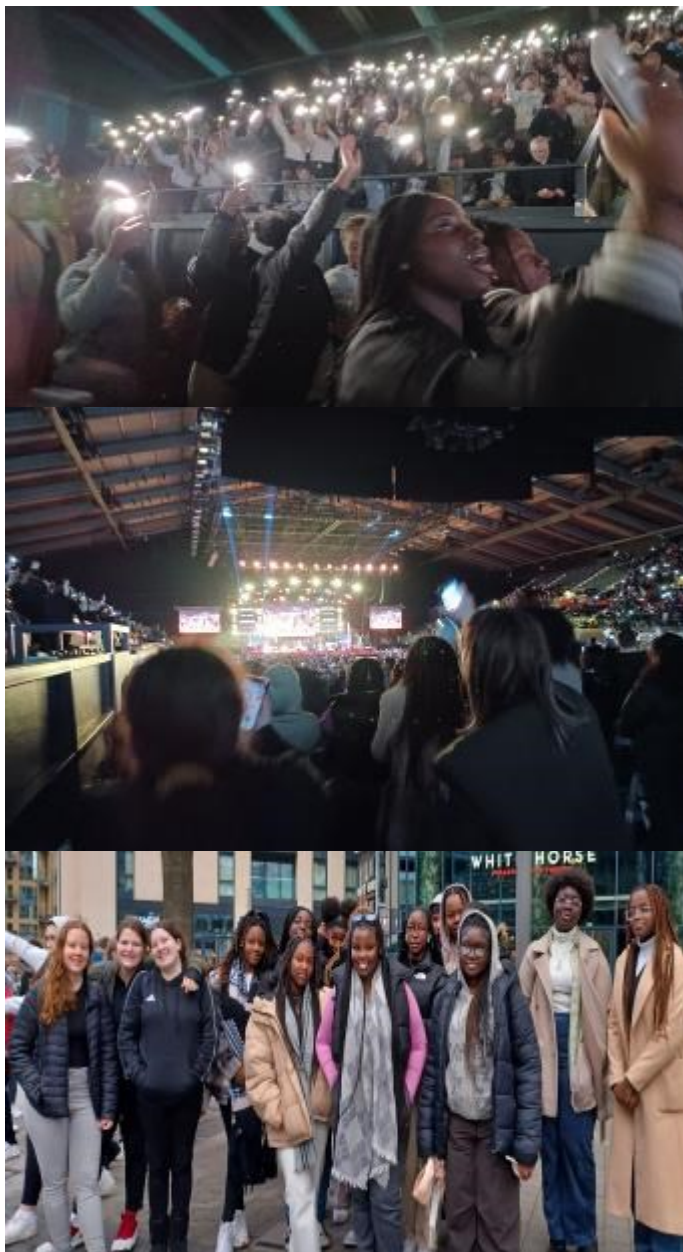
As the day went on, I enjoyed it more and more and everyone seemed to get involved more too. Also, a guest singer came on called Guvna B whom everyone there loved and we were all screaming to his songs! This was probably my favourite part.

So much happened, I can't include it all, but overall, it was one of the best experiences, and probably my favourite trip so far. I will definitely be attending



Flame 2025 and will make sure everyone who missed out this year can share the experience in 2025! On top of everything, the best thing of all is that when I was there, I felt close to God, and it encouraged me to keep my relationship strong with God.

Philippa, 10U



'Ask me what I'm reading'

Students will have noticed that many members of staff at BUCHS are wearing an 'Ask me what I'm reading' badge. Here is a selection of the responses we have received this month:



Mrs Harrington:
'Wolf Hall' by
Hilary
Mantel

Mrs Mayo:
'The Seven
Sisters' by
Lucinda Riley

Mrs Lane: '29
Seconds' by T
M Logan

Mrs Carroll:
'Hamnet' by
Maggie
O'Farrell

Mrs Ring:
'Lessons in
Chemistry' by
Bonnie Garmus

Mrs Osborn:
'Rebecca' by
Daphne du
Maurier

Mrs Sullivan:
'Great
Expectations'
by Charles
Dickens

Mrs Kempton:
'War Stories'
by Michael
Morpurgo

Mr
Richardson:
'The Priory
of the
Orange
Tree' by
S Shannon

Mrs Perry:
'The Gold-
finch' by
Donna Tart

Mrs Mitchell:
'The Island of
Missing
Trees' by Elif
Shafak.

Mr Earle:
'The Loney'
by Andrew
Michael

Mr Barber:
'Birth of a
State: The
Anglo-Irish
Treaty' by
Micheál Ó
Fathartaigh
& Liam
Weeks

Mr Whitworth:
'Limitless' by Tim
Peake

Mrs
Bayliss:
'Troubled
Blood' by
Robert
Galbraith

Dr Wilkin:
'The Ink Black
Heart' by
Robert
Galbraith

Mrs Gavira:
'Mythos' by
Stephen Fry

Mrs Carr:
'The Doctor
will see you
now' by Max
Pemberton

Mrs Mcneilly:
'The Invisible Life of Addie
La rue' by V E Schwab

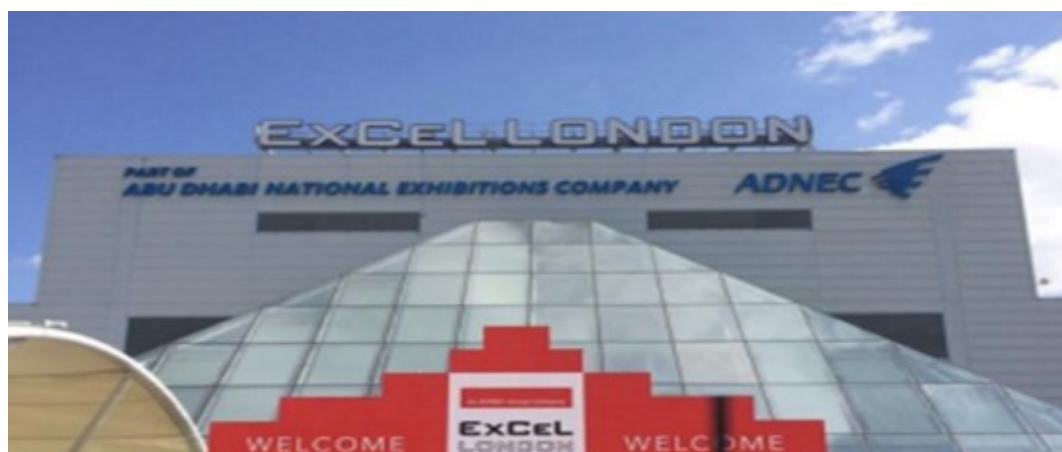


UCAS Discovery 2023

On Monday 27th March, Year 12 and the Sixth Form team visited the UCAS Discovery 2023 exhibition held at the ExCeL in London. This annual event aims to inform students and help guide them into a variety of pathways which are on offer to them after leaving Sixth Form. The exhibition consisted of over 100 universities, colleges and apprenticeship employers: from the University of Oxford and the University of London Institute in Paris, to the Royal Air Force and Dyson Institute of Engineering and Technology. There were also live expert talks which took place for careers concerning STEM, Humanities, Nursing and Law. Some students even participated in Q&As in order to gain a greater insight into what they needed for their upcoming UCAS applications.



We found this event to be very insightful and accommodating to any questions we had with regard to our university applications and courses that we may choose to undertake. This event also helped us to understand that whilst there are many universities and course choices on offer, this isn't the only pathway available to us. It was useful to also discuss and be educated about matters outside of university choices such as: bursaries, student accommodation, forthcoming open days, and webinars and lectures being held which will deepen our knowledge and understanding of our chosen subjects. We would like to thank the Sixth Form team for organising this event to support our Post 18 options and we look forward to using what we have learned from this event to support our UCAS applications next term.



Tatenda, Tinufemi and Tyra, Sixth Form Ambassadors



Guy's Hospital Trip



Guy's and St Thomas'
NHS Foundation Trust



Since October, three Year 11 students (Lili, Poppy and Tilly) have been receiving mentoring, via Teams, by clinical scientists at Guy's Hospital. On March 7th, they were invited to meet their mentors in person, visit the laboratories, meet the Chief Scientific Officer and the Chief Executive of Synnovis, the biggest pathology provider in Europe. The students had a positive experience at the hospital. They followed a sample from a patient who was getting ready for a kidney transplant and learnt what the clinical team had to do to ensure that the kidney wasn't rejected. They then went into cancer genetics and saw the chromosomes inside patient cancer cells. Every cell had different chromosomes as they were at different stages of the cell cycle. The students found this interesting, as it links into what they learn at KS4. They also got a chance to load gels with DNA and use some of the equipment in the laboratory. They were presented with certificates of participation in the programme and given goody bags. They all have the opportunity to apply for the Healthcare Scientist Apprenticeship programme with Synnovis, either before or after their A levels, depending on which path they choose.

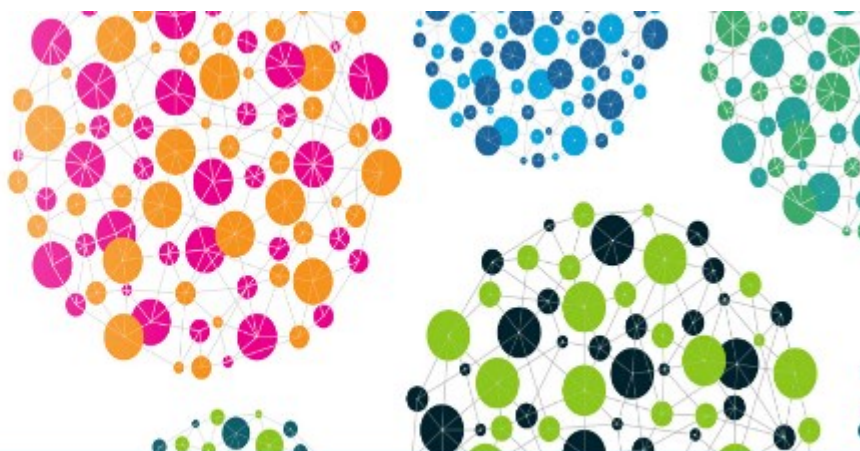
Mrs Harrington, Teacher of Science and STEM Coordinator









British Science Week

10-19 March
British
Science
Week
2023



British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. This year's theme - connections!

British Science Week, 10-19th March, was celebrated at BUCHS over several lunchtimes. The theme this year was **CONNECTIONS**.

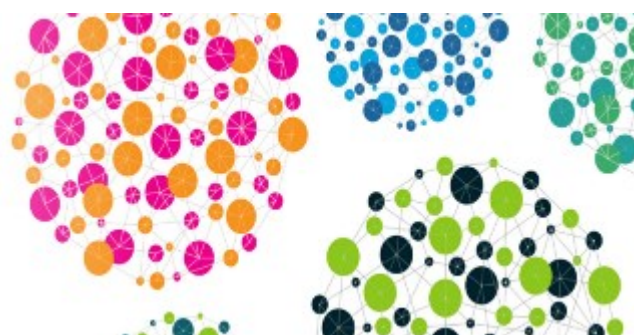
-  On Monday, we had an interhouse competition with Years 7 and 8. They had to make marshmallow and spaghetti towers, and see which one held the most mass. We had clear winners in Year 8- Sophia and Mia (8C.)
-  On Tuesday, Year 10 made neurones out of sweets. Two students (Fiona and Laila) connected their neurones and demonstrated the diffusion of neurotransmitters using sherbet between the synapse.
-  On Wednesday and Thursday, Makarria in 8T interviewed an engineer and designed a bike with built-in litter pickers! Her entry has been sent off to an engineering programme as part of their 'If I was an Engineer' competition! Good luck Makarria!
-  On Friday, KS3 STEM Club used electrochemistry (which they will not see until Year 13 Chemistry lessons,) to create a circuit using lemons and potatoes as batteries, to light up an LED! They were very proud of themselves!

Below and on the next page are some photos of the activities:





British Science Week Continued





John's House Week

John's House week ran from Monday 6th to Friday 10th March. The new House Team did a great job of organising events and competitions throughout the week to raise money for our two chosen charities: CAFOD and The OutHouse Charity.



On Wednesday lunchtime, the Main Hall played host to the John's House Quizmania Event. Teams took on several rounds of questions from Disney trivia, to identifying world flags, to solving word connection puzzles. Congratulations to the winning team who answered 28 questions correctly out of 33! Commiserations to Mr. Kitchen who did not do so well by himself!

Tuesday saw Year 7 students flocking to the Main Hall for the Just Dance event, throwing shapes to all their favourite songs. I particularly enjoyed the macarena! Thank you to all who came; you were fantastic!



Friday lunchtime was the student's favourite; bake sale! We sold out of everything and are so grateful for your generosity, a true Ursuline virtue. The final competition was for the right to name John's new house mascot! Thanks to Lauren in 7J we are pleased to introduce – **Jessie the John's Jaguar!** Thank you to every staff member and student who helped make this week successful.

We managed to raise £155 for our chosen charities. We look forward to a great year ahead and a bright future for John's House.

Miss L Giannotti – Head of John's House



Year 7 RE Visits to the Ursuline Sisters

"Recently, Year 7 went to see the Ursuline Sisters who are a very important part of our school. We were all very excited and a little nervous as we didn't know what to expect. However, after the trip we all came back refreshed and our knowledge of our religion and the history of our wonderful school improved.

We all lined up outside and were led by our RE teacher and our school chaplain, Miss Gillespie. We walked around the outside of the school and down Eastfield Road to meet the Ursuline Sisters at the back entrance of their house. We were all greeted with a warm welcome and were invited to sit down on their carpet where we watched their screen. They showed us a presentation on the history of our school and how it all started. We learned about St Angela Merici and her inspiration to teach girls, which she called the Ursulines. We had a few minutes to ask any questions and afterwards they led us into their Chapel and handed us each a sheet of paper to follow along whilst we said some prayers. They let us take the prayers which we kept as a keepsake. They offered us some refreshments at the end which we all enjoyed in the grounds. We said thank you and goodbye and walked back to school.

It was interesting to learn that at the very beginning of our school, there were boys before it was turned into a girls' school. It was intriguing to learn how our school has changed and evolved – our dance studio used to be a swimming pool and an English classroom used to be the library! It was a great experience and I feel I have learnt so much. This trip has built up our understanding of our beloved school."

Elsie, 7T



7T with Sister Anne



Geography

Bracelet Making

This month, Tillie, Mara, Zoë and I ran an eco-friendly string bracelet making class for Year 7 during lunchtime. We are all part of the BUCHS Geographical Society run by Miss Lake, which is a great opportunity to deepen our knowledge of Geography and to educate younger years on the importance of geography around the world, and in our school.

We invited 30 Year 7 students to come and join us in bracelet making. They all enjoyed it, and didn't want to leave! Firstly, we gave them a quick tutorial on how to make a simple string bracelet, then we let them choose their colours and they began! The finished bracelets looked incredible and we can't wait to do another session in the near future.

Tabitha, 10T

Geography Challenge

On 10th March, some Year 10 GCSE Geography students ran a fun club for the Year 7 and 8s. We tested their knowledge on geographical skills, as well as our school's meta skills. They were all very interactive and had a fun time thinking practically and efficiently in order to solve the geographical challenges during the 20-minute time limit, using cross curriculum links with Art, English and Maths. Team C won with all the tasks well-presented but despite this all the girls tried their best and had a good time. We asked a few if they enjoyed it and if they will come again, they said it was fun and would definitely turn up! The Year 10s also had a lovely time helping out and getting to assist and inspire the Year 7 students. It was truly such an amazing experience with an amazing atmosphere.

Lara Jane, 10U

Last week, the Geography Club held a quiz on different Geography topics like building, continents and climates etc. My group and I (Lilli, Eloise, Ibukun and I) won the challenge! We all won a mini egg chocolate bar each! If you like clubs that are fun that you can attend with your friends, I would totally recommend Geography Club. This club is on a Wednesday in week B, run by Miss Lake in U22. It has a different theme every week!

Maisie, 7A

Population- Year 8

Whilst studying population, to strengthen our understanding we did a practical activity using sweets to represent different categories eg adults and children. We had 'chance' cards giving us instructions which could increase or decrease the population. Each student represented a different country. The aim of the practical was to show the immediate change in the population structure. We loved it!

Grace, 8B





Library News

BUCHS Bookworm Update

Well done to those students completing a BUCHS Bookworm review form once they have finished their book. Many students are getting closer to their first BUCHS Bookworm badge.

Review forms can be obtained from your form tutor or from the library reception desk.



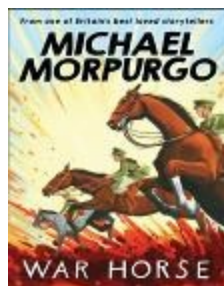
Michael Morpurgo Live Virtual Visit

Thursday 2nd March was World Book Day and the perfect day for Years 7 and 8 to take part in a live virtual visit from children's author Sir Michael Morpurgo.

The event, hosted by Readathon, was watched across several locations in school.

Having celebrated Michael Morpurgo Month throughout February, students were familiar with his many books and charitable work but it was fantastic to hear first hand about what inspires him to write. He spoke in particular about 'War Horse' which is forty years old this year.

Throughout the event, the audience were asked a number of multiple choice questions which we had fun answering. These included how many books Morpurgo had written, which war featured in War Horse, and how long it took to create a puppet for the stage adaptation of the book.



We learned that if Michael had not been a writer, he would have liked to have become an actor like his parents.

We also learned that the charity he started with his wife, 'Farms for City Children,' now has three sites and gives thousands of inner city children a year an opportunity to experience farming and countryside life.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic, Morpurgo has turned his attention to writing poetry, and to end the session, he read a poem from a book inspired by Camille Saint-Saëns' 'The Carnival of the Animals' called 'Tortoises.'



Above and below: Students enjoying the virtual Morpurgo visit





Library News Continued

"Michael Morpurgo is a well-known British author, poet, and playwright who has written over 150 books for children and young adults. His writing often explores themes of family, friendship, war, and the natural world. He is best known for his book 'War Horse,' which was adapted into a successful stage play and later a film.

My class and I discovered this on Thursday 2nd March, when Morpurgo visited us virtually. We started off with an introduction followed by a few polls, and then on to chatting about Michael's most popular book, 'War Horse.' We looked at a painting of a beautiful stallion and heard about his inspiration for the book; how he met the veterans of World War 1 and remembered the suffering of the horses. The author stated that he liked to base his books on historic events to make them seem more real.

After a few more polls, we jumped to the Q&A session. One school enquired if there was a book he wished he had written. His reply was that it would have been 'The Elephant's Child.' Michael told us it is the "best book in the world!" It was written by Rudyard Kipling. Morpurgo declared that he loved Kipling's books and would really recommend us to read them. Soon after this, Morpurgo treated us with a snippet of 'War Horse,' and I really engaged with this. I look forward to reading this book soon!

At the end of the online seminar, Michael read to us one of his poems that he wrote during the lockdown period. The flow of the poem was extremely pleasing, and the context was gripping.

Overall, Michael Morpurgo's work has had a significant impact on children's literature and has brought new vocabulary into their minds. I enjoyed the webinar and cannot wait for the next one!"

Kyra, 7J

Mrs Harbott's Cross Curricular Morpurgo Treasure Hunt Results

Congratulations to the following students who won prizes for their entries to this competition. All entrants received achievement points.

Caitlin, 7T
Lucy, 7T

Kyra, 7J
Nicoleta, 7A

Lucy, 7J
Princess, 7A

Ria, 7C
Alishya, 7T

Scholastic Book Fair

Book Fairs remain very popular at BUCHS and March saw the return of the trolleys, stationery and tote bags. To celebrate World Book Day, students were able to use a £1 book token as part payment for any books purchased. They also received a free mini book by actor and author Stephen Mangan.

BUCHS earns commission on all books sold, so we are very grateful for your support. The commission is used to purchase new books for the library.

A huge thank you to the students in Years 8, 10 and 12 who helped with the running of the fair.

Photos of the Book Fair can be found on the next page.





Library News Continued



The Book Fair is always popular at BUCHS!

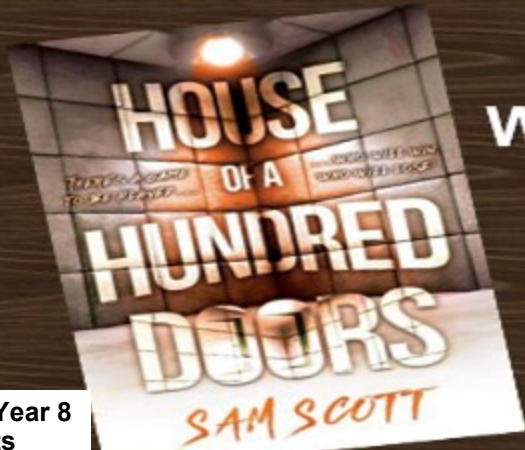


Book Fair Competition

Congratulations to the following students who have written the most BUCHS Bookworm review forms. These students have all been awarded a £5 Book Voucher to spend at the March Scholastic Book Fair.

Jessica, 7C
Keren, 7J
Catie, 7J
Dika, 7U
Charlotte, 11U






For all Year 8 students

Author Visit

Wednesday 19th April

in the Chapel, period 2



Sam Scott Author Visit

BUCHS is looking forward to welcoming author Sam Scott to the Chapel on 19th April. Year 8 will be participating in this event during lesson time.

Sam will be speaking about her role as an author for young adults and in particular about her exciting new thriller, 'House of a Hundred Doors.' Below is an introduction to the book:

"Following an encounter with Maximillion Crooked, Imogen Hackerton, daughter of a congressman and great-great-great-granddaughter of the infamous Hacker the Horrible, is drawn into a web of blackmail and deceit.

Imogen tells Maximillion of an ancient, haunted asylum and the belief it contains a hidden fortune. Max, an unscrupulous man always on the lookout for his next money-making venture, persuades a television network to produce a TV show from the asylum, placing five young people inside to search out a monetary prize. Unbeknown to all, Max has his own agenda. Experience supernatural horrors as the contestants enter and search the deadly domicile. And wait with bated breath to see who emerges the winner... and who emerges the loser..."

??????

Year 8, what would you like to ask Sam? She will be taking your questions!

??????



Library News Continued

Author Visit

On 10th March, author A. Connors paid a visit to some of our Year 7 English classes and spoke about his journey to becoming a writer and the inspiration for his book 'The Girl Who Broke The Sea.'

The book is a thriller set at the bottom of the sea and is packed with STEM topics. Adam explained deep-sea mining, just how little we know about life at the bottom of our oceans and about the fascinating animals that inspired the book.

Adam's talk was extremely popular with our students who asked him a wide range of questions. He was very impressed with their participation.

At the end of the session, he did a book signing for students and also signed some copies for our library.



Adam will be returning in the Summer Term to visit the rest of Year 7. Details to follow.





PE News

Hockey

Brentwood Hockey Club came in for a taster session in March to encourage some of our players to join an external club. The girls really enjoyed it and hopefully it will inspire them to continue hockey outside of school. Some photos of the session are below.



Netball

The Year 7 Netball Team played in the quarter finals of the Essex Cup this term. This is a competition where 64 of the top netball schools in Essex and Essex Met compete for a trophy. The girls played so well and although they lost to Forest School, an independent school who are in the finals next week, they should be so proud as they are one of the top 8 schools for netball in the county.

Chemistry Olympiad Success

BUCHS is celebrating Sixth Form success once again in the Chemistry Olympiad which is organised by The Royal Society of Chemistry.

Congratulations to the following students for their achievements in this nationally recognised qualification:

Silver Award

Rhiannon
Keely

Bronze Award

Aldora
Niamh
Sarah

All entrants gained a certificate of participation.



**ROYAL SOCIETY
OF CHEMISTRY**



Women In Science

Estella, our Physics Prefect, put together a slide show shared with all form groups to celebrate some of the many women in Science throughout the ages. On the next two pages, you can find information about some of these women:





Women In Science Continued

Katherine Johnson



Katherine Johnson completed the NASA calculations necessary for several space missions including the 1969 moon landing. She began working as a human computer for Langley Research Center in 1952 and made her way to the flight research division, due to her astounding intelligence and calculations. In 2015, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Dr. Gladys West



Dr. Gladys West is the creator of the GPS. She was responsible for calculations that led to the invention of the complex computer that we use every day. Her important work also helped with outer space discoveries of planetary bodies. In 2018, she was inducted into the US Air Force's Space and Missiles Pioneer Hall of Fame.

Janaki Ammal

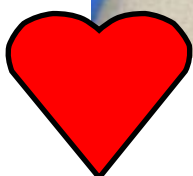


A pioneering botanist and cytogeneticist, Janaki Ammal is credited with putting sweetness in India's sugarcane varieties, speaking against the hydro-electric project in Kerala's Silent Valley and the phenomenal study of chromosomes of thousands of species of flowering plants. There is even a flower named after her, a delicate bloom in pure white called *Magnolia Kobus Janaki Ammal*.



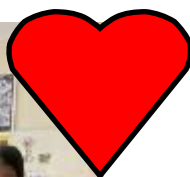
Key Stage 3 STEM Club

To celebrate Valentines Day, our KS3 STEM Club members took part in some Valentine themed activities. They made heart optical illusions, and a tower out of paper hearts!

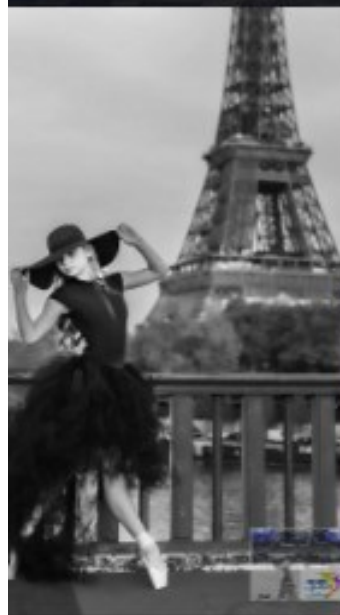




Key Stage 3 STEM Club Continued



GCSE Student Dances at Disneyland!



"This year, I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to compete at the dance competition 'Compete in the Magic' and join in the parade at Disneyland Paris. I really enjoyed performing on stage and dancing in the parade was amazing."

Faye, GCSE Dance Student, 9C



Engineering

On Monday 20th March, we were lucky enough to have a guest speaker called Jessica Davies join us via Zoom. She is a structural engineer and taught us about her job and what it entails. We learnt that engineers use a lot of art, physics, maths and computers to achieve their designs and also about what Jess does on a day-to-day basis. She showed us some of the projects she had worked on.

Along with the talk, we received a PowerPoint about the best A Level options for engineering and the different routes an engineering course can take us down. We were also told about the different experiences that we may face and opportunities we might receive whilst studying. We also found out some of the advantages and disadvantages of University degrees and apprenticeships.

It was a really motivational talk that opened our minds to a new and innovative occupation.

Lara Jane, Year 10



Ursuline Virtue Competition

This half term, our Ursuline Virtue is **Acting with Truth and Integrity**. Congratulations to Trishika in 7U for producing the winning poster for this term's competition. Well done!





Children's Mental Health



See the link below for tips and advice for parents and carers on how to support children's and young people's mental wellbeing, and give them the best chance to stay healthy.

<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/>

Child Criminal Exploitation



'Are You Listening?' is a film available on the Leicester Police website and via the link below. They explain that it is 'important to understand that young people who are caught up in this type of activity often do not see themselves as victims as those who are exploiting them make them feel important, respected and looked after.'

[Are you Listening?](#) | [Leicestershire Police \(leics.police.uk\)](#)

Child and Family Counselling Services

Parents are now able to access direct support for their child by referring them into the safe hands of our Child and Family Counselling Services (CFCS). We have a team of highly experienced Counsellors, Specialist Child and Adolescent Counsellors and Play Therapists available within the counselling team who work in our specially adapted therapy rooms.



We offer support to children, young people and parents through talking, play and art therapy.

CFCS provides therapy to children, young people and families. We support many different issues such as:

- Self-harm
- Identity
- Anxiety
- Bullying
- Bereavement
- Parental separation and family issues or conflict.

The pathway is overseen by our Head of Child and Family Counselling Services, who is supported by a team that are both passionate about and dedicated to the wellbeing of children and young people. The team has achieved very positive and reparative outcomes for children and families.

What can you expect?

After an initial contact, we will arrange an assessment to explore the issues your child may be experiencing and will then identify which model best supports the difficulty your child may be facing.

Who do you contact?

If you are worried about your child and would like to talk to us further, please either email Catherine cmunns@bccs.org.uk or call on 07792 732206 and we will be pleased to help.

Take a moment to read about the experience a parent shared with us:

I had contacted a number of professional services to assist me in helping my daughter. At the suggestion of my daughter's school a referral was made to BCCS and it was then that I met one of their counsellors. After months of unanswered questions and "hitting brick walls" I finally had answers, structure and a profound understanding of how a small little girl's mind works.

For me, there has been nothing so worrying as watching your child struggle and the BCCS counsellor's help has enabled me to help her for which I will be forever grateful.



www.bccs.org.uk



headoffice@bccs.org.uk

BCCS, 133 High Street, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9AB

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society - Registered Charity Number: 1000661














BUCHS STAFF SAFEGUARDING

Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and requires all staff and volunteers to share that commitment. This policy applies to all pupils, staff, parents, governors, volunteers, students and visitors to our school. For fuller details the school Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy can be found on the school website; the link is www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk About Us, Policies.



School Safeguarding Team

			
Mrs Corless - Designated Safeguarding Lead acorless@buchs.co.uk			
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads			
			
Mrs Mackenzie kmackenzie@buchs.co.uk	Mrs Guler bguler@buchs.co.uk	Mr Giles dgiles@buchs.co.uk	Mrs Harbott sharbott@buchs.co.uk
			
Mrs Wilkinson-Ross swilkinsonross@buchs.co.uk	Miss Newman lnewman@buchs.co.uk	Miss O'Grady fogrady@buchs.co.uk	Ms Orritt torritt@buchs.co.uk



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 2023 Summer Term

For Any DoFE Enquiries please see Mr Addicott

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
MONDAY			
Lunchtimes	12:50	GCSE Dance intervention & support	Dance Studio
	Lunchtime	Yr. 11 Science Intervention (Wk. B) (Rotation of Science staff) (Last Week: 8/5/23)	Different Rooms
	Lunchtime	Yrs. 7&8 Friendship Club (Sixth Formers/ BG)	T22
	13:00-13:25	Yr. 7 Drama Club	U24
	13:00-13:30	Learning Support Lunch Club (TO)	Learning Support
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art (priority to Yr. 11) (YMC) (For first part of Summer 1)	C12
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art & Textiles (priority to Yr. 11) (CST) (For first part of Summer 1)	T37
	Lunchtime	Yr. 11 English Language Intervention (JCA) (Up until Study Leave starts)	T26
	12:50-13:20	Maths Sparx Club	A32
After School	15:15	PE Fixtures	
	15:15	Eco-Club (AHU)	A21
TUESDAY			
Lunchtimes	Lunchtime	Yrs. 9+ Senior Dance Company (CH)	Dance Studio
	13:00-13:30	Learning Support Lunch Club (TO)	Learning Support
	Lunchtime	PE Yrs. 7-10 Athletics	Fields
	Lunchtime	String Orchestra (AMC)	C31
	Lunchtime	GCSE Geography Intervention (ELL)	U22
	Lunchtime	Yrs. 10&12 MedSoc (Wk. B) (SAR)	A23
	Lunchtime	Yr. 13 A Level Biology Intervention (MFO/ JGO)	A12
	Lunchtime	Yr. 13 Physics Intervention (RBH)	A34
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art (priority to Yr. 11) (YMC) (For first part of Summer 1)	C12
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art & Textiles (priority to Yr. 11) (CST) (For first part of Summer 1)	T37
	Lunchtime	Yr. 10 Coding Club (ASH)	A32
	Lunchtime	Listening Space (GW)	Chapel
	Lunchtime	Yr. 13 Photography catch-up session (HDI)	B11
	Lunchtime	Yr. 9 Art catch-up session (HDI)	B11



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 2023 Summer Term

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
TUESDAY			
After School	15:10-16:10	Yrs. 8,9,10 Performance from Text	Drama Studio
	15:15-16:30	GCSE & A Level Art (priority to Yrs. 11&13) (YMC) (For first part of Summer 1)	C12
	15:10-16:00	Bee Keeping (MF)	
	15:15	PE Yrs. 7-10 Athletics	Fields
	15:15-16:30	GCSE & A Level Textiles (+ CST Yr. 10 GCSE Art) (priority to Yrs. 11&13) (CST) (For first part of Summer 1)	T37
	15:15	Yr. 11 French Intervention Higher Students (DS)	J22
	15:15	Yr. 11 French Intervention Foundation Students (SYA)	T41
	15:15	Yr. 11 Spanish Intervention Higher students (BRV)	T42
	15:15	Yr. 11 Spanish Intervention Foundation students (CG)	T36
WEDNESDAY			
Lunchtimes	12:50	Yrs. 7&8 only Junior Dance Company	Dance Studio
	Lunchtime	PE Yrs. 7-10 Athletics	Fields
	Lunchtime	KS4 Chemistry & KS4 Biology Intervention (HC/SAR)	A23 (Chemistry) A25 (Biology)
	Lunchtime	BUCHS Geographical Society (ELL)	U22
	13:00-13:25	Yrs. 7,8,9 Theatre Design Club	U24
	13:00-13:30	Learning Support Lunch Club (TO)	Learning Support
	Lunchtime	Gospel Choir (Luciya K/SB7)	C32
	Lunchtime	Yr. 9 selected students History intervention (FHA)	J32
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art (priority to Yr. 11) (YMC) (For first part of Summer 1)	C12
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art & Textiles (priority to Yr. 11) (CST) (For first part of Summer 1)	T37
	Lunchtime	Wind Band (SHT & EBR)	Main Hall
After School	15:15	PE Yrs. 7-10 Athletics	Fields
	15:15-16:00	Yr. 13 Photography catch-up session (HDI)	B11
	15:15-16:00	Yr. 9 Art catch-up session (HDI)	B11



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 2023 Summer Term

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
THURSDAY			
Lunchtimes	12:50	All years Ballet Company	Dance Studio
	Lunchtime	PE Yrs. 7-10 Athletics	Fields
	Lunchtime	A Level Chemistry Intervention (HC)	A23
	Lunchtime	Creative Writing (JK)	T25
	13:00-13:25	Yr. 8 GCSE Drama Taster Club	U24
	13:00-13:20	Yr. 11 RE Intervention (All RE staff) (Runs until Yr. 11 start exams)	T34
	Lunchtime	Yrs. 7&8 The History Detectives (History Club) (WK. B) (FHA)	J32
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art (priority to Yr. 11) (YMC) (For first part of Summer 1)	C12
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art & Textiles (priority to Yr. 11) (CST) (For first part of Summer 1)	T37
	Lunchtime	KS4 STEM Club, Maths (Wk. B) (alternate between Computer Science after school A32)	A43
	Lunchtime	All years Rock Painting (SWI)	MH2
After School	15:15	Chamber Choir (RH)	C32
	15:15-16:30	GCSE & A Level Art (priority to Yrs. 11&13) (YMC) (For first part of Summer 1)	C12
	15:15-16:30	GCSE & A Level Textiles (+ CST Yr. 10 GCSE Art) (priority to Yrs. 11&13) (CST) (For first part of Summer 1)	T37
	15:30	KS4 STEM Club (Wk. A) (PH)	A22
	15:30	KS4 STEM Club, Computer Science (Wk. B) (alternate between Maths, lunchtime A43)	A32
FRIDAY			
Lunchtimes	13:00-13:25	LAMDA Club (invite only)	Drama Studio
	12:50	All years Tap Company	Dance Studio
	Lunchtime	PE Yrs. 7-10 Athletics	Fields
	Lunchtime	PE GCSE Theory Intervention Yrs. 9-11 (SWI)	Merici Hall Classroom
	Lunchtime	Yrs. 7&8 Friendship Club (Sixth Formers/ BG)	T22
	Lunchtime	Initiation to Russian (Wk. B) (DS)	J22
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art (priority to Yr. 11) (YMC) (For first part of Summer 1)	C12



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 2023 Summer Term

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
FRIDAY			
	Lunchtime	Yrs. 7&8 Online Art Club drop-in session for extra help/guidance (YMC)	C12
	Lunchtime	GCSE Art & Textiles (priority to Yr. 11) (CST) (For first part of Summer 1)	T37
	Lunchtime	Yrs. 7&8 Online Textiles Club drop-in session for extra help/guidance (CST)	T37
	Lunchtime	Yrs. 7-9 French Club (Wk. A) (SYA)	T41
	Lunchtime	Yr. 11 Set 1 Further Maths (SMO)	A35
	Lunchtime	Yr. 12 Biology Intervention (AOS)	A24
	Lunchtime	Yr. 13 Biology Intervention (JSS)	A25
	Lunchtime	KS3 STEM Club, Science (Wk. B)	A22
	Lunchtime	KS3 STEM Club, Maths (Wk. A) (alternate between Computer Science A32)	A41
	Lunchtime	KS3 STEM Club, Computer Science (Wk. A) (alternate between Maths A41)	A32
After School			
	15:15-16:30	GCSE & A Level Art (priority to Yrs. 11&13) (YMC) (Runs until second week of May)	C12
	15:15-16:30	GCSE & A Level Textiles (+ CST Yr. 10 GCSE Art) (priority to Yrs. 11&13) (CST) (Runs until second week of May)	T37



Parent/Student Calendar

SUMMER TERM		
Wk 29A		Believing Without Seeing Clare's House Week
Mon	17/04/23	Students Return. Vaccines Year 9: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and Meningitis ACWY in Main Hall
Tue	18/04/23	MFL Speaking Exams
Wed	19/04/23	MFL Speaking Exams Author Visit for all of Yr 8 in Chapel Period 2. GCSE Art & Textiles Exam (19 th & 20 th). Staff Wellbeing: 1.10pm—1.25pm (Prayer & Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk A.
Thur	20/04/23	MFL Speaking Exams GCSE Art & Textiles Exam (19 th & 20 th).
Fri	21/04/23	Foundation Day Mass MFL Speaking Exams
Sat	22/04/23	Training for DofE Bronze Award, BUCHS – Various locations incl. T2 corridor and outside spaces. Year 10. 8:30am-5:00pm.
Sun	23/04/23	
Wk 30B		Meeting Christ In the Eucharist Stephen Lawrence Week
Mon	24/04/23	MFL Speaking Exams
Tue	25/04/23	Period 2: The Children's Society working with 16 Year 10 students - Blue Meeting Room. Year 8: 9:10 - 10:50: Forms B,C,U Money Twist KS3 Session 10:50 - 11:10: Break 11:10 - 12:50: Forms T, J, A Money Twist KS3 Session
Wed	26/04/23	Staff Wellbeing: 3.30pm—4.30pm (Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk B.
Thur	27/04/23	Senior Prizegiving Evening – 7.00-8.00pm at the Cathedral with afternoon re-hearsals 1.30-3.00pm.
Fri	28/04/23	PA BTEC Unit 3 and Unit 5 Exam.
Sat	29/04/23	
Sun	30/04/23	
Wk 31A		The Good Shepherd
Mon	01/05/23	Bank Holiday Monday (early May Bank Holiday). Saint of the Month: St Damien.
Tue	02/05/23	Period 2: The Children's Society working with 16 Year 10 students - Blue Meeting Room. A Level Exam: Photography
Wed	03/05/23	A Level Exams, Art, Photography, Textiles Staff Wellbeing: 1.10pm—1.25pm (Prayer & Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk A.
Thur	04/05/23	A Level Exams, Art and Textiles Yr12 Parent Consultation Eve – Virtual, 4.30-7.00pm.
Fri	05/05/23	A Level Exams, Art, Photography, Textiles
Sat	06/05/23	
Sun	07/05/23	



Parent/Student Calendar

Wk 32B		Christ, The Way, Truth and Life
Mon	08/05/23	Bank Holiday to mark Coronation of King Charles III
Tue	09/05/23	Period 2: The Children's Society working with 16 Year 10 students - Blue Meeting Room.
Wed	10/05/23	HPV 2 Vaccines Year 9 Staff Wellbeing: 3.30pm—4.30pm (Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk B.
Thur	11/05/23	
Fri	12/05/23	
Sat	13/05/23	Practice DofE Expedition, Thriftwood Year 10
Sun	14/05/23	Practice DofE Expedition, Thriftwood Year 10
Wk 33A		The Spirit of Truth
Mon	15/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Tue	16/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Period 2: The Children's Society working with 16 Year 10 students - Blue Meeting Room.
Wed	17/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES . Staff Wellbeing: 1.10pm—1.25pm (Prayer & Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk A.
Thur	18/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation) (Yr7&8 at the Parish Mass and the rest of the school at 10.45).
Fri	19/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Sat	20/05/23	
Sun	21/05/23	Old Girl's Reunion @ BUCHS in the Main Hall.
Wk 34B		Bearing With Each Other
Mon	22/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Tue	23/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Period 2: The Children's Society working with 16 Year 10 students - Blue Meeting Room.
Wed	24/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Staff Wellbeing: 3.30pm—4.30pm (Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk B.
Thur	25/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Fri	26/05/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Sat	27/05/23	
Sun	28/05/23	
Mon	29/05/23	Half term. Bank Holiday.
Tue	30/05/23	Half term.
Wed	31/05/23	Half term.
Thur	01/06/23	Half term. Saint of the Month: St Peter and St Paul. Thomas More.
Fri	02/06/23	Half term.



Parent/Student Calendar

Sat	03/06/23	Half term.
Sun	04/06/23	Half term.
Wk 35A		Doing God's Will
Mon	05/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Students Return.
Tue	06/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Wed	07/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Staff Wellbeing: 1.10pm—1.25pm (Prayer & Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk A.
Thur	08/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Fri	09/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Sat	10/06/23	DofE Bronze Expedition. Danbury Year 10
Sun	11/06/23	DofE Bronze Expedition. Danbury Year 10
Wk 36B		Showing Mercy
Mon	12/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Tue	13/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Jack Petchey Achievement & Leader Award Presentation at 7:30pm, The Towngate Theatre, Basildon.
Wed	14/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Thur	15/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Yr 7 Parent Consultation Eve – Virtual, 4.30-7.10pm.
Fri	16/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES
Sat	17/06/23	
Sun	18/06/23	
Wk 37A		Messengers of Christ
Mon	19/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES (tbc). Year 8 HPV1 vaccinations w/b 19th – Y10 Art & Textile End of Year Exam (tbc). NEA Year 12 Geography Fieldwork Epping FSC & Stratford 8:30am-3:10pm
Tue	20/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES NEA Year 12 Geography Fieldwork Epping FSC & Stratford
Wed	21/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES CURRICULUM EXTENSION DAY NEA Year 12 Geography Fieldwork Epping FSC & Stratford District Sports Day at Melbourne Park, Chelmsford. Yr7 Trip to Colchester Castle & Park (History&Art) Staff Wellbeing: 1.10pm—1.25pm (Prayer & Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk A.
Thur	22/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES Junior Prizegiving Evening – 6.00-8.00pm at the Cathedral with afternoon rehearsals 1.30-3.00pm.
Fri	23/06/23	SUMMER EXAM SERIES International Women in Engineering Day (23 rd) (Science). Yr12 PA Unit 6 exam all day/evening.
Sat	24/06/23	
Sun	25/06/23	



Parent/Student Calendar

Wk 38B		Do Not Fear
Mon	26/06/23	
Tue	27/06/23	SUMMER MUSIC CONCERT.
Wed	28/06/23	Staff Wellbeing: 3.30pm—4.30pm (Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk B.
Thur	29/06/23	Saints Peter and Paul (Holy Day of Obligation). (Yr7&8 at the Parish Mass and the rest of the school at 10.45). Y7 INDUCTION DAY (Y7 Sep 2023 entry) (+Thurs 6 Jul).
Fri	30/06/23	
Sat	01/07/23	Saint of the Month: St Ignatius of Loyola.
Sun	02/07/23	
Wk 39A		Following Christ
Mon	03/07/23	End of Year 10 Exams.
Tue	04/07/23	End of Year 10 Exams.
Wed	05/07/23	End of Year 10 Exams.
Thur	06/07/23	End of Year 10 Exams. Y7 INDUCTION DAY (Y7 Sep 2023 entry) (+Thurs 29 Jun).
Fri	07/07/23	End of Year 10 Exams SCHOOL SPORTS DAY.
Sat	08/07/23	
Sun	09/07/23	
Wk 40B		Gentleness
Mon	10/07/23	
Tue	11/07/23	
Wed	12/07/23	Catch up Vaccine session 1Staff Wellbeing: 3.30pm—4.30pm (Meditation) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Weds Wk B.
Thur	13/07/23	
Fri	14/07/23	Last Day of Term service at the Cathedral. 11.30am. Last Day for Students (Early close). Red Oak Roller Pop Up Shop – Set up after 12:30 Merici Hall Yr 7,8,9 & 12 DATA DROPS close.
Sat	15/07/23	Red Oak Roller Pop Up Shop – Merici Hall
Sun	16/07/23	Red Oak Roller Pop Up Shop – Merici Hall



Term Dates For 2022-23

Spring Term (2023)	
Wed 4th January 2023	Students return.
Mon 13th – Fri 17th Feb 2023	Spring Half Term.
Mon 20 th February 2023	Students return.
Fri 31 st March 2023	Last Day of Term. (Early closure) (Students break up for Easter Hols).
Summer Term (2023)	
Mon 17 th April 2023	Students return
Mon 1 st May 2023	May Bank Holiday.
Mon 8th May 2023	Bank Holiday to mark Coronation of Charles III
Mon 29 May - Fri 2 Jun 2023	Summer Half Term.
Mon 5 th June 2023	Students return
Fri 14 th July 2023	Last Day of Term for students (Early closure).
Staff Training Days (Non Pupil Days)	
Thursday 1 st September 2022 – Staff Training Day.	
* Monday 17 th July, Tuesday 18 th July, Wednesday 19 th July, Thursday 20 th July 2023.	

*These are the four commuted Teaching Training days:

Monday 17th July, Tuesday 18th July, Wednesday 19th July, Thursday 20th July 2023.

Term Dates For 2023-24

Autumn Term (2023)	
Weds 6 th September 2023	Phased return of Yrs 7 and 12.
Thurs 7 th September 2023	All students return.
Mon 23 Oct – Fri 27 Oct 2023	Autumn Half Term.
Mon 30 th October 2023	Students return.
Thurs 21 st December 2023	Last Day of Term. (Early closure).
Spring Term (2024)	
Mon 8 th January 2024	Students return.
Mon 19 – Fri 23 Feb 2024	Spring Half Term.
Mon 26 th February 2024	Students return.
Thurs 28 th March 2024 (Maundy Thursday)	Last Day of Term. (Early closure) (Students break up for Easter Hols).
Summer Term (2024)	
Mon 15 th April 2024	Students return
Mon 6 th May 2024	May Bank Holiday Monday.
Mon 27 May - Fri 31 May 2024	Summer Half Term.
Mon 3 rd June 2024	Students return
Fri 19 th July 2024	Last Day of Term for students (Early closure).
Staff Training Days (Non Pupil Days)	
Monday 4 th September 2023, Tuesday 5 th September 2023, *Friday 22 nd December 2023, *Monday 22 nd July 2024, *Tuesday 23 rd July 2024	

*22nd Dec 2023, 22nd & 23rd July 2024 commuted for teaching staff to twilight training sessions.